Manufacturers Education Foundation Presents Scholarship Funds to Georgia Southern

September 26, 2017

Mr. Roy Bowen, President of the Georgia Association of Manufacturing, presented a check from The Manufacturers Education Foundation, Inc. to chair and professor of the Department of Manufacturing Dan Cox on Friday, Sept. 22. Dean Mohammad Davoud and State Senator Jack Hill (District 4) also witnessed the event. Senator Hill is an alumnus of Georgia Southern College. The contribution was made in recognition of the significant role that the Department of Manufacturing Engineering plays in preparing Georgians for rewarding careers in manufacturing. It will be used to provide scholarships for Manufacturing Engineering students who meet The Manufacturers Education Foundation, Inc.’s scholarship criteria.

CEIT Hosts Fries Lecture

September 26, 2017

Georgia Southern University will host Col. Frederick “Fred” Gregory, the first African American man to pilot and command a space mission and serve as the deputy administrator of NASA, as the 2017 Norman Fries Distinguished Lectureship Series speaker at 7:30 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 5, at the Nessmith-Lane Conference Center Assembly Hall, 847 Plant Drive.

His presentation, titled, “An Astronaut’s View of Choices, Influences, Contributions and Other Stuff Later Discovered,” will discuss his stellar career and the concept of choices in life. The lecture is free and open to the public.

After graduating from the United States Air Force Academy in 1964, Gregory entered pilot training and attended undergraduate helicopter training at Stead Air Force Base in Nevada. He then served as a helicopter rescue pilot, a combat rescue pilot in Vietnam, a missile support helicopter pilot and a fixed-wing pilot. He later attended the United States Naval Test Pilot School and served as an operational test pilot. In 1974 he was detailed to the NASA Langley Research Center where he served as a research test pilot for several years.

Gregory was selected as an astronaut in 1978 and served several rotations in space through the Kennedy Space Center in Florida. His first assignment was as pilot of the space shuttle Challenger followed soon after by the Discovery. He has logged more than 6,976 hours flying time in more than 50 types of aircraft — including 550 combat missions in Vietnam.

Gregory serves on the Board of Directors for the Young Astronaut Council, the Challenge Center for Space Science Education and the Virginia Air and Space Center-Hampton Roads History Center.

Among his many honors, Gregory holds the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Legion of Merit, the National Intelligence Medal of Achievement, two Distinguished Flying Crosses, 16 Air Medals and the NASA Distinguished Service Medal.