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January 31, 2017



COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Season's Greetings!

The spring semester is in full swing and while we are focusing on our student's today, we are also looking to the future. I am sure you have heard by now of the consolidation of Armstrong State University an institution that will be the fourth largest public university in the state of Georgia.

Consolidation will take a lot of time and effort from faculty and staff at both campus, but we believe that consolidation will be a positive impact for the College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences (CLASS), Georgia Southern, and both the Statesboro and Savannah communities.

While there are still questions to be answered during that 18-month process, CLASS is still providing a large number of events on campus to enrich the campus and surrounding communities. We have partnered with the Zach S. Henderson Library and the Remnant Trust to incorporate a number of rare documents and publications into this semester's Great Minds Lecture Series. The five lectures will incorporate one or more Remnant Trust documents that are on display now in the library.

For more information on the Great Minds Lecture Series and to see a full schedule please visit class.georgiasouthern.edu/greatminds.

For more information on the Remnant Trust and the documents that will be on display in the Zach S. Henderson Library please visit georgiasouthern.libguides.com/remnanttrust.

We hope you can make it one of the lectures or have time to visit the exhibit in the library.

Sincerely,

Curtis Ricker, CLASS Dean

Department of History

Digital Humanities, A New Minor in CLASS

As of Jan. 2017, Georgia Southern University has its first coterie of digital humanists. Having learned a few HTML tags, they have looked behind the silicon curtain and are now technically 'coders'. You can follow their blogs here, on the Library's new Digital Humanities site. As with

everything digital, much is under construction, but by the end of spring semester there will be active faculty project sites, lists of tools, and a wide range of student work on display. Students will learn about text analytics, data visualization, mapping, interactive and game design, 3D making, prototyping, and Agile development in order to form a basic toolkit and portfolio that can be developed and enhanced throughout their university experience.

How did we get here? In 2015, Johnathan O'Neill, Ph.D., Michael VanWagenen, Ph.D., and Robert Batchelor, Ph.D., from the Department of History began working on a proposal to develop a Digital Humanities Minor at Georgia Southern. The idea was to fuse elements pioneered in the History Lab and the Public History program into a more comprehensive Minor that would replace the defunct Humanities minor. The program would leverage existing strengths in working on public projects by including work on data analysis and visualization, digital media, physical 'maker' projects, and graphic interfaces. Doing this required not only help from the College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences (CLASS) as a whole but also specific input and cooperation from the Betty Foy Sanders Department of Art and the Department of Communications Arts. In addition, the Georgia Southern University Museum and the Zach S. Henderson Library will play a key role in supporting student and faculty efforts to build digital projects and portfolios. Advice and advisors came in from Stanford University and Duke University. To aid with internships and reaching out across the university as a whole and the Institute for Interdisciplinary STEM Education (i2STEMe) came on board.

The resulting Minor will include three new classes: Introduction to Digital Humanities, Digital Humanities Capstone, and Digital Humanities Internships described on the CLASS site for the program. The first capstone is currently being planned in relation to a digital educational curriculum project for Spring of 2018. The University has also committed first floor space in its new classroom building for a Digital Humanities suite that will include a gallery, display cases, a maker space, a digital seminar room, a recording studio, and computer stations for project work, all of which should be finished by 2019.

Things are moving fast. The program is particularly innovative in its tight collaboration with the Library in relation to student portfolios and blogs, something that Dean Bede Mitchell and Jeff Mortimore have helped implement through Libguides. Georgia's first Digital Humanities Summit occurred in Dec. of 2016, sponsored by the University of Georgia and hosted by Georgia State University. While the other programs are largely library-led, Georgia Southern's is a substantial working collaboration between the humanities college (CLASS) and the library, a real student-centered minor rather than a certificate. Score one for the "College of the Creative Mind."

In other news from the Department of History:

Public History graduate student Sarah Napier has just completed her fifth video for the Georgia Historical Society's webseries "Sophia's Schoolhouse." Sarah is in her second year as a graduate assistant at the GHS and is completing a non-thesis project on the history of the segregated Willow Hill School.

In Nov., Michelle Haberland, Ph.D., delivered the 2016 Annual Dorothy Ann Whisnant Lecture for Women's History at Clemson University. Haberland's talk, "An Atmosphere of Intimidation: Women in the Southern Apparel Industry, 1930-1970s," focused on ordinary women workers who worked for justice and dignity in their work and the violence they faced as they helped to shape the history of the South.

- Johnathan O'Neill, Ph.D.
Department of History, Chair

Department News

Betty Foy Sanders Department of Art

Sarah Bielski, M.F.A., currently has work on display in the Valdosta National 2017 show at Valdosta State University's Dedo Marannville Fine Arts Gallery in Valdosta, Ga. In Dec., Bielski received an Award of Excellence for her work in featured in the Texas Visual Art Association National Exhibit at the Mesquite Art Center in Mesquite, Texas.

Student Henriette Sabroe Ebbesen, was a winner in Life Framer's monthly photography competition "Still Life." The work from her series "Kaleidoscope Still Life" received an honorable mention in the competition judged by

internationally celebrated photographer Lorenzo Vitturi. Additionally, Ebbesen's portfolio is currently featured on the Photo Vogue Italia website. "Water Lilies," a photcollage from her series "Feminine Development," was selected Photo Vogue Italia's Pic of the Day on January 2. Ebbesen currently is studying medicine at University of Copenhagen, Denmark. She attended Georgia Southern University through the Georgia Rotary Student Program and studied art from 2015-2016. Here she found her passion for fine art photography. Her work has been featured in exhibitions in the U.S. and Europe.

Department of Communication Arts

Sarah McCarroll, Ph.D., published a book chapter "The Historical Body Map: Cultural Pressures on Embodied Cognition" that introduced the concept of body map to describe the ways in which historical and cultural notions of the body are embedded through clothing in [Theatre, Performance and Cognition: Languages, Bodies and Ecologies](#) edited by Rhonda Blair and Amy Cook.

Department of Foreign Languages

Leticia McGrath, Ph.D., recently received a contract from Editorial Pliegos in Spain, to publish her translation of Joaquín Dicenta, Spain's forgotten dramatist, Joaquín Dicenta: La vida y la obra de un dramaturgo olvidado.

Student Brady Gwynn is the recipient of the prestigious Joseph W. Yedlicka Scholarship from the French Honor Society, Pi Delta Phi. The award will allow Brady to study abroad at IAU College in Aix-en-Provence, France, during summer 2017. The scholarship includes 2017 tuition for the summer session from June 3 -July 15, travel expenses up to \$1,000.00, and room and board. Brady serves currently as the president of the French Club.

Marcela Ruiz-Funes, Ph.D., whose article, "Text Composition in a Foreign Language: The Case of Writing in Spanish at the University Level in the USA," was recently published in the [Journal of Linguistics and Language Teaching](#).

Alumni News

James Ryals recently accepted a job to teach English in Japan starting in Spring 2017 and is the first student from the Japanese program to teach in Japan since the resumption of the program in 2014.

Share your updates with us through [email](#) or by filling out the online [alumni survey](#). It is always wonderful to hear from you!

Upcoming Events

[[View The Complete Events List on the Georgia Southern Campus Calendar](#)]

Give to CLASS

The College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences aspires to be recognized nationally for its superior and innovative educational experiences across the humanities, social sciences, and arts. Our goal is to provide outstanding programs that are responsive to the needs of the region and to allow all members of the college -- faculty, staff and students -- to serve together to enhance quality of life. If you would like to support CLASS in meeting these goals, please visit our [annual campaign website](#).





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