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National Teacher of the Year to speak at Georgia Southern March 6

FEBRUARY 19, 2007

The College of Education at Georgia Southern University will host a presentation by Kimberly Oliver, 2006 National Teacher of the Year, on Tuesday, March 6, from 5 to 6:15 p.m. Her presentation will take place in the College of Education Building lecture hall.

“Kimberly Oliver will be a featured speaker at this year’s National Youth-at-Risk Conference in Savannah in the morning of March 6, and we are delighted that she has agreed to come to Georgia Southern’s College of Education later that day to inspire our students,” said Rosemarie Stallworth-Clark, associate professor of education. “Her presentation at Georgia Southern is titled Best Foot Forward: Putting Students on the Path of Lifelong Learning.”

Oliver, a kindergarten teacher at Broad Acres Elementary School in Silver Spring, Md., believes that having a strong foundation in education is critical. This foundation includes quality early childhood education programs and a belief that equity in educational resources means everyone receives quality, high-level instruction. As a kindergarten teacher she has worked to individualize every student’s lessons, helped write and receive grants to fund literacy programs, and was an integral part of a multi-faceted school staff effort that impacted her school’s dramatic rise in standardized test scores and achievement.

In her six years at Broad Acres, she helped create and implement several programs to ensure consistency in curriculum, instruction and assessment throughout the school. As a result, her school made improvements on local, state, and national tests, and in 2001 was the number one school in her school system for percentage increases in test scores. In 2003, 2004, and 2005 the school met or exceeded all requirements of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001.

The National Teacher of the Year Program, sponsored by ING in partnership with Scholastic Inc., is a project of the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO). The National Teacher of the Year Program focuses public attention on teaching excellence and is the oldest and most prestigious awards program for teachers.

Oliver’s presentation is free and open to the public. Call 912-871-1760 for more information.

18th National Youth-A-Risk conference is March 4-7

FEBRUARY 19, 2007

The 18th annual National Youth-A-Risk Conference, an event that brings more than 1,400 teachers, principals, social workers, law enforcement officers, parents, and community members together to develop successful programs for empowering youth, is set for Sunday to Wednesday, March 4-7, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Savannah, Ga.

In addition to Kimberly Oliver, 2006 National Teacher of the Year, keynote speakers include Adolph Brown III, associate professor of psychology at Hampton University and founder of the Clubwellness Group; urban sociologist Pedro Noguera, professor of education and director of the Metro Center for Research on Urban Schools and Globalization, New York University; and Christine Sleeter, a researcher in multicultural teacher education at California State University.

Themes for the conference this year include

- Closing the achievement gaps and promoting learning for all students in a democratic society
- Fostering social and emotional skills of all children and youth and enhancing the social climate
- Preventing violence and ensuring safety, including cyber safety, for all children and youth
- Promoting the mental and physical health of all children and youth
- Developing and enhancing family and community support for all children and youth

This conference offers an opportunity for colleagues with a common interest to come together to share resources and ideas, and to work toward collaborative solutions. In addition to the keynote addresses, there will be more than 100 workshops and training sessions featuring successful programs from across the nation.

The National Youth-At-Risk Conference is sponsored by the College of Education and the Continuing Education Center at Georgia Southern University. Conference participants are eligible to receive continuing education credits from a variety of organizations.

Go to the conference Web site at <http://ceps.georgiasouthern.edu/conted/yar2007.html> to register and to learn more about the National Youth-At-Risk Conference, or call Georgia Southern's Center for Continuing Education at 912-871-1760.

Seniors and graduates in College of Business Administration get online career management services

FEBRUARY 19, 2007

Georgia Southern University's College of Business Administration (COBA) has partnered with CareerBeam, an industry leader in career technology solutions, to provide professional career management services online for business students. CareerBeam specializes in helping students with almost all aspects of career planning.

Some of the services offered by CareerBeam include:

- Research-on-demand for more than 17,000,000 companies in CareerBeam's database. This feature will also find Georgia Southern alumni in the database and inform the students of their name and position within the company.
- Conversation starters that represent a summary of the most current and relevant issues facing companies in more than 200 business sectors.
- An interactive cover letter tutorial that builds a cover letter as students respond to prompts.
- A 'job leads' feature that matches an applicant's skill set with new postings. An e-mail is immediately sent to the student for follow-up.
- A feature to track companies and manage contacts.
- A series of 10 assessments covering values, temperament, personality, interests, skills, talents, and culture that are compiled into a personalized career report. There are also interview preparation and network development tools.

CareerBeam will be offered to COBA's graduate students and last-semester seniors as early as spring semester '07. Undergraduate students will be included by the fall. Under this partnership, COBA graduates will have long-term subscription to CareerBeam's services to conduct industry and/or company specific searches.

Feed the Mosasaur food and cooking festival scheduled for March 3

FEBRUARY 19, 2007

People who take their eating seriously are invited to a food and cooking extravaganza that will benefit the Georgia Southern Museum.

The second annual Feed the Mosasaur Festival will be held on Saturday, March 3, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. in the Nessmith-Lane Continuing Education Building on the campus of Georgia Southern University in Statesboro.

Deriving its name from the Mosasaur – a 78-million-year-old fossil skeleton that dominates the Museum's Hall of Natural History the festival will feature food samples from some of the region's most popular restaurants.

In addition, there will be an amateur baking contest for adults and children, a signature dish competition for professional food-service providers, a series of specialized cooking classes, a bake sale, and activities for the kids.

'This event will have something to offer everyone who enjoys cooking and eating,' said Kelly Tharp, the chair of the Feed the Mosasaur Festival committee. 'If you like to eat, you can taste the most delicious dishes in southeast Georgia, and if you like to cook, you can show off your skills and most treasured recipes in the amateur bake-off.'

Admission for the Feed the Mosasaur Festival is \$9 per person for adults and \$7.50 per person for senior citizens, students and children. Kids under the age of 3 will be admitted free.

All proceeds from the festival will be used to support the Museum's many educational exhibits and programs.

'This is a wonderful opportunity for people to have fun and support a worthy cause at the same time,' said Wendy Denton, the assistant director of the Museum. 'For the price of admission, they can feast on an incredibly wide variety of food and check out some cool vendors. There will be lots of stuff for the kids to do, too.'

The Best Bites Bake-Off is open to amateur chefs of all ages. Adults can compete in categories for bread, cakes, cookies and bars, and pies. There will also be a dessert competition for children in the 4-9 and 10-14 age groups.

First-place winners in the bake-off will be presented with a festival T-shirt. The top three entries in each category will receive a ribbon and be published in the 2008 edition of the official 'Feed the Mosasaur Cookbook.'"

Anyone who wishes to enter the bake-off must deliver their entries between 9:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. The judging will take place between 10:30 and noon. There is no entry fee for the Best Bites Bake-Off, but all entries will be placed in a bake sale to benefit the Museum.

The Cooking With Class Institutes are a series of 50-minute classes that will focus on specific dishes. There are still openings in the classes for Cajun cooking, cake decorating, high tea, Indian cooking, introductory wine appreciation, romantic desserts, tapas, and wild-game cooking. There are also classes designed especially for children.

The fee for each cooking class ranges from \$10 to \$25, and advance registration is required.

The Best Bites Signature Dish Competition for restaurants and caterers will feature separate categories for appetizers, Asian food, barbeque, bread, dessert, entrees, fried chicken, Mexican food, and pizza.

Joseph Marinaro and Stephen Minton, the only two certified executive chefs in the region, will be the judges for the signature dish competition. Marinaro is the head chef in Georgia Southern's Department of Catering, and Minton is the culinary arts coordinator in the University's Department of Hotel and Restaurant Management.

Judging for the Best Bites Signature Dish Competition will take place on Monday, Feb. 26, and the winners will be announced at the festival.

There are a limited number of tickets remaining for the Feed the Mosasaur gourmet dinner that will be held on the evening of Friday, March 2. For a donation of \$75 per person or \$400 for a six-person table, guests can enjoy a five-course meal prepared by Minton.

Dubbed Cuisine Cum Laude, the gourmet dinner will feature French food, wine and cocktails, hors d'oeuvres and live music.

The Nessmith-Lane Continuing Education Building is located on the Georgia Southern campus at the corner of Chandler Road and Plant Drive. For more information on the Feed the Mosasaur Festival, or to register for the gourmet dinner or any of the cooking classes, visit <http://ceps.georgiasouthern.edu/museum/ftm/> , email jhendrix@georgiasouthern.edu or call (912) 681-5993.