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#### Recommended Citation

College of Education, Georgia Southern University, "College of Education News" (2017). *College of Education News (2011-2023)*. 165.

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## COE alumna named a GA Science Teacher of Promise

February 7, 2017



College of Education alumna Tamra Lamb teaches science and mathematics at Mattie Lively Elementary School.

The [Georgia Science Teachers Association](#) (GSTA) selected Tamra Lamb as its 2017 Georgia Science Teacher of Promise at the elementary school level. Lamb, a fifth-grade science and math teacher at Mattie Lively Elementary School was honored by GSTA at a special awards banquet on Feb. 3, at the Atlanta Evergreen Conference Resort as part of the annual GSTA Science Conference.

“Tamra Lamb is a magnificent educator whom I feel blessed to work with,” said Dr. Carolyn Vasilatos, principal of MLES. “Her passion for science is unparalleled. She’s only been teaching three years, and joined our faculty in July.” Lamb previously served the district for two years at Langston Chapel Elementary School.

A Double Eagle alumna, Lamb received both her bachelor’s and master’s degrees in early childhood education from Georgia Southern, where she made an equally strong impression on the faculty. She was actually nominated for the Georgia Teacher of Promise Award by one of her former professors, [Katie Brkich, Ph.D.](#), in the College of Education’s Department of Teaching and Learning.

“I have worked with many pre-service and in-service teachers in my six years at Georgia Southern University, but none whom I am as proud to have worked with as Tamra,” Brkich said in her letter of recommendation to GSTA. Brkich further wrote, “Tamra moved to a fifth-grade math and science position this year at Mattie Lively Elementary. She has thrived! She has not only transformed the way her students see and feel about science, but also how the other fifth-grade teachers on her team teach science.”

Lamb and other nominees had to complete an application process which included essay responses about how they would improve science education in their schools and school system, details about recent science lessons, and description of unique or creative lessons they have developed based on Georgia's science standards. Nominees also had to submit three letters of recommendation. Applications were evaluated by a panel of judges using a rubric.

"Ms. Lamb works tirelessly to have an engaging classroom environment with multiple stations and activities prepared for her students," said Vasilatos. "She also works very closely with the science educators at Georgia Southern."

The GSTA's Teacher of Promise awards recognize science teachers with one to three years of experience who demonstrate exceptional promise. The elementary, middle and high school recipients each received a \$750 prize. Kia Mills of AR Johnson Health Science and Engineering Magnet School in Richmond County was GSTA's middle school-level winner, and Elizabeth Downey of Allatoona High School in Cobb County was the high school-level winner.

## [SPSA hosting toiletry drive for Fostering Bulloch](#)

February 7, 2017

The College of Education's School Psychology Student Association (SPSA) asks for your support as they collect toiletry items for children in the foster care system. Items can be dropped off at the College's Graduate Academic Services Center located in office suite 3166. Donations will be collected until Monday, February 27 at 5 p.m.

Donations will help to stock [Fostering Bulloch](#)'s Hope Closet which provides toiletries and clothes to foster children. The following items have been requested by Fostering Bulloch: toothpaste, toothbrush, toothbrush case, dental floss, mouth wash, chap stick, travel tissues, shower gel, soap, soap travel case, deodorant, unscented lotion, q-tips, small toiletry case, travel shampoo, travel conditioner, brush or comb, hair elastics, nail clippers, nail file, and small mirror.

## [COE alumni baseball ticket giveaway](#)

February 7, 2017

Georgia Southern University's College of Education is giving away baseball tickets in appreciation of their alumni!

COE alumni are eligible to win four free tickets to the Saturday, February 25 (3 p.m.) match-up between Georgia Southern and the University of Georgia. To be entered for your chance to win, COE alums must "like" us on Facebook and/or "follow" us on Twitter!

A winner will be selected at random from our Facebook and Twitter followers and announced on Monday, February 20, 2017.

*Share with your fellow alum! If they aren't following [#GeogiaSouthernCOE](#) on social media, they will miss out!*

[Like us on Facebook!](#)

[Follow us on Twitter!](#)