

Newsroom

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Georgia Southern University

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Georgia Southern will co-host Fraud and Forensic Accounting Education Conference

MARCH 13, 2007

The Center for Forensic Studies in Accounting and Business at Georgia Southern University will co-host a Fraud and Forensic Accounting Education Conference in Savannah May 10-12. The material and content for this conference are based on a National Institute of Justice Curriculum Model and are designed to enhance skill development and best practices in the classroom and in the field.

The conference, also co-hosted by West Virginia University, will include a general session titled "Forensic Interviews and Interrogations" and a variety of breakout sessions presented by fraud and forensic accounting professionals. Sessions run the gamut from basic to advanced topics in fraud and forensic accounting.

All conference sessions will be conducted at the Savannah Marriott Riverfront. Those who attend can earn up to 20 continuing professional education (CPE) hours. More information about the conference program, costs, and forms for registration are available at http://coba.georgiasouthern.edu/pdf%20files/fraud_conf.pdf.

Questions about the conference may be addressed to Cynthia Parrish at cparrish@georgiasouthern.edu or call 912-681-5679.

Campus/Community Centennial Celebration set for Sweetheart Circle March 30

MARCH 13, 2007

Historic Sweetheart Circle will be packed with alumni, students, friends and community well-wishers as Georgia Southern University honors its 100th birthday with a Campus/Community Centennial Celebration Friday, March 30, from 5-8 p.m. All are welcome to join the festivities for free food and drinks, Centennial cake, popcorn, cotton candy, balloons, give-a-ways, activities, entertainment and exhibits.

"The citizens of Statesboro and Bulloch County had the vision to bring the college to Statesboro, and what better way to celebrate the University's Centennial than with this big event showcasing the many facets of this great institution," said Billy Griffis, vice president for University Advancement and chairman of the Centennial Leadership Committee.

Live entertainment will be provided and the campus radio station "The Buzz" will present the backdrop for an evening of history, fun and games capped with the spectacular fireworks show visible from the Circle. A rare South Georgia "snowstorm" will create a snow area for playing and building snowmen. Several Georgia Southern departments will provide activities and games for

children, including laser tag, making 'slime,' and face painting. The College of Education adds a historical twist, featuring century-old games and dances.

While guests can view the Centennial exhibit, 'Alma Mater, Dear: 100 Years of Student Life' at the Georgia Southern Museum, a familiar campus icon, the TKE rock, is being resurrected for this celebration. The TKE rock was stationed outside of the Williams Center and later moved to Olympic Blvd. and the entrance of Greek Row. As part of the tradition of the TKE rock, individuals will be able to paint the replica of the TKE rock in assorted colors. For those less artistic, cutaways of vintage photos and classic paintings 'The Scream' and 'Whistler's Mother' will provide photo opportunities. Popular wildlife creatures from the Center for Wildlife Education also will be on hand for greetings and photos as well.

Items from student media, George-Anne newspapers and Reflector yearbooks from days gone by, will be on exhibit. Students and faculty dressed in period clothing will read poetry and play music from various decades and classic vehicles and agricultural equipment will be on display at the Circle. If the sight of beautifully restored cars gets the blood pumping, students and faculty from the School of Nursing will have blood pressure checks and other minor health screenings available to everyone who stops by.

While some exhibits focus on the University's history, Henderson Library will showcase both the University's past and its future. Displaying historical documents and artifacts, the Library will be open for tours of the new expansion and its brand-new automated retrieval system, the first of its kind in the Southeast. The Archives and Records Management Department will display Centennial items and other departments will offer historic displays from various eras.

Athletics hopefuls can try out their arms at the dunking booth, taking a turn to sink the booth's inhabitant. Everyone who loves the Eagles will surely flock to GUS, Georgia Southern's bigger-than-life mascot, as he joins the Eagle student-athletes and cheerleaders to distribute Centennial give-aways to everyone who attends the event. Posters honoring legendary Georgia Southern teams and individual coaches and athletes will also be available. Centennial items, available exclusively at the University Store, can be purchased at its location at the center of the Circle.

Parking for this event is available at the J.I. Clements Baseball Stadium, Hanner Fieldhouse and the College of Education lots. Southern Express, the University's transit system, will run a shuttle from the College of Education lot to Sweetheart Circle throughout the evening.

<http://www.georgiasouthern.edu/centennial>

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Department of Mathematical Sciences will host MAA sectional meeting

MARCH 13, 2007

The answer: Math Jeopardy.

The question: What do you get when you take the basic premise of a popular TV game show, give it a mathematical slant, and invite some of the region's brightest college students to compete against each other?

Teams representing 16 colleges and universities will descend upon the campus of Georgia Southern University this week to do battle in Math Jeopardy.

The event is part of the Mathematical Association of America (MAA) Southeastern Section's 86th Annual Meeting that will be held from Thursday, March 15, through Saturday, March 17.

Hosted by Georgia Southern's Department of Mathematical Sciences, the meeting is expected to attract more than 400 faculty and students from five states. All of the activities will be held in the College of Information Technology Building.

"The meeting is very student-centered," said Martha Abell, the chair of the University's math department. "Undergraduate students will present their work, and they will also have an opportunity to meet with representatives of graduate programs from throughout the Southeast."

The MAA is the largest professional society in the U.S. that focuses on mathematics at the undergraduate level. The membership includes university, college and high school teachers; graduate and undergraduate students; pure and applied mathematicians; computer scientists; statisticians; and other professionals in academia, government, business and industry.

The Southeastern Section of the MAA is comprised of Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee.

While much of the meeting will be devoted to research presentations, Math Jeopardy has become a popular institution in the Southeastern Section.

Unlike traditional Jeopardy, which pits individuals against each other, Math Jeopardy is a team event. Groups of three or four students try to solve problems in categories such as Calculus, Differential Equations, Linear Algebra and Computer Science. Team members can collaborate with one another, and they can use pen and paper, but no calculators are allowed.

Yan Wu, an associate professor in Georgia Southern's math department, is the coach of the team that will represent the University in Math Jeopardy. The players are members of the math team, which competes in a variety of tournaments throughout the school year. Georgia Southern finished among the top four teams in Math Jeopardy at the Southeastern Section meetings in both 2005 and 2006.

‘I run a practice session every Wednesday night,’ Wu said. ‘We do not specifically practice for Math Jeopardy, but we solve challenging problems from a broad spectrum of mathematical disciplines.’

The preliminary rounds of Math Jeopardy will be held on Friday from 8 a.m. until noon in Room 1005. There will be four rounds, with four teams competing in each round.

At the conclusion of the preliminary rounds, the four teams with the highest point totals will advance to the final round, which will be held on Saturday at 12:10 p.m.

Math Jeopardy is free and open to the public. In addition to Georgia Southern, the competition will include teams from Augusta State University, Belmont University, Berry College, The Citadel, Coastal Carolina University, Columbus State University, Davidson College, East Tennessee State University, Furman University, Georgia College and State University, LaGrange College, Methodist University, the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, the University of Tennessee at Martin, and Western Carolina University.

Another highlight of the meeting will be invited addresses by national MAA president Joe Gallian, Davidson College professor John Swallow and University of the South professor William M. Priestley.

Gallian, a professor at the University of Minnesota Duluth, will discuss ‘Using Groups and Graphs to Create Symmetry Patterns’ on Friday at 12:40 p.m. ‘Circular Irrationalities: From Galois to Kummer and Back Again’ will be the topic of Swallow’s presentation, which will be held on Friday at 4:10 p.m. Priestley’s talk, titled ‘Surprises,’ is scheduled for Saturday at 8:45 a.m. All of the addresses will be given in Room 1004.

The meeting will feature short courses on Inquiry-Based Learning in the Mathematics Classroom; Active Learning Strategies for the College ‘Liberal Arts Mathematics Course;’ Codes, Cards and Cryptography; and Undergraduate Research for All.

The meeting will also include sessions on Optimization; Graduate Content for the Mathematical Education of Secondary and Middle School Teachers; the Mathematical Heritage of Leonhard Euler; Linear Algebra; Statistics, Probability and Number Theory; Dynamics, Differential Equations, Analysis and Topology; Algebra and Logic; Mathematical Pedagogy and Curriculum; Issues in Mathematics Education; Mathematical Modeling; Geometry; and History, Games, Combinatorics and Graph Theory.

In addition, the meeting will allow undergraduate students to display their research. The best student presentations will be recognized with the inaugural Patterson Prize. Established by Walt and Susan Patterson, two long-time supporters of the Southeastern Section, the \$500 award will be shared by as many as 10 undergraduate students who make outstanding presentations at the meeting.

For more information on the MAA Southeastern Section meeting at Georgia Southern, visit <http://math.georgiasouthern.edu/~phumphre/MAA07>, email maase07@georgiasouthern.edu or call (912) 681-5390. –

Prize-winning poet J. Allyn Rosser will read at Georgia Southern April 2

MARCH 13, 2007

One of the decade's most honored poets, J. Allyn Rosser, will visit Georgia Southern University Monday, April 2. She will talk informally and answer questions at 4 p.m. in Room 2209 of the Newton Building, and she will give a public reading of her poetry at 7 p.m. in the College of Education auditorium. Her presentation, which is free and open to the public, is sponsored by the Department of Writing and Linguistics and the Georgia Poetry Circuit.

Rosser's first book of poetry, 'Bright Moves,' was published in 1990 by Northeastern University Press and won the Morse Poetry Prize. Her second book, 'Misery Prefigured,' won the Crab Orchard Award and was published by Southern Illinois University Press in 2001. This fall her third book, 'Foiled Again,' will be published as the winner of The New Criterion Magazine Poetry Prize, an award given to a book that pays close attention to poetic form.

Rosser earned her Ph.D. in English Literature from the University of Pennsylvania, and she teaches in the creative writing program of Ohio University in Athens, Ohio. She has been awarded fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Ohio Arts Council, Yaddo, Breadloaf, and the New Jersey State Council on the Arts. She earned the Peter I.B. Lavan Award for Younger Poets from the Academy of American Poets, the Frederick Bock Prize, awarded by Poetry magazine, and a Pushcart Prize.

For more information about Rosser's reading, contact the Department of Writing and Linguistics at 912-681-0739.