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Georgia Southern conference brings FDA, pharmaceutical companies, and academics to Savannah

OCTOBER 24, 2007

University, pharmaceutical industry, and government representatives will gather in Savannah Monday through Friday, Nov. 5-9 for the Fourteenth Annual Biopharmaceutical Applied Statistics Symposium (BASS XIV). The symposium will take place at the Mulberry Inn. The Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health (JPHCOPH) at Georgia Southern University co-sponsors the conference.

'BASS brings biostatisticians and scientists from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, from pharmaceutical companies, and from colleges and universities across the country to Savannah," said co-chair Laura Gunn, assistant professor of biostatistics in JPHCOPH. 'While they're here they share their research formally through tutorials, industry sessions, and short courses, and informally through personal discussion. Because these three groups have so much to do with the development and effective use of new medicines, BASS gives them an important opportunity to connect.'

Karl Peace, founding director of the Karl E. Peace Center for Biostatistics in Georgia Southern's Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health, founded the first BASS in 1994 to bring together individuals who used biostatistics in their work. In addition to providing an educational forum, BASS provides revenue to support graduate fellowships in biostatistics. More than 30 students have earned master's and doctoral degrees in biostatistics as a result of symposium revenues.

This year's keynote speaker will be Mitchell Gail, Ph.D., chief of the biostatistics branch, Division of Cancer Epidemiology and Genetics, National Cancer Institute. A graduate of Harvard Medical School with a Ph.D. in biostatistics from George Washington University, Gail is well known in the field of biostatistics for his studies in modeling absolute risk of disease, including breast cancer risk projection. Gail will speak at 6 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 5.

Another interesting speaker will be Louise Ryan, chair in the department of biostatistics at the Harvard School of Public Health. Along with two Harvard colleagues, Scott Evans and Tianxi Cai, Ryan will present a short course titled 'Hot Topics in Clinical Trials.'

In addition, Mark van der Laan, who hold the JP Hsu/ KE Peace Endowed Chair in Biostatistics in the School of Public Health at the University of California, Berkeley, and his colleague, Cathy Tuglus, will present a short course titled 'Statistical Methods for Biomarker Discovery.'

Biostatistics is a growing field of public health used in epidemiology, health services research, and design and analysis of clinical trials in medicine. By using biostatistics in clinical trials, scientists can find drug thresholds that offer the most effective results, increase survival rates, and reduce the adverse effects of medication.

The weeklong event is sponsored by the Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health at Georgia Southern University and the Department of Biostatistics of the Medical College of Virginia Campus of

Virginia Commonwealth University. For more information about the conference, go to <http://bass.georgiasouthern.edu/>

Business seminar in Brunswick will focus on dealing with workplace harassment issues

OCTOBER 24, 2007

Company administrators, human resource personnel and front-line managers are invited to attend a seminar on how to minimize or avoid workplace harassment claims.

'Hostile Work Environment: A Case Review' will be offered on Tuesday, Nov. 13, at Coastal Georgia Community College in Brunswick. The seminar will run from 6 p.m. until 7:30 p.m.

Part of the Legal Awareness in the Workplace (LAW) series sponsored by Georgia Southern University, the seminar will be taught by Sarah Lamar, an attorney from the employment law firm of Hunter, Maclean, Exley & Dunn, P.C.

Lamar will help seminar participants develop an understanding of the proactive and inexpensive steps that their firms can take to reduce the risk of harassment claims.

The LAW series will return to Brunswick for 'Retaliation Under Title VII' on Feb. 12 and 'Best Practices in Running Background and Reference Checks' on May 13.

The LAW series will continue at the Coastal Georgia Center in Savannah with 'Hot Topics in Employment Law' on Dec. 13, 'Workplace Violence in Georgia' on Jan. 22, 'Recent Developments in the Fair Labor Standards Act' on March 25, 'Basics of the Family and Medical Leave Act' on April 22, and 'Georgia Employment Law' on June 24.

The fee for each seminar is \$69 per person. The fee will be reduced to \$59 for anyone who signs up for three or more seminars, and for groups of three or more people from the same firm.

Each seminar provides 1.5 recertification credit hours for individuals with (Senior) Professional in Human Resources (PHR/SPHR) certification.

Advance registration for any of the seminars may be made by calling Georgia Southern University's Continuing Education Center at (912) 681-5551.

For more information on any of the seminars, visit <http://ceps.georgiasouthern.edu/conted/lawseminar.html> or contact J. Marie Lutz, SPHR, at seminars@georgiasouthern.edu or (912) 871-1763.

Georgia Southern University, a Carnegie Doctoral/Research University, offers more than 120 degree programs serving nearly 17,000 students. Through eight colleges, the University offers bachelor's, master's and doctoral degree programs built on more than a century of academic achievement. The University, one of Georgia's largest, is a top choice of Georgia's HOPE scholars and is recognized for its student-centered approach to education.

Anderson earns Icons of Industry Scholarship

OCTOBER 24, 2007

Ashley Taylor Anderson, a senior in the Interior Design program at Georgia Southern University, has been awarded the 2007 Icons of Industry Scholarship from the Network of Executive Women in Hospitality (NEWH). The \$5,000 scholarship will be presented to her at the organization's Golden Key Awards Breakfast on Monday, Nov. 12, in New York City.

'This is a great honor for Ashley Taylor and for our Interior Design program,' said Patricia Walton, ASID, IDEC Program Coordinator, and assistant professor in the College of Health and Human Sciences. 'She's a talented student who has shown evidence of her ability all through her years at Georgia Southern, and we're extremely proud of her accomplishments.'

To earn the scholarship, Anderson was required to have completed an internship in the design industry. Fortunately, she has accomplished not one, but two.

'Last summer I completed two internships, one at Design Directions Inc. in my hometown of Marietta, Ga., and a second at Crossfields Inc. in Kennesaw,' Anderson explained. 'Each one gave me experience in a different area of design.' To apply for the scholarship, Anderson wrote an essay about her background, her goals, and her interest in interior design for the hospitality industry. She also sent a CD that included her design portfolio. Although her portfolio was not required, she believes it may have helped her win the scholarship.

Georgia Southern is one of only two public universities in Georgia with an interior design program that holds accreditation from the Council for Interior Design Accreditation (CIDA). Throughout the U.S. and Canada, only 153 universities have earned this accreditation.

'The CIDA accreditation was a primary reason that I chose to attend Georgia Southern,' said Anderson. The Interior Design program at Georgia Southern also holds accreditation by NASAD, the National Association of Schools of Art and Design.

While in New York City, Anderson will stay at the Mandarin Oriental, a luxury hotel, as a guest of NEWH. Amy Boyett, ASID, IDEC, and assistant professor of interior design at Georgia Southern, will accompany Anderson to New York City.

"Southeast Georgia on Our Minds"

OCTOBER 24, 2007

The 'Southeast Georgia on Our Minds,' series continues Tuesday, Nov. 13, with 'Word Portraits of Southeast Georgia: Memories of Family and Home,' presented by Theresa Welford, associate professor of writing. Her talk takes place 7-9 p.m. at Jenkins County Memorial Library, 223 Daniel Street in Millen.

Welford, a poet and nonfiction writer, will give a reading and pointers on writing a 'snapshot essay.' She will be assisted by a former student, Sylvia Kline, who will offer reminiscences of her youth and of several prominent leaders in Statesboro's African-American community.

The 'Southeast Georgia on Our Minds' series is sponsored by the Georgia Humanities Council and facilitated by Georgia Southern University in partnership with Screven-Jenkins Regional Library System. It is free of charge and open to the general public, with refreshments provided by the Friends of the libraries involved. For more information about the series, contact the project director, Martha Pennington, at Georgia Southern University, (912) 871-1326.