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# Hall, Anderson take top student awards at annual Honors Day Convocation

*APRIL 3, 2008*

Catherine Annette Hall and Zechariah David Anderson captured the top student awards at the Georgia Southern University 2008 Honors Day Convocation held at the Performing Arts Center on Wednesday, April 2.

A senior biology major from Douglasville, Ga., Hall received the Georgia Southern University Alumni Association Award.

A senior justice studies major from Swainsboro, Ga., Anderson received the University System Academic Recognition Award.

The Alumni Association Award is presented annually to the graduating senior or seniors who have applied for graduation, completed all course work in residence and attained the highest grade point average.

The University System Academic Recognition Award is presented annually to a Georgia resident at each system institution on the basis of outstanding academic achievement.

Anderson also received the Lee and Rebecca Davis Pre-Law Scholarship, the Richard J. Waugh Justice Studies Award, and the Excellent Scholarship Graduating Senior award, which is presented to all graduating seniors with a GPA of 3.9 or higher at Georgia Southern.

More than 200 Georgia Southern students were recognized during the Honors Day Convocation. Inductees into a number of honor societies were also recognized.

# Cawthorn named professor of the year at 2008 Honors Day Convocation

*APRIL 3, 2008*

Michelle Cawthorn was presented with the Wells/Warren Professor of the Year Award at the Georgia Southern University 2008 Honors Day Convocation held at the Performing Arts Center on Wednesday, April 2.

Cawthorn is an assistant professor in the Department of Biology. She was hired as a temporary faculty member in 1995 and received a tenure-track position in 2006.

‘I am thrilled to win this award,’ Cawthorn said. ‘It is especially gratifying to me because it comes from students. They are, after all, the primary reason I am here.’

In addition to her teaching responsibilities, Cawthorn is conducting research on the effectiveness of specific classroom activities on scientific literacy.

'I love teaching, and I especially enjoy teaching non-majors and getting to know a diverse group of students," she said. 'I work hard to make the classes I teach relevant, interesting and memorable.'

Cawthorn was awarded the Outstanding First-Year Advocate by Georgia Southern's First-Year Experience program in 2007. That same year, she was recognized by the University's Student Disability Resource Center for her efforts on behalf of disabled students. In 2004, she received the Gamma Beta Phi Award for Outstanding Service as Temporary Faculty Member.

'My teaching philosophy is that scientific literacy is a critical learning objective for any science course, but especially for non-majors," Cawthorn said. 'For these students, their exposure to science in school' is limited, but in real life it's boundless.

'Students in my class work on scientific literacy skills simultaneously with learning science content. I believe that teachers have a responsibility to engage students and provide the means for students of many different learning styles to succeed.

'As a teacher, I strive to encourage curiosity and critical thinking in students so that they leave the class as better learners than when they entered it.'

The winner of the Wells/Warren Professor of the Year Award is selected annually by the University's students. Members of the Gamma Beta Phi honor society interview the department heads of the finalists and look at student evaluations of the professors.

The group then conducts a blind interview of the finalists before selecting the winner of the award, which is endowed by former Gamma Beta Phi advisors J. Norman and Rosalyn Wells. The award is named in honor of their parents, Nolan and Audrey Wells and Hartwell and Lucile Warren.

Born in Dallas, Texas, Cawthorn grew up in Hampton, Va. She graduated magna cum laude from Old Dominion University with a bachelor's degree in biology. She earned her master's degree from Old Dominion and her Ph.D. from Bowling Green State University.

Cawthorn taught at Ball State University before arriving at Georgia Southern. Her research interests include the population biology of small mammals. She was the first scientist to use radio-telemetry in shrews to gather information on movement and activity. – See more at:

<http://news.georgiasouthern.edu/pressrelease.php?id=1428#sthash.5tQznFVt.dpuf>

## **Dog obedience classes are designed for canines of various ages**

*APRIL 3, 2008*

The Continuing Education Center at Georgia Southern University is offering dog obedience classes for canines of various ages.

'Puppy Kindergarten' will run on seven consecutive Tuesday evenings from April 29 through June 10. Designed for dogs between the ages of 3 months and 6 months, this course will provide advice

on house-training and how to deal with puppy behaviors such as inappropriate mouthing and biting. The fee is \$145.

'Teenager Management' and 'Family Dog I' will teach dogs to pay attention when asked, come when called, walk on a loose leash, and lie down and stay. Management skills, socialization and problem solving will also be stressed during these classes.

'Teenager Management' will run on seven consecutive Wednesday evenings from April 30 through June 11. This course is designed for dogs between the ages of 7 months and 12 months. The fee is \$165.

'Family Dog I' will run on seven consecutive Thursday evenings from May 1 through June 12. This course is designed for dogs that are 12 months and older and just beginning training, or are new to positive reinforcement. The fee is \$165.

Dogs and puppies do not attend the first session of each class, but their owners must be present to pick up handouts and reading material.

All of the classes will run from 6:30 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. at the Dogs Live Happy boarding kennel, which is located in Statesboro at 1140 B Highway 24, behind Bulloch Janitorial Paper and Chemical Supply and across from Mill Creek Regional Park.

To register for any of the dog obedience classes, call the Continuing Center at (912) 681-5551. For more information, visit <http://ceps.georgiasouthern.edu/conted/dogobediance.html> or call (912) 681-5993.

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. Visit: [www.georgiasouthern.edu](http://www.georgiasouthern.edu).