INTERNATIONAL CUISINES COME TO CAMPUS

Students try different food items from various countries at Taste of the World event

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ISO CELEBRATES CULTURE WITH TASTE OF THE WORLD

BY RACHEL HAMMOND
The George-Anne Inkwell staff

For many students, international travel is not an option. However, the International Student Organization (ISO) brought world culture to campus with Taste of the World on Nov. 6.

Students gathered to try food and activities that represented countries from Denmark to India in conjunction with International Education Week.

One of the tables featured crackers with Vegemite from Australia. Vegemite is a spread made of yeast and different spices. It is somewhat known for being unpalatable to Americans. “It tastes like soy sauce,” one student remarked after trying some. “It literally tastes like there’s blood in my mouth,” another described the taste. Luckily, the table also had chocolate cookies called Tim Tams to wash the taste out.

Another table featured Vietnamese spring rolls and games. Sabrina Bui made the spring rolls while wearing a traditional áo dài.

On the sidewalk, students competed against each other in a “chopstick challenge” by attempting to transport more beans using chopsticks than the other.

Students were wowed at the South Korea table as students danced in sync to K-Pop songs. Additionally, students were encouraged to try their hand at writing Hangul, the Korean alphabet. Using brushes and ink, students set to work writing simple phrases such as “Hello” and “Goodbye.”

At the Egyptian table, volunteers passed out samples of basbousa, a crumbly bread sweetened with simple syrup. Several students went back for seconds once they had made their rounds.

Volunteers at the Danish table had samples of rice pudding and cherry compote.

Next door, the Italian table had an assortment of chips of different flavors, as well as flavored chocolate.

The Japan station featured mochi stuffed with red bean paste and seaweed. The mochi was a big hit at the table. “It’s so soft and weird but it’s really good,” a student said after trying some. There were also cups of mango soda to accompany the food.

After they browsed and had their fill of international food, students were encouraged to try the Fire Extinguisher Challenge. “Fire is international,” was the slogan employed by the men in charge of the challenge.

Students picked up a mock fire extinguisher and attempted to quell simulated flames as quickly as possible. After, students recorded their time on a big sheet of paper. The fastest time was 3.9 seconds, while other students took so long the system stopped counting.

Taste of the World is just one of many events that ISO holds throughout the school year. The International Student Organization provides an opportunity for international and American students to socialize on the Armstrong campus and promotes an interest and awareness of the diverse cultures on campus. For future events, contact ISO_Armstrong@georgiasouthern.edu.
Pick of the Week

Strozier Faculty Lecture: Rethinking Press Freedom and the Politics of Information: Lessons from 19th-Century Mexico

Friday, November 15 at 12:15p.m. to 1:15p.m.
Ogeechee Theater

In 1820, a revolution abolished the Mexican Inquisition and inaugurated freedom of the press as the new law of the land. Dr. Zeltsman explores the lively debates triggered by this legal transformation. These debates swirled around the printers who controlled access to Mexico’s printing presses and had suddenly become gatekeepers to an emerging world of free expression. Today, as powerful social media platforms like Facebook and Twitter inspire similar discussions around the world, the case of Mexico helps us think through the relationship among media purveyors, individual rights, politics, and society.

Armstrong honors Professor Emeritus with the Robert I. Strozier series given by Dr. Corinna Zeltsman from the History department. Emeritus served the Armstrong community for more than four decades.

Meme of the Week

When you wake up sick but have 3 quizzes, 4 assignments, and a test on the same day
Dr. Marrero Talks Spring Commencement, FYE Program and Reflects on His First Semester as President

BY MADISON WATKINS
Editor-in-Chief

Last week, The George-Anne Inkwell Edition interviewed with University President Dr. Kyle Marrero for the last time this semester, and discussed spring commencement, the FYE program and his thoughts about how his first semester as president has gone.

Spring Commencement
Marrero confirmed the spring commencement ceremonies for Armstrong students will be on this campus. The specifics of the ceremony like the location and time have not been decided.

Marrero said they won’t be using the Civic Center or Convention Center as venues in the spring because they weren’t available.

“Once the decision was made we checked all the availability and it wasn’t available… We’re going to make the decision that’s best for students and then figure out the venues after.”

Regarding how parking may play out for those ceremonies, “So we’re talking about everything from utilizing parking here and providing shuttles or even [utilizing parking] over at the Armstrong Center… but making sure we’re getting people back and forth so they don’t have to walk it directly. So that’s what we’re looking at right now.”

Challenges of the Job
While Marrero considers himself a “glass half-full” person he did admit that some of the biggest challenges of the job so far were the consolidation and budget.

“I knew consolidation obviously was going to be a challenge culturally: the distinctiveness, the value of both campuses and where they could see themselves in that. And I think the challenge is that they can see a better future than history. So I think that’s the challenge is for people to see themselves in that moving forward.”

“Budget is the second challenge, you know with the declining enrollment from the previous year and then what we’re facing from an allocation reduction… So we’ve had to make a lot of hard decisions that both institutions haven’t had to face in recent history. My first 90 days was going through some of the largest budget reductions in the history of the institutions and I’m proud of how we did that from an efficiency and effectiveness standpoint and how we ensure the people that were in place in jobs didn’t lose their jobs, that we really focused on vacant positions and then operational efficiencies to reduce operational costs.”

First-Year (FYE) Program
Marrero said administration is planning on revising the FYE program.

“We’re absolutely committed to having the different modules within the course itself, which is academic mindset, financial literacy and diversity inclusion… we want to look at that and assess and make sure that the advisors were all trained, the faculty that were teaching were trained, they went through a training module… was it perfect? No. Can we make it better? Absolutely.”

Regarding whether or not more professors will be brought in to teach the class instead of advisors, “we’re gonna assess all of that and there’s a financial component there too. You gotta understand that faculty were paid $3,000 a course to teach it… If I want any takeaway out of this is it’s I’ve been in higher education for 26 years. I’ve been at four different institutions during that time period. I’ve seen it where advisors teach it at all and where faculty teach it all or some combination. The best practices model in some cases end up being the advisors, particularly when it’s a prescribed curriculum of onboarding freshman. Faculty are incredible at teaching when you give them academic freedom… Let’s look at it all and really assess what we need to be best for the outcome of the students.”

Looking To The Future
On the topic of what events to look forward to next semester, Marrero recommended three Town Hall discussions he’ll be hosting over the course of the semester. The topics will be privilege, respect and social responsibility panel discussion in December, social justice in February and gender and sexuality in March.

As we close out the semester, Marrero wants us to keep in mind that we should feel thankful for the opportunity to be a family and friends. “We can never forget as part of our vision statement; ‘People. Purpose. Action: Growing ourselves to grow others’ in the community. If we want to create the optimal environment on our campus we will need to continually care for each other, our colleagues and our students as well as provide the best environment we can.”

Looking T o The Future

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“In terms of early childhood education, holding a teaching certificate allows the individual to market themselves to higher paying jobs,” said Dr. Dina Walker-DeVose, an Associate Professor in the School of Human Ecology, regarding the financial advantage of enrolling in the new Birth to Kindergarten Teacher Education program that will debuting on campus in fall 2020.

“Let me be clear, early child educators and K-12 teachers are not paid what they are worth,” said Walker-DeVose.

“Those certification holders who are employed in public pre-kindergarten programs are paid on a similar scale as those holding certifications in K-12 education,” she said.

In addition to working in public pre-kindergarten programs, graduates can apply for jobs in private child care programs and programs serving children with special needs.

The program will be housed on the Armstrong campus because “this program is fully designed for the Armstrong campus,” Walker-DeVose said.

The superintendent of Savannah-Chatham public schools, Dr. Ann Levett, influenced the design of this program greatly. “She is well versed in what young children need,” said Dr. Tameka Ardrey, an assistant professor in Child and Family Development.

Walker-DeVose went on to talk about what makes this program “the only one of its kind in South Georgia” and what sets it apart from other Early Childhood Education and Child Development degree programs.

“The language is sometimes blurry,” Walker-DeVose said, regarding what Early Childhood Education means.

“The language is often confusing as some K-5 certification programs are referred to as Early Childhood Education, rather than Elementary Education. This was common before the B-K certification became well-known. Now, Early Childhood Education generally refer to those programs preparing individuals to work with children 0-8 years of age,” Walker-DeVose said.

“The primary difference, in short, is a teaching certificate,” Walker-DeVose said about the difference between the Birth to Kindergarten program and a Child Development program.

Another thing that sets this program apart from others similar to it is its focus on cultural identity. “It frames how we learn, what we think, what we believe,” said Ardrey.

Through this program, “We’re equipping teachers with the necessary skills and tools to provide equitable education to all children, regardless of their background,” Ardrey said. “Representation matters,” Walker-DeVose said.

“If little Johnny has two dads, that has to be represented in the classroom. It is important for little Johnny to have a sense of belonging in that classroom space,” Walker-DeVose said.

The classes will be offered online and, in the evenings, to accommodate teachers who already have a two or four-year degree and want to get trained in the birth to kindergarten population.

“The program is being marketed in a couple of different ways,” said Walker-DeVose.

“Our program is open to anyone who desires a B-K teaching certificate in the state of Georgia. The program is located on the Armstrong campus, so naturally, much of our efforts will focus on Savannah and the surrounding communities. We will be reaching out to local high schools, particularly those with Early Childhood pathways. We are also working with the Early Care and Education program at Savannah Tech.”

According to Walker-DeVose, the entire community stands to benefit from this program.

“Research shows a positive return on investment for every dollar that is invested in quality early childhood education. This body of research is another reason that society should be looking for ways to support its youngest learners and fairly compensate those trusted with their care and education.”

University Hall where some of the classes will be held. Photo from University Communications and Marketing on georgiasouthern.edu.

To contact the editor, email chief.inkwell@gmail.com
PLAYLIST

PUSH IT

JEKYLL & HIDE - Bishop Briggs
Everything Goes My Way - Metronomy
Don't Give Up - The Whitest Boy Alive
Hearts On Fire - Cut Copy
Idea Of Happiness - Van She
Ocean Breathes Salty - Modest Mouse
Wet and Rusting - Menomena
Girls Love Beyoncé - Drake (feat. James Fauntleroy)

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Pursuing a degree of any kind is no easy task. If you’re a first-generation college student, it takes even more of a resilient nature than the secondary school graduate that was groomed for college from the start.

Graduating with a college degree is solely up to the person that is looking to further their own education and hopefully use that newfound knowledge to gain access to a better path of life that most are never able to attain.

Demetrius Hurst, a biology major here at Georgia Southern, is a first-generation student.

Hurst was wearing a dark blue suit, had a firm handshake and stood up straight. When he sat down with The George-Anne Inkwell Edition to discuss his journey as a first-generation college student, he never lost eye contact and spoke with an eloquence that too few people are able to attain.

He’s not the first in his family to attend college but Hurst is about to be the first to graduate with a degree. Coming from the rural town of Waycross, Ga, Hurst went to Ware County High School.

“There’s not too many people who go to college because we have one high school. So, the [few] people that are going to college we [all] pretty much know who they are. It’s very important that the younger generation sees me overcoming odds and being a first-generation college student,” said Hurst.

After this fall semester ends, Hurst will have one semester left before he is able to walk across the stage and receive his degree. When he’s finished with school at GSU, Hurst plans to attend medical school at Morehead State University.

“My aspiration is to become a doctor,” Hurst said.

Hurst’s younger sister has followed in his footsteps and has just gotten into college at Middle Georgia State. When he’s in Waycross, sometimes people in his community will ask him questions about college.

“Sometimes they ask me questions about college, and [so] I tell them. And, they’re like, ‘Oh. I’m thinking about joining the military’ or ‘thinking about just getting a job.’ And, I’m like, ‘you know you got to have a plan [for the future]. I can help you with that,’” he said.

There were a lot of things Hurst had to figure out for himself in order to go ahead with his plans to attend college. He also had to surround himself around people that would only help him achieve his goals.

“Who you choose to put your time and stuff towards, that is basically how you’ll be represented,” said Hurst.

By making friends with people who were expected to go to college, he changed his environment for the better.

Hurst also had to go out and find people that could tell him how to succeed at the college level and prepare himself for what was to come. The person who inspired Hurst to become a doctor was a physician at his church.

“She was the very first black physician that I’ve seen in my life. And, I was 14 years-old when I saw that, so just seeing her - I was like, ‘I don’t know what I want but I want what you have’. It was that type of thing. I like medicine. I started doing stuff with medicine and then shadowing and things like that and I actually like it,” Hurst said.

Another thing that really helped Hurst get through college was TRIO. TRIO is an academic support service for students at Georgia Southern. It provides advising, tutoring, mentoring and informational workshops.

“The workshops there helped me so much. They showed me the internships, how to network, how to eat, how to dress. This stuff didn’t happen overnight, it didn’t at all. It was all of the organizations that I chose to join”, Hurst said.

Getting involved on campus is a great way to come out of your shell. Hurst reveals he used to be fairly shy and while talking to him at this point, that’s a version of him that’s tough to imagine.

Hurst also said, “The relationships I’ve had on campus were my biggest help. Friends and [there are] some really good professors here too.”

Hurst spoke with The George-Anne Inkwell about his experience in honor of Operation First-Generation Week last week that was from Nov. 4-8.

For more information on TRIO support services and how to find help as a first-generation student, please contact TRIO Student Support Services in Solms Hall, Room 212 via phone at (912) 344-3023 or email at trio@georgiasouthern.edu.

To contact the editor, email chief.inkwell@gmail.com
Each Sudoku puzzle consists of a 9x9 grid that has been subdivided into nine smaller grids of 3x3 squares. To solve the puzzle each row, column and box must contain each of the numbers 1 to 9. Puzzles come in three grades: easy, medium and difficult.

**Level: Medium**

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