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Pulitzer-Prize winning historian Gordon Wood to present Fries Lecture Sept. 23

SEPTEMBER 16, 2008



Author and historian Gordon S. Wood will visit Georgia Southern University Tuesday, Sept. 23, at 7:30 p.m., to present this year's Norman Fries Distinguished Lecture. His presentation, which is free and open to the public, will be at the Performing Arts Center, located on the corner of Chandler and Plant Roads.

Wood will present a lecture on Benjamin Franklin entitled, 'The Invention of Benjamin Franklin.' This lecture will kick off related events for the year, including the 'Benjamin Franklin: In Search of a Better World' traveling exhibition that will open at the Georgia Southern University Henderson Library on March 14, 2009.

'It is a treat to have such an eminent historian speak at Georgia Southern,' said Bede Mitchell, dean of Henderson Library. 'Professor Wood's scholarship has deeply enriched our understanding of our nation's founding.'

Wood received degrees from both Tufts and Harvard University. He then went on to teach at Harvard and the University of Michigan before joining the faculty of Brown University in 1969, where he is currently the Alva O. Way University Professor and Professor of History.

He is also the author of many works focusing on the founding of our nation, including *The Creation of the American Republic, 1776-1787*, and *The Radicalism of the American Revolution*, which won the Pulitzer Prize for History and the Ralph Waldo Emerson Prize in 1993. *The Americanization of Benjamin Franklin* was awarded the Julia Ward Howe Prize by the Boston Authors Club in 2005.

Wood is currently completing a book on the writing of history, *The Purpose of the Past*, and a volume in the *Oxford History of the United States* dealing with the period of the early Republic from 1789 to 1815. His latest book, *Revolutionary Characters: What Made the Founders Different*, was published in 2006. His new book, *The Purpose of the Past: Reflections on the Uses of History*, will be published this year. Professor Wood is a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the American Philosophical Society.

The Norman Fries Distinguished Lectureship Series began in 2001. It is funded by an endowment in honor of the late Norman Fries, who was the founder of Claxton Poultry. In his more than 50 years in business, Fries built the company from a one-man operation into one of the nation's largest poultry production plants.

For more information on the Henderson Library Exhibition and other scheduled events relating to Benjamin Franklin and the founding fathers, contact Bede Mitchell, dean of Henderson Library at (912) 478-5115.

Georgia Southern University, a Carnegie Doctoral/Research University, offers more than 120 degree programs serving more than 17,000 students. Through eight colleges, the University offers

bachelors, masters 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.

Georgia Southern University Introduces RideShare Web Site

SEPTEMBER 16, 2008



**GEORGIA
SOUTHERN
UNIVERSITY**

Georgia Southern University is helping students, faculty, and staff save some green at the pump through a new online carpooling and parking permit program that encourages everyone to share a ride.

"With the price of gas continuing to rise, we want everyone to be aware of this opportunity not only to reduce their expenses, but also to conserve on the use of fuel," said Bruce Grube, president of Georgia Southern University.

To help faculty, staff and students connect with others who want to share a ride, Georgia Southern University has created a unique online RideShare Web site and program that allows users to catch or offer a ride to campus or to another city.

"Faculty, staff and students can visit www.georgiasouthern.edu/rideshare and through their MyGeorgiaSouthern account, request a ride or search for a ride," said Steve Burrell, vice president of information technology and chief information officer at Georgia Southern University. "When they visit the site, they can connect to a potential RideShare partner by e-mail and discuss the opportunity." The online search connection is powered by Google and enables users to see available rides through an interactive map.

The University offers two major incentives to encourage carpooling to the Georgia Southern campus. The first is a reduced-cost car pool parking permit. The cost of the special permit is \$70 per year, and the cost is split among the members of the car pool.

The second incentive, and one that means a lot to anyone who wants parking closer to their class or office, is premium, convenient car pool parking close to the various buildings on campus. Throughout campus, Georgia Southern University has designated a number of premium parking spaces as "Car Pool Permit Parking."

For more information or to sign up for a Georgia Southern University car pool permit, faculty, staff and students may visit www.georgiasouthern.edu/rideshare or contact Parking and Transportation at 912-GSU-PARK (478-7275)