

Georgia Southern University

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Newsroom

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### Newsroom

Georgia Southern University

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# Great Minds Lecture Series continues March 23: Dan Pioske, Ph.D., to speak

MARCH 20, 2017



The College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences' (CLASS) 2017 Great Minds Lecture Series will continue on Thursday, March 23 at 5:30 p.m. with Assistant Professor of religious studies Dan Pioske, Ph.D., presenting "Why is the Bible a Text: Memory, Orality, and the Birth of Prose Literature."

Pioske's lecture will examine the possible early audiences for the Hebrew Bible, the factors that led to its composition and how prose writing emerged from an oral storytelling tradition in ancient Israel.

"One of the great mysteries of the Hebrew Bible is how its stories about the past came to be," said Pioske. "This question is made more difficult at the outset by the fact that the ancient biblical writers who composed these texts took no credit for them, thus leaving these writings with no discernible author in view."

The "Torah Scroll" and the "Cuneiform Tablet" will both be used throughout the lecture. These documents will be on display through May 5 at the Zach S. Henderson Library's Remnant Trust Exhibit.

The lecture will take place in the Russell Union, room 2047. It is free and open to the public.

For more information on the 2017 Great Minds Lecture and to view a full schedule of the lectures please visit [class.georgiasouthern.edu/greatminds](http://class.georgiasouthern.edu/greatminds).

The Remnant Trust was founded in 1997 and is a Non-Profit 501(c)(3) organization. The Trust makes available to the general public a world class collection of manuscripts, 1st and early edition works, for use in original form. The mission of The Remnant Trust is to elevate educational standards & the public's understanding of individual liberty & human dignity through the precedent setting, hands on availability of the world's great ideas in original form. For more information on the documents on display at Georgia Southern University please visit <http://georgiasouthern.libguides.com/remnanttrust>.

The College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences (CLASS) is the largest of the eight colleges that make up Georgia Southern University, and it plays a central role in every student's core of knowledge. CLASS, also described as the University's College of the Creative Mind, prepares students to achieve academic excellence, develop their analytical skills, enhance their creativity and embrace their responsibilities as citizens of their communities, their nations and the world. CLASS offers more than 20 undergraduate degrees and several interdisciplinary minors from its 11 departments and five academic centers. CLASS offers eight master's degrees, two graduate certificates and one doctoral degree. For more information, visit [class.georgiasouthern.edu](http://class.georgiasouthern.edu).

*Georgia Southern University, a public Carnegie Doctoral/Research University founded in 1906, offers more than 125 degree programs serving 20,673 students. Through eight colleges, the University offers bachelor's, master's and doctoral degree programs built on more than a century of academic achievement. Georgia Southern is recognized for its student-centered and hands-on approach to education. Visit [GeorgiaSouthern.edu](http://GeorgiaSouthern.edu).*

## Get Fit for the Health of it Festival March 24

MARCH 20, 2017



Although National Nutrition Month is coming to an end, Eagle Dining Services (EDS) isn't losing fuel. To wrap up the month of fitness, EDS will host the "Get Fit for the Health of it Festival" on Friday, March 24, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in front of Dining Commons, 97 Georgia

Ave.

Throughout National Nutrition Month, EDS has showcased a variety of methods the University community can use to make healthy, impactful dining choices and alternatives. From staying hydrated through food choices to alternative protein sources, diners have experienced the benefits of the Fuel Forward program and education.

The festival will feature information on healthy eating habits, short exercise class demos, food samplings of workout recovery recipes and more. The first 100 attendees will receive a free t-shirt, and there will be prize giveaways during the event.

"The point of this event is to show and demonstrate resources both on and off campus that will encourage students, as well as help them maintain the healthy lifestyle they need whether they are at school or after they leave," said Brittany Parham, nutritional coordinator for EDS.

The event is free and open to the public.

To learn more about EDS, visit <http://auxiliary.georgiasouthern.edu/eagledining/>.

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## **COE to host Scholar Coffee Chat with Marla Jaksch March 24**

**MARCH 20, 2017**



The College of Education's (COE) Department of Leadership, Technology and Human Development will host a Scholar Coffee Chat with Marla Jaksch, Ph.D., on Friday, March 24 at 1 p.m. in COE room 2135.

Jaksch, an assistant professor of women's and gender studies at The College of New Jersey (TCNJ), will present a 30-minute lecture titled, "Global Action and Women in STEM: The Solar Suitcase Project." A question and answer session will follow the presentation.

The Solar Suitcase Project is a transnational project that involves student service-learning and addresses the inclusion of women in community-based STEM initiatives.

In Tanzania and many developing nations, large numbers of women die during childbirth because they lack access to health

clinics with reliable electricity. Jaksch, along with students in her Gender and Development in Tanzania class, deliver and install solar suitcases, portable devices that offer power and energy, to off-grid medical and health facilities in East Africa.

The project provides the installation of solar-based energy for better health services and teaches native women of Tanzania how to build and install the solar suitcases with local resources. The portable devices can be used for lighting, mobile communication devices and medical devices in low resource areas.

“Our Scholar Coffee Chat will give students, faculty and staff an opportunity to engage in a quick-fire mid-day scholar talk,” said associate professor and event coordinator Toby Jenkins, Ph.D. “In the days of a busy campus with educators and students juggling multiple obligations, we often find it difficult to devote an entire evening to intellectual exchange on campus. So we are bringing a national scholar to campus to engage in short lectures.”

Jaksch will also give a guest lecture in a graduate course while on campus.

This event is sponsored by Georgia Southern’s Campus Life Enrichment Committee; Institute for Interdisciplinary STEM Education; and the Department of Leadership, Technology and Human Development.

The Scholar Coffee Chat is free and open to the campus community.

For more information, contact Jenkins at [tjenkins@georgiasouthern.edu](mailto:tjenkins@georgiasouthern.edu).

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# Engineering students build ROV props for international competition

MARCH 20, 2017



Engineering students from the Allen E. Paulson College of Engineering and Information Technology assisted the [Institute for Interdisciplinary STEM Education](#) (i2STEMe) in building remote-operated vehicle (ROV) competition props as part of the [2017 MATE international ROV competition](#).

All engineering students were invited to attend the build workshop where they formed teams to help build props at eight stations. The workshop was held Feb. 11 at the Business Innovation Group's FabLab and Innovation Incubator in downtown Statesboro.

"Volunteering for this project was the first time I was introduced to the FabLab," said Blair Hanna, senior engineering major. "It's a very useful resource because it has a lot of power equipment and other equipment needed for projects such as this and others. It introduced me to equipment I never had the chance to work with, which I will probably be needing to use in my career as an engineer."



Although the Georgia Southern students are not competing this year, Kania Greer, Ed.D., project development specialist for i2STEMe , hopes that having students work on the backside of the competition will encourage them to compete in the future.

“Our students are not competing this year, but being a part of the prop building has inspired many of them to want to participate next year,” said Greer. “Many of these same students will be volunteering on the day of the event — April 22 — in Savannah as mission judges, technical and safety inspectors, and deskside support.”

The following engineering students participated in the Build workshop:

- 
- Ryan Burnsed
  - Antonio Casas
  - Debora Cipleu
  - Anthony Cook
  - Alex Hamm
  - Blair Hanna
  - Kurt Jagstadt
  - Hyejin Kang
  - Sooji Kim
  - Anthony Morris
  - Alexi Parker
  - Nadia Sampson
  - Rashad Smith
  - Christopher Sullivan
  - Dustin Taylor
  - Stephanie Triplett
  - Brandon Ward
  - Brenton Wilcher

The competition, hosted by [Gray's Reef National Marine Sanctuary](#) each year, consists of teams of students, secondary through college level, using tethered underwater robots to simulate real-life missions. This year's competition, [Port Cities of the Future](#), involves many intricate obstacles including risk mitigation and environmental cleanup.

“We could not have gotten as much of the prop building done as we did without the support of the students,” added Greer. “Their time and energy were invaluable. Gray's Reef National Marine Sanctuary was thrilled to have the students volunteering and expressed deep gratitude for the help.”

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# Student artists storymap Statesboro in 'Gown to Town' multimedia exhibit

MARCH 20, 2017



Senior art students put their capstone projects together to create the exhibition "Gown to Town: Visual Art Mapping in the 'Boro," for display at the Averitt Center for the Arts and the Roxie Remley Center for Fine Arts. The exhibition opens on April 7 and runs until the end of the month. The opening reception will take place at the First Friday event in downtown Statesboro on April 7 at 5:30 p.m.

"When we started this project in 2016, we discovered the enormous emphasis put on steering students into the downtown area with projects like Blue Mile and City Campus. This made me curious about which elements of the city draw students naturally," said Elsie Hill, assistant professor in the Betty Foy Sanders Department of Art. "This is year two of what I am calling a socially engaged legacy project that examines Statesboro from the visual art students' perspective."

Capstone students were asked to design visual art projects that reflected their viewpoint of Statesboro, based on local traits such as history, geography, personal experience and emotional growth. They employed their studio skills in combination with personal experience, visual and



historical research, and geographic information system mapping to represent aspects of the city they have come to know through their time at the University.

“Once the students were asked to pull from their personal perspectives and broad studio skills, there was an abundance of ideas that covered many parts of the city,” said Hill. “Story Mapping is the perfect tool to bring together multiple experiences, multiple locations, and multiple mediums because it integrates mapping with visual elements and text.”

Story mapping essentially includes multiple layers of geographic data that use GIS technology and visual art to tell stories. These can be used to map tour routes or trails, examine influences and relationships or track patterns and data.

“You might think of the artists as explorers, researchers or scientists — examining multiple visual, historical, and inspirational aspects of the community and its inhabitants and think of their visual art projects as their reports based on their research and observations,” said Casey Stoddard, creative design director for the Betty Foy Sanders Department of Art. “The story map adds an interactive, digital dimension whereby viewers can experience their narratives in a new way.”

The exhibition will showcase capstone projects from 10 graduating seniors, and will include animation/video, ceramics, digital art, drawing, mixed media, painting, and printmaking.

- Zackery McVey and DeMyron Kendall- both creating animations from local video footage
- Robin Lane continues her ceramic book project with topics from Statesboro history.
- Jenny Callahan and Denson McLain both presenting a series of landscapes
- Stefani Waters and Jasmyne “Joala” Johnson- creating mixed media works depicting architectural and natural elements that often go unnoticed
- Rian Mobley-Luke- painted portraits of strong women who have influenced her success while attending Georgia Southern
- Peyton Snell and TJ Thomas- both developed a visual vocabulary based on their travels around town

Each student shared their stories on an interactive map of Statesboro by cataloging their artwork in a specific area of the map.

This exhibition will be on view at the Legends Gallery on the second floor of the Averitt Center for the Arts on 33 E. Main St., and the second floor of the Roxie Remley Center for Fine Arts on 31 E. Vine St.

To view the BA Capstone Legacy Project, visit <http://arcg.is/2ln9vt1>. The 2017 project will go live on April 7.

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## Georgia Southern hosts first and only history film festival of its kind in the US

MARCH 20, 2017

The Ogeechee International History Film Festival Presents a Special Screening of:

# EDGAR ALLAN POE: BURIED ALIVE

With Writer, Producer, & Director **ERIC STANGE**

**FRIDAY MARCH 24 6:00 - 8:15**  
**Averitt Center for the Arts Emma Kelly Theater**  
Film Screening & Discussion \$10 - Film & Reception Following \$17

Sponsored through the generous support of: The Clubhouse, Georgia Southern University Department of History, Department of Writing & Linguistics, Statesboro Convention & Visitors Bureau, the Statesboro Herald, Averitt Center for the Arts, and Millhouse

For a complete list of events contact: [reganscvb@gmail.com](mailto:reganscvb@gmail.com)

Photo by Liane Brandon

The Ogeechee International History Film Festival — the first and only film festival of its kind in the nation — is set to open on March 24 at the Averitt Center for the Arts' historic Emma Kelly Theater, and continue on March 25 at the Russell Union Theater on campus.

According to festival coordinator and history graduate student Regan Everett, the departments of History, Writing & Linguistics, Communication Arts and Political Science & International Studies are sponsoring the event on behalf of Georgia Southern. They are partnering with the Statesboro Convention and Visitors Bureau (SCVB), Averitt Center for the Arts, the Statesboro Herald, the Clubhouse and Millhouse to bring this festival to the entire Statesboro community.

"While the Smithsonian Institution hosts an annual film forum to highlight work about U.S. history, the Ogeechee Film Festival is the only open-submission, international history film festival in the nation," said Michael Van Wagenen, Ph.D., associate professor of history and public history coordinator.

The first day of the festival includes an advanced screening of producer/director Eric Stange's latest film, "Edgar Allan Poe: Buried Alive," which will be broadcast later in the year as part of the PBS American Masters series. Following the showing, there will be a question and answer session with Stange and a reception with filmmakers. Tickets can be purchased [here](#), or in person at either the Statesboro Herald or the SCVB.

The second day of the festival, located at the Russell Union Theater, includes screenings of feature length and short historical documentary films. Between these films, various filmmakers will participate in discussion panels to talk about their experiences portraying the past and reality on screen and television.

The final panel of the night will feature a discussion with Eric Van Wagenen, executive producer of "Celebrity Apprentice." He will talk about his experiences as one of America's foremost reality television show runners including how he got his start in the business, his years working in television and where he sees the future of the genre.

All showings at the Russell Union are free.

That evening, a closing reception will take place at the SCVB. Awards will be presented to filmmakers to recognize their achievements in producing films of historical excellence. There will be cash prizes for best professional and student work. [Tickets](#) for the awards ceremony are \$10.

"Everett has spearheaded a unique event here at Georgia Southern," continued Michael Van Wagenen. "She has put together an impressive program, and seven of the featured filmmakers will be at the festival to speak to us about their work. This will be a fantastic opportunity for those in our community interested in the arts and humanities."

While professional and amateur filmmakers from around the globe are invited to participate, the public is also encouraged to attend the showings, panels and reception.

For further questions, please contact Everett at [ogeecheefilmfestival@gmail.com](mailto:ogeecheefilmfestival@gmail.com).

To view the full festival schedule, click [here](#).

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## **Georgia Southern receives award for excellence in transfer student practices**

**MARCH 20, 2017**

Georgia Southern University has been named to the Phi Theta Kappa's 2017 Transfer Honor Roll. One of only 65 recipients nationwide selected to receive this honor, Georgia Southern is recognized as one of the top four-year colleges and universities for creating dynamic pathways to support community college transfer.

"Being selected as one of only 30 schools nationally to be named a back to back Phi Theta Kappa Transfer Honor Roll recipient is an honor for Georgia Southern University," said Neal Richardson, associate director of Admissions. "This recognition brings to light nationally what we are doing here on our campus and places us as a top destination for transfer students."

Winners were selected based engagement, collaboration, impact and achievements related to the transfer of community college students as well as partnerships, support, admissions outreach, scholarships/financial aid, student engagement opportunities and institutional priorities.

"This recognition is a direct result of all the hard work and care that our University community provides to our students," said Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management Teresa Thompson, Ph.D. "We have great people at Georgia Southern who understand why we are here, to support student success."

Georgia Southern University provides impressive opportunities for transfer students, ranging from Friday Transfer Information Sessions and tours and Transfer Visit Days where students not only preview campus but also hear from Georgia Southern transfer students, learn about unique opportunities for students transferring to the University, and visit with academic advisors. Georgia Southern also reaches out to all two year schools in the state of Georgia through recruitment visits at least once a semester if not more often.

Georgia Southern offers two transfer-specific clubs for transfer honor students, including Tau Sigma National Honor Society and the only Phi Theta Kappa Alumni chapter in Georgia. Combined membership of both of these honor groups is currently more than 160 students. Incoming transfer students also may take advantage of a number of transfer student scholarships.

"We always look for ways to improve the transfer student experience," Richardson said. "We hope that by providing more opportunities for transfer students to be engaged during the admissions process, they will in turn be a better informed and involved transfer when they arrive on campus."

For the full list of recipients, click [here](#).

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## Online Masters of Accounting program ranked No. 13 by Masters in Accounting

MARCH 20, 2017



The University's online masters of accounting program (WebMAcc) was recently recognized in the top 15 of the "Top Ranked Online Master's in Accounting Programs" by MastersInAccounting.info.

A leading career and education website focused on graduate programs in accounting and finance, Master's in Accounting's Top Schools ranking is based on a proprietary methodology designed to measure academic quality, affordability and graduate success. The methodology used to determine the ranking considers factors such as the average tuition cost per online credit hour; program accreditation by the AACSB, ACBSP or IACBE; the average mid-career pay of alumni; and school rankings according to U.S. News & World Report in the regional, national and online categories. Another part of the criteria to be considered was not-for-profit status.

"Enrollment in online degree programs is increasing, and schools are responding by offering more distance education programs at the graduate level – which can be particularly convenient for those



who are already working full-time,” said Rob Voce, founder of Masters in Accounting. “Our ranking is designed to help these prospective students learn about and compare first-rate online master’s in accounting programs that offer long-term value.”

The Top Online Master’s in Accounting Programs list includes detailed information on schools’ admissions statistics and requirements as well as tuition comparisons. For the top-ranking schools, the list also provides school acceptance rates, profiles of available programs and concentration options, core coursework requirements and focus area, and employment and debt statistics for 2014-2015 graduates. To view the full rankings and program details, visit [MastersinAccounting.info](http://MastersinAccounting.info).

“The Georgia Southern WebMAcc program is an extension of our excellent on-campus Master of Accounting program. This ranking is very helpful to us as we continue to develop up-to-date new content for the students who are unable to join us for the residential campus experience,” stated Tim Pearson, Ph.D., director for the School of Accountancy. “Receiving this recognition is validation of the quality of our faculty and their engagement with students wherever they may be.”

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# CHHS student takes fashion designs from classroom to runway

MARCH 20, 2017



Senior fashion merchandising and apparel design major, Heidi Viterbo, packed her bags and headed to New York to promote her fashion line, [The Heidi Becca](#), last month. Viterbo presented her Fall 2017 collection at Small Boutique Fashion Week (SBFW) on Feb. 9 at Studio 450 in New York City.

Viterbo had the opportunity to be a part of the SBFW 10 year anniversary show and was selected to present her collection in both the opening and closing shows. To be a participant, Viterbo applied online and submitted her senior capsule collection. Although it typically takes several rounds of interviews and physical garment submission to be accepted, Viterbo's line of nature-

inspired clothing was selected immediately after her portfolio submission.

SBFW is internationally known and is the only business-oriented runway show geared toward small business owners, emerging designers and novelty designers. Although the event is a subsidiary of New York Fashion Week, it is known as one of the top events for independent brands and continues to grow.

"The great thing about SBFW and their company is it allows independent/emerging designers like myself to engage in priceless networking with professional individuals who can help your brand grow and expand," said Viterbo. "I am so thankful to have experienced this and I cannot wait to continue learning more about this amazing industry."

This was Viterbo's first show, and she looks forward to showing off her collections in future shows, including one scheduled for this summer in Atlanta.

"Being part of a show like this was truly humbling and taught me so much that you simply cannot learn in the classroom," continued Viterbo. "I learned so much about myself in preparing for a show, time management, multitasking, textiles, garment construction and travel preparations. Getting the opportunity to experience these events at such a young age prepares me for what is next and for planning my next shows."

To learn more about the School of Human Ecology, visit [cchs.georgiasouthern.edu/she](https://cchs.georgiasouthern.edu/she).

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