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Georgia Southern University receives two Emmy® Award nominations

MAY 13, 2016



Art Berger, Rebecca Lynch and Jeffrey Clark

The 2016 Southeast Emmy® Awards, a chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, has recognized Georgia Southern University's Multimedia Development Center (MDC) and Department of Music with two professional Emmy® award nominations for Best Live Audio.

Jeffrey Clark, graduate student in the Department of Music, Art Berger, director of the MDC, and Rebecca Lynch, academic and post-production producer for the MDC, were nominated for their work with the Georgia Southern University Wind Symphony, conducted by Colin McKenzie, D.M.A. The Wind Symphony is composed of students majoring in music education and performance as well as students from many other colleges and departments on campus.

The first nomination was received for "Russian Christmas Music," composed by Alfred Reed, and "Coil" a contemporary composition by Steven Bryant. The second nomination was received for "Lis

Escoubó" from Suite Provençal by Jan Van der Roost. The two pieces were the only two works remaining in the Best Live Audio category after the elimination process.

"We are very proud of our collaboration with the Department of Music, especially the work of our students and their outstanding performance," said Berger.

The National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, NATAS, is a professional organization for individuals in the television and broadcasting industry. NATAS is the standard-bearer for excellence in the television broadcasting industry and the gatekeepers of the prestigious regional EMMY® Awards. The Southeast Chapter represents the most experienced and talented television professionals from all disciplines of the industry and from each of our television markets (Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi, South Carolina and Asheville, North Carolina).

Georgia Southern University, a public Carnegie Doctoral/Research University founded in 1906, offers more than 125 degree programs serving approximately 20,500 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. GeorgiaSouthern.edu.

Daniel J. Cox, Ph.D., to serve as founding chair of Department of Manufacturing Engineering

MAY 13, 2016



Daniel J. Cox, Ph.D., has joined Georgia Southern University as the founding chair of the Department of Manufacturing Engineering in the Allen E. Paulson College of Engineering and Information Technology. Georgia Southern University made history on Aug. 20, 2014, when the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia granted the University the first undergraduate manufacturing engineering degree program in the state of Georgia and southeast United States. The program began accepting students fall 2015.

Cox brings extensive experience in industry, research and academics as he begins his new role at Georgia Southern.

"Spending the first half of my career as a practicing manufacturing engineer has given me the perspective of industry,

which I have continued to carry in all of my endeavors in academia,” said Cox. “As I transitioned from the private sector to academia, I thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to manage a research program focusing primarily on robotics. During my tenure at the University of North Florida, I strived to develop relationships with industry to create opportunities for my students. I look forward to continuing this tradition of industrial collaboration at Georgia Southern with the dynamic companies in the region. Together, we will help our students succeed in building the future of manufacturing engineering in the U.S.”

From Gainesville, Florida, Cox received his Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering with honors and a Master of Engineering degree from the University of Florida. In 1981, he began his career in manufacturing engineering when he joined the IBM Corporation in Boulder, Colorado, where he worked as a manufacturing engineer. In 1986, he was awarded the prestigious IBM Resident Study Program Award to attend doctoral studies at The University of Texas at Austin. He graduated with his doctorate in mechanical engineering with specialization in robotics from The University of Texas at Austin in 1992 where he also worked at the IBM Austin, Texas facility as a robotics and automation engineer until 1998.

He then joined the University of Texas at Austin as a research scientist and served as the associate director and program manager of the Robotics Research Group in his transition to academia. In 2001, he joined the faculty of the University of North Florida as professor of mechanical engineering. While at the University of North Florida, he initiated the Manufacturing Innovation Partnership program, sponsored by the National Science Foundation, to foster industry-academic collaboration. He remains very active in mentoring experiential learning projects for engineering students through collaboration with industry. His research and teaching interests are in the areas of robotics, automation and advanced manufacturing.

Cox is a member of the American Society of Engineering Education (ASEE), American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME), Institute for Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) and Society of Manufacturing Engineers (SME).

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Theatre and Performance Program Receives Full Membership in NAST

MAY 13, 2016



The National Association of Schools of Theatre (NAST), the national accrediting agency for theatre and theatre-related disciplines, recently granted full membership to the Theatre and Performance Program at Georgia Southern University.

There are around 3,500-4,000 theatre or theatre-related degree/certificate programs in the United States, and only 400 of them are members of NAST. The Theatre and Performance Program previously held associate memberships in NAST for five years, but it is now one of this select group of universities in the United States to receive full membership.

The march towards full membership started more than seven years ago with a 200-plus page self-study, a five-year plan and a consultation visit before the first NAST site visit in November of last year.

"This accreditation body is setup to highlight what you are good at and what you are capable of doing," said Kelly Berry, M.F.A., director of theatre at Georgia Southern. "From the beginning until

now, we cleaned up curriculum a good bit. There is a good bit more rigor in academics that has taken place over the past five years.”

After the site visit, NAST committee members voted on the Program’s full membership in March.

The Theatre and Performance Program is housed in the Department of Communication Arts and has a long-standing reputation for excellence in artistic achievement among industry professionals. The program provides students with opportunities to perform, design, and direct in two state of the art performance facilities.

NAST, founded in 1965, is an organization of schools, conservatories, colleges, and universities. It establishes national standards for undergraduate and graduate degrees and other credentials.

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 GeorgiaSouthern.edu/class.

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Seventh annual Farm-to-Table Dinner fundraiser to support Henderson Library

MAY 13, 2016

The Friends of the Zach S. Henderson Library and the Statesboro Mainstreet Farmers Market have teamed up to present the seventh annual Farm-to-Table fundraising dinner on Thursday, June 9, at 6:30 p.m. at the belle house, 380 Westside Road in Statesboro.

The keynote speaker for this year’s dinner is Georgia Southern University’s Center for Sustainability Director Lissa Leege, Ph.D. Leege will share the mission and values of the Center, and share



*Lissa Leege, Ph.D.,
director of the Center for
Sustainability*

highlights from events and activities hosted by the center that encourages sustainable living. Leege is also a professor of biology at Georgia Southern.

“The mission and range of activities of the Center for Sustainability are consistent with the farm-to-table trend in which the emphasis is on producing food locally and delivering that food to local consumers,” said W. Bede Mitchell, Ed.D., dean of the Library.

Executive Chef Thomas Sweatt with Georgia Southern’s Blue Tie Catering will prepare the menu for the evening. The three-course menu includes:

First course:

- Southern style sweet potato salad with a savory dressing, red onions, dates and toasted Georgia peanuts
- Tossed salad of arugula and spinach with cornbread croutons, Georgia peaches, candied pecans and heirloom tomatoes with salty country ham and red onion with assorted dressings
- Smoked and fried pig tails tossed in a peach barbecue sauce topped with toasted Georgia peanuts and chives
- Buttermilk cornbread served with honey butter, made with local honey, and compound herb butter, made with herbs from the University’s garden

Second course:

- Lightly smoked Hunter Cattle Co. ribeye served with a variety of sauces
- Lemon grilled sheepshead or triggerfish served with lemon and butter
- Savannah red rice risotto with lemon thyme
- Roasted fingerling potatoes with sage
- Two assorted vegetables depending on availability at harvest
- Buttermilk cornbread served with honey butter, made with local honey, and compound herb butter, made with herbs from the University’s garden

Third course:

- Peach bread pudding with candied pecans served with whipped cream and pecan ice cream

Sweatt grew up in Billings, Montana, where he was a regular and admiring presence in his grandmother's kitchen as she cooked everything from scratch. This early exposure to the art of cooking led him as a teenager to seek jobs in restaurants, and when at age 17 he joined the Army, he became a member of the Army Quarter Masters. After his Army career, he had the opportunity to develop his expertise under the tutelage of many accomplished chefs at several resorts and restaurants. His desire to experience the low country has brought him to Georgia Southern University.

Funds raised from the culinary event and other Friends of the Library activities has contributed to the Library's Foundation account, "Library Book Fund." The annual interest from the endowment purchases approximately 150 scholarly works that the Library might not otherwise be able to afford.

Over the past six years, each dinner has raised between \$1,500 and \$2,500. Last year, the dinner raised more than \$1,700.

"This year, our goal is to surpass \$2,000," Mitchell said. "We plan to use the money from this dinner to fund a special series of events – a surprise to be announced at the dinner. I look forward to announcing this unique opportunity for sharing with our community some rare and famous historical resources."

In addition to the meal and guest speaker, Michael Braz, Ph.D., professor emeritus of music, will again provide musical entertainment during the pre-dinner cocktail mingling.

Tickets are \$75 and may be purchased through the dean of the Library. Contact (912) 478-5115 or email awilbanks@georgiasouthern.edu for tickets and more information.

Friends of the Henderson Library was founded in 2002 and is dedicated to supporting and strengthening the Library's services and collections.