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Mark Perez-Lopez, Ph.D., appointed to Advisory Committee to the Center for Collegiate Mental Health

APRIL 5, 2016



Mark Perez-Lopez, Ph.D., associate director of Georgia Southern's Counseling Center, was recently selected from a large national pool of applicants to serve on the Advisory Committee to the [Center for Collegiate Mental Health](#) (CCMH). The center coordinates the largest, most comprehensive annual survey of collegiate mental health services in the field from more than 350 colleges and universities and 100,000 clients. The center is regularly quoted in all levels of news and research publications.

In response to his appointment, Perez-Lopez said, "It is a great honor and responsibility to be selected for this position. It will provide the opportunity to learn and contribute to the ever growing field of research in college student mental health. I am excited to represent Georgia Southern University in this

endeavor."

Faculty member receives Brick Award

APRIL 5, 2016



Brent Wolfe, Ph.D., CTRS, associate professor of Recreation and Tourism Management in the School of Human Ecology, has been presented with the Brick Award by the Downtown Statesboro Development Authority. The Brick Award is given to the best downtown supporter and volunteer. Wolfe was recognized for the work his leadership class at Georgia Southern has done with the Downtown Statesboro Development Authority while participating in the Scare on the Square and the Spring into Statesboro events.

"It's something really neat to be able to be a part of the student's work with the city on both of these events," said Wolfe. "It's the students who deserve the credit for this! They are the ones who

put in the hours of work to make the events happen and the students do an amazing job serving the community!”

University’s Model UN delegation garners attention at national conference

APRIL 5, 2016



Georgia Southern’s Model UN delegation returned from the National Model United Nations (NMUN) Conference, the largest Model UN conference in the world, with an Outstanding Delegation Award. The award was Georgia Southern’s seventh such award in the last eight years, and ninth in ten years. Georgia Southern was also recognized for Outstanding Position Paper Writing for the 14th time in 15 years. The team competed against more than 200 schools from around the world, and more than 3,600 hundred delegates. The National ModelUnited Nations Conference is directed



by the National Collegiate Conference Association (NCCA).

The 20 Georgia Southern students on this year’s delegation are part of programs including Political Science, International Studies, Nutrition and Food Science, Computer Science, Public Administration and Public Health. This year’s delegation, formed in the fall of 2015, represented the

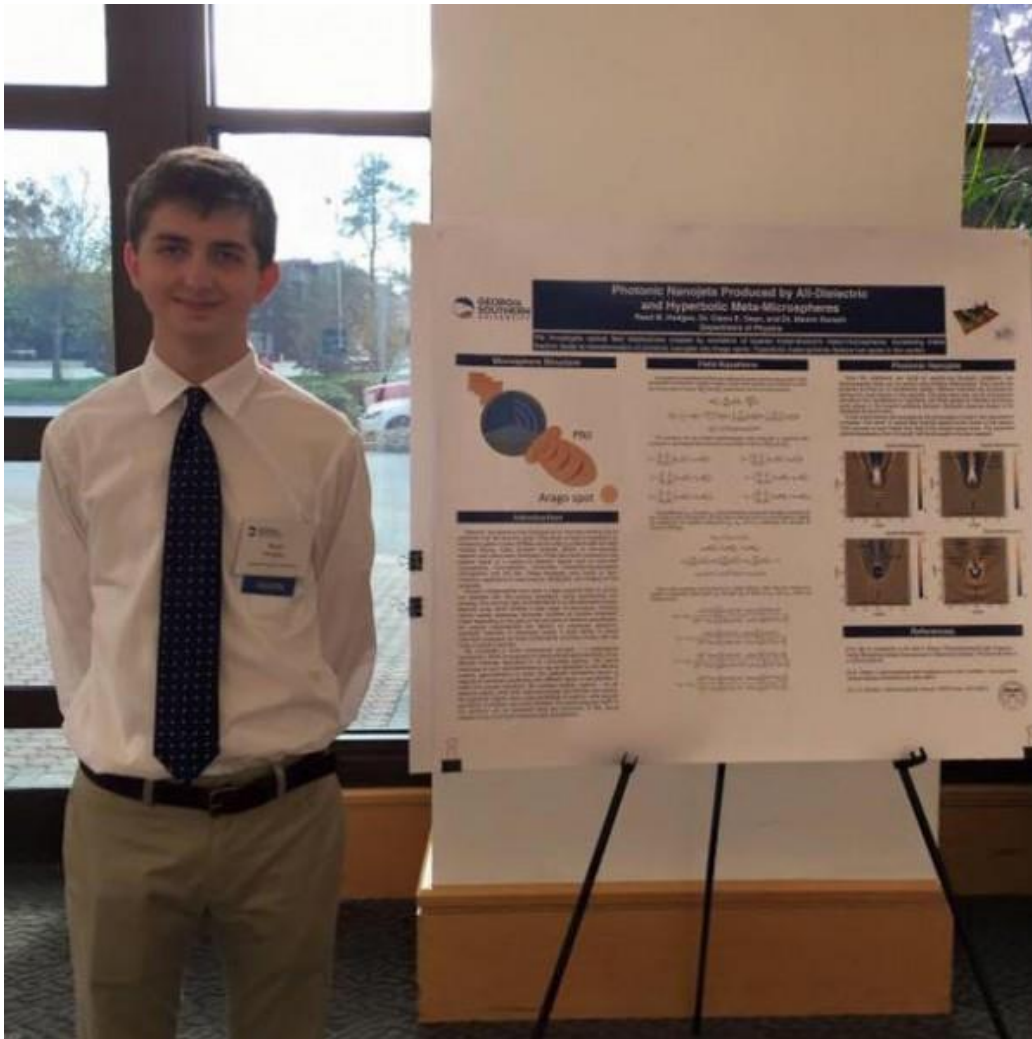
State of Israel, and for the last six months has been studying the social, cultural, and political history of Israel. This knowledge was used to write position papers from an Israeli perspective on topics ranging from cyber security, sustainable development, cooperation in outer space, climate change and gender-based violence, among other topics.

Also this year, four Georgia Southern alumni served as staff at the NMUN Conference, including that of Secretary-General, the highest attainable position at NMUN. Bea Soler, a double major in Political Science and International Studies, received her B.A. from Georgia Southern in 2009 and her M.P.A. in 2012. Ms. Soler is the third Georgia Southern alumna to serve in the capacity of Secretary-General in the last eight years.

The Georgia Southern University Model United Nations program is one of the oldest and most continuous programs of its kind in the United States, having celebrated its 45th year in 2016. In addition to 45 consecutive years of participation in the National Model United Nations competition, Georgia Southern has conducted a High School Model UN program for 45 consecutive years, a Middle School Model UN program for 35 years and a second Middle School Model UN program at the Coastal Georgia Center in Savannah for 18 years.

College of Science and Mathematics student receives internship with Blue Waters Student Internship Program

APRIL 5, 2016



Reed Hodges

Georgia Southern University student Reed Hodges was recently selected for an internship in the [Blue Waters Student Internship Program](#) (BWSIP), a national program that supports year-long undergraduate internship experiences which apply high-performance computing solutions to problems in the sciences, engineering or mathematics.

As a participant in the program, Hodges will receive a \$5,000 stipend and attend a two-week workshop where he will learn about supercomputing techniques. Additionally, he will work for a year

under the mentorship of assistant professor Maxim Durach, Ph.D., to research the optical and electromagnetic properties of various structures on the microscale, essentially using powerful computers to model how extremely tiny things behave when you shine light on them, Hodges said.

"I think of it as an excellent opportunity to continue in and advance the area of research I have been with Dr. Durach for the past school year," Hodges said. "I hope to use it as a means to further my knowledge and experience in order to contribute to science and technology."

Hodges was selected for the program out of more than 100 students who applied. Durach added the BWSIP selection committee selected only 20 interns for the program and selected an additional four to only attend the two-week institute.

"Reed is a very talented student and I believe this internship will be an important step in his path to become a professional scientist," Durach said.

Hodges is the second Georgia Southern student to have been awarded this internship. In 2014-2015 Matthew LePain, who is currently a graduate student in the Department of Physics, participated in this program and the results of these studies were accepted for publication in the Journal of Computational Science Education.