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Dr. Bryant Smalley Receives National Rural Health Award

APRIL 30, 2015



Bryant Smalley, Ph.D., Psy.D. (center), receiving the 2015 Outstanding Educator Award from the National Rural Health Association CEO, Alan Morgan (left), and NRHA President, Jodi Schmidt (right).

Bryant Smalley, Ph.D., Psy.D., executive director of Georgia Southern University's Rural Health Research Institute, was named "2015 Outstanding Educator" by the National Rural Health Association (NRHA) at the 2015 Annual Rural Health Conference in Philadelphia, the largest gathering of rural health professionals in the nation.

The award is given annually to an individual who has contributed in substantial ways to the education and training of future rural health professionals, and is selected through a nationally-competitive process.

"It is a great honor to be selected as the 2015 Outstanding Educator by the National Rural Health Association," said Smalley. "During my seven years at Georgia Southern University, I have had the great fortune to work with dozens of students and faculty members wishing to focus on rural health

issues. The needs in rural health are great, but so too are the opportunities, and it is a privilege to contribute to the development of future rural health professionals.”

During his tenure at Georgia Southern, Smalley has received over \$6 million in federal grants to support the efforts of the Rural Health Research Institute, including a \$5.1 million National Institutes of Health Center of Excellence grant that supports several training programs for undergraduate students, graduate students, postdoctoral researchers and early-stage faculty. One such program, the Disparities Elimination Summer Research Experience (DESRE) attracts a national cohort of students each summer to Georgia Southern for a six-week, full-time immersive research training experience. For the upcoming 2015 cycle, more than 400 students competed for the six available slots in the program.

Smalley also serves on the clinical faculty of Georgia Southern’s Doctor of Psychology (Psy.D.) training program, which is designed to prepare future professionals for careers in rural psychology. Smalley developed the program’s Rural Mental Health course, in addition to publishing two textbooks focused specifically on rural health issues (*Rural Mental Health* and *Rural Public Health*). He incorporates substantial student engagement into his research, with 10 student co-publications, nearly 40 student co-presentations and over 50 students engaged in research and service learning opportunities.

NRHA is a nonprofit organization working to improve the health and wellbeing of rural Americans and providing leadership on rural health issues through advocacy, communications, education and research. NRHA membership is made up of 21,000 diverse individuals and organizations, all of whom share the common bond of an interest in rural health.

“We’re especially proud of this year’s winners,” said Alan Morgan, NRHA CEO. “They have each already made tremendous strides to advance rural health care, and we’re confident they will continue to help improve the lives of rural Americans.”

The Rural Health Research Institute is an interdisciplinary hub of rural health research, training and outreach within Georgia Southern University. Its mission is to improve health in rural areas by promoting cutting-edge, interdisciplinary research and outreach that connects faculty from diverse fields and promotes the development of researchers examining rural health issues. To learn more about the Rural Health Research Institute, visit <http://www.georgiasouthern.edu/RHRI>

Georgia Southern University Logistics Students Participate in Multinational Case Study

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A group of Georgia Southern logistics students recently completed a multinational case study that included 695 students from 13 universities representing seven countries including the United States, France, Columbia, Peru, Singapore, Thailand and the United Kingdom.

College of Business students in logistics and intermodal transportation operations classes, led by Chris Boone, Ph.D., were each assigned to a four-person team, along with a mix of students from the other universities. Each team was then given ten days to analyze a Council of Supply Chain Management Professionals (CSCMP) case. This task required the logistics students to overcome time, distance and language challenges created by their globally-distributed teams in order to address the inventory and logistics performance problems found in the CSCMP case. Each student group then presented its analysis and solutions to a faculty member from one of the other participating universities using GoToMeeting® video conferencing technology.

"The logistics faculty interacts regularly with alumni, employers and industry leaders who are all stressing the added importance of students gaining firsthand experience dealing with the issues, challenges and pressures faced by logistics professionals in today's increasingly complex and global business environment," said Boone. "This case study is but one example of the dedicated efforts by faculty from across the Georgia Southern University College of Business Administration to provide our students the high quality education and practical experiences valued by today's employers."

Many logistics and supply chain firms are becoming more reliant on the use of geographically dispersed team, and this innovative case experience has equipped Georgia Southern logistics students for success when they are presented with a similar situation in the future. This opportunity was the first to all Georgia Southern logistics students to participate in this innovative case study, which has now included more than 3,000 students from 27 universities worldwide. Preparation for the Fall 2015 case study is underway with plans to add schools from Brazil, China, India, Malaysia, and New Zealand.

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

Georgia Southern University Named “Green College” by The Princeton Review for Five Years

APRIL 30, 2015

Georgia Southern University has been named to The Princeton Review's *Guide to 353 Green Colleges* for the fifth year in a row. This guide recognizes the most environmentally responsible “green” colleges throughout the country.

The guide profiles colleges and universities with exceptional commitments to sustainability based on academic offerings and career preparation for students, campus policies, initiatives and activities. Georgia Southern's sustainability action projects like “No Impact Week” and organizations like the Geo Club and Green Ambassadors, among others have helped the University earn this title.

“We are proud to be among the sustainability leaders in the country,” said Lissa Legee, director of the University's Center for Sustainability. “Our students' vision to propose a sustainability fee has allowed for tremendous sustainability advances on our campus over the past two years.”

Marvin Mills, associate vice president for Facilities at the University, added, “Georgia Southern is recognized for training the next generation of leaders who will ultimately be responsible for putting green ideas into practice. By infusing sustainability principles into every aspect of higher education, from instruction to the physical part of campus, there is a new priority for a whole generation of leaders, educated and trained to make a greener world now. Georgia Southern is becoming a ‘living laboratory’ for continuous improvement in sustainability.”

The Princeton Review developed the ranking list using data from its institutional survey for its Green Rating and its surveys of students attending the colleges. Ten data points from the institutional survey were factored into the assessment. Data from the student survey included student ratings of how sustainability issues influenced their education and life on campus; administration and student support for environmental awareness and conservation efforts; and the visibility and impact of student environmental groups.

“Among nearly 10,000 teens who participated in our 2015 College Hopes & Worries Survey, 61 percent told us that having information about a school's commitment to the environment would

influence their decision to apply to or attend the college,” said Robert Franek, The Princeton Review’s senior vice president and publisher. (A complete report on that survey is at www.princetonreview.com/college-hopes-worries.) “We strongly recommend Georgia Southern University and the other fine schools in this guide to environmentally-minded students who seek to study and live at green colleges.”

The Princeton Review first published this guide in 2010. It remains the only free, annually updated downloadable guide to green colleges. The free 218-page guide is downloadable at www.princetonreview.com/green-guide.

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