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Georgia Southern University and Senator Jack Hill Recognize Senior Corps Volunteers

SEPTEMBER 23, 2010

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Governor Sonny Perdue has designated the week of Sept. 20-24, 2010 as Senior Corps Week in the State of Georgia. Georgia State Senator Jack Hill presented the proclamation to Georgia Southern University Senior Companion Program Director Margie Pevey and Diana Cone, Ph.D., interim dean of the College of Health and Human Sciences to recognize the University and area volunteers and their valuable impact on the community.

The presentation was made during the program's monthly in-service volunteer training session at First Presbyterian Church in Statesboro.

"Many of those that receive care from the Senior Companion Program have told us that the volunteers have become an additional member of their family," said Pevey. "We have received numerous letters thanking our senior volunteers and Georgia Southern University is proud to be a part of such a wonderful program."

Senator Jack Hill in presenting the proclamation said, "This is an outstanding program and the service that it provides for individuals in area communities is incredible."

The Senior Companion Program at Georgia Southern University began in 1988 and is a federally funded grant within the College of Health & Human Sciences. For more than 20 years, the program has attracted outstanding volunteers at least age 55 that have assisted adults age 21 and up with activities involving daily living.

"Our volunteers provide a valuable service within the community," said Pevey. "Whether they are giving families or caregivers much-needed time off, running errands, or simply being a friend, they are making a major difference in the lives of those in need."

Georgia Southern's program currently has 51 volunteers while only being funded for 37. The volunteers are spread throughout nine counties in South Georgia. During the past fiscal year ending June 30, 2010 volunteers in the Senior Companion Program generated 43,681 hours of care.

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Georgia Southern University has selected two students to intern in Washington, D.C. during the fall 2010 semester, as part of the Eagles in D.C. Congressional Internship Program. Following a competitive application process, the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management has selected Camille Daley from Kennesaw, Ga., and Joshua Combs from Dallas, Ga., to participate in the program.

“We are pleased that these two outstanding students have been selected to intern in our nation’s capital during the fall 2010 semester,” said Teresa Thompson, vice president of student affairs and enrollment management at Georgia Southern University. “The program provides students with a well-rounded educational opportunity to complement their traditional classroom learning while also allowing them to immerse themselves into a unique political, intellectual and cultural atmosphere. We are continuously expanding the Eagles in D.C. program and continue to explore new ways to showcase the quality of students that Georgia Southern University cultivates.”

Camille Daley, a junior history major from Kennesaw, Ga., will be interning in U.S. Congressman John Lewis’ office (<http://johnlewis.house.gov>). During the 2009-2010 academic year, Daley served as a Southern Ambassador, community leader at Centennial Place, vice president of administrative services for the National Residence Hall Honorary and was a consultant for the Office of Student Leadership and Civic Engagement’s INSPIRE program. Daley has donated more than 350 hours of community involvement and service to the University.

Joshua Combs, a junior political science major from Dallas, Ga., was selected to intern with U.S. Congressman John Barrow’s office (<http://barrow.house.gov>) during the fall semester. During his two years at Georgia Southern, Combs has been active on campus and most recently volunteered his time as a judicial advocate for the Office of the Dean of Students. In addition to his campus activities, he is also a member of two honor societies.

While working in our nation’s capital, Eagles in D.C. interns are also making progress towards earning a Georgia Southern University degree. Students are provided with housing and a cost of living stipend during their time in Washington, D.C., making it one of the University’s most popular internship programs. To be eligible to apply, students must have completed 48 hours in residence at Georgia Southern University by the start of the semester in which they wish to intern and also have a GPA of at least 3.0.

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