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# Two Georgia Southern communication arts alumni win at the Southeast Emmy Awards

JULY 18, 2018

Two Georgia Southern University College of Arts and Humanities alumni took home trophies at the Southeast Emmy Awards in June in Atlanta.



*Jim O'Donnell*

Jim O'Donnell, a 2012 communication arts graduate, received the Emmy for Director in a Newscast for his work as news director at WTOC in Savannah.

"I wouldn't have been able to get to where I am without the supportive people in my life and without my knowledge gained from Georgia Southern," O'Donnell said. "I was unsure what I wanted to do after graduation, but luckily the university set me up with an internship at WTOC, and I've been able to work my way through multiple job titles ever since."

Directing coverage of a recent tornado in the Savannah area helped secure O'Donnell the award.

"There was a tornado that broke out in Garden City one day, and I put my iPhone behind me to record video of my directing," he said. "I recorded my audio and recorded the 11 p.m. newscast that went out to our viewers. I couldn't believe that I had made it to this level of achievement so early on in my career."



*Kelly Krammes*

Kelly Krammes, a 2010 communication arts graduate, won an Emmy along with her coworkers at WXIA/WATL-TV in Atlanta for Special Event Coverage in the Edited category for "From Start to Finish," which covered the Peachtree Road Race.

"Atlanta is home to the world's largest 10K — the (Atlanta Journal Constitution) Peachtree Road Race," Krammes said. "From Start to Finish" was an exciting opportunity to tell the stories behind the runners, and I'm honored to have been a part of the team recognized by the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences Southeast Chapter for sharing those stories."

Two other communication arts graduates were nominated for awards.

2010 graduate Danielle Jones was nominated along with her colleagues at WIS-TV in Columbia, South Carolina, for the Newscast — Daily award for the WIS News at 7.

Bree Haggard, a 2014 graduate, was nominated along with her colleagues in the Journalistic Enterprise category for their work on “Todd Kohlhepp: A Killer Among Us” at WSPA-TV in Spartanburg, South Carolina.

The Department of Communication Arts is housed in the College of Arts and Humanities at Georgia Southern. The department offers degrees in theatre, communication studies, journalism, multimedia film and production and public relations.

Georgia Southern University, a public Carnegie Doctoral/Research institution founded in 1906, offers 141 degree programs serving more than 27,000 students through nine colleges on three campuses in Statesboro, Savannah, Hinesville and online instruction. A leader in higher education in southeast Georgia, the University provides a diverse student population with expert faculty, world-class scholarship and hands-on learning opportunities. Georgia Southern creates lifelong learners who serve as responsible scholars, leaders and stewards in their communities. Visit [GeorgiaSouthern.edu](http://GeorgiaSouthern.edu).

Tags: [College of Arts and Humanities](#), [Communication Arts](#)

# Georgia Southern student speech language hearing chapter awarded national honor

JULY 18, 2018



The National Student Speech Language Hearing Association (NSSLHA) chapter on Georgia Southern University Armstrong Campus in Savannah was recently awarded Bronze Chapter Honors for their efforts in helping the national organization during the 2017-18 school year.

"I am so proud of our students in NSSLHA," said April Garrity, Ph.D., associate professor in the Department of Rehabilitation Sciences and NSSLHA chapter advisor on the Armstrong Campus. "They made a commitment to attain chapter honors at the beginning of the academic year, and they did it. This is the first time we have earned Chapter Honors since I began serving as the faculty advisor 10 years ago."

To receive honors, the Armstrong Campus chapter helped increase awareness of communication sciences and disorders (CSD) among state and federal legislators, donated to the NSSLHA Scholarship fund and contributed to the \$15,250 raised for the 2017-2018 NSSLHA Loves campaign, which allocates money to charities.

National NSSLHA Chapter Honors are awarded to affiliated NSSLHA chapters that demonstrate an outstanding effort to support National NSSLHA's mission to inspire, empower and support students in communication sciences and disorders programs.

The NSSLHA Chapter on Armstrong Campus was started to enhance education and pre-professional experiences for students majoring in CSD. The CSD program is accredited by the Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, which ensures the program meets specified standards in the areas of administrative structure and governance, faculty and instructional staff, curriculum, students, assessment and program resources. Students graduating from an accredited program are eligible for state licensure and national certification.

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Tags: [Rehabilitation Sciences](#), [Waters College of Health Professions](#)

# Georgia Southern College of Science and Mathematics senior wins scholarship

JULY 18, 2018



Kenneth Richardson, a senior biochemistry major at the Georgia Southern University Armstrong Campus in Savannah, has been named a 2018 American Chemical Society (ACS) Scholar. Richardson said the scholarship will help him soon begin his career path.

"Receiving the ACS Scholars award is a huge step in the direction of becoming a better biochemist and pursuing my career in the pharmaceutical sciences," Richardson said.

Richardson was referred for the scholarship by Sarah Zingales, Ph.D., his research mentor and assistant professor of chemistry at the Armstrong Campus.

"Since Spring 2017, Kenneth has worked in my medicinal chemistry research laboratory on a project creating new molecules as potential treatments for Alzheimer's Disease," Zingales said. "Kenneth has put in a lot of time and effort and has really grown in his chemistry knowledge and skill. I am very proud of his work and am excited that he has been recognized with this prestigious award."

Richardson said the scholarship allows him to be seen as a leader in both his personal and professional communities.

"It allows me to represent and inspire rising African-American male scientists in my community and throughout the world that I have yet to impact through my career goals," Richardson said.

Richardson said Zingales was the first person he told after learning that he was selected.

"I immediately ran to Dr. Z's office, informed her of the exciting news and thanked her for writing my letter of recommendation for my application," Richardson said.

To qualify for the scholarship, applicants must be of African-American/Black, Hispanic/Latino or Native American heritage; a U.S. citizen or permanent resident; enrolled full-time in high school or college; have a science GPA of 3.0 or higher; and demonstrate financial need according to FAFSA and SAR. The ACS Scholars Program Committee chooses scholars based on academics, career goals, extracurricular and community service involvement, and leadership skills.

Richardson said the award is a representation of all of the late hours and hard work he has put in during his time in college.

"I am beginning to see the payoff of those restless late nights studying in the Learning Commons, working up to 30 hours a week at Starbucks, performing organic chemistry in my research lab after classes, doing odd-jobs of community service and especially staying caffeinated," Richardson said.

Tags: [Chemistry and Biochemistry](#), [College of Science and Mathematics](#)