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Georgia Southern hosts fourth annual EdCamp on Statesboro Campus

APRIL 15, 2019

Save



Georgia Southern University's fourth annual EdCamp, a free, participant-driven professional development program for K-12 teachers and educational professionals, will take place on Saturday, April 27, at the University's College of Education (COE) on the Statesboro Campus from 8:30 a.m. until 1 p.m.

EdCamp is a fun, learning experience built on principles of connected and participatory learning. Unlike traditional conferences, EdCamp invites attendees to decide the sessions for the day based on a consensus of what they would like to learn or discuss.

Throughout the event, attendees are asked to present current classroom practices, learn what others are doing, gain support for employing best practices in the classroom and actively participate in a host of sessions related to teaching and learning.

EdCamps are held worldwide, and last year, more than 150 education professionals shared their knowledge, experience and tools at the COE-hosted EdCamp.

The event is open to all area K-12 education professionals, and free breakfast and lunch will be provided. For more information or to reserve a ticket, visit edcampgeorgiasouthern.weebly.com/ or email Michelle Reidel, Ph.D., at mreidel@georgiasouthern.edu.

Georgia Southern University, a public Carnegie Doctoral/R2 institution founded in 1906, offers 141 degree programs serving nearly 26,500 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.

Savannah Wind Symphony to perform 41st annual 'Ed & Friends' Pops Concert on Armstrong Campus

APRIL 15, 2019

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Savannah Wind Symphony performs at an earlier concert.

For over 40 years, the Savannah Wind Symphony has been bringing bright overtures, popular film score medleys and classic symphonic arrangements to the Savannah community. They will continue this tradition with their 41st annual "Ed & Friends" Pops Concert on April 28 at 7:30 p.m. in the Fine Arts Auditorium on the Georgia Southern Armstrong Campus.

This year's concert, which is dedicated to the legacy of celebrated Savannah music educator Ed Caughran, will feature a variety of pieces, including selections from the 2018 Golden Globe winner "The Greatest Showman," Leonard Bernstein's "Mambo" from "West Side Story" and crowd favorites from John Philip Sousa.

The symphony is comprised of approximately 100 musicians that vary from active and retired school and military band directors, to high school and Georgia Southern students.

"I absolutely love the sense of community in our symphony," said Savannah Winds member and Georgia Southern student Selina Reed. "From all the many different backgrounds that we each have, we at least have one thing in common, and that is music which we do passionately for ourselves and for the people of Savannah."

For information about tickets, visit georgiasouthern.edu/armstrongtickets.

Georgia Southern professor named national outstanding faculty advisor merit recipient

APRIL 15, 2019

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Georgia Southern University College of Education Assistant Professor Steven Tolman, Ed.D., was recently named the 2019 Georgia Southern merit recipient of the Outstanding Faculty Advisor award for the National Academic Advising Association (NACADA).

Institutional merit recipients are recommended for nomination to NACADA's national awards. Criteria and scoring for awards are based on a culmination of qualities and practices including interpersonal skills, availability and frequency of contact with students, monitoring student progress toward academic and career goals, and attitude toward students, faculty and staff.

Tolman joined the University in 2017 and teaches online and hybrid graduate-level courses in educational leadership.

"I utilize an online platform, so that students can easily make appointments with me," explained Tolman. "Students know they can at any point schedule an appointment with me via face-to-face, phone or video chat."

He also travels to Atlanta for advising sessions and offers opportunities to meet students while traveling for conferences.

"I am happy to meet with any student, not just those that are currently taking my courses," said Tolman. "I think it is important to provide our online students with the opportunity to meet face-to-face and discuss courses, career paths, research or educational leadership in general."

On any given day, Tolman reaches out to students individually and collectively to share career opportunities, research articles, networking events and professional development opportunities based on their respective interests and career paths. While students may not ever meet Tolman in person, he promotes an open-door policy that allows students to feel comfortable emailing or communicating with him whenever necessary.

"I firmly believe advising and teaching is my primary focus as a faculty member," said Tolman. "I would argue these roles are inextricable — you cannot have one without the other. I am invested in the success of every student in our program. Their success is my success."

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Georgia Southern University to host Southeast Conference on Positive Behavior Interventions and Support

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The 2019 Southeast Conference on Positive Behavior Interventions and Support (PBIS) will be held June 3 through 5, featuring five strands of targeted, evidence-based training for schools and school districts at each stage of the PBIS implementation process. The conference is hosted by the Georgia Southern University College of Education at the Coastal Georgia Center in Savannah.



LaMarr Darnell Shields, Ph.D., co-founder and senior director of education and innovation at the Cambio Group, will serve as the keynote speaker. Formerly a professor at Johns Hopkins School of Education, Shields's career is marked by a dedication to youth empowerment. He is the special advisor to the Blue Ribbon Commission on Educational Equity and has been featured on several networks including CNN, BET and NPR among others.

With focuses on development, sustainability, individualized interventions, mental health and a brand new school safety strand, conference participants will be provided with a framework that can fit within the context of their school's climate and culture.

The new school safety strand provides material for school districts looking to align their PBIS implementation with their school's security protocol. Attendees will gain ready-to-implement strategies for creating safe and supportive environments, accurate data integration, and techniques for gaining buy-in with key stakeholders such as students, parents, staff and the community.

The school safety strand also includes a session by a member of the FBI, agent Andy Van Epps. Van Epps will be delivering his presentation, "Active Shooter: Preparing for the Worst," which will prepare attendees to handle worst case scenarios in an active shooter event.

The Southeast Conference on Positive Behavior Interventions and Support is eligible for up to 12.5 contact hours toward certifications for the National Association of Social Workers and the Georgia Association for Marriage & Family Therapists and the Licensed Professional Counselors Association of Georgia.

Regular registration ends April 30. For more information about the conference, its speakers and how to register, visit Georgiasouthern.edu/conted/sepbis.

For additional information about this conference from the Georgia Southern Division of Continuing Education, contact Bonnie Overstreet at 912-478-5555 or sepbis@georgiasouthern.edu.

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