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Georgia Southern presents 'Our Lost Years' at annual Mark Finlay Memorial Lecture

August 30, 2019



This year's Mark Finlay Memorial Lecture, hosted by the College of Arts and Humanities at Georgia Southern University, will be held on Sept. 26. Mr. Lane Nishikawa, director and producer of the film, "Our Lost Years," will introduce the film's screening, which will take place at 6:30 p.m. in the Armstrong Center Auditorium on the Armstrong Campus. The event is free and open to the public with a Q&A and reception to follow.

"My new documentary film, 'Our Lost Years,' examines the internment of Japanese and Japanese Americans during World War II and the 10-year fight for redress and reparations," said Nishikawa. "I have toured my plays and films to over 75 cities across the United States, Canada and Europe, and this will be my first trip to the deep southern part of the country."

Nishikawa has been in the film, television and theatrical industries for more than 35 years. He currently sits on the advisory board of the San Diego Japanese Americans Citizens League. He has also served on the advisory boards of the Pacific Arts Movement and the Go For Broke National Educational Foundation.

The Mark Finlay Memorial Lecture series was established to honor Finlay's deep interest in using history to improve the condition of humankind. Finlay felt strongly that Southeast Georgia could benefit from introducing academic and artistic perspectives that exceed its rural parameters.

The series has been presented each year in Finlay's honor. Finlay was the former assistant dean in the College of Liberal Arts and a professor of history at Armstrong State University. Thanks to the generous donations of his family, friends and colleagues, the lecture series has taken place annually since his passing in 2013.

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.

Georgia Southern's English Language Program to host open house on Sept. 5

August 30, 2019



Georgia Southern University's English Language Program (ELP) will host an open house on Sept. 5 at 2 p.m. in the Interdisciplinary Academics Building on the Statesboro Campus to celebrate its new home within the Department of Writing and Linguistics.

"We are thrilled to welcome the English Language Program to the Department of Writing and Linguistics," said Russell Willerton, Ph.D., chair of the Department of Writing and Linguistics. "This new arrangement will benefit our ELP students as well as the students who take our courses in linguistics and in English as a second language."

ELP is an academic, non-credit language intensive program that helps non-native speaking students improve their English skills by developing four key areas, including reading, writing, listening and speaking, in an active learning environment.

Students within the program will experience life as a traditional student through curriculum, enhanced by guest speakers, field trips and additional enrichment courses. After completing the program, ELP students will have the ability to seek conditional admission as an undergraduate or graduate student at Georgia Southern.

"Our goal is to promote student success inside as well as outside of the classroom setting by providing educational, cultural and professional opportunities," said Amy Perry, ELP coordinator and full-time instructor. For more information about the ELP visit <https://cah.georgiasouthern.edu/elp/>.

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[Georgia Southern professor teams up to lead workshop on plastic pollution in Vietnam](#)

August 30, 2019

Georgia Southern University Professor of Biology Lissa Legee, Ph.D., was part of a team that recently led a workshop in Vietnam on the negative effects plastic pollution has on the ocean. Legee said she expects the workshop will indirectly reach the 2,300 high school teachers and 40,000 high school students of the Binh Dinh Province through the 100 educators who attended.

“It was a privilege to be a part of this effort, and I am hopeful that this will be the start of a broader, country-wide initiative,” she said. “The conference highlighted the global nature of the plastic problem. Because Western nations often export plastic recycling to Southeastern Asian nations, the plastic that we use here often ends up becoming their problem. But that comes back to us in contaminated seafood and unhealthy marine ecosystems.”

Numerous high level government officials from Vietnam attended the workshop in a show of support for the conference. Vietnam is the fourth-largest source of plastic waste discharge into the oceans, which affects the province of Binh Dinh’s primarily fishing-based economy.

The workshop was a part of a National Geographic Society Education Grant focused on educating high school teachers about reducing plastic pollution in the ocean. Legee partnered with faculty from Loyola University Chicago, Baylor University and University of California, Riverside during the workshop.