Two students in the Parker College of Business have been awarded a $1,000 scholarship from the Propeller Club United States – Port of Savannah.

Mohammad Abdullah and Alecia Breen received the Gus Dubus Scholarship, which is awarded by the Propeller Club each year to four area college students who maintain a 3.0 GPA while majoring in logistics and intermodal transportation.

“The Propeller Club – Port of Savannah is all about bringing the maritime community together,” stated Abdullah, senior logistics student and Parker Business Scholar. “To be a part of this prestigious award will not only develop my network but also build my résumé. The money was great, but the ability to build my network was priceless.”

The scholarship is named for the late Gus Dubus who was a Savannah maritime lawyer and past president of the Propeller Club.

The Propeller Club of Savannah is comprised of nearly 300 individuals representing more than 145 companies and groups that do business with or have a connection to the Savannah port. The group also sponsors the annual State of the Port address by Georgia Ports Authority Executive Director Griff Lynch.
Georgia Southern biology graduate students awarded sea grants for research

September 12, 2019

William Annis and Lauren Moniz are seen with ribbed mussels and a sting ray as part of their research.

Two graduate students from Georgia Southern University’s Department of Biology have been awarded major grants for their research in marine biology.

William Annis and Lauren Moniz were each awarded Graduate Research Traineeships worth more than $20,000 from the Georgia Sea Grant. The awards will support their research as they work toward completing their masters degrees.
Annis is studying the ecology of the ribbed mussel, which lives in the mud of Georgia’s tidal flats and saltmarshes. The mussel’s significance plays an important role in stabilizing valuable coastal marshes. Annis will use surveys and field experiments to determine the factors that maximize mussel survival.

“This research has important management implications for coastal Georgia,” says assistant professor John Carroll, Ph.D., Annis’s advisor in the Department of Biology. “Given the uniqueness of Georgia’s estuaries—high river input, high sediment loads, extreme tides—data on the ecology of these mussels in Georgia marshes will help optimize their potential use in marsh restoration projects.”

Moniz is investigating the biology of several species of stingrays that are common along the Georgia coast who act as mesopredators that feed on smaller animals low in the food chain and then make energy available to larger species at the top of the food chain.

“By studying energy flow in an important link in coastal food chains, Moniz’s research will give us a better understanding of the health of our productive coastal ecosystems,” said assistant professor Christine Bedore, Ph.D., Moniz’s advisor in the Department of Biology.

Associate professor Checo Colon-Gaud, Ph.D., director of the graduate program in the Department of Biology, emphasized the importance of graduate students to the department’s research program.

“External grant support is vital to the university’s research mission, and we are proud of our graduate students’ ability to compete successfully for funding.”

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.

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**Georgia Southern University celebrates Hispanic and Latinx Heritage Month**

September 12, 2019
Georgia Southern University’s Office of Multicultural Affairs (OMA) is pleased to announce the schedule for the 2019 Hispanic and Latinx Heritage Month Celebration, featuring a series of lectures, performances and more. National Hispanic and Latinx Heritage Month is from Sept. 15 to Oct. 15 and celebrates the history, culture and contributions of the Hispanic and Latino American communities.

Most events will take place on the Statesboro, Armstrong and Liberty campuses and are free and open to the public. Highlighted events include:

**Wednesday, Sept. 18, 5 p.m.**

**Flag Parade**

**Statesboro Campus: Russell Union Rotunda**

In partnership with the Association of Latin American Students, the parade of flags from Hispanic/Latin countries will be carried by participants beginning at Lakeside Dining Commons through the Pedestrium to the Russell Union Rotunda. A mini festival including presentations, music, dancing and food will take place at the Rotunda following the parade.

**Thursday, Sept. 19, 2-3:30 p.m.**

**Immigration Session 101 with Kuck Baxter Immigration, LLC – hosted by NAACP**

**Armstrong Campus: Student Union Ballroom**

Join the Armstrong Chapter of NAACP as they host Jorge Gavilanes, associate attorney at Kuck Baxter Immigration Services. Gavilanes’ “Immigration Session 101” will discuss the current immigration climate and practices.

**Tuesday, Sept. 24, 12:30-1:30 p.m.**

**Lunch and Learn: African Influences in Latin American Music**

**Armstrong Campus: Ogeechee Theatre**

Lunch and Learns are an opportunity for students to enjoy their lunch while learning about new topics related to culture, language and various diversity issues. This week features Savannah State University Associate Professor Pedro Rivera, Ph.D., who will discuss Afro-Latino history and where African culture and influences made an impact in shaping the Latin American music we know today. Bring your own lunch; light refreshments will be provided.

**Thursday, Sept. 26, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.**

**Passport to Latin America**

**Liberty Campus**

Step into the world of Latin American countries with food, music, fun facts and more. Join OMA and the Liberty Center for an afternoon of cultural explosion.

**Tuesday, Oct. 1, 6-7 p.m.**

**Afro-Latinx: Are you Black?**

**Statesboro Campus: Russell Union 2084**
This program is a facilitated discussion about people who identify as black and Hispanic/Latinx. The program seeks to dispel myths, identify cultural differences and demystify Afro-Latinx identities.

**Wednesday, Oct. 2, 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m.**

**Fiesta Day**

**Armstrong Campus: Residential Plaza**

OMA’s annual Fiesta Day brings together the Georgia Southern community as we celebrate Hispanic and Latinx Heritage Month. There will be food from various Latin American countries, game stations and dancing. Remember to bring your Eagle Card to enjoy the fun.

**Tuesday, Oct. 8, 5-6:30 p.m.**

**Talk Tuesday – Hispanic and Latinx Family Values**

**Statesboro Campus: Russell Union 2080**

Talk Tuesday, hosted by the Diversity Peer Educators, is a chat-n-chew discussion on the various components and cultural elements of Hispanic and Latinx families. Refreshments will be provided.

**Monday, October 14, 6-7:30 p.m.**

**Latix Dance Lessons**

**Williams Center Multipurpose Room**

Latinx dance lessons facilitated by student group

For more information on the 2019 Hispanic and Latinx Heritage Month Celebration, visit [https://students.georgiasouthern.edu/multicultural/HLHeritage](https://students.georgiasouthern.edu/multicultural/HLHeritage)

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