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Graduate students present on age-related hearing loss

October 16, 2019

Madison McCabe, Elizabeth Kwok, Vanessa Volz and Haley Cook

Georgia Southern University graduate students in the Communication Sciences and Disorders program recently partnered with Georgia Relay and Georgia Center of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing for a Bingo Bash Hearing Loss Lunch and Learn in Port Wentworth, Georgia, to address hearing loss in the aging population.

Graduate students provided attendees with hearing screenings, discussed hearing loss prevention and provided a presentation on age-related hearing loss. Participants of this event enjoyed bingo, prizes and lunch while learning about the many services Georgia Relay, Georgia Center of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and Georgia Southern University have to offer.
Georgia Southern University College of Education Professor John A. Weaver, Ph.D., recently joined the Dalai Lama and 14 other leading scholars from 10 countries for the first Round Table Conference of the Human Education in the Third Millennium project. The conference for the project, which addresses the obstacles of educational equality on a world level and proposes a renewal of educational values utilizing different traditions from across the world, was hosted in the residence of the Dalai Lama in Dharamsala, India. The Dalai Lama served as the honorary keynote speaker.

Weaver, a faculty member at Georgia Southern for 18 years who teaches in the doctoral program in curriculum studies, was one of two participants from the United States.
He was invited for his research and expertise in post-humanism, theories that critically analyze the traditional ideas about humanity and the human condition. Weaver joined the group of scholars to begin discussions to articulate the significant challenges of education.

One of the common concerns identified was a tendency to view education through an economic lens.

“It’s this idea that everything that is private is good, and everything that is public is not good,” explained Weaver. “Nobel Prize-winning economist Kenneth Arrow said that under perfect conditions there is no government involvement and a perfect balance of supply and demand. However, there are two aspects where he says this does not work — health care and education. We should be listening to Arrow.”

The Dalai Lama offered his thoughts on ethics and education for the new millennium.

“If education is supposed to have produced individuals living a happy life in happy communities in a happy world, it seems to have failed,” he said to the group.

Weaver will assist with organizing a Human Education in the Third Millennium World forum, which will take place in November 2020. Educators, politicians and philosophers will be invited to gather for presentations and discussion on themes including policy, humanism, democracy and pedagogy.

“I get to play a part in shaping what the themes for this conference will be,” he said. “The goal is to bring as many people to the forum as possible with as much support as possible so that there is little expense to come, and we receive input and ideas from every area of the world.”

After the forum, Weaver and his colleagues will compile a book of their experiences that detail the future of education.

“We all have the common, shared vision that education is being threatened by various forces across the world,” Weaver said. “Neoliberalism was a recurring theme that we discussed — where, for instance, here in the United States, people are trying to turn public education into another site for profit.

“One thing that struck me — there were 15 different people from 10 different countries and yet we all had very similar concerns,” he added. “These are world problems.”

For more information on the Human Education in the Third Millennium, visit https://humaneducation.net.

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 only university named 2019 Project Play Champion

October 16, 2019

Georgia Southern is the only university and one of 20 organizations nationwide to be selected as a 2019 Project Play Champion by the Aspen Institute’s Sports and Society Program.

Launched in 2013, Project Play focuses on developing, applying and sharing knowledge that helps build healthy communities through sports. Project Play Champions are part of a cohort of organizations that are striving to make new, meaningful commitments in alignment with Project Play.

Spearheaded by Bridget Melton, Ed.D, professor in the Department of Health Sciences and Kinesiology, Georgia Southern will launch several coaching clinic outreach efforts this academic year that aim to provide a low-barrier introduction to coaching for new coaches and parents, as well as sport-specific techniques and training to build coaching capacity in rural, underserved areas.

Associate Professor Charles “Hal” Wilson, Ph.D., and Professor Drew Zwald, Ph.D., faculty members in the Department of Health Sciences and Kinesiology, attended the Project Play Summit in Detroit, Michigan, this past September as representatives for Georgia Southern. While in attendance, Zwald and Wilson led a roundtable discussion about helping parents navigate the sometimes overwhelming youth sports world.

“Attendees discussed how to make resources more available to parents who wish to be involved and also how to encourage more parents to get involved in youth sports,” Wilson said. “We also discussed the many obstacles that parents may face, including conflicts with their work schedules, lack of childcare for other young children, lack of reliable transportation and other financial restraints. The bottom line is that we want to help create opportunities for any parent who wants to get involved in their child’s sporting life to do so.”

Tags: Georgia Southern, project play, Waters College of Health Professions
The Betty Foy Sanders Department of Art at Georgia Southern University will host Raku Pizza Night on Oct. 30, from 6 to 8 p.m. on the Armstrong Campus in the Annex II Courtyard. Raku firing is an ancient Japanese ceramics technique in which pottery is removed from a kiln while it’s red hot and placed into a container with combustible materials to create colorful glazes. There will be free refreshments and door prizes.

The event will feature students presenting their work, viewing of a Raku firing technique and a demonstration by ceramics professor John Jenson throwing a large pot.

“I started doing Raku Pizza night when I first started teaching here,” said Jenson. “This is like an open house that gives our students an evening to learn about different types of pottery, working on the wheel, firing and finished pieces. It is educational and entertaining.”

Tags: College of Arts and Humanities