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# Georgia Southern History Department receives Georgia honors

October 21, 2019



## *Savannah Signs Project*

**WADDIE WELCOME ARCHIVE**

**GEORGIA SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY**

Georgia Southern University History Department has created two projects related to the local history of Savannah. These projects are being honored by the Georgia Historical Records Advisory Council and the USG Chancellor's Office.

History professor Robert Batchelor, Ph.D., alongside local authors Susan Earl and Tom Kohler, have received the 2019 Award for Excellence in Local History Advocacy for the "Waddie Welcome Archive — Savannah Signs Project."

The archive contains more than 700 pictures of hand-painted African American signs from Savannah dating from the 1970s to the present time. Georgia Southern special collection librarian Autumn Johnson and Sulfur Studios photographer Emily Earl helped to enable these recent public exhibitions.

Retired professor of history John Duncan, Ph.D., will also receive an award for his book, *The Showy Town of Savannah: The Story of the Architect William Jay*.