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‘All Things at Once’ visiting artist exhibition opens on Statesboro Campus

October 31, 2019

“All Things at Once,” a visiting artist exhibition by Dan Funderburgh is on view at Georgia Southern University's Center for Art and Theatre on the Statesboro Campus. Funderburgh is a Brooklyn-based illustrator, artist and hand-screened wallpaper designer whose work explores the density of communication with logos, graphics and pattern density. The exhibition will run through Dec. 6. There will be an artist talk on Nov. 12 beginning at 5 p.m. in the Arts Building followed by a reception in the Center for Art and Theatre’s University Gallery from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

“Funderburgh’s exhibition is a definite do-not-miss exhibition this season,” says Jason Hoelscher, gallery director in the Betty Foy Sanders Department of Art. “The works are a perfect combination of layered and dense, as well as eye-catching and thought-provoking. His work offers something for everyone, whether some optical leisure time well spent taking in the gorgeous visual textures and colors, or something more thought intensive like zooming in and bracing oneself against wave after wave of visual intensity.”

Funderburgh’s work has been shown at the Museum of Art and Design in New York, and his clients have included Nike, The New York Times, Cole Haan and more.

For more information on the exhibition on the Statesboro Campus, visit https://calendar.georgiasouthern.edu/event/exhibition_dan_funderburgh#.XbHRS-dKi3c
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.

Communication Arts welcomes back alumni for “50+1” anniversary celebration

October 31, 2019

Alumni and former department chair, Hal Fulmer
Georgia Southern University alumni and students gathered in Sanford Hall for a reunion like no other. Some alumni came back to a “new” building and a freshly posted mural, making this 50+1 anniversary a celebration to remember.

The Department of Communication Arts was established on the Statesboro Campus 50 years ago. The “+ 1” in the anniversary celebration recognizes its one year as a department on the Armstrong Campus. Approximately 60 alumni, including some who hadn’t been back to campus since the department moved to the former residence hall in 2014, attended the celebration on Oct. 17 and 18.

“To have around 60 alumni back sharing tips, their experiences and their memories created synergy and energy,” said department chair Pamela Bourland-Davis, Ph.D. “Students were connecting classes to professional practices. They were getting résumé and job hunting tips. And they were hearing from alumni in many different areas of practice.”

Recent graduate, Chelsey Thompkins helped organize the event as an undergraduate intern last semester. “To see so many great people who have graduated from Georgia Southern can be an inspiration to other people who are currently still in school,” said Thompkins.

Alumni included in this year’s celebration are now film directors, artists, news reporters, television personalities and more. Alumnus Beau Turpin, who graduated in 2009, is now a film producer based in Atlanta. He came to Georgia Southern as an undeclared major, but was able to create a path of his own in the department.

“I explored getting a major in communication arts with an emphasis in broadcasting,” said Turpin. “They didn’t have a film major at the time, so I got a film minor through theater. I just loved the fact that I could shape my own education within one department.”

Notable alumnus Hal Fulmer, Ph.D., was among those who came back. He is a former student and professor in the communication arts department. Fulmer graduated in 1981 and began working as a faculty member in 1988. He became chair in 1996 and served in that role until his departure in 2002.

Fulmer is now an associate provost at Troy University. He reminisced on what it means to see former students.

“What’s really nice is I can see a chain of people who I taught when I came back as a faculty member,” said Fulmer. “They are highly successful and have had great careers already, and that’s really a neat feeling. So we really have a great thing here. And we’ve had it for a long time.”

Bourland-Davis hopes the alumni who attended the event remember that communication arts is still their campus home and that their success inspires current students of the great opportunities ahead following completion of the program.

“Our students also got to see the varied careers for which studying communication can prepare them, and that what they are learning in class is more than just an answer on a test,” said Bourland-Davis.

The 50+1 anniversary celebration is the beginning of a series of events happening this year in the department. “The Addams Family” musical happens on Nov. 2 with proceeds going toward creating a freshman theatre scholarship. Two more events are planned in the spring semester.

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**Georgia Southern improves health in Coastal Georgia through new partnership**

October 31, 2019

“The goal of this partnership is to enhance the relationship JPHCOPH already has with the CHD,” said Angie Peden, assistant director of the JPHCOPH’s Center for Public Health Practice and Research. “We want to take what we are doing to connect the college and the district and bring it to the next level. My hope is that the formal partnership of an AHD will help us do just that.”

An AHD partnership is formed by the formal affiliation of a health department and an academic institution that trains future health professionals. AHD partnerships can enhance public health education and training, research and service, and may offer a variety of benefits, both for the organizations involved and for the community as a whole.

The CHD covers eight counties along the coast of Georgia with two district offices located in Savannah and Brunswick. Under the direction and leadership of Dr. Lawton C. Davis, CHD’s mission is to improve the health of those who live, work and play in the counties by preventing disease, injury and disability, promoting health and wellbeing, and preparing for and responding to disasters.

“We believe that this partnership will not only enable us to support professional development opportunities among our current staff but also help aid in the development of a future public health workforce,” said Davis. “The benefits of partnering with academia will strengthen our efforts around public health education, research and practice.”

The steering committee for the newly formed Academic Health Department, which will train future health professionals:

Back Row (l-r): Chatham County Public Health Manager Randy McCall, Ph.D., Coastal Health District’s Environmental Health Director Brant Phelps and Epidemiologist Robert Thornton

Front Row (l-r): Coastal Health District Chronic Health Prevention Director Cristina Gibson, Georgia Southern’s graduate assistant Ashleigh Clark, Center for Public Health Practice and Research Assistant Director Angie Peden and Community Health Education and Behavior Associate Professor Nandi Marshall, DPH
The AHD Steering Committee is working to form a guest lecture exchange and an internship supervisor training program, designed to empower CHD staff to supervise and mentor JPHCOPH student interns.

The mission of JPHCOPH is to improve health, eliminate health disparities and health inequities of rural communities and underserved populations globally through excellence in teaching, public health workforce development, research, scholarship, professional service and community engagement.

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