

# Seventh annual Farm-to-Table Dinner fundraiser to support Henderson Library

**MAY 13, 2016**

The Friends of the Zach S. Henderson Library and the Statesboro Mainstreet Farmers Market have teamed up to present the seventh annual Farm-to-Table fundraising dinner on Thursday, June 9, at 6:30 p.m. at the belle house, 380 Westside Road in Statesboro.



*Lissa Leege, Ph.D., director of the Center for Sustainability*

The keynote speaker for this year's dinner is Georgia Southern University's Center for Sustainability Director Lissa Leege, Ph.D. Leege will share the mission and values of the Center, and share highlights from events and activities hosted by the center that encourages sustainable living. Leege is also a professor of biology at Georgia Southern.

"The mission and range of activities of the Center for Sustainability are consistent with the farm-to-table trend in which the emphasis is on producing food locally and delivering that food to local consumers," said W. Bede Mitchell, Ed.D., dean of the Library.

Executive Chef Thomas Sweatt with Georgia Southern's Blue Tie Catering will prepare the menu for the evening. The three-course menu includes:

First course:

- Southern style sweet potato salad with a savory dressing, red onions, dates and toasted Georgia peanuts
- Tossed salad of arugula and spinach with cornbread croutons, Georgia peaches, candied pecans and heirloom tomatoes with salty country ham and red onion with assorted dressings
- Smoked and fried pig tails tossed in a peach barbecue sauce topped with toasted Georgia peanuts and chives
- Buttermilk cornbread served with honey butter, made with local honey, and compound herb butter, made with herbs from the University's garden

Second course:

- Lightly smoked Hunter Cattle Co. ribeye served with a variety of sauces

- Lemon grilled sheepshead or triggerfish served with lemon and butter
- Savannah red rice risotto with lemon thyme
- Roasted fingerling potatoes with sage
- Two assorted vegetables depending on availability at harvest
- Buttermilk cornbread served with honey butter, made with local honey, and compound herb butter, made with herbs from the University's garden

Third course:

- Peach bread pudding with candied pecans served with whipped cream and pecan ice cream

Sweatt grew up in Billings, Montana, where he was a regular and admiring presence in his grandmother's kitchen as she cooked everything from scratch. This early exposure to the art of cooking led him as a teenager to seek jobs in restaurants, and when at age 17 he joined the Army, he became a member of the Army Quarter Masters. After his Army career, he had the opportunity to develop his expertise under the tutelage of many accomplished chefs at several resorts and restaurants. His desire to experience the low country has brought him to Georgia Southern University.

Funds raised from the culinary event and other Friends of the Library activities has contributed to the Library's Foundation account, "Library Book Fund." The annual interest from the endowment purchases approximately 150 scholarly works that the Library might not otherwise be able to afford.

Over the past six years, each dinner has raised between \$1,500 and \$2,500. Last year, the dinner raised more than \$1,700.

"This year, our goal is to surpass \$2,000," Mitchell said. "We plan to use the money from this dinner to fund a special series of events – a surprise to be announced at the dinner. I look forward to announcing this unique opportunity for sharing with our community some rare and famous historical resources."

In addition to the meal and guest speaker, Michael Braz, Ph.D., professor emeritus of music, will again provide musical entertainment during the pre-dinner cocktail mingling.

Tickets are \$75 and may be purchased through the dean of the Library. Contact (912) 478-5115 or email [awilbanks@georgiasouthern.edu](mailto:awilbanks@georgiasouthern.edu) for tickets and more information.

Friends of the Henderson Library was founded in 2002 and is dedicated to supporting and strengthening the Library's services and collections.

# Office of Pre-Law Advising Plays Pivotal Role in Students' Path to Law School

**MAY 16, 2016**

The Office of Pre-Law Advising at Georgia Southern is raising the bar for students. Since the establishment of the office in the 2003-2004 academic year, the acceptance rate to law school for Georgia Southern students has climbed every year.

In the latest Law School Admission Council (LSAT) Action Report for the 2014-15 academic year, 80 percent of Georgia Southern students who applied for law school were accepted by one or more law schools including Cornell Law School, Harvard Law School, University of California-Berkeley, Boston University School of Law, Duke University School of Law, Emory University School of Law, and Georgetown University Law Center.

In the year prior to the office's founding, 2002-2003, only 30.9 percent of Georgia Southern students were accepted into a law school.

For the last seven years, the endowed Judge Faye Sanders Martin Pre-Law Fund enables the Office of Pre-Law Advising to administer four free half-day practice LSAT sessions, furnish students with copies of recent LSAT tests, offer nine summer SOAR sessions, sponsor a panel of law school admissions officers and award a \$500 Martin-Davis Pre-Law Scholarship.

The Office of Pre-Law Advising has three faculty Advisors: Rebecca Davis, J.D., Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology, Kathleen Comerford, Ph.D., Department of History, and Maureen Stobb, Ph.D., Department of Political Science.

Davis also recently served as Secretary and Webmaster at the Southern Association of Pre-Law Advisors (SAPLA) for the 2015-16 academic year and as the Georgia Chair of the National Association of Women Judges.

The College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences (CLASS) is the largest of the eight colleges that make up Georgia Southern University, and it plays a central role in every student's core of knowledge. CLASS, also described as the University's College of the Creative Mind, prepares students to achieve academic excellence, develop their analytical skills, enhance their creativity and embrace their responsibilities as citizens of their communities, their nations and the world. CLASS offers more than 20 undergraduate degrees and several interdisciplinary minors from its 11 departments and five academic centers. CLASS offers eight master's degrees, two graduate certificates and one doctoral degree. For more information, visit [GeorgiaSouthern.edu/CLASS](http://GeorgiaSouthern.edu/CLASS).

# RHRI Receives National Rural Health Award

**MAY 16, 2016**

The National Rural Health Association presented Georgia Southern's Rural Health Research Institute (RHRI) with the "2016 Outstanding Rural Health Program Award" for its DESRE program, which trains undergraduate and graduate students in rural health.



The DESRE (Disparities Elimination Summer Research Experience) program is a collaborative training partnership with the Mercer University Center for Rural Health and Health Disparities (CRHHD). The program brings together undergraduate and graduate students from across the country to participate in an intensive, full-time, six-week residential training experience designed to help them develop skills as rural health disparities researchers. The program includes didactic coursework and hands-on rural health research experience, and guides students through a comprehensive community immersion program which provides professional development to help advance their careers.

"We're especially proud of this year's winners," said Alan Morgan, CEO of the National Rural Health Association, which gives the award each year following a nationally competitive process. "They have each already made tremendous strides to advance rural health care, and we're confident they will continue to help improve the lives of rural Americans."

Bryant Smalley, Ph.D., Psy.D., executive director of RHRI, and Jacob Warren, Ph.D., director for the CRHHD, created the DESRE program as part of a National Institutes of Health (NIH) Center of Excellence grant, awarded to the directors in order to enact a comprehensive rural health disparities elimination research, training and outreach initiative. Since its creation in 2013, DESRE has grown exponentially, now boasting a pool of more than 500 applicants for its upcoming 2016 program. Participants have come from 17 universities in 12 different states, representing 18 different majors.

"DESRE is truly a unique program that provides students the opportunity to explore careers focused on rural health and health disparities issues," said Smalley. "The program has grown tremendously in the past four years, and we are honored to receive this recognition from the National Rural Health Association."

Several additional Georgia Southern and Mercer faculty and staff collaborate in the program's implementation, including Kathy Anderson, Ph.D., ARNP, PMH, LMFT (Nursing); Janie Wilson, Ph.D. (Psychology), Beverly Graham, Ph.D. (Communication Arts), and Nikki Barefoot, Psy.D. (RHRI) at Georgia Southern; and Cherell Cottrell-Daniels (CRHHD), and Maya Robinson (CRHHD) at Mercer University. DESRE is funded by grant P20MD006901 through the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities.

The Rural Health Research Institute is an interdisciplinary hub of rural health research and outreach within Georgia Southern University. Its mission is to improve health in rural areas by promoting cutting-edge, interdisciplinary research and outreach that connects faculty from diverse fields and promotes the development of researchers examining rural health issues. To learn more about the Rural Health Research Institute, visit [GeorgiaSouthern.edu/RHRI](https://GeorgiaSouthern.edu/RHRI).

Tags: [Rural Health Research Institute](#)

# Theatre and Performance Program Receives Full Membership in NAST

MAY 13, 2016



The National Association of Schools of Theatre (NAST), the national accrediting agency for theatre and theatre-related disciplines, recently granted full membership to the Theatre and Performance Program at Georgia Southern University.

There are around 3,500-4,000 theatre or theatre-related degree/certificate programs in the United States, and only 400 of them are members of NAST. The Theatre and Performance Program previously held associate memberships in NAST for five years, but it is now one of this select group of universities in the United States to receive full membership.

The march towards full membership started more than seven years ago with a 200-plus page self study, a five-year plan and a consultation visit before NAST's first site visit in November of last year.

"This accreditation body is setup to highlight what you are good at and what you are capable of doing," said Kelly Berry, M.F.A., director of theatre at Georgia Southern. "From the beginning 'til

now, we cleaned up curriculum a good bit. There is a good bit more rigor in academics that has taken place over the past five years.”

After the site visit, NAST committee members voted on the Program’s full membership in March.

The Theatre and Performance Program is housed in the Department of Communication Arts and has a long-standing reputation for excellence in artistic achievement among industry professionals. The program provides students with opportunities to perform, design, and direct in two state of the art performance facilities.

NAST, founded in 1965, is an organization of schools, conservatories, colleges, and universities. It establishes national standards for undergraduate and graduate degrees and other credentials.

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# Georgia Southern University receives two Emmy® Award nominations

MAY 13, 2016



*Art Berger, Rebecca Lynch and Jeffrey Clark*

The 2016 Southeast Emmy® Awards, a chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, has recognized Georgia Southern University's Multimedia Development Center (MDC) and Department of Music with two professional Emmy® award nominations for Best Live Audio.

Jeffrey Clark, graduate student in the Department of Music, Art Berger, director of the MDC, and Rebecca Lynch, academic and post-production producer for the MDC, were nominated for their work with the Georgia Southern University Wind Symphony, conducted by Colin McKenzie, D.M.A. The Wind Symphony is composed of students majoring in music education and performance as well as students from many other colleges and departments on campus.

The first nomination was received for "Russian Christmas Music," composed by Alfred Reed, and "Coil" a contemporary composition by Steven Bryant. The second nomination was received for "Lis Escoubo" from Suite Provençal by Jan Van der Roost. The two pieces were the only two works remaining in the Best Live Audio category after the elimination process.

"We are very proud of our collaboration with the Department of Music, especially the work of our students and their outstanding performance," said Berger.

The National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, NATAS, is a professional organization for individuals in the television and broadcasting industry. NATAS is the standard-bearer for excellence in the television broadcasting industry and the gatekeepers of the prestigious regional EMMY® Awards. The Southeast Chapter represents the most experienced and talented television professionals from all disciplines of the industry and from each of our television markets (Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi, South Carolina and Asheville, North Carolina).

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# Georgia Southern hosts Symposium in Construction Technology and Management on May 20

**MAY 12, 2016**

Georgia Southern's Department of Engineering & Construction Management invites students, construction managers, management firms and technology providers to the second annual Symposium in Construction Technology and Management on Friday, May 20, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the Nessmith-Lane Conference Center.

This year's symposium, "Promoting IT and Technology Applications in Construction Management," will explore using advanced information technologies and automated solutions to improve construction productivity and safety. Participants will learn some of the latest, most interesting and useful tools for local industry and the construction community.

Topics include Building Information Modeling (BIM) education and the value of mobile technologies, cloud-based coordination, practical applications of photogrammetry, surveying and modern laser-based scanning instruments.

Registration deadline is May 16. To register, contact Marcel Maghiar, Ph.D., assistant professor of civil engineering and construction management, by phone at 480-294-9728 or by email at [mmaghiar@georgiasouthern.edu](mailto:mmaghiar@georgiasouthern.edu).

# Georgia Southern University's MBA program to hold Open House and Info Session events

MAY 11, 2016



**MBA**

## OPEN HOUSE

Coastal Georgia Center  
305 Fahm Street, Savannah  
Tuesday, May 24, 4-7 p.m.

## INFO SESSION

Double Tree Hilton Savannah Airport  
50 Yvette J. Hagins Drive, Savannah  
Tuesday, May 31, 4-7 p.m.

## THURSDAYS

Coastal Georgia Center  
305 Fahm St., Savannah  
By Appointment

Email [mba@GeorgiaSouthern.edu](mailto:mba@GeorgiaSouthern.edu) or  
call (912) 478-5767 to schedule appointments.  
[GeorgiaSouthern.edu/mba](http://GeorgiaSouthern.edu/mba)

The Georgia Southern College of Business will hold several events this month to promote the accelerated MBA offered in Savannah. Working professionals interested in making an investment that will benefit their careers should plan to attend one of the events.

An Open House will be held on Tuesday, May 24, 4-7 p.m., at the Coastal Georgia Center, 305 Fahm Street in Savannah. During the drop-in Open House, graduate program representatives will be available to discuss MBA options and the admission process. On Tuesday, May 31, 4-7 p.m., prospective MBA students will have an opportunity to meet with graduate program representatives during a drop-in information session at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Savannah Airport, 50 Y. Johnson Hagins Drive in Savannah.

Additionally, individual appointments with an MBA representative may be scheduled on any Thursday at the Coastal Georgia Center. To schedule an appointment, please email [mba@georgiasouthern.edu](mailto:mba@georgiasouthern.edu) or call

912-478-5767.

Georgia Southern University has offered the AACSB International accredited MBA since 1977. The program is designed for working professionals and is a cohort-based, 15-month program. To learn more about the Georgia Southern MBA, visit [GeorgiaSouthern.edu/MBA](http://GeorgiaSouthern.edu/MBA) or call 912-478-5767.

# New warehouse to benefit Georgia Southern departments, grow South Campus

MAY 16, 2016



Seven departments at Georgia Southern University will benefit from a newly constructed central warehouse storage facility that is the first structure on the University's South Campus property.

The new warehouse, located at 375 Lanier Drive on the new South Campus property, will eventually house the University's Purchasing Department, Archives and Records Center, Equipment Transport Services, Central Receiving, Property Control, a new archaeology repository, the Department of Communication Arts' costume shop and the Georgia Southern Museum's Project SENSE storage. Project SENSE, or Science Education Network for the South East, is one of the Museum's school outreach projects for Pre-K through 8th grade educators.

The Museum began moving earlier this week, and Director Brent Tharp, Ph.D., said the new space will only enhance what the Museum currently offers.

"The new warehouse will greatly enhance the Museum's education, preservation and outreach missions. The space will support the efficient and effective development, storage and delivery of school outreach kits and our traveling exhibits," Tharp said. "It will provide us with the proper facility to curate and preserve oversized artifacts, such as the Museum's 1920s turpentine wagon and a recently donated 1850s cotton gin, and it will provide us with appropriate space to store exhibit cases and materials allowing us to provide better exhibits at the Museum and around town."

The warehouse will also be home to a curation repository for some of the University's archaeology collections.

"Archaeology is mostly shown as 'the dig,' but rarely do we see what happens afterward to the artifacts and excavation records each project generates. Federal and state regulations, as well as our field's professional ethics, mandate that artifacts and records from archaeology projects have a permanent, safe home, managed by a curator," said Jared Wood, Ph.D., RPA, an assistant professor in the Department of Sociology & Anthropology.

"The archaeology repository in the new Central Warehouse is a curation space; essentially, an archives for collections," he continued. "Curated collections generate modest income (for the upkeep of the collections themselves), raise the profile of the University – and our program – by drawing in visiting researchers, and also provide materials for student and faculty research for decades to come. This is truly an exciting development!"

This building will greatly enhance the efficiency of the University services provided by the Division of Procurement and Business Services by having all operations in one location.

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# Top First-Year Students Present Research at 2016 Student Inquiry Forum

APRIL 29, 2016



Top first-year students presented research on a variety of topics from how combat and cars and highways will look in the near future to income inequality in America at the Spring 2016 Student Inquiry Forum on Wednesday, April 27 in room 2047 of the Russell Union.

The forum showcased the top-rated presentations, as voted on by the students, of 14 ENGL 1102 sections.

Each student in the class completed research on topics in his or her area of study, wrote and submitted conference proposals, and produced a video presentation.

The forum was started by five Department of Writing and Linguistics Instructors named the What IFF? Teaching Group in 2010 and was designed to invite first-year students to join the academic community by contributing their own intellectual work.

The current membership of the What IFF? Teaching Group is June Joyner, M.A.; Marti Lee, M.A.; Drew Keane, M.A.; and Cameron Clements, M.A.

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# Sport Management students raise money for local non-profit

**MAY 16, 2016**

Glen Wintrup, Ph.D., assistant professor of sport management, partnered with the Office of Leadership and Community Engagement's Assistant Director for Service-Learning Wendy Denton, to provide students with a practical learning approach by organizing a fundraising event for a local Youth-at-Risk charity program. Utilizing the material taught in Wintrup's class lectures, one hundred students in the Introduction to Sport Management course, many of whom are freshmen, held water pong, volleyball, dodgeball, basketball and baseball events throughout March and April to raise money and collect items for the Crossfit Boro Prepared for Anything – Youth Edition program.

"I, and many others, were surprised by the amount of enthusiasm and energy the students put into organizing these fundraising events and stunned that they raised more than just a few hundred dollars," said Wintrup.

For the project, fourth-year students from other sport management courses volunteered to advise Wintrup's students on areas from identifying an event to risk management issues and securing sponsors.

"They worked hard and learned a great deal through practical experience about group work, event planning, sponsorship, and marketing. In addition to having professional volunteer experience to put on their resume, some students in the course have already been able to secure job shadowing, internship and employment opportunities through their involvement in the course," Wintrup continued.

Their efforts raised approximately \$2,000 as well as collected clothes (t-shirts and hats) and exercise equipment from donors for the Crossfit Boro Prepared for Anything – Youth Edition program. The program brings together a group of males and females from the Boys and Girls Club of Bulloch County, partnering with CrossFit Boro and Georgia Southern University, to create and lead positive lives that keep the youth connected to academics, the community and their own personal development.

Some of the students who participated in the one-time project have decided to take the initiative and run their fundraising events again on their own next year and Wintrup is confident they will raise even more money for children in need to access structured, organized sport.

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# Center for Sustainability announces Green Eagle Awards and new Sustainability Fee Grants

MAY 16, 2016



*Pictured with Interim University President Jean E. Bartels, Ph.D., R.N., Rachel Eike, Ph.D. (top left), James Grigg (top right), Rami Haddad, Ph.D. (bottom left), and Kelly Gagel (bottom right)*

Interim University President Jean Bartels, Ph.D., R.N., presented the 2016 Green Eagle Awards for Sustainability to two students, two faculty and two staff in a recent ceremony at the Zach Henderson Library.

“Georgia Southern’s sustainability leaders have made impressive contributions to further sustainability on our campus and we are thrilled to honor them with this award,” said Lissa Leege, Ph.D., director of the Center for Sustainability.

Recipients received Green Eagle trophies, and their names were added to the Green Eagle plaque in the Biological Sciences Building where the Center for Sustainability is located.

This year’s Green Eagle Award winners are

**Students:**

Scott Blair, graduate assistant, Center for Sustainability

Amber Monroe, community liaison, After-School Garden Program

**Staff:**

Kelly Gagel, advisor, College of Science and Mathematics

James Grigg, director of Facilities Operations

**Faculty:**

Rachel Eike, Ph.D., assistant professor of fashion merchandising and apparel design (FMAD)

Rami Haddad, Ph.D., assistant professor, Department of Electrical Engineering

In addition, the Center announced that the Sustainability Fee Committee has allocated \$251,310.50 in funding for 18 sustainability projects at Georgia Southern for the 2017 fiscal year. The committee received 31 proposal submissions from nine academic departments and six additional campus units. This round of grants will fund solar-powered utility cart charging stations, bottle-filling stations in multiple campus locations, tree plantings, bioswale enhancements, Eagle Creek rehabilitation and more. For a comprehensive list of the grants, click [here](#).

The \$10 Student Sustainability Fee was approved in Fall 2012 by a 75 percent student majority vote, and approved by the Board of Regents in April 2013. The fee was collected for the first time in August 2013. This brings the total allocated toward campus sustainability improvements to more than \$900,000 since 2014.

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