

Southern Educator

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Southern Educator

College of Education • Georgia Southern University

Volume 16, Issue 2

<http://coe.georgiasouthern.edu>

Spring 2006

Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT)

A new alternative certification program is beginning Summer 2006. The MAT leads to initial teacher certification and a master's degree for those who hold a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution. There are four tracks: Secondary Education (grades 6-12), Middle Grades (grades 4-8), Special Education (P-12), and P-12 Certification in art and Spanish.

One of the most advantageous points of this program is candidates can be teaching within the 60-mile radius service area while pursuing the degree. This is a win-win situation not only for the individuals wanting to teach but also for the local schools.

More information can be found at <http://coe.georgiasouthern.edu/MAT.html>.

Georgia Southern is First U.S. University to Join International Network for Educational Transformation



Will Host iNet Conference in April 2006

Future teachers learning their profession at Georgia Southern University will gain an increasingly international perspective on teaching and learning, thanks to College of Education's membership and participation in the International Network for Educational Transformation (iNET). Georgia Southern is the first U.S. university invited to join iNET, which includes schools in the United Kingdom, Australia, Chile, China, and South Africa.

The invitation to become a part of iNET resulted from another College of Education partnership, the International Learning Community (ILC). ILC partners include Georgia Southern—the only U.S. partner—and the Universities of Derby, Sheffield, Oxford Brookes, Cambridge, and East London, along with their partner schools. Following its formation as a learning community in 2000, the ILC's international efforts came to the attention of the United Kingdom's Specialist Schools and Academies Trust. The Trust forms the core of a network of more than 2900 schools in the UK sharing practices and supporting excellence in education, and it works internationally through iNET.

"Georgia Southern has been a lead partner in developing the ILC," said COE's Dean Cindi Chance. "We're building strong relationships with our ILC partners as we focus on the group's primary goal of improved teaching and learning at all educational levels. We expect that our students will benefit from international travel, conferences, and student teaching experiences as they interact with our ILC partners and with iNET affiliates around the world."

To bring the international focus on improved teaching and learning to the United States, Georgia Southern's College of Education will host iNET's annual conference, a meeting that will gather education professionals from around the world to share best practices in teaching and learning. The iNET Conference will take place April 24-27, 2006, in Augusta, Ga.

"Professional educators around the world agree on one thing," said Chance. "It's a challenge to educate students for the world they will face in the future. Through the ILC, and through iNET communication and collaboration, we hope to find the best methods to prepare children entering school today for the world they will face at graduation more than a decade later."

"This conference will focus on goals for the year 2020," said Chance. "We will share ideas on teacher education for the future, and we will explore different mechanisms to get schools to look globally for energy and educational renewal."

Two iNET participants, Tom Clark, associate director of the Specialist Schools Trust in the United Kingdom, and Christopher Reynolds, head teacher of St. Benedict Catholic School and Performing Arts College in Derby, UK, were at the University recently to finalize plans for the iNET conference and to visit educators in the coastal region.

"We were delighted to meet Dean Chance when she came to England," said Reynolds. "It's clear that she has a strong interest in professional development for teachers, and she sees the importance of sharing ideas about curriculum and teaching methods. Georgia Southern is a place we can turn to for ideas, and we hope to share our experiences as well."

Reynolds explained that the educational structure—how it's paid for and how it's administered—is quite different in the UK than it is in the United States. While the national government sets educational standards and provides funding for schools, how that money is spent and how those standards are met is very different within each school.

"For example," said Reynolds, "at St. Benedict's we have a professional theatre company in residence, and we use the performing arts to raise student learning across the curriculum. The theatre company provides a variety of new teaching methods not only in English and the humanities, but in math and science as well."

Clark, who works with teachers about to become principals, or head teachers, has seen more power transferred to individual schools in the UK under the current government.

"Government can be more or less involved in education, depending on the political climate and the results demonstrated," Clark said. "Each school must publish its results on standardized tests, so head teachers are called to account for the success or failure of the operation they lead." He also noted that fewer and fewer educators aspire to move up to the top positions in UK schools.

Clark, Reynolds, and other ILC participants will attend the iNET conference April 24-27, 2006. For more information about the conference, contact conference coordinators Sybil Fickle at sfickle@georgiasouthern.edu or Kyla Dollar at kdollar@georgiasouthern.edu, or call the Continuing Education Center at (912) 681-5555. More information about iNET is available at <http://www.sst-inet.net/>.



SOUTHERN EDUCATOR
College of Education
Georgia Southern University
P.O. Box 8013
Statesboro, GA 30460-8013

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Dr. Cindi Chance

Salute the past, Capture the present, and Ignite the future!

The University's Capital Campaign is nearing its end. If you have not contributed, please do so right away so you will be counted in the campaign total. I hope you will consider a contribution designated for the College of Education. We are just a few hundred dollars away from our first scholarship in the campaign, the Victoria Zwald Memorial Scholarship for Early Childhood Education. You can send your contributions for the Campaign to the Georgia Southern Foundation (P.O. Box 8053). You can also participate in the Campaign and leave your mark on campus by purchasing a commemorative brick to be installed in Centennial Plaza and Memorial Grove. See the order form on the COE website. At the end of the Capital Campaign, the Centennial will be announced. We welcome your ideas for the Centennial—ideas that will excite you and your former classmates to return to celebrate with us.

Thanks to an extremely professional and expert faculty and staff, the College of Education is completing another successful year. Someone once said that "Leaders are visionaries with a poorly developed sense of fear and no conception of the odds against them." Based on this definition, COE faculty and staff are leaders all. With a clear vision of improved teaching and learning for all students, pre-school through doctoral, we moved forward to reach and systematically evaluate our conceptual framework commitments that we believe are necessary for all professionals to be successful in schools. We did this with little regard for those who doubted our ability, nor were we deterred by fear of the tasks or roadblocks before us. Here are just a few of our other outstanding accomplishments:

- **Increased enrollments/graduation**—We have the largest enrollment and graduation numbers in the history of the College.
- **Increased Scholarship**—This includes an increase in externally funded grants, books and book chapters, journal articles, grant evaluations, and host editorship of three national/international journals by Drs. Ming Fang He, Michael Moore and Marla Morris. Book authors/co-authors are Drs. Gregory Dmitriyev, Ming Fang He, Ronnie Sheppard, and John Weaver.
- **Awards**—Dr. Ronnie Sheppard received the Georgia Middle Schools Association Distinguished Service Award. Dr. Ming Fang He received the University's Award for Excellence in Research/Creative Scholarly Activity. The Betty-Ware Wray College of Education Staff Award for Excellence was endowed by the Wray family and the first award was presented posthumously to Betty-Ware Wray.
- **Conferences**—The National Youth-At-Risk Conference is now the largest of its kinds in the U.S. with 1400+ participants. The 5th Annual Southeastern Conference on Cross-Cultural Issues in Counseling and Education has grown in size each year with 171 participants in February 2006. Georgia Southern will host the iNET Conference in Augusta April 24-27, bringing teachers, principals, and other educators from around the world to create a vision for schools in the 21st Century. This will be the first time the iNET conference will be in the U.S. Next year it will be in Beijing.
- **GCER Activities**—The Georgia Center for Educational Renewal (GCER) is conducting state-wide studies on GLISI; has developed a ten-part series on teaching in technical institutions that will be offered on the national and international market to improve instruction and decrease drop-out rates; is developing a series on teaching the minority male; is seeking grants to support a project on democracy-centered school leadership; and is producing a computer-based series on decision-making for school leaders.
- **International Activities**—We have had an increase in the number of student teachers completing one of their placements in England. In conjunction with the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, we are hosting forty secondary students from one of our UK performing arts partner schools for two weeks in June. We assisted collaboration between Statesboro High School and St. Benedicts Secondary School in Derby England for a hands-on math and science program designed to turn students on to pre-engineering math. Georgia Southern signed an agreement with Central China Normal University in July 2005 adding CCNU to our ILC, and beginning Fall 2006, we will host a Fulbright Scholar from CCNU as a visiting faculty member.
- **Memberships**—On behalf of the University and our sixteen partner schools, the COE accepted membership in the International Networking for Educational Transformation (iNET) as its first U.S. member. One of our partner schools in the UK has sponsored membership dues for one year for five Georgia Southern partner schools, and Georgia Southern and others are sponsoring the other eleven schools for the first year's membership. We are one of 26 institutions in the U.S. in the NNER (National Network for Education Renewal), an internationally recognized organization headed by John Goodlad which focuses on partnerships for P-16 education renewal. Beginning in 2005, Georgia Southern is among the founding members of the National Association of Professional Development Schools.
- **Increased Instructional Opportunities for Off-campus Students**—*Undergraduate* early childhood and middle grades programs off-campus are offered in Dublin. *Graduate* degree delivery is provided via Internet with summer residency including doctoral programs; on-site graduate degree delivery is offered for specific programs in Brunswick, Dublin, and Savannah; the Ed.D. in Curriculum Studies and Ed.D. in Educational Leadership are offered in Savannah in cooperation with Armstrong Atlantic State University; and the Ed.D. in Educational Leadership is offered in Augusta in cooperation with Augusta State University.
- **Professional Development District (PDD)**—Georgia Southern, in partnership with Screven County, has the first PDD in the United States. Its focus is on systemic change and renewal.

I would be pleased to visit your area, speak to your civic groups, and share how Georgia Southern's College of Education is becoming a leader in education in Georgia, nationally, and internationally. If you attend alumni events, fall homecoming, or athletic events, please introduce yourself to me. I would be happy to meet you. Also, anytime you are in Statesboro, you are welcome to visit our wonderful facility and our exciting programs. I have an open-door policy and will be pleased to show you around.

NEWS FLASH



Mill Creek Elementary, Statesboro, was designated a High Flying School based on its achievement levels and student population. Principal Trey Robertson accepted the certificate from Dean Cindi Chance at the Bulloch County Board of Education meeting on March 9, 2006.

"High-Flying Schools" must have at least 50 percent minority student body and more than 50 percent of students from families at or below poverty level, yet must be in the top one-third percentile of their state on the state's achievement test scores.

March 4, 2006, four student teachers from Georgia Southern departed for a four-week student teaching experience in Sheffield, England. This is one of the many activities of the College of Education's International Learning Community. Student teachers will spend their time teaching at Charnock Hall Primary School and Birley College. They will also be attending class at Sheffield Hallam University to attend lectures and seminars on "Integrating Children's Services." Pictured are (l-r) Ashley Gregory, Dr. Cindi Chance, Donna Morris, Dr. Grigory Dmitriyev, Stephanie Golden, Dr. Missy Bennett, Alicia Camp, and Pat Parsons.



College of Education faculty and staff have participated in the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life activities for many years. The 2006 team, lead by Michelle Rivera and Laura Saunders, raised funds with a bake sale, a silent auction, and the sale of commemorative stars. Pictured (l-r) with the awards from last year are Era Hall and Michelle Rivera.

The 2006 Southeast Social Studies Regional Fair was sponsored by the Department of History and the College of Education on March 4, 2006. Over 100 middle school and high school students participated representing dozens of schools in the forty-one county Southeast Region. Pictured are (l-r) Dr. Don Rakestraw, Regional Director, and Carolyn Bonfield of Oglethorpe Charter School in Savannah. Carolyn was one of sixteen students selected to compete at the state level.



Southern's Art Extravaganza currently on display in COE's hallway gallery, includes the creative work of twenty-two public school art students. Many of the student artists are taught by Georgia Southern University art education alumni. Two additional pieces by a student in a COE partner school in the UK are also on display. Each year, certified art teachers are invited to submit two pieces for exhibit. The 2005 gallery opening and reception were held on October 16, 2005. For the second year in a row, Senator Jack Hill attended the opening and spoke with each of the artists. Pictured here beside her artwork and with Senator Hill is Georgia Stokes, an artist in Jennifer Afroozi's art classes at Southeast Bulloch High School.

COE Soaring Into Action

Department of Curriculum, Foundations, and Reading

It has been a busy year for members of the Department of Curriculum, Foundations, and Reading. In addition to their efforts in the areas of teaching, scholarship, and service, faculty spent time preparing for the NCATE visit, transitioning to WebCT Vista, and conducting searches for new faculty. Three new faculty members will be joining the department in the fall—two in Reading Education and one in Curriculum Studies and Social Foundations.

Several faculty members had new or continuing responsibilities outside of the department during this year. Dr. Michael Moore became the editor of *English Education*, a journal published by the National Council of Teachers of English. Dr. Dan Rea, Dr. Rosemarie Stallworth-Clark, and Dr. Fayth Parks (LTHD), co-chairs of the planning committee, had another successful year with the National Youth-At-Risk Conference, held March 5-8, 2006, in Savannah. Dr. John Weaver continued in the role of regional evaluator for the East Central Georgia region of PRISM.

It has also been a time of change for the Department. Dr. Sandra Nettles accepted the position of Acting Dean of the College of Graduate Studies effective January 1, 2006. Dr. Cordelia Zinskie assumed the role of acting department chair for Spring 2006. In addition, Ms. Pat Collins was hired as the new administrative secretary for the department in Fall 2005.

Department of Teaching and Learning

In order to focus on program specifics, the Department of Teaching and Learning will be presenting more in-depth, information across the various programs in this section of the newsletter. This issue reflects early childhood and special education highlights. In the fall, middle grades and secondary will showcase their achievements.

Early Childhood Goes High-Tech

Long ago were the days of listening for that familiar “ding” of the filmstrip projector and for awkwardly shuffling transparencies on top of a humming overhead projector. Inevitably, the time has come where technological advancements must be reflected in our classrooms across the United States. Here at Georgia Southern, the early childhood pre-service teachers have immersed themselves and their students in the dynamic world of instructional advanced technology.

At Screven County Elementary, a dedicated partner school, our pre-service teachers are learning first-hand about the power of Promethean Boards. These interactive white boards allow our teachers to effectively implement lessons across every content area and grade level. Images from a laptop computer are projected from an LCD projector onto a touch screen white board where students are able to view PowerPoint presentations, explore video and audio clips, play simulated games like Jeopardy, and enjoy online story books. Promethean Boards are also an ideal tool for implementing Classroom Performance Systems (available from eInstruction). With this system, every student in the classroom is given a remote control and a teacher-created game is played. This type of teaching strategy allows our pre-service teachers to motivate students while at the same time immediately assess instructional objectives, provide feedback, and clarify any misconceptions.

Digital cameras have also become a common teaching tool for our pre-service teachers in the elementary schools. At Langston Chapel Elementary School, Methods II student Ashley

Cardin successfully taught the concept of cause and effect through the use of digital photography. Ms. Cardin read the students a story, grouped the class into pairs, and then had each pair dramatize an event from the book. Each pair of students then posed for a still shot of their chosen scene, and the images were instantly downloaded and projected onto the screen for the whole class to view. As students watched the slide show of pictures, they were not only able to gauge the causes and effects of the story but were also able to sequence each of the events, which ultimately resulted in a greater understanding of the text. Ms. Cardin’s lesson is a perfect demonstration of technology being used to its fullest potential in the emergence of “smart classrooms.”

Clearly, our early childhood pre-service teachers are working diligently to sustain and build upon their vast knowledge of effective technology applications in the classroom. As a result of this, our local elementary school children are engaged and our beginning teachers are successfully creating enduring understandings. Just as the “dings” and “hums” have expired in our memories, we foresee this current technology to follow suit. The future is unpredictable, and Georgia Southern educators embrace this challenge—even in Kindergarten.

Student Council for Exceptional Children

Special Education’s professional organization, the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) has a student chapter on campus. The purpose of the student chapter of the Council for Exceptional Children (SCEC) according to its bylaws is to “advance the education of individuals with exceptionalities and to promote related educational, scientific, and charitable purposes.” The membership of SCEC is typically comprised of students pursuing degrees in special education but is open to anyone interested in the education of students with exceptionalities.

Every year SCEC inducts new members, holds new officer elections, sets annual goals and works towards achieving the goals set by the new officers. Last year, the organization raised enough money through their fundraising efforts to send three children to Camp Arrow, a camp specifically for students with special needs. This year, the students are working toward increasing awareness for SCEC on campus and in the community through various fundraising and volunteer opportunities as well as sponsoring local students in the Statesboro Bulloch County Parks and Recreation Department’s Stirrup Some Fun program. This program provides therapeutic horseback riding for students with disabilities or challenging life situations. Horseback riding has been shown to help students with physical disabilities improve their flexibility, balance, and muscle strength as well as increase confidence, patience, and self-esteem. Many of the members of SCEC are active volunteers for Stirrup Some Fun.

SCEC is truly a student organization at heart. Although the chapter has a faculty advisor, the decisions and goals for the year are student driven which allows each year to reflect current community and student needs.

Submitted by: Kathleen Crawford (ECE) and Shelley Woodward (SPED)

Georgia Center for Educational Renewal

GCER has just received notice that its contract to prepare ten computer-based lessons to train instructors in technical institutes in Lesson Design and associated classroom skills has been extended to an additional six lessons. Drs. Missy Bennett, Cindi Chance, Rosemarie Stallworth-Clark, and Susan Trimble wrote some of the scripts for this series.

GCER wrote a grant proposal to the Institute for Education Sciences in the amount of \$1,081,000. Drs. Barbara Mallory, Rosemarie Stallworth-Clark, Kent Rittschof, and Ann Foster contributed to the writing of the proposal. Dr. Sandra Nettles will serve as a consultant. The title of the grant is, “Development and Research on Democracy-centered Rural High School Reform to Improve Achievement for Minority Males.” Dr. Edna Levernier served as research assistant.

GCER is conducting two pilot research projects. The first is an investigation of the impact of Georgia Leadership Initiative for School Improvement (GLISI) training on student achievement. Dr. Ennis Bragg is in charge of this research project. The second is a study to learn if school leaders who implement the eight GLISI roles at a high level share a set of personality traits. If it turns out that high GLISI implementers share a set of personality traits, then school leadership preparation programs might use this information as one set of criteria for selection into a preparation program if the mastery of GLISI roles was one of the goals of the program. Also, school districts could use this information as one source of data in the selection of principals if one of their goals was to identify candidates who would likely implement the eight GLISI roles to a high degree.

GCER is developing a pilot computer-based lesson on Teaching the Minority Male. This pilot will be used as the basis for seeking funding to support the development of a ten part series of lessons on teaching the minority male.

GCER presented its first PAR award to Dr. Jim Bergin, professor in the Counselor Education Program. The PAR award is to encourage Practical Applications of Research. Dr. Bergin’s proposal was reviewed by three external school leaders. His proposal was entitled, “The Effects of Training School-Based Educational Teams in the ASCA National Model.”

GCER sponsored a high school essay writing contest on the topic, “What Would a School Be Like That Motivated Its Students to Study Harder?” The winners were: First prize, Whitney Weaver, Bryan County High School; Second prize, Terry Washington, Portal High School; Third prize, Johnathan Jackson, South Effingham High; Honorable Mentions: Sam Taylor, Groves High; Morgan Spaulding, Brunswick High; Rikki Enich, Bulloch Performance Learning Center. The ten top-rated suggestions were: Peer tutoring, teachers showing a personal interest in students, group/team learning, sessions on “What Life Is Like Out There” by former students, clean/fresh building/grounds/classrooms, student motivation advisory groups chosen at random and rotated every two months, teachers receiving monthly recognition rather than just once a year, creating a “culture of learning” rather than stressing behavior/dress codes, emphasizing application of knowledge.

GCER is encouraging high schools who had winners in the essay contest to consider becoming Eagle Elite schools by adopting one or more of the student suggestions from the essay contest. Other interested schools are encouraged to consider becoming Eagle Elite schools as well. For information, contact Dr. Reavis at 912-681-5719 or careavis@georgiasouthern.edu.

Office of Graduate Education

This year is a busy and productive year for graduate programs and for faculty research and grant activity. Graduate enrollments continue to increase. At the same time, faculty involvement in research and grant activity, as well as involvement in public school initiatives, continues to expand. We are prepared for the NCATE/PSC on-site review scheduled for early April. Graduate programs have assessment systems that improve how we collect and use candidate performance data to continually improve our programs. We anticipate using the Tk20 database system with our graduate programs beginning next fall. Hopefully the NCATE/PSC review will provide valuable insight into our work and identify additional ways in which we can better the programs we offer for the professional development of teachers, counselors, school leaders, higher education professionals, and instructional technology educators.

The USG Board of Regents has officially approved our new Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) program which will begin in Summer 2006 with the first cohort of candidates. This program will replace the other alternative routes to teacher certification that we have offered and provide high quality teacher preparation for those who already hold a bachelor’s degree in a teaching field such as math, English, Spanish, art, or one of the science or social science fields. For more information about this program, go to <http://coe.georgiasouthern.edu/MAT.html>.

We are continually working with the Graduate Admissions office, the College of Graduate Studies, and our program coordinators to improve the admissions experience for prospective students. This year we started using Xtender Applications software for all graduate admissions which, we believe, is accelerating the review and decision-making process. If any applicant has concerns about the admissions process, please let us know!

During the past year several of our faculty and administrators have been receiving training on standards-based and performance-based instruction and assessment to improve teaching and learning processes. A group of faculty from the College of Education and the College of Science and Technology, as part of the PRISM grant, participated in an Association of Supervision and Curriculum Development conference on *Understanding by Design* with Jay McTighe and Grant Wiggins. Another group of faculty and administrators have been participating this year in a Board of Regents Faculty Academy on performance assessment and have integrated what they have been learning into their own classroom instruction. More information about this work will be shared later in the year. We hope that in both our undergraduate and graduate programs, we will model the skills that P-12 educators need to acquire and serve as a model on campus in instructional planning and assessment.



Student Success Center

The SSC has been busy advising and recruiting. The SSC team represented the College of Education at the Atlanta dessert reception in January, the February Open House, Southern Exposure and Scholars’ Weekend. The advisors have been very busy advising our students and preparing for the new MAT program that will begin this summer. Our team also traveled to Georgia State University in Atlanta for the Region 4 NACADA Conference. Advisors gather to meet and discuss challenges, styles, and trends in advising. Many great ideas were shared and we have new ideas on how to serve our 1600 undergraduate students.

PAGE Foundation Scholarship Recipients

Two COE students received 2005 PAGE Foundation scholarships for experienced and aspiring teachers. Rylan Kathleen Taylor Smith, a teacher at Swainsboro High School who is pursuing the M.Ed. in School Counseling, received a PAGE Graduate Scholarship. Ashley Lynn Gregory, an Early Childhood Education major, received the John Robert and Barbara Moore Lindsey Scholarship. This undergraduate scholarship is named in honor of Dr. John Lindsey, Professor Emeritus of Education at Georgia Southern, and his wife.

PAGE Foundation scholarships are one-time awards of \$1,000 each. To apply for future scholarships, use the online application at www.pagefoundation.org. All applications must be postmarked no later than April 29, 2006, in order to be eligible to win.

Furthering Cultural Understanding and Empowering Youth

Jeff Campbell, Hip Hop Artist, Hosted by COE

On March 2 and 3, Jeff Campbell, an active Hip Hop artist, songwriter, talk show host, lecturer and a historian of the Hip Hop movement, challenged university and public school students and educators to become more diverse in their thinking and to use the Hip Hop culture as a means of increasing student achievement.

As the Executive Director of Colorado Hip Hop Coalition, Jeff leads the educational non-profit outreach program that has received national and international recognition for its work in providing education programs and community events that empower underserved youth and artists through Hip Hop culture. The Colorado Hip Hop Coalition was founded by Jeff in 1997 with its organizational goal to utilize Hip Hop Culture as a means of social change by creating a common language and framework utilizing the three laws of leadership: Unity, Opportunity, and Action.

Jeff's presentation, "Art for Activism: The Grassroots Transformation of Hip Hop" guided the audiences through the cultural origins of Hip Hop, back to its current state and the methods of bringing Hip Hop back to a social movement of cultural pride, economic empowerment, and self awareness. His message was well received in the College of Education, Langston Chapel Middle, Portal Middle and High, Portal Elementary School, as well as by community members participating in the National Network for Educational Reform project, "Partnering for Portal."

Jeff is currently involved in K-12 activities in the Denver, Colorado, area as well as being an MC and famous spoken word artist. He is a talk show host for the "Jeff Campbell Show" on Denver Community Television. Jeff performs regularly at spoken word sets, Hip Hop shows on tour with his group, and on the lecture circuit speaking to colleges and universities.

Building Capacity for Research in Rural Education

(Dr. Sandra Nettles, snettl@georgiasouthern.edu)

The Consortium for Rural Education Studies and Service (CRESS) intends to address the need for research, inquiry, and information that is foundational for effective school-community renewal in rural, southeastern Georgia. The initial members of the Consortium are the College of Education and Georgia Southern Writing Project (housed in the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences), representing a cross-disciplinary collaboration between two of the eight colleges in the University. The Consortium's focus will be directed, but not limited, to education of children living in seven counties, Bulloch, Candler, Effingham, Evans, Liberty, Screven, and Tattnall. CRESS objectives are to coordinate and expand existing capacity and resources in rural education and to develop a research and professional development agenda in local areas, such as practitioners in rural schools and communities and cultural heritage of rural learners and families.



*Can you guess who this professor is?
(Answer on page 5)*

Professional Development District: A Partnership Focusing on Closing the Achievement Gap

The Georgia Southern University College of Education and Screven County Schools have built on their longstanding individual partnerships to develop a comprehensive Professional Development District (PDD) where all educational programs in the county, including an alternative school and a minimum-security juvenile facility (Savannah River Challenge Program), share the common goal of closing the P-16 achievement gap. This project is supported by a grant from the Fund for the Improvement of Post Secondary Education (FIPSE). Partners systematically seek solutions to two identified problems: 1) the gap in



Pictured are (l-r) Carole Counts, Joyce Jamerson, Gilda Rackley, Instructional Coaches, and Kelly Tharp, FIPSE Project Director

academic performance between minority and non-minority students and between low SES and more advantaged students; and 2) the preparation of preservice teachers to enable them to teach all children. Additionally, the PDD serves as the training site for teacher education candidates. Teacher training in a rural PDD with a large population of low-income students requires a re-examination of the teacher training model used by the College of Education and other Georgia Southern faculties. The entire district serves as a "teaching/learning lab" in the simultaneous renewal of P-16 teaching/learning through the utilization of instructional coaches at each site and an embedded comprehensive professional development plan which features Professional Learning Communities. Coaches provide support for the faculty by facilitating the learning communities and compiling assessment data to impact instruction and student learning. Coaches divide faculty into three expert groups; each group attends one of three workshops designed to meet the established goals, then redeliver the information to the rest of the faculty. The topics of the workshops are: Understanding Poverty; Differentiated Instruction; and Culturally Responsive Teaching. Mini-workshops in these topics have been integrated into preservice teacher preparation programs. The grant project period extends through June of 2007.

Enlightening Colloquia . . .



In 2005, the COE's Center for the Study of International Schooling sponsored six colloquia on education around the world—

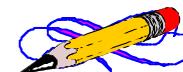
The Power of Stories in Education and Life
Afghanistan: Education Before and After the Taliban
Education of Girls Around the World
Georgia Southern International Students Talk About Their School Experiences
School Education in China and Honduras
Do They Really Teach to Hate Americans in Muslim Countries' Schools?

The colloquia attracted significant attention not only among students, faculty and teachers, but among members of the local community as well. The *Statesboro Herald* newspaper provided extensive coverage of the colloquium *Do They Really Teach to Hate Americans in Muslim Countries' Schools* reporting that Georgia Southern students learned valuable lessons about Islam and the roots of some Muslims' hatred for Americans. The local cable TV channel 97 also dedicated four evenings to discuss the issues raised by the panel members of the colloquium.

In 2006, the Center plans to continue sponsoring educational forums that will provide opportunities for students and faculty to learn about cultural diversity in the world. As usual, the Center appreciates your support and suggestions of new topics and ideas.

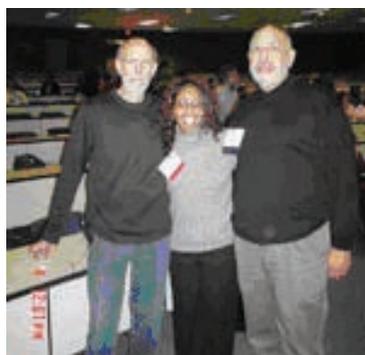
Contact Information:

Dr. Grigory Dmitriyev
Director
Center for the Study of
International Schooling
Georgia Southern
University
College of Education
P.O. Box 8144
Statesboro, GA 30460



Dr. William Cross and Dr. Janet Helms Among Keynote Speakers at Cross-Cultural Conference

(reprinted from the Savannah Journal – February 2006)



L-R: Dr. William Cross; Dr. Rhonda M. Bryant, Albany State University; and Dr. Leon Spencer, Georgia Southern University.

Dr. William E. Cross, Jr., was one of three keynote speakers featured at the 5th Annual Southeastern Conference on Cross-Cultural Issues in Counseling and Education held February 3-4, 2006, at the Coastal Georgia Center in Savannah. The conference theme centered around Privilege, Identity, and Cross-Cultural Diversity. Cross delivered an audience interactive address entitled, "Let's Talk About Katrina and Its Aftermath." He analyzed the response to Hurricane Katrina in terms of race, class, identity and the ethical value of justice, then gave insight from a psychological perspective on the lessons learned, the consequences, and the challenges for educators, mental health professionals, the federal, state and local governments, and of course for the evacuees who became victims of the aftermath—especially the black underclass who comprised 98% of the 9th Ward which was totally obliterated.

According to Cross, Katrina is about class and racism, and gainful employment is a primary need for those who have been dispersed. He pointed out that the issue of unemployment can be resolved by repeating action taken during the depression and early 60s. By creating government funded public works projects in the city while in the process of reconstructing New Orleans, the displaced unemployed would benefit from long-term employment and the general public would benefit overall from the public works projects such as they did when the Hoover Dam and the Triborough Bridge were built. The question to be answered is whether or not there is a political will to reconstruct New Orleans in fairness and equity to all the citizens involved regardless of their race or class. Dr. Cross is professor and head of the doctoral program in Social-Personality Psychology at The Graduate Center, The City University of New York (GC-CUNY).

Other keynote speakers during the two-day conference were Janet Helms, Ph.D., Augustus Long Professor of Counseling, Developmental and Educational Psychology at Boston College, Boston, Mass., who addressed "How Racial Identity and Other Racial Constructs Explain the Test-Score Achievement Gap" and Daniel Helminiak, Ph.D., Department of Psychology, University of West Georgia, West Carrollton, Ga., who spoke of both "Religious Issues Affecting Counseling: The Bible and Homosexuality," and "A Cross-Cultural Model for Ethically Treating Spiritual Issues in Secular Counseling."

The Conference was primarily sponsored by the Counselor Education Program of the Leadership, Technology & Human Development Department, College of Education, and the Continuing Education Center at Georgia Southern University. Other sponsors included Counselor Education programs at Augusta State University, the University of Georgia, Child and Family Guidance of Georgia and the Licensed Professional Counselors Association of Georgia.



Members of COE's Technology Education Collegiate Association (TECA) attended the TECA Eastern Regional Conference, February 16-18, 2006, in Virginia Beach, Virginia. Over 300 students from fourteen Eastern Regional universities attended the conference and job fair and participated in the conference's ten event competitions. Georgia Southern's COE team included ten students and TECA advisor, Dr. Creighton Alexander. The students brought home seven different awards: 2nd Place out of twelve teams in the Technology Challenge (Kicklighter, Feldser, Bentley, and Sheppard); 2nd Place in Problem Solving (Kicklighter, Fletcher, and Feldser); 3rd Place in Elementary Technology (Jones and Gerbis); 3rd Place in Poster Design (Easterling); 4th Place in Teaching Lesson (Goler); 4th Place in Transportation (Sheppard, Jones, Gerbis, Easterling, and Goler); and 4th place in Automated Systems Design Challenge (Scott, Bentley and Sheppard). Pictured (l-r) are: front row – Jake Fletcher, Kimberly Goler, Dr. Alexander (Advisor), Inga Easterling; second row: Brandon Jones, Daniel Gerbis; third row: Laura Scott, Nick Bentley, Aaron Feldser, Cliff Kicklighter; back row: Jon Sheppard.

Summer Professional Development for PRISM Science and Math Teachers

Please keep checking the East Central PRISM website www.georgiasouthern.edu/prism for the most up-to-date information about summer PD offerings.

MATH 6130: Fundamentals of Arithmetic and Geometry for K-8 Teachers

Dr. Susie Lanier; June 5-16, 8:00 am – 12:15 pm; 3 semester hours or 3 PLU's

CHEM 7090: Special Topics in Chemistry—June 19-July 7, 1:30 – 5:00 pm M-F

Features use of CBL technology in chemistry and physical science classrooms

BIOL 5245: Ethophysiology of Insects (aka Insects of Coastal Georgia and their Behavior)

Dr. Jonathan Copeland; residential at Skidaway Institute of Oceanography; for teachers at all grade levels; 6 days—June 14-16 and June 19-21. 4 PLUs.

Critical Friends Groups Coaches' Institute—see East Central PRISM website

For PRISM Lead Teachers

Teaching K-2 Mathematics using Cognitively Guided Instruction—Dr. Marvin Smith

Five-day, 3 PLU workshop for K-2 math teachers; June 5-9 and June 12-16—one session in Statesboro and the other in Toombs/Candler area

Using Geometer's Sketchpad in Middle and High School Math Instruction—Dr. Susie Lanier

Prerequisite: Basic knowledge of Geometer's Sketchpad *Tentative dates:* July 17-18; 1 PLU

Natural and Human History of the Okefenokee Basin—residential in Folkston

May 28-June 2; Dr. Fred Rich, Dr. Missy Bennett, Don Berryhill; 4 PLUs

Writing Units using Backwards Design—Session 1: June 1-2; Session 2: July 19-21; Georgia Southern COE

Dr. Deborah Thomas and other Georgia Southern faculty will give a brief overview of unit development using the backwards design model. Participants will spend time developing and writing teachable units for use in teaching the GPS in their classrooms in the fall.

Strategies for Engaging Students in Learning Math and Science—July 18-20, Georgia Southern COE

Dr. Missy Bennett. 3-day, 2 PLU workshop focusing on instructional strategies for getting students engaged in learning and the classroom management strategies needed for successful implementation.

Project SENSE—Life Science—<http://welcome.georgiasouthern.edu/museumsense/newsletter.htm>

Grades K-2—June 5-9

Grades 3-5—June 12-16

Grades 6-8—June 19-23

Georgia Southern Botanical Gardens:

Life Cycles of Plants: Growing through Changes—May 24-25—3rd grade

Interdependence: Links between Plants and Animals—June 1-2—4th grade

GCTM 2006 Summer Academy

June 14-16 at Macon State College; sessions for elementary, middle, and high school math teachers. See GCTM website: www.gctm.org and click on Academies link.

Still tentative or in the "conceptual" phase:

- Earth Science for 3rd grade teachers—Georgia Rocks and Minerals
- Five-day workshop with Ga Southern professor; includes field trips to collect specimens
- TI-83 in middle grades math classrooms
- Solving Non-routine Problems—middle and high school math teachers
- Tasks and Activities for Math by Domains (Geometry, Measurement, Numbers and Operations, Algebra, Data)
- Introduction to High School Math GPS
- Physical Science for middle and high school teachers

The page 4 picture is
Dr. Dorothy Battle,
professor of educational psychology

SPOTLIGHT ON ALUMNI

An Educator's Perspective

Empowering Students with Disabilities



Teaching students with special needs for the past five years has been a roller coaster of emotion to say the least. My first IEP meeting was nerve racking. I wanted everything to be perfect. I had only been on the job for three weeks. I was in a room with my new colleagues, my new principal, and a parent that had never seen me before in her life. I meticulously covered all aspects of the Individualized Education Plan (IEP) during the meeting. I even used a checklist that was given

to me by Dr. Kenney, my Georgia Southern University supervisor during student teaching. The one thing that helped me successfully conduct the meeting was not the checklist, but the confidence and knowledge that my professors at Georgia Southern instilled in me. They believed in me long before I believed in myself.

Belief in others is to empower them. We as educators sometimes forget to put ourselves in our students' shoes. Teachers get caught up in AYP, CRCT scores, GPS, etc., and forget to get to know their students as individuals. As a special educator in a middle school, I have many dynamics daily that can affect the normal instructional flow of my classroom. I have to be prepared to handle each student on an individual basis as each challenge arises. I have learned that strong teacher/student relationships are crucial in student achievement. Our students must know that we genuinely care about them in order for them to fully put forth the effort that it takes to succeed. All students are important.

Caring for our students is also shown by our expectations. The most detrimental thing that one can do to any child, especially one with special needs, is to set low expectations. When we set high expectations for our students with special needs, we are showing them that we believe in them. Pushing our students to limits that they have not achieved before is amazing. This wonderful feeling is shared by everyone connected to the student.

I have had the pleasure of working with many excellent and caring teachers. During these inclusion classes, one could not tell the students with special needs from the "regular education" students. This was because both teachers were committed to looking at each student as an individual. Every child, no matter the academic level, was a contributing member of the class. The classroom environment was structured, caring and safe. The students could succeed and fail with no fear of ridicule. They knew that no one would give up on them until the content was mastered.

The next time you look at your class roll, don't look at the disabilities. Look at the possibilities. Show your students with disabilities that you care about them as well as their educational success.

*Bryan Anthony Weaver
Appling County Middle School
Interrelated SPED Teacher
ACMS Teacher of the Year 2005
B.S. Education 2000*



Five educators from a Georgia Southern partner school in East London visited in Savannah and Statesboro during the first week of March. They attended and presented at the Youth-At-Risk Conference in Savannah. The team spent Tuesday through Thursday visiting in our partner schools on "this side of the pond." Team members were Toilen Tran, English teacher; Wendy Bisiker, assistant head teacher; Vanya Gogova, math and statistics teacher; Jane Coles, professor at Goldsmiths College; and Maureen Clarke, from the local education authority improvement office. Also in the picture is Bill Callaway, Clinical Supervisor at South Effingham Middle School, who hosted the visit to that school.

Mark Your Calendars! for Homecoming 2006

Georgia Southern University October 20-21, 2006



Eagle Club Activities

Please visit the Alumni On-line Community at <http://www.alumniconnections.com/olc/pub/GSN/> for more information on Eagle Club Events and all Alumni News.

Upcoming Events:

April 4	Atlanta Baseball Tailgate	5:00-9:00 pm
April 18	Laurens County Eagle Club	7:00-9:00 pm
April 20	Glynn County Eagle Club	6:30-9:00 pm
April 21	Greater Jacksonville Eagle Club	6:30 pm
April 27	Effingham County Eagle Club	7:00-9:00 pm
April 28	Greater Savannah Eagle Club	7:00-9:00 pm
May 2	Greater Macon Eagle Club	7:00-9:00 pm
May 18	East Metro Atlanta Eagle Club	7:00-9:00 pm
May 19	Metro Atlanta Eagle Club	5:00-9:00 pm
August 22	Liberty County Eagle Club	6:30 pm
August 24	Toombs County Eagle Club	7:00-9:00 pm
August 28	Evans County Eagle Club	7:00-9:00 pm
September 7	Bulloch County Eagle Club-Football Kickoff	7:00-9:00 pm
September 22	NW Georgia/Tennessee Valley Eagle Club	7:00-9:00 pm



Stilson Elementary School was one of only 20 schools in the state to receive the honor of "School of Excellence". This award was based on the school's improvement in reading and math over the past three years. School principal and Georgia Southern alum, Dennis Carpenter credited the teachers' dedication and commitment to their students as the driving force behind Stilson Elementary School being recognized. Pictured with Mr. Carpenter are faculty members at Stilson Elementary who are Georgia Southern alumni. Congratulations Stilson Elementary!

Southern Educator Class Roll

1968

McDaniel, Joe S. (B.S. in Physical Education). Just wrote a book 3/12/06- *The Boys of Willingham High*. The book is about guys who grew up poor in South Macon and have been successful in life. The website is www.31206.org.

1984

Wilkinson Pattillo, Leigh Ann (B.S. Education). I earned my master's and specialist degrees in school counseling. I am the department chair for the counseling office at Parkview High School in Lilburn, Ga.

1987

Newbern, Scott Michael Sr. (B.S. Trade and Industrial Ed., 1987). I am currently employed in the pulp and paper industry.

1992

Hill, "Dawn" Thompson (B.S. Psychology, 1990; M.Ed. Counseling, 1992). Married Richard D. Hill in 1991. (He's a graduate of Georgia Southern University.) Had two children, Mason (11); Sydney (8). I have been a School Counselor at Vidalia High School for 14 years.

Snoderly Davis, Sonya (B.S. Early Childhood Education 1992). I subbed in elementary my 1st year out of college. I have since taught kindergarten 1 year, and 2nd grade 6 years. I had a child and taught preschool 2 days a week and then had two more children. I am currently staying at home raising them while, keeping my certification current.

1993

Karlovich Dingbaum, Dawn Marie (B.S. Psychology, 1993; M.Ed. Counselor Education, 1995). I am a licensed mental health counselor (LMHC). I worked as a substance abuse counselor for 6 years, and then pursued a career in Employee Assistance Program (EAP) counseling with Duval County School Board. I am currently working with the elderly in an outpatient counseling center. On October 8, 2005 I delivered triplets – 2 boys and a girl!!

1994

Perry, Crystal L. Vinson (B.S. Education, 1994). I moved to Yuma, AZ and taught 7th and 8th grade computers for 5 years. In that time I received my master's in multicultural education. I then entered into staff development with my district. However, at the time I am staying home with our 2 kids with a 3rd on the way.

Strickland, Dawn Heffer (M.Ed. in Spanish, 1994). The wife of military (active duty), moving around United States. I moved to Virginia the summer of 2005 and started my own business in occupational Spanish language training. The website is www.spanishfortheworkplace.com.

1998

Aycock, Michelle W. (M.Ed. Community Counseling, 1998). I am currently in private practice as a licensed psychotherapist in Savannah Ga., specializing in couples' therapy. I also have an office in Garden City, Ga. providing counseling to federal prisoners.

Graiser, Paige Vicent (M.Ed. in Middle Grades Education, 1998). I earned a doctorate in curriculum development from Nova Southeastern University and was recently hired as a Middle Grades School Improvement Specialist for the Southern Regional Education Board.

Stafford, Jennifer Kay McMurrain (B.S. in Early Childhood Education, 1998). I taught 4 years of kindergarten in Jefferson County, Ga. I am now teaching part-time at a private school in Columbia County, Ga. A full-time mom to Jamie (6), Justin (4), and married to Scott. Currently working on a master's degree at Southern Wesleyan University.

2000

Gresham, Tausha Marie (B.S. in Early Childhood, 2000). Taught elementary school in Athens, Ga. until 2004 with the Clarke County school district. I am now serving as recruiter for Clarke County school district. I earned my master's in human resources at the University of Georgia and L-5. A proud member of Athens alumnae—Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Founder/ President of Trinity Business and Consulting Services, LLC. Thanks Georgia Southern University for being a foundation!

2002

Crisp, Steven Curtis (B.S.Ed. in Spanish Education, 2002). Taught Spanish one year at Eastside High in Covington, Ga. I am currently an admission counselor at Georgia Perimeter College in Atlanta, Ga. and working on my master's in Adult Education at University of Georgia.

Finley, Alison Alkire (Early Childhood Education, 2002). I worked in Atlanta, Ga. for 2 years at an inner city school teaching 2nd grade. I met my husband and moved to Dalton, Ga. I have been teaching 5th grade for the last 2 years in Dalton. I got married on July 9, 2005. I also started graduate school at UTC in August for my master's in education.

2004

Geisler, Paul R, Ed.D, ATC (Ed.D. in Curriculum Studies. 2004). I am now an assistant professor and program director of athletic training education, department of exercise and sport sciences at Ithaca College in Ithaca, NY.

2005

Hooker, Elizabeth Anne (M.Ed. in Counselor Education, 2005, SED, 2006). I am finishing up my final year working towards my 6th year in counselor education. Upon graduation I will move back to Augusta, Ga. and get a job in Columbia, County.



In Memory

William Starr Miller

Professor Emeritus and Dean Emeritus, College of Education

Dr. Miller of Newnan and Plainville, Georgia, died suddenly Thursday, January 26, 2006. Dr. Miller was President Emeritus of Brewton-Parker College where he had served twice as president, and was Dean Emeritus of the School of Education at Georgia Southern University where he served for 18 years. An activist for retired persons, Miller had served as the Georgia State Director of the American Association of Retired Persons and as president of the Georgia Retired Teachers Association. He was the author of articles in many professional journals, as well as one professional book published by the Southern Regional Education Board. He served on numerous professional committees and, in retirement, ran a private educational consulting service. Each year, the Georgia Accrediting Commission gives the "Starr Miller Distinguished Service Award" in his honor.

Laura Starr Pollette

Retired MPLS teacher

Laura Starr Pollette died Monday, March 20, 2006, at Ogeechee Area Hospice in Statesboro. Ms. Pollette taught at Marvin Pittman Laboratory School at Georgia Southern University. She was named Bulloch County Teacher of the Year in 1983 and was a member of Delta Kappa Gamma Society.

Sue Colquitt Oertley

P.E. Instructor at Georgia Southern University and MPLS

Ms. Sue Colquitt Oertley, age 69, died January 23, 2006, at Hospice of Savannah. The Thomaston, Georgia, native received her bachelor of science in physical education from Georgia State College for Women in Milledgeville in 1958 and received her master's of science in physical education from Georgia Southern College in 1966. During her teaching career, Ms. Oertley served as a P.E. instructor at Georgia Southern from 1965-1966 and at Marvin Pittman Laboratory School from 1980 until her retirement in 1994.

NCATE

The Standard of Excellence
in Teacher Preparation

The College of Education is seeking continuing accreditation by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) and the Georgia Professional Standards Commission (GAPSC). The College will be hosting a GAPSC/NCATE joint review on April 8-12, 2006. The 2006 Institutional Report (IR), a 100-page document resulting from the COE's self-study in preparation for the joint review, is available online at <http://coe.georgiasouthern.edu/pdfs/UnitReport2006.pdf>.

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Editors:

Donna Colson
Mary Egger
Era Hall
Pat Parsons
Chris Thompson

(912) 681-5762

dcolson@georgiasouthern.edu



Statesboro, Georgia

A Unit of the University System of Georgia

Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Institution

A Day On Campus for Teachers of Tomorrow

Mix enthusiastic organizers, Paul and Claudia Moller; five outstanding teachers from the field; several stimulating Georgia Southern professors; a few current student teachers; over 200 curious high school students accompanied by their teachers and what do you get?

The answer is the third annual *A Day on Campus for Teachers of Tomorrow*. On Friday, February 24, students from thirteen Georgia high schools spent the day on the campus interacting with education specialists learning more about the art and science of teaching.

After a greeting from Patricia Parsons, Director of Field Experiences and Partnerships, and Mike Kane, Assistant Director of Admissions, the students were inspired by the keynote speaker, Tammy Davis, 8th Grade EXCEL teacher from Statesboro's Langston Chapel Middle School.

Following the keynote address, students participated in five breakout sessions: What Career Services Can Do for You; College vs. High School led by a panel of professors from several different colleges on-campus; Why We Teach led by a panel of Clinical Associates from various schools; We Can Help led by staff from the Student Success Center; and The Teacher Education Program led by a panel of current student teachers. Each session included a time of questions and answers.

The first part of the day, including a catered lunch, was held at the Russell Student Union. After lunch the group had a guided walking tour of campus with a stop and presentation at the Wildlife Center. The day concluded with a visit to the College of Education and a greeting from Dr. Stephanie Kenney, Associate Dean for Undergraduate Teacher Education.

Paul and Claudia Moller have already begun plans for next year's *A Day on Campus for Teachers of Tomorrow*. Due to the overwhelming interest, the Mollers have tentative plans to schedule two event dates, one in November 2006 and one in February 2007. Information about these events can be obtained by checking the *A Day on Campus for Teachers of Tomorrow* link in the College of Education section of the Georgia Southern University website (www.georgiasouthern.edu). You can also direct questions to the event email address (adayoncampus@lycos.com).

The Mollers are a dynamic couple, dedicated to educating future teachers. Both are veteran classroom teachers. Paul is currently a clinical instructor and supervises teacher candidates. Claudia is semi-retired but is one of the most loved and respected subs in our area so is still making a difference in the field.



Dr. Robert Martin To Retire

Dr. Robert ("Bob") Martin plans to retire at the end of spring semester 2006. He currently is Associate Professor of Educational Psychology in the Department of Leadership, Technology, and Human Development where he teaches and serves as program coordinator for the School Psychology Program. Dr. Martin joined the university in 1972 after earning the B.S.Ed., B.Mus., M.A., and Ph.D. degrees at The Ohio State University. He has served as Coordinator of the COE's School Psychologist preparation program for thirty-four years. He views his major contribution to Georgia Southern and the State of Georgia to be the nearly five hundred individuals who have been prepared as school psychologists during his time as program coordinator.

Dr. Martin served as chair or acting chair of three different academic departments in the College of Education during sixteen of his thirty-four years at Georgia Southern. He served as Director of the Learning Analysis Center at Georgia Southern University for eighteen years. The Learning Analysis Center was a multidisciplinary clinic in the College of Education for the assessment and treatment of children with learning problems. He has served and chaired numerous committees at the University, College and Department levels.

Dr. Martin's scholarship has included research, presentations and publications in the areas of Attention Deficit Disorders, anxiety toward mathematics, prevention of violence in schools, inclusion of children with disabilities in regular classrooms and multidisciplinary assessment and treatment of children with learning problems. His thirty-four years of service at Georgia Southern University have earned Dr. Martin the title of Associate Professor Emeritus of School Psychology.



Ms. Era Hall joined the Dean's staff on a part-time basis in January as Assistant to the Dean. In this capacity she is responsible for COE media and public relations, alumni affairs, and will assist Dean Chance with COE development activities. Ms. Hall is continuing her work with the Department of Teaching and Learning, though with a reduced load, as she teaches Early Childhood Methods I Practicum, Middle School Practicum I, and supervises student teachers in Savannah and Effingham County Schools. Since 1994, Ms. Hall has worked in various positions in the College of Education including project director for the PREP Program and instructor for the Department of Teaching and Learning. She holds an M.Ed. from Georgia Southern University ('94) and the B.S.Ed. from Auburn University ('81).

New COE Staff Members



Ms. Kelly Tharp became project director in November 2005, for the College of Education's FIPSE grant, a grant funded by the U.S. Department of Education's Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education. As project director, she coordinates activities for the University-Screven County Professional Development District, a P-16 partnership for teaching/learning renewal and reducing the achievement gap. Ms. Tharp holds the M.S.A. from the University of North Carolina-Greensboro ('99), the M.A.Ed. with a concentration in English Education from the College of William and Mary ('91), and the B.A. with Honors in general studies, with concentrations in English and American Language and Literature, from Harvard University ('87). Prior to joining the COE, she was principal at Julia P. Bryant Elementary School in Statesboro for five years. She also has experience as an assistant principal and administrative intern in Asheboro, NC, and as an eighth grade English/language arts/drama teacher in King William, Va.



ALUMNI: WHERE IN THE WORLD ARE YOU?

Name: _____
first middle last Maiden

Address: _____
City State Zip

Phone: _____ E-mail address: _____
 Check if okay to publish

Graduation Date: _____ Degree/Major: _____

What have you been doing since graduation?

Return to: Southern Educator -- P.O. Box 8133 -- College of Education -- Georgia Southern University -- Statesboro, GA 30460-8133