

Southern Educator

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Southern Educator

November 28, 2012

Volume 1 Issue 11

Upcoming Events

- Nov. 28 iPads and Mobile Technology in the Classroom, student workshop
- Dec. 6 Education Career Fair
- Dec. 7 Last Day of Classes
- Dec. 14 Fall Commencement
- Jan. 14 First Day of Class, Spring 2013 Semester

[More announcements.](#)

Upcoming Conferences

[February 15-16 12th Annual Cross-Cultural Issues in Counseling & Education Conference](#)

[March 3-6 24th Annual Youth-at-Risk Conference](#)

[March 8 Scholarship of STEM Teaching & Learning Conference](#)

Sen. Jack Hill Congratulates Young Artists at COE's Art Extravaganza

State Sen. Jack Hill (R-Reidsville) once again was on hand at COE's Art Extravaganza to personally congratulate young artists whose work was chosen to hang in the halls of COE for one year. The event, "Southern's Art Extravaganza: A Georgia Southern P-12 Partnership," is in its ninth year.

Nearly 50 pieces of art from 16 schools partnering with COE are showcased this year. The schools are in Bulloch, Bryan, Effingham and Laurens counties. Featured artists in the show were selected by a certified art teacher from schools partnering with COE. Many of these teachers are COE alumni.

Sen. Hill is a strong supporter of the arts in schools. "I believe art and music have such a positive effect on students and not just in developing talent but in the rest of their lives," Sen. Hill said. The guest speaker at this year's event was Assistant Professor Jessica Burke from Georgia Southern's Art Department who encouraged the students to work hard and follow their dreams.



Sen. Jack Hill with student Haven Sawyer from Portal Elementary School.



Commemorative Bricks: *The Perfect Holiday Gift*

Your commemorative brick purchase (\$100) includes an engraved brick installed in the wheel of the Centennial Plaza, a certificate of ownership suitable for framing and a mini replica for you to keep as a memento. Up to three lines, with words of your choosing, can be engraved on your brick.

Commemorative bricks make a wonderful gift for alumni, a favorite professor, an individual who made a difference in your life and loved ones including parents and children. The possibilities are endless. One Georgia Southern student proposed using a commemorative brick!

[Click here to order your brick today.](#)

Faculty News

Grants:



Charles Hodges

Charles B. Hodges, Ph.D., Leadership, Technology and Human Development, was awarded a subcontract to collaborate on a research project with members of Georgia Tech's Center for Education Integrating Science, Mathematics, and Computing (CEISMC). The subcontract is funded by the National Science Foundation. Dr. Hodges and Alicia Meng, a graduate student in Georgia Southern's School Psychology program, will be working with CEISMC's

Science Learning Integrating Design, Engineering, and Robotics (SLIDER) project, which is studying the effects of robotics, engineering design, and problem-based inquiry science on student learning and academic engagement in eighth grade physical science classes.

Jonathan Hilpert, Ph.D., Curriculum, Foundations and Reading, was

awarded a COE Seed Grant for his project, Cognitive Pathways to Engineering, which focuses on improving pathways to and through engineering programs.



Jonathan Hilpert

Awards and Accolades:

Thomas Koballa, Ph.D., COE Dean, was awarded the Deborah Tippins Faculty Mentoring Award from the Southeastern Association for Science Teacher Education.

Greg Chamblee, Ph.D., Teaching and Learning, has been named the President of the Georgia Association of Mathematics Teacher Educators.

Publications:

Jason LaFrance, Ed.D., Leadership, Technology and Human Development, published: "Society, Standards and Technology Leadership Preparation," in the October issue of the NCEA Publication, *Education Leadership Review*. Dr. LaFrance's work is in collaboration with recent Ed.D. (Educational Administration) graduate, Wendy Metcalf.

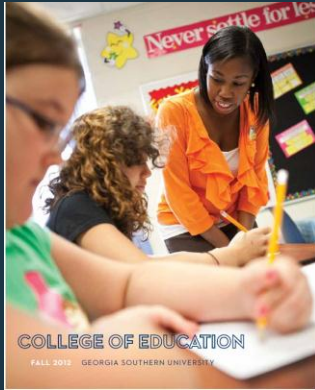
Presentations:

COE faculty presented at the 33rd Annual Conference on Curriculum Theory and Classroom Practice. Among those presenting were: **Ming Fang He, Ph.D.**; **Sabrina Ross, Ph.D.**; and **Marla Morris, Ph.D.**

AROUND COE



Four local school administrators and COE Dean Thomas Koballa were part of a panel discussion sponsored by Student Professional Association of Georgia Educators (SPAGE). The panel was designed to give COE students an opportunity to



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speak directly to school administrators and ask questions about education and teaching. In addition, the panel included local attorney Susan W. Cox who addressed Code of Ethics issues for teachers and teacher candidates.



COE Dean Thomas Koballa hosted another "Donuts with the Dean" to give students, faculty and staff an opportunity to meet informally.

ALUMNI NEWS

1960-69

Helen (Yates) Mikell ('68 M.Ed. Counseling) is a volunteer at East Georgia Regional Medical Center and the Boys & Girls Club. She received her undergraduate education degree in health and physical education from Georgia Southern in 1957.

1970-79

Betty (Trotter) Sharrock ('71 B.S.Ed. Music) has retired from the Edgefield County School System. In May 2012, Merriwether Elementary School dedicated the school yearbook to her for 31 years of service and dedication to the children of Edgefield County.

1980-89

Marie (Levett) Polite ('89 Ed.S. Educational Leadership) was appointed the Dean of the School of Education at Macon State College in July 2012.

1990-99

Cecelia Stevens (M.Ed. Spanish) retired from classroom Spanish teaching but uses her language and teaching skills every day in her work with the VA Commonwealth University School of Dentistry translating for the school's many Hispanic patients. She works with the school's liaison, a Columbian dentist. "My career has come full circle!"

Shana (Burton) Johnson ('99 B.S.Ed. Secondary Education) just released her fifth novel, "Flaw Less" (Urban Books/Kensington Publishing). She was twice nominated for Georgia Author of the Year. She works for Virginia College in Macon, GA.

2000-09

Quail Arnold ('03 B.S.Ed. English Education) works for the DeKalb County Board of Education in Stone Mountain, GA.

Heidi (Hammack) Mikulecky ('07 B.S.Ed. English Ed.) was named Gwinnett County Middle School Teacher of the Year. She teaches at Richards Middle School in Lawrenceville, GA.

Alison (Finley) Alkire ('09 Ed.S.) is the Intermediate Literacy Coordinator for 3-5 at City Park Elementary School in Dalton, GA.

Diane (Clifton) Griffin ('09 M.Ed. Instructional Technology and Media) lives in Warrenton, GA and works for the Richmond County School System.

2010-

Delma Exey ('11 MAT) works for Windsor Forest High School in Savannah, GA.

Ru Story-Huffman ('11 M.Ed. Instructional Technology) was chosen as Interim Dean, James E. Carter Library at Georgia Southwestern State University.