



College of Arts and Sciences

Newsletter

Volume 2, Number 6 (November 2009)

Student News

Former GSW student applies for grant at the University of Leeds



We are very pleased and proud to announce, **Christopher Horton-Cook**, a former student who majored in sociology at GSW is now applying to attend the University of Leeds, located in the United Kingdom. Christopher is applying for a Fulbright Graduate Study Grant. During the past two years he has been studying both Arabic language and culture at universities in the Levant and Syria. Please click on the following link to view the University of Leeds website.

<http://www.leeds.ac.uk/>

Faculty News

Jason Berggren joins Department of History and Political Science



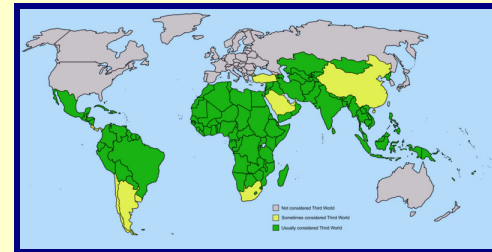
The College of of Arts and Sciences is very pleased to welcome to the faculty **Jason Berggren**. Jason joins the faculty in political science with a PhD from Florida International University in Miami. His specialties include the US presidency, US presidential elections, and religion and American politics. He is particularly interested in studying the religion and politics of President Jimmy Carter. Jason holds the MA in religion from Florida State University and also the BA in religion from Eckerd College. He's spent the last two years as a post-doctoral teaching fellow in political science at the

Students and faculty participates at Georgia Theatre Conference State Convention



Dramatic Arts faculty and students participated and presented at the recent Georgia Theatre Conference State Convention in Columbus, 14-18 October. Through the GSW/Sumter Players collaboration, Dramatic Arts students **Daina Rosario, Sidney Davis, and Mario Pagan** (pictured above), under the direction of **Will Dozier**, presented A. R. Gurney's *The Open Meeting*. Davis was recognized as the Best Supporting Actor during the awards ceremony on Saturday evening. Dramatic Arts majors **Andy Jones** and **Megan Sleeth** also assisted with the presentation of the Sumter Players children's theater production, *The Fairy Tale Courtroom: Trial of the Big Bad Wolf*. Dramatic Arts Technical Coordinator, **Ray Mannila**, served as chair of the Community Theatre Division, participating in a number of state board functions during the convention and coordinating the Community Theatre Festival adjudicated performances. Professor **Jeff Green** received an award for exemplary service to the field of Theatre as President of the Georgia Theatre Conference. Green concluded his two-year term at this convention. Dramatic Arts students performed the

University of Georgia. He's published articles in the *Presidential Studies Quarterly*, *White House Studies*, the *Journal of Church and State*, and elsewhere. Jason recently received an "APSA Campus Teaching Award Recognition Certificate" from the American Political Science Association and Pi Sigma Alpha in recognition of excellence in teaching for the academic year 2008-2009. The recognition was based on an award received earlier in the year from the University of Georgia: the "Student Government Association Award for Outstanding Contributions to Undergraduate Teaching." We're very pleased that he has joined us at GSW.



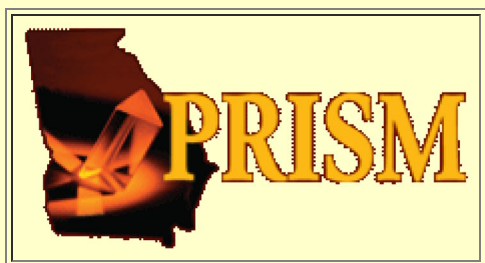
Isaacs edits Fall 2009 JTWS issue

Harold Isaacs, professor emeritus of history, has edited "Third World Problems and Issues: Past and Present," the Fall, 2009 issue (Volume XXVI, No. 2) of the *Journal of Third World Studies (JTWS)*. The 365-page volume contains selected papers presented at the GSW Third World in Perspective Program Seminar Series during the 2008-2009 academic year and additional manuscripts, as well as book reviews and book review essays approved for publication by the *JTWS* Board of Editors, which is comprised of scholars who are nationally and internationally-recognized experts in their respective fields. Since 1984, when the bi-annual

interactive Haunted House installation "Dr. Macabre's Cabinet of Curiosities" directed by **Marc Weathersby** at the Windsor Hotel at the end of October.

Students will present *Dancing with the Dead* 8:00 PM November 12, 13, 14 and at 2:30 PM November 15 in the Fine Arts Theater. This production is the premier of an original script by Bren Dubay, the Executive Director of Koinia Partners. Dubay holds an MFA in play writing from the University of Houston where she studied with Edward Albee and Horton Foote. Set in a sanitarium run by the Daughters of Charity in 1882 New Orleans, the play is a reexamination of the historical murder explored by Genet in *The Maids*.

GSW awarded PRISM grant



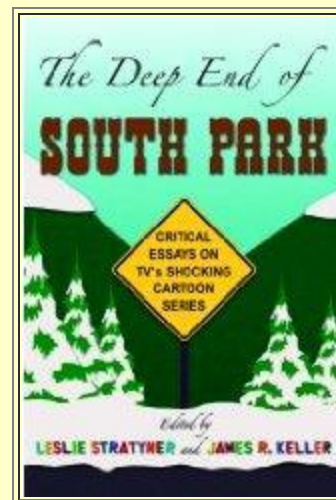
Elizabeth Gurnack, associate professor of chemistry, reports that GSW has received a \$23,000 grant from the Georgia Partnership for Reform in Science and Mathematics (PRISM) initiative. The PRISM grant is awarded to schools within the University System of Georgia to amplify science and mathematic success by preparing students for post-secondary education. The grant will fund a 2 day institute for faculty who teach in the STEM fields: Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics. The institute will focus on "Teaching STEM to Students in the 21st Century."

scholarly periodical was founded by Isaacs, ATWS has published 52 issues.

For more information:

[Click Here](#)

South Park and Cigarettes



Brennan Thomas, assistant professor of English, has recently published an article entitled "Facts, Fatsos, and Fascism: *South Park's* Interrogation of Anti-Tobacco Legislation." Her essay appears in the collection, *The Deep End of South Park: Critical Essays on Television's Shocking Cartoon Series*, ed. Leslie Stratyner and James R. Keller.

Professor wins NCLRC Scavenger Hunt

The institute will address new technologies, new problems the students face, and different pedagogical strategies that have been developed specifically for teaching the STEM disciplines.

National Chemistry Week



Students and faculty at GSW recently celebrated National Chemistry Week, an outreach program to bring chemists together with students, teachers, and the public. The goal of National Chemistry Week is to improve public awareness for the role of chemistry in solving global challenges and improving the quality of our lives. As part of the celebration, the American Chemical Society donated three copies of the valuable education resource, *The Merck Index*, to high school chemistry teachers in our region. *The Merck Index* books were given to Tami Colter from Schley



Elena B. Odio, professor of modern languages, has won the Third National Capital Language Resource Center French Scavenger Hunt. As the winner she will receive free tuition to the NCLRC Summer Institute of her choice next summer at Georgetown University in Washington, DC. For more information about the French, Spanish, and Italian Scavenger Hunts click below.

[NCLRC Summer Institute](#)

This issue of the *A & S Newsletter* was edited by Carey Weldon (*BSN, 2011*).

Questions, Comments, and Contributions:

[Click Here](#)

County Middle School and Pushpa Rajan from Americus Sumter High South Campus for their efforts to work with the local American Chemical Society (ACS) section. The celebration also included experiments for everyone who came. According to **Nedialka Jordanova**, associate professor of chemistry, "The idea is to make students aware of chemical science and the fun that they can have with it."