



College of Arts and Sciences

Newsletter

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Student News

Georgia Psychological Society Meeting

Several members of the Psychology/Sociology Club attended a meeting of the Georgia Psychological Society in March. Ellen Cotter and Andrea Miller accompanied the students on this trip. The students saw undergraduate poster presentations (pictured) and participated in a mock GRE test.

Faculty News

Dr. Odio to retire



The Oxford University Press has advised **Dr. Elena B. Odio** that her article on the Spanish "**Romancero**" has been accepted for inclusion in the **Oxford Encyclopedia of Medieval Warfare and Military**



From left: Immanuel Burney, Eddie Robinson, Brandi Charbonneau, and Michelle Chaney.

Regents approve GSW Master of Arts in English

The Board of Regents approved Georgia Southwestern State University's newest graduate degree program, a **Master of Arts in English with an emphasis on critical studies in literacy and communication.**

"This is the first master's degree to be housed in the College of Arts and Sciences and represents an opportunity for an outstanding faculty to provide instruction at the graduate level," said Kendall Blanchard, Ph.D. GSW President. "I appreciate all the work that has

Technology, due for publication in June, 2010. Professor Odio, who has taught modern languages at GSW for 19 years, is retiring at the close of Spring Semester, 2010. This does not mean the end of her scholarship, however. While actively teaching, she published 3 books of translation (from French and German), published translations of pedagogical manuals from English to Spanish, translated a movie script (from Spanish to English), published poetry in translation from Spanish and wrote a number of articles (in English, French and German) and book reviews. After retirement, Dr. Odio will attend a seminar on "Brain, Language & Bilingualism" at George Washington University in Washington, D.C. Dr. Odio will attend the seminar tuition free as a result of her winning the "French Scavenger Hunt" held last year on the internet by the National Capital Language Resource Center at Georgetown University. Over the summer Dr. Odio will be grading National Advanced Placement Spanish literature exams in Cincinnati, Ohio, following which she and members of her family will visit Germany--where she will attend the Oberammergau Passion Play that has been performed every ten years since the 17th c.--and Austria.

gone into bringing this program to fruition and am confident it will open the door for more graduate programs in the arts and sciences here at Georgia Southwestern."

The program's emphasis on critical studies in literacy and communication will help distinguish it from other graduate programs in the University System. This master's degree program is closely aligned with GSW's national writing project which serves teachers in a 40-county area of southwest Georgia. The program also includes some cross-disciplinary teaching and is applicable to a variety of career fields.

"This program is a large step forward in terms of cutting-edge approaches to how we define literacy and how we can teach it," said Brian Adler, Ph.D., Vice President of Academic Affairs. "In a region of the state that has historically low literacy rates, this degree will motivate and train practitioners in the field. We are excited to add to our growing list of graduate degrees."

It is anticipated that the program will enable area teachers and professional writers to earn professional learning units near their home institutions. Georgia Southwestern expects enrollments of between 10 to 38 students during the first three years of program implementation.

Local High School Students Enjoy Activities in Math and Science

The STEM (Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics) Initiative sponsored a Science and Math Visitation day for local High School students. Seventy-Five students from five local High Schools (Americus-Sumter High School, Schley County High School, GSW Early College, Marion County Middle/High School, and Randolph-Clay High School) visited GSW on Friday, April 16 for a half day of hands on activities in Mathematics and the Sciences. Participating Faculty included Anh-Hue Tu and William "Hap" Tietjen from Biology; Sam Peavy, Burt Carter, and Svilen Kostov from Geology and Physics; Nellie Iordanova, Tzvetelin Iordanov, and Elizabeth Gurnack from Chemistry; John Stroyls and William Kipp from Mathematics; and Boris Peltzverger and Simon Baev from Computer Science. There were a wide variety of projects offered to the students including open heart surgery on giant cockroaches, using liquid nitrogen to make ice cream, and an introduction to robotics. The students enjoyed the exciting activities and interacting with our enthusiastic STEM faculty and beautiful campus!

The MA in English is Georgia Southwestern's fifth graduate degree program. Southwestern currently offers a Master of Business Administration, a Master of Education in curriculum and instruction, a Master of Science in computer science, and a Specialist in Education in learning and leading.

Honors Program End of the Year Banquet

The University Honors Program held its end of the year banquet, a cook-out at the GSW Lakehouse. There, the election of the Student Advisory Council for 2010-11 was announced. Katelynn Lea was elected President; other members of the council include Logan Clemmons, Eli Price, Christin Woods and William Barron. The members of the Honors Program also initiated an honors code for the program; each member signed an oath to commit themselves to the highest integrity in all aspects of university life at GSW.

Questions, Comments, and Contributions:

[Click Here](#)



Dual Degree majors spend a day at the Georgia Institute of Technology



A group of first year GSW Dual Degree majors and their advisor, Dr. Svilen Kostov, spend a day at the Georgia Institute of Technology (GIT) during which they participated in information sessions on the transfer process. The students, Jennifer Dillon, Brittney Musser, Benjamin Fraser, and Ted Lowell, also met with former GSW Dual Degree students currently completing their engineering degrees at GIT. The group also visited Dr. Faisal Alamgir's lab at the School of Materials Science and Engineering where they learned about cutting edge research in battery technology. In the end everyone enjoyed some of the Earth Day festivities at the GIT campus.

AIPG Student Honored



Worthy is 2010 Featured Public Servant



Psychology Professor LaVerne Worthy has spent much of her time at Georgia Southwestern serving others. Today, the University recognized her servanthood. President Kendall Blanchard announced that Worthy is the recipient of GSW's 2010 Featured Public Servant Award.



Ryan Roney, a Geology major, was honored by the American Institute of Professional Geologists (AIPG) with an honorary student membership and a \$250 scholarship. Georgia AIPG Vice President Ron Wallace from Georgia EPD in Atlanta, and Sam Almaee, a professional Geologist from Albany, presented the award. The AIPG sponsors an undergraduate student each year at every undergraduate geology program in the state.

"A Lab for Exploring the Precession and Nutation of a Gyroscope"

A paper by Dr. Svilen Kostov was recently published on the official AAPT (American Association of Physics Teachers) Physical Sciences Resource Center website. The paper [A Lab for Exploring the Precession and Nutation of a Gyroscope](#) was co-authored by Daniel Hammer, a GSW Dual Degree major in Mechanical Engineering.