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Eagle Executive

GEORGIA SOUTHERN
UNIVERSITY
NEWS

from the College of
Business Administration
STATESBORO, GA 30460

VOLUME 21, NUMBER 2 SPRING 2008

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COBA Programs: AACSB Accredited



The Board of Directors of AACSB International: The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business recently ratified its accreditation coordinating and maintenance committee's early Fall 2007 recommendation to continue accreditation of the undergraduate (BBA), graduate (MBA and WebMBA), and accountancy (SOA including MAcc) programs offered in the College of Business Administration for the next five years. The reaccreditation announcement, released by **Judy Olian**, AACSB International board chair, is a culmination of years of hard work by COBA administrators, faculty, and staff. First accredited in 1977, COBA has maintained its AACSB accreditation for more than 30 years.

While 555 AACSB International member institutions around the world have been affirmed in their commitment to quality and continuous improvement through rigorous, comprehensive peer review, only 160 have achieved additional accreditation for their accounting programs.

AACSB accreditation means COBA's business programs have met or exceeded the highest operating standards, as defined by

the independent agency, AACSB International, for delivering bachelor and master degrees in business. "It takes a great deal of commitment and determination to earn AACSB accreditation," said **Jerry Trapnell**, executive vice president and chief accreditation officer of AACSB International. "These schools have met rigorous standards of excellence, as well as made a commitment to ongoing improvement that ensures that they will deliver a high quality education to students." Having the stamp of approval from AACSB provides assurance COBA's curriculum is contemporary and comprehensive; the faculty is current and qualified in their teaching fields; policies, procedures, and processes are in place and functioning to ensure quality; facilities and instructional resources are up-to-date; and the portfolio of intellectual contributions is extensive and diversified. In short, it affirms COBA delivers quality education on a level higher than non-AACSB accredited schools of business.

AACSB International was founded in 1916 and began its accreditation function in 1919. As a specialized agency, AACSB International grants accreditation, representing the highest standard of achievement, for undergraduate and graduate business administration and accounting programs worldwide. AACSB International accreditation is the hallmark of excellence in business and management education.

In addition to establishing and maintaining standards of quality for collegiate education, AACSB provides services to and represents

the interests of its members. AACSB International accreditation assures stakeholders that business schools, including the College of Business Administration at Georgia Southern,

- manage resources to achieve a vibrant and relevant mission;
- advance business and management knowledge through faculty scholarship;
- provide high-caliber teaching of quality and current curricula;
- cultivate meaningful interaction between students and a qualified faculty; and
- produce graduates who have achieved specified learning goals.

"AACSB sets the global standard for business school accreditation," said Dean **Ron Shiffler**. "I congratulate the faculty and staff on a job well done; I especially thank those serving on the AACSB Task Force." The Task Force included **Mary Hazeldine**, chair, **Tony Barilla**, **Jim Davis**, **Trey Denton**, **Leslie Fletcher**, **Chuck Harter**, **John Hatem**, **Mike McDonald**, **Barbara Price**, **Cindy Randall**, **Ron Shiffler**, **Jake Simons**, and **Bobbie Williams**.

AACSB International is recognized by the Office of Postsecondary Education of the United States Department of Education as the accrediting agency for collegiate programs in business administration and accounting. ♦

Study to Define Football Options

Should Georgia Southern remain in the NCAA Football Championship Subdivision (FCS), formerly known as Division I-AA, or move to the Football Bowl Subdivision (FBS), formerly known as Division I-A? COBAns figure to provide key leadership in this important decision facing the university.

Bids have been solicited for a feasibility study to provide insight into the answer. Once the study is begun, it should take three to six months to complete the comprehensive assessment of Georgia Southern's readiness for FBS football, including a market assessment, allowing fans to have a voice in the process.



The study comes during a four year NCAA moratorium prohibiting movement from FCS to FBS between August 2007 and August 2011. "When you're looking at a decision of this magnitude, it's good to have as much data as you can get," Georgia Southern Athletic Director Sam Baker said. The time-frame coincidence of the study and moratorium offer an opportunity to collect necessary information on financial, scheduling, conference affiliation, and Title IX requirements to identify and assess implications of a potential move. Facilities figure to be a key factor in the deliberation. The 2000 additions of the Cowart and Parrish Buildings and the 2006 Bishop Fieldhouse have uniquely positioned the program for growth; yet, one of the primary requirements of moving up to the FBS-level would appear to be the need to approximately double the current 18,000 seating capacity of Paulson Stadium.

While the Eagles have won more national championships than any program in the country in Division I-AA (FCS), the study sets the stage for the University to analyze the potential level of support for FBS football from crucial stakeholders including season ticket holders, major gift donors, corporate sponsors, media partners, annual fund contributors, and key constituent groups. Again, COBAns figure significantly in all these markets and promise to offer important leadership in these processes. ♦

COBA's New Administrators



COBA's newest administrators (back-to-front) **Jeremy Hill**, director, Coastal Rivers Water Planning and Policy Center; **Bill Wells**, chair, Department of Finance & Quantitative Analysis; **Susan Williams**, associate dean for student and external affairs; and **Linda Wilke**, College of Business Administration development officer.

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The Eagle Executive

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All academic programs in the College of Business Administration are accredited by AACSB International: The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business.



The College of Business Administration is a member of the Association for University Business and Economic Research (AUBER) and the Graduate Management Admissions Council (GMAC).



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A Message from Dean Shiffler

AACSB Accreditation: Let's put it in perspective. You will read elsewhere in this edition of the *Eagle Executive* about our successful re-accreditation effort that resulted in a letter from our accrediting agency, AACSB International: The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB), reaffirming our commitment to quality and our compliance with the highest academic standard in the world for business schools.

Pause with me for a minute and reread those last phrases, "commitment to quality and our compliance with the highest academic standard in the world for business schools." To be AACSB-accredited means we are all about quality curriculum, quality students, quality faculty and staff, quality buildings and campus, quality operations, and quality alums. You cannot earn AACSB accreditation or maintain it over the past 30 years as we have done by having mediocre curriculum, students, faculty, staff, buildings, operations, or alumni.

You are living proof that whatever we did when you were a student contributed to your current station in life and in business, and (hopefully you'd agree) that you are better off because of it.



Complying with the highest academic standards in the world sounds pretty lofty, but if the shoe fits—then we should wear it. There are more than 10,000 business schools in the world, and that number is growing. We are one of only 555 of those schools that have earned AACSB accreditation.

It may seem "ho hum" to you because it seems every school claims to be accredited. But, if you are a sports fan, maybe this will help put our achievement in perspective. There are more than 1,300 colleges and universities in the U.S. recognized by the NCAA. Only 459 of these U.S. schools are accredited—less than half. Throw in all the international schools, and we can rightly say that we are in the top 5 percent of all such business schools in the world.

Quality and differentiation—that is what AACSB accreditation means to us and to you.

Ronald E. Shiffler

The Eagle Executive Society — Two Ways to Join!

You may join the Eagle Executive Society online on the COBA website
<http://coba.georgiasouthern.edu>.

You may also join by sending an email to eagleexecutive@georgiasouthern.edu.

From the Alumni Editor

First, thank you to those who called, sent cards, or visited while I was recovering from back surgery in April. Your prayers and concerns were greatly appreciated.



When the surgeon told me recovery would be three months, I told him I had always recovered very quickly from surgery, "a ruptured appendix, carpal tunnel in both hands, three knee 'scopes,' and a heart attack with a stent." He told me I had not had real surgery, only outpatient stuff. So, after six-and-one-half hours on the table and an eight-inch incision, I have now had "real surgery." By football season, I should be back on the tennis court.

Now, to business: the airwaves are filled with messages about "change." If you are in the 'Boro and on campus, you have witnessed "real change." The old ROTC administrative annex is gone and a new dorm is going up. The old dorms across from Landrum will go next. Foy is getting a super

remodeling. The old Marvin Pittman School is now a new art gallery for the Betty Foy Sanders Collection and a new "black-box" theatre.

The Veteran's Memorial Parkway (a.k.a. the bypass) may be completed with four lanes by Thanksgiving. Two new hotels are almost ready on the bypass—a Holiday Inn and a Marriott Spring Suites. Several new apartment complexes have been approved and will begin construction for 2009 since builders are anticipating 20,000 students in the next few years.

Keeping up with you, our COBA grads, is our objective. We added about 1,000 this year. When you get a blue card, send it back, and if you run into any COBA folks, let me know. We are interested in the careers our folks are following.

I hope to see you at Paulson Stadium this fall. The App State Mountaineers, three time national FCS champions, will be visiting us on October 18. We handled the challenge last year. . . let's do it again!

Lewis M. Stewart

Department News

Finance & Quantitative Analysis

The Center for Excellence in Financial Services sponsored Financial Services Day to help students better understand the careers available in the financial services industry and held its second annual Community Bank Symposium to foster relationships with area banks.

Dr. **Barbara A. Price**, professor of quantitative analysis, has been selected to participate in the Summer 2008 Fulbright-Hays Professional Curriculum Development Seminar in Hungary and the Czech Republic from June 6–July 5, 2008.

Information Systems

Mr. **Robert C. Newman**, information systems coordinator, was recently inducted into Alpha Iota Mu, the information systems honor society.

In April, 21 IS students successfully completed the Microsoft Office Specialist Certification Exam yielding 19 Excel specialists, 1 Excel expert, and 1 Access specialist. The exam is a globally recognized standard for demonstration of desktop skills and is the premier Microsoft desktop certification.

The following IS students recently received SAP certification: **Chad M. Hester, Eric Barstow, Colby L. White, Stephanie L. Ruffin, Tramaine L. David, Nnebuihe N. Emerole, Alex D. Thomas, and Ross D. Yerden.**

Management, Marketing, & Logistics

Alexus Woods, LIT major, has been selected to attend the 2008 Cohort of the Ronald E. McNair Post Baccalaureate Achievement Program. She will join other Georgia Southern students in conducting individual research this summer at the research institute. The McNair Program prepares and encourages students under-represented in graduate education to consider careers in college teaching and prepares them for graduate study leading to doctoral degrees. Selected students are involved in scholarly research under the supervision of faculty mentors in their research areas. Dr. **Jerry Wilson**, professor of logistics and marketing, will serve as Alexis's mentor.

The Georgia Southern University Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM) Student Chapter has earned the Merit Award. Dr. **Bob Hoell**, professor of management, is the club's advisor.

School of Accountancy

Dr. **Leslee Higgins**, associate professor, recently passed the CFE exam and is now a Certified Fraud Examiner. She has also been named editor of *The Journal of Forensic Studies in Accounting and Business*.

Dr. **Eddie Metrejean**, associate professor, attended the SAP Curriculum Congress in Atlanta in

February. The annual conference gives faculty hand-on training on various parts of SAP and provides insight into the various projects and other things that faculty from around the world are using in their classes. Dr. Metrejean also took and passed the CFE exam and is now a Certified Fraud Examiner.

In March, the Center for Forensic Studies in Accounting and Business sponsored a Construction Accounting and Law conference in Atlanta.

Chris Shehan, a junior majoring in accounting, is one of 50 candidates and two finalists from the Southern Conference for this year's Dick Howser Trophy. Regarded by many as college baseball's most prestigious award, the Dick Howser Trophy is given in memory of the former Florida State University All-America shortstop, major league player, and manager who died in 1987 of brain cancer.

School of Economic Development

Dr. **Greg Brock**, director, Center for Economic Education, recently made a presentation to the Bulloch County Board of Education. He also worked with 9th grade economics teachers at Wayne County High School. Both of these events fulfilled the Center's mission of serving as a resource for public school economics teachers. A research paper Dr. Brock coauthored, "What Are the Costs of Being Black," has recently been featured by the *Washington Post*, *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, *Miami Herald*, and *National Public Radio*.

Computer Science

Computer science major **Jason Veatch** presented his research titled, "Using Software to Teach Math Through Culture" at this year's Honors Research Symposium. Dr. **Kera Bell-Watkins**, assistant professor, served as Jason's mentor.

Information Technology

In the graduating class of 2008, **Brett Herrin** and **Tommi Tyler**, became the first Georgia Southern students to graduate the Bachelor of Science in Information Technology program, Georgia WebBSIT, an online undergraduate degree program offered collaboratively by five University System of Georgia (USG) institutions, Armstrong Atlantic State University, Clayton College & State University, Georgia Southern University, Macon State College, and Southern Polytechnic State University. The program combines the resources, expertise, and technology of the five USG institutions in a key undergraduate instructional area to advance educational purpose, instructional technology, student support services, and distance education.



State-wide Water Plan

The Georgia Comprehensive State-wide Water Management Plan, approved by the 2008 General Assembly earlier this year, leaves business owners, farmers, local governments, nonprofits, and individuals wondering how it affects them and what is required for compliance. It is important to note the adopted plan is only the structure or outline by which the state will plan for current and future water resources, including addressing issues of

- water quantity and quality (off- and instream uses),
- transfer of water within a basin and to other basins,
- reuse of sewage (reclaimed water) and grey water,
- conservation oriented pricing of water,
- water conservation practices,
- creation of reservoirs, and
- creation of water councils for regional planning.



COASTAL RIVERS
Water
PLANNING & POLICY
CENTER

While the state's growth continues to put pressure on the demand for renewable fresh water resources, the supply of fresh water is extremely limited, representing only 2.8 percent of the water on earth. As a result, the State-

Wide Water Management Plan encourages businesses and industry to use more grey water or reclaimed water in the manufacturing process and to conserve quality drinking water for human consumption. For the most part, Georgia has never really needed to consider reusing water or reclaiming wastewater for business or industrial growth. Yet, there are many instances where Georgia industries have used reclaimed water in the manufacturing process. According to the U.S. Geological Survey, there are currently 662 million gallons of water reused in the state each day, only a fraction of the state's potential development of reclaimed water.

One of the leaders in reclaimed water usage is our neighbor to the south, Florida. In the 1980s, the State was concerned with the disposal problem of reclaimed water resources. Yet, Florida has since learned it helps meet new growth demands for both the agriculture and manufacturing sectors. Some of the largest water reutilization projects in Florida are located in the most populated areas of Orlando, Tallahassee, and St. Petersburg.

The Coastal Rivers Water Planning and Policy Center supports the utilization of alternative water resources, including reclaimed water. While such use of reclaimed water needs careful consideration due to potentially harmful pathogens and pharmaceutical chemicals, these issues are easily overcome by compliance with industry regulatory and best management practices.

Georgia is currently in the process of finalizing the boundaries for the development of regional water planning councils. Each council will develop a water plan that addresses water resource capacities, current and future needs, and available tools, which will include reclaimed water. Looking forward, more information, guidelines, and potential incentives for using reclaimed water will be developed within the next few years. ♦

Faculty Promoted and Tenured

Timothy Cairney, Promoted to Associate Professor of Accounting and Tenured

Donna K. Fisher, Promoted to Associate Professor of Economics

Robert C. Hoell, Promoted to Associate Professor of Management and Tenured

Amanda S. King, Promoted to Associate Professor of Economics and Tenured

John T. King, Promoted to Associate Professor of Economics and Tenured

LeVon E. Wilson, Tenured

Cheryl L. Aasheim, Promoted to Associate Professor of Information Technology and Tenured

Hsiang-Jui Kung, Promoted to Associate Professor of Information Systems and Tenured

Youming Li, Promoted to Associate Professor of Computer Science and Tenured

Georgia Southern University 2008 Award of Merit Winner



Zandra Brasington

2007 - 2008

Corporate Leadership Council Scholars

In partnership with corporate sponsors Wachovia, United Parcel Service (UPS), Watkins Real Estate, Primerica Financial Services, and the W. E. Carter Leadership Endowment, the College of Business Administration has created a special program for its best and brightest students. The COBA Corporate Leadership Council sponsors have funded \$1,000 scholarships for each of these students and are providing leadership workshops exclusively for Council members. With COBA's Center for Entrepreneurial Leadership faculty serving as hosts, scholars meet informally with faculty and representatives from each of the corporate sponsors. An executive from one of the companies delivers a leadership program for all scholars, after which participants are invited to join in receptions and a dinner following the final seminar. The students receiving these scholarships are referred to as Wachovia, UPS, Watkins, Primerica, and Carter Scholars, respectively; together, the thirty-five scholars form the COBA Corporate Leadership Council.



David Barkett



Jaeda Bennett



R. J. Bowman



Katye Carter



Burke Cochell



Evan Cochrane



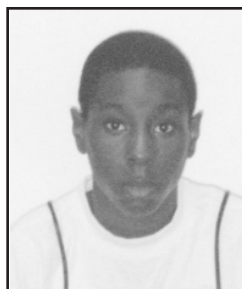
Greg Fletcher



Luke Friesen



Melinda Gram



Michael Hartley



Ann Hedges



Noel Hollis



Caity Howard



Benjamin Johnson



Josh McKelvey



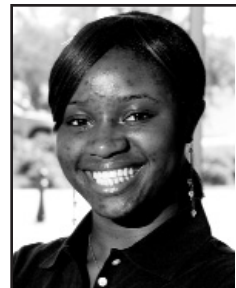
Melissa Mobley



Andres Montes



Jessica Murray



Cassandra Ohaney



Julie Pearce



Elizabeth Pierce



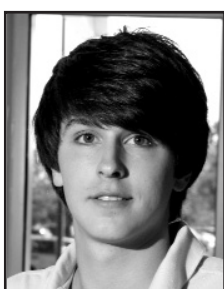
Brittany Porter



Rachel Price



Ally Rakoczy



Kyle Randall



Anna Rhoades



Kurt Rigby



Rebecca Ringel



Courtney Samuels



Meredith Shumann



Bradley Smith



Linette Turner



Michael Wallace



Lee Walter



Courtney Williams

Gentry 2008 Beta Gamma Sigma Chapter Honoree

Beta Gamma Sigma (BGS), the honor society sponsored by AACSB International: The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business inducted Jenny Lind Gentry (BBA, Gen Bus, '81) chapter honoree at its 28th annual induction banquet on March 31. Only business schools that have earned AACSB accreditation are eligible to have BGS chapters. Inductees to this society receive the highest recognition business students worldwide may receive. The mission of BGS is "to encourage and honor academic achievement in the study of business, to foster personal and professional excellence, to advance the values of the Society, and to serve its lifelong members." The chapter honoree designation is offered to those who have furthered the ideals of the society through outstanding business and managerial leadership.

The 2008 BGS honoree, Jenny Gentry, was born in Richmond, VA, moved to

Atlanta at age 6, and came to Georgia Southern in 1977. At Georgia Southern, she held a number of leadership positions in Kappa Delta Sorority and earned a business degree in 1981. Jenny built a successful 25 year career in banking with Wachovia holding positions as senior community banker, branch manager, dealer and finance relationship manager, and small business banking team leader. Jenny made history in 2006, becoming the first female bank president in the Savannah area, with her appointment as senior vice president and market president overseeing 18 branches in the Savannah–Statesboro region.



Dean Ron Shiffler and Jenny Gentry at the BGS Banquet

Jenny has served as chair of the board for the YMCA of Coastal Georgia, the first female to hold this title in the YMCA's 156 year history. She has also held board positions in Savannah South Rotary Club, the First City Club Board of Governors, the Savannah Chamber of Commerce, and The United Way. Jenny was awarded the Georgia House of Representatives Commendation Award for Community Involvement, is a 2002 graduate of Leadership Savannah, and completed the GA100 Mindfield Group Women's Leadership Program in 2004.

A colleague of Jenny's remarked "She leads by example, and because of that, she has the respect of those who work with her.

She is extremely dedicated to her work, customers, and community." While her dedication is evident in the work she does every day to make the community a better place to live and to work, there is another side of Jenny that loves practical jokes. Jenny's career as a prankster began in her college days when she moved all of her sorority sister's bedroom furniture out of the KD suite and set it back up exactly as it was in the parking lot! Years later, on the commercial banking floor of Wachovia, her colleagues arrived one morning to find their restroom had been turned into a disco, complete with hot pink shag carpeting, a disco ball, door beads, posters of *Saturday Night Fever*, and a guest sign in book! Yes, when Jenny puts her mind to something, the outcome is always successful! ♦

18th Annual Accounting Day Celebration

The School of Accountancy's 18th Annual Accounting Day celebration, sponsored by the Zeta Delta Chapter of Beta Alpha Psi and the Georgia Southern University Accounting Association, was held April 23. The event kicked off with a field day at the RAC pavilion hosted by Beta Alpha Psi, followed by a professional presentation and program by Gary Davis, CPA, Subway franchisee, Statesboro. A career fair in the Nessmith-Lane building later engaged 23 accounting firms and industry representatives with students to discuss full-time positions and internships.

In the evening, the annual awards banquet honored COBA's graduating seniors in accounting and recognized outstanding accounting alumnus *Barry Deal* by initiating him into Beta Alpha Psi, the national accounting honor society. Mr. Deal, vice president of risk management with Colonial Oil Industries, Inc., is the son of COBA BAC member, Julian Deal, and his wife, Frances.

During the awards ceremony, several academic achievement awards were

presented: *Lesley Culbreth* received a scholarship from the Albany Chapter of the Georgia Society of CPAs. *Chris Jenkins* and *Travis Williams* received scholarships from the Coastal Georgia Society of CPAs. *Celeste Thompson*, *Kashif Royal*, *Lee Glosson*, *Miranda Johnson*, and *Kyle Manning* received scholarships from the Savannah Chapter of the Georgia Society of CPAs. *Jonathan Branch*, *Madison Lee*, *Cole Branham*, *Callan Lord*, and *Brian Prevatt* received scholarships from the Southeast Chapter of the Georgia Society of CPAs.

Darin Lane received the Educational Foundation, Georgia Society of CPAs, Academic Excellence Award for being the School of Accountancy's top graduating senior, and the Savannah Chapter, Institute of Management Accountants presented its Academic Distinction Award to *Farah Punjani*.

Accounting Alumni scholarships, sponsored by the Southeast Chapter and Savannah Chapter, Georgia Society of CPAs, were awarded to *Christina Larson*, *Krista Wood*, *Jennifer Gay*, *Erik Kramschuster*, and *Whitney Howard*. Paul

LaGrone Scholarships, established by former business dean Paul LaGrone, were awarded to *Kathy Brown* and *Chase Hodges*.

SOA's International Student Award was presented to *Clisha Cleveland*, while the Federation of Schools of Accountancy selected *Sooi-Kit Cheng* for the 2008 outstanding fifth-year student achievement award.

Becker CPA Review, Jacksonville, awarded *Markita Jones* a complete online CPA review package; Gleim Publications presented certificates to *William Donaldson*, *Dmitriy Zhest*, *Paul Wilhelm*, and *Ryan Brinson*; Denmark and Brown, P.C., Statesboro, presented an award to *Kyle Baggett*; Draffin and Tucker, LLP, Albany, presented an award to *Eric Smith*; Franklin, Mikell & Co., LLP, Statesboro, presented an award to *Matthew Olson*; Habif, Arogeti & Wynne, LLP,

Atlanta, presented scholarships to *Donny Benton* and *Iche Nathans*; Holland Henry & Bromley, LLP, Savannah, presented a scholarship to *Matthew Sellers*; Mauldin and Jenkins, LLC, Albany, presented its award to *Jenna Green*; McLain, Calhoun, McCullough, Clark and Co., Vidalia, presented an award to *Sherry Bradl*; Moore Stephens Tiller, LLC, Brunswick, presented an award to *Cristol Johnson*; Nichols Cauley and Associates, LLC, Dublin, presented a scholarship to *Joshua Blanchard*; and Porter Keadle Moore, LLP, Atlanta, presented an award to *Matthew Steinberg*.

The Bobby and Kris Mikell Family Scholarship was presented to *Kate Randall*; the Greg and Ruth Morgan Family Scholarship was presented to *Mallory Nester*; and the Ronald A. Lundstrom Accounting Scholarship in Forensic Accounting was presented to *Lea*



Tim Cairney poses with Chase Hodges and Kathy Brown.

Garvey. Bill Herring of WACO Fire & Casualty Insurance Co., Atlanta, presented scholarships to *Danielle Batten*, *Tia McCarthy*, *Emily Scott*, *Michael Strutchen*, and *Chelsea Culler*, all beginning their Accounting programs at Georgia Southern.

The Southeast and Savannah Chapters, Georgia Society of CPAs, along with the Society's Educational Foundation, co-sponsored the Georgia Accountants' Team Effort (GATE) Scholarships, awarded to MAcc students *Sally Lanthier*, *Shelli Sirmans*, *Phylicia Brown*, *Angela Fish*, *Lana Yelina*, *Aaron Scale*, *Joshua Spain*, and *Jason Dulin*.

The School of Accountancy presented faculty awards to *Abbie Gail Parham*, Professor of the Year; *Eddie Metrejean*, Excellence in Research; and *Leslee Higgins*, Excellence in Service. Billy Hickman presented the 2008–2009 Dabbs Hickman Hill and Cannon, Faculty Scholar Awards to *Abbie Gail Parham* and *Eddie Metrejean* while Beta Alpha Psi named *Dwight Sneathen* recipient of the Ori James Recognition Award. In addition, *Lowell Mooney* was recognized as Beta Alpha Psi advisor.

In addition to the above sponsors, Accounting Day is made possible by Clifton, Lipford, Hardison & Parker, LLC; Deemer, Dana & Froehle, LLP; Deloitte Services, LP; the Georgia Department of Audits and Accounts–Education, Healthcare, and State Government Divisions; Gifford Hillegass and Ingwersen, LLP; Grant Thornton, LLP; Gulfstream Aerospace Corporation; Hancock Askew and Co., LLP; Institute of Management Accountants; Large & Gilbert, P.C.; Lundstrom, LLC; Price-waterhouse Coopers; Smith and Howard, PC; Thigpen Jones Seaton & Co., PC; and Windham Brannon, P.C. ♦



Lowell Mooney poses with the GATE Scholars.

StAR Awards

College of Business Administration Dean Ron Shiffler recently announced the Staff Appreciation & Recognition (StAR) Award, a new recognition program for COBA staff who go above and beyond their normal job responsibilities to complete a project or ensure success of a program. Each month nominations are received from COBA faculty, staff, and students about special efforts by staff that go above-and-beyond normal expectations. The winner will get to keep the StAR trophy on his/her desk for a month, receive a framed certificate and lapel pin, and earn \$100 in cash.

The inaugural StAR Awards went to **Bobbie Williams** and **Rashonda Bostic** in January, who were cited for working



Rashonda Bostic and Bobbie Williams

shorthanded at the end of last semester and the beginning of this semester, helping to re-design forms and procedures, and getting folders ready for the current advising season. For February, the StAR Awards went to **Lisa Williams**, who was instrumental in arranging, organizing, and hosting the annual meeting of the Board of Regents Academic Advisory Committee for Business Administration for deans and directors of business divisions, programs, schools, and colleges in the University System. And, in March, **Carolyn Price** was recognized for her extraordinary work in processing pre-tenure reviews and annual performance evaluations, handling the year-end budgets, and coordinating the COBA/CIT annual awards banquet. ♦

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Homecoming 2008
November 8
 Samford vs. Georgia Southern



Spotlight on Graduate Studies

MBA in the Spotlight

Michael B. Kane received his MBA from Georgia Southern in 2005 while employed in the Office of Admissions as assistant director. He later joined IBM in Atlanta as a client executive and currently covers public sector accounts, including colleges and universities, secondary schools, and local governments. In his



first year with IBM, Mike completed the IBM Global Sales School and attained 111 percentile performance rating. He was recently named head of the marketing focal group. His wife, Elizabeth (Liz), a Georgia Southern alumna, graduated in 2002 with a degree in justice studies and is employed with American Trust Bank, Roswell. They have a son, Brendan, who will be three in July. ♦

From the Director

Graduate Programs Accredited

Dean Emeritus Ori James, in recent years, offered insight on accreditation. "When Georgia Southern achieved initial accreditation in 1977, there were 202 accredited institutions, all in North America. Today, there are more than 500 world-wide and only 25 percent of the business schools in the U. S. are accredited. It is interesting Georgia Southern was accredited before some prestigious universities including Rice, Duke, and Vanderbilt, among others."

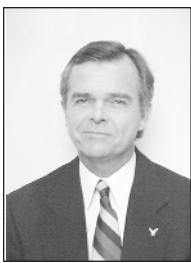
As director of COBA graduate programs, it is interesting to reflect on the MBA program, originally begun in 1968 and graduating its first class in 1970. The program first received AACSB accreditation in 1981. The MAcc program, conceived as an MBA with concentration in accounting in 1995, was formally offered and first accredited in 1997. The Georgia WebMBA™ was started and accredited in January 2001.

This year, COBA's MBA, WebMBA™, and MAcc degree programs all received positive continued accreditation from AACSB International: The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business. We are very proud of this reaffirmation. AACSB is the highest level of accreditation available to

business programs worldwide. Additionally, in recent visits by deans from peer institutions, all three graduate studies programs have been recognized as providing quality, affordable degrees.

Graduate Management Admission Council

Perhaps a lesser known, but equally important, consideration reflecting the quality of COBA graduate programs is our college's full membership in one of the most prestigious associations of graduate business schools in the world, the Graduate Management Admission Council® (GMAC®).



GMAC® is a not-for-profit association of graduate business schools open only to schools offering a masters program in business administration. GMAC® "owns" and administers the GMAT (Graduate Management Admissions Test) annually to more than 200,000 test takers worldwide, and our students and alumni take the GMAT in order to gain admission to our programs. In addition to administering and researching the GMAT, GMAC® offers a range of courses and services to member schools.

Gaining membership in GMAC® is a difficult and rigorous process akin to accreditation by AACSB. In Georgia, the only full members of GMAC® are The University of Georgia, Georgia Tech, Georgia State, Emory, and Georgia Southern. ♦

Mike McDonald

For more information on any of our graduate programs, please contact COBA Graduate Studies, P. O. Box 8050 • Room 1133A, Statesboro, GA 30460-8050, Phone: (912) 478-5767, E-Mail: mba@georgiasouthern.edu, Website: <http://coba.georgiasouthern.edu/grad.htm>.

MSAE: New Online

Economics Degree

Fall 2008 will mark the beginning of a new on-line master degree program for graduate studies in the College of Business Administration. The master of science in applied economics (MSAE) will provide graduates with analytical capabilities in three concentrations, regional economic development, financial economics, and industry organization and regulation, including skills and competencies in market analysis and quantitative methods. The program's graduates are expected to be competitive for employment in financial institutions, industry, and utility and governmental organizations engaged in private-enterprise, economic development.

The three track concentration offerings are designed to ensure graduates have broad exposure to business and governmental employment opportunities. The first track engages a rigorous introduction to statistical and econometric methods; the second includes an economic overview of industrial organization and its regulation; and, the third encompasses

application of regional economic development principles.

The 30 hour master of science in applied economics course of study is designed to be completed within a calendar year by a 12-hour spring semester, 6-hour summer semester, and an additional 12-hour fall semester. Admission requirements include a bachelor degree with minimum 3.0 GPA, minimum combined GRE of 1000, and references reflecting relevant experience and achievements for potential success in graduate study. Provisional admission may be granted by interview.

Advancing your career no longer has to interrupt your professional or family life. The MSAE offers the opportunity for professionals to continue their education on-line while maintaining full-time employment anywhere in the United States, Canada, or any U.S. Military installation. For more information, contact John Brown, School of Economic Development, at (912) 478-5216 or Mike McDonald, COBA Graduate Studies, at (912) 478-5767 ♦

Master of Science in Applied Economics

MAcc: Forensic Accounting

The Masters of Accounting concentration in forensic accounting offers exciting courses and learning opportunities for students.

White Collar Crime

Don Berez's white collar crime course featured Project Adrian, a partnership with the IRS Criminal Investigation Division offering forensic accounting students an interactive classroom experience. Special agents from Savannah, Macon, and Augusta recently traveled to Georgia Southern to work with our students. The project placed students in groups and assigned them hypothetical financial crimes, including business owners skimming funds from their company, a bar owner keeping two sets of books, a multi-filer tax scheme, and a drug trafficker, among others. Each group of students had an experienced IRS Special Agent to coach them and provide learning pointers during the exercise. Students acted as "Honorary Agents" to expose the fraud.



Expert Witnessing

In a mock trial conducted at the Bulloch County Courthouse by **Tom Buckhoff**'s expert witnessing class, plaintiff shareholders of Brodnax Minerals, a gold mining company, sued their accounting firm, Healy & Wallace LLP, for allegedly violating professional standards in issuing a "clean" opinion on Brodnax, which had fraudulently over-stated gold reserves. Bulloch County State Court Judge **Gary Mikell** presided, **Susan Cox**, Edenfield, Cox, Bruce & Classens, acted as consulting attorney for the plaintiff team, and **Laura Wheaton**, Brown Rountree, PC, acted as consulting attorney for the defendant team. After excellent arguments by the student teams, the jury returned a unanimous verdict absolving the accounting firm from liability in failing to detect the fraud. ♦



ALUMNNI **in the** SPOTLIGHT



Gwen Harvey



Gwendolyn Thomas Harvey graduated in 1993 with a Bachelor of Business Administration in Marketing. She played for Georgia Southern's women's

basketball team from 1988–1992. Gwen returned to Southern in 1994 and received a Middle Grades Certification with an emphasis in math and language arts. Since 1998, she has worked at Langston Chapel Middle School teaching 6th grade language arts. She is currently married to her college sweetheart, Horace Harvey. She has three children Edwin (15), Cameron (9), and Faith (3). ♦

Kiley Reynolds



Kiley Reynolds began creating and appreciating the art and science of web design while obtaining his CIS degree at Georgia Southern. His first job, with the Ingersoll-Rand subsidiary Club Car in Augusta, involved web-based software

applications that provided e-commerce tools for business-to-business transactions. While in Augusta, he met his wife, Amy. They then moved to Atlanta and began working part-time developing custom websites and software. Part-time soon turned full-time and Reynolds Marketing Solutions was born. Leaving three years of Atlanta traffic behind, Amy and Kiley moved to Lake Oconee in January of 2007 where their business has continued to grow steadily. The huge success of Reynolds Marketing Solutions has surpassed our expectations Amy explained, "We had no idea we'd have so much business coming our way. It's been a true blessing." ♦

David Streets



David Streets graduated Cum Laude from Georgia Southern in 1985 with a BBA in finance. Upon graduation he went to work for General Motors Acceptance Corporation (GMAC). He began his career as an Account Representative (collection agent) in the Tallahassee, FL, office. After only a year on the job, he was selected to participate in an accelerated supervisory training program. He continued up the ranks and now holds an executive level position in Hartford, CT, as a director of commercial lending. David married his high school sweetheart, Betty Carson, and they have three active boys, Dylan (13), Tyler (15), and Stephen (17). ♦

Matthew Barnes



Matthew Barnes (BBA, MKTG, 1986) is currently the director of relationship marketing for *PGA Magazine*. The golf travel market is a \$28 billion market with 58 percent of consumer influence coming from professionals. Matthew is responsible for selecting the appropriate golf professionals to attend trips to individual resorts. Matthew handles every facet of the golf professional's trip from airfare, accommodations, meals, and, of course, golf. These destinations include Jamaica, Scotland, all over the United States, and in the near future Argentina. Matthew currently resides in Atlanta and is the father of two daughters. ♦

Latavius Powell



Latavius Powell recently joined Merrill Lynch as a financial advisor in the global wealth management division in Atlanta. Latavius is a COBA graduate who earned both his undergraduate and MBA from Southern. He is president of Phoenix Rising Toastmasters of Decatur, an international public speaking group and a member of Henry County's Cultural Diversity Committee. Latavius was recently named one of top 50 rising stars by *Atlanta Business Journal Magazine* and honored by the 100 Black Men of DeKalb for his work in teaching school children speaking and communication skills. ♦

Many Thanks to Our

The College of Business Administration is grateful to alumni and friends who, through their contributions, have demonstrated a commitment to excellence in business education. Contributors who earmarked the College of Business, one of its programs, or one of its scholarship funds,

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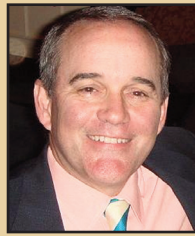
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Robert F. Morris, Jr.

Donor Spotlight David Pitman

David Pitman, senior vice president of the iWORKS division of SunGard, is responsible for managing the sales and marketing insurance software solutions branded iWORKS. David manages a sales team of more than 40 members located throughout the world generating more than \$76 million annually. He started with SunGard as vice president of sales in 1997 with sales responsibility for Enterprise Accounting System and Enterprise Portfolio System. The scope of his sales oversight expanded over the years to leading sales teams for COMPASS,



David Pitman

NAVIGATOR, FrontTier, ProCede, Premium Billing System, and GBAS as well as marketing for iWORKS. In these expanding roles, David has been a ten time 100% Club award winner.

Prior to his current role within SunGard, David was part owner and vice president of sales and marketing for FiTECH Systems (formerly Norrell Corporation). He started his sales career with Unisys Corporation after graduating from Georgia Southern University in 1979 with a BBA in marketing.

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Robert E. Jackson

Contributors and Supporters

during 2007 are listed below. Care has been taken in the preparation of this list to assure complete and accurate recording. If, however, omissions or errors have occurred, we express our sincere regret and request that you bring such errors to our attention.

Steven E. Moss
Janet Moss
Linda G. Mullen
Linda S. Munilla
Wayne & Barbara Murphy
Paul Robert Newman
Nichols, Cauley & Associates
Thomas G. Noland
Maciek Andrew Nowak
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Olin Corporation Charitable Trust
Edie Anderson Olliff
Abbie Gail Parham
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Top 10 Reasons for Making a Contribution to COBA

- #10 Reduced funding from State appropriations
- #9 Ability to designate where your dollars go
- #8 Personal pride in your alma mater
- #7 A tax deduction!
- #6 A sense of "giving back"
- #5 **National rankings**

While it is easy to understand that our football team's ranking is strongly related to wins and losses, it is harder to figure out how Georgia Southern's

academic ranking is determined. One of the variables often used in computing academic rankings is the percentage of alumni who make financial contributions to the University. The more alumni who give back, the higher our ranking.

Won't you please help us achieve our proper position in academic rankings by writing a check to "Georgia Southern" and designating it to "COBA"? Any contribution—no matter how large or small—is most appreciated!

Thank you!

Stay tuned for Reasons 4 through 1.

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Mark A. Yanochik
Rongrong Zhang
Xiaolong Zhang

2008 Awards

The 2008 Awards of Excellence for faculty and staff were presented at a ceremony held at the Nessmith-Lane Continuing Education Building on April 18, 2008.

The Eugene M. Bishop Award for Sustained Excellence



J. Lowell Mooney

The Eugene M. Bishop Award for Sustained Excellence is awarded to the COBA professor who has demonstrated proficiency in all areas of teaching, research, and service. Lowell Mooney came to COBA in 1989 teaching management accounting and has received numerous awards for teaching, research, and service. He is a member of the Institute of Management Accountants, the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, the Georgia Society of CPAs, and other professional organizations. Lowell is chair of the School of Accountancy's Student Recruitment, Retention, and Placement committee and created the School Orientation and Recruiting program (SOARING) initiative identified by AACSB as one of COBA's Best Practices.

ment. In retirement, he continues to be instrumental in developing the logistics program and new sales center, teach as an adjunct professor in the MBA program, and volunteer for distance learning graduate classes in Savannah.

The CIT Staff Award for Excellence

Joey Reeves



Joey Reeves, having provided almost 20 years of computing service to academia, exemplifies an extraordinary level of service, support, and leadership to the College of Information Technology. He has taught computing and understands the need for good, sound technical support. Joey has been instrumental in helping create development curriculum in the areas of IT infrastructure and networking, and, more recently, his expertise and skills were instrumental in negotiating the Dell contract for replacement of the College's lab computers.

The W. A. & Emma Lou Crider Award for Excellence in Teaching

Michael Reksulak

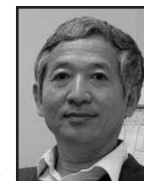


Michael Reksulak's commitment to teaching is leverage by experiences he brings to the classroom. A former student wrote, "Dr. Reksulak made a difference in my life in a way that no other educator had been able to do in eighteen years. I commend him for his successes in the classroom, and for helping students gain so much more than the knowledge he passes on in his lectures."

Michael's research focus is analyzing efficiency of cost-sharing mechanisms and effectiveness of industrial regulation. Before turning his sights on economics, he was a journalist and continues to write a regular economic column for the *Savannah Morning News*.

CIT Award for Outstanding Research

Wen-Ran Zhang



Wen Zhang came to Georgia Southern from Lamar University as a full professor with internationally recognized expertise in data mining and bipolar logic. His Yin-Yang theory and related works are widely published and recognized on Scholarpedia. Wen serves on the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) technical committee on granular computing and is a reviewer for the *IEEE Transactions on Fuzzy Systems* and *International Journal of Information Sciences*.

The T. J. Morris, Jr., Faculty Award for Outstanding Research

John T. King



John King's current research interests include analysis of credit card use and informational issues associated with sale of intellectual property. His research has been published in the *Journal of Private Enterprise*, *Journal of Cultural Economics*, *Financial Services Review*, and *Topics in Theoretical Economics*.

John serves as faculty advisor to SIFE and is a Sam M. Walton Free Enterprise Fellow.

Before joining COBA in 2002, he taught economics at Duke, Elon, and Vanderbilt.

The William A. Freeman Professor of the Year

Chris W. Paul



Chris W. Paul, II, received a BS in economics from Southwest Missouri State University, a PhD in economics from Texas A&M University, and retired in 1999 as professor and chair, Department of Economics and Finance, University of Alabama-Huntsville with emeritus status. Chris served COBA as professor and chair of the Department of Finance & Quantitative Analysis from 2000 until 2005, when he returned to teaching. He has served on COBA's governance and assessment committees, is a prolific researcher, and perhaps most importantly, is a research mentor and advisor to COBA faculty across disciplines.

The Tomlinson & Bond Families Staff Award for Excellence

Paula P. Newton



"Nicki" Newton is reliable, attentive to detail, and always willing to help maintain budgets, update class schedules, and help students with scheduling as secretary to Associate Dean Mary Hazeldine. A former department secretary for Management, Marketing, & Logistics, she continued to support the position for more than a year after moving to her current position, providing extraordinary service to COBA in recent years.

The CIT Award for Distinguished Service

Ronald J. MacKinnon



Ron MacKinnon came to Georgia Southern as visiting professor from St. Francis Xavier University, Nova Scotia. Formally joining the IT faculty in August 2003, he has represented the IS department and CIT on multiple University committees and has been SAP coordinator and SAP University Alliance liaison since its inception at Georgia Southern. An "SAP evangelist," Ron has been a primary advocate and champion of incorporating SAP into information systems, accounting, and other business management courses.

The Rutherford Award for Excellence in Teaching and Service in the MBA

E. James Randall



Jim Randall joined COBA in 1977 and, during his career, provided service and leadership in creation of the Association of Marketing Theory and Practice, the *Journal of Marketing Theory and Practice*, and the National Conference of Sales Manage-

The CIT Award for Excellence in Teaching

Adrian Gardiner



Adrian has consistently been one of the College of Information Technology's best classroom performers with student ratings staying at the top of the scale. Students describe his courses as being among the most demanding and intellectually challenging while identifying him as one of the University's most gifted instructors. He is viewed by colleagues as a curricular visionary who will continue to play a key role in shaping evolution of the information systems program in years forward.

The Martin NeSmith Faculty Award for Distinguished Service

Donna K. Fisher



Donna Fisher has provided leadership for the BBA in regional economic development program since joining the COBA faculty in 2001. With service-based learning at its core, REDV students have become highly visible in programs throughout Southeast Georgia. Prior to joining COBA, Donna served as a Peace Corps volunteer, working extensively in Brazil and other countries.

The Bank of America Faculty Award

P. Eddie Metrejean



Eddie Metrejean's teaching and research interests are in accounting information systems and auditing, where he has published a variety of articles in accounting, business, and taxation journals. Eddie is currently working to integrate SAP into the accounting curriculum and serves on the School of Accountancy's assessment committee, having provided key input into AACSB accounting accreditation. He is a member of the American Accounting Association, American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, Georgia Society of CPAs, and the Society of Louisiana CPAs.

of Excellence

Faculty awards are based upon a variety of characteristics including research activities, teaching excellence, distinguished service, and development potential.

The Charles R. Gibbs Faculty Award



Gerard J. Burke

Jerry Burke received his BSBA in economics, MBA and MS in decision and information sciences, and PhD in operations management from the University of Florida. Over the past three years, Jerry has distinguished himself in teaching graduate and undergraduate courses in operations management and developing a new course for the OM emphasis. He is a member of the governance and student resources committees, serves as a referee for several academic journals, and participates in University-sponsored "Conversations with Professors" and "Operation Move-In" programs to assist incoming students. Jerry is also active in the Statesboro community, often seen flipping pancakes during the Kiwanis Fair each fall.

Jane White Marketing Scholar Award

Linda S. Munilla



The inaugural Jane White Marketing Scholar Award, named post-humously for the COBA benefactor, was awarded to Linda Munilla, who joined COBA as professor of marketing in 1979. Linda maintains strong research and service records while being regarded as one of the Department's best teachers. She regularly teaches large sections of principles of marketing and has recently published five journal articles. Linda was awarded the prestigious Bishop Award for Sustained Excellence in 2005.

The M. Albert Burke Faculty Award



Ioannis Barkoulas

The Al Burke Faculty Fellowship is an endowed faculty fellowship awarded annually to the "Most Valuable Player" among the finance faculty. Ioannis "John" Barkoulas received his BBA from the Athens School of Economics and Business Science, Greece; MBA from West Texas A&M; and PhD in economics from Boston College. He

taught as a visiting assistant professor at West Virginia University and Boston College and on faculty at Louisiana Tech University and the University of Tennessee. Since joining the faculty at Georgia Southern in 2003, he has distinguished himself as a prolific researcher with thirty-five papers in refereed academic journals and a dynamic finance professor with the reputation for intensive assignments reflecting real-world situations.

The Brown & Williamson Faculty Award



Linda G. Mullen

Linda Mullen, assistant professor of marketing, is regarded as one of the best professors in the department. She is extremely student-oriented and spends countless hours mentoring, creating résumés, and finding jobs for students. An innovative teacher who has captured the attention of her students through unconventional techniques, Linda's leadership was instrumental in launching the new Center for Excellence in Sales and Sales Management.

The Sonny Butler CIT Award of Excellence

Linda Carwell



Linda Carwell, secretary to the CIT Dean, is recipient of the inaugural Sonny Butler Award, honoring the memory of Associate Professor Sonny Butler. Butler is remembered by students and colleagues as a fully-engaged and caring instructor, advisor, career coach, scholar, and friend. As founding secretary of CIT, Linda is fully engaged in the lives of CIT students, faculty, and staff. Often going above and beyond to attend to details, she is the glue that holds CIT together while warming the hearts of all she encounters.

Ron and Barbara Shiffler Instructor Award



Janet Moss

Janet Moss joined COBA in 2000, having previously taught at Delta State University, Mississippi, and managing human resources positions in industry. In teaching business statistics, management and organizational behavior, and human resource management, her initiative, dedication to students, and dependability earn her the Ron and Barbara Shiffler Instructor Award.

Dean's Citation for Student Engagement

The Dean's Citations spotlight faculty who engage students in exceptional activities, events, and projects beyond what is expected in a class.

Kathleen H. Gruben, Aid to Students



Kathleen Gruben involves students in independent study and research on behalf of organizations. Her students gain experience in gathering, analyzing, and disseminating information and enjoy traveling to present their findings. Kathleen has arranged funding to take students to Toronto, Canada, to participate in retailing projects; conducted mock interviews with Target representatives on campus; and solicited retailers to join in the Logistics, Retailing, & IT Career Fair.

TracyAnn L. Henry, Engagement and Concern for Students



A native of Kingston, Jamaica, TracyAnn Henry's warmth and generous nature make her a favorite of students and colleagues. Under her leadership as advisor, the Economics Club introduced student research seminars leading to several students presenting their work at professional conferences. Her academic specialties are economics of education and economic development in which she pursues an active collaborative research agenda.

Karl B. Manrodt, Logistics, Retailing, & Information Technology Career Fair



In his capstone logistics course, Karl Manrodt takes students in small groups to lunch to get to know them better and help guide them in securing employment with logistics firms. Each semester, he organizes a Career Fair for Logistics, Retailing, & IT students. His industry contacts, coupled with quality logistics majors, have lead several logistics employers to regard Georgia Southern as one of the best schools from which to recruit. Numerous alumni point to him as the person who has helped launch their careers.

Cindy H. Randall, Beta Gamma Sigma



Cindy Randall has served as advisor, secretary, and treasurer for Beta Gamma Sigma National Honor Society since 1999, annually coordinating the National Student Leadership Forum and Awards Banquet. This summer she will join the SOAR team in advising and registering incoming freshmen and transfer students. Cindy regularly teaches quantitative analysis and consistently strives to make the subject accessible and relevant to students.

Camille F. Rogers, IS Internship Coordinator



Camille Rogers consistently earns high teaching evaluations in the Department of Information Systems. As the department's internship and co-op coordinator, she logs hundreds of miles each year doing on-site evaluations and ensuring internship and co-op students are fulfilling their obligations to employers. Camille's impact on students may best be summed up as "shock and awe," consistent with her upbringing as a military brat, because she fully engages students both in and beyond the classroom.

Paige L. Rutner, Student Success



Paige Rutner quickly and consistently dispels student fears and trepidations to develop an excellent working relationship and help them succeed. Students appreciate her organization, clarification of difficult concepts, enthusiasm, and willingness to help. One student wrote, "She spent a great deal of time helping me learn the material and helped me with other courses. She is by far the most enthusiastic and helpful teacher I've had." Another student commented, she is "always available, very helpful, and kind."

Edward H. Sibbald, Center for Excellence in Financial Services



Ed Sibbald's practical experience and classroom skills have made him a popular instructor with students. He coordinates internships for finance majors and serves as faculty advisor for the Student Finance Association, translating his professional background and credence with area bankers into opportunities for students.

Stephanie R. Sipe, Innovative and Creative Teaching



As one of the most innovative professors in the school of Accountancy, Stephanie Sipe challenges students, makes learning fun, and receives excellent teaching evaluations. Her three minute expert activity makes class participation fun. She has an open door policy for all students and enjoys advising. Stephanie teaches legal environment of business, the new fraud and society forensic course, and will soon be involved teaching the new first year experience course.

Graduate Inductees

Rusty K. Butler
Sooi-ket Cheng

Daniel L. Lasseter
Tammy Elaine Link

Santiago Carrillo
Isabel A. Cardenas



BETA GAMMA SIGMA

The Honor Society for AACSB Accrediting Business Programs

Senior Inductees

Jerry L. Barker
Robert K. Betz
Victoria T. Brady
Steven R. Brinson
Ryan H. Bruce
Ashley N. Clements
Shannaan O. Dawda
Ashley E. Ferguson
Rebecca S. Gell
Kelley K. Hanada
Jennifer L. Harris
Tiffany N. Hedrick
Christopher C. Jarriel
Jarrett B. Kersey
Darin M. Lane
Joseph C. Law
Megan L. Lazzara
Leah M. Lewis
Kerri A. Lyles
Mallory B. Nester
Luke D. Odom
Kathryn D. Randall
Lauren K. Register

Junior Inductees

Olivia D. Batten
Jonathan L. Branch
Kathy E. Brown
Morgan J. Carswell
Lesley A. Culbreth
Alexandra B. Dadisman
Robert B. Dixon
Lela M. Dukes
Erica K. Frederick
Ashley L. Gaff
Kelly Gagne

Samuel M. Gaston
Jennifer D. Gay
Paul E. Giddish
Meredith R. Hagler
Farrah M. Herring
Charles J. Hodges
Whitney L. Howard
Joshua R. Jones
Amanda R. Kindig
Erik J. Kramschuster
James L. Ledford

Melissa S. Loutsch
Ichechi N. Nathans
Matthew C. Paige
Julie A. Pearce
Kayla R. Pittman
Bradley G. Proctor
Brittney G. Pugh
Jonathan L. Rowe
Fiona M. Ryan
Allan M. Simmons

Christina R. Smith
Tricia Sorto
Matthew J. Steinberg
Lindsay E. Thompson
Christopher E. Umana
Stephanie E. Vangrov
Jessica C. Vanner
Leann M. Walls
Mary E. Wamack
Julia C. Wells

COBA Students Recognized at University Honors Day

Students who received COBA-sponsored awards were recognized at this year's University Honors Day. The awards presented at Honors Day and the names of the recipients are listed below.

Accountancy

Paul LaGrone Scholarship:
Kathy E. Brown
Charles J. Hodges

The Educational Foundation of the Georgia Society of CPAs Academic Excellence Award:
Darin M. Lane

Economic Development

The Wall Street Journal Award presented to an outstanding undergraduate student:
Aubrey Smith

Award for Excellence in Achievement: Economics of the Free Market:
Jessee Neesmith

Omicron Delta Epsilon:

Ali Sabzevari
Michael Callaghan
Sarah Mastrario
Kristin Sweda
Mark Beville
Jayna Selph
Aubrey Smith
Dashia Thornton

Finance & Quantitative Analysis

The Wall Street Journal Award presented to an outstanding undergraduate student:
Miriam Elizabeth Hood

Information Systems

Ulysses S. Knotts, Jr., Information Systems Award, Outstanding Graduate in Information Systems:
Olin J. Downs

Albert J. Roesel Information Systems Award, Outstanding Graduate in Information Systems:
Ross D. Yerden

Tailored Business Systems Information Systems Award, Outstanding Graduate in Information Systems:
Richard A. Mordecai

Buddy Lichty Information Systems Award, Outstanding Graduate in Information Systems:
Luke D. Odom

Dr. Ulysses S. Knotts, Jr. Scholarship:
Carter B. Bricker

Pickett/Garvin Scholarship:
Andrew J. Szokoly

Alpha Iota Mu:

Olin J. Downs
Luke D. Odom
Richard A. Mordecai
Colby L. White

Management, Marketing, & Logistics

Human Resource Management Award presented to an outstanding senior completing a degree in management with an emphasis in human resource management:
Elena J. Bencini

Gaster Lumber Company Award presented to an outstanding senior majoring in management:
Bradley S. Harrelson

Kmart Award presented to the outstanding marketing major:
Holly C. Price

Sack Company Marketing Service Award presented to the student who exemplifies outstanding service to Georgia Southern University:
Victoria T. Brady

Giacomo Family Memorial Scholarship in Marketing:
Clayton D. Turner

Georgia Retail Association Scholarship in Marketing:
Leann Walls

Top Student in Sales and Sales Management Award:
Samantha Bartlett

Logistics & Intermodal Transportation Award:
Kelly Hanada

Jane White Memorial Marketing Scholarship:
Erica K. Frederick

Charette Scholarships:
Travis Gilbert
Stephanie Johnson
Chelsea Smith
Kristen Cole

Charette Scholarships (continued):

Jennifer Hammonds
Lauren Thornhill
Ericka Frederick

Society for Human Resource Management, Savannah Chapter:
Elena Bencini
Katherine Bonner

University Tire Award presented to the Outstanding Student in Entrepreneurship and Small Business Management:
Timothy M. Coleman

Mu Kappa Tau Marketing National Honor Society:

Mary E. Bargerion
John B. Barnwell
Victoria T. Brady
Kenneth A. Epps
Ashley E. Ferguson
Corey J. Grant
Megan L. Lazzara
Meredith L. Parsons
Breanna P. Rotell
Jennifer A. Wagner
Jennifer D. Hammond
Megan P. Winemiller



SED students gather for Honors Night celebrations.

ALUMNIVILLE

ACCOUNTING

W. Jarell Jones (1970), formerly in Statesboro, is now on St. Simons Island, where he has his law office. He is married to Joy Martin. Email: jarell@wjpc.com.

Curtis L. Quinn (1977; Delta Sig), formerly in Orlando, FL, is now in Fairhope, AL, where he is the district manager for Penske Truck Leasing, Mobile, AL. He is married to Wanda Smith, a Georgia Southern alumna. Email: curtis.quinn@penske.com.

Nina Clark Thompson (1980), Mount Vernon, has retired as a partner from Lovins, Clark, & Co., Vidalia. She is married to H. Van Thompson, III. Email: ninaj@cybersouth.com.

Louise S. Shackelford (1982), Dublin, is now a real estate agent with Fickling and Company. She is married to Jim Shackelford. Email: shack@fickling.com.

Perry C. Barnett (1988), Gainesville, CPA, is a partner in Rushton and Company, LLC. He is married to Tracy Grooms, a 1988 Georgia Southern education graduate. Email: pbarnett@rushtonandcompany.com.

Mark A. Weeks (1991; MBA 1995), Brunswick, is now the plant controller for Rich Products, Corp. Email: mweeks@rich.com.

Catherine Ann Endicott Miles (1993), formerly in Lilburn, is now in Carshalton, Surrey, UK. Email: caemiles@googlemail.com.

Alison Green Couch (2004; MAcc 2007), formerly in Pooler, is now in Harlem, where she is a senior accountant with The Cleveland Group, a CPA firm, in Martinez. She is married to Chad Couch, a 2004 Georgia Southern marketing graduate. Email: acouch@clevelandgroup.net.

Jennifer Runnion (2004), Woodstock, has been named controller of Walltek Companies, Atlanta. Jennifer is the first female to be named controller for the company. She is married to Matthew Barozzini, a 2003 Georgia Southern IS graduate.

Latasha LaShawn Roberts (1998), Savannah, is an accountant with Skinner, Barndollar, and Lane, CPAs. Email: latrob141@yahoo.com.

Misty Watson (2004; MAcc 2005), formerly in Bowdon, is now in Kennesaw, where she is a contract administrator with C. W. Matthews Contracting Co., Marietta. Email: misty_n_watson@yahoo.com.

Cassandra Cheevers (2005), Sylvester, is a staff accountant with Allen Pritchett & Bassett, CPAs, Tifton. She received her MAcc from UGA in 2006. Email: cassandra_cheevers@yahoo.com.

Samantha Grovenstein Lee (2005), Statesboro, is now a software trainer and consultant with CCH Tax and Accounting,

Torrence, CA. She is married to Ryan William Lee, a 2005 Georgia Southern COBA grad. Email: slgrovenstein@yahoo.com.

Leigh Ann Hood (2005), Warner Robins, is a staff accountant with McNair, McLemore, & Middlebrooks, CPAs, Macon. She is married to Eric Churcher, a 2005 Georgia Southern accounting graduate. Email: lchurcher@mmcpa.com.

R. Brooks Adams (2006), Statesboro, is now an auditor with Karp Ronning & Tindol, CPAs, Savannah. He is married to Susan Wells, a Georgia Southern alumna. Email: badams@krtcpa.com.

Megan J. Lowery (2006; MAcc 2007), formerly in Adrian, is now in Atlanta, where she is a staff accountant with Habif, Arogeti, and Wynne, CPAs. Email: sweetiesun@gmail.com.

Jennifer NeSmith (2006), Statesboro, manager of Ken's IGA, Portal, recently married Travis Daniel Bray, a 2004 Georgia Southern logistics graduate.

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Robbie Franklin (1964), Statesboro, owner of Franklin Chevrolet and Franklin Toyota, was honored recently by Toyota for thirty years of service. He took over the Toyota dealership in 1977 and the Chevy one in 1967.

ECONOMICS

Terry Lynn Griffis (1975), formerly in Roswell, is now in Suches, where he has retired from The Southern Company.

Stephen E. Rary (1984), Suwanee, is now CEO of LOFA Industries, Inc., Roswell. He is married to Bonnie Caron, a 1983 Georgia Southern COE graduate. Email: srary@lofa.net.

Shannon Britton Edwards (1993), formerly in Goose Creek, SC, is now in Summerville, SC, where she is the compensation and benefits director for Blackbaud, Inc., Charleston, SC. She is married to Randy Edwards, and they have two children ages 9 and 5. Email: shannon.edwards@blackbaud.com.

John M. Norton (1998), Marietta, is a project manager with C. B. Summer Construction Company, Roswell. Email: nortonjohn@hotmail.com.

Kate Leigh Bussey (2004; WebMBA™ 2008), Douglas, is a career counselor with Okefenokee Technical College, Alma. Email: kbussey@okefenokeetech.edu.

Allison Leigh Vaughn (2004), Memphis, TN, is a risk management financial analyst for International Paper. She is also a certified internal auditor. Email: alligsu@yahoo.com.

Ronald "Greg" Johnson, Jr. (2007), Statesboro, a real estate agent with Coldwell Banker/Tanner Realty, is engaged to Melissa Ann Hopkins, a current Georgia Southern student.

Ryan Christopher Robinson (2007), Newnan, is a logistics coordinator for C. L. Services, Hapeville. Email: ryan.robinson@clservicesinc.com.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Russell K. Williams (2005), Statesboro, is the director of expansion and colony operations for the Delta Chi Fraternity, Inc., Iowa City, IA. Email: russellkwilliams@yahoo.com.

FINANCE

Bill D. Head (1976), Irmo, SC, is now the division sales manager for Motion Industries, Inc., West Columbia, SC. He is married to Judith Abraham. Email: bill.head@motion-ind.com.

Jerry Hollis, II (1983), Blackshear, operations manager with Southern Nuclear, Baxley, was recently elected to the Blackshear City Council; he had previously served as a council member as well. His wife is Cathy.

Mona Kight Ratchford (1985), Springfield, is the owner/operator of a real estate and rental company. She is married to Dr. Joseph L. Ratchford, a UGA graduate. Email: ratchjmrj@comcast.net.

David A. Streets (1985), Marlborough, CT, is the director of commercial lending with GMAC, Rocky Hill, CT. His wife is Betsi. Email: david.streets@gmacfnt.com.

Melanie B. Mosley (1987), Cobbtown, is the assistant to the vp for university advancement at Georgia Southern. Email: mbmosley@georgiasouthern.edu.

Brent A. Kittel (1988), Panama City Beach, FL, is now the regional sales manager for Harley-Davidson Financial Services. Email: brent.kittel@yahoo.com.

Mitch Turknett (1988), Jacksonville, FL, is now a senior vice president and corporate banker with BB&T. He is married to Allison Clark, a Furman graduate. Email: mturknett@bbandt.com.

Teena Dominy-Hicks (1990), Brunswick, is now the senior loan officer for the Coastal Area District Development Authority. She is married to Randy Hicks. Email: thicks@cadda.com.

Tina Butler Fowler (1994), Suwanee, is the owner of The Fowler Connection, where travel is a lifestyle. She is married to Matt Fowler, a 1994 Georgia Southern marketing grad. Email: tina@thefowlerconnection.com.

Rick E. Larson, Jr. (1998), Blackshear, is now the vice president for business development for Prime South Bank. He is married to Claire Fitzgerald, a 2000 Georgia Southern marketing graduate, and they have two daughters, Reagan (3) and Britton (1). Email: rlarsen@primesouth.com.

Stan C. Miller (1999), Ocoee, FL, is a vice president-private bank with the Fifth Third Bank, Orlando. He received his MBA from the University of Central Florida. Stan is married to Michele Dietrich, a 1998 Georgia Southern finance graduate, and they have two children, Blaine (3) and Isabel (1 month). Email: stanleymiller@53.com.

Amy Appel Macatee (2001), Savannah, is now a stay-at-home mom with two children after being a branch manager for Wachovia. She is married to Branson Macatee.

Tom E. Bengtson (2002), Kennesaw, is the executive assistant manager for Walgreens, Canton. He is also a certified pharmacy technician. Email: tom_bengtson@hotmail.com.

Cae Cauley Hutchinson (2003), Baxley, is a mortgage originator for AgSouth Mortgage. She is married to Josh Allen Hutchinson. Email: caelee@excite.com.

J. Marie Harrell (2003), Atlanta, is a senior banker/personal business banker for RBC Centura, Dunwoody. Email: jmarieharrell@hotmail.com.

Kacee Harris (2004), formerly in Screven, is now in Jesup, where she is a banking officer and operations manager for The Heritage Bank. Email: kharris@the-heritage-bank.com.

Matt K. Lake (2005), Dublin, is president of Lakeston, Inc., a company that has diversified interests in muffler shops, scrap metal recycling, a children's boutique, etc., in Dublin and Statesboro. He is married to Suzanne Preston, a 2004 Georgia Southern early childhood graduate.

Jared C. McGhin (2005), Savannah, a financial analyst with Investment Performances Services, is married to Jennifer Marie Jordan, a graduate of Armstrong Atlantic State University.

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Bryan C. Riddle (2005), formerly in Martinez, is now in Atlanta, where he is a trader for the Opus Trading Fund, LLC. Email: bryannriddle247@yahoo.com.

Aaron Harwood (2006), Waycross, is engaged to Christina A. Theologus, a recent Georgia Southern COE graduate. A June 30 wedding is planned.

Meghann Elizabeth Powell (2006), Statesboro, is working on a master's degree at Georgia Southern. She is a campus missionary aide with the Chi Alpha Christian Fellowship. Email: megxa@hotmail.com.

Jessica Burford (2007), Savannah, is a project manager with Soure 4. Her husband is Josh. Email: jhburford@gmail.com.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Donald W. Cioban (1971), Montgomery, AL, is the executive vice president of the AmeriFirst Bank. He is married to Daun Marshall. Email: dcioban@bellsouth.net.

Don D. Howard (1973), Canton, is now chair of the Bank of North Georgia, Alpharetta. He is married to Teri Hicks. Email: donhoward@banknorthgeorgia.com.



Michael E. Bates (1975), Jackson, SC, is the maint. troubleshooter for Michelin Tire Corporation, Lexington, SC. He is married to Debra Johnson, and they have four children and five grandchildren. Email: mb3db8@peoplepc.com.

Hoke S. Reeves, III (1987), Statesboro, executive vp for Farmers & Merchants Bank, Sylvania, has been appointed to the Foundation Board Executive Committee for Ogeechee Technical College.

INFORMATION SYSTEMS

Buddy Lichty (1991), Martinez, is now a consultant with Clark Stone Consulting. Email: blichty@clarkstonconsulting.com.

Sherri L. Hopkins (1993), formerly in Alexandria, VA, is now in Kill Devil Hills, NC, where she is the owner of Captain Party Supply Store in Kitty Hawk, NC. She retired from the Air Force in 2006 as a major. Email: shei95@yahoo.com.

Travis M. Colton (1994), Columbia, SC, is the web developer for the Richland School District Two. He is married to Kimberly Ayers. Email: tcolton@sc.rr.com.

Heather Cribb Fairley (1998), Colorado Springs, CO, is a systems engineer for Colsa. She is married to Chris Fairley. Email: heather.fairley@w.army.mil.

Michael A. Barozzini (2003), Woodstock, is now an IT support analyst with TranDotCom Solutions, Kennesaw. He is married to Jennifer Runnion, a 2004 Georgia Southern accounting graduate. Email: mbarozzini@yahoo.com.

Samantha Ruth O'Brien (2007), Statesboro, an employee of University Advancement, Georgia Southern, recently married Michael Trenton Nesmith, Portal.

LOGISTICS

Christopher T. Sasser (1995), Savannah, is vice president of the Bennett International Group, McDonough. He is married to Erin Zittraver. Email: chris.sasser@bds-solutions.com.

Patrick J. Groskopf (1999), formerly in Atlanta, is now in Ft. Lauderdale, FL, where he is a regional sales manager for Boost Mobile. Email: patrick@boostmobile.com.

Travis Daniel Bray (2004), Statesboro, an outside salesperson with Fastenal, recently married Jennifer NeSmith, a 2006 Georgia Southern accounting graduate.

Joe G. Tompkins (2004), Bonaire, is a consultant with BearingPoint, Inc., Atlanta. Email: jtompkins@hotmail.com.

Erin C. Schrimpf (2006), formerly in Hiram, is now in Oak Park, FL, where he is a train master with CSX Transportation, Riverdale, FL. Erin is married to Jennifer Lee Anthony, and they have a son named Christiaan. Email: erinschrimpf@hotmail.com.

Consuelo Hart (2007), formerly in the 'Boro, is now in Grayson, where she is the operations supervisor for J. B. Hunt Logistics, Social Circle. Email: consuelo.hart@gmail.com.

MANAGEMENT

Robley S. Rigdon, Sr. (1968; Delta Sig), Tampa, FL, is now a loan review examiner with Snyovus Financial Corporation. In 2003, he retired after 34 years with the Georgia Department of Banking & Finance, where he was deputy commissioner. In 2005, he retired as a major general in the Georgia National Guard. Robley is married to Kathy Schenck, 1973 Georgia Southern criminal justice graduate. Email: rstrigdon@aol.com.

John A. Chattin (1969), Kennesaw, is now retired. His wife, Nancy, is also a Georgia Southern graduate.

Jane Thackston Davis (1981), Gray, is the owner of The Stock Exchange. She is married to Tom Davis, Jr., a 1981 Georgia Southern criminal justice graduate. Email: tjhmdavis@email.com.

Mark E. Anderson (1985), Savannah, is an owner/partner in Joiner-Anderson Funeral Home & Crematory. He is married to Jenny Lynn Martin, a 1985 Georgia Southern graduate. Email: marka@joineranderson.com.

Jeffery C. Durrence (1988), Macon, is now the regional account manager for Copart Auto Auction, Inc. He is married to Sandy White. Email: jeff.durrence@copart.com.

Camille Cassell (1992), Alpharetta, is a compliance analyst for CCS Medical, Lawrenceville. Email: camille.cassell@ccsmed.com.

Branson Macatee (2000), Savannah, is the owner/operator of a Chick-fil-A. He is married to Amy Appel, a 2001 Georgia Southern finance graduate, and they have two children. Email: bvmcta@yahoo.com.

Lindsay B. Neuweiler (2000), Atlanta, is now the business manager of Edelman. Email: lneuweiler@gmail.com.

Ryan W. Foley (2003; MBA 2005), Statesboro, director of technical services for Ogeechee Technical College, is engaged to Julie Anne Gresham, a 2003 Georgia Southern public relations graduate.

Will G. King (2003), Acworth, is the weigh and research inspector for AAA Cooper Transportation, Atlanta. He is also taking graduate courses at Southern Polytechnic University. Email: kingwill7330@yahoo.

Dustin J. Tate (2003), Taylors, SC, is the unit manager for United American Insurance Company, Greenville, SC. Email: flounder42dt@aol.com.

Brooks Askew (2004), Atlanta, is now PMR with Merrill Lynch's Buckhead office. He is also a Lt. in the Georgia National Guard.

Stephen Miliades (2004), formerly in Kennesaw, is now in Powder Springs, where he is the owner/operator of a Chick-fil-A in Smyrna. He is married to Elizabeth Hunt, a 2004 COE graduate. They have two children, Alaina (2) and Alexander, who was born January 28, 2008. Email: 00810@chick-fil-a.com.

L. Andy Brown (2005), Richmond Hill, is the sales manager for Custom Design Surfaces. Email: labrown7@comcast.net.

Amanda Marie Love (2005), St. Simons Island, is an assistant mortgage originator

for Marshland Credit Union, Brunswick. She is married to Everette B. Love, a 2005 Georgia Southern management graduate. Email: amandalove07@hotmail.com.

Ashley McPherson Googe (2006), Hazlehurst, is the education and career partnership manager for Southeastern Technical College, Vidalia. She is married to Jeffery Googe. On April 8, 2008, their son was born. Email: ashleygooge@yahoo.com.

Danielle Heath (2006), Cartersville, is a personal banker for Georgia Bank and Trust-Synovus Financial. She is married to Jeremiah Drew Graham, a 2006 Georgia Southern construction mgt. graduate. Email: daniellegraham@gbtcalhoun.com.

Sarah Ann Johnson (2006), formerly in Alpharetta, is now in Johns Creek, where she is the owner of Pampered Pet Care of Atlanta. Email: sarahann728@comcast.net.

Abby L. Lynes (2006), Statesboro, is an admissions recruiter for Georgia Southern. Email: abbylynes@gmail.com.

Loyd A. Morris (2006), Statesboro, an engineer with the Bulloch Telephone Cooperative, is engaged to Joey Waters Hendrix, a 2003 Georgia Southern COE graduate. A June 14, 2008, wedding is planned.

Leroy R. Bagley (2007), formerly in Warner Robins, is now in Covington, where he is the educational program specialist for the Georgia FFA-FCCLA Center. Email: leroybagley@yahoo.com.

Rick T. Barnes, Jr. (2007), Newnan, is a realtor with Keller Williams Realty. Email: rickbarnes@kw.com.

Ryan C. Brown (2007), formerly in Duluth, is now in Statesboro, where he is the campus minister for Campus Outreach. Email: rbrown@campusoutreach.org.

Marcus F. Price, III (2007), Swainsboro, is the operations manager for UPS, Statesboro. Email: marcus_f_price@georgiasouthern.edu.

MARKETING

Larry F. Harrison (1970), Dalton, is now the community/regional executive group VP for the Cohutta Banking Company. His wife is Sarah Sanders. Email: larryharrison@cohuttabank.com.

Michelle Huggins Koneman (1972), Chatsworth, is a teacher in the Murray County Public Schools. She is married to Carl Koneman and is completing a doctoral program in international business at Argosy University, Atlanta. Email: mdkoneman@yahoo.com.

Julie Steptoe (1985), Clarks Green, PA, is now a teacher in the Abington Heights

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Middle School. She is married to Bill Dine, a 1986 Georgia Southern marketing graduate, and they have a son in college. Email: jsdine@comcast.net.

William A. "Bill" Dine (1986), Clarks Green, PA, is now vice president commercial business for Penn Millers Insurance Company. He is married to Julie Steptoe, a 1985 Georgia Southern marketing graduate, and they have a son in college. Bill was on the golf team. Email: bdine@pennmillers.com.

Chuck Shaheen, III (1986), Warner Robins, is the senior sales rep for Purdue Pharma. His wife is Virginia. Email: ckshahee@yahoo.com.

Constance Folsom (1992), Lawrenceville, is a teacher in the Gwinnett County School System. She is a Teacher of the Year nominee. Email: constancer_smith@yahoo.com.

Rodney E. Varnadoe (1994), formerly in Dallas, TX, is now in Shreveport, LA, where he is the general manager of American Solutions for Business. He is married to Jennifer Meldrum. Email: rodneyv21@gmail.com.

Peter L. Fraley (1995), Marietta, is now the compliance engineer with Superior Essex, Atlanta. Email: peter.fraley@spsx.com.

Jason T. Tomberlin (1997), Macon, has been named market leader of the Capital City Bank, Northside Drive office. He has his MBA from Mercer.

Alicia White (1997), Smyrna, is a tax administrator with Moore Colson, CPAs, Marietta. Email: shemeialicia@hotmail.com.

Jason E. Norton (1998), Statesboro, an employee of Lincare Home Respiratory, Savannah, recently married Robin Holley Carnley, a 2005 Georgia Southern graduate.

Christine Threadgill Pircsuk (1999), Newnan, is a work at home agent for the West Corporation and a stay-at-home mom. She is married to Trevor J. Pircsuk, and they have three children, ages, 6, 5, and 4, and another due July 4, 2008.

Claire Fitzgerald (2000), Blackshear, is the aging program manager for the Southeast Georgia Area Agency on Aging, Waycross. The agency covers eight counties and oversees senior programs, home delivered meals, etc. Claire is married to Rick Larson, a 1998 Georgia Southern finance graduate, and they have two daughters.

Erica Leigh Cobb (2001), Savannah, is now the senior corporate recruiter for TitleMax. Email: erica.evans@titlemax.biz.

Jennifer Sullivan Smith (2001), formerly in Atlanta, is now in Sandy Springs, where she is the executive assistant to the CEO of JAS Forwarding USA, Inc., Atlanta. Email: jsullivan22@hotmail.com.

Jennifer Personette Williams (2001), Alpharetta, is the owner of Mock Williams Advertising Agency, Atlanta. Email: jenniferpersonettewilliams@yahoo.com.

Margaret Heard (2002), Mt. Pleasant, SC, is married to Zack Hanebrink, a Georgia Southern alumnus, and they have daughter, Riley, who was born on December 13, 2007. Email: msheard2004@yahoo.com.

Sarah Lott (2002), Douglas, is an account executive with Onmedia. She is married to Jason A. Brown, a Georgia Southern alumnus. Email: slbrown@onmediaadsales.com.

Wole Oyedejnoty (2002; Delta Sig), formerly in Silver Springs, MD, is now in Glen Burnie, MD, where he is employed as a special para-educator teacher's assistant by the Montgomery County Public Schools.

Lisa Bollinger (2003), Mill Creek, WA, is a buyer for Macy's Northwest, Seattle.

Gary M. Cooler (2003), Evans, is now an account manager with Husquarna, Augusta. He is married to Melissa Cook. Email: gary.cooler@husquarna.com.

Jamey Ray Jenkins (2003), Statesboro, is the owner of Insurance Solutions. He is married to Clarissa, a current Georgia Southern student. Email: jamey_jenkins@hotmail.com.

Chad Couch (2004), formerly in Pooler, is now in Harlem, where he is an outside salesperson for Maner Builders Supply Company, Aiken, SC. He is married to Alison Green Couch, a 2004 and 2007 Georgia Southern accounting graduate.

Matthew Beau Hopkins (2004), Hilton Head Island, SC, is an account executive with Cumulus Broadcasting, Savannah. Email: beauhopkins@hotmail.com.

R. Dustin McCain (2004), formerly in Athens, is now in Atlanta, where he is the sales manager for Amerisave Mortgage Corporation. Email: dmccain@amerisave.com.

Kimberly Ann Smith (2004), formerly in Alexandria, VA, is now in Atlanta, where she is the HR/payroll administrator for Atlanta Foods International. Email: kimsmith2222@yahoo.com.

Sarah A. Wood (2004) Ablany, is a recruiter for Technical Associates. Email: sarahw1@hotmail.com.

Miriam Daniel Deberry (2005), Statesboro, is a patient advocate at East Georgia Regional Medical Center. She received her master of health science in 2007. Miriam is married to Erick P. Deberry, a Georgia Southern sports management graduate.

Aries A. Haygood (2005), Lyons, is employed with M & T Farms. He is married to Megian Collins, a 2007 Georgia

Southern school psychologist graduate. Email: mtfarms12@bellsouth.net.

Julie Harris Montoya (2005), formerly in North Carolina, is now in Hoschton. She is married to Justin Montoya, a SCAD graduate.

Catherine J. Barnes (2006), formerly in Fernandina Beach, FL, is now on St. Simons Island, where she is a sales manager for Verizon Wireless, Brunswick. Email: catherine.barnes@verizonwireless.com.

James C. Nau, Jr. (2006), formerly in Lawrenceville, is now in Houston, TX, where he is the sales manager for Silver Eagle Distributors.

Sean E. Santiago (2006), formerly in Lawrenceville, is now in Pinellas Park, FL, where he is a customer sales executive with Interstate Transport, St. Petersburg, FL. He is engaged to Misty Anderson, a 2006 Georgia Southern graduate. An October 11, 2008, wedding is planned to be held in Statesboro. Email: seans745@yahoo.com.

Christine Gerstner Fogle (2007), Statesboro, is the office manager for Kay Jewelers. She is married to James Brice Fogle, a 2007 Georgia Southern COE graduate.

Lorraine Elizabeth Rath (2007), formerly in Kathleen, is now in Macon, where she is a pharmaceutical sales rep for Behringer-Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals. Email: lorraine_rath@hotmail.com.

MACC

Nancy Jane Cooper (2005), Patterson, controller for the United Egg Marketing Cooperation, Blackshear, recently married Jacob Dewitt Walker, III, of Blackshear.

Heather Happoldt (2006), formerly in Leesbug, is now in Savannah, where she is an internal auditor for CitiTrends, Inc. Email: a12584@yahoo.com.

Sam Giles, Jr. (2007), Dallas, is an accountant with Habib, Arogeti, & Wynne, CPAs, Atlanta.

Callie Gordon (2007), Marietta, is an associate auditor with PricewaterhouseCoopers, Atlanta. Email: callie.gordon@us.pwc.com.

Julie Harrison (2007), formerly in Cairo, is now in Atlanta, where she is an associate

with PricewaterhouseCoopers. Email: julieh202@msn.com.

MBA

Michael E. Szczechowski (1995), formerly in Elizabethtown, NJ, is now in Katy, TX, where he is the senior vice president-business aviation for World Fuel Services, Houston, TX. He is married to Wendy Szczechowski, a 1996 Georgia Southern MBA graduate. Email: mszczech@wfsocorp.com.

Wendy A. Szczechowski (1996), formerly in Elizabethtown, NJ, is now in Katy, TX. She is married to Michael Szczechowski, a 1995 Georgia Southern MBA. Email: wendysz@mac.com.

Jennifer Rewcastle Conklin (2001), formerly in Round Rock, TX, is now in Lexington, NC, where she is expecting a baby on August 8, 2008. She is married to Matthew Conklin. Email: rewcastle@hotmail.com.

Ben Thompson (2002), Brooklet, former legal studies professor and COBA acting assistant dean, is now vice president of economic development at Ogeechee Technical College, Statesboro. He is married to Kathleen Anderson, and they have two children. Email: bthompson@ogeechee.edu.

Yvonne R. Parkhurst (2006), formerly in Brunswick, is now in Boulder, CO, where she is the women's national team's administrator for USA Rugby. Email: yparkhurst@usarugby.org.

Suzanne Michele Martin (2007), Savannah, is an IT person with Gulfstream Aerospace Corp. Email: sunchele@aol.com.

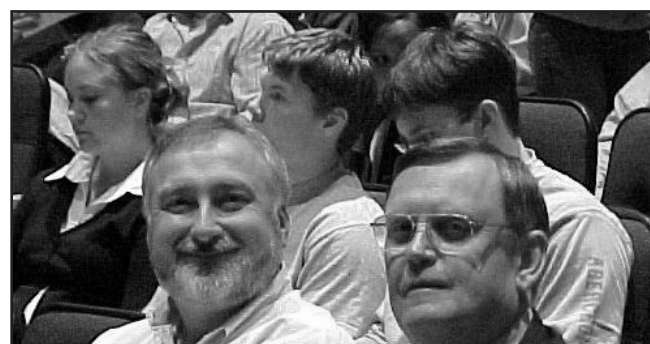
Farrah Lynn Brinson (2007), formerly in Millen, is now in Charlotte, NC, where she is the business and development assistant for the City of Lincoln, NC. Email: lynnbrinson@citylincolnton.nc.us.

IN MEMORIAM

James E. Abernathy (ACC 1964), Savannah, died February 7, 2008.

Ralph Jay Cannon (MGT 1995), Smithville, GA, recently passed away.

Robert D. "Bob" Huntley, Jr. (MBA 1972), CPA, Martinez, died December 21, 2006.



Wonder what Drs. Denton and Bolen know that others don't?

COBA's Business Advisory Council



Pictured with Dean Shiffler (2nd row) are (front row, l-to-r) Nancy Herring, Melinda Bergbom, Lurie Lord, Bobby Melton, & Dawn Trygg; (2nd row): Dean Shiffler, David Pitman, Doug Lambert, Leonard Blount, & Hoke Brunson; (3rd row) Phil Moore, Lee Tompkins, Cleve White, Robin Rich, & Billy Hickman; and (4th row) Wayne Murphy, Ed Boyd, Mike Odom, & Toby Moreau.

The College of Business Administration recently held regional Business Advisory Council meetings in Savannah (April 3) and Atlanta (May 6). The regional meetings provide an update and planning opportunity for Council members on the College's strategic plan, presented by Dean Ron Shiffler, marketing plan, presented by Associate

Dean Susan Williams, and financial resource plan, presented by COBA Development Officer Linda Wilke. Advisory Council President Lee Tompkins updated council members on plans for the Annual Fall Meeting, to be held in Statesboro on September 26, the weekend of the Georgia Southern-Wofford game. ♦

Spring Commencement

On Saturday May 10, 2008, Georgia Southern held its spring graduation exercises at Paulson Stadium honoring more than 2,393 graduating students, one of the largest graduating classes on record. Twenty-four percent of those graduating came from COBA and CIT. A remarkable commencement address by Georgia U.S. Senator Johnny Isakson preceded the ceremonial flight of Challenger who took to the air on the last stanza of Georgia Southern's alma mater. With a great sense



of pride, the flight symbolized our newest Eagles as they, too, take flight into their future endeavors.

After graduation, a reception was held for CIT and COBA graduates and their families in the atrium of the CIT Building where sandwiches, drinks, and cake were served. CIT and COBA faculty mingled with the crowd, meeting the proud parents of their former students. The students and parents alike complimented Georgia Southern and its faculty and staff. ♦

Veteran Banker Honored

COBA alumnus Billy G. Tyson, 1994 University Friendship Award recipient, was recently elected director emeritus of the Farmers & Merchants Bank board, Statesboro. His retirement from the active board culminates more than 40 years of service to the bank and the financial services industry. Tyson began his career in banking as a cashier in 1968 following brief employment with the railroad while getting his education at Georgia Southern. The bank had six employees and \$2 million in assets at the time. Tyson joined the Board of Directors



Billy Tyson and Frank Rozier

in 1970, became president of the bank in 1974, and served as chair of the board in 1991 of what is today a vibrant, growing community bank holding company with 79 bank employees and \$300 million in assets. Frank Rozier, chair of the Board of Directors of the bank and FMB Equibanc, Inc., holding company for the bank, presented a Resolution of Appreciation commending his 40 years of service, retirement from active board service, and election to director emeritus at the 60th Annual Meeting of the Bank on April 24. ♦

COBANs Make 40 Under 40 List



(left to right) Bill Howard, president, Claude Howard Lumber Company; Vivian Myers, accountant, Dabbs, Hickman, Hill & Cannon; and Brad Williams, partner, Dabbs-Williams General Contractors received the "40 Under 40" recognition by the *Business Report & Journal*. Vivian received her accounting degree from Georgia Southern in 1995, while Bill and Brad received construction degrees with minors in business in 1992 and 1995 respectively. Congratulations to these honorees!

2008 University Alumni Awards Dinner

Two College of Business Administration graduates were among ten awardees recognized at the annual Alumni Awards Dinner held April 5 in the Nessmith-Lane ballroom with Terry Harvin, president of the Georgia Southern University Alumni Association, presiding. Olivia Suggs Flanagan (BBA, accounting, 1969) received the College of Business Administration Alumna Award and Matthew H. Janofsky (BBA, information systems, 1984) received the College of Information Technology Award, both presented by Ron Shiffler, dean of COBA and acting dean of CIT, after dinner and music presented by Karla Qualls.

Olivia S. Flanagan, recipient of the COBA Alumna Award, is a native of Butler, Georgia, a small town west of Macon, where she grew up playing basketball on a state championship team and learning book-keeping in her



Olivia Flanagan

father's Ford dealership. She began her career as an accountant with Arthur Andersen and became a tax manager for Cousins Properties, Atlanta, before joining Bristol Development Corporation, a commercial real estate development firm in 1977 and later serving as a vice president and manager of her own company, Flanagan and Waycaster Construction, until her retirement in 2000. She has been a member of the COBA's Business Advisory Council since 1988.

Olivia is an excellent golfer and has served as president and board member of The Georgia Women's Golf Association and serves on the women's tournament, finance, and handicap committees for the Georgia State Golf Association and volunteers as a golf rules official. She is an *ex-officio* member of the board of Georgia Golf Hall of Fame, and a member of the Doublegate and Stonebridge Country Clubs. Having lived in Atlanta for 45 years, Olivia has just recently moved to Albany.

Matthew H. Janofsky, recipient of the CIT Alumni Award, was born in Boston, Massachusetts, moving with his family to Gainesville, Georgia, at a young age. After high school, Matt gained employment as a bank teller before enrolling at Georgia Southern with the idea of a finance degree. Active in the Marketing Society and president of Kappa Alpha fraternity, Matt enjoyed college life, learned to fish, and became interested in computers. He earned a BBA degree in information systems in 1984 and began his career with Unisys programming teller machines.



Matthew Janofsky

In 1990, he joined COIN Banking Systems, Inc., and, later, became an independent contractor for Alltel, BellSouth, Coca-Cola, Delta Airlines,

GE Capital Corporation, UPS, and The Home Depot. Then, in 2004, Matt joined a new company, Gladiator Technology Services, a division of Jack Henry and Associates, as vice president for application development, where he presently serves as manager of the development department and oversees Ivan Internet Security Correlation Engine, the system that monitors malicious internet traffic targeted at community banks' computer systems.

Throughout his career, Matt has maintained close ties with the College of Business Administration and the IS program. He has been a regular participant at Information Systems reunions, serves on the Information Systems steering committee, and has underwritten the Matthew Janofsky Scholarship for IS majors for more than ten years. His proudest contribution to the University will come next fall when his son, Michael, will enter Georgia Southern as a freshman. ♦