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Eagle Executive

GEORGIA SOUTHERN
UNIVERSITY
NEWS
from the College of
Business Administration
STATESBORO, GA 30460

VOLUME 22, NUMBER 1 FALL 2008

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President Grube Achieves Goals...

True to his word when he arrived on campus in the Summer of 1999, Georgia Southern President Bruce Grube announced Monday, November 24 he would resign the university presidency, effective June 30, 2009, exactly ten years after he began serving as the university's 11th president. He had said, at the time, the effective life of a university president was ten years.

"It is the right time for the university," Grube said in an email announcement to faculty and staff. "It has certainly been an honor beyond words for my wife Kathryn and me to have served at Georgia Southern University," he summarized in a subsequent press release.

In making the announcement, Grube indicated he will take one year of educational leave, or sabbatical, in consultancy to the University System of Georgia mentoring new presidents before returning to the classroom as a political science professor.

Grube's presidency has been transformational for the university. His stated goal of achieving academic distinction and national recognition as one of the top comprehensive, residential universities in the nation has been accomplished.

During his ten-year tenure at Georgia Southern, enrollment has increased from 14,476 to 17,764 students, or 23 percent; average SAT scores for incoming freshmen increased from 987 to 1111, a 124 point or 13



President Bruce Grube

percent increase; and retention rates have increased from 69 percent to 81 percent, an increase of 17 percent. Georgia Southern has won two I-AA football titles, added two new colleges—Continuing Education and Information Technology—and, recently, been designated a Carnegie research institution.

Dr. Grube presided over a ten-year capital investment program adding ten new buildings, including the College of Education, Nessmith-

Lane-Performing Arts Center, College of Information Technology, Nursing-Chemistry, Center for Arts & Theatre, Soccer and Track facility, Gene Bishop Field House, J. I. Clements Baseball Center, Cowart Ticket and Administration Building, Parrish Football Center, and Bennett-Ramsey Golf Center as well as the massive addition and renovation of the Zach S. Henderson Library, now one of the finest university libraries in the Southeastern U.S. Likewise, on-campus living quarters have expanded significantly with Southern Courtyard, Southern Pines, Eagle Village, and the new 1,001-bed Centennial Place coming on-line in Fall 2009.

"If you just ride around campus, you can see Dr. Grube's legacy," observers conclude, "When you combine our beautiful campus with higher academic standards you attract better students and better faculty."

The Board of Regents will soon begin a national search, expected to take about a year, for Grube's replacement. An interim president could be named if a new president is not in place by July 1, 2009.

Originally from California, Grube served as president of St. Cloud State University in Minnesota from 1995 to 1999 prior to coming to Georgia Southern. ♦

University Ranked in Kiplinger'sSM Top 100

For the first time ever, Georgia Southern University has been named in *Kiplinger's Top 100 Best Values* among public colleges and universities. The personal finance and business forecasting company bases its college rankings on a combination of outstanding academic quality and affordable tuition.



The Jane White Marketing Scholarships

When Dr. Jane F. White passed away in August 2001, she endowed awards for the *Jane White Marketing Scholar*, to recognize outstanding marketing faculty, and *Jane White Marketing Scholarship*, to recognize outstanding marketing students. Her legacy will recognize exceptional scholars in the marketing field for many years to come.

Dr. White is warmly remembered by colleagues for her sharp intellect and strength of mind. She received an associate of arts from Christian College in Columbia, MO, in 1937, a bachelor of science from Central College in Fayette, MO, in 1940, a master of business administration from the University of Denver in 1950, and a doctorate from the University of North Dakota in 1974. She taught high school in Missouri, Maryland, Texas, Colorado, Indiana, North Carolina, Tennessee, Oregon, Washington, and New York and a summer program at Columbia University in New York City.

In addition to her academic positions, Dr. White held secretarial positions with the St. Louis Union Trust Company, United States Cartridge Company, and Sears Roebuck and

Company. She often incorporated her work experience and diverse background into her courses, making her a well-rounded business communications professor.

Dr. White was hired by Dr. Paul LaGrone, dean of the School of Business at Georgia Southern College in 1962. Dr. White primarily taught business communications and business education courses at the graduate level. In 1976, she was appointed to the research committee of the American Business Communication.

Her former department chair, Dr. Bill Bolen, professor emeritus, described Dr. White as a "professional, hard-working instructor." Her students describe her as a "taskmaster, yet always fair." Dr. Betty Lane, former chair of the Home Economics Department and a colleague of Dr. White's, described her as "a lovely lady, who could be rather sharp in her demeanor" explaining "she never wanted anyone to dominate her mind."

When Dr. White retired in June 1985 as professor emerita, her retirement gift from the college was a trip to England for her many years of dedicated service. ♦



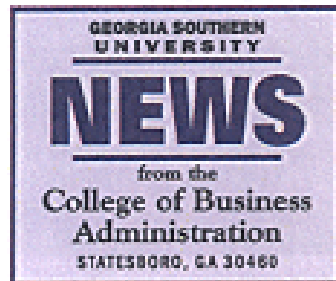
Jane White circa 1965

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The Eagle Executive

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STATESBORO, GA 30460
A UNIT OF THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF GEORGIA
AFFIRMATIVE ACTION / EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

A Message from Dean Shiffler

Let's do dinner. In your town. On your terms. I would like to visit with you and some of your friends and alumni to share the COBA story.

Within the last year we have been fortunate to have hired Linda Wilke as COBA's first development officer. Linda and I created a new outreach idea called "Dinner with the Dean" where we go on the road to talk with alums and COBA supporters about the exciting things going on in the business school.

All we need is an invitation and a host. Can we count on you? We have been to Maysville, KY (Tom Coe), Macon (Roger Murphey), Savannah (Harry Haslam), Dublin (Mike Cummings), and have future trips scheduled for Atlanta (J.T. Marburger), Augusta (Tommy Jones), Hilton Head Island, SC, and Orlando, FL (Laura and Harry Canavesi).

We've talked about our new graduate programs, faculty accomplishments, growth in student numbers and quality, the Sales Center, the forensic accounting initiative, and ... well ... it's



a whole lot easier to do this person than it is to try to write it all out here! At dinner, we can have good exchanges, questions-and-answers, and an opportunity to fellowship with one another in a more informal setting.

These events have proven to be fun and informative. We have also done breakfasts and lunches, so it doesn't have to be dinner. My wife, Barbara, often joins us, as spouses are most definitely included.

Let's do dinner! Just call Linda Wilke at 912-478-2277 or send her an email to lwilke@georgiasouthern.edu. We would love to hear from you.

Ronald E. Shiffler

Ronald E. Shiffler, Dean

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
- #4 100 percent of your contribution is used.

We often read about charities that use a portion of your contribution to cover expenses or employees' salaries.

In some cases, less than half of your contribution is actually used for the charitable purpose you intended.

Not so with a designated contribution to COBA. I emphasize the word "designated." When you write a check to Georgia Southern Foundation, simply indicate on the check that you want the money to go to COBA. We do not subtract any "overhead" expenses from your contribution. All money that you contribute goes toward a COBA-related activity that could not be funded from state dollars alone.

Stay tuned for Reasons 3 through 1.

From the Alumni Editor

Greetings from the 'Boro!



Recently, at Dean Emeritus Paul LaGrone's 92nd birthday celebration, several of the maturest, living COBA faculty were reminiscing. It brought back memories of those earlier days in the Hollis Building. A number of our former students from those early years, the 1970's, are still in Statesboro, including Doug Lambert, Billy

Hickman, Frank Denmark, Jody Stubbs, and others. It is very gratifying to know they are successful, happy, and contributing members of society. Just maybe this group of mature COBAan faculty members had something to do with their successes. We would really like to hear from others who have yet to update their blue card records.

Growing up in the 1940's and 1950's, my older relatives were forever reflecting upon the Winter of '06, i.e., 1906, and events extending to the "last century." It never occurred to me that one day I would be talking about what happened in '06, but it would be 2006! Now I realize most of my life was in the "last century" and twenty-five years of it were in Hollis. Maybe I am sentimental, but I remember those Hollis years

fondly. Old guys like Max Holland, "Scooter" Grider, Charlie Edmonds, John Beegle, Lloyd Dosier, and others are still alive—so far as I know—and are often recalled and remembered by alumni with affection, albeit differing levels. I am sure!

Looking back over my print-out of our more than 18,000 COBA alumni, I notice some have no mailing address. We search Switchboard.com, Yahoo.com, graduation records, etc., and, in most cases, when I find them, the response is "I am not lost; I have been here for years." What I am saying is, "we can't mail the *Eagle Executive* if we do not have a home mailing address." Yes, we get a lot of returned mail, but when the post offices says, "Unable to Deliver as Addressed," we go looking. So, if you see a copy of the *Eagle Executive*, and you did not get one, please let me know.

I am always interested in the successes our graduates, so if you hear of them, please let me know. The old saying about communication, "telegraph, telephone, and tell-a-friend" still works, so, if you see a story, please share with me and keep those blue cards coming back.

Lewis M. Stewart

Lewis M. Stewart, Alumni Editor

Department News

Finance & Quantitative Analysis

Joe Ruhland, assistant professor, presented \$5,900 in scholarships to students in risk management and insurance at the Student Finance Association meeting. The deserving students and scholarship sponsors were **Hugh Vergara** and **Ashley Gaff**, *Atlanta Claims Association President's Scholarship*, **Robert Brantley** and **Corrinne Plumer**, *Atlanta Area CPCU Scholarship*, and **Sean Brooks Kennedy**, **Jordan Johnstun**, and **Amy Turner**, *Paul Kidd Memorial Scholarship* (see related photos on page 4).

Barbara Price, professor, has been appointed as an Association for Computing Machinery representative director to CSAB, formerly the Computing Sciences Accreditation Board, the lead society for accreditation of programs in computer science, information systems, software engineering, information technology, and cooperating society for accreditation of computer engineering, within ABET, formerly the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology, which assures quality in engineering and technology accrediting 2,800 programs at more than 600 colleges and universities nationwide.

Information Systems

The *Association of Information Technology Professionals* recently announced eight colleges and universities received the student chapter outstanding performance award for 2007-2008, including Georgia Southern's student chapter. Accepting the award were **Aaron Ward**, chapter president, and **Cheryl Aasheim**, associate professor and chapter advisor.

Paige Rutner, assistant professor, received her PhD in information systems from the University of Arkansas. Excerpts of her dissertation were published in *MIS Quarterly*, a prestigious IS journal.

Manouchr Tabatabaei, associate professor, will serve as the IS/DSS/AI/Expert Systems track chair for 2009 Decision Science Institute International Conference in Nancy, France.

Camille Rogers, associate professor, has been elected to the board of Southern Association for Information Systems and will serve as program chair for the 2009. She has also agreed to serve on the Advisory Committee of the Statesboro High School Career, Technical, and Agricultural Education Department.

Thomas Case, professor, was elected treasurer for Alpha Iota Mu, the international honor society for information systems.

Robert Newman retired as lecturer of Information Systems at the end of Fall Semester 2008, but will continue to teach computer forensics part-time in the MAcc program.

Camille Rogers, **Hsiang-Jui Kung**, associate professor, and **Ron MacKinnon**, associate professor, have attended SAP faculty development workshops, including ERP sessions in Montreal, Canada, and Milwaukee, WI.

Management, Marketing, & Logistics

The *WERC Watch* is a publication distributed quarterly by the Warehousing Education and Research Council (WERC) for warehousing professionals. The Spring 2008 issue is devoted exclusively to the results of *DC Velocity's* Annual Warehouse Benchmarking study, which was co-authored by **Karl Manrodt**, associate professor. Dr. Manrodt's picture is featured on the front page of this very colorful and professional publication. Graduate student, **Joe Tillman**, is also mentioned in the acknowledgments.

David Shepherd, professor, published his first book, *A Marketer's Guide to Marketing Research: A Strategic Approach to Reach the Right Customers* with co-author Daniel Fell.

Karl Manrodt traveled to Berlin, Germany recently to attend the 17th Annual Trends and Issues in Logistics and Transportation conference.

School of Accountancy

Tom Noland, associate professor, was awarded the Lybrand Bronze Medal for research by the Institute of Management Accountants (IMA). The award was presented to Dr. Noland and his co-authors at the IMA's 89th Annual Conference in Tampa, FL. The Lybrand Medal is named after the IMA's 2nd president, William Lybrand, a founding partner of the firm Coopers & Lybrand, now PricewaterhouseCoopers.

Leslie Fletcher, professor, presented an update on U.S. convergence with international financial reporting standards at the joint national conference of the American Society of Women Accountants and the American Women's Society of Certified Public Accountants in Dallas, TX.

School of Economic Development

The Economics Club offered a premier showing of *I.O.U.S.A.*, a film dealing with the current debt of the U.S. government and the financing of Social Security. In the film, director Patrick Creadon looks at America's spendthrift ways and impending economic disaster as the Baby Boomer generation prepares to retire. A discussion facilitated by **Tony Barilla**, **Amanda King**, and **Godfrey Gibbison**, all associate professors, followed with refreshments sponsored by Chick-fil-A.

SAP Certification Planned for COBA Grad Studies

Information Systems is developing an online SAP Certificate program, including three graduate courses with hands-on SAP experience. One of the new courses, enterprise information systems, was offered for the first time during Fall 2008. This course provides an overview of enterprise system infrastructures and architectures and introduces students to SAP ERP navigation and SAP's major modules. In Spring 2009, business intelligence will be offered as a CISM special problems course. Students in this course will get hands on experience with SAP's Business Warehouse as well as a variety of data mining and business intelligence tools. In Summer 2008, students will have the opportunity to gain experience in SAP ERP configuration and implementation in CISM 7331. The primary focus in this course will be on SAP's financial, control, material management, and sales and distribution modules.

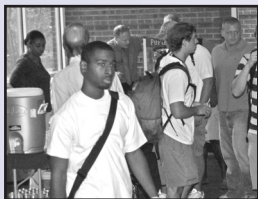


Students have embraced the SAP courses and certification program with enthusiasm. "Before taking SAP classes at Georgia Southern University, I never realized the importance of information systems in a corporation. In the future, companies will not be able to function without structured information systems developed around business models. The combination of the two is what makes it successful. Only a few schools in the U.S. offer an SAP certification, which makes Georgia Southern University very unique. Having SAP experience has opened many doors in my career that I previously did not have," says Jessica Celina, an MBA student.

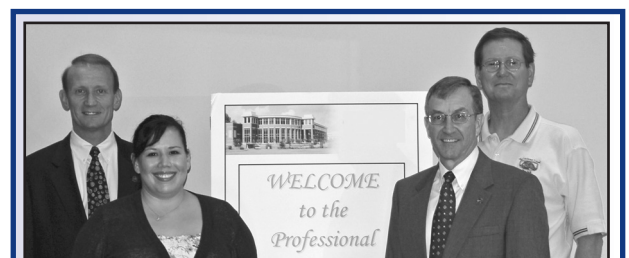
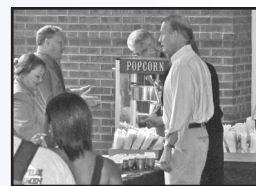
The courses are being submitted for review and approval by SAP to enable MBA and MAcc students to earn an SAP Certificate while satisfying degree requirements. They could be used to fulfill the requirements for COBA's MBA with information systems concentration or MAcc, or COST's master of applied engineering with IT emphasis degree. Post-baccalaureate students may take SAP-approved undergraduate and graduate courses to earn an SAP Certificate.

The on-line graduate SAP Certificate program is projected to be launched in the 2009-2010 academic year. More information about the SAP undergraduate certificate and the IS minor for COBA students may be found on page 5. If interested, see <http://cit.georgiasouthern.edu/is/>. ♦

Welcome Back Students Day



Each year, COBA welcomes its new and returning students with free popcorn and soft drinks. This year, we would like to thank *William Amphonsah, Rachael Barrett, Tony Barilla, Zandra Brasington, Tom Buckhoff, Charlie Cox, Jackie Eastman, Kevin Eastman, Donna Fisher, Ron Focht, Kathleen Gruben, Jeanette Hadden, Dena Hale, Jim Harris, Mary Hazeldine, Ann Henderson, TracyAnn Henry, Bob Jackson, Carol Jennings, Ann Kelly, Kim Kennedy, Vicki King, Angela Leverett, Mike McDonald, Britt McKay, Susan Miller, Linda Munilla, Tom Noland, Cynthia Parrish, Barbara Price, Cindy Randall, Joe Ruhland, Dave Shepherd, Debbie Sinclair, Dwight Sneathen, Mike Thomas, Grant Turner, Bob Verhey, Carol Waller, Joy West, Mike Wiggins, Jerry Wilson, Mildred Wilson, Harry Wright, Bill Young, and Jonathan Zhang*. for their help.



Michele Debban, national recruiter for C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Eden Prairie, MN, a global leader in transportation, logistics, and sourcing, recently presented Dean Ron Shiffler, Dave Shepherd, and Jerry Wilson with a \$5,000 check to fund five \$1,000 scholarships in sales and logistics.

2008 Scholarship Recipients

Freeman Business Scholars



Alyssa Orarec



Kurt Rigby



Rebecca Whatley



Ben Woods

Beta Gamma Sigma



Elena Bencini and Human Resource Management Award and Savannah Chapter of the Society for Human Resource Management Award

Delta Sigma Pi



Celeste Thompson

Dixie Crystals Scholars



Katie Carter



Liza Pierce



Cam Randall

Robert T. Cox



Jessica L. Murray

GATE Scholars



Sally Lanthier, Shelli Sirmans, Phylcia Brown, Angela Fish, Lana Yelina, Aaron Scale, Joshua Spain, and Jason Dulin with Dr. Lowell Mooney.

Priddy-Price Scholars



Brett Layson



Ally Rakoczy

Robert Morris Scholars



Adam Huttner



Bryan James

WACO Fire & Casualty Insurance Scholars



Michael Strutchen, Olivia Batten, Tia McCarthy, Chelsea Culler, and Emily Scott

Recipients Not Pictured*

Paul LaGrone Scholarship: Kathy E. Brown and Charles J. Hodges
The Wall Street Journal Award in Economics: Aubrey Smith
The Wall Street Journal Award in Finance: Miriam Elizabeth Hood
Ulysses S. Knotts, Jr., Information Systems Award: Olin J. Downs
Albert J. Roesel Information Systems Award: Ross D. Yerden
Tailored Business Systems Information Systems Award: Richard A. Mordecai
Buddy Lichty Information Systems Award: Luke D. Odom
Dr. Ulysses S. Knotts, Jr.: Carter B. Bricker
Pickett/Garvin Scholarship: Andrew J. Szokoly
Gaster Lumber Company Award: Bradley S. Harrelson
Kmart Award: Holly C. Price
Sack Company Marketing Service Award: Vicotria T. Brady
Giacomo Family Memorial Scholarship in Marketing: Clayton D. Turner
Georgia Retail Association Scholarship in Retailing: Leann Walls
Top Student in Sales and Sales Management Award: Samantha Bartlett
Logistics & Intermodal Transportation Award: Kelly Hanada
Jane White Memorial Scholarship: Erica K. Frederick
Charette Scholarships: Travis Gilbert, Stephanie Johnson, Chelsea Smith, Kristen Cole, Jennifer Hammonds, Lauren Thornbill, and Ericka Frederick
Savannah Chapter of the Society for Human Resource Management: Katherine Bonner
University Tire Award: Timothy M. Coleman
Georgia Society of CPAs: Jonathan Branch, Cole Branham, Lesley Culbreth, Jennifer Gay, Lee Glosson, Whitney Howard, Chris Jenkins, Miranda Johnson, Erik Kramschuster, Darin Lane, Christina Larson, Madison Lee, Callan Lord, Kyle Manning, Brian Prevatt, Kashif Royal, Celeste Thompson, Travis Williams, and Krista Wood
Institute of Management Accountants: Farah Punjani
Paul LaGrone: Kathy Brown and Chase Hodges
International Graduate Student Award: Clisha Cleveland
Becker CPA Review: Markita Jones
Denmark and Brown: Kyle Baggett
Draffin and Tucker: Eric Smith
Franklin, Mikell & Co.: Matthew Olson
Mikell Family Scholarship: Kate Randall
Gleim CPA Review: Ryan Brinson, William Donaldson, Paul Wilhelm, and Dmitriy Zhest
Holland, Henry and Bromley: Matthew Sellers
Mauldin and Jenkins: Jenna Green
McLain, Calhoun, McCullough, Clark and Co.: Sherry Bradl
Moore Stephens Tiller: Cristol Johnson
D. Greg Morgan Family Scholarship: Mallory Nester
Porter Keadle Moore: Matthew Steinberg
Time Warner, Inc.:
Priddy-Price: Walt Howard
Robert F. Morris: Mason Harper
Evelyn Spain-Coe: Virginia S. Clark
Robert T. Cox: Jonathan Branch
CSX Transportation: Christina Smith and Xavier Pitts
Mark Anderson: Phillip Buelterman
Earle Cummings: Demetriuss J. Dekle
Delta Sigma Pi: Rebecca S. Gell, Robert A. Smith, and Justin S. Hagin

*Corporate Leadership Scholars will be featured in Spring 2009.

If you would like to support COBA's scholarship programs, please contact Dean Ron Shiffler, Georgia Southern University, College of Business Administration, P. O. Box 8002, Statesboro, GA 30460-8002, phone (912) 478-COBA, Fax (912) 478-2626.

The Becker CPA Review

The Master of Accounting (MAcc) program at Georgia Southern focuses on the knowledge and skills needed for a career in public accounting. Since inception, the program has satisfied Georgia's 150 semester-hour education requirement for a CPA. Yet, until 2008, few Georgia Southern students completed the CPA examination prior to graduation. The CPA exam is made up of four one-half day exams covering financial accounting, regulation, auditing, and business concepts.

In 2008, the School of Accountancy began offering the Becker CPA review, and the CPA exam pass rate for MAcc students jumped dramatically. Twenty-four students, faculty, and local practicing accountants enrolled in the Becker CPA review at Georgia Southern this fall. The results were outstanding. Georgia Southern's Becker CPA review students

passed 67 percent of the exams they took, a significant improvement over past experiences when Georgia Southern students had pass rates in the 20 to 25 percent range, and passing the entire CPA exam prior to graduation was extremely rare.

Georgia Southern students now have the option of taking the Becker CPA review for three semester hours of elective credit in the MAcc program. Students taking the review for credit must pass a rigorous in class exam after each portion of the CPA review.

MAcc graduates receive competitive job offers in public accounting, industry, government, and not-for-profit organizations. Accounting faculty are committed to student success, taking an active role in helping students identify and locate the right career option. ♦

CIT Advisory Board Meets

The College of Information Technology Advisory Board, including **John Harlow, Dan Ricks, Danny Johnston, Chris Miller, Chuck Stallworth, Angela Bland, Alyssa Belcher, Richard Aldredge, Jim Goodlett, and Buddy Lichty**, convened its 5th annual meeting during Homecoming Weekend, November 7, 2008. The meeting was organized around small group discussions and brainstorming sessions, in which major issues and initiatives within each CIT department were explored and analyzed. For



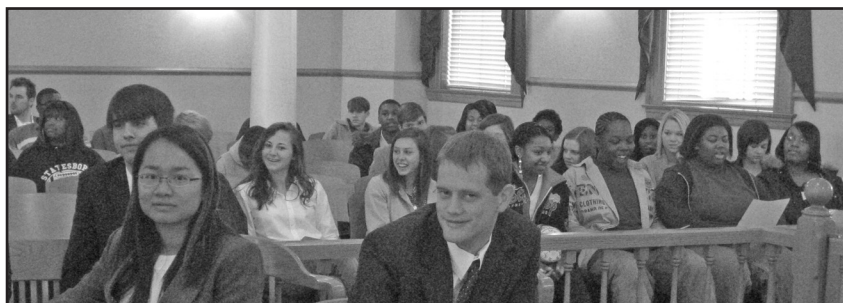
The College of Information Technology building

Computer Science, Department Chair **Jim Harris** lead a discussion of an online master of science degree proposal; for Information Technology, Department Chair **Art Gowan** facilitated the development of ideas for building a disaster recovery planning niche for small businesses and governmental agencies; and for Information Systems, **Dick Diebolt** from the College of Graduate Studies served as the facilitator for a discussion centered on the distinctive strategic opportunity that SAP certification provides. Excellent input was received from the Advisory Board members and the meeting concluded with the development of priorities and action plan activities for the coming year.

On Friday evening, an informal reception was held, and the board enjoyed refreshments, finger foods, and an opportunity to network with faculty members from each department on current business practices and trends. The primary topics of discussion centered on keeping CIT program curricula current to best prepare Georgia Southern students for employment and stimulating demand for CIT graduates. It was an enjoyable interlude between work sessions.

The College of Information Technology extends thanks to the Advisory Board members for their knowledgeable insight, recommendations for improving CIT programs, and commitment to future involvement in the evolving college. Appreciation is also extended to Associate Dean **Bob Cook, Lisa Williams, and Linda Carwell** for coordinating a smooth and effective meeting. Dean **Shiffler** thanked the Advisory Board members for their service, concluding, "Your support is critical to our future success and continuously keeping CIT on the cutting edge." ♦

Verdict: Taking a Real World Approach



Mock trial student participants, Trang Ta and Matt Barnhill, listen carefully to expert witness testimony.

Students in Dr. **Buckhoff's** expert witnessing class argued before Bulloch County State Court Judge **Gary Mikell** presiding over a mock proceeding of plaintiff shareholders in Brodnax Minerals Company, an exploratory gold mining company, versus defendant Healy & Wallace, LLP, an independent accounting firm that audited Brodnax's financial statements.

The purpose of the event was to provide the students a hands-on opportunity to prepare expert reports and provide testimony in an actual courtroom, invaluable experience in developing their careers in forensic accounting.

The plaintiff's position was simply Healy & Wallace violated professional standards in issuing a clean audit opinion subsequently relied upon by shareholders investing \$4 billion in Brodnax, which had fraudulently overstated the amount of gold at its sole mining site. After the massive fraud was uncovered, "investors lost virtually all of their investment, primarily due to the lax oversight of accountants," according to allegations. The students on the defense team begged to



Judge Mikell swears in "expert witness," Andrew Mossburg, before testimony begins.

differ, arguing the "accountants had no knowledge of the fraud, and indeed were defrauded themselves." Laura Wheaton, from Brown, Rountree, PC, served as consulting attorney for the plaintiff team while Susan Cox, from Edenfield, Cox, Bruce, and Classens offered consultation for the defense team.

The jury, comprised of Georgia Southern students and professional community volunteers, deliberated the issues and rendered a verdict in favor of the accounting firm, holding them harmless in the fraud case. Matt Barnhill, who delivered plaintiff's opening statement, concluded the mock trial was a resounding success saying, "It is nice to get outside the classroom and get hands-on experience." "Nothing we read in a textbook or discuss in class can substitute for an opportunity to experience this setting," continued

John Bowles, who offered the defense's opening remarks. "We thank the City of Statesboro and honorable Judge Gary Mikell. Their cooperation reflects how invested the community is in helping Georgia Southern," concluded Buckhoff. ♦

John Bowles, who offered the defense's opening remarks. "We thank the City of Statesboro and honorable Judge Gary Mikell. Their cooperation reflects how invested the community is in helping Georgia Southern," concluded Buckhoff. ♦

New IS Minor



IS Faculty Members propose IS minor.

Information technology (IT) is woven into the fabric of today's businesses and is a driver of most business innovations. Organizations need business professionals who "get" IT and the newly minted information systems (IS) minor has the potential to help COBA graduates stand out in the job market.

The IS minor has been tailored to appeal to business majors but can be completed by students in any major at the university. Like other business minors, it requires students to complete survey of accounting, financial accounting, and managerial accounting. It also includes management information systems and three junior, senior, and graduate-level computer information systems courses. Prerequisites have been changed for multiple upper-level courses, including systems analysis & design, data communications, and project management, to make them more accessible to students pursuing the minor.

Students are able to complete the minor without taking a programming course. The

minor has also been structured to enable students to complete three SAP-approved courses and earn an SAP Certificate. This certificate can expand student career options and help graduates catch the attention of SAP user organizations.

In a nutshell, the IS minor can improve the marketability of students by preparing them to

- identify, select, and evaluate technology solutions for business problems,
- be a knowledgeable user of IT, and
- be that person in the business unit who can successfully interact and work with technology professionals.

The IS minor can strengthen the résumé of any COBA major and it may be an especially valuable résumé-builder for accounting and logistics majors. More information about the minor and the SAP Certificate are available on the Information Systems Department's webpage <http://cit.georgiasouthern.edu/is/>. See related story on page 3. ♦

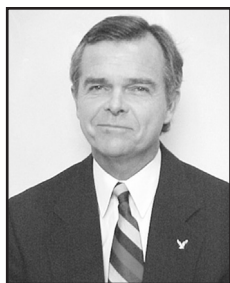


Spotlight on Graduate Studies

Farewell from the Director

After serving Graduate Studies coordinator for more than twelve years, I must say farewell and return to the classroom full-time. As I contemplated this decision, along with the breadth and depth of today's COBA grad program and its future, it became clear the outstanding faculty support, knowledgeable staff, and technological platform will be a great strength to the successor of this office. The past twelve years have been amazing, and I cannot speak highly enough of how much I appreciate the opportunity to serve COBA in this capacity.

Over the years, I have seen the graduate program grow from delivery at the Boater's World building near Savannah Mall, when the MAcc program was just getting off the ground, to broad and diversified offering of courses, programs, and degrees. Now, we offer the



full MBA program from the state-of-the-art Coastal Georgia Center in Savannah, our MAcc program is nationally recognized, and the Georgia WebMBA has become a huge success. We have recently introduced new programs in economics and forensics. It is amazing how much things have changed, how fast time has passed, and how much fun we have had in the process!

So, I bid farewell with a slight touch of regret and longing, cherish the many students I have befriended over the years, and will miss the daily involvement with the graduate students, faculty and staff, but I am excited about being able to return full time to my first love - the classroom. I thank everyone for the many years of support and wish the next director best of luck.

Mike McDonald

MBA in the Spotlight

Tero Kyckling received a BA from Murray State University, then an MBA from Georgia Southern University in 1993. Tero, senior partner manager with Nokia Corporation in Finland, recently visited COBA friends in Statesboro on a trip to Florida for vacation.

Lewis Stewart taught Tero when he was at Southern and hosted a meet and greet with faculty and students in his honor. Kyckling reminisced fondly about his days as a Georgia Southern student noting, "Georgia Southern will be a part



of me for the rest of my life. I check the football stats every Monday morning and read the 'Dean's Update' every Friday. I had a wonderful experience during my time at Georgia Southern."

Speaking of the MBA program, Tero continued, "The Georgia Southern MBA program provided me the tools I needed to succeed. The business courses and case studies gave me a solid foundation on which to begin my corporate business career in Finland." Dean **Shiffler** concluded, "it is always an honor to welcome back one of our distinguished MBA alumni."

MBA in the City

The College of Business Administration held its second **MBA in the City** information session at Blowin' Smoke Restaurant in Savannah on October 2, 2008. The information session was held for anyone interested in taking MBA classes in Savannah. Faculty, current MBA students, and alumni were on hand to



answer questions and make the session a fun and informative event. **Tim Cairney**, interim director of COBA Graduate Studies, and Dean **Ron Shiffler** showed how our MBA program is uniquely relevant to the needs of business leaders in the 21st century. If you are interested in learning more about the **MBA in the City** program, please go to www.mbainthecity.com. ♦

WebMBA® Offers Opportunity

The Georgia WebMBA®, offered in consortium with four other Georgia schools, including Valdosta State University, Georgia College and State University, University of West Georgia, and Kennesaw State University, began its eleventh and twelfth classes this fall. The program offers six good reasons to consider continuing your professional graduate education.

1. The Georgia WebMBA® is highly rated.

GetEducated.com has ranked the Georgia WebMBA® 17th out of the 168 on-line AACSB-accredited MBA degree programs nationwide and the only Georgia program identified in the top 30 by *U.S. News and World Report* recognized Georgia Southern's MBA as one of the top 400 Graduate Programs in 2008 and *Princeton Review's* 2007 and 2008 special editions of the 237 Best Business Schools included Georgia Southern's graduate degree programs in business and accounting.

2. The Georgia WebMBA® offers outstanding value.

The total 2008-2009 tuition for the ten course WebMBA® and required orientation class is \$17,825. Comparable programs, particularly private programs may cost as much as \$50,000 and up.

3. Employers value the Georgia WebMBA® degree.

The Georgia WebMBA® has students from all walks of life; from Fortune 500 giants to the self employed; from Delta pilots to Georgia Power engineers; from Savannah Memorial Medical physicians to The Home Depot middle managers. In many cases,

students receive tuition reimbursement from their employers because they value enhanced skills and knowledge an employee gains from the WebMBA®.

4. Most students graduate from the Georgia WebMBA® program.

The typical Georgia Southern Georgia WebMBA® student is 29 years old, with 10 years of work experience, a 3.36 undergraduate grade point average, and a 500 plus Graduate Management Admission Test score. Georgia WebMBA® students are experienced, capable, and achievement-oriented. Classes feature team-based projects and individual initiative, an exceptionally high level of esprit de corps, and an overall retention rate of approximately 88 percent.

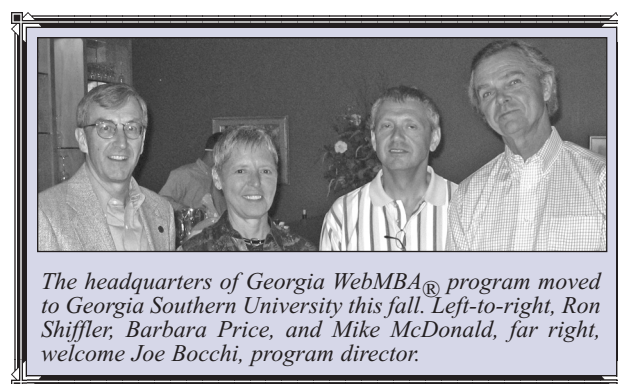
5. The Georgia WebMBA® is high quality.

Georgia Southern is a member of the *MBA Roundtable*, which represents graduate business programs sharing curriculum, research, publications, ideas, information, and resources for program content and delivery. Courses are state of the art and taught by the best PhD-level faculty, published in their respective fields, and highly experienced in teaching, applied practice, and online learning.

6. The Georgia WebMBA® is ideally suited for the busy professional.

Today's professionals cannot commit to a fixed schedule of classes. The typical student is busy with job, family, and life. The WebMBA® fits students' need for flexibility. Many students travel, some live in remote areas where no MBA programs are available, and others enroll from around the U. S. and the world.

If interested, please call 912-478-5483 or email aleveret@georgiasouthern.edu or visit www.webmbaonline.org. ♦

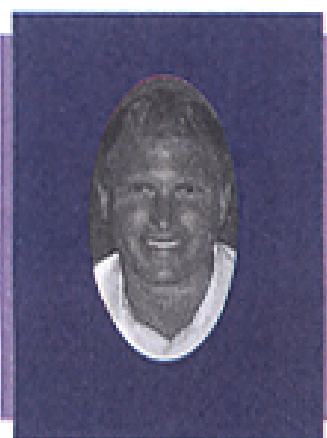


The headquarters of Georgia WebMBA® program moved to Georgia Southern University this fall. Left-to-right, Ron Shiffler, Barbara Price, and Mike McDonald, far right, welcome Joe Bocchi, program director.

ALUMNI in the SPOTLIGHT



Jordan Dukes

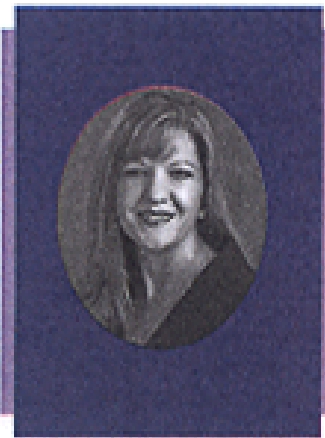


he worked in concert with sales teams to design and implement custom solutions for data customers, becoming a senior sales engineer for BT Global Services that year. With primary responsibilities for customer presentations, request for proposal and bid preparation, and technical bid qualification, Jordan was responsible for growing, maintaining, and protecting customer revenue. He consistently exceeded quarterly sales objectives with technical responsibilities for transformational bids including single source vendor aggregation and outsourcing.

Later, Jordan accepted a sales engineer position with World Wide Packets where he was responsible for all accounts in the Southeast U.S. as well as several national wireline service accounts. Earlier this year, Ciena acquired World Wide Packets and, since, Jordan has served as senior sales engineer and carrier ethernet subject matter expert (SSE-CESME) the only one in Portal and one of few in Georgia, Nebraska, or even Hong Kong. ♦

Jordan Dukes (Information Systems 1999) began his career as a network engineer for The Home Depot at its corporate headquarters in Atlanta. He was involved in several projects including WAN connectivity, re-addressing, and documenting server and bandwidth utilization for Home Depot eCommerce. As a senior network engineer working with AT&T and British Telecom in 2000,

Kim Brannen



she holds a Series 7 License (General Securities Representative), a Series 66 License (Investment Advisor and Uniform Securities Representative) and a Georgia license to sell annuities, life and health insurance. As manager of the Private Client Group, Kim is involved with a team of private bankers, mortgage specialists, trust professionals, securities financial consultants, and financial planners at headquartered in Sea Island Bank's Professional Center in Statesboro's Market District.

Kim is a board member for CSRA Business Lending, Statesboro-Bulloch Chamber of Commerce, and Leadership Bulloch. She has held leadership positions on Joseph's Home for Boys executive committee, the Bulloch County Board of Education School Council, and Youth Leadership Bulloch. Kim has been recognized by awards from the Georgia Bankers Association President's Circle and Chamber of Commerce President's Award.

Active in First Baptist Church of Statesboro, she serves as a Sunday School teacher and Royal Ambassador leader. Kim lives in Statesboro with her husband, Aubert Brannen III, and sons, Judson (11) and John-Daniel (9). ♦

Kim Brannen (Finance 1994) of Sea Island Bank, Statesboro, was recently installed as president of Leadership GBA, sponsored by the Georgia Bankers Association, at the association's 48th annual leadership conference in Ponte Vedra Beach, FL. Leadership GBA is comprised of young, emerging banking leaders throughout the state.

Kim is vice president and manager of Sea Island Bank's Private Client Group. She joined Sea Island Bank as a commercial lender in 1997. Through her association with Synovus Securities, Inc.,

Steve Benson

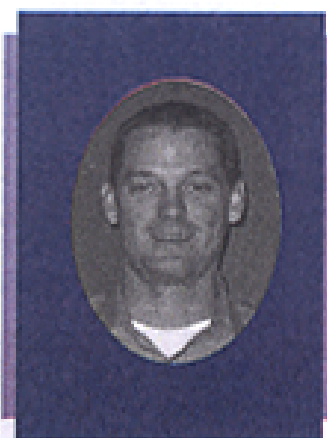


Consultant before starting his own firm, Benson Benefits Consulting in 2004. Having the independence of running his own practice afforded Steve the opportunity get involved in his first passion, tennis, as a Certified Tennis Canada and freelance instructor in Barrie and the City of Barrie's Park and Recreation program. Another passion, the Barrie-Huron Rotary Club, has afforded the past director and public relations director additional opportunity for community involvement.

Recently, Steve has merged Benson Benefits Consulting with Penmore Benefits, Inc., the employee benefits division of Penmore Financial Group, a full-service, comprehensive financial security planning firm, specializing in estate, corporate, and wealth planning firm based in Concord, Ontario. "I am most proud of the fact that I have established a very strong reputation in the employee benefits field with the highest of ethical standards, been married for over 17 years to an incredible woman, and been blessed with two amazing children—a son (15) and a daughter (12)." ♦

Steve Benson (Finance 1987), a tennis player at Georgia Southern, began a 19 year career in employee benefits with Scotia McLeod in his native Toronto, Canada, after graduation. He later joined North American Life, acquired by Manulife Financial, and subsequently Mosey & Mosey as Group Benefits

Brandon Gillis



Brandon Gillis's (Information Systems 2000) first job following graduation was webmaster and corporate intranet manager for Savannah-based H.O. Systems. In January 2001, he joined IBM as a service delivery manager for end-to-end delivery of strategic outsourcing accounts. Brandon was also responsible for managing customer expectations and contract deliverables. He branched out with his own business as a sole proprietor in Gillis Construction, LLC, in 2004 and then, in April 2007, left IBM to serve as director of operations for ComputerLogic, an Internet company that, since 1979, has become one of the collision repair industry's most respected software development companies. His responsibilities include managing the execution and delivery of all products and services sold to customers and carries out project management duties as needed for new and existing customer accounts. ♦

The Center for Entrepreneurial Leadership

November 20 was Entrepreneurship Day for Georgia Southern's Colleges of Business Administration and Information Technology. Two events highlighted Dr.



Judge Jim Williams and the Tom's Harbor Team

Luke Pittaway's and the Center for Entrepreneurial Leadership's focus on entrepreneurial opportunities for students and faculty.

First, entrepreneurship students in Dr. Pittaway's classes exhibited their business concept projects in the atrium of the Information Technology building. A Venture Concept Exhibition, first of many to come, offered student teams an opportunity to identify a unique business concept, assess the potential market, and



Michael Morris presents entrepreneurship theory.

develop a presentation to test the public acceptance and viability of their ideas. The presentations were fascinating, ranging from manufacturing to service in a wide spectrum of industries. The idea was to develop market input and feedback before full business plan development.

The highlight of the day was a seminar, *World-Class Entrepreneurship*, and a presentation to professors, *Understanding Entrepreneurship as Experience*, both held at the Nessmith-Lane Performing Arts Center. The presentation focused upon entrepreneurship as a philosophy, or choice of emphasis, in decision-making. The research seminar highlighted the experiential nature of entrepreneurship that results in entrepreneurs being shaped by the venture as much as the entrepreneur shapes and governs the venture.

The keynote speaker, Dr. **Michael Morris**, holds the Witting Chair in Entrepreneurship at Syracuse University and serves as chair of the Department of Entrepreneurship & Emerging Enterprises, a program identified as the



The Daylite Solutions Team

National Model Program in Entrepreneurship by the U. S. Association for Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

Dr. Morris holds a PhD in marketing from Virginia Tech, an MS in economics, an MBA, and has been a principal in three entrepreneurial startups. He has published four books, authored hundreds research articles, and has been honored as Pi Sigma Epsilon's National Faculty Advisor of the Year, NCEC's 21st Century Entrepreneurship Research Fellow, Ernst & Young's Entrepreneur of the Year, and received the prestigious Appel Prize for contributions to the field of entrepreneurship. Dr. Morris, a former Fulbright Scholar to South Africa, was recognized as the Outstanding MBA Professor at Syracuse and received the Oberwager Prize for impacting students beyond the classroom.

As part of the Center's mission and in conjunction with Dr. Morgan Miles's entrepreneurial research, Dr. Nicole Coviello, research fellow at the University of Glasgow, Scotland, presented a seminar, *Publishing Across Disciplines: A Long and Winding Road*, to research professors from across

campus on December 4. Dr. Coviello identified the networking focus of her research work across the marketing, international management, and



Leslie Fletcher and Luke Pittaway

entrepreneurship disciplines, reflecting upon the success, risk, and investigative opportunity of multi-disciplinary inquiry. Dr. Coviello received her PhD in marketing and international business from the University of Auckland, New Zealand, has published widely, and serves on numerous editorial boards, having recently received the 2008 Best Reviewer award from the *Journal of International Business Studies*. ♦



Nicole Coviello

SOA Professor Certified

Thomas Buckhoff, associate professor of accounting, has recently been awarded the Certified in Financial Forensics (CFF) Credential by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA). The CFF Credential, established in 2008 by the AICPA, is granted to qualified CPAs with considerable professional experience in financial forensics. Dr. Buckhoff met the requirements to earn the CFF credential, which include demonstrating significant business experience in the area of financial forensics as well as completing a minimum of 75 hours of life-long learning and education activities in the area of financial forensics. The CFF Credential is granted exclusively to CPAs who are members in good standing of the AICPA which binds them to the *AICPA Code of Professional Conduct*.



Tom Buckhoff

CPAs who have earned the CFF Credential must be recertified every three years to maintain their credential.

The AICPA (www.aicpa.org) is the national, professional association of CPAs, with more than 350,000 members, including CPAs in business and industry, public practice, government, and education. It sets ethical standards for the profession and U.S. auditing standards for audits of private companies; federal, state, and local governments; and non-profit organizations. It also develops and grades the Uniform CPA Examination. Headquartered in New York, the AICPA also maintains offices in Washington, DC; Durham, NC; and Lewisville, TX. ♦

WTOC Economic Crisis Forum



Mike Manhattan, Ed Sibbald, Bill Wells, and Michael Reksulak

WTOC Channel 11, Savannah, news commentator **Mike Manhattan** moderated a panel discussion about the financial crisis in the U.S and global economy in mid-October at the Nessmith-Lane Performing Arts Center. Panel experts included Dr. **Michael Reksulak**, economics, Mr. **Ed Sibbald**, banking, and Dr. **Bill Wells**, financial markets. WTOC television covered the event, open to the public, with live-remotes by

anchor Manhattan and reporter **Dal Kennedy**. Dr. Wells made a guest appearance earlier on WTOC's "Mid-Morning Live with Sonny and Jody" television show to promote the event and invite public participation. Each panelist presented a short PowerPoint presentation and then fielded audience questions through Mr. Manhattan. ♦

Macc Tax Research in Tampa

Cheryl Metrejean, assistant professor, accompanied her MAcc tax research class students **Matt Sellers**, **Sam Evans**, **Brian Prevatt**, **Jenna Lay**, and **Julia Collins** to Tampa, FL, to attend the U.S. Tax Court in November.

In their first session, an innocent spouse case presented a great example of "facts and circumstances" for students. Tears of an emotional witness and evidence excluded because the IRS failed

to provide taxpayer notice heightened the drama for a case students saw on their final exams.

In the next session, tax protesters Improtta and Sweeney appeared before



Jenna Lay, Matt Sellers, Julia Collins, and Brian Prevatt.

the court claiming the U.S. has no valid taxing authority or statute. Students were amazed to learn taxpayers actually go to court making such arguments and thinking they will win.

Presiding judge **Thomas Wells**

made time to meet with the class during a break in the trial. He was very open and candid in talking about the tax court, how it operates, and challenges it faces. Financial support for the trip was provided by the Faculty Development Committee of the Center for Excellence in Teaching and the Graduate Student Professional Fund in the Jack N. Averitt College of Graduate Studies. ♦

COBA Welcomes New Faculty

The newest members of the COBA family are presented below. Each person emerged as the top candidate in the search processes, and we are excited about the talents and skills they bring to COBA. Please join us in welcoming them to the team. We presently have a total of four faculty searches for the 2009-2010 year: a department chair search and an international management faculty search in the Department of Management, Marketing, & Logistics; director of the School of Economic Development search; and an MBA director and a non-tenure track faculty search in the Office of Graduate Studies. We are excited about the prospects of adding additional new faculty in our corps of instruction.



Sahar Bahmani

School of Economic Development

Sahar Bahmani, visiting professor, brings six years of teaching and her research in macroeconomics, monetary economics, and economic development to Georgia Southern. Her hobbies include playing piano and tennis as well as working out and spending time with her family and husband, who is a professor in the political science department at Georgia Southern.

Joon-Kun Cho

Department of Management, Marketing & Logistics

Jay Cho, assistant professor of logistics, earned his PhD and MBA from the University of Arkansas, MS from the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, CA, and BA from the Korea Military Academy in Seoul, Korea. Previously, Dr. Cho served in the Korean and U.S. Army as a professional officer more than 20 years before joining academia. Dr. Cho's primary research interests are in the area of global supply chain management, third party logistics and outsourcing, performance measurement scale development, and e-based logistics. His daughter, Yoon-Na, is a doctoral student in marketing; his wife is Joyce Lee.



Janet Moss

Department of Finance & Quantitative Analysis

Janet Moss, lecturer, earned an MBA from Georgia State University and a BA in management and psychology from the University of South Florida. Mrs. Moss has been an instructor in the College of Business since 2000. She taught business statistics and human resource management at Delta State University and has more than 10 years of private industry experience in the human resources field and more than 10 years of teaching experience at the college level. Mrs. Moss and her husband, Steve, live in Statesboro with their two children.



William I. Norton, Jr.

Department Management, Marketing & Logistics

Bill Norton, associate professor of management, earned a PhD from the University of South Carolina. His teaching and research interests are strategy, entrepreneurship, leadership, and ethics. Dr. Norton taught at Indiana University Southeast and at the University of Louisville before joining the COBA faculty. A former infantry officer and CPA, he makes his home in Statesboro with his wife, Elaine, and their daughter, Macy.



Luke Pittaway

William A Freeman Distinguished Chair in Free Enterprise



Luke Pittaway is the William A. Freeman Distinguished Chair in Free Enterprise. He earned his PhD from the University of Newcastle and BA from the University of Huddersfield in Great Britain. Dr. Pittaway previously served the University of Sheffield

as director of enterprise education, Centre for Regional Economic and Enterprise Development and director of research, Centre of Excellence in the Teaching and Learning of Enterprise; the National Council of Graduate Entrepreneurship as a research and education fellow; and the Advanced Institute of Management Research as a scholar. Dr. Pittaway's research focuses on entrepreneurship education, behavior, and learning and has been published extensively. He is currently serving on the editorial boards of the *International Small Business Journal*, *International Journal of Entrepreneurial Behaviour and Research*, and *International Journal of Entrepreneurship Education*. He and his wife, Liz, reside in Statesboro.

Jordan Shropshire

Department of Information Systems

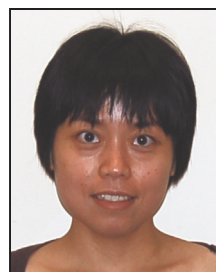
Jordan Shropshire, assistant professor, recently completed his dissertation on information security at Mississippi State University. He received his undergraduate degree in business at the University of Florida. Dr. Jordan's research interests include behavioral and technical aspects of information security, IT disaster recovery, technology diffusion, and measurement issues. His work has been published in several journals and conference proceedings. He has served as an associate editor and reviewer for leading journals, including *MIS Quarterly*, *European Journal of Information Systems*, *Information & Organization*, and *Journal of Information Systems Security*. In his spare time, Jordan enjoys outdoor activities such as duck hunting, camping, and fishing. He and his wife, Ali, hail from Tallahassee, Florida.



Xinfang Wang

Department of Finance & Quantitative Analysis

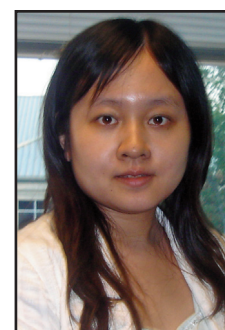
Jocelyn Wang, assistant professor, earned her PhD from the University of Cincinnati and her BE from Shanghai University in China. Prior to joining COBA, Dr. Wang taught operations management on the undergraduate and graduate levels at SUNY-Binghamton. She teaches in the areas of quantitative analysis, statistics, and operations management. Her research interests are in the area of new product design.



Yuan Wen

Department of Finance & Quantitative Analysis

Yuan Wen successfully defended her dissertation in March 2008 and received her PhD in finance from Temple University. Her research is focused on issues of corporate governance, executive compensation and ownership structure. Dr. Wen's teaching experience is in corporate finance and financial institutions. She has worked in the areas of corporate board structure. Dr. Wen is a member of the Financial Management Association.



Michael Wiggins

School of Accountancy

Michael Wiggins, assistant professor, received a BA in fine arts from Wichita State, a PMBA from the University of Massachusetts, and a JD from University of Arizona. He has more than ten years practical experience in corporate law, litigation, employment law, and business ethics. Dr. Wiggins has taught business law at the university level, developed on-line courses, and is Blackboard certified. His research interests include on-line education administration and the interaction between law and business.





Colleges of Business Administration and Information Technology

2008 FACTS & FIGURES

The number of internships for students in the College of Business Administration averages more than 150 annually. These come from a variety of companies including the Alltel, American Ports Services, Briggs & Stratton, Centex Homes, Chateau Élan Hotels & Resorts, D. J. Powers, Inc., Dairy Queen, Denmark & Brown, DNSF, Dox Foods, East Georgia Regional Center, Enterprise Rent-a-Car, Expeditors International, Florida State University, Frances B. Dantzer, CPA, Future Trees, Inc., Georgia Ports Authority, Georgia Southern University, Habitat for Humanity, Hancock Askew & Co., International Center for Leadership & Coaching, Interstate Transport, JIT Warehousing, Kimberly-Clark Corp., Lanier Worldwide, Inc., Liberty Tax & Accounting Service, Mass Media Marketing, Memorial Hospital, Mermaid Cottages, Merrill Lynch, Moe's Southwest Grill, Mountville Mills, Inc., NeSmith Chevrolet, New York Stock Exchange, Ogeechee Technical College, Park Avenue Bank, PricewaterhouseCoopers, Regis, Sea Island Bank, Serenity Day Spa & Salon, Southern Boosters, Spirit and Truth Worship Center, Starlight Children's Foundation, Taco Bell, Target Stores, The Herff Jones Company, ULine, and Viracon.

The College of Business Administration has 98 full-time faculty members, 11 administrative and part-time faculty, and 18,108 alumni; the College of Information Technology has 25 full-time faculty members, 14 administrative and part-time faculty, and 379 alumni.

FALL 2008 ENROLLMENT

COBA Pre-Business	1,962
CIT Pre-Technology	316
Majors	
Accounting	257
Computer Science	56
Economics	45
Finance	236
Information Systems	58
Information Technology	107
Logistics / Intermodal	118
Management	194
Marketing	257
Total	1,328
Graduate Studies	
Master of Accounting	83
Master of Business Admin	158
Master of Applied Econ	12
WebMBA	68
Total	321
Total COBA and CIT Students	3,927

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

Accounting Association
 Association of Certified Fraud Examiners
 Association for Computing Machinery
 Association of Information Technology Professionals
 American Marketing Association
 Beta Alpha Psi Accounting Association
 Beta Gamma Sigma Business Honor Society
 Delta Sigma Pi Business Fraternity
 Economics Club
 Finance Club
 Georgia Retail Association
 Logistics Association
 Graduate Student Organization
 Students in Free Enterprise
 National Association of Black Accountants
 Society for Human Resource Management

2007-08 GRADUATES¹

	2007	2008
BBA	531	546
BS (CIT)	87	93
MAcc	31	36
MBA	59	64
Web MBA	6	14
TOTAL	714	753

¹Represents 25.3% of total degrees conferred in 2008.

Mark your calendar for the 16th Annual COBA Golf Tournament

Friday, May 15, 2009

Forest Heights Country Club

Morning

Registration: 7:30 – 8:00 A.M.
 Shotgun Start: 8:00 A.M.

Afternoon

Registration: 12:00 – 1:00 P.M.
 Shotgun Start: 1:00 P.M.

Mulligans \$5.00 each (limit 4 per player)

For pre-registration, contact Lisa Williams (lwms@georgiasouthern.edu).

Eagle Executive Society Charter Members

The Eagle Executive Society is focused upon building communication between COBA and its alumni. Alumni and friends who invest \$50 in the students, faculty, programs, and future success of COBA during 2008 are considered Charter Members and receive a certificate of stock in COBA, a subscription to the **Eagle Executive**, and personal invitations to special receptions, seminars, and programs. The Eagle Executive Society supports



activities beyond the classroom by funding student competitions, travel, scholarships, assistantships, research, and scholarly endeavors. You may become a Charter Member before year-end 2008 at <https://touchpay.georgiasouthern.edu/eagleexecutive/>. Current charter members are listed below.

G. Douglas Aiken	Frances S. Deal	David Emory Lane	Michael Ryan
Douglas Aiken	Julian I. Deal	Josh Mathew Lane	Michael R. Sanders
David M. Aiken	Frank Denmark	John Leaptrott, Jr.	Ryan T. Schneider
Paul D. Albert	Trey Denton, III	Samantha G. Lee	John J. Schuyler III
James D. Alderman	D. Morgan Derst	W. John Lee, Jr.	Erica Sellers
William Anderson	Mary Devine	Ryan Lewis	Louise S. Shackelford
Mark H. Anderson	Charles H. Dickson, Jr.	Buddy Lichty	C. David Shepherd
Frances Bagley	John Franklin Dismuke	Mary J. Lockwood	Thomas Sherrouse
Robert J. Bailey	Sean Dodrill	Lurue L. Lord	Ron Shiffler
Perry C. Barnett	Justin L. Dunn	Misty Loughry	Barbara Shiffler
Rick Barr	Lori S. Durden	Carolyn Luckadoo	Charles Shuman
Richard Alan Bean	Dustin Durden	David M. Luckie	Edward Sibbald
Lovett Bennett, Jr.	Jacqueline K. Eastman	Ronald A. Lundstrom	Maria Sibbald
Melinda M. Bergbom	Kevin L. Eastman	Abby Lynes	Ralph S. Sikes, Jr.
Ednilson Bernardes	Michael English	Todd Manack	John Dennis Silva
Gray M. Bishop	Donna Lesia Finch-Thomas	Gabriel Manning	Jacob V. Simons
Patrick G. Blanchard	Olivia S. Flanagan	Karl B. Manrodt	Michael W. Skinner
Linda Bleicken	Leslie B. Fletcher	Jimmy F. Marshall, Jr.	William R. Smith
Leonard H. Blount	Jenny S. Foss	David W. Mayer	Carole J. Smith
Gary A. Blount	Sara Fountain	Steve B. McClelland	Jennifer S. Smith
William H. Bolen	Peter L. Fraley	Lauren McCraw	Lowell Sneathen, Jr.
Thomas P. Bond, Jr.	Robert Franklin	John McDaniel	Jean Carol Spoolstra
William J. Bostwick	George Freeman	Mike McDonald	Ronald W. Stalnaker
Edward S. Bowles	Jenny L. Gentry	Samuel A. McDuffie	Justin Stamey
Esther Bowman	Godfrey A. Gibbison	C. William McGahee	Helen Stembridge
Richard Bowman	Carl Gooding	Matthew R. McGhee	Asbury Stembridge, Jr.
Richard Bowman, Jr.	Barbara Greef	Britton McKay	Richard A. Stephens III
Dale Braddy	Nathaniel Green	William H. McClain	Lewis M. Stewart
Theresa S. Brennan	William I. Griffis	Beverly W. McLendon	Charlene K. Stewart
Brian C. Brennan	Sara Jeanette Grimes	Robert Melton	Alan M. Strawn
Gregory J. Brock	Shelton Hall	Cheryl T. Metrejean	William N. Strawn, Jr.
John H. Brown	Horace W. Harrell, Jr.	Paul Metrejean	David A. Streets
Steve Brown	Larry F. Harrison	Morgan P. Miles	Jody P. Stubbs
Hoke S. Brunson, Jr.	Consuelo Hart	Lowell Mooney	Perry Sumner, Jr.
Adam S. Bryant	Charles Harter	James L. Moore	Cathy Owens Swift
G. Wallace Bryson	Peter Hayes	H. Phillip Moore, Jr.	Cheryl Tatum
Mack Bryson, Jr.	Mary F. Hazeldine	Richard A. Moreau	Thomas Tharpe
M. Albert Burke	William D. Head	D. Greg Morgan	Robert E. Thigpen, Jr.
Gerard Burke	Bill T. Herring	Joshua B. Morris	Nina Thompson
Bryan R. Burke	Nancy Herring	Melanie B. Mosley	Valerie A. Thompson
Max Burns	Leonard E. Herrington	Linda Mullen	Lee Tompkins, Jr.
Lisa Butler	William R. Hickman, Jr.	Linda S. Munilla	Joseph Tompkins
Don E. Callaway	Edwin G. Hill	Ed Nelson	Kris Michael Trainor
Harry S. Carter	James M. Hood	Maurice H. Nimmons, Jr.	Edward Trizzino
Brenda S. Carter	Myrna Hood	Charley Nix	F. Ward Trulock
Rosemary Carter	Donald D. Howard	Lana Nix	Scott Tuten
Johnny L. Carter	Angelia Huggins	Thomas G. Noland	Derick Tuttle
Tom Case	Robert Jackson	G. Mike Odom, Jr.	Allison Vaughn
Richard J. Chambers	Ori James	Timothy O'Mahony	Robert Verhey
Sarah J. Chester	Matthew H. Janofsky	Robert R. Padgett	Robert Norton Ware
Joong-Kun Cho	Jeanette K. Jenkins	Abbie Parham	Benjamin B. Watkins III
Donald W. Cioban	John Jennings	Kelly C. Penn	Misty Watson
David T. Clayton	Lindsey D. Johnson, Jr.	David K. Pitman	Mark A. Weeks
Wesley Cobb	Michael K. Johnson	Luke Pittaway	William H. Wells
James T. Coe	Thomas E. Johnson	James Pollak	Linda Wilke
Alvie Coes, III	Thomas W. Jones	Andrea Powell	Susan R. Williams
Doug Collins III	Dennis F. Jones, Jr.	Del E. Presley	Bobbie Williams
G. Gregory Colson	James M. Joyce	Larry E. Price	Richard S. Williams
Thomas G. Connor	Kelly M. Kahley	Russell A. Priddy	Alvin Williams
Lisa Conti-Bacon	Julia Ann Kelly	Aliese P. Priddy	Lois Williams
Kerry H. Cotter III	Sharon Kelly	James Randall	Kyle Williams
Jack L. Culpepper, Jr.	Everett Kennedy III	Cindy H. Randall	Russell Williams, Jr.
W. Mike Cummings	William C. Kirby	Stephen E. Rary	Lynda B. Williamson
Lynn Dadisman	Brent Kittel	Mona K. Ratchford	Bonnie C. Wilson
R. Bruce Dannelly	Sean Micheal Knox	Danny Keith Ricks	Jerry Wilson
Casey Dare, Sr.	John F. Kohn	Glen Riecken	Wendel H. Wilson
Tommy David	Brian Kramschuster	Patrick S. Rising	William R. Woolford
Elynor Davis	Jonathan Lafevers	Charles G. Rogers	Mircle Yap
James E. Davis, Jr.	Paul Lagrone	Stephen J. Rountree	Karl Van Zeigler
Margot M. Dawkins	Douglas H. Lambert	Madeline Ruhland	Kimberly Zell
Barry W. Deal	Jamie Lane		

Faces of Homecoming 2008

W. L. "Bill" Thomas (1988 MGT), Big Bad Wolf Barbeque, catered a barbecue luncheon for the homecoming cookout held under the water tower in the parking lot of Paulson Stadium. Special thanks are extended to COBA's Homecoming Committee, Jerry Wilson, professor of logistics and marketing; Jan Grimes, instructor of management; Linda Mullen, assistant professor of management; Susan Williams, associate dean; and Lisa Williams, administrative specialist, for their help with this event. Later that day, Georgia Southern's Eagles suffered a heartbreaking loss to Samford's Bulldogs. The final score was 27-17.



ALUMNIVILLE

Accounting

G. Mike Odom, IV (1984), Richmond Hill, is now an executive vice president and Liberty County division president for the Coastal Bank, Hinesville. He is married to Mary Hannaford, a 1984 Georgia Southern accounting graduate, and they have two children.

Mark G. Reddick (1989; MBA 1994), formerly in Grayson, is now in Cumming, where he is dean of technical studies for Appalachian Technical College Jasper. Email: markreddick@hotmail.com.

David M. Hylton (1992), formerly in Charlotte, NC, is now in Huntersville, NC, where he is a CPA and senior tax manager for Wayne Noble & Company, CPAs, Charlotte. His wife is Kim Willing. Email: dmhylton@wagnernoble.com.

Michelle Cufforth Wells (1993; MBA 1994), formerly in Quincy, IL, is now in Greer, SC, where she is a tax manager and CPA with Ernst & Young, Greenville, SC. She is married to Derek Wells, and they have two daughters.

Michael S. Lamberth (1994), Quinton, VA, is an attorney with Capital One, Richmond.

John R. Massey (1994), CPA, Savannah, is now a partner in Hancock & Askew, CPAs. He is married to Susanne Clay, a 1995 Georgia Southern accounting graduate. Email: jmassey@hancockaskew.com.

Katrina R. Fisher (1996), Columbia, SC, has been named vice president and accounting manager for South Carolina Bank & Trust. She is married to William Donaldson, and they have a daughter. Katrina received an MBA from Albany State.

J. Matt Lane (1996), Nashville, TN, is now vice president of Gen Cap America. His wife is Ashley. Email: mlane@gencapamerica.com.

Jim W. Vaughn, II (1998), formerly in Warwick, is now in Albany, where he is a

partner and CPA with Mauldin & Jenkins, CPAs. He recently married Michelle Greenway, a 1998 Georgia Southern biology graduate.

Bethany Goss (2000; MAcc 2001), formerly in Atlanta, is now in Guyton, where she is a valuation analyst with Hancock Askew & Co., CPAs, Savannah. She is married to Brandon Hofman. Email: bhofman@hancockaskew.com.

Carrie Elizabeth Scott (2001), Statesboro, an employee of Southern States Coop, is engaged to Jonathan Carter Rafferty, a Virginia Commonwealth University graduate.

Bradley E. Meader (2004), formerly in Duluth, is now in Bethlehem, PA, where he is a senior consultant with Pricewaterhouse Coopers, Philadelphia, PA. He is a CPA in Georgia and Pennsylvania. Bradley is married to Jessica Rodgers Reese and was one of our soccer players. Email: bmeader@hotmail.com.

Jennifer L. Denmark (2005), formerly in Brooklet, is now in Atlanta, where she is a mortgage broker with Lenox Financial Mortgage. She is engaged to Eric A. Schrepel, a 2004 Georgia Southern logistics graduate.

Jeanette Kellum Lafond (2005), Statesboro, is a staff auditor with the Georgia Department of Audits. She is married to Robert Lafond, a 2007 Georgia Tech graduate. Email: jekellum@hotmail.com.

James Dean Mitchell (2007), St. Petersburg, FL, is a staff acct. with Roberts, Hanna, & Arndt, CPAs. Email: jimdean83@yahoo.com.

Business Administration

Robbie Franklin (1964), Statesboro, owner/president of Franklin Toyota, is the recipient of the President's Award from Toyota for the second straight year. His dealership is the area's only two consecutive year winner of the award.



Laura Decker Macrenaris (Accounting 2003; cum laude) works just outside of Atlanta as a corporate accountant for the billion dollar concrete company, Oldcastle Precast, a subsidiary of the Irish company CRH, Inc. After graduation, Laura took a job at an accounting firm in Gainesville and soon begin work on an MBA. In Fall 2006, she earned an MBA through the University of Phoenix's online program.

While at Georgia Southern, Laura was a Diamond Girl for the baseball team and attended the University of Innsbruck, Austria, as part of the Study Abroad Program. She was able to travel throughout Italy, Switzerland, and Germany on the weekend breaks during the program. Laura states her experience in the Study Abroad Program "was the best of my life, one I will treasure forever, and I owe it all to a flyer I saw on campus one day."

Laura married Jason Macrenaris on April 19, 2008. After a honeymoon in St. Lucia, the couple purchased a home in Stone Mountain.

Economics

Uli Ebensperger (2002), Altdorf, Germany, is an analyst with Cohen & Company, Paris. Uli was one of our tennis players. Email: uliebensperger@hotmail.com.

Shantell S. Roberson (2004), formerly in Pooler, is now in Garden City, where she is a project manager with the Savannah Economic Development Authority. She recently married James Wilson, a current student at Savannah Technical College.

Terrence McDuffie (2006), Pooler, is currently working on his MBA at Georgia Southern.

Finance

Michelle M. Boss (1985), formerly in Rome, is now in Loganville, where she is the owner of Razzles Daycare Center. She is married to Donald Boss.

John Edward Waters (1988), Ooltewah, TN, is the lead pastor for the Christway Community Church. He is married to Anglea Riley, a 1989 Georgia Southern printing management graduate. John, from Statesboro, was one of our cross country runners. Email: jwaters@christwaychurch.org.

Wesley S. Fountain (1989), Swainsboro, has a property rental business.

R. Steve Raines (1989), formerly in Covington, is now in Jackson, where he is the production supervisor for The Scotts/Miracle-Gro Company. He has a son named Austin. Email: steve.raines@scotts.com.

Brian R. Markowitz (1991), Savannah, is now vice president of Morgan Keegan. His wife is Amy Rahn, and they have two children. Email: brian.morgan@morgankeegan.com.

Ryan T. Schneider (1991), Savannah, president of Hostetter Schneider Realty Partners, is also president of the Realtors Commercial Alliance. Ryan is also president of Savannah/Hilton Head realtors Commercial Alliance. He is married to Sharon Stubbs. Email: ryan@hsrealtypartners.com.

James M. "Jamey" Durrence, III (1994), Glennville, has been promoted to senior vice president and chief development officer for The Claxton Bank. His wife is Amber Claxton, and they have two children Mikaley and Banks.

Simon Sikes Lane (1997), Statesboro, has been selected Teacher of the Year for William James Middle School. She has MEd and EDS degrees from Georgia Southern as well as her BBA. Simon is married to John Lane, a 1993 Georgia Southern finance graduate, and they have two children, Britt (5) and John Daniel (2). Email: simonsikeslane@hotmail.com.

Walter "Nick" Propps (1998), formerly in Bethesda, MD, is now in Statesboro, where he is an associate broker with Manack Signature Properties. Email: np@nickpropps.com.

Jill Freeman Forehand (1999), Sylvania, is now the assistant director of donor relations for Georgia Southern. She is married to Jason Forehand. Email: jforehand@georgiasouthern.edu.

Sheila Rogers Hill (1999; MBA 2001), formerly in Jesup, is now in McDonough, where she is an Acct II with the Georgia Department of Labor. She is married to Lance A. Hill, a 1999 Georgia Southern finance graduate. While in the MBA program, Sheila was a graduate assistant in the Office of Publications and helped put out the *Eagle Executive* and other COBA publications. Email: sheilarhill@yahoo.com.

Lance A. Hill (1999), formerly in Saint George, is now in McDonough, where he is a trust administrator with SunTrust Bank. He is married to Sheila Rogers, a 1999 Georgia Southern finance and 2001 MBA graduate.

Matthew L. DeLoach (2001), Statesboro, campaign manager for John Stone for Congress, is engaged to Jessica Redmond, an Armstrong Atlantic State University alumna.

Wilkeyda Austin (2003), formerly in Savannah, is now in Stockbridge, where she is a credit analyst for SunTrust Bank, Atlanta. Email: wl_austi@yahoo.com.

Michael "Skip" Swain (2003), Saint Marys, is now a commercial loan officer for The Coastal Bank of Georgia, Kingsland. Email: skipswain@coastalbankofga.com.

Justin McCartney (2004), formerly in Hinesville, is now in Statesboro, where he has been made a partner with CORE and CUSO Financial Services. His wife is Katherine, and they have a daughter, MacKenzie.

Jennifer Suzanne Waters (2004), Savannah, a financial center lender for BB&T, is engaged to Thomas Todd Mayo, an Armstrong Atlantic State University graduate.

Eric Hagen (2005), formerly in Brunswick, is now in Lizella, where he is in auditing for Georgia Power Company. His wife is Denna. Email: dchagan@cox.net.

Jennie Roseann Powell (2005), formerly in Louisville, is now in Matthews, where she is the senior pension administrator for Retirement Strategies. She is married to Brandon James, a 2005 Georgia Southern construction management graduate.

ALUMNIVILLE

College of Business Administration

ACC 1984 - FIN 2005

ALUMNIVILLE

Donnie Robinson (2005), Winston, is a financial planning specialist with Atlanta Financial Associates, Atlanta. He is working on an MBA at Georgia State. Email: donniebrasco32@yahoo.com.

Lauren Dean McCraw (2005), Savannah, is the acct. manager for Synergy Designer Homes. Email: laurenmccraw@yahoo.com.

Brandy Luttrell (2005), Albany, is a claims adjuster with Progressive Insurance. She is engaged to Kyle Kimmer, a 2003 Georgia Southern graduate. Email: brandy_c_luttrell@progressive.com.

Justin Elam (2005), formerly in Hinesville, is now in Carrollton, where he is the branch manager for American General Finance.

Robert Lee Brown, Jr. (2006), formerly in Kennesaw, is now in Lawrenceville, where he is a claims adjuster, for Liberty Mutual Insurance, Norcross. He is married to Tara Elizabeth Franklin, a 2007 Georgia Southern nursing graduate. Email: robertl.brown@libertymutual.com.

Sean T. Frost (2006), Canton, is a collector/AR specialist with Honda Financial Services. Email: frosts24@hotmail.com.

Travis Turner (2006), Lawrenceville, is an account manager with Coyote Logistics, Alpharetta. Email: travisturner4@charter.net.

Laurel E. Atsegbua (2007), Lawrenceville, is an account executive with Schneider National, Atlanta. Email: atsegbua@yahoo.com.

Ryan B. Weigel (2007), is the internal finance auditor for AGL Resources, Atlanta. Email: rweigel@aglresources.com.

Morrell A. McCaskill (2007), formerly in the 'Boro, is now in Pooler, where he is a financial specialist for Wachovia Bank on Abercorn in Savannah. Email: mmccaski@georgiasouthern.edu.

General Business

Charles R. Wirt (1971), Miami, FL, is a pilot and an aviation insurance agent with the Southeast Insurance Center, Miami. Email: phlyer48@aol.com.

Information Systems

Darren W. Bridges (1986), Atlanta, is now the president of Safe Systems, Inc., Alpharetta. His wife is Selena. Email: darren.bridges@safesystems.com.

Ryan B. Brennan (2000), formerly in Atlanta, is now in Roswell, where he is the regional

sales manager for Foundry Networks. He is married to Heather Bowers. Email: rbrennan@foundrynet.com.

Matt Selph (2002), Dublin, is the MIS coordinator for Fred's Southeast Distribution Center. He is married to Kristen Davis.

Joshua B. Morris (2005), Alpharetta, is a systems engineer with Safe Systems, Inc. Email: gsubass@gmail.com.

Jocelyn Carrie Smith (2005), Richmond Hill, recently married Chaz Brett Eure, a 2007 Georgia Southern public relations graduate.

Ryan Richardson (2006), Statesboro, has been named technology director and bank security officer for The Claxton Bank. He is also the owner/founder of Xtreme Computing. His wife is Brenda, and they have a son, Parker.

Logistics

Patrick M. O'Connell (1999), Tulsa, OK, is the director of distribution operations for Hilti, Inc., Broken Arrow, OK. He was on our swim team. Email: poconnell1659@gmail.com.

Matthew S. Laverne (2000), Lithia Springs, is the risk manager/safety director for the Douglas County Board of Commissioners, Douglasville. Email: mlaverne@gmail.com.

Jonathan LeFevers (2003), formerly in Atlanta, is now in Americus, where he is director of commercial relations for the Heart of Georgia and Georgia Midland Railroad. His wife is Heather.

Travis Betz (2004), Pooler, is an aviation officer with the U.S. Army. He is married to Katrina Dekle. Email: travisbetz@bellsouth.net.

Matthew Charles Brown (2004), Conyers, the southeast territory manager for Aquatic Sales, recently married Leah Rebecca Wynn, a Georgia Southern marketing graduate.

Esther J. Harvey (2004), Statesboro, a Lt. in the Georgia Army National Guard, recently returned from her first deployment to Iraq. Her next assignment will take her to the Republic of Georgia for three weeks of training with the country's army. Email: esther.harvey@yahoo.com.

Eric Allen Schrepel (2004), formerly in Brooklet, is now in Atlanta, where he is a rental acct. manager for Ryder Transportation. He is engaged to Jennifer L. Denmark, a 2004 Georgia Southern accounting graduate.

Dane Auensen (2006; Delta Sig), Roswell, is the logistics administrator for the Golden Peanut Company, Alpharetta. Email: dauensen@gmail.com.

Justine Willbanks (2007), formerly in Cartersville, is now in Gray. An employee of the Saddle Creek Corp., Macon, he recently

married Kara Mulryan, a 2007 Georgia Southern COE graduate.

Paul L. Rothenbuhler (2007), Portal, a Lt. in the Army National Guard, is married to Pamela Kay Neville, a 2006 Georgia Southern art history graduate.

Darryl M. Lott, Jr. (2007), formerly in Mauldin, SC, is now in Alachua, FL, where he is the dispatcher office manager for Wal-Mart, Inc. Email: mo_lott@hotmail.com.

Management

Kathy A. Daniel (1980), West Africa, is a missionary for the International Missionary Board. Email: lovenafrika@usa.net.

Jennifer Bess Thomas (1995), Savannah, is now an HR business consultant for Memorial Health. She is married to Thomas Woelber, a 1996 Georgia Southern accounting graduate.

Amy Fox Balzarano (1998), Stamford, CT, is the HR manager for Alea North America, Rocky Hill, CT. She is married to Marc Balzarano. Email: amy.balzarano@alea-group.com.

Amy Hagans (2000), Metter, currently employed with AirTran Airways, recently married Brent Robertson Terrell.

Christopher D. Morgan (2000), Pooler, is the operations manager for Staples, Savannah. He is married to Marianna Webb.

Heather Altire (2001), Pooler, is now an assistant manager for human resources for the Georgia Ports Authority, Garden City. She recently became a foster parent for two children. Email: haltire@gaports.com.

Matt Henderson (2001), Woodstock, is employed by Pediatric services of America and completing a masters in accounting. He is married to Nancy Settle.

Scott M. Bogen (2003), Ft. Myers, FL, is the sales and marketing account manager for the Florida Everglades hockey team. Email: sbogen2003@yahoo.com.

DeWayne Grice (2003), Statesboro, recently portrayed Dr. Bill Perry in the Averitt Center for the Arts production of "The Living Legacy of Erk Russell: A Life Done Right." DeWayne is married to Lori, an award winning photographer and Georgia Southern marketing alumna.

M. Wayne Murphy (2004), Pooler, has been promoted to assistant golf professional for the Club of Savannah Harbor. Email: wayne.murphy@westin.com.

Sarah T. Chester (2004), Statesboro, has been promoted to assistant banking officer/deposit specialist with First Southern National Bank. She is married to Justin Chester.

Dana L. Beneman (2005), formerly in Statesboro, is now in Odessa, TX, where she is a Caseworker II with the Department of Family & Protective Services. Dana was on the Lady Eagles Basketball Team for four years. Email: divab82@hotmail.com.

Bradley C. Bonner (2006), Statesboro, is a professional poker player online. He is married to April Lane, a current COE student, and they have a daughter, Cadence (3). Email: goautigers85@yahoo.com.

Logan E. Lanier (2006), Cobbtown, is the manager/owner of Reidsville Electric and Ace Hardware, Reidsville. He is married to Heather Jones, a 2005 Georgia Southern psychology graduate. Email: llanier11@hotmail.com.

Clay M. Elrod (2006), McDonough, is a trainmaster for Norfolk Southern, Gordon. He manages railroad operations in Middle Georgia for Norfolk Southern. Email: clay.elrod@nscorp.com.



Kelly Kahley (Finance 1990) was recently promoted to head of the Mortgage Division and director of business development at First Southern National Bank.

In her new capacity, she will be coordinating First Southern's mortgage lending departments at the main, Market District and Effingham offices. She will be responsible for training, recruiting, hiring, overseeing and implementing the strategic plan for mortgage lending. In addition, she will coordinate and manage business development and sales efforts for the bank.

Kelly joined the First Southern team in August of 2006, bringing with her over 18 years in mortgage lending and banking industry experience. She recently received recognition as the "Best Mortgage Lender in the 'Boro" by readers of the *Statesboro Herald*. Kelly Kahley is also very active in the community, serving as the 2008 Statesboro-Bulloch Chamber of Commerce special events chair and as a board member of Homebuilders of Statesboro. She is currently a member of the Statesboro Board of Realtors, Statesboro Service League, Professional Women of Statesboro, and serves as treasurer for the Phi Mu Alumnae chapter. Kelly and her husband, Karl, reside in Statesboro with their two children, Cameron and Christina, and are members of First Baptist Church in Statesboro.

Congrats Kelly Kahley!!!

ALUMNIVILLE

College of Business Administration

FIN 2005 - MGT 2006

ALUMNIVILLE

William M. West, II (2006), formerly in Whigham, is now in Macon, where he is the general manager of Auto Credit of Macon. Email: wmwest2@gmail.com.

Renard (R. J.) Montford (2007), Atlanta, is in outside sales with Fastenal, Decatur. R. J. was on the football team. Email: gadec@stores.fastenal.com.

Marketing

Tracy Carnes Alter (1990), Albuquerque, NM, is the director of education and PR for the New Mexico Health Care Association. She is married to Joel Alter, and they have two daughters, Jordan (15) and Hailey (10). Email: abqtracy505@msn.com.

Paul S. Greenspan (1991), formerly in Marietta, is now in Bradenton, FL, where he is president and owner for Ready-to-Sell. His wife is Mour. Email: paulgreenspan@ready-to-sell.com.

Madeline Ann Chandler (1992), Ellijay, is an innkeeper at The Overlook Inn, Chatsworth. Email: madelinechandler@hotmail.com.

Matt Fowler (1994), Suwanee, is the owner of Georgia Water and Fire Restoration. He is married to Tina Butler, a 1994 Georgia Southern finance graduate, and they have a daughter, Morgan. Email: tina@thefowlerconnection.com.

Marty Sauls, IV (1994), Ridgeland, SC, public relations director of Tradition Hilton Head, Hardeeville, SC, has been elected president of the Jasper County (SC) Chamber of Commerce.

Waymond F. Allen (1998; MBA 2002), Pooler, is now a manufacturing engineer with Gulfstream Aerospace, Savannah. He is married to Kimberly McClain, a 2000 Georgia Southern nutrition graduate. Email: waymond.allen@gulfstream.com.

Kyle A. Hensel (2002; MBA 2003), formerly in Statesboro, is now in McDonough, where

he is the area director of the Clayton State Small Business Development Center. Email: kylehensel@clayton.edu.

Sharon Jones (2004), formerly in Norcross, is now in Statesboro, where she is the office manager for Fire Tech.

Brandie Ellison (2005), Atlanta, is a junior brand planner with Fitzgerald & Co. Email: brandieellison2003@yahoo.com.

Matthew B. Paige (2005; 2007 MBA), Statesboro, an employee of Wachovia Bank, Augusta, recently married Charlotte Rushing, a current Augusta State student.

Lindi Lee Ellwood (2005), Register, an 8th grade math teacher for the Burke County BOE, is engaged to Will C. Sullivan, IV, a 2005 ABAC graduate.

Jamie A. DeMersman (2006), Decatur, is a branch manager with Wells Fargo. Email: jdemersm@gmail.com.

Rachel Gibbs (2006), formerly in Pooler, is now in Knoxville, TN, where she is in international freight logistics with C.H. Robinson Worldwide. She is married to Georgia Southern alumnus Marshall Mason. Email: rachelgmason@gmail.com.

Leah Rebecca Wynn (2006), Pooler, an import customs brokerage agent in the Savannah office of Expeditors International, is married to Matthew Charles Brown, a 2004 Georgia Southern logistics graduate.

Staci Anderson (2006), Fort Mill, SC, is now a marketing analyst with Wachovia, Charlotte. Email: stacianderson22@aol.com.

Tara Prindle (2007), formerly in Marietta, is now in Atlanta, where she is the executive administrative assistant for Alpha Delta Pi. Email: tprindle@alphadeltapi.com.

Desmund L. Nicely (2007), Stone Mountain, is an online consultant with

CareerBuilder .com, Norcross. Email: desmund.nicely@careerbuilder.com.

Takisha Brown (2007), formerly in McDonough, is now in Lithonia, where she is a regional financial rep with Sherwin Williams, Tucker. Email: kiki0285@hotmail.com.

MAcc

Allen D. Akins (2006), Collins, has joined Hancock & Askew, CPAs, Savannah, as an auditor.

MBA

William B. McLeod (1990), Ashburn, VA, is now the sales director for Gulfstream Aerospace Corp., Ashburn. Email: billymac60@gmail.com.

Rob Stockton (1997), Tiger, general manager of Duvall Ford Co., Clayton, was inducted into the Georgia Southern Athletics Hall of Fame. He was on the football team from 1992-1995, First Team Academic All-American in 1995, and Second Team All Southern Conference as a defensive back. He is credited with 322 tackles, 7 interceptions, and 20 pass break-ups. His wife is Sherie.

Christian A. Jones (2000), Savannah, is the pharmacy manager for St. Joseph's/Candler. He is married to Marie Palmer, and they are expecting their first child in August. Email: cjonespharmd@bellsouth.net.

Gina Taormina (2004), Statesboro, is CFO/COO for The Neurological Center of East Georgia. She is married to Dr. Michael Taormina.

Ryan S. Martin (2005), Pooler, is vice president of The Coastal Bank. He is married to Leigh Gladden. Email: rmartin85@comcast.net.

Kimberly Lund Mathis (2006), formerly in Cordova, TN, is now in Jacksonville, FL,

where she is a senior accountant with the PGA Tours, Ponte Verda, FL. She is married to Douglas Mathis. Email: ki1615@yahoo.com.

Sarah Stokes Meyer (2006), Brunswick, is the finance director for the Coastal Medical Access Project. She is married to Matthew Meyer. Email: smeyer@cmappg.org.

Ted W. Gibson, Sr. (2007), Pooler, is the senior procurement project manager with Gulfstream. his wife is Bertha. Email: twgibson014@yahoo.com.

Office Administration

Barbara Thompkins Gailey (1973), formerly in Conyers, is now in Hoschton, where she is retired. She is married to Tony Gailey, and the proud grandmother of four. Email: bgandtg@comcast.net.

In Memoriam

Bill Pollak (BS 1964), Hixson, TN, passed away on May 7, 2008.

Nancy Chattin (1980), Kennesaw, wife of John H. Chattin (BBA, 1969), passed away recently.

Kevin C. Gordon (Mgt 1996), Riverdale, passed away on June 20, 2005.

Tony Petrea, Jr. (IS 2002), Tybee Island, passed away on April 6, 2008.



Nancy Jenkins Welch (1968), Highlands, NC, formerly of Statesboro, passed away on October 31, 2008.

(photo courtesy of Statesboro Herald)

Nancy Welch

LET US HEAR FROM YOU!

COBA Alumni Questionnaire

Full Name (include maiden name) _____

Spouse's Name (include maiden name) _____

Georgia Southern Graduation Year(s) _____ Degree(s) _____ Major(s) _____

Spouse Degree and Year _____

Home Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone Number () _____ Business Phone Number () _____

Employer _____

Business Title _____

Business Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-Mail Address _____

Preferred Address for delivery Home Office

Complete this form and return to Lewis Stewart, Georgia Southern University, Business Alumni, P. O. Box 8002E, Statesboro, GA 30460-8002.

Homecoming Professor for a Day

Homecoming Professor for a Day has become a very popular program. Each year at homecoming participants share insight into their various areas of expertise, careers, and experiences since their own college days.

Lisa L. Conti-Bacon, CPA, is an audit manager with Hancock Askew in Savannah. She holds a BBA with an emphasis in accounting from Georgia Southern and a BS in forest resources and conservation from the University of Florida. Lisa serves as president of the Savannah Chapter of Georgia Society of CPAs.

Ron A. Lundstrom, MPA, CPA/ CFF, FCPA, CFE, is president of Lundstrom LLC, Atlanta, a forensic accounting and fraud investigation firm. He received a BBA in accounting in 1969 from Georgia Southern and an MPA, also in accounting, from Georgia State. Ron currently serves on the Forensic Accounting Advisory Board for the Center for Forensic Studies in Accounting and the Business and the Accounting Advisory Council for the School of Accountancy.



Ron Lundstrom stresses the point, "accounting knowledge makes you a better manager," in Gloria Stuart's accounting class.

John W. Lucht, CPA, CPEC, serves as partner in charge of Accounting, Advisory and Assurance Services for Smith & Howard, Atlanta. John received his accounting degree from The University of Georgia. He is a member of the Georgia Society of CPAs and the American Institute of CPAs.

Alex Knight, CPA, is a partner in the Advisory and Business Services Group at Habif, Arogeti & Wynne, LLP, which focuses primarily on tax planning for high net worth individuals, corporate executives, athletes, and entertainers. He earned both a BS in business administration with a concentration in accounting and a master of professional accounting with an emphasis on taxation from the University

of Tennessee. Alex is on the Board of Directors of the British American Business Group and he serves as the organization's president.

Greg L. Jenkins, II, is a senior accountant for the City of Greensboro, NC. He graduated from Georgia Southern with both a BBA in business finance in 2000 and an MBA in 2003. Greg serves on the Greensboro Municipal Credit Union Board and is treasurer for the Triad Chapter of the National Forum for Black Public Administration.

Kim Hammock is a certified mortgage specialist and vice president in the Private Mortgage Division of Atlantic Bank & Trust, Charleston, SC. She graduated from Georgia Southern in May 2007 with a BBA in economics. While at Georgia Southern, Kim was president of the Economics Club and was a cheerleader.



Kim Hammock presented mortgage crisis issues in TracyAnn Henry's economics class.

Mike McCarthy, CPA, is an audit partner for Hancock Askew in Savannah. Mike's experience includes managing the accounting and reporting for public equity and debt offerings, business combinations and dispositions, advising internal audit departments on developing test plans and strategies to enhance corporate governance, and SEC filing. Mike holds a BS in accounting from Auburn University.

Erica Cobb is the senior corporate recruiter at TitleMax, headquartered in Savannah. She earned a BBA in marketing with an emphasis in sales from Georgia Southern in 2001. Erica serves on the Advisory Board for the Savannah Technical College and is an ambassador for the Savannah Chamber & Visitors Bureau. ♦

Grices Celebrate Holidays

Lori Grice (Marketing 1990) was invited by First Lady Laura Bush to join national artists in creating Christmas Tree decorations for the Blue Room of the White House. Lori and husband, Dwayne (Management 2003), attended an open house and preview ceremony on December 2, where she presented the Georgia



Lori Grice

Southern eagle, Freedom, ornament she designed from photos taken at the Georgia Southern–The University of Georgia football game.

Lori was recognized by Georgia Professional Photographers Association as 2007 Georgia Professional Photographer of the Year and one of 31 Master Photographers in Georgia. ♦

School of Accountancy

Executive in Residence

Jonathan Kraftchick, CPA and manager of training and recruiting for Cherry, Bekaert & Holland, CPAs in Raleigh, NC, spoke at the annual School of Accountancy (SOA) Executive in Residence program held in October 2008 at the Performing Arts Center, Nessmith-Lane Continuing Education Building at Georgia Southern.

In his training role, Kraftchick is responsible for implementing and evaluating the firm's training and continuing education strategies through course development and teaching.

In his appearance as keynote speaker for the Executive in Residence program, he led a very informative, spirited, yet light hearted lecture to a packed auditorium of Georgia Southern students. Feedback from the students was excellent and many expressed regret it could not last longer than the hour and one-half session, which included questions and answers on financial literacy and how to manage credit. Since 2005, Mr. Kraftchick has led several financial literacy courses throughout North Carolina, manly focusing on topics such as getting and staying out of debt, budgeting, couples' finance, and wealth management. In 2006, he created a college student finance series to help graduating students to transition to the "real" world.

Mr. Kraftchick attended the University of Georgia initially majoring in theatre and religion before setting off to become an actor. Realizing that waiting tables and

begging for tips was not the lifestyle he wanted, he transferred to University of North Carolina–Chapel Hill, where he received a BA in economics. He earned his master of accounting in 2001 and now spends a majority of his time conducting audits and consulting engagements for public and private companies throughout the southeast. He is editor of two newspapers published monthly and quarterly serves as adjunct professor of accounting at Elon University.

The School of Accountancy's Executive in Residence program was established in 1996 to bring high profile, highly successful executives to campus to encourage accounting students and to share with them

what it takes to have meaningful and rewarding careers. Each year, the SOA invites executives from different career paths to illustrate the vast array of opportunities that exists for accounting graduates. "This has become one of the students' favorite programs," said Chuck Harter, SOA director. "Students know they can do well in the accounting profession, but when they hear about the accomplishments of these executives and the stories of challenges, perseverance, and success, it really registers with them," he added. "The students, faculty, and staff all seem to enjoy these E-i-R programs. They have become a highlight of the academic year in the College of Business Administration," Harter concluded. ♦



Jonathan Kraftchick

Dinner with the Dean

The recent *Dinner with the Dean* series has evolved to help COBA make new friends and identify potential supporters for the College of Business Administration. The events usually takes place as in a small group setting, hosted by an individual or company, administered by **Linda Wilke** and **Jamie Lane** from COBA's external relations department, and keynoted by **Dean Shiffler**. Guests are invited in order to build relationships within the community and present the current needs of the College.

The first two *Dinners with the Dean* were held in Macon in June and September. The third *Dinner with the Dean* was held in Dublin in October. The fourth event this semester took place in Savannah and was hosted by Hancock Askew in October.

Future events are currently in the works to take place in Orlando, FL, Atlanta, and Hilton Head Island, SC.

Dean Shiffler said, "I enjoy being the guest of honor at these events. It is an excellent opportunity to be able to meet with the people who help make this college special. The ongoing cultivation between the college and the community is essential to our future success."

Dinner with the Dean has contributed to the college's success in building the base of annual and endowed contributors reflected in the chart above. For 2008, 294 annual contributors offered an average of \$272 each for \$80,075 reached in annual contributions, while 17 contributors provided an average of \$9,089 each for \$154,510 in endowments. ♦

