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GEORGIA SOUTHERN  
UNIVERSITY

Couldn't make it to  
Comm. Arts, INC this  
year? Check out our

Storify at  
[sfy.co/i1Ald](http://sfy.co/i1Ald)

**Congratulations to  
the cast and crew of**

***The Mysteries:  
Creation!***

**Spring Auditions  
begin Wednesday,  
Dec. 2 at 6 p.m. by  
appointment**

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Georgia Southern  
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Department of  
Communication Arts**

# Comm Arts Talk

Perfecting the lines of communication

VOLUME 14, ISSUE 3

NOVEMBER 2015

## See You Again Next Year, Comm. Arts, INC

The Communication Arts Department hosted its second annual Comm. Arts, INC – Internship, Networking and Career Fair on October 23. The event was held in the Center for Art and Theatre from noon – 4:30 p.m. Comm. Arts, INC allowed over 125 students to meet and network with professionals in their field of study, as well as look at potential internship opportunities.

An opening panel featuring Luke Story from the Georgia Association of Broadcasters and Julie Davis from Georgia-Pacific kicked off the event. The panel followed the event theme, “Don’t Let the Future Haunt You,” while our professionals discussed preparation for life after graduation.

The event then transitioned into a networking time with 17 vendors and around 25 representatives. The professionals reviewed resumes and talked with students about how to get started and advance in their field. Some vendors in attendance included: Tiny Park Productions, WTOC, ME Marketing Services and the

Savannah Bee Company.

During the networking time, students had the opportunity to attend four break-out panels.

The Corporate Communication panel featured Julie Davis from Georgia Pacific and Julianna Rabeler from Savannah Bee. Rabeler encouraged students to, “know the culture of your organization.”

The Tiny Park Productions’ Ghost Show panel talked about the film industry and featured Anna Giles, the founder of Tiny Park Productions. She told students, “networking is key!”

The Health Communication panel featured Urkovia Andrews from the Hearts and Hands Clinic and Dr. Melissa Carrion, who has practiced in and studied healthcare. Dr. Carrion told students, “In a job you can teach content, but you can’t teach someone how to communicate.”

Lastly, the Entrepreneurship panel encouraged students to

brand themselves and create a name in the industry. That panel featured Mandy Edwards from ME Marketing Services and Mehmet Caglayan from Blue Voyage Productions. Edwards encouraged students to “network to build your business. Use word of mouth.”

The event wrapped up with a closing panel on “What ALL can I do with my degree from Comm. Arts?” The panel featured David Thompson, Director of External Affairs at GSU, Jennifer Poff from the Georgia Society of CPAs and Christy Rikard, Associate Director of Freshman Admissions at GSU.



**Julie Davis and Luke Story at the opening panel of Comm. Arts, INC**

## PR Students with Co-Advisor, Dr. Pam Bourland-Davis Attend

### PRSSA National Conference



Dr. Bourland-Davis with some of the students at National Conference

Eight of our PR students had the opportunity to attend the 2015 PRSSA National Conference: Rethink, Rebuild, Renew. The conference was held in Atlanta, November 6 – 10. National Conference is the largest gathering of public relations students in the country. It provides networking with professionals and other PRSSA members from around the country. The conference features a wide variety of sessions all focused on career goals and professional interests.

Agency and career tours of major companies around

Atlanta kicked-off the event. The official opening night celebration took place at 7:30 p.m. with “Night of the Premiere.” PRSSA President Ethan Flynn toured Porter Novelli and said, “As one of the world’s premier PR firms, I could not have asked for a more educational and exciting experience into their operations!”

The next day, students enjoyed a keynote address from Coca-Cola’s Scott Williamson, and three professional development sessions. There were twelve sessions offered in varying

topics including Perfecting the Pitch, Crisis Communication Strategies and It’s all in the Details: Planning a Successful Event.

The conference continued with three more professional development sessions, another keynote address and a “Night among the Stars Award” ceremony and dinner. Some of the topics for these professional development sessions included Social Media Marketing, Transition to the Real World, and Just the Right Fit: Fashion Public Relations. If you are a PR major or minor, you won’t want to miss next year’s conference.



Photo of a previous year’s Fringe Festival. Photo credit: James Ratchford [www.shootthemagic.com](http://www.shootthemagic.com)

## Theatre Students to Take International Trip

Georgia Southern students will be taking an original devised theatre piece to the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in August of 2016.

The Fringe Festival is the largest international arts festival in the world with over 50,000 performances of 3,000+ shows in 313 different venues across Edinburgh. It takes place every August for three weeks in Scotland’s capital city.

The Fringe dates back to 1947, when eight theatre groups performed at the Edinburgh International Festival. The performances

were an initiative created to celebrate and enrich European culture in the wake of World War II. The performers weren’t part of the official program, but they staged their shows on the “Fringe of the Festival” anyway.

Theatre professor Lisa Abbott said, “This is an amazing opportunity for our theatre students to perform on the world stage.”

Devised theatre is a performance created by an ensemble based on original material or established stories that are then turned

into a performance piece. Each student will play a vital role in the creation of the final piece during spring term.

Students are currently working to raise money for the production costs through appeals to area service groups, selling chicken and waffles, a raffle and various other fundraising activities.

The next opportunity to purchase chicken and waffles will be during finals week. The theatre students will be out at the rotunda from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday. Fundraising efforts will continue through the spring.