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Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health Receives Donation to Fund Addiction Recovery Research

September 2, 2011

SEPT 2, 2011 – The Willingway Foundation, the non-profit affiliate of Willingway Hospital, recently presented its annual donation in the amount of \$89,000 to the Center for Addiction Recovery, located in the Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health (JPHCOPH) at Georgia Southern University.

The Center was founded in 2008 as the result of a gift from the Willingway Foundation to the University. During the past three years, total contributions to the Center have exceeded more than \$200,000.

The JPHCOPH's Center is modeled after the Center for the Study of Addiction and Recovery at Texas Tech University, and serves as the hub for a collegiate recovery community. At the Center, students recovering from alcohol, drug and related addictions are provided opportunities to take full advantage of their college experience while minimizing the risk of relapse. Last year the GPA of the students participating with the Center was 3.74. The Center also works to develop student and faculty research and educational resources as well as community-wide outreach partnerships.

"Thanks to the generosity of the Willingway Foundation, the Center has had a tremendously positive impact on both the students and the Statesboro community. Our partnership with the Foundation has enabled us to provide the services needed by our unique group of students, while also giving us the opportunity to launch several evaluation and research projects," said Dr. Lynn Woodhouse, interim dean for the JPHCOPH.

Last month, Emily Eisenhart was appointed the new director of the Center. Eisenhart, a recent Georgia Southern graduate with a master's degree in social sciences, has worked with individuals recovering from various addictions for the past four years. "While my main focus will always be providing the services that our students need, I will also use my strong research background to document the effectiveness of our Center," said Eisenhart, who plans to collaborate with Dr. Moya Alfonso, Research Chair for the Center.