

Tigers' ROAR

November/December 2011

SGC Faculty Staff News

SGC adds Associate of Science in **LOGISTICS**



Over the last several years, South Georgia College has grown tremendously in all areas of campus life. Students, faculty, staff and visitors see the new buildings, the ongoing construction projects and the parking lots that are full as a result of the additional students who are attending SGC. Another area that has experienced steady growth, though not as visible, is SGC's academic offerings. Students may now choose from several new degrees when they enroll at South Georgia College.

The most recent new degree is an Associate of Science in Logistics. The field of logistics is one of the fastest growing in the state of Georgia. According to the Georgia Center of Innovation for Logistics, more than 11,000 providers of logistics products and services are based in Georgia, employing over 142,000 Georgians. Georgia's colleges and universities offer more than 100 courses, certificates and degree programs related to logistics. Logistics-related fields are major employers in a state with the largest international airport in the world, the globe's fourth fastest-growing container port, and four of the leading 10 warehouse providers in North America.

In addition, the proposed program would assist local students interested in transferring to Georgia Southern University to complete a Bachelor's of Business Administration in Logistics and Intermodal Transportation. The SGC offering would allow students to transfer to Georgia Southern with almost five semesters completed locally, since nine credit hours beyond the 64 hours offered by the courses in the proposed program are available through Georgia Southern University as online courses.

Part of South Georgia College's vision and mission is to provide "a student-centered environment that produces life-long learners who will succeed in a global society, and to serve as an economic development catalyst for the region." The proposed program links local students to the employment resources of a globalized economy, serving as a catalyst for economic development locally and across the state. Nothing is more important to students than employment and no education is more "student-centered" than that which connects them to global employment opportunities.

USG Chancellor makes first visit to SGC



From the President

SUPER EVENTS FOR SGC STUDENTS

It seems we've had Event Madness the past few weeks! I can't imagine anyone being bored around here these days!

From snakes to music to city clean-ups, our student activities have been in high gear this semester. I am delighted to see the broad array of topics and projects in which students have been engaged in the past couple of months.

There is no doubt that these cultural events, residence life programs and club activities make our students' time at SGC more rewarding and will help prepare them for life after college.

The first-ever USG Economic Development Conference held at Georgia Tech was quite impressive and our SGC student team represented us well. I want to offer a special "thank you" to Dr. Chen and the faculty and students who participated.

In addition, we have made great strides in recruitment, professional development efforts and academic initiatives such as Quantway, StAR, and our BSN program. I know we are better positioned because of the many hours of work that SGC team members have put into these efforts.

As the holidays draw near, I want to express my appreciation for the commitment and dedication you make to improve the lives of our students and the communities we serve. I wish each of you a special time of fellowship with those you hold dear!

Dr. Virginia M. Carson



Mr. Henry "Hank" M. Huckaby, the new University System of Georgia Chancellor, visited South Georgia College for the first time recently. Chancellor Huckaby met with community leaders (above), faculty members and students. He discussed the importance of USG institutions telling their stories to their respective communities, the growing emphasis at the system level of graduation and retention rates, HOPE Scholarship funding, and increasing efficiencies within the System.

Mr. Duane Benson, Associate Professor of Mathematics, and **Dr. Cam Perkins**, Assistant Professor of Biology, represented SGC at the 2nd annual fall SoTL (Scholarship of Teaching and Learning) Symposium October 14 on the campus of Georgia Southern University in Statesboro. Presentations dealt with inspiration and application of SoTL, aligning SoTL with campus culture, and the process of deconstructing a SoTL project. Professors from GSU and Jacksonville University explained various research projects. Dr. Perkins won the grand door prize, a registration voucher for the International SoTL conference to be held at GSU March 7-9, 2012.



The National Science Foundation held its first Regional Grants Conference of the 2012 fiscal year in October, hosted by the University of Texas at Austin.



In preparation for the upcoming NSF grant competitions, **Ms. Amy Hancock**, SGC Coordinator of Grants and Special Programs, attended the conference to gain insight into a wide range of current issues at NSF including the state of current funding. NSF program officers representing each directorate were on hand to provide up-to-date information about specific funding opportunities.

Dr. McDonald shares experiences as a Cold War intelligence officer

In January of 1969, Dr. Carl McDonald, SGC's Vice President for Academic Affairs, arrived in Berlin for what ended up being a two-year tour in the divided city. In November, Dr. McDonald shared his experiences with students during the Business and Social Science Division's film series to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the building of the Berlin Wall.



In 1969, Dr. McDonald was 1st Lt. Carl McDonald, and served in the U.S. Army as an intelligence officer. While he was in Berlin, he was tasked with keeping up with escape attempts and monitoring the Berlin Wall; he flew over the city, making notes of the barbed wire, guard stations, number of guards and other pertinent information relating to the Wall. Most Americans are at least somewhat familiar with the Berlin Wall, but Dr. McDonald saw the problems it caused in ways few have ever witnessed.

In the aftermath of World War II, the East German city of Berlin was divided among the four Allied Powers – France, England, the Soviet Union and the United States. Berlin is located 110 miles inside East Germany, which automatically caused problems. In 1948, the Soviet Union decided to block the Allies' access to Berlin (the Berlin Blockade), which led to the Berlin Airlift. By the time Dr. McDonald arrived in Berlin, the Wall had been in place for nearly eight years. Over 1,000 people lost their lives trying to escape from East Berlin to West Berlin; while Dr. McDonald was there, 196 people were killed trying to get over the Wall.

An interesting agreement made during the conferences that led to the division of Berlin allowed military personnel to freely pass from East Berlin to West Berlin as long as their papers were in order. As part of that agreement, officers from either side of the Wall could not check the vehicles of military personnel as they moved from one side to the other. One night, Dr. McDonald received a call. Two 2nd lieutenants had been detained for smuggling people from East Berlin to West Berlin. They were charging the East Berliners to transport them to their freedom.

"This could have been a major international incident," said Dr. McDonald.

The Soviet Union had long denied that East Berlin was a place of oppression and persecution. The Soviets would have been embarrassed if this incident had leaked in the international community, for it would have been proof that the rumors regarding East Berlin were true. The United States didn't want it publicized that its military officers were basically profiting from human trafficking.

"This was kept very hush-hush," stated Dr. McDonald.

In the end, neither side said anything. The two officers were not court martialed; instead, both were sent immediately to Vietnam, where Dr. McDonald later bumped into both.

What could have resulted in international headlines remained quiet for almost 40 years.

Dr. Virginia Carson, SGC President, has been inducted as an honorary member of Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society. The award was presented to Dr. Carson in recognition of her support to the Society and to the Kappa Sigma Chapter at South Georgia College. "This is a great honor, and I am very humbled at the recognition," said Dr. Carson, who received her honorary membership certificate at induction ceremonies held in October.



COLLINS 123: Ralph C. Moor Classroom

Following a ceremony on October 7, Room 123 in Collins Hall will forever bear the name of Ralph C. Moor of Atlanta. Approximately 20 members of the SGC Foundation as well as SGC faculty (including **Dr. Rick Reiman**, pictured right), staff and students gathered to celebrate this classroom dedication.

Moor served as Academic Dean at South Georgia College from September 1948–October 1951. Afterwards, he worked with the U.S. Office of Education and spent much of the rest of his career employed by Georgia State Merit System of Personnel, from which he retired in 1975 as Commissioner of Personnel. Moor received his undergraduate degree from Georgia State University in 1937 and a master's degree from George Washington University in 1947. Joining Moor for the festivities were his two sons, Carl and Larry, as well as Larry's wife, Julia, and their son, Michael. Larry, Julia and Michael are all SGC alumni. Moor, who will celebrate his 99th birthday in December, stated, "Even though my physical presence isn't here anymore, my heart certainly is."

During the ceremony, Dr. Virginia Carson shared the following: "Mr. Moor has been a dear friend to SGC and his generosity over the years has helped make a positive impact on countless students. We are happy to have an opportunity to recognize him in this way and thank him for the important role he has played in our institution."



Thirty-four tenth graders who were participants in the original Plant Their Feet group returned to SGC October 24. Plant Their Feet, which began in 2006 with fifth grade classes at West Green Elementary School, is a program designed to show students the importance of completing their education through high school and to encourage them to pursue a college degree upon graduation. Approximately 40 SGC nursing students, under the guidance of **Dr. Scott Thigpen** and **Ms. Bobby Jean Fountain**, set up activity stations on the front lawn of Peterson Hall. They covered topics such as making healthy choices with diet and exercise, self-esteem, saying no to drugs and nursing as a career. Ms. Patty Palmer, nursing student, said, "I believe Plant Their Feet is a wonderful tool. Following the students through the formative years seems to be a big plus in guiding them towards college. Almost all of the students who came through our exercise group activity expressed a desire to attend college, and namely want to use SGC as a first step."

FACULTY FOCUS



For SGC's **Dr. Guillermo Gibens**, the winter break is not a time to get away from the daily chores of teaching. In fact, for him it is a time to continue to teach... but in a different environment.

Dr. Gibens is using his time off teaching at South Georgia College to educate Asian and European students at the Institute of International Studies in Bangkok, Thailand.

"I have been going to teach in Thailand since 2005, and it has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my life," he said.

Dr. Gibens teaches courses in mass communication for undergraduate students in Bangkok, in addition to a number of courses in the master's program in mass media. The program is structured so that the students meet eight times in a month for two days a week, from 9 am to 4 pm. Some courses are even taught on Saturdays and Sundays.

"It is similar to summer courses, and professors from the United States and Europe meet at different times of the year there to teach a variety of courses, in mass media, education, and political science," Dr. Gibens said. "When we are there, each professor is symbolically an image of a U.S. college, and for me that is SGC."

Dr. Gibens usually goes to Thailand in July and December, and despite all the intensive work this extra teaching schedule involves, he enjoys some time away from the rural towns of Georgia and Iowa (his family stills lives there) to experience the hectic life of a metropolitan city such as Bangkok. And this time, his wife, Omaira, is going with him for the first time.

Dr. Gibens began working at SGC in late August teaching public speaking and will be teaching again in Spring 2012.

Dr. Michael Fisher, Professor of English and French, learned recently that an article he had published in 1999 in *The Explicator* has been selected for inclusion in the latest edition of *Contemporary Literary Criticism* (CLC). The article, "James's 'The Aspern Papers' and Auchincloss's 'The "Fulfillment" of Grace Eliot,'" was based on research Dr. Fisher conducted for his doctoral dissertation on the short stories of New York writer Louis Auchincloss. Dr. Fisher's piece will appear in Volume 318 of CLC, due for publication in early 2012. Also, Dr. Fisher was one of 24 scholars selected to participate in a National Endowment for the Humanities workshop in Concord, Massachusetts, in July. The workshop explored the social activism of the group of 19th century writers/thinkers known as the Transcendentalists. Activities included visiting the homes of Ralph Waldo Emerson, Nathaniel Hawthorne, and Louisa May Alcott, as well as Walden Pond and the Concord Museum, and hearing from prominent speakers. Participants stayed in the historic Concord Colonial Inn. Dr. Fisher was accompanied by his wife, **Dr. Lori Seward**, Professor of Speech and Theatre. A fellow participant in the workshop was Dr. David Head, who taught history at SGC in the early 1990s, accompanied by his wife, former SGC reading instructor Caroline Head.



Dr. Leonard Steverson, Associate Professor of Sociology, has published the following: Steverson, L.A. (2011). "Shaming Penalties." In William J. Chambliss (Ed.), *Corrections. Key Issues in Crime and Punishment series*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.



Ms. Peggy Clemons, RN, MSN PHM-CNS, Associate Professor of Nursing, has completed state requirements for advanced practice authorization as a Clinical Nurse Specialist in Adult Psychiatric Mental Health.

SGC Soccer ends season in Final Four



All good runs will eventually come to an end. For the South Georgia College soccer program, that end came in the Final Four of the conference playoffs. After defeating Georgia Military College on the SGC campus, the Lady Tigers moved on to the Final Four but lost to Georgia Perimeter 1-2 in overtime. The men received a first-round bye after finishing second in the conference but also fell to Georgia Perimeter 0-2 a day later.

The Lady Tigers played an exciting game against the fourth-ranked team in the country.

"My ladies played their hearts out," said head coach **Ken Kirsch**. "I am so proud of these young ladies. This

was the best season in program history. We won 14 games and earned a third seed, as well as respect throughout this conference. I am sure we will be back again next season and be even better."

The Lady Tigers ended their 2011 campaign with an impressive 14-6 mark and scored a program-high 75 goals on the season. They had 14 freshmen on the roster, which will make for an experienced team in 2012.

The Tigers men's team earned the second seed this season and hope to return 19 freshmen from this squad for a strong 2012 campaign. The men ended 2011 with a record of 11-7-1.

"This one will hurt for a while," said Kirsch. "However, we will move on. I am very proud of the men and look forward to getting back on the field in the spring. We recruited 19 new players this past season and if we can keep most of them, we will have a dynamite team in 2012."

Three Tiger runners earn All Conference

For the SGC Tigers cross country team, the conference championship meet on October 28 was a day of mixed emotions. On one hand, the Tigers finished stronger than they ever have, from top to bottom, in the history of the program. On the other hand, though, the day proved very disappointing for the women's team, which did not receive a team score after only three ladies crossed the finish line. Despite the disappointment, the women's team saw two runners break the existing school record and earn spots on the All Conference team.

The men peaked at the right time. To have a chance, five runners needed to break 30:00 at the 8K distance. Four runners broke 30:00, with the fifth Tiger turning in a 30:04. SGC finished third in the conference, just a few points out of second behind Chattahoochee Tech.

Mark McLeod finished first for SGC (11th overall) with a 28:40, a personal record for him by about 80 seconds. Daniel Chavez was next with a 29:11, followed by Lyndon Jones (29:24), Josh Holcombe (29:31) and Juan Gibbs (30:04). Mark McLeod made Second Team All Conference for his efforts.

If the women's team from a month ago had toed the line on Saturday, the Lady Tigers would have almost certainly taken second place in the conference and earned a spot at the national meet. Unfortunately, only three finishers crossed the line. Two Lady Tigers -- Tia Ponsell (21:34) and Minerva Arreguin (21:40) -- finished in the top 10 (sixth and eighth, respectively), made Second Team All Conference and broke the existing school record of 21:53.

"I am pleased with the work they did, but very disappointed that we didn't get a team score. This was a year when we could have done something very special," stated head coach **Robert Preston, Jr.**

The South Georgia Tiger Swim Team hosted Darton College at its first meet of the season at the SGC Wellness Center pool November 5. "We had some great races and broke eight school records," said head coach **C.M. Jenkins**. On November 12, the men's team captured the top spot and the women's team placed second in the Brenau University Invitational.





Baseball Stadium Namesake: George A. Cook

Former South Georgia College Athletic Director and baseball coach George Cook, who guided the Tigers to two Junior College World Series appearances, passed away on October 8, 2011. Cook was a member of the SGC faculty from 1962-1975, and he returned to SGC to serve as Director of College Relations in 1981 after leaving Georgia Southern University.

A Guyton, Ga., native, Cook played baseball for Georgia Teachers College (now Georgia Southern University) and graduated in 1950. He taught and coached at several high schools in south Georgia before returning to Statesboro in 1961 to pursue a graduate degree. After earning his M.Ed. in 1962, Cook joined the faculty and coaching staff at South Georgia College and

in 1964 he was appointed Athletic Director and Division Chair of Health, Physical Education and Recreation. He also served as head baseball coach for the Tigers and guided the program to five consecutive state championships, three regional championships, two district crowns and two Junior College World Series appearances. The Tigers' baseball stadium is named the George A. Cook Stadium in his honor.

For his coaching efforts, he was honored as the Southeast Coach of the Year for back-to-back years in 1969 and 1970. He was also named the Georgia Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Coach of the Year four times (1966, '67, '68 and '70). For seven years, he served as the national president of the NJCAA College Baseball Coaches Association. In 1988 he was inducted into the National Junior College Athletics Association Baseball Hall of Fame to recognize the success in his coaching career. His name was added to the Georgia Southern Baseball Wall of Fame in 2002.

Cook was preceded in death by his daughter, Carol. He is survived by his wife, Sara Betty, and son, Kevin, who teaches at Georgia Southern University.





On October 17, the SGC Economic Development Team (Josh Morse, Amanda Shively, Sarah Snipes, Billy King, Angela Quillen and Ashley Williams), **Dr. Virginia Carson** and faculty members **Dr. Yuna Chen**, **Dr. Rick Reiman**, and **Mr. Duane Benson** attended an Economic Development Conference at Georgia Tech. Dr. Muhammad Yunus, Nobel Peace Prize winner, shared his concept of the Social Business Model. The team also presented its social business project for a school book rental in front of a panel of judges.



During Red Ribbon Week in late October, SGC hosted several interactive events with students to reinforce the importance of making wise decisions with regard to drugs and alcohol. Events included a message from counselor **Ms. Jessica Miller** (above, with **Mr. Jerry Oliver**); a snake show by **Mr. Robert Preston** (below) featuring Murray the Smoke-free Python; hypnotist Richard Aimes; and a texting/driving simulator.



On November 2, **Mr. Jerry Oliver**, Student Activities Coordinator, and members of Brother 2 Brother (formerly SAAB) had a clean-up day at Mary Hayes Center for Social Change, a non-profit organization that provides services to 81 boys and girls in Coffee County. After cleaning, the SGC students met the children at the Center and assisted them with their homework.



Over 20 students from the SGC Entry Program-Valdosta volunteered at a neighborhood clean-up for Make A Difference Day, celebrated each year on the 4th Saturday in October.



NURSING NEWS



Left and below: The Waycross campus of SGC's Nursing Division participated in the Teen Maze in October.

Left: South Georgia College GANS (Georgia Association of Nursing Students) participated in the March of Dimes Walk on October 16 at Coffee Regional Medical Center.



PTK



Ms. Sue Miller

Mr. Brian Brown, photographer and historian, held a lecture and book signing at South Georgia College on November 8 in the Peterson Hall Art Gallery. He shared photo renditions in his collection entitled *Vanishing South Georgia*, focusing on the myriad forms of vernacular architecture once common throughout the region.



On October 10, South Georgia College and the Kappa Sigma Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa welcomed new inductees. Phi Theta Kappa is a national honor society that recognizes outstanding students at the two-year level. The Induction Ceremony was held in Peterson Hall. These students have a GPA of 3.5 or higher and have completed at least 15 college credit hours. They have indicated their dedication to college completion, community service, and leadership.



On October 14-15, SGC's Kappa Sigma Chapter attended the Regional Conference of Phi Theta Kappa at Darton College in Albany, Ga. Representing SGC were PTK Advisors **Ms. Amy Hancock** and **Ms. Ame Wilkerson** and the club's President and Vice President, Amanda Shively and Katie Holliday.



Passionately PINK Day

In support of Breast Cancer Awareness Month and Passionately Pink Day in Coffee County, SGA sold 30 t-shirts to help raise money for the cause. SGC team members and students showed their support by wearing pink October 26th.

SGC was one of over 22 organizations who supported the Chamber's and CRMC's Think Pink event on October 4th. The women in business leadership event chose its theme to coincide with Breast Cancer Awareness Month. The evening's program included remarks from Shelly McLean of CRMC, the event sponsor, Ms. Mary Thacker, a cancer survivor, and members of Beta Sigma Phi Alpha Theta Chapter, on Passionately Pink Day. SGC's team of **Ms. Sandra Adams, Dr. Virginia Carson, Ms. Casey Clark, Ms. LaToya Curtis, Ms. Angie Evans, Ms. Lena Helmbrecht, Ms. Walda Kight and Ms. Ame Wilkerson** won Best Theme table for its BRAS (Building Retention And Student Success) theme. The ladies owe a special thank you to SGC's waiter, **Mr. Rob Brunel**.

Birthdays



NOVEMBER

2
Jennifer Hall

3
Lionell Bennett
Derek Westwood

5
Autumn Prescott

7
Annette Lewis

8
Sheila Cady

9
Wes Brown

10
Virginia Carson

13
Dave Ellis
Mary Graham
Felisa Herring

17
Paul Wise

19
Lori Seward

DECEMBER

1
Rhonda Kelley

2
Suzanne Usry

4
Jeff Timothy

7
Jared Wood

13
Sandy Ott

15
Andrew DiNicola

17
Buckie Sasser

19
Christy Barry

22
Kristin Roberts

25
Linda Mullis

28
Lisa Bohannon
Larry Burch
Matt Spivey

30
Martha Morgan

31
Kasey Strickland

Calendar

NOVEMBER

15
Student Research Symposium
Deadline for Papers
Occupy South Georgia College
2:30 pm - Music
3:00 pm - Debate Society Speeches
SGC Quad near Pergolas
A Holiday Variety Show
Jeff Davis High ACCEL Program
SGC Drama Club
7:00 pm, Black Box Theatre

24-25
Thanksgiving Holidays
29
Precious, 2:00-4:00 pm, Stubbs 142

DECEMBER

2
Last Day of Classes, Fall Semester
Admissions Application
Priority Date
Spring Semester

5
Holiday Music with the
Three Rivers Symphony Winds
& Jazz and Wind Ensemble
featuring the SGC Chorus
7:00 pm, Peterson Hall

5-9
Final Exams, Fall Semester

19-23
Christmas Holidays
26-30
Winter Break

Faculty Staff Holiday Party

Thursday, December 8th
11:30 am to 1:00 pm
Clower Center

Meat, rolls and beverages will be provided.
Contact Becky Wehmeier to sign up for
veggies, desserts and salads by last name:

A-H Salads
I-R Vegetables/Casseroles
S-Z Desserts

We will collect unwrapped toys at the party
for the SGC Book Club's St. Jude donation.
You may also deliver them to the SGC Library.



SGC MILESTONE ANNIVERSARIES

5-9 YEARS

7 YEARS

Tammy Parker

6 YEARS

Linda Andrews

5 YEARS

Kasey Dorminey

Leann Griffiths

Lesa Williams

10+ YEARS

13 YEARS

Peggy Dobbs

Elisa Johnson

12 YEARS

Yolanda Crosby

Daphne French