



COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

# NEWSLETTER



..... College of Arts and Sciences  
..... Co-hosts International  
..... Conference in Morocco

FALL 2013

# Learning Beyond Borders:

Broadening minds, expanding perspectives and educating students in the true liberal arts tradition.

**Editorial Note:** The common thread running through the articles in this edition of the Newsletter is what our faculty and students are doing to bridge boundaries. "BORDERS" refer to physical and disciplinary barriers as well as bridging the gap between traditional modes of delivery and on-line delivery methods to enhance student access and learning.



GEORGIA  
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GEORGIA'S PUBLIC LIBERAL ARTS UNIVERSITY

College of Arts and Sciences

ARTS AND SCIENCES **NEWSLETTER**  
FALL 2013

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## Dean's Message

The theme of the newsletter, "Learning Beyond Borders," could be a theme for the state of the college, and indeed for higher education. How do we reach beyond current borders to arrive at a glorious new country? How do we do things differently, and not just differently, but better? How do we create new and better ways of teaching and learning? And after exploring the new country, how do we strengthen the ties, put down roots, and build the relationships that transform us from tourists to permanent residents?

The College of Arts and Sciences is part of a transformation sweeping across higher education. Talented faculty are leading the way. Working with students in classrooms and research labs, in rehearsal halls and studios, in the college museums and galleries and in the initiatives we call programs of distinction, faculty have made the college into a wonderfully exciting world. With a goal of less insular and more engaged ways of teaching and learning, faculty are linking hands with other disciplines. Summer is primetime for travel, internships and study abroad. Faculty are guiding our students to reach beyond the borders of their own experience, to grow into their own bright futures.

To all the faculty returning refreshed from summer, and to all the faculty and staff joining the college anew, thank you for your leadership! Welcome home!



DEAN KENNETH PROCTER

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FALL 2013



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# College of Arts and Sciences co-hosts INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE IN

# Morocco

By OLUFUNKE A. FONTENOT



Dean Ken Procter, Dean Kaddouri, Larbi Oukada, and faculty members from Hassan II University on a visit to Rabat

The University System of Georgia African Council and the Middle East Council organized a faculty seminar to Morocco in the summer of 2012. The seminar was co-directed by Dr. Sunita Manian (Coordinator of the Philosophy and Liberal Studies Program) and Professor Olufunke A. Fontenot (Associate Dean, College of Arts and Sciences) with help from Dr. Larbi Oukada (Chair of the Department of Modern Languages and Cultures). The seminar included a day-long academic program at Hassan II University-Mohammadia-Casablanca. This began a discussion on opportunities for partnership/collaboration between their Faculty of Letters and Humanities of Arts and the GC College of Arts and Sciences. In October 2012, a delegation from that university led by the Dean Abdelmajid Kaddouri visited Georgia College. We agreed on several areas of collaboration including faculty and student exchanges, and began plans to organize an annual international conference to be hosted jointly by both institutions. Each institution would take turns hosting the conference. The first conference themed "Land, Culture, and People: The Atlantic and Mediterranean Spaces" was held in Marrakech from June 18-20, 2013. The conference sought to explore, through a wide range of interdisciplinary approaches and perspectives the various connections and exchanges between Europe, Africa and the Americas that shaped the Atlantic and the Mediterranean spaces as complex cultural entities. Seven faculty members from the College of Arts and Science presented at the conference- Rebecca Carte, Warner Belanger, Olufunke Fontenot, Mark Huddle, Sunita Manian, Larbi Oukada and Jim Winchester.

Prior to the conference, Dean Procter, Associate Dean Olufunke Fontenot, and Dr. Larbi Oukada, Chair Modern Languages and Cultures Department paid an official visit to Hassan II to further discuss opportunities for collaboration. Dean Procter also shared a presentation on his art with Hassan II students and faculty, which was well received.

The theme for next year's conference is slavery, and the College of Arts and Sciences will be the host. ■



Larbi playing cymbals and jamming with a Gnawa musician in the streets of Morocco.

# Multi-disciplinary Collaborations Yield Excitement for Students

By DR. KAREN BERMAN

The College of Arts & Sciences (CoAS) at Georgia College prides itself on providing the true liberal arts experience for our students through multi-disciplinary collaborative events. Such events gather numerous perspectives from experts in different fields in order to provide a more holistic education to cultivate knowledgeable citizens. Sophomore Katie Cain said that “I gained so many insights about the Obama-Romney campaigns from events that combined Theatre with political science.” Katie was speaking of her role in the play “The Birds” adapted by Dr. Karen Berman and alumni Steve Holbert whose election-year theme was featured in a talk contextualizing the play by Drs. Jason Rich and Brandy Kennedy from the Department of Government and Sociology.

Highlights of such collaborations this past year that have benefitted our students include the speech by NBC television award-winning executive Dean McFlicker who is the man behind popular shows such as “The Voice,” “Entertainment Tonight” and “America’s Got Talent.” Sponsored by the Dean’s Office, Mass Communications, Theatre, and the Department of English and Rhetoric. Mr. McFlicker revealed “Secrets to Career Success” by discussing personal branding and how the current top executive at NBC rose from a custodial intern to his current position.

The Creative Writing Program within the Department of English and Rhetoric and the Theatre Department have shared numerous events to enliven the campus. “The 24 Hour Plays” features M.F.A. playwrights creating 10-minute plays overnight directed and acted by undergraduate Theatre majors. In fact, one of the playwrights Angela Hall is only one of many students whose short play has been published. Angela’s satire “Wife Shop” was published in *The Best American Short Plays 2011-12* by Applause, a leading publisher of theatre and cinema books. Creative Writing and Theatre collaborated again on the *Arts & Letters Prize* play *Afterwards* by winning

playwright James Armstrong. Armstrong said of his play about a failed candidate for U.S. Senate that “the play is really about how all of us deal with disappointment.”

The Departments of Art and Theatre joined forces with the Israeli Embassy to present the Holocaust exhibit “Visas for Life” this summer to acknowledge diplomats all over the world who helped to save over 200,000 Jews during WWII. This exhibit honored the memory of Jacob Goldstein, husband of Georgia College Board of Trustees member Maxine Goldstein, who won a bronze medal in WWII.

Art and Theatre joined with the Music Department, International Education Center, and Modern Languages and Cultures to present “Los Valientes” in honor of national Hispanic Heritage Month. The production celebrated 3 Latino heroes through music, movement, and theatre.

The Department of Modern Languages and Cultures and Department of Theatre and the Dance Minor presented “Soy Andina.” This documentary is “about Peruvian dance and identity, in which two women with Peruvian roots living in New York travel to Peru to ‘unearth the mysteries of the dances,’” said Dr. Rebecca Carte, assistant professor of Spanish. The filmmaker Mitch Teplitsky and dancer Cynthia Paniagua presented an exciting dance workshop and talkback after the film.

The Theatre Department and pediatric nursing students in Health Sciences under the mentorship of Dr. Karen Berman and Dr. Sallie Coke partnered with Early College and Principal Dr. Runee Sallad to create social justice plays on issues impacting teens including bullying, teen pregnancy, and substance abuse. Theatre student Jon Dahlhauser marveled at the work by saying, “Working together with nursing students and Early College was amazing. We all learned so much from one another.” This is the type of reaction our students have to the multi-layered experiences provided by CoAS interdisciplinary collaborations. ■

SUMMER 2013

GOVERNMENT AND SOCIOLOGY STUDENTS

# Study Abroad



**Students in the Department of Government and Sociology** have numerous opportunities to learn beyond the classroom and study abroad is one of many options. Dr. Jerry Herbel, Associate Professor, Political Science and Public Administration and Dr. Hank Edmondson, Professor, Political Science and Public Administration led students to Ireland, Spain and England.

Thirteen students accompanied the professors as they explored the administrative, political and cultural factors which are having a bearing on European governance and European society in general. They visited cultural and political centers of England, Ireland and Spain, to gain a greater understanding of the dynamics of policy making and the future of Europe. The experience helped students understand the impact of cultural transformation on the society in general, and on policy development in particular. Students who participated in this program received academic credit in POLS 4509, European Government and Culture: United Kingdom, Ireland and Spain.





SUMMER 2013

GOVERNMENT AND SOCIOLOGY STUDENTS

# Study Abroad

**In addition,** Department of Government and Sociology students participated in programs sponsored by the European Council which operates under the guidance of the System Council for International Education of the University System of Georgia.

Dr. Stephanie McClure, Associate Professor of Sociology traveled with students to Italy. The program was based in Montepulciano, a hill town in the heart of Tuscan wine country, home to the famous *Vino Nobile*. Program participants had the opportunity to take course-based field trips to Siena, Rome, Pisa, Assisi, Florence, and the Vatican, and for weekend travel to many additional

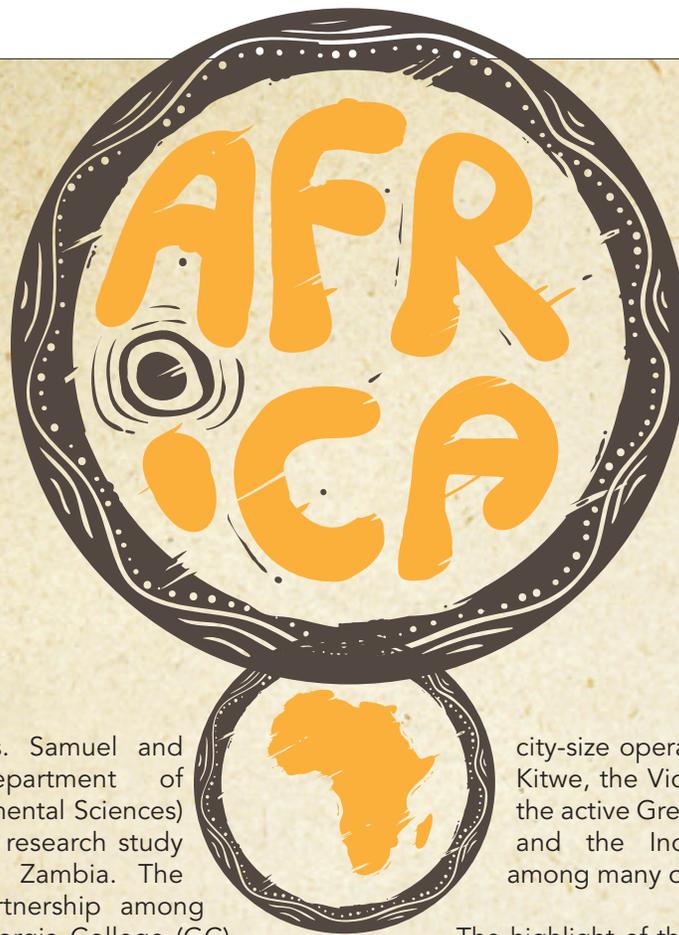
places, including Sorrento, the Amalfi Coast, Venice, and the Cinque Terre.

Dr. McClure's sociology courses (Introduction to Sociology and Social Theory) offered students an opportunity to view several of the monuments of Italian fascism and learned about the legacy of Antonio Gramsci in post-WWII Italy. They also toured various locations in Perugia and visited the Podere Il Casale farm outside of Pienza, where they learned about the agriturismo industry, the art of cheese making (particularly the pecorino cheese for which the region of Pienza is justly famous), and got a lesson in bread making from the staff of Il Casale. ■



# STUDY ABROAD

by SAMUEL MUTITI



**In June 2013**, Drs. Samuel and Christine Mutiti (Department of Biology and Environmental Sciences) organized and led a research study abroad program to Zambia. The program was a partnership among three universities—Georgia College (GC), Miami University (MU) Ohio, and the University of Zambia (UNZA).

One of the main events was a five-day workshop organized by the faculty and held at UNZA School of Mines in Lusaka, Zambia. It was attended by students, faculty, and staff from UNZA, as well as officials from the Department of Water Affairs, Zambia Environmental Management Agency (ZEMA) and Lusaka water and Sewerage Company. Dr. Sam Mutiti gave a talk on “old” and emerging water contaminants at the workshop, and also helped train students on water and air testing. The workshop was also an opportunity for faculty, staff, and students to learn new techniques in environmental hydrogeology, specifically, dye tracing. Students and faculty from the three universities also collaborated on research projects focusing on environmental impacts of mining and water resources. They collected and analyzed soil and plant samples for lead contamination in Kabwe (one of the most negatively impacted towns in the world). Students and staff from UNZA trained the GC team on heavy metal (lead) testing using the new atomic absorption spectroscopy equipment at the University of Zambia. The group also visited water treatment plants in Lusaka (both small scale and

city-size operations), a copper mine in Kitwe, the Victoria Falls in Livingstone, the active Great East African Rift (Kenya) and the Indian ocean (Mombasa), among many other sites.

The highlight of the trip was learning how a community water project (not for profit) is supplying clean water to an unplanned settlement (Kanyama shanty compound in Lusaka). All tests carried out by the group showed the water to meet drinking water standards. Even though this project only services half of the residents in this settlement, it was refreshing to see residents of a shanty compound getting clean water at an affordable price. This water project and distribution model should be implemented in other settlements that do not have clean water supply. It was great for Georgia College to establish research projects with students and faculty at a university in Zambia. The projects initiated during this trip are being continued by two GC students and two UNZA graduate students. This trip has opened up new collaborations and research opportunities for Georgia College students and faculty.

Dr. S Mutiti and Dr. C Mutiti would like to acknowledge the Weir Grant, Faculty Development Funds, Dr. Alice Mweetwa and Professor Imasiku Nyambe of UNZA, Dr. Jonathan Levy of Miami University, Mr. Joe Meiman of the US National Parks (Kentucky) and the department of Biological and Environmental Sciences (GC) for the funding and equipment that made this trip possible. ■



Water testing in Kanyama Shanty Compound with Dr. Sam Mutiti and students



GC Students and faculty. Nairobi – Kenya: Carnivore Restaurant



Lusaka – Zambia: Zoology day at Kalimba reptile farm with Dr. Sam Mutiti and Dr. Christine Mutiti, department of Biological and Environmental Sciences.



The group made a scheduled stop in the UK – Stonehenge



Boiling Pot – Victoria Falls Zambia

# ENGLISH GRADUATES

# Make Positive Impact

## AT HOME AND ABROAD

by DR. ELAINE WHITAKER

**Class of 2013 graduates** Stephen Hundley, Lexi Kraft, and Natalie Sharp are on their way into the classroom with Teach for America. Their classmate Hannah Malte has secured a position in South Korea, where she will teach English.

Malte, who completed an ESL practicum at a local elementary school as her capstone experience, will teach for EPIK, the acronym for English Program in Korea. She has been mentored by Drs. Craig Callender and Megan Melançon. According to Melançon, Malte is a “wonderful, personable, intelligent, highly motivated young lady. The application process was long and arduous, but she persevered and won through in the end. She will be a

positive representative for her University, her community, her family and her country as she travels and teaches in this area of the world.”

Hundley and Kraft have just completed their terms as president and secretary of GC’s chapter of the national leadership fraternity ODK. Sharp, who is graduating a year ahead of her class, edited *The Corinthian*, GC’s student research journal. Also stateside is Jessica Burgett, an Outdoor Education minor who began her position in camping with the Girl Scouts of America in June. All will immediately use the B.A. in English to make a positive impact on our country and our world. ■



BREEF:

# *The Misadventures of* Maria *the* Hutia

by MELANIE DEVORE and BEATE CZOGALLA



For one week every July the children of San Salvador leave their homes and catch a ride to go to classes. However, instead of pulling into the school yard, they enter the campus of the Gerace Research Center for SeaCamp. The 2013 Sea Camp is a program directed by the Bahamian Reef Environmental Education Foundation (BREEF), with support from the Gerace Research Center, The San Salvador Island Living Jewels Foundation and Georgia College. During the week students learn about the endangered iguanas and seabirds that live in the cays, snorkel and marvel at the array of marine life in reefs, and pledge to protect the conch, crawfish (lobster) and grouper that are part of the “living jewels of the land, sky and sea”.

The 2013 BREEF SeaCamp featured a unique inter-departmental collaboration involving Georgia College’s departments of Theatre and Biological & Environmental Sciences. Professors Beate Czogalla (Theater) and Melanie DeVore (Biological & Environmental Sciences) spearheaded the theatrical adaptation of the children’s book “Misadventures of Maria the Hutia”, written for the children of the Bahamas by Ron Shaklee. Over the course of their week at camp the local students aged 8 through 14 were involved in intensive rehearsals where they learned songs from various world cultures to accompany their scenic portrayal of Bahamian animals, along with dances and a rhythm section, featuring percussion instruments made from trash found during a beach clean-up activity. A public performance of this musical extravaganza was an opportunity to share the experience with the residents of San Salvador.

For the past 14 years, Georgia College has offered study abroad classes in San Salvador, with students taking courses in biology, environmental science, and geology. Along with formal classes, students have also completed engaged learning experiences including community service and publishable undergraduate research projects. The Island experience leaves a lasting impression on our students. One such student, Chris Karafotias (2012), volunteered to be a facilitator for the 2013 SeaCamp, and gladly donated a week of his vacation time and paid his way to participate with GC Professors Beate Czogalla, Melanie DeVore, and Sandra Voegeli (co-instructor from Hasting Research Center, CA). ■

PROFESSOR HELPS IDENTIFY

# rare fossilized bird



**Dr. Bob Chandler, biology professor** at Georgia College, has worked for more than 30 years researching modern and fossil bird species.

Recently his expertise was used to help identify a new fossil found by a 10-year-old girl in Colorado.

“A group of park rangers from Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument near Colorado Springs brought pieces of shale and rock to the class for a project. One young student, Gabby Linden, discovered a fossilized bird,” said Chandler.

Florissant is known for its rich and diverse fossil deposits. The landscape there has revealed the ancient story of redwood forests, volcanic eruptions and climate change.

“I received a call from Herb Meyer with the National Parks Service, who is a longtime colleague of mine. He wanted me to help identify a new bird found,” he said.

Chandler was sent a photo of the fossil and noticed several identifying features.

“From the shape of the head and the feet with short toes I determined that it was a potoo from the same family

as whip-poor-wills and nighthawks,” said Chandler. “Since the fossil dated back about 34 to 35 million years, it is a very significant find.”

This fossil is the first potoo found in North American from the Eocene time period.

“It’s rare to find a complete fossil and even rarer to find one with feather impressions like this,” said Chandler. “This finding now proves the birds in this family were living in North America during that time period.”

Chandler is planning to take a trip to Florissant this fall to further examine the fossil.

“We will take x-rays to find out what other skeletal elements might be buried and take measurements for publication of the finding,” said Chandler. “

Dr. Chandler received his Bachelor of Science degree from Southern Illinois University. He received his master’s degree in zoology from San Diego State University. He received his Ph. D. in systematics and ecology from The University of Kansas.

For more information on Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument, visit [nps.gov/flfo](https://nps.gov/flfo). ■

*This story first appeared on the GC website. Written by Brittney Barber from GC Communications.*

# Learning Beyond the Classroom

Students Participate in the National Model of the African Union: Three Students Talk About Their Experiences as Delegates to the Tenth Annual National Model African Union in Washington, DC

Contributors: OLUFUNKE A. FONTENOT, KATE ST. IVES, NICOLE MOYO, and CASEY MCCOVEY.

Every year, the University System Africa Council organizes a Southeast Model African Union Conference (SEMAU), a simulation of the annual meeting of Head of States of the African Union (AU). Georgia College students have participated in this regional model since its inception 15 years ago. Dr. Eustace Palmer (Department of English and Rhetoric) served as coach and faculty advisor and was joined in 2002 by Dr. Charles Ubah (Department of Government and Sociology) and Professor Olufunke Fontenot (Arts and Sciences' Associate Dean). The Model AU invites participation from students across campus.

Georgia College students had the opportunity to participate in the National Model for the first time last year, and did so again this year. Like its regional counterpart (but on a much bigger and competitive scale), the National Model exposed our students to competition from universities across the country, role playing as ambassadors representing all 54 African countries and the African Union. Student delegates are expected to be in character of the country they represent. In preparing for the simulation, students, under the guidance of faculty advisors begin intensive reading about the history, culture, economy, and politics of the assigned country. Additionally, they learn rules of debate and diplomatic protocols. As part of this simulation, students visit the embassy of the African country represented for briefing by that country's ambassador in the US.

Kate St Ives (MFA student), Nicole Moyo (International Business), and Casey McCovey (Political Science) were delegates to the 2013 National Model in Washington, DC. Below, the three students talk about their experiences and the educational benefits of this type of experiential learning that is central to our mission.

## LEARNING BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

### Kate St. Ives

*first year graduate student in the MFA in Creative Writing Program at Georgia College.*

From February 21 – 24, I participated in the National Model African Union at Howard University in Washington D.C. Participating in the National Model was a very rewarding experience. Throughout the entire process I learned a great deal about multiple issues and particularly about issues in Cape Verde, the country that Georgia College represented at the Model. I was able to form thoughtful responses to those issues I was learning about, and moreover, taking on a Cape Verdean perspective.

The Model happens yearly and simulates the actual workings of the African Union. Students serve as delegates on one of five committees-Executive Council, Peace and Security Committee, Technical Committee on Economic Matters, Technical Committee of Social Matters, Committee on Democracy, Governance and Human Rights. Under the umbrella of each committee certain topics are brought up for discussion and debate and then voted upon. I served on the Peace and Security Committee, and the topic I presented on was the

African Standby Force—a controversial one I learned! Each student's job in preparation for the Model is to research the issues on the committee's agenda, and to prepare a detailed resolution for presentation and debate at the committee meetings—never forgetting to approach the issue from the perspective of the country represented. If you participate in the Model be prepared to hone your debate skills. You will be called upon to think quickly and to have the information to substantiate your views. However, participation in the Model is truly an exercise in diplomacy as well. There is a very specific protocol for communication during committee meetings, and following this protocol forces participants to truly listen to one another and find ways to discuss conflicts in a constructive way.

The Model was rewarding for me because I learned new things and made connections with interesting people from all over the United States and the world. I had great conversations with many students, professors, and even politicians—meeting at the embassy with the real Cape Verdean Ambassador to the United States was one of the highlights of my experience.

Who can participate in the National Model African Union? At Georgia College, any student can,



GC delegates attending a reception at the Embassy of Cape Verde. (Left to right: Casey McCovey, Nicole Moyo, Her Excellency Maria de Fatima Lima de Veiga, Ambassador of Cape Verde to the United States., Kate Saint Ives, and Fontenot)



Ambassador Veiga hosts the GC delegates to dinner at her home.

whether undergraduate or graduate. It is not restricted to political science or history majors. I come from a background in writing and literature, and I must say that what I learned during participation in the Model has enriched my experiences in these areas, as well as drawn me into new areas of interest. The only prerequisite for participation is a desire to learn and an interest in the world and people, and once involved in the Model you will most likely begin to see connections between diverse topics that were never visible to you before. ■

## Nicole Moyo

As an international student from Zimbabwe, I have always been passionate about issues affecting Africa. Participating in the Model African Union made me realize how much I overestimated my knowledge regarding African affairs. Coming from the southern part of Africa, my knowledge of countries in West Africa was limited. The research process in preparation for the simulation enabled me to broaden my knowledge regarding Cape Verde and the nearby West African countries. I was a delegate in the Technical Committee on Economic Matters. My participation in this committee enabled me to use the knowledge I have gathered from my Business Management major courses. My resolution was centered on Sustainable Energy Development in Africa; a critical issue considering the rapid growth in industries in African countries and the encroaching climate change. At the conference in Washington DC, I got the opportunity to consolidate my resolution with other delegates to formulate a resolution which passed in the technical committee with a unanimous vote. The simulation process enabled me to experience the frustrations and the joys associated with negotiating foreign affairs that are faced by diplomats. I got the opportunity to practice my public speaking skills during the debate sessions. My teamwork skills were also improved during the caucusing sessions before the debates. We also got to interact with many college students across the country including some from Canada. The highlight of the conference was the chance to interact with the Cape Verdean Ambassador to the USA. She is one of the most inspiring women I have encountered in my life. She gave us a detailed presentation about the history

and current issues affecting Cape Verde. We got the opportunity to taste delicious Cape Verdean cuisine at her home. We also got the chance to be interviewed by a local television channel in Washington DC. The experience made me realize that it is never too early for one to start thinking of ways to make a difference in other people's lives. The youths are not just leaders of tomorrow, but leaders of today too. ■

## Casey McCovey

Of all the events that I have taken part in throughout my college years, the Model African Union competitions, Nationals in particular, have been the highlight. Truth be told, diplomacy and politics have never been a personal interest of mine. I love to argue and debate in nearly every other setting, but politics haven't been a part of my life until this year. I was surprised then how much I enjoyed these conferences. While away I came into contact with knowledge, cultures, and peoples that were foreign to me in every way. I felt as though my world swelled like a balloon every day as I learned how to navigate some of the most crucial issues of our time. I had never considered the possibility that events in the African continent could be relevant to my lifestyle, or could affect me in any way; clearly I was wrong. Through these two conferences I have replaced apathy with passion and disinterest with fascination. I have tried foods I might never have tasted; heard languages I didn't know existed, and visited cities I might otherwise have missed. These conferences changed the way I look at life and the way I look at myself. I know now that I am not just a citizen of the U.S., but I am a citizen of the world, and thus the African people are my brothers and sisters. I now see that I can contribute; I have the power to help make a change. I hope I will never forget the opportunities and experiences I had, or the extraordinary people I met in these conferences. I now consider all of them distant family, and some of them personal friends. Through the course of this program I was honored to meet the ambassadors of both Cape Verde and South Africa, as well as other esteemed political leaders. The Cape Verdean ambassador spent the most significant time with my group and me, sharing with us the culture and the knowledge of her people. She graciously shared with us her time, her knowledge, and her heart. I am deeply thankful for the opportunity I had to meet her. Of all the things I learned through my Model AU experiences, the take-home message was this: diplomacy is not something that happens on Capitol Hill and in some abstract place I've never heard of. International progress isn't confined to the influential and the wealthy. Change has to start small. Change starts with me-- with us. ■



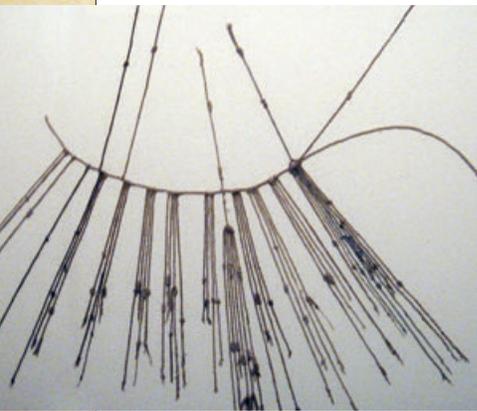
MATHEMATICS AND ADVENTURE IN  
**Peru**

.....  
Ryan Brown  
Georgia College Mathematics Department



**F**or many, mathematics means numbers, equations, and formulas, and is rarely associated with adventure—more Urkel than Indiana Jones—but nine students recently discovered that to understand the mathematics of the Inca and other pre-Columbian cultures, it is insufficient to scribble marks on a chalkboard or to look at pictures on a website. We have to go to the artifacts and examine them for ourselves, but to travel to the sites to conduct our investigations means that we embark on an adventure. So it was with the 2013 study abroad program New World Mathematics. Five sophomore students in the GC2Y 2000 course New World Mathematics and four senior mathematics majors conducting capstone research in mathematics sought new knowledge and excitement in Peru.

Peru is a beautiful country on the western coast of South America with a rich cultural and intellectual history.



Prior to the arrival of Pizarro in the sixteenth century, the Inca had established the largest empire in the new world. It stretched from the Pacific Ocean well into the Andes, from Ecuador to Chile, and its cities and villages were linked by over 20,000 miles of the Inca road. Though the Inca were the most well-developed pre-Columbian

culture in South America, several other sophisticated societies rose and fell in the periods preceding the Inca. As the Inca expanded from their capital of Cusco, they incorporated technological and cultural conceptions of earlier societies and often improved upon them. One of the goals of the study abroad program was to understand how mathematical ideas evolved across cultural periods until they reached their height with the Inca. In particular, we were interested in geometry, number theory, engineering, and astronomy. Our

investigations took us through many museums and sites in Lima, followed by treks in and around Cusco, through Ollantaytambo in the Sacred Valley of the Incas, and finally to Machu Picchu, where we hoped to see the sunrise on the day of the winter solstice.

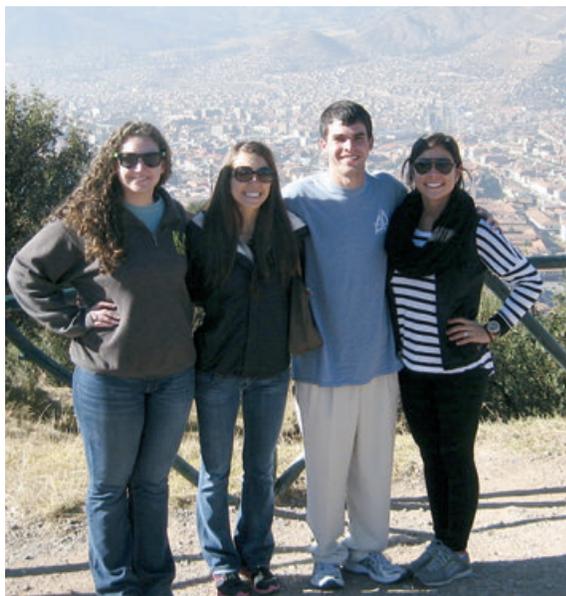
We had arranged all of our travel well in advance of our departure. Our flight from Atlanta to Lima was pleasant. Flying to Cusco was quick and easy, and since Cusco is an easily walkable city, we were able to do everything with very little trouble. By this time, June 19, the excitement had built to a tremendous level. We had seen amazing textiles and ceramics, and the ruins at archeological sites were astounding. Indeed, the mathematical acumen was something to behold. The real draw, however, was winter solstice sunrise at Machu Picchu, one of the most breathtaking sites in the world. Nothing can prepare a person for dawn at this incredible spot, and our collective anticipation was palpable. All that remained was to take a short train ride from Ollantaytambo to Aguas Calientes on the afternoon of the next day, June 20. We would grab some dinner and then off to bed for an early rise to get in the queue for the bus to take us up the mountain to the site on June 21.

Early on the morning of June 20, we received word that there had been a landslide and that the tracks between Ollantaytambo and Aguas Calientes were impassable. Our train to Machu Picchu was cancelled. If everything went well, we were told, there may be a train the following afternoon. We would miss the sunrise, but we might still be able to visit the site and see some interesting things anyway. The students were crestfallen. There was still one last hope that we could make it. There are no roads to Aguas Calientes, save the Inca road, but there is a road to a hydroelectric plant on the opposite side of Machu Picchu. From there it is a 7 km walk along the railroad tracks to Aguas Calientes. The students were determined to do anything to reach the site. As any math major knows, the most important attribute of a successful mathematician is perseverance, the quality of persisting despite hitting an obstacle, and the students knew how to

overcome the frustration and disillusionment that come from the failure to solve a problem. A short time later we had procured a van and driver who drove us three hours on narrow roads up into the Andes. Fortunately, we had plenty of antinausea medicine. We turned off of the main paved road and onto a rutted gravel and dirt road where we would spend the next two hours perilously close to the edge of a cliff. Rounding blind curves our driver would honk his horn to alert potential motorists traveling in the opposite direction. This precaution provided little comfort. Finally we arrived at the hydroelectric station on the Urubamba river, the river that surrounds Machu Picchu on three sides. We arrived just in time to watch the sun set over the mountain on the other side of the river. The rest of our journey, the walk to Aguas Calientes along the railroad tracks through the jungle, would be at night. A few hours later we arrived in Aguas Calientes. We found some food and checked into our hostel. Exhausted and sore, we were happy to

rest before the sunrise the next morning. We did get to the site in plenty of time to find good spots to watch the sun come over the mountain on the opposite side of the valley. We spread across the site to watch the sun hit various markers designed to cast special shadows this one morning of the year, a magnificent astronomical event. The rest of the day was spent examining the site itself. The engineering is marvelous.

Our adventures in the tropical highlands of Peru were very different from the experiences of most students in a mathematics classroom, but the same qualities of mind and personality traits that make successful mathematicians were on display in my students. Intellectual curiosity, nimbleness of mind, creative problem solving, and determination made the New World Mathematics program successful. These are exactly the characteristics we seek to develop in our courses, and our students demonstrated them in abundance. ■



## COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

# Student Honors and Awards



Georgia College's award-winning chapter of the American Chemical Society (ACS) was honored at the 245th ACS National Meeting in New Orleans, LA with the Outstanding Chapter Award for the fifth consecutive year. The Chapter also received the society's Green Chapter Award for the fourth year in a row.

Several College of Arts and Sciences students have distinguished themselves through a variety of interesting and significant achievements. Among these are:

- **Savannah Moore** (double major in Math and Physics) was awarded a Gilman Scholarship to study at the University of Hyderabad, India for AY 2012-2013.
- **Hilary Rogers**, a recent graduate who earned a B.S. in Math with a Teaching Concentration as well as an MAT from the College of Education, is teaching at Lithia Springs High School in Douglas County.
- **Sally Gilbreth** completed Honors Options in MAED 3121 (Teaching Secondary Math) and MATH 2600 (Probability and Statistics).
- **Rachel Waldron** co-authored, along with several of our faculty, a paper which was presented at the 40th Annual Meeting of the Research Council on Mathematics held in Tulsa, OK in February, 2013. Ms. Waldron was awarded a Student Travel Grant from the Center for Engaged Learning to support this effort.
- **Eric Cardoso** gave a presentation at the Fifth Biennial Mercer University Undergraduate Research in Mathematics Conference held at Mercer University in February, 2013.
- **Andrew Pangia** was accepted into the Summer 2013 Research Experiences for Undergraduates Program at Georgia Tech, sponsored by the National Science Foundation.
- **Rujeko Chinomona** was accepted into Research Experiences for Undergraduates 2013: Analysis and Differential Equations to be held at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in Summer 2013.
- **Katy Hill** was accepted into the Summer 2013 Research Experiences for Undergraduates Program at the University of Tennessee (Chattanooga).
- **Chelsea Davis**, who graduated with a B.S. in Mathematics in Fall 2012, is currently pursuing a Master's degree in mathematics at Clemson University. During her time at Georgia College, she participated in an NSF sponsored Research Experiences for Undergraduates Program at the University of Alabama at Tuscaloosa, and she was awarded the Department of Mathematics Outstanding Senior Math Major award.
- **Georgia College Mock Trial Team:** Regional Competition of the AMTA (American Mock Trial Association) Spirit Award

# Mass Communication Mentorship Program

It's the **third year** of the Department of Mass Communication Mentor Program. This program provides Mass Communication juniors an opportunity to connect with a Mass Communication alumni mentor. Over 45 students have participated in the program since it started. Mentors from all over the country have met with students to provide advice on everything from resumes to career paths.

Mentors and mentees meet each January at a luncheon and then spend the year getting to know each other. Students receive one hour of practicum credit for their participation in the program.

The idea for the Department of Mass Communication Mentor Program was suggested by one of our own alumni, Heather Daniel Huff, class of 2003, who has had much experience over the years with interns and heard their expressed desires to be better equipped for the "real world." She felt that this growing need could be solved by "matching" alumni with current seniors in order to guide them through their last semesters. Aerial Merritt, a mentor from the class of 2005, said, "This mentorship is a gift not only to the students, but to us as mentors. We can give them the cautionary tales of interviews, internships, first jobs and everything in between. But what we can also do is give them confirmation that their degree from GCSU will give them everything they need to be successful." Jenni Bruckman, a mentor from the class of 2005, said, "Who doesn't want to send their own Karate Kid out into the world? Seriously – where would the Karate Kid have been without Mr. Miyagi? Nowhere. This is our chance to be the "Mr. Miyagi" to a Mass Communication "Danielson." It doesn't really get any cooler than that." ■

## MPA Core Curriculum to be offered online in Fall 2013

The Department of Government and Sociology recently announced that effective in the Fall 2013 academic term, the Master of Public Administration program will be offering its core curriculum courses in an online format. MPA students may now complete their core classes from the comfort of their work or homes. Electives will continue to be offered in a variety of methods, including classroom, online and hybrid. According to Min Kim, Ph.D., MPA Program Coordinator, "This is an exciting time for the program and for its students. As a result of utilizing this delivery method, we will be able to reach out to professionals in various settings who want to advance in their careers and make a difference. Our goal is to maintain our academic quality while increasing flexibility, access and choice."

### The following courses will be offered online:

PUAD 6538	Public Administration and the Public Sector
PUAD 6558	Public Personnel Management
PUAD 6568	Administrative Law for the Public Manager
PUAD 6578	Public Finance and Budgeting
PUAD 6601	Policy Making Implementation and Evaluation
PUAD 6605	Quantitative Techniques
PUAD 6615	Administrative Ethics
PUAD 6625	Intergovernmental Relations

The MPA program at Georgia College is accredited by the Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration (NASPAA), the global standard in public service education. NASPAA is the premier national membership organization of graduate education programs in public policy, public affairs, public administration, and public & nonprofit management. ■

# Philosophy and Liberal Studies



Jim Winchester and students studying "Philosophy in the City"

**The faculty and students** in Philosophy and Liberal Studies have had a productively fun-filled summer. Jennifer Clark, a Philosophy major, has been accepted into the Philosophy in an Inclusive Key Summer Institute at Pennsylvania State University to prepare African American students for PhD programs in Philosophy. This is a program that is usually reserved for rising seniors. The fact that Jennifer got accepted into the program as a rising Junior shows that the high esteem with which the Philosophy program at GC is viewed by other institutions. Two philosophy majors, Bruce "Brent" Tripp and (James) Mike Thompson accompanied Jim Winchester on a study abroad to Paris and took his course "Philosophy in the City: Paris and the Philosophy of Camus, Satre and de Beauvoir." Philosophy alumnus Taylor Adkins has translated 2 books, *The Dictionary of Non-Philosophy* and *Philosophy and Non-Philosophy* by Francois Laruelle, published by the University of Minnesota Press.



Students at the Hackney Museum's exhibition on Immigration

Sunita Manian spent the month of July teaching on the European Council's Study Abroad program in London. From teaching in a classroom situated behind Jeremy Bentham's auto-icon to engaging in round table discussions with experts affiliated with some of the most important organizations associated with the European Union, the study abroad program offered students opportunities not available on a traditional campus.



Students in front of the Jeremy Bentham auto-icon at the University College London

Students taking the very timely course titled Global Economic Crisis and the Euro visited the European Commission. Students participated in a round table discussion with Mr. Jan Krauss, the Political Officer in the EC's London team covering the European Union Internal Market, Economic & Monetary Affairs, and most of the portfolios concerned with financial affairs. On another field trip they visited the Centre for European Reform where they met with the Chief Economist, Philip Whyte. The very relaxed atmosphere which belied the extremely in-depth analysis presented by Mr. Whyte of the Euro-zone crisis stimulated a vibrant question and answer session between the twelve students and Mr. Whyte that lasted well over an hour. One student reflected the mood of many in the class when he wrote in his field trip journal that he had been bragging to all his friends about the very important economists with whom he got to engage in intellectual exchanges as a result of taking this course. ■

# Physics and Astronomy Students

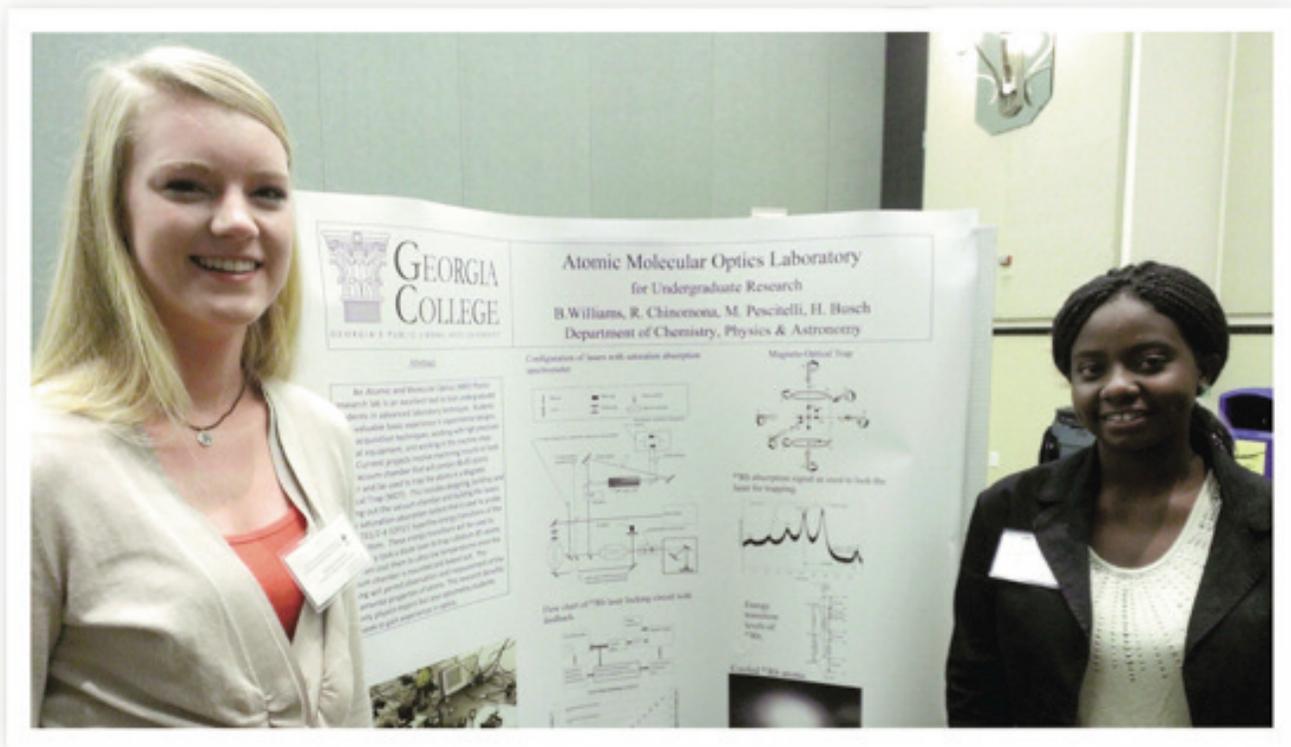
participate in the Southeast Conference for Undergraduate Women in Physics.

The physics and astronomy program in the Department of Chemistry, Physics and Astronomy has experienced a large growth in numbers of majors and is actively involved in getting undergraduates participate in research. The physics program faculty welcomed 9 new physics scholars into their research groups.

Current physics scholars are presenting the results of their research at national meetings including the Southeast Conference for Undergraduate Women in Physics (see photo). For the summer of 2013, the program has two students attending a Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) program with other universities. ■

## SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE FOR UNDERGRADUATE WOMEN IN PHYSICS, JAN. 18–20, 2013, UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

by Lily Udumukwu at the University of Miami



**MONICA PESCITELLI AND RUJEKE CHINOMONA** of Georgia College showcase their research during the student poster fair. Photo by Lily Udumukwu.



Lauren Acker



Miah Arnold-Mankad



## NEW FACULTY MEMBERS JOIN COAS IN FALL 2013



Kasy Karen



Linda Keen-Rocha

**Sixteen new faculty members (11 tenure-track and 4 lecturers) will join the College of Arts and Sciences in Fall 2013:**

### **Department of Biology and Environmental Sciences:**

Allison Vandervoort  
Kasy Karen



Simplice Tchamna Kouna



Jebessa Mijena

### **Department of Chemistry and Physics:**

Linda Keen-Rocha  
Sharon Careccia

### **Department of English and Rhetoric:**

Miah Arnold-Mankad  
Claudia Yaghoobi



Sergio Ruiz



Mariana Stoyonova

### **Department of History:**

Stephanie Opperman  
Lauren Acker

### **Department of Mass Communication:**

Ashley Torrence  
James Schiffman



Ashley Taylor



Ashley Torrence

### **Department of Mathematics:**

Jebessa Mijena  
Simplice Tchamna Kouna

### **Department of Modern languages and Cultures**

Mariana Stoyonova

### **Department of Music:**

Sergio Ruiz (Chair)

### **Department of Psychological Sciences:**

Ashley Taylor  
Dana Wood



Allison Vandervoort



Dana Wood



Claudia Yaghoobi



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College of Arts and Sciences

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