



President's Corner

As we face some challenging times ahead, let's remember the synergy that comes from teamwork. I still love the lesson of the geese which fly in formation, share the responsibility and look after each other. A vital part of our culture has been the way we pull together and know that the whole is more valuable than the sum of our parts.

While we deal with the issues, it will be important to consider all consequences and to gather as much input as possible. I hope that people will use various forms

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of communication to make suggestions for the most positive outcomes for our students, faculty and staff, and campus culture.

We did not seek this challenge, but my goal is that we, the students and Northeast Georgia gain major benefits from the proposed merger of Gainesville State College and North Georgia College and State University.

Mertha

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Amoss, Girl Scouts create ornaments for National Tree

Gainesville-area Girl Scouts recently decorated ornaments that were used to decorate Georgia's tree for the 2011 National Christmas Tree display in President's Park in Washington, D.C. The display included a tree for each of the U.S. states and territories and the District of Columbia. One of the Scouts' ornaments was also displayed on the White House Visitor Center's Christmas tree.

Local sculptor Jane Hemmer was asked by Georgia's first lady, Sandra Deal, to lead the design project for Georgia's tree. Hemmer, in turn, contacted **John Amoss**, GSC Associate Professor and Art Program Coordinator, to help design the ornament to be placed inside the clear plastic globe provided by the National Park Service and Foundation.

Hemmer then contacted local Girl Scouts for assistance with decorating the template created by Amoss.

Campus Democrats group seeks members

The Campus Democrats were quite active in the past but have not been active this year, and the advisor has resigned to take a different job.

Anyone interested in bringing this group back to active status on the Gainesville Campus, either as a faculty/staff advisor or as a student member, should email **Cara Ray** (cray@gsc.edu), who will try to connect potential members with an advisor. There is an existing budget for this club and, as an election year begins, a great chance to plan some activities. In the past, the group has worked with the Politically Incorrect Club and Students for a Progressive Society to bring a variety of events to campus that create a presence for ideas all along the political spectrum.

Other groups available to be brought back to active status are the GSC Fishing Club and SORBA, the mountain biking club. Again, interested students or potential advisors should contact **Cara Ray** about this opportunity or for information about starting a new club on campus.

GHS one of top five "High Flying Schools"

Gainesville High School has been recognized nationally as one of the five "High Flying Schools" in the country.

The "Near Peer" project, which pairs Gainesville State College students with ninth grade students for tutoring, was recognized as one of the reasons GHS received the award.

The award ceremony will be held at the 23rd National Youth-At-Risk Conference March 4-7, 2012, at the Hyatt Regency in Savannah. Gainesville High School, along with the other four award-winning schools, will give a presentation in a special "High Flying Schools Award Winners



At Roy C. Moore Art Gallery:

"Alpine Butterfly Bend" Exhibit

GSC's Roy C. Moore Art Gallery presents "Alpine Butterfly Bend: Recent Work by Sara DiDonato" from January 11 through February 8, 2012.

Utilizing imagery of yarn weaved through a mountain of contortionist girls, DiDonato creates a metaphor for the thread that weaves through

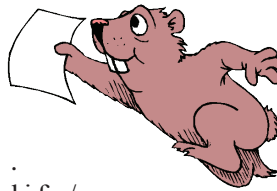
the present moment and across time. DiDonato investigates connections between the external world and the inner lives of girls and women with her depictions of people engaging in menial tasks while maintaining seemingly impossible balancing acts.

DiDonato received a Master of Fine Arts degree from State University of New York at Albany and a Bachelor of Fine Arts from University of Iowa. She is currently an Associate Professor of Art at the College at Brockport, State University of New York. Her work has been exhibited across the country and is included in both public and private collections.

The closing reception will be held on Wednesday, February 8, at noon, in the Continuing Education/Performing Arts Lobby.

The gallery will be open Monday through Wednesday from 10 AM to 4 PM and Thursday from 10 AM to 7 PM. For more information, please contact Gallery Director **Beth Sale** at 678-717-3438 or bsale@gsc.edu.

Announcements



► If you have extra linens taking up space in your closets, **Dede deLaughter's** small group in Leadership Oconee is collecting new and gently-used sheets, pillow cases, towels, wash cloths, and blankets for distribution through the Oconee Food Bank. Please drop donations off in the bin located in the Faculty/Staff workroom. Dede will be collecting them once a month through May to take to the distribution center. According to **Sara Zerkel's** dad, who directs the food bank, linens are "flying off the shelves." Help everyone stay warm this winter!

► As of Spring Semester 2012, there will be an online testing form available for the Office of Disability Services (ODS) on the Gainesville Campus. Instructors will have the option of attaching the test electronically or sending it via campus mail. It is very important that every test sent to the ODS has a corresponding form, whether it be electronic or paper. Instructors may continue to use the paper forms if it is more convenient.

An automatic confirmation email will be sent to the instructor after form

submission. Go to <http://www.gsc.edu/campuslife/disability/Pages/FacultyInformation.aspx> for the online test referral form.

Contact **Beth Bellamy** (bbellamy@gsc.edu) with any questions.

► New forms have been posted for GSC's W-9 and also for GSC's Sales Tax Exemption. If you have previous versions of these forms saved or printed, please discard the older forms and use the latest forms added to the GSC website under Business Affairs→Accounting.

USG Faculty Development Series

Creating a Collaborative Learning Community

Friday, January 20

10 AM - 4 PM

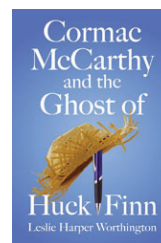
Information Technology Services Office—Athens

Presenters: Meredith Ginn & Shea Mize, Georgia Highlands College; Kim & Jason Huett, University of West Georgia

Register online at http://www.usg.edu/faculty_affairs/workshops/category/academic_year_2011-2012/

Ringling Our Bells

Dr. Leslie Worthington's book, *Cormac McCarthy and the Ghost of Huck Finn*, will be released by McFarland Publishers in the spring of 2012. This volume discusses the intertextual connections between Twain's iconic novel and eight works by celebrated American author Cormac McCarthy. By chronicling the diverse scholarly comparisons between Twain and McCarthy and exploring the echoes of Twain and Huck Finn in McCarthy's writing, this study reveals how McCarthy has not only absorbed Twain's tradition, but transformed it.



book, *The Founding of the American Republic*, by **Dean H. Lee Cheek, Jr.**

According to the publisher, "The *Founding of the American Republic* aims to provide a fair and thorough reappraisal of the Founding of the American Republic. Oftentimes, the Founders are, when not forgotten, made to fit some 'ideological box'—liberals or conservatives, villains or saints. This book proves that such views need to be reconsidered, free from past ideologies and interpretations, to recover their teaching and foster a better understanding of contemporary politics. To do so, the authors let the Founders speak for themselves, by looking first at the Declaration of Independence. . . . Next, they examine how the Declaration was incorporated into the Articles of Confederation . . . and finally the



Constitution of 1787. . . ." (<http://www.continuumbooks.com/books/detail.aspx?BookId=158626&SubjectId=1023&Subject2Id=1457>).

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TOWER TALK is the official communication vehicle for Gainesville State College faculty and staff members and is published bi-weekly by the Office of Public Relations and Marketing. Submissions for the next edition should be emailed to dkrewson@gsc.edu or sent to Debbie Krewson, Public Relations & Marketing, to be received by noon, Wednesday, January 18, 2012.

Chris Bell's play, *Modern Communication: A Short Story in Dramatic Form* was published by the online literary journal *Literary Juice*. Read it at <http://www.literaryjuice.com/#/modern-communication/4558198565>.

Continuum Publishers has announced the publication of a forthcoming

Our College Family

Congratulations to **Wanda and Tim Aldridge** on the birth of their first grandchild, Edie Kate England. She was born December 29, 2011 at 6:14 AM, weighed 4 lbs. 9 oz., and was 16½ inches long. Edie Kate continues to get stronger each day, and proud parents Josh and Kelly hope to bring her home soon.

GSCWO Meeting

Date: Wed., January 11

Time: Noon to 1 PM

Place: Library AV Room

Speaker: Barbara Arnold,
Personal Counselor/
Wellness Coordinator—
*How to Make Real
Changes in Your Behavior*

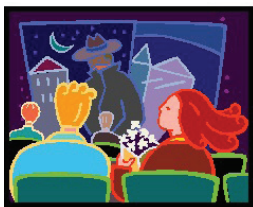
Also featured:
Reports on Christmas activities,
discussion of upcoming activities,
fabulous door prize, and refreshments

Foreign Languages Dept. makes donation to S. Hall Food Pantry

The Department of Foreign Languages featured French language films this fall. Coordinated by **Drs. Amye Sukapdjo** and **Steven Crawford**, the films were well attended by the GSC community. As a result, the department was able to make a \$120 donation to the South Hall Community Food Pantry.

In the spring, the series will feature Spanish language films. Faculty and students should take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to enjoy foreign language cinema and foreign languages! All in the community

are welcome. Entrance fees (\$1.00) will continue to go to a good cause.



✓ Mark your calendar:

- Wed., Jan. 11** "Alpine Butterfly Bend: Recent Work by Sara DiDonato. Roy C. Moore Art Gallery, GC. Through Feb. 8.
- Fri., Jan. 13** **School of Social Sciences Faculty Meeting.** 1:15 - 3:00 PM, Room 134, Library, GC; Room 522, SRC, OC.
- Mon., Jan. 16** **Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.** NO CLASSES.
- Tues., Jan. 17** **University Center | GA 400 Ground Breaking.** 2:00 PM, Pilgrim Mill Road, Cumming.
- Wed., Jan. 18** **GSC Foundation Board of Trustees Meeting.** 11:15 AM - 2:00 PM, Room 3110 A&B, Academic IV, GC.
- Mon., Jan. 23** **Magician Peter Boie.** 11 AM - 1:30 PM, Student Center Stage, GC. Magician for non-believers. Sponsored by CAB.
- Tues., Jan. 31** **Stage Tour: *The Grapes of Wrath.*** 6:00 PM, Hosch Theatre, Brenau University. FREE.

Counseling & Career Services Workshops

Keeping Your New Year's Resolutions Tues., Jan. 10 12:30 & 4:30 PM

As we ring in the New Year with hopes and dreams for the upcoming year, we can often become disillusioned when our resolutions are quickly forgotten or our efforts simply aren't sustainable. Come learn how people most often succeed in their endeavors, and learn strategies to set yourself up for success instead of frustration.

College Transferring Thurs., Jan. 12 12:30 & 4:30 PM

Are you transferring to another college? Do you know what paperwork you need to complete? Do you know when to start the process? This workshop will help you with all your transferring questions.

Testing Anxiety Wed., Jan. 18 Noon & 5 PM

Like it or not, your success in college is based largely on how you test. If testing anxiety is your problem, this workshop will help you by going over common problems and offering practical solutions. Helpful relaxation techniques will also be demonstrated in this workshop.

College Transfer Fair Thurs., Jan. 19 10 AM - 1 PM

Admission Counselors from 25 colleges and universities will be in the Robinson Ballroom located in the Student Center. This is a wonderful opportunity to talk to the Admission Counselors about their schools, programs, and transfer requirements.

Keeping Your New Year's Resolutions Mon., Jan. 23 Noon & 5 PM

Study Skills Tues., Jan. 24 12:30 & 4:30 PM

Do you study forever and still don't understand? Are you studying harder instead of smarter? Learn the study habits you should know for success in college and beyond.

All workshops and events are free of charge and open to currently enrolled students, faculty, and staff. If you cannot attend a program but are interested in the topic, we will be happy to meet with you individually. All workshops are about 45 minutes to one hour in length and will be presented in our office unless otherwise noted. Advance registration is preferred: call 678-717-3660 or email dpierce@gsc.edu to register.