Congratulations to the Book Set Winners!

This past spring P-12 teachers and administrators were invited to participate in a survey on partnership needs. Those that completed the survey were entered in a drawing to receive 20 children’s books for their classroom. The winners were: Laura Mills and LaQuantat Thomas-Jackson- Screven County, Crystal Wright-Candler County, Kristy Lanier-Effingham County, and Kathryn Partnership Council Accomplishments

This past year the Partnership Council began overseeing partnership initiatives in the surrounding region to learn from each other and work collaboratively to enhance educational opportunities in Southeast Georgia. At the meetings, community and P-12 members and university members share updates and information with the council to keep members apprised of what is happening in local districts, the college, and the region. The Council has developed a Strategic Plan that will guide their work and initiatives for the next three years. Beginning this fall the Council is engaged in a book study to enhance their understanding on how to create and sustain effective partnerships.
Australian Music Duo to Perform at Georgia Southern University

World music plays an important role in creating a well-rounded music-curriculum. Some types of world music and culture are limited in Southeast Georgia which makes it harder for teachers to emulate for their students. Thanks to Associate Professor Laura Stambaugh, and the aid of a Partnership Council grant, Australian music duo DidgRevolution will present a workshop and concert for pre-service and in-service music teachers at Georgia Southern University. In the workshop, which will be held on January 21, 2016, teachers and teacher candidates will learn how to make and play Aboriginal instruments and learn how this sacred music functions in Australian culture. This is a fantastic opportunity for music teachers to learn about Australian music and culture and can help them meet the

Promoting Early Literacy in Bulloch County

The Ferst Foundation for Childhood Literacy is a 501(C) 3 operating in numerous Georgia Counties including Bulloch County. The Ferst Foundation addresses one of the most basic issues of childhood literacy-ensuring the availability of quality books in the home so that parents can read to their child. Books are delivered not just once, but every month, up to 60 times in the child's critical years of development (birth - 5 years old). There is absolutely no cost (ever) to registered children in participating areas. Associate Professors Michelle Reidel and Christine Draper along with Instructors Shelley Woodward and Lisa Davis serve on the Community Action Team (CAT), the local organizing group. The group recently engaged in a fundraiser "For The Love of Reading", which was held in local schools to raise funds for books. The winning classroom collecting the most money for the fundraiser was Mrs. Lee's at Mill Creek Elementary. The Department of Writing and Linguistics is generously providing a writing workshop to this fourth grade classroom. The following classrooms won pizza parties: Sallie Zetterower- Mrs. Taylor, Julia P. Bryant- Mrs.
Georgia Performance Standards. The free concert is Thursday, January 21, 2016, at 7:30pm in the Carol A. Carter Recital Hall in the Foy Building. The concert will be open to all community members and is expected to be an exciting performance that will be engaging for all ages. You can view clips of performances on their website: http://www.didgrevolution.com/

Professional Development
Writing Workshop Comes to Southeast Georgia

Associate Professor Michelle Reidel and Instructor Heather Scott are using a grant from the Partnership Council to provide a nationally renowned professional development program here on campus. On January 4, 2016, both in-service and pre-service teachers of Southeast Georgia will attend a workshop featuring Penny Kittle, a teacher, author and literacy advocate. She will help the attendees develop knowledge and the skills to support students as they learn to write effectively. This workshop is based on her best-selling books Write Beside Them: Risk, Voice and Clarity in High School Writing and Inside Writing: How to Teach the Details of Craft. Teachers will also learn how to design mini-lessons that respond to students' needs and about the importance of daily writing practice through writer's notebooks and quick writes. This workshop will not only provide participants with ways of nurturing and growing their students' love for writing, but will give pre-service teachers a chance to network with in-service teachers and strengthen the sense of community between the college faculty, pre-service, and in-service teachers.

COE Faculty from left to right: Ackacoglu, M., Green, L.

Starting this semester, with the help from the Partnership Council, Associate Professor Lucy Santos Green and Assistant Professor Mete Akcaoglu are implementing a project at William James Middle School that is designed to develop educational games that target selected 6th grade science standards. The Game Cannon, Brooklet Elementary- Mrs. Brown, and Bulloch Academy- Mrs. Anderson. If you are interested in serving on the Ferst Foundation Community Action Team, please contact Michelle Reidel at mreidel@georgiasouthern.edu

Problem Solving through the Game Design and Learning Program

After School Program that
Design and Learning Program is a collaboration by Georgia Southern faculty, the school library media specialist, 6th grade teachers, and selected 6th grade students. The goals of the program are to teach students how to design digital games, provide students with a broader understanding and the skills in programming, give students practice in becoming producers of digital media, and teach students problem-solving skills by using game-design as the context for ill-structured problems. Dr. Green and Dr. Akcaoglu plan to use this program as part of a research project that will assess students’ complex problem solving skills as well as to promote science literacy through technology enabled learning.

Focuses on Critical Learning Outcomes

With the help of the Partnership Council, Assistant Professor Antonio Gutierrez is developing an after school program at Nevils Elementary School that is designed to teach students about strategies and encourages them to reflect on their own learning. He plans to offer an opportunity for interested 4th and 5th grade students that centers on learning metacognitive strategies intended to help students better monitor their comprehension as they learn. His learning activities will be in three one-hour sessions where the students who receive the strategy training will also receive an incentive to motivate them to apply the strategies they learn. This program is a collaborative effort between the College of Education faculty at Georgia Southern and the Bulloch County School District.
Grants Available!

Grant funds are available and may be requested to support school partnership activities and travel related to partnership endeavors. The next funding window will be at the February Partnership Council meeting. Funding protocol and procedures can be found on the partnership website at: http://coe.georgiasouthern.edu/partnerships/funding-sources/

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

School Request Form

Attention school partners!
Faculty are able to provide a wide range of support such as professional development, program evaluation, data analysis and grant writing. Additionally, they may be able to fulfill other requests from the school system. For assistance in building a partnership, please complete this form. The Partnership Coordinator will review the information provided and then contact you to get more insight into your specific needs and identify potential partners. Thank you in advance for your interest.

Sincerely,

Christine A. Draper
Partnership Coordinator
College of Education
Georgia Southern University