March, 2012

Biology Field Trip

Several Biology students went to Florida for a spring camping trip. One of the best finds from the camping trip was this eastern coral snake.

Watkins Accepted Into Syracuse University

Jasmine Watkins, who graduated with a BS in Sociology in Spring, 2011, was accepted into a graduate-level Journalism program at Syracuse University. When she was at GSW, Watkins was a 2nd place winner of the Delores Capitan Writing Award. She was also a member of the Psych/Soc Club and Gamma Beta Phi, as well as volunteering for Habitat for Humanity and the Red Cross.

King Presents at Eighteenth Century Studies Conference

Allison “A.J.” King presented a paper at 38th annual conference for the South Eastern Society of Eighteenth Century Studies in Decatur. Her paper was on Hannah Webster Foster's 1797 novel The Coquette. Paul Dahlgren (Assistant Professor of English) and Elizabeth Kuipers (Associate Professor of English) also gave presentations at the conference.
TCMA/ Hurricane Watch In SETC Cinema & TV Festival

Theater, Communication & Media Arts (TCMA), and Hurricane Watch (the GSW student TV production unit) were represented in three films/projects screened as part of the Southeastern Theater Conference Cinema and TV festival in Chattanooga, Tennessee on March 5-7. Jeffrey Green (Professor of Theater) presented all three screenings. The screenings included the Star Trek fan film, Project Potemkin – The Void (a TCMA/Hurricane Watch collaboration with private outside production company Project Potemkin), the independent production Life After Death, and selections from the Georgia Movie Academy (a new TCMA/Hurricane Watch initiative produced under the umbrella of the Rylander Theater Partnership Productions).

Project Potemkin episodes currently include the following GSW students, faculty, and alumni: Chris Coleman, Blair Erskine, Jeffrey Green, Eric Holt, Bill Mackenzie, Sara Higgins Mackenzie, Cassie Martin, Mario Pagan, Dennis Proulx, Hannah Ruiz, William Searcy, Richard Thornton, Jason Wallace, and Christin Woods. Several episodes and shorts will be screened at TrekTrax (April 20-22 in Atlanta), Comicon (May 24-27 in Phoenix), and Sci-Fi on the Rock (April 20-22 in Newfoundland).

TCMA Technical Coordinator Ray Mannila was featured in independent film maker Pat Peacock’s short work Life After Death. Will Dozier, a recent graduate, sang on the title sound track theme.

Third World Seminar on ‘Experiences in China'

Three GSW faculty members who taught at universities in the People’s Republic of China (PRC) last summer shared their experiences at a GSW Third World in Perspective Program seminar. Anh-Hue Tu (Associate Professor of Biology), Gabriele Ulrike Stauf (Professor of English) and Philip Szmedra (Professor of Economics) gave PowerPoint presentations highlighting their China experiences as teachers and tourists.
Women's Studies Program Sponsors Several Presentations

On March 8, the Women's Studies Program at GSW sponsored the fourth presentation in the Women's Studies Lecture Series. The featured speakers were Susan Bragg (Assistant Professor of History) and Jason Berggren (Assistant Professor of Political Science), who shared their expertise and time with an engaged audience. Bragg's topic was "Shirley Chisholm: Race and Gender Politics in the Era of the New Left". Berggren spoke on "Michelle Bachmann: Religion and Gender in the Era of the New Right."

Andrea Miller (Assistant Professor of Psychology), Susan Bragg (Assistant Professor of History) and Tonia Hughes (Instructor of Visual Arts) gave presentations on “LGBT Women in Media, Art and History” on March 26.

On March 28 the Women's Studies Program sponsored a convocation titled "The Archaeology of the Goddess" featuring Joanna Watson, a professor of sociology from Mercer University (see left). Watson, an archaeologist, brought a wealth of experience to the GSW campus including digs in Crete, Jerusalem and Malta. Her lecture focused on ancient religions which worshiped the feminine prior to the development of a patriarchal religious structure. To illustrate her points, Watson shared a variety of goddess figurines ranging from 28,000 BCE to present day.

Kuipers Attends Two Conferences.

Elizabeth Kuipers (Associate Professor of English) attended the annual meeting of the Southeastern American Society for Eighteenth Century Studies. She presented a paper entitled “Using Images of Native Americans in Teaching the American Literature Survey” and fulfilled her obligations as a member of the Executive Board. For the annual meeting of the American Society for Eighteenth Century Studies, she chaired the affiliate panel “Investigating Women’s Health,” and represented the affiliate at the conference business meeting.

Uhl Presents at a Forensic Psychology Conference

Elizabeth Uhl (Assistant Professor of Psychology) presented the paper "Children's Reinforcement-Induced Suggestibility: Its Developmental Trajectory and Relation to Individual Differences" at the American Psychology-Law Society's annual meeting in San Juan, Puerto Rico.
Women’s Studies Students Participate in Service Learning

In recognition of Women’s History month, the Introduction to Women’s Studies class did projects on feminist activism.

- Leah Faulconer and Caitlin McMillan organized two panels of experts for the topics of “Domestic Violence” and “LGBT Women in Art, Media, and History.”
- Ashley Bell used her Senior Solo Art Exhibition as the context for her discussion of the history of women in the field of art. She discussed the ways that her own art entered into the feminist dialog.
- Timothy Mallard, Ashley Biggs, Gloria Harden, and Janet Buyu presented a project about beauty and self-perception at the Methodist Girls’ Home.
- Rebekah Tate designed a program, modeled along the lines of “Take Back the Night,” which will allow the girls to share and discuss the adversities they face in a safe environment.
- Robin Glover and Angel Medina will do a presentation on gender roles, particularly with regard to dress.
- Cassandra Smith and Alyssa Clingenpeel will conduct a donations drive for baby items to be given to a Crisis Pregnancy Center.
- Ashley Bratcher, Holly Peacock, Josh Mousinho, Lindsey Hopkins, and Rebecca Payton are promoting confidence about body image on campus with informational brochures and posters. In addition, they are holding a bake sale, the proceeds of which will go to the Methodist Girls Home.
- Jessica Durrett and Sarah Sapp conducted a collection drive on campus for a girls’ orphanage in La Romana, Dominican Republic. The collected items ranged from toiletries, to medicine, to cooking utensils.

MacLennan Presents at a Sociology Conference

Jamie MacLennan (Assistant Professor of Sociology) gave a presentation at the Southern Sociological Society conference on March 24 in New Orleans. The title of the paper was “Trail Magic and Hiker Boxes: Exchanges and social solidarity among Appalachian Trail long-distance hikers.” The presentation focused on the different types of exchange systems that long-distance hikers utilize while hiking the Appalachian Trail. Long-distance hikers reported that trail magic, an exchange system in which past hikers "pass forward" to current hikers the food and favors they received during their hike, inspired a strong sense of groupness among participants. On the other hand, hiker boxes, where hikers leave gear and food they do not want for other hikers to take, did not appear to induce such feelings of solidarity.
Theater Co--produces *Chicago* with the Sumter Players

Over 30 members of the GSW community contributed to the production of *Chicago* at the Rylander Theater on March 8 to 11. Theater, Communication, and Media Arts majors in the company included Zac Lewis (Lighting Design), Daina Rosario (in the lead role of Roxy Hart), William Searcy (as Rufus), Eric Holt (as Fred Casely). Will Dozier, a GSW theater graduate, performed the lead role of Billy Flynn. The construction crew and ensemble also included Richard Thornton, Mark Culpepper, Alexis Young, Crystal Mone’t, and Jesse Wade. Theater Technical Coordinator, Ray Mannila, served as Production Manager, Technical Director, and Set Designer. Students from Theater Appreciation included: Anthony Hand, Paige Bragg, Catherine Foster, Shari Huie, Asia Barthel, Emma Benson, Jennifer Cummings, Trenisha Halmon, Kyndall Harrison, Alvita Milner, Haley Reynolds, and Brandon Ross. Other members of the GSW community involved in the production were Parker Phillips, Elizabeth Tyrer, Jimmy Moore, Bernadine Goshay, Terrence Gooch, Stephanie Harvey (Associate Professor of Biology), and Christi Barr (Instructor/HPER).

Berggren Introduces President Carter on President's Day

For Presidents’ Day (February 20), former President Jimmy Carter spoke about the highlights of his presidency at the Jimmy Carter National Historic Site in Plains, Georgia. Jason Berggren (Assistant Professor of Political Science) introduced President Carter. Berggren spoke for about 10 minutes on the significance of Presidents’ Day and the Carter presidency. Berggren noted that when Carter started his 1976 campaign hardly anyone outside of Georgia knew who he was. Carter was “Jimmy Who?” He first won the Iowa Caucus, then the New Hampshire and Florida primaries. Berggren said that “Carter was now ‘Jimmy Somebody’ and the candidate to beat.” Approximately 400 people attended the event.