Capitan Plaza dedication honors former GSW president

On Wednesday, Oct. 9, 2013, GSW and the GSW Foundation named the Capitan Plaza in honor of William H. Capitan, Ph.D., the University's eighth president. Capitan Plaza is located between Building I and II of the new Rosalynn Carter Health and Human Sciences Complex. The Capitan Plaza includes a commemorative bronze plaque that was unveiled as part of the ceremony along with benches, trees and flowers planted specifically for the area.

Capitan's tenure brought growth in GSW's academic and external programing, new construction, and higher enrollment. Capitan also brought the idea that GSW could not just be a good college, but a great one. "He enabled us to believe we can be better than we were," said Jerry Williams, Ph.D., professor and vice president emeritus of Academic Affairs. "He wanted to leave it [Georgia Southwestern] a better place than when he arrived. . . . As a result, he left us as better people."

"I'm moved by this," said Capitan at the end of the ceremony. "Thank you to Southwestern, Sumter County and Americus for greeting my family and me and never letting us go." Capitan concluded that he hoped that when people walked by the plaza and garden, they would see it as "the stamp on a love letter to this campus."

To watch the ceremony, click here.

Dr. Stauf named Professor Emeritus

On Sept. 6, 2013, Gabriele Ulrike Stauf, Ph.D., was named professor emeritus. Stauf, who recently retired, taught and served as an administrator for 28 years. Stauf joined the GSW faculty in 2001 and was the faculty advisor to Sirocco, GSW’s Arts Magazine, as well as a professor of English.

Even though she has retired, Stauf continues to practice and teach yoga both at GSW and in Americus. Most recently, Stauf led an all-day Mandala Meditation retreat at Pasaquan, a folk art location near Buena Vista, Ga.

Stauf will also be presenting a paper at the International Humanities Conference in Hawaii this January. The paper, entitled “Paying Our Debt,” discusses the role of Sophocles’ plays Ajax and Philoctetes in the therapy of Wounded Warriors.
“Wish You Were Here” Travel Photo Push Pin Exhibition

Last month, “Wish You Were Here,” a travel photo push-pin exhibition, was held in the Fine Arts Gallery. The exhibition was sponsored by GSW’s Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) called Windows to the World. The exhibition statement elaborates on the QEP and the exhibition:

This initiative carries the goal of increasing international awareness of our student body. With this in mind, this exhibition offers a peek into the many places that our staff, faculty, community, and students have been able to travel, offering them exciting experiences as well as growth and learning. Please enjoy these glimpses, these small windows to the worlds, that the participants have had the pleasure of experiencing.

The exhibition was held from Oct. 1 to Oct. 31 and was juried by Stephen Snyder, director of University Relations. During the opening reception on Oct. 7, Snyder announced the winners.

Third place went to Elizabeth Uhl, Ph.D., assistant professor of Psychology and Sociology for her photograph of Meteora, Greece, entitled Long Climb. Helen Tate, Ph.D., associate vice president of Academic Affairs received 2nd place for Gentle Exchange taken in Etosha National Park in northwest Namibia, Africa. First place was awarded to Darin Branton, a student majoring in photography, for his photograph of a motorcycle at the Florida pan handle near Apalachicola National Forest. His photograph is entitled The Green Tunnel.


1st Place: Darin Branton, The Green Tunnel, Apalachicola National Forest, Florida

2nd Place: Helen Tate, Gentle Exchange, Etosha National Park in Namibia, Africa

3rd Place: Elizabeth Uhl, Long Climb, Meterora, Greece
How to Work Like a Cat

David Jenkins, assistant director of Admissions, was elected to serve as secretary for the Georgia Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers at the annual conference held on Oct. 12-15, in Young Harris, Ga. While at the conference, Jenkins presented a session along with Donna Webb, director of Enrollment Management at ABAC. The presentation was entitled “How to Work Like a Cat: Walking with Confidence through a Dog-Eat-Dog World” and was based on the book by Karen Wormwald.

Conversion of Snow to Glacial Ice

One of the diagrams created by Burt Carter, Ph.D., professor of Geology and Physics, will soon be used by Denali National Park for a new informational handout and will be featured on their website.

The diagram, which shows the process of snow converting into glacial ice, was created for and explained on Carter’s Geology 1121 class website:

Glaciers form when the amount of snow and ice removed during the summer is less than the amount added by winter snowfall. “The excess snow is buried progressively deeper year-by-year and is converted to blue glacial ice.

The melting [of snow] takes place at points of contact – specifically the elongate ‘arms’ of the hexagonal ice crystals (#1 in the diagram). As the tiny projections melt, surface tension pulls the water inward toward the center of the crystal. As soon as it is away from the point of contact it refreezes (#2). The process continues (#3), serving to concentrate the mass of the water closer to the center of the original snowflake. At some point (#4) the ice has lost its flake-like original shape and has become a well-rounded granule of ice. A layer of this type of ice is called firn. With greater pressure (deeper burial) the firn grains fuse together and become a solid mass of crystalline glacial ice (#5).”

Pursuit of Grad School

The Office of TRiO and Student Support Services hosted a dialogue of the Pursuit of Graduate/Professional School. The guest presenter was Bertrand Haynes, Ph.D., executive director of TRiO Programs at North Carolina A&T State University located in Greensboro, N.C. The dialogue was held Oct. 22 in the Wheatley Assembly Hall.
Welcome to GSW: New Hires

**Katherine “Katie” Brock**

Brock is the new Campus Life Coordinator and works closely with the Director of Campus Life to oversee the operations of the departments of Volunteer Services, Orientation Services, and the Campus Activities Board. Brock was previously the Graduate Advisor for Orientation and Student Leadership at Columbus State University in Columbus, Ga. Brock has a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and a Master of Education with a focus in Higher Education both from Columbus State University. In her spare time, Brock enjoys reading, running, and watching Netflix.

“Currently my favorite thing about my job is the student interaction! I love meeting new students who have a passion for being involved on campus... I am looking forward to meeting new people and making an impact at GSW!”

**Kershawnda Johnson**

Located in the Academic Resource Center, Johnson is the new Retention Specialist whose main job is to help students complete college. Before joining GSW, Johnson worked as an Educationalist Specialist with the Upward Bound Federal TRiO Grant Program at Georgia Southern University and worked with adolescents dealing with substance abuse issues in the Bulloch county area. Johnson received her bachelor’s degree from Georgia Southern University.

“I honestly believe through preparation and motivation students can do anything. Sometimes they need a guide to help expose them to what they are capable of. Once a student realizes their potential, passion and/or purpose, there truly is no limit for them. However far they want to go, they can.”

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**2013 - 2014 Staff Senate Department Representatives**

The following representatives will serve as a liaison between departments and Staff Senate. Be sure to share any ideas or concerns you may have with them so they can share those items at our monthly Staff Senate Meetings. All staff members are welcome to attend the monthly Staff Senate Meetings, held on the last Wednesday of each month at 3 p.m. in the SGA Conference Room.

There are a few vacancies. If you are interested in serving for your department, please contact Tiffany Gregory, Staff Senate Chair.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Administration/University Relations</th>
<th>Karen Holloway</th>
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<tr>
<td>Academic Affairs</td>
<td>Miranda Thomas</td>
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<td>Talisha Lawson</td>
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<td>Sandra Cobb</td>
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<td>Athletics</td>
<td>Samantha Snow</td>
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<td>Business and Finance</td>
<td>Polly Conger</td>
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<td>Jan Rogers</td>
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<td>Enrollment Management/Registrar</td>
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<td>Callie Hammond</td>
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<td>Library</td>
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<td>Office of Instructional Technology</td>
<td>Beverly Carroll</td>
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<td>Eric Morgan</td>
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<td>Physical Plant</td>
<td>Mike McNeely</td>
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<td>Public Safety</td>
<td>Deon Williams</td>
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<td>School of Arts and Sciences</td>
<td>Diane Reyes</td>
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<td>School of Business</td>
<td>Jonathan Hobbs</td>
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<td>School of Computing and Math</td>
<td>Monique Daniels</td>
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<td>School of Education</td>
<td>Yolanda West</td>
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<td>School of Nursing/RCI</td>
<td>Angel Ramos</td>
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<td>Student Affairs</td>
<td>Darcy Bragg</td>
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<td>Josh Curtin</td>
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<td>Tiffany Gregory</td>
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**Eligibility for membership**

Regular, full-time employees with at least one year of service are eligible to serve. Delegates are elected from each unit, based on the number of employees in the unit. Officers are elected among delegates. Representation of each unit is based on the following employee membership levels.

- 1-10 employees = 1 voting delegate
- 11-19 employees = 2 voting delegates
- 20+ employees = 3 voting delegates
Open Enrollment

Benefits Fairs
Retirees
Tuesday, November 12
9:00 – 11:00 a.m. &
2:00 – 4:00 p.m.
Wheatley Administration Building,
Room 127

Active Employees
Wednesday, November 13
9:00 – 11:00 a.m. &
2:00 – 4:00 p.m.
Wheatley Administration Building,
Room 127

For more information, contact
Gena Wilson, director of Human
Resources

Sirocco: “Liberate the Muse”

Sirocco, GSW’s arts magazine, is published in the Spring of each year and features literary, visual, and musical works by students, faculty, and alumni. This year’s theme: “Liberate the Muse.”

Literary Submission Guidelines
Deadline: Jan. 31, 2014
Length restrictions:
Poetry – 40 lines
Essay, short story, or 1 Act – 3000 words
Proofreading is the responsibility of the author.
All submissions must be submitted to gswsirocco@gmail.com.

Art Submission Guidelines
Deadline: Jan. 31, 2014
All media (with the exception of time-based works) are welcomed. Preferred image format is 300 dpi in CMYK color mode. Please include the medium of the work in your submission. Optional: You may include a short artist statement (250 word limit) with your entry.

Multiple submissions are allowed. All literary and art submissions must be submitted to gswsirocco@gmail.com. All music submissions and questions should be sent to Mark Laughlin, mark.laughlin@gsw.edu.

From Tropical Storms to Hurricanes:
Health Fair and 5K Training Program

There will be a Faculty/Staff Health Fair on Tuesday, Nov. 12 at 12 p.m. in the Student Success Center Lab, Room 1208. There will be Exercise Science and Wellness students along with faculty of the Exercise Science and Wellness Department measuring blood pressure, body fat, height, weight, waist-to-hip ratio, and flexibility.

Also, the Exercise Science and Wellness Club will begin a walk/jog training program for faculty and staff in November. The training program, which begins on Monday, Nov. 4, 2013, prepares you to participate in a 5K, or 3.1 mile, run. The training will meet at the Crawford Wheatley Building. The weekly schedule is Monday, Wednesday, Friday from 12:00 - 12:50 p.m. and Tuesday, Thursday 5:45 - 6:30 p.m. and 6:30 - 7: 20 p.m.

Both events are sponsored by the Exercise Science and Wellness Club. If there are any questions, contact Catalina Casaru at catalina.casaru@gsw.edu.
Twelve students qualify for KCACTF Region 4 Festival

Twelve Theater, Communication & Media Arts students have qualified for participation in the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival to be held in Roanoke, Va., Feb. 4-8, 2014.

The students qualified across a variety of categories through juried review of their work in the productions of The Diviners and Unhallowed Art: The Birth of Frankenstein that were staged in September and October at GSW.

The Diviners
Rebekah Martens  Directing
Brandon Loper  Stage Management
Eric Holt  Scenic Design & Technical Direction
Jeremy Ellenburg  Irene Ryan Acting nomination
Jason Wallace  Irene Ryan Acting nomination

Losing Site
Jason Wallace  Director and Actor
Sara Sellers  Actor
William Searcy  Actor
Christopher Gilstrap  Stage manager
Jesse Wade  Scenic Design

Unhallowed Arts: The Birth of Frankenstein
Shatora Smith  Stage Management
Jesse Wade  Scenic Design & Technical Direction
Christopher Gilstrap  Irene Ryan Acting nomination
Sara Thompson  Irene Ryan Acting nomination
Jessica Riano  Make up
Brandon Loper  Audio Engineering

GSW Scarecrow Wins

The GSW Scarecrow won “Most Original” in the Sumter Scarecrow exhibition. The GSW Scarecrow was inspired by this year’s marketing campaign theme - “Only at Southwestern” - and the Wizard of Oz character.

The GSW scarecrow was one of three constructed by GSW affiliated organizations to participate in the Sumter Scarecrow event. The others were the Student Government Association (SGA) scarecrow named “Frankensurge,” inspired by Surge, and the Dining Services’ pumpkin-headed chef scarecrow.

“You want me to do what?!”

Mark Laughlin, Ph.D., assistant professor of Music, presented three improvisation workshops titled “You want me to do what?!” The workshops were presented throughout October to regional chapters of the Music Teachers National Association. Those associations included the Greater Marietta Music Teachers Association (Marietta, Ga.), Baldwin County Music Teachers Association (Mobile, Ala.), and the Mobile Music Teachers Association (Mobile, Ala.). The workshops addressed how piano teachers, without any previous background in improvisation, can begin to learn and teach students of all ages and abilities to improvise at the keyboard utilizing any method. The session demonstrated various ways to improvise and how improvisation can be used in every aspect of music education including elementary, middle, and high school students from the first lesson to the more advanced performers.
## Upcoming Events

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 2</td>
<td>1:00 p.m. Chief Oris Bryant, Jr.'s Memorial Service The Storm Dome</td>
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<td>A cookout will immediately follow at the Lake House</td>
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<td>Nov. 4</td>
<td>6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Xian University of Architecture and Technology (XUAT):</td>
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<td>Sculpture Graduate Exchange Exhibition - Opening</td>
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<td>James Earl Carter Library Gallery</td>
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<td>Department of Visual Arts Study Abroad Exhibition:</td>
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<td>5 Years of Study Abroad Programs - Opening</td>
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<td>Visual Arts Gallery</td>
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<td>Nov. 7</td>
<td>Fall Concert feat. the Concert Choir &amp; Chamber Singers directed by Dr. Julie Megginson, the Concert Band directed by Richard Swope, &amp; the Jazz Band directed by Dr. Mark Laughlin.</td>
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<td>Jackson Performance Hall</td>
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<td>Free and open to the public.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 9</td>
<td>Preview Day</td>
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<td>Nov. 18</td>
<td>7:30 p.m. GSW Chamber Series: Billion Dollar Trio</td>
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<td>Jackson Performance Hall</td>
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<td>For more information or for tickets, please call (229) 931-2204.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 18</td>
<td>6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Synergy Installation: Exhibition Opening</td>
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<td>James Earl Carter Library Gallery and Visual Arts Gallery</td>
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<td>Free event</td>
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### President’s Note

Two weeks ago I attended a USG Presidents’ retreat which was hosted by John Black, the interim president of Middle Georgia State College in Macon. Twenty nine of the 31 presidents were there. The discussions were both lively and informative.

A good part of one day was spent in a session with Robert Dickeson, the former president at North Colorado who has developed a reputation as an expert on prioritization. His message: there is not likely to be a lot of new money for public higher education so the only way an institution can fund its priorities, in our case faculty and staff salary adjustments, is to prioritize programs and reallocate existing resources. A method by which the prioritization process works most efficiently was presented.

Enrollment was also discussed. Most of the USG schools have suffered declines similar to ours. Overall, the System is down by over 2,000 students. It was initially suspected that one of the reasons for the decline was the fact that many students were opting to go to the technical colleges for their core courses. However, enrollments in that sector are also down. No one is certain at this point as to what is happening. Subsequent to looking at the numbers, the presidents shared with each other steps they are taking to increase future enrollments.

Another issue that received a lot of attention was the 2015 budget. There is optimism regarding what the state will allocate to the USG. At the same time, there is the possibility of a shortfall that will require institutions to give back a portion of that allocation. In our case, this means about five percent or just under $600,000.

We were also given some insight into the new funding formula that is to be implemented in FY2016. The plan is still very sketchy with many details to be worked out, but the one thing that is certain is that retention and graduation rates will play a major role in the new formula.

Other issues included the growing lack of civility on our respective campuses, on-line, distance education, and the status of CCG plans across the state. In all, it was a worthwhile and productive meeting.

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**Dr. Kendall Blanchard**