GSW Featured Scholar 2013-2014

Nedialka Iordanova, Ph.D., associate professor of chemistry, is Georgia Southwestern State University’s 2013-14 Featured Scholar.

A reception honoring Iordanova was held on Monday, Dec. 2 at 4 p.m. in the Rotunda of the Wheatley Administration Building.

“Dr. Iordanova is a wonderful chemistry professor,” said Kendall Blanchard, Ph.D. “She is actively engaged in her own research, but at the same time, she involves her undergraduate students in that research. Students who take her chemistry courses not only learn about chemistry, they actually do chemistry, and at levels usually reserved for graduate students. She is one of the reasons that our graduates fare so well when applying for medical, dental, veterinary, or pharmacy school.”

On a campus that focuses on teaching, Iordanova is pleased to be recognized for additional scholarly work.

“It means a lot to me because it recognizes the scholarly work that I am doing,” said Iordanova. “We are teaching students here, but we also do research. To be recognized for my research efforts on top of a pretty heavy teaching load makes me really happy and really proud of what I do.”

Proof

The Department of Theater, Communication and Media Arts (TCMA) is proud to present David Auburn’s Proof on Dec 5-7 at 8 p.m. in the Experimental Theatre (room 208) inside the Fine Arts Building. Admission is free.

Proof follows the story of Robert, his daughters Catherine and Claire, and his student Hal.

Catherine tries to come to grips with her possible inheritance from her late father Robert, a brilliant but mentally disturbed mathematician: his insanity. Complicating matters are one of her father’s ex-students, Hal, who wants to search through Robert’s old journals and her estranged sister Claire who shows up to help settle his affairs.

Hal stumbles upon a brilliant proof inside one of the notebooks, one that Robert might have produced in a moment of lucidity. Catherine claims that she developed the proof. Hal and Claire do not believe her, until the truth is disclosed.

The cast of TCMA’s production will be Joseph “Joey” Watson (Robert), assistant professor of communication, and students Sara Thompson, Jesse Wade, and Bekah Martens. The production will be directed by Jeremy Ellenberg.

The play won the Pulitzer Prize for Drama and the Tony Award for Best Play in 2001.
The Art of Calligraphy

Every fall semester, Bokshim Fox, a circulation assistant of the James Earl Carter Library, gives a presentation about Asian calligraphy to the Asian Art History class. In addition to the presentation, Fox decorates the class room, quizzes the students, and hands out prizes and gifts from Asia such as fans, ornaments, chopsticks, and brushes.

At the end of the class, each student gets their name written in three different Asian languages: Korean, Japanese, and Chinese. The transcriptions are written by Fox and students from ELI.

“I really enjoy giving [the students] oriental gifts for quizzes,” said Fox, “and writing their names on the papers, showing them how ancient Asian people used brushes instead of pens.”

This year, the volunteers included Yurina Nobuhara, an ELI student from Japan; Ji Hu, an art student from China; and Xiaolan Shi, a scholar from China.

Bokshim Fox is originally from South Korea. She has worked at GSW for eight and a half years, starting when she attended school here.

Food Drives

As we have just given thanks, it is time to remember those less fortunate. There are two separate food drives on campus: the SABU Canned Food Drive and the Feed the Future Food Pantry.

The Serviceable Adaptable Beautiful and United (SABU) organization is sponsoring a Canned Food Drive until Monday, December 9, 2013. Boxes for donations have been placed in the Marshall Student Center, Student Success Center (3rd Floor Lobby), and in each of the Residence Halls’ Lobbies. The canned food donations will be donated to the Salvation Army.

The Feed the Future Food Pantry is also taking donations. The Feed the Future Food Pantry helps those students who cannot afford food during the semester.

In order for students to receive goods from the pantry, they must be referred by a faculty, staff, or professional and present a valid student ID. Currently, there is a limit of two visits per student per fall and spring semester. Feed the Future will start taking referrals soon.

The Feed the Future food pantry is located in the Student Success Center, room 3461. For more information, Contact Josh Curtin at josh.curtin@gsu.edu or (229) 931-2377.
Biannual Artists Associated Art Sale

The Artists Associated, the organization of art students, will be holding their biannual art sale on Dec. 4-5 from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on the lawn between the English Building and the Thomas O. Marshall, Jr. Pavilion.

Glass, ceramics, two-dimensional works and much more will be for sale. The money raised through the sale help art students purchase supplies and help finance study aboard trips.

The Department of Fine Arts would also like to invite you to the Open House on Dec. 6 from 6-8 p.m. The art students will be exhibition work of the semester throughout the building and work will also be for sale.

World AIDS Day Health Fair

Middle Flint Behavioral HealthCare Early Intervention, along with Bridge2Care of West Central Georgia and Friendship Missionary Baptist Church, is conducting a World AIDS Day health fair event that will be held on Saturday, December 7, 2013, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Friendship Missionary Baptist Church located at 411 Cotton Avenue, Americus GA.

A Million Thanks

Campus Activities Board (CAB) is hosting a letter writing event entitled “A Million Thanks” to give GSW students the opportunity to write a letter of thanks to our soldiers in Afghanistan and Iraq for the Holiday season.

Our students have researched sending letters to our troops and agree that they want to write to someone connected to the GSW community. If you or someone you know has a loved one or close family friend currently serving, the students would like to send them letters!

Please send their address and a picture of them (in uniform if possible) by December 3 to Katie Brock, campus life coordinator.

The letter writing event will be held on December 4 from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. in the SSC corridors. CAB will also be collecting items such as candy, beef jerky, newspapers, magazines, and word game books to send along with the letters.
“Victory from Within” A Traveling Exhibition

“Victory From Within: The American Prisoner of War Experience,” is a new traveling exhibit detailing the American prisoner of war experience that has made its debut at the James Earl Carter Library.

The traveling exhibit was created by the National Park Service, in cooperation with the American Ex-Prisoners of War (AXPOW) and the Friends of Andersonville, to give more citizens the opportunity to explore the American POW story. The 1,200 square foot exhibit is based on the thematic organization of the National Prisoner of War Museum, including sections on Capture, Prison Life, Those Who Wait, and Freedom, and displays artifacts and audio-visual interviews from actual prisoners of war.

The traveling exhibit can be viewed on the first floor of the James Earl Carter Library. There is no cost for admission. It will not be available from Dec. 18 to Jan. 1 because of GSW’s holiday schedule. For dates and hours of operation, please visit the library website at www.gsw.edu/library or call 229-931-2259.

Forced Choice Exclusion Task

Gary Fisk, Ph.D., associate professor of Psychology and Sociology, is pictured here with his poster presentation at the 2013 Psychonomics Society meeting in Toronto, Canada.

“I presented data that supports my position that exclusion tasks are not good measures of unconscious perception,” said Fisk.

This is the same study that will be published in the peer-reviewed journal Consciousness and Cognition this month.

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.

Music Submission Guidelines

Must be original compositions or in the public domain.
Must be a studio quality recording on a CD with your name, contact information, and a description of the piece(s) or of the inspiration.
If submitting multiple music submissions, please place them on the same CD.

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.
### Upcoming Events

**Dec. 2**
- 4 p.m. Dedication Reception for the 2013-2014 Featured Scholar
  - Nedialka Iordanova, Ph.D., Rotunda of the Wheatley Admin Bldg

**Dec. 2**
- 6 - 8 p.m. Devon Kester’s Senior Art Exhibition “Conceptual Introspection”
  - Opening Reception, James Earl Carter Library Gallery

**Dec. 4 & 5**
- 9 - 3:30 p.m. Biannual Artist Associated Art Sale
  - In front of the English Building

**Dec. 5**
- 8 p.m. Opening Night of “Proof”
  - Free event, Experimental Theatre of the Fine Arts Building

**Dec. 5**
- 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. Holiday Party
  - Private Dining Hall Marshall Pavilion
  - Please bring an unwrapped gift for a child

**Dec. 12**
- Grades of seniors are due
  - 12:00 p.m.

**Dec. 14**
- Graduation

**Dec. 16**
- Grades of all students due

**Dec. 23 - Dec. 27**
- Holiday break

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**President’s Note**

Human beings have always traveled. However, it was not until the 20th century that intercontinental travel became an option available to most professionals and many working people in the developed world. However, even then only a small minority of Americans traveled that extensively, certainly not outside the North American continent.

I grew up in a home of modest means. My father was a preacher and my mother a teacher but one who chose to stay at home and take care of my three siblings and me. We traveled only by car and then on an extremely tight budget. Our only trips outside the United States were to Canada, and only then because of my dad’s Canadian roots. Commercial air travel was out of the question. In my mind only rich people could afford to fly to Europe or other places oceans removed from the United States. As a teenager I dreamed of traveling to other worlds but doubted I could ever afford it.

Today international travel is within the reach of most Americans, even the children of poor preachers. At the same time that travel has never been more important. When I was a teenager “the price of eggs in China” meant very little to the American economy. Obviously, this is not true now. What happens in China and in any other country in the world affects our economy. That is why any college student today who expects to succeed in his or her chosen profession will be working and competing in a global environment, regardless of where he or she might actually be based. Thus, traveling to other places, learning other languages, and understanding other cultures are the surest ways to ensure professional success in the 21st century.

This is the rationale behind Georgia Southwestern’s new Quality Enhancement Plan which is focused on international understanding and travel. We want our students to succeed after they graduate. We know that studying abroad, interacting with people of diverse languages and cultures, and traveling internationally can be life-changing experiences and enhance in many ways the quality of one’s education. At the same time we continue to be aggressive in recruiting international students. If our native students cannot for whatever reason travel to other worlds, we are doing all we can to bring those worlds to them. These are essential components in today’s undergraduate curriculum and programmatic ways we can help to ensure that a degree from Georgia Southwestern is a ticket to success.

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**Dr. Kendall Blanchard**