



Villager

FACULTY AND STAFF NEWS • www.gsu.edu/villager

Professor helps planet by advising United Nations

By Michael Wall • mtwall@gsu.edu

To help the environment, as the saying goes, “Think global, act local.” Paul J. Ferraro, assistant professor of economics in the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies, puts a new twist on that phrase.



Paul J. Ferraro, assistant professor of economics in the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies, is taking his passion for the environment to the world stage as an adviser for the United Nations.

A recent appointment to the 15-member Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) will enable Ferraro to save the planet by thinking locally first, and then acting globally.

Ferraro will tackle some of earth’s most pressing environmental problems, including biodiversity, climate change, land degradation, the ozone layer and persistent pollutants, by advising the United Nations and the World Bank on grants that are meant to “benefit every living being on the planet,” he said.

In a nutshell, GEF helps developing countries fund projects and programs that protect the global environment. For instance, a member country will apply for a U.N. grant, and Ferraro and the rest of the panel will advise the U.N. on which proposals will have the most beneficial impact.

“It’s essentially a market mechanism to get low-income nations to supply benefits to the rest of the world,” said Ferraro, who is currently the only American sitting on the advisory panel. There’s no way a single government can provide such aide on a global level, so there needs to be some mechanism to do that. And that’s why the United Nations and World Bank created [the GEF].”

Since 1991, the GEF has provided \$6.2 billion in grants and generated more than \$20 billion in co-financing from other sources to support more than 1,800 projects that produce global environmental benefits in 140 developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

Ferraro was selected for the panel because he’s an economist who specializes in groundbreaking research that attempts to quantify and measure efforts to protect biological diversity, which is one of the United Nations Environment Programme’s focal areas.

In previous years, the GEF has awarded grants to countries for programs meant to protect biodiversity in their national parks. Ferraro will conduct a study to see how successful those grants were by calculating how much biodiversity would have been lost if the grants were not awarded.

5 minutes with:

Dwight Lawson

Adjunct professor of animal biology and vice president of animal programs and science at Zoo Atlanta

Georgia State doesn’t offer a zoology program, but that doesn’t stop students from learning about animal management thanks to a partnership with Zoo Atlanta. What happens through this partnership?

The programs consist of several courses and internships. Now that we have offered this over a few years, the zoo has hired several individuals who have gained both classroom and practical experience through the courses. In addition, some have gone on to veterinary school and other zoological careers. These courses have evolved and built up over the last 14 years.

How many classes are offered through the zoo?

Currently, we have three courses that cover areas in animal management, and there are two internships. All are cross-listed in biology and psychology with an undergraduate and graduate section.

What is animal management?

Animal management refers to all aspects of keeping animals in a zoo setting. Animal management careers cover a lot of ground from being a zoo keeper or zoo curator to participating in conservation programs like Zoo Atlanta’s panda exhibit.

What kinds of student internships are offered at the zoo?

There are two different internship opportunities. [In one], students work as keepers in particular animal areas like elephants, the pandas or reptiles. In the other internship, students assist with research projects by collecting information and studying animal behavior for extended periods. One of our Georgia State interns is currently helping us gather information about our adult pandas.

So there is research and hard science that occurs at our zoos?

There is. There is a lot of research and conservation work zoos participate in. I think students and others are often most surprised when they find out how much more goes on at a zoo than animal exhibits.



New database highlights faculty achievements

By Leah Harris • lvh@gsu.edu

Faculty in the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies will be the first to test the Faculty Information Management System (FIMS), a new Web-based database through which the university plans to gather information and report on activity across colleges and departments.

“The university has had no way to aggregate all the information on faculty activity, so right now it would be hard for us as an institution to provide an accurate picture of the work being done,” said Joan Carson, associate provost for institutional effectiveness.

“This year we will be able to search the FIMS database in all kinds of ways to get a total picture, including faculty service, research and instructional activities.”

FIMS, which launched this month, will have three sources of data including HR Peoplesoft data, Banner data and faculty-entered data. Faculty will enter data into FIMS to document their activities for the year at <http://fims.gsu.edu/FIMS/fims.html>.

FIMS is based on a composite faculty annual report template that was developed by faculty across all six colleges and approved last year by the University Senate. All suggested modifications resulting from the AYSPS pilot test will be reviewed and prioritized for either immediate implementation or for later project phases, Carson said. The system will go into full production Dec. 15.

For more information, contact fims@gsu.edu.



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Season's eatings

By Chris Rosenbloom • dietitian@ajc.com



Chris Rosenbloom, Ph.D., is a nutrition professor and associate dean for academic affairs in the College of Health and Human Sciences. Her columns appear regularly in Villager courtesy of the Atlanta Journal-Constitution.

It is the season for holiday parties, tables laden with delicious foods and plates of Christmas cookies on your co-worker's desk! There is some good news: Dietitians used to warn that holiday weight gain averaged 7 pounds to 10 pounds from Thanksgiving to New Year's Day. But a *New England Journal of Medicine* study published in 2000 dispelled that myth, reporting that Americans gained only about 1 pound during the holiday period. The bad news is that we don't lose that extra pound during the year, leading to a weight creep as the years go by.

Here are five strategies you can use to manage your weight during the holidays.

First, eat something before heading out to a party. If you fast before the party you will be more likely to feast when you get there. You don't have to eat a big meal before the party, but eat something to take the edge off your hunger: A carton of yogurt with a piece of fruit or a cup of soup and half a sandwich eaten before a party can help you cut down on what you eat at the party.

Second, don't park near the food table. Check out all of the goodies before deciding what you really want to sample. Always eat from a plate. You are less likely to overeat if you take small portions of food and eat off of your plate instead of using your fingers to grab anything in reach. Parties offer a great opportunity to taste new foods so feel free to eat everything you want; just don't eat *all* of everything you want. Portion control is the key to managing your weight.

Third, don't forget to count liquid calories. Eggnog, punch and alcohol can impart more calories than you think. Alcohol also can lower your inhibitions – the more you drink, the more you eat. If you drink alcohol, a wine spritzer is a good choice. Ask your host to mix white wine with sparkling water and a twist of lemon or lime for a refreshing, low-calorie drink. For a non-alcoholic option, try a fruit juice cooler – cranberry or orange juice mixed with club soda is a good-tasting, festive beverage.

Fourth, choose foods that are lower in fat and calories. Shrimp with cocktail sauce is a great choice, as is lump crab meat or oysters. Munch on fruit and vegetables while steering clear of the cheese platter. When it comes time for the dessert table, skip the common goodies (chocolate chip cookies or brownies) and try something new. But remember to keep the portions small. If the pumpkin chocolate cheesecake is calling your name, take a tiny sliver and enjoy every bite!

The last tip involves what you choose to wear to the party. Wear something snug or with a belt instead of a loose shirt or baggy pants. It is easier to pay attention to the physical cues of overeating when you feel that belt tighten!

university briefs

Education dean retiring

► Georgia State University Provost **Ron Henry** announced that **Ron Colarusso**, dean of the College of Education, has decided to resign as dean effective June 30, 2007. Colarusso will remain on the faculty at COE until December 31, 2007, at which time he will retire. Henry expects to name a committee this month to conduct the search to replace Colarusso, he anticipates that a new dean will be selected by July 1, 2007.

Donors sought for Office of Community Service blood drive

► The Office of Community Service will host a blood drive from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Nov. 15 and 16 in University Center rooms 460 and 465. The department is hosting the drive along with the American Medical Students Association, Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Pi Alpha Chapter and Omega Psi Phi Zeta Theta chapter. Donors will receive give-aways and be entered into raffle drawings for other prizes. To make an appointment or for more information, call (404) 463-9043 or visit www.givelife.org (sponsor code: Georgiasu).

Athletics unveils new Web site

► Panther fans searching for the latest on Georgia State sports now have a newly revamped Web site where they can stay up to date on the university's 16 intercollegiate athletic programs: GeorgiaStateSports.com.

The new Web site includes more interactive capabilities, including e-commerce and auction availability as well as premium video and audio of games and wireless distribution to e-mails and cell phones.

"Our new site will help us to engage fans from the convenience of their own homes, and it will offer them more team support opportunities than ever before," said **Mary McElroy**, Georgia State director of athletics.

With concept assistance from the Georgia State Sports Communications and Marketing offices, XOS Technologies – a leading technology provider of sports media solutions and technology across the country – went to work in July on the design and integration of the new version of the Panthers' official Web site. The new site went live in early October.

Welch School Gallery to host auction for AIDS Survival Project

► Ex Lucis, a group of photography students in the Welch School of Art and Design, in collaboration with the Welch School Gallery will present a silent art auction from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Nov. 16 to benefit Atlanta's AIDS Survival Project. The group has organized the auction since 1992.

"Georgia State students, faculty, retired faculty and alumni have all donated their work for this great event," said **Constance Thalken**, associate professor of photography.

Works in various mediums will be auctioned, she said, and food and refreshments will also be available.

The AIDS Survival Project is a statewide resource for community-based advocacy and HIV education that promotes self-empowerment and works to enhance the quality of life for HIV-affected individuals.

COLLEGE NEWS

ANDREW YOUNG SCHOOL OF POLICY STUDIES

Outgoing dean receives one of school's highest honors

The Andrew Young School of Policy Studies Advisory Board honored Dean **Roy Bahl** with the prestigious Andrew Young Medal for Capitalism and Social Progress at its Oct. 12 meeting. The medal, given to individuals who have contributed to the development of dynamic and robust free economies based on socially responsible capitalism, has previously been given to luminaries such as former presidents **Bill Clinton** and **Jimmy Carter** and Rwanda President **Paul Kagame**.

Bahl received the award "for his extraordinary lifelong achievements in economics, public policy and education," said Advisory Board chair **Paul Rosser**. Bahl plans to step down as dean in the near future, but has agreed to continue as dean until his successor is named and brought on board.

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Initiative aims to retain students

The College of Arts and Sciences and eight of its departments are starting new programs to keep students in school and moving steadily toward their degrees. Under a new University System of Georgia initiative, Georgia State has been provided with

\$750,000 to support programs across the university to achieve this goal.

Departments and units were invited to design their own programs and submit proposals, and eight departmental programs and a collegewide initiative called Major Matters were funded in early August as part of this process.

The Major Matters program will help students choose the right major and chart a course toward finishing their degrees. It will include three elements. First, teams of faculty, staff and student advisers will analyze prospective and new majors. Second, workshops will introduce sophomores to the different available majors to help them make informed choices. Third, printed and online "maps" for each major, displaying requirements, milestones, special opportunities and possible post-graduation destinations, will be provided to students.

Looking for a close encounter

The search for extraterrestrial life comes to Georgia State Thursday, Nov. 28 when **Seth Shostak**, senior astronomer for the Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence Institute in California, is scheduled to speak on campus about the SETI Institute and its mission to detect signs of unearthly life in the universe.

Shostak, whose topic is "The Search for Intelligent Life in the Cosmos," is responsible

for most of the SETI's outreach activities. He is the editor of *The Explorer*, a monthly publication for SETI supporters, and he hosts the SETI's weekly radio program, "Are We Alone?" that airs on Discovery Channel Radio and Sirius Satellite radio.

The private, nonprofit SETI Institute was founded in 1984 to understand and explain the origin, nature and prevalence of life in the universe. It conducts and coordinates all U.S. radio astronomy efforts to search for other civilizations and extra-terrestrial activities.

Shostak's appearance is sponsored by the physics and astronomy department.

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION Urban Literacy Clinic to help students in urban settings

Language and literacy faculty across the middle/secondary, early childhood, and special education departments in the College of Education have secured space in Alumni Hall to open a literacy clinic focused on K-12 readers and writers. The clinic will be available in the spring semester, said **Lori Elliott**, director of the Urban Literacy Clinic.

The Urban Literacy Clinic currently operates on a limited scale, involving tutoring at-risk readers during a course that meets at The Study Hall in the Peopletown Community, 1010 Crew St. When the Alumni Hall space is opened, the clinic will

operate two courses on campus and one course at The Study Hall, according to Elliott.

COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SCIENCES

Technology transfer company ramps up online nutrition service

Georgia State nutrition research is going commercial. Nutrition associate professor **Dan Benardot's** already well-regarded work in helping professional athletes achieve ultra-high levels of performance is now being offered through a service to help the general public lose unwanted weight and achieve better overall fitness.

SportsNutritionClinic.com, a subscription-based Internet site offering Benardot's energy- and nutrition-conscious research and teachings, went online in late October and is now accepting clients. The Web site and accompanying services were started by Atlanta-based Calorie and Pulse Technologies, which is one of the first privately owned companies to license Georgia State intellectual property for commercial pursuits.

The company is using Benardot's research to help paying clients with diet and weight management issues in ways similar to work Benardot has conducted for years to improve the performance of professional and Olympic athletes. Benardot is a principal with the company.

Heritage Preservation Program project gains more accolades

► A group of graduate students in the Heritage Preservation Program at Georgia State was recently awarded the Outstanding Student Project Award from the Georgia Planning Commission for their survey of the proposed Belt Line's historical resources. The students were commended for the inventory they prepared of the historical buildings that line the path of the future Belt Line. The Belt Line is a transit system that will pass through 45 different neighborhoods in Atlanta if built as currently planned.

Earlier this year, **Brandy Morrison**, a master's degree student in the program, was recognized by the Atlanta Urban Design Commission as the city's Outstanding Preservation Professional for 2006. She was officially presented with the Jenny Thurston Memorial Award, as it is formally called, for leading the team of Georgia State students in preparing the inventory of historical buildings.

International Education Week

► The seventh annual International Education Week, sponsored by the U.S. Departments of State and Education, will be celebrated Nov. 13-17 at Georgia State.

The Office of International Affairs' Study Abroad Programs invites the university community to Crossing Paths, Crossing Cultures International Photo Competition at 4 p.m. Nov. 16 in the Student Center Ballroom. The competition, which highlights photographs taken by both international students and study abroad students, will present a cross-cultural overview of their experiences in the United States and abroad. **H. Fenwick Huss**, dean of the J. Mack Robinson College of Business, will be the keynote speaker at the event, which includes an award ceremony, exhibit, reception and live entertainment by **Rua 6 Band**.

Other events taking place for students during International Education Week include a free workshop titled "How to Afford Study Abroad" and a job search seminar for international students. The seminar is hosted by International Student and Scholar Services and University Career Services.

Three faculty members receive Fulbright Award

► Law professor **Andrea Curcio**, assistant professor of history **Denise Davidson** and associate professor of computer information systems **Roy D. Johnson** have been awarded Fulbright Scholar grants for the 2006-2007 academic year.

Curcio will lecture on the theories and practices of litigating claims in U.S. Courts at the South China Normal University in Guangzhou, China. Davidson will continue her research titled "Surviving Revolution: Bourgeois Families in France, 1780-1830," at the Rhone-Alps Laboratory of Historical Research in Lyon, France. Johnson will be researching and lecturing on the topic of system analysis and project management and efficacy of service learning in information sciences education at the University of Pretoria in Pretoria, South Africa.

The Fulbright Program, America's flagship international educational exchange program, is sponsored by the United States Department of State Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs.

COLLEGE OF LAW College of Law ranked for warm welcomes

Georgia State ranks fifth in the nation for being one of the most welcoming law schools for older students. So says the latest edition of *The Princeton Review's* "Top 170 Law Schools." Known for its college rankings based on how students rate their schools, *The Princeton Review* recently released the 2007 editions of its annual law and business school guidebooks, which also feature ranking lists based on student surveys.

"We are very pleased with this ranking from *The Princeton Review* as being among the top five law schools in the country that are most welcoming of older students," says Dean **Steven Kaminshine**.

The 2007 edition rankings of the publication are based on the average age of entry of law school students and student reports of how many years they spent out of college before enrolling in law school.

J. MACK ROBINSON COLLEGE OF BUSINESS CIS program best in the world for research productivity

The computer information systems department at the J. Mack Robinson College of Business has been ranked first in the world for research productivity in a study

published in a recent issue of *Communications of the Association for Information Systems*. In addition, **Detmar Straub**, J. Mack Robinson Distinguished Professor of information systems and director of Robinson's doctoral program, and associate professor **Upkar Varshney**, were ranked among the top information systems researchers.

The college's doctoral program also scored high in research productivity, ranking first among all universities whose doctoral students publish in the leading information sciences journals. Robinson's CIS department also is ranked among the top 10 graduate and undergraduate programs in the nation by *U.S. News and World Report*.

correction

The College News item titled "Counseling and Psychology Ranked in Publications" in the Oct. 24 issue incorrectly stated that Communication Disorders Quarterly recognized the College of Education's Department of Counseling and Psychological Services. The department was actually ranked by Career Development Quarterly.

GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL of MUSIC



UPCOMING EVENTS

Symphonic Wind Ensemble

Thursday, November 16 - 7:30 PM

Robert J. Ambrose, conductor

Yvonne Toll, trumpet • Lara Saville, oboe

Featuring works by Copland, Newman, Husa, Ives and Nickitas J. Demos.

Rialto Center for the Arts - FREE



Opera Scenes

Friday, November 17 - 7:30 PM

W. Dwight Coleman, artistic director

Featuring Menotti's one-act opera *Amahl and the Night Visitors* and scenes from Carlisle Floyd's *Cold Sassy Tree*.

Kopleff Recital Hall - FREE



BrassFest

Sunday, November 19 - 3:00 PM

Tom Gibson, artistic director

Georgia State University Brass Ensemble
Special Guests: United States Navy Band Brass Quintet; U.S. Army Ground Forces Band from Fort McPherson, GA

Featuring Eric Ewazen's *Symphony in Brass*.

Rialto Center for the Arts - FREE



Gala Holiday Concert

Saturday, December 2 - 8:00 PM

Sunday, December 3 - 3:00 PM

Georgia State University Symphony Orchestra and Choral, Percussion and Brass Ensemble, s
Duncan Couch, Stuart Gerber, John Haberen, Michael Palmer - conductors

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Patricia Dixon, associate professor of African-American Studies, was recently awarded a \$550,000 grant from the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services Administration Office of Family Assistance for the Healthy Marriage Demonstration Project. Additionally, Dixon's new book, *African American Relationships, Marriages, and Family: An Introduction*, will be released Dec. 14 by Routledge.

Leslie Gordon was named the October 2006 Lexus Leader of the Arts by NPR station WABE 90.1 FM. Established in 1999 by Public Broadcasting Atlanta in association with Atlanta-area Lexus dealers, this special award recognizes figures whose exemplary dedication to the arts has enriched the cultural life of metropolitan Atlanta.

Fuller E. Callaway Professor of Urban Education **Asa G. Hilliard III** was honored for a "Lifetime of Achievement" by the Board for the Education of People of African Ancestry at the John Henrik Clarke House in New York.

Janelle A. Kerlin, assistant professor of public administration and urban studies, published "Social Enterprise in the United States and Abroad: Learning from Our Differences," a chapter in *Researching Social Entrepreneurship, Occasional Paper Series* (Vol. 1, No. 3, 2006).

Zhi-Ren Liu, associate professor in biology, and two of his graduate students published an article on the effects of certain proteins on abnormal cell growth in an October issue of the academic journal *Cell*. The work might help researchers better understand cancer growth.

Deborah Michael, an academic professional in the College of Health and Human Sciences' physical therapy program, was awarded the 2006 Lorraine F. Lake Award from Washington University in St. Louis in recognition of outstanding post-professional doctor of physical therapy studies.

French professor **David O'Connell** published *Furl that Banner: The Life of Abram J. Ryan, the Poet-Priest of the South* with Mercer University Press in October.

James E. Olsen's article "Integrating Risk Management, Business Continuity and All-Hazards Emergency Planning" was published in the September issue of *CPM Global Assurance*. Olsen is the director of safety and risk management in the finance and administration department.

Georgia State President **Carl Patton** received the 2006 Alumnus of the Year Award last month from the Goldman School of Public Policy at the University of California, Berkeley. Recognized for his significant contributions to the field of public policy, Patton received a master of public policy in 1975 and the school's first Ph.D. in public policy in 1976. Patton saluted the founding dean of the school and thanked the professors who provided him with the tools to achieve success.

APPLAUSE

Andrew Roach, assistant professor of counseling and psychological services, received a subcontract from Ball State University and the Indiana Department of Education to conduct alignment analyses of their early childhood accountability system as part of a Technical Assistance on State Data Collection-IDEA General Supervision Enhancement Grant. Roach also was selected to participate as an early career scholar in the 2007 School Psychology Research Collaborative Conference.

William N. Robinson, an associate professor in the department of computer information systems at the J. Mack Robinson College of Business, was awarded a National Science Foundation Science of Design Program Grant for his research titled "Monitoring in Support of Design Science Principles." The \$246,498 grant will support his work toward developing user monitoring theories and tools to simplify mass-market software customization.

JoAnna White, chair of counseling and psychological services in the College of Education, was honored by the Association for Play Therapy for completing six years on the national board of directors. She received the honor at the APT Conference in Toronto.

Chemistry professor **David Wilson** and Regents' Professor Emeritus of chemistry **David Boykin** will participate in a consortium led by the University of North Carolina to develop new drugs to treat late-stage African sleeping sickness and visceral leishmaniasis. Wilson and Boykin are working to identify new drug candidates for the program, which is funded by a \$21.3 million grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.



It was smiles all around at the October opening of the J. Mack Robinson College of Business' Henry County Center for the Professional Master's of Business Administration program. This center in McDonough, Ga., joins the college's two other 24-month PMBA program sites in Alpharetta, Ga., and Atlanta's Brookhaven area. From left to right, professional M.B.A. student Terrance Guyton, Henry County Commissioner Jason Harper, Robinson College of Business Dean H. Fenwick Huss, Georgia State President Carl Patton, Georgia State Provost Ron Henry, and chair of the Henry County Chamber of Commerce Dottie Wise

Get a jump on the new year!



Don't stress over the holidays, make it on over to the Student Recreation Center and relax.

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