

Georgia State University

ScholarWorks @ Georgia State University

Emeriti Faculty Publications

GSU Faculty Publications

Winter 2018

Emerities Newsletter, Winter 2018

Georgia State University Emeriti Association

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.gsu.edu/gsuemeriti>

Recommended Citation

Georgia State University Emeriti Association, "Emerities Newsletter, Winter 2018" (2018). *Emeriti Faculty Publications*. 32.

<https://scholarworks.gsu.edu/gsuemeriti/32>

This Newsletter is brought to you for free and open access by the GSU Faculty Publications at ScholarWorks @ Georgia State University. It has been accepted for inclusion in Emeriti Faculty Publications by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks @ Georgia State University. For more information, please contact scholarworks@gsu.edu.

IN THIS ISSUE

2 CHAIR'S COLUMN
Board Chair Donald Ratajczak talks sports.

HONORS COLLEGE HONOREES
Undergraduate scholars receive JIT funding.

3 'YEAR OF THE ARTS'
See our public events across the arts spectrum.

'TO BE OR NOT TO BE'
Dr. James Hirsh discusses William Shakespeare's *Hamlet*.

4 NIGHT IN THE AQUARIUM
Watching the whale sharks cruise by at the Georgia Aquarium exhibit during the Spotlight Programs Board "Family Weekend."

ORNITHOLOGY IS FOR THE BIRDS

WHEN I RETIRED IN 2012 I WAS ALREADY FAR ALONG THE SLIPPERY slope that leads from casual bird watching to becoming one of those irritating people who never goes anywhere without a pair of binoculars and a camera with a long lens. Along that slope, though, I discovered that this interest in birds and in photographing them could be put to some uses besides boring friends at parties and using up storage on the hard drive.

Unlike, say, quantum chemistry, ornithology is a field that depends upon data collection by amateurs. Most birders in the United States and increasingly in other countries, for example, submit their observations and keep their lists through *eBird*, a database project at Cornell University. The millions of data points entered every year provide scientists with information on bird populations, the health of endangered species, habitat loss, range expansions or contractions, and the effects of climate change on birds and other components of ecosystems. Other more formal surveys like the annual Christmas Bird Count, shorebird surveys, and hawk watches during migration provide more "citizen science" data. Amateur photography, too, plays a role.

A few years ago, participating in some of these surveys led me to volunteer with researchers with the Georgia Department of Natural Resources. Volunteers can help photograph and recover band information from some of the threatened or endangered species of shorebirds that use our state's relatively undeveloped coastal marshes, beaches, and estuaries for breeding, wintering, or migration stopovers. The special focus of this work the last couple years has been on the American Oystercatcher, a threatened species that both breeds and winters along our coast. Thanks to advances in digital cameras and telephoto lenses, it's possible to photograph these birds--which typically rest in large flocks along shell rakes at high tide--from a small boat offshore, and then enlarge the images sufficiently to recover their band information, which tells researchers the bird's age, origin, and movements over time. And besides, even for a scientist, any day that starts with a boat ride is a good day.

Dr. Sattelmeyer is Regents Professor of English and former Director of the Georgia State University Honors College.
Photos courtesy of Robert Sattelmeyer.



Robert Sattelmeyer



CHAIR'S COLUMN

DON RATAJCZAK

Emeritus Regents Professor of Economics

Andrew Young School of Policy Studies • ratajczak@gsu.edu



I NEVER WAS A STRONG FOOTBALL FAN. My high school was a soccer powerhouse (*two All-Americans in college from the class ahead of me and they were the last team to beat the Naval Plebes before the nexus of that Navy team won three consecutive NCAA championships*). The year before I attended Haverford, it played in what was billed as the frustration bowl. An Ohio fellow had ranked the worst 10 football teams and Swarthmore was seventh and Haverford was second. Our game ended in a scoreless tie. After four seasons with only one win (*it rained and our lineman fell on a fumbled ball in the other team's end zone*), Haverford wisely discontinued football. MIT had already done so in 1924, long before I attended there.

To be sure, UCLA has a football program, but as a faculty member I had to buy season football tickets to be eligible for home basketball tickets. That GSU did not have a football program I viewed as a plus when I joined its faculty. Soon I learned that a poll had UGA with a higher rated economics

department though most of the highly rated economists in Georgia were at Georgia State. Apparently, a good football program can enhance the ratings of other activities.

All this is a prelude to my attendance at the GSU opener at its new stadium. I had attended another GSU opener at the Dome, where with 20,000 in attendance it looked like the place was empty. Not so at this opening, where there was excitement and prominent displays of GSU colors. OK, we lost. But that was better than the other opener, when we kicked off to the opposing team, which ran the ball back for a touchdown. I don't believe we ever led that whole season.

Personally, I still believe money could be better spent on our highly rated sports medicine program and other academic activities than on our athletic endeavors. But too many people equate excellence on the playing field with excellence in the labs and classrooms. Perhaps it is right for us to strive to do both.

UNDERGRAD SCHOLARS RECEIVE JIT FUNDING



William Anderson

THE HONORS COLLEGE

in September announced that the GSU Emeriti *Just in Time Fund* has made it possible for seven undergraduate researchers to present their research at events across the country, expanding their experiences and future trajectories.

As of September, the Honors College reported that the fund <http://emeriti>.

gsu.edu has received large and small contributions thus far totaling \$42,695.

Most recently, **William Anderson**, an Anthropology and Chemistry major in the College of Arts and Sciences, presented his research at the annual meeting of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists in New Orleans.

"The conference is probably the world's biggest and most important event in the field of biological anthropology," Anderson said.

"I authored or contributed to four separate research presentations."

Anderson worked in cooperation with Dr. Frank Williams, GSU professor of anthropology, who studies early humans, using dental microware to reconstruct their diets and paleoecology.

Anderson said he "presented our brand-new research on Neanderthal teeth utilizing the method that I

invented. The constructive criticism we received from the intellectual giants of the field shaped our thinking and process, and certainly played a big part in our ensuing successful journal publication of the research in *Anthropological Review*."

Anderson told *Georgia State News Hub's* Jeremy Craig that he "worked everywhere from the jungle to the European countryside to China. Generally, I supervise and participate in the actual excavation of remains, as well as doing lab analysis and curation."

The other Honors College students benefitting from the Emeriti faculty *Just in Time Fund* are **Sophie Yount** (*Biochemistry*), whose achievement was featured in the Fall issue of *EmeriTies*, **Kristen Oyler** (*Psychology*), **Candace Barr** (*Neuroscience*), **Saleh Alhassan** (*Biology & Computer Science*), **Cara Jones** (*Biology*) and **Aditya Nate** (*Biology*).

YEAR OF THE ARTS

The College of the Arts at Georgia State University is celebrating its inaugural academic year with public events across the arts spectrum – a “Year of the Arts!,” including concerts, theatre and dance performances, art lectures, film screenings and exhibitions.

Founding Dean, Dr. Wade Weast, communicated to the GSU Emeriti Board of Directors in September that the College of the Arts was created as a “model for 21st century art education” where “the arts are important to critical thinking.” In addition to traditional education, he said: “we will be training students for jobs that don’t yet exist.”

Dean Weast reported that the College’s collaboration efforts, both on- and off-campus, include partnerships and cooperation with local schools, organizations, business entrepreneurs, and the city’s film and music industries, as well as the “vibrant life” of neighboring businesses.



The College of the Arts now encompasses the Ernest G. Welch School of Art & Design, the new School of Film, Media & Theatre, the School of Music, and the Center for Collaborative & International Arts (*CENCIA*), in partnership with the Rialto Center for the Arts and the Creative Media Industries Institute (*CMII*).

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

DECEMBER

20th Annual Gala Holiday Concert

Saturday, December 2, 8:00 p.m. • Sunday, December 3, 3:00 p.m.
Rialto Center for the Arts, 80 Forsyth St. NW

46th Annual Iron Pour

Saturday, December 9, 12:00 p.m.
Sculpture Studio, 246 Edgewood Ave NE

JANUARY

Grammy Award-Winning “Roomful of Teeth”

Sunday, January 21, 7:00 p.m.
Rialto Center for the Arts, 80 Forsyth St. NW

neoPhonia New Music Ensemble

Portrait Concert: *The Music of Charles Knox*, retired GSU Professor of Music
Sunday, January 28, 3:00 p.m.
Florence Kopleff Recital Hall, 15 Gilmer St. SE

FEBRUARY

GSU Players present “Psycho Beach Party”

February 8-11, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, 8:00 p.m.; Sunday, 3:00 p.m.
Dahlberg Hall Theatre, 30 Courtland St. SE

Rendering (The) Visible III: Liquidity Conference

Thursday, February 8 – Saturday, February 10
Creative Media Industries Institute (CMII) Cube, 25 Park Place NE

“Compagnie Herve Koubi”

Saturday, February 17, 8:00 p.m.
Rialto Center for the Arts, 80 Forsyth St. NW

APRIL

GSU Players present “Goodnight Desdemona, Good Morning Juliet”

April 5-8, 12-15, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, 8:00 p.m.; Sunday 3:00 p.m.
Dahlberg Hall Theatre, 30 Courtland St. SE

GSU Opera Theatre presents Stephen Sondheim’s “A Little Night Music”

April 13-15, Friday, Saturday, 8:00 p.m.; Sunday, 3:00 p.m.
Rialto Center for the Arts, 80 Forsyth St. NW

Rene Marie with GSU Jazz Band

Friday, April 20, 8:00 p.m.
Rialto Center for the Arts, 80 Forsyth St. NW

thearts.gsu.edu

Leonard Ray Teel • EmeriTies Editor • lteel@gsu.edu

‘To Be Or Not To Be’

Public talk by Emeritus Professor of English

DR. JAMES HIRSH

Dr. James Hirsh, GSU Professor Emeritus, is a foremost literary detective specializing in misunderstandings, notably in William Shakespeare’s *Hamlet*.



In a recent talk to the Briarwood Philosophy Club in Atlanta, Hirsh proved that Hamlet’s world-famous speech — “To be, or not to be” — did not represent his innermost thoughts, as multitudes have believed for more than 300 years.

Quite the opposite, Hirsh has published how Shakespeare intended the speech as Hamlet’s calculated “ploy . . . to mislead agents of his enemy about his state of mind.”

“Shakespeare located the ‘To be’ speech smack in the midst of an eavesdropping episode,” Hirsh noted. “Intricate eavesdropping episodes occur frequently in Shakespeare’s plays and in other plays” of the era. “Shakespeare devised some episodes in which characters suspect eavesdroppers are present and use the opportunity to deceive them.” In this case, when Hamlet arrives at the spot to which he was summoned by his hated enemy, he assumes that eavesdroppers are present. He pretends to talk only to himself but actually allows eavesdroppers to overhear a speech in which he expresses a debilitating melancholy.

Hirsh also solved another mystery: How was the true meaning of Hamlet’s speech lost for centuries while the wrong meaning became “an unquestioned orthodoxy?” To begin with, surviving texts of the play lack explanatory stage directions. Shakespeare had died in 1616 and from 1642 to 1660 theatrical activity was banned in England.

“By the time theatrical activity resumed, tastes had changed,” Hirsh noted, and “eavesdropping episodes ceased to thrill audiences.” Then William Davenant, who was given “exclusive right” to stage Shakespeare’s plays, made them “simpler, easier to understand, more conventional, and more in line with the tastes of the new age.” Davenant and his eloquent lead actor, Thomas Betterton, got rid of the eavesdropping episode and instead staged the “To be” speech “as a sincere expression of Hamlet’s thoughts.”

For 48 years, Hirsh noted, “Betterton was by far the most famous performer of the part of Hamlet from 1661 to 1709. His performance of the ‘To be’ speech as a sincere expression of Hamlet’s thoughts made the speech famous.” Since then the passage has been staged countless times in the same way, reinforced by “countless teachers and countless students.”

COORDINATING BOARD

Myra Carmon
mcarmon@gsu.edu

Catherine Carter
cwcarter531@gmail.com

Mildred Cody
mmcody50@gmail.com

Rosemary Cox
rcox15@gsu.edu

Harry L. Dangel
hdangel@gsu.edu

William Feldhaus
feldhaus@gsu.edu

Teryl Frey
tfrey@gsu.edu

Christine C. Gallant
cgallant@gsu.edu

John B. Haberlen
jhaberlen@gsu.edu

Louis Lynn Hogue
lhogue@gsu.edu

Deborah Huntley
dhuntley@gsu.edu

Robert McDonough
rmcdonough@gsu.edu

Al McWilliams
almc1@mindspring.com

Don Ratajczak
drdonecon@aol.com

Leonard Teel
leonard.teel0@gmail.com

Charles Murray Williams
cwilliams@gsu.edu



CONTACT US:

emeriti@gsu.edu • 404-413-1330
www.gsu.edu/emeriti

SPOTLIGHT WHALE SHARKS



Photo: Katherine W. Teel

The whale sharks in the Georgia Aquarium seemed to be the biggest stars during the GSU “Family Weekend” event sponsored by the university’s Spotlight Programs Board.

“I was surprised to see how big they are,” said Kyle Edmonds, a sophomore accounting student, watching a whale shark cruise behind the Aquarium glass. “It’s really cool to see all the fish.”

Edmonds was among 1,020 GSU

students, current and Emeriti faculty and their families benefitting from a special GSU Spotlight-sponsored program at reduced fares on September 29.

The Spotlight Programs Board is a university-sponsored, student-driven program of the GSU Student Center providing social, cultural and entertainment events for the university community. For the Spring 2018 schedule of events, visit: spotlight.gsu.edu.

Leonard Ray Teel • lteel@gsu.edu

EMERITI ASSOCIATION
P.O. Box 2668
Atlanta, GA 30301-2668



EMERITIES

Events & Activities

NEWS & NOTES

Dr. Harry Dangel, Associate Professor Emeritus of Educational Psychology and Special Education, who took the photograph (below) of solar shadows on his walkway, reports: "We didn't do much to prepare for the Monday, August 21st solar eclipse. Julie and I had just returned to Sandy Springs after a long weekend. I remember thinking about how Columbus used his knowledge of an approaching eclipse to get the native residents of Jamaica to cooperate with him and provide his ships with the supplies he and his men needed. The half-circle reflections that we saw on our walkway were certainly other-worldly. If I were a Jamaican negotiating with Columbus, would they have convinced me that he could control the heavens? Perhaps!"

The eclipse's effect on weather and creatures was noted in another eclipse report sent by **Dr. Donald Ratajczak**, Professor Emeritus of Economics: "My wife teaches and the school had provided glasses for the students and teachers. There were vacancies in her class so I got glasses and saw the eclipse. We did not have the experience of totality where everything goes dark and then the moon is surrounded by flares from the sun, but we saw that happen several times on TV. What we did notice was how the air cooled and the



Photo: Harry Dangel

birds and bugs acted as if morning had just arrived. They went silent a few minutes later. IT was impressive."

The Northern Lights were a highlight in a travel note sent by **Dr. Ronald C. Barden**, Associate Professor Emeritus of Accountancy. He and his wife **Louise**, journeyed to Reykjavik, Iceland for five days, "mostly wanting to see the Northern Lights. We experienced them and so much more—geysers, massive waterfalls, warm springs, sunsets, and snow-covered mountains. We began our adventure with a "Food Walk" with "Wake Up Reykjavik," visiting restaurants and sampling foods on a guided walking tour of Iceland's reasonably compact capital city. The weather was wonderful, the people spoke English and were very friendly. The trip's highlight, arranged by one of the stables, Islenski Hesturinn, was riding Icelandic horses (including their fifth gait called the *Tölt*) on a snow-covered extinct volcanic field."

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

Bob Sattelmeyer's article on Page One relates one example of the many activities of Georgia State University's emeriti faculty. For future issues of this Newsletter, we want to showcase what you are doing. So, please send a note to *EmeritiTies* Newsletter editor, **Leonard Ray Teel** at lteel@gsu.edu.

Updates

ATTENTION EMERITI: Please update or add your email address so that we can contact you electronically related to emeriti activities. If we do not have your correct email address, you may miss communications sent by email. Send updates to: update@gsu.edu.

To update Human Resources information, you may send an email to: payroll@gsu.edu or benefits@gsu.edu or call 404-413-3302.

For more information or to RSVP for any upcoming events, visit the Emeriti Association website at <http://emeriti.gsu.edu/calendar>.

Most information for retirees will be coming from the USG Offices, and that will be through OneUSG. The OneUSG URL for retiree information is http://www.usg.edu/hr/benefits/2017_benefits/oneusgbenefitsretiree. From there you will find links to the online site and information on the Benefits Call Center at 1-844-587-4236.

2017-2018 Upcoming Events

■ DECEMBER Holiday Party

Saturday, Dec. 2 • 3 p.m.

Canterbury Court

3750 Peachtree Road NE, Atlanta, GA 30319

Our annual gathering will be held again this year at Canterbury Court. Join us for holiday cheer and catching up before the season becomes too hectic. **Complimentary parking will be available at Canterbury.**

■ FEBRUARY Valentine's Luncheon

Thursday, Feb. 8 • 11:30 a.m.

Rialto Center for the Arts

80 Forsyth Street NW, Atlanta, GA 30303

With Valentine's Day comes Georgia State's traditional gift of the Valentine's Day luncheon for members. Each year the university treats emeriti to a luncheon where we meet friends, former colleagues, current deans and other administrators and recognize new emeriti. **Parking is conveniently located within steps of the Rialto.**

Economic Forecast Presentation

Details will be posted to <http://emeriti.gsu.edu/calendar> in January.

EDITOR'S NOTE: The entire GSU Emeriti Association acknowledges the long-time service of the outgoing editor of *EmeritiTies*, Pat Sartain, Alumni Director Emerita. We are all grateful for her editorial professionalism and grace under pressure.

EMERITIES

Events & News

IN MEMORIAM

Dr. William (Bill) Patrick, Emeritus Vice President of Student Services, died on May 25, 2017, at the age of 90. As a teenager, Bill grew up quickly when he enlisted in the Navy during World War II at the age of 17. He served with distinction on a destroyer until the war ended in August, 1945. He then continued his tour of duty and supported occupation forces in Japanese waters. He maintained the discipline and patriotism that he learned early throughout his life. After his stint in the navy he began his academic journey. He earned his B.A. degree at GSU and his Masters degree at Georgia Tech. He then returned to GSU where he obtained his Ph.D. in Management. He joined the administration at GSU and contributed immensely to the university's development for 36 years. Bill played a significant role in GSU's growth from a small night business school to the nationally recognized University that it is today.

RECAP: AUTHOR SERIES

Christine Gallant, Professor Emerita of English

JULIA GAFFIELD

Haitian Connections in the Atlantic World

September 18, 2017

Haiti may be known today as an impoverished Caribbean nation. But for its people and those interested in the African Diaspora, Haiti is a source of considerable pride as a nation resulting from the first successful slave revolt in history.

Its Revolution ended in 1804. Most historians consider that the onerous monetary reparations demanded by its colonizer France in its peace treaty of 1825 made Haiti's subsequent poverty inevitable. But few have considered that brief period of early statehood. Professor Julia Gaffield, an Assistant Professor in Georgia State's History Department, addressed this gap in her presentation based on her 2015 book, *Haitian Connections in the Caribbean World: Recognition After Revolution*, published by UNC Press and the winner of the 2016 Boucher Book Prize of the French Colonial Historical Society. Her book was based on original archival research in England and France. (*Haiti today lacks historical archives.*)

Dessalines, the first ruler of Haiti, declared its Independence from France in 1804. Historians traditionally have considered this early period to be damaging because of the general policy of isolation observed by the U.S. and European powers. Slaveholders were terrified of similar uprisings, which did indeed occur. Dessalines proclaimed that the Revolution would always continue (*though he was assassinated soon after*), and France continued the threat of invasion for a decade. Haiti only began to receive diplomatic recognition in 1825, and the U.S. was the last to extend it in 1862. So it isn't easy to determine the end of the Revolution. How did this ex-colony make the transition to a full state?

Gaffield shows that Haiti did indeed maintain connections in the Atlantic world, although its slave-holding economy persisted. Its plantation system was the only viable employment left after Haiti's general destruction during the Revolution. France and England were at war in the Napoleonic Wars; and Haiti maintained strategic contacts with the British Empire through business and trade, allowing it to survive. France tried to isolate Haiti; and no foreign power recognized its government. But this let Haiti stay independent.

Haiti was not treated as a sovereign state by the European powers; and its main value for Britain was trade with its Caribbean colonies. In 1808 Britain established that while Haiti had broken with its colonizer France, Britain did not have to recognize the permanent sovereignty of Haiti. Finally, in 1825 France signed a peace treaty with Haiti, with crippling reparations. The United States and the Vatican were the last states to recognize Haiti in the 1860s.

Professor Gaffield briefly discussed her next book, which will consider the implications of Haiti's adoption of Roman Catholicism as its state religion in its Constitution even though the Vatican did not recognize them. How did they reconcile this? This book promises to shed additional new light on the early decades of Haiti's statehood, with wider implications for Caribbean Studies.



Photo: Leonard Ray Teel