



Don't Let Dropping a Course Make a Dunce out of You!

The last day to withdraw without academic penalty is October 14 at 11 p.m. You can do so by going on WINGS, but you really should speak with your professor first to get the best understanding of your situation in the class and your chances for improvement. If you've lost your RAN for Fall 2003, you'll need to go to your advisor to get it. You can call the Advisement Center at 681-5401 if you have forgotten who your advisor is.

There are good reasons to drop a course. For instance, if you **know** that you will make an F because of the scores you have already received, you might want to consider dropping. You must maintain a 3.0 to keep HOPE (although this is checked only at 30, 60, and 90 hours, not every semester), and a low adjusted GPA (under 2.0) will cause you to go on academic probation. If you drop a course by October 14, you will not receive a grade for this course. After October 14, you will receive a grade of F for any course that you drop.

Please note: Dropping is not a cure-all. You **SHOULD NOT** drop a course because it is not interesting to you or because you feel the instructor is boring. There are consequences to dropping courses after schedule adjustment (which ended on August 22). These drops will appear on your transcript as a withdrawal. If you withdrew repeatedly, employers are likely to count this against you. Moreover, for those on HOPE, or any other financial aid, dropping courses can cause serious problems. For this reason, if you are contemplating dropping a course, you should talk with your financial aid counselor in Anderson Hall (681-5413) to determine the impact of dropping. In a nutshell, you should know. . .

- HOPE is based on attempted hours. It will only pay for the number of hours in your degree program, your grades will be checked to determine if you have maintained a 3.0 based on attempted hours.
- To maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) toward a degree, you must complete with a passing grade 66 percent of the hours you attempt. Failure to maintain SAP results in financial aid exclusion, which means you will be unable to obtain grants, loans, or HOPE regardless of your GPA.

Who Wants to be a Computer Lab Wise Guy?

What do bananas, red Koolaid, potato chips, and urine all have in common?

You guessed it! They have all been found inside of computers in the residence hall computer labs. In recent weeks, the computers in the residence hall computer labs have been under attack! By whom? The owners . . . YOU! Each semester, students pay a technology fee. This fee is used to purchase computers, many of which go into the residence halls. Unfortunately, students have begun to abuse these computers. What does this mean? Downtime, and loss of productivity by students who need these services.

What can you do to help?

1. Do not eat or drink in the labs. Food and drink are the leading cause of problems with machines.
2. Report malicious activities to the hall staff. Report inoperable computers to helpdesk@georgiasouthern.edu. The more diligent you are in reporting problems, the sooner they will get fixed.
3. Treat the computers as if they were your own because, in a sense, they are!



Get the Shot, Sign the Waiver, or YOU Don't Get to Register for Classes!

Here's the deal: there's this new state law, that says students living in residence halls must get a meningitis shot and provide proof of this OR sign a waiver that they understand the risks of meningitis. As a special edition of TWIRL explained several weeks ago, students who fail to do this won't be able to register for spring classes.

As of Friday, **only 1,686 of a total of 3,339** students living in the halls have satisfied the new state law.

If you are one who has not, **go to Health Services to complete the necessary paperwork.** With this kind of backlog, Health Services may not be able to remove the hold immediately, and certainly not at 3 a.m. on the day registration opens up to you (which is this Monday for some of you).



Career Corner

The résumé "Critique Hut" will be set up on Tuesday, October 14 from 12 p.m.- 4 p.m. under the Union Rotunda and on Wednesday, October 15 from 12 - 4 p.m. on the pedestrian outside of Lakeside Café.



Spotlight on . . . Matthew Bryant

Matthew Bryant is a second-year RA in Watson Hall, who was recently named the September RA of the month for Southern Courtyard, Hendricks, Veazey, Brannen, Sanford, Johnson, and Watson Halls (the “Eagle Court” area of the residence hall system). Matt loves being an RA because he gets to interact with different people to help build a community. He put on three formal programs in September and is well respected by fellow staff members. Matt is from Valdosta, but instead of staying close to home at Valdosta State, he chose to attend Georgia Southern because of the atmosphere, the teacher/student ratio, the well-known teacher education program, and the fact that there is so much offered here to get involved in. Matt is currently a junior majoring in Middle Grades Education with an emphasis in math/language arts. He says that he chose education for his career path because he loves “reaching out to help people.” In essence he wants to be a cheerleader for low-performing students by being there to support and show them that “they can succeed and break the cycle of poverty and low achievement.”

In his spare time, he enjoys reading, listening to music, writing (creative), playing the trombone, and playing sports. In five years, Matt says he sees himself with his master’s in educational leadership and working as a principal in a middle school. In ten years (by the time he is 30), Matt wants to have earned his doctorate in educational leadership and to be working in the central office of a school system where he can make the crucial decisions about curriculum and standardized tests. His advice to students is to “work hard at achieving your goals. Don’t let anyone stop you from getting what you want out of life.” His final words to students are also the famous words of Dr. Martin Luther King. “You don’t have to see the whole staircase to take the first step in leadership.”

Out and About Campus

Tuesday, October 14

Study Abroad Fair, Union Ballroom, Pre-function Area, 10 a.m.

Focus on Excellence Lecture:

“Mix an Alien with Flower:

Recipe for Research.” Lorne Wolfe, associate professor of

biology, presenting. Professional Learning Center in the College of Information Technology, 4 p.m.

Salsa Dance Lessons. Come learn to dance Salsa for free! Williams Center Dining Hall, 6-8 p.m.



Wednesday, October 15

Round-table Discussion: “Civil Rights and Sexual Orientation. Russell Union Room 2052, 11 a.m.

South Asian Islam: Practice and Performance,

Dr. Joyce Burkhalter Flueckiger speaking. Russell Union Room 2084, 3-5 p.m.

Women’s Soccer vs. The Citadel, 4 p.m.

Salsa Dance, Union Ballroom, 7-11 p.m.

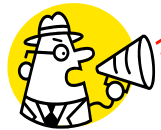
Saturday, October 18

5th Annual Hoofin’ for Habitat 5K Fun Run/Walk & 1/4 Kiddie Run, RAC, 8:30 a.m.

National Love Your Body Day!

October 15: Pajama-Party/Film Viewing of *Real Women Have Curves*. Nessmith-Lane Assembly Hall, 7:30 p.m. Sponsored by the Georgia Southern chapter of NOW (National Organization of Women).

In the Halls . . .



Monday, October 13

NFL John Madden 2004 Tournament, Veazey Hall, 5 p.m.

Be All You Can Be: Nursing in the Army. Lieutenant Stevenson presenting. Johnson Hall, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, October 14

Hispanic Awareness Month: *Frida Kahlo*, Winburn Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Classic Movie Night: *The Godfather*. Discussion following. Johnson Hall, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, October 15

The Horrors of Under-aged Drinking, Buddy Peaster presenting. Johnson Hall, 7 p.m.

“Undecided?” Southern Courtyard Clubhouse, 7 p.m. If you don’t know what your major will be, come get help from Career Services!

“Open Mic Night,” Southern Pines Clubhouse, 8 p.m.

Come share your opinions about Southern Pines, voice concerns, or provide feedback .

Thursday, October 16

Open Mic Night, Winburn Hall, 7 p.m.

Resume Writing, Kennedy MPR, 7 p.m.

“Drunk Olympics: Alcohol is not a Game,” Kennedy MPR, 8 p.m.

Saturday, October 18

3-on-3 Basketball Tournament, Southern Pines Basketball Court, 1 p.m.