

Gaitconnection

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2015 Georgia Student Media Festival a Success!

The Georgia State Student Media Festival was held on Friday, May 1st at the Clayton County Schools Professional Learning Center in Jonesboro. This was the sixth and final year for using this great facility.

The 2015 State Festival saw the start of a new recognition certificate – Best of Show! Projects scoring a perfect score of 100 receive this at the State Festival.

This year's State Festival consisted of 856 entries representing the work of over 2600 students! The inaugural year of the Best in Show certificate saw 115 recipients. Over 100 folks volunteered their time to either set-up, judge, facilitate, or serve as runners for this year's Festival!

The following school systems had entries in the 2015 State Festival: Archdiocese of Atlanta, Atlanta Public Schools, Barrow County Schools, Bibb County Schools, Bleckley County Schools, Bryan County Schools, Clayton County Schools, City Schools of Decatur, DeKalb County Schools, Effingham County Schools, Forsyth County Schools, Fulton County Schools, Gwinnett County Schools, Haralson County Schools, Harris County Schools, Henry County Schools, Lamar County Schools, Lee County Schools, Marietta City Schools, McDuffie County Schools, Monroe County Schools, Muscogee County Schools, Newton County Schools, Pike County Schools, Richmond County Schools, Rockdale County Schools, Savannah-Chatham County Schools, Thomas County Schools, and Wayne County Schools.

Special thanks to all the teachers, media specialists, and parents who helped their students create their entries. For a complete list of winners please go to the following link: <http://www.gait-inc.org/GSMF.2015.Final.htm>.

The 2015 Georgia Student Media Festival is composed of the following individuals: Dr. Gordon Baker, Deborah Gray, Joni Jones, Michelle Lenderman, Heidi Benford, Craig Coleman, Barbara Dantzler, Jennifer Duke, Amy Eklund, Mike Elrod, Tanji Gibson, Ann Grantham, Linda Johnson, Greg LaHatte, Rebecca Rose, Kate, Skilikas, Alayne Smith, Dr. Ebony Thomas, and Mary Tyner. Sponsors of the Festival include the Georgia Association for Instructional Technology (GAIT), the Georgia Library Association (GLA), and Clayton State University Library. Georgia Public Broadcasting (GPB) is a partner with GSMF!

The Georgia Student Media Festival website is: <http://www.gsmf.us/>



From the President

Greetings GAIT members!

I hope you were able to take some time to re-charge during the summer. The fall season is approaching and the weather is beginning to show signs of change. This is a special time of year for educators. Most of Georgia's schools, both PK - 12 and colleges, have begun their new school year. Businesses are also taking time to re-evaluate learning plans for their staff and prepare for the upcoming year.

2016 presents many unique challenges at all levels of education and in all learning environments. Never before, have students had so much flexibility to mix and match their learning to suit personal learning styles and life situations. In fact, both K-12 and college students are able to mix and match online learning with traditional face-to-face learning in new and exciting ways. Corporate trainers are able to train employees in another city or another country using the Internet. As educational professionals we are faced with the task of supporting all students, young and old, no matter where or how they choose to learn.

This year's GaCOMO theme, *Adventures in Libraries: The Quest for Success*, speaks directly to this phenomenon. As education evolves and changes in new and unexpected ways, GaCOMO is just the place to make new contacts and learn from the experiences of others. I hope you will plan now to attend GaCOMO on October 7 - 9, 2015 in Athens, Georgia. Come to collaborate with fellow educators and learn new ways to leverage the use of technology and media in your unique learning environment. There is something for everyone no matter whether you work with kids in PK-12 media centers, face-to-face with college students, or online with adults. The *Unshelved Guys*, Gene Ambaum and Bill Barnes, will present on Thursday with their unique sense of humor that will both entertain and inspire you. They have presented at conferences, workshops, and trainings all over the United States. Don't miss this one-of-a-kind experience.

As you look towards a new year take a few minutes to reflect on lessons learned from last year, identify your "big" goals for the upcoming year, and create a plan to meet your goals. Learning is changing. By working together we can support one another and provide learning experiences that help students succeed beyond what they thought possible.

L. Michelle Lenderman
President of GAIT
Director of Media Services
Bibb County School District
Macon, GA

2015 GAIT LEADERSHIP



Michelle Lenderman is the 2015 GAIT President. Raised in Morrow, GA, Michelle moved to Macon, GA in 1986. Michelle has worked as an elementary school teacher, high school media specialist, and currently serves as the Coordinator of Library Media Services for the Bibb County School System. She has been an active member since joining GAIT. She previously served as GAIT President in 2008. She has served as co-chair of the Georgia Student Media Festival for many years.

Dr. Gordon Baker is the 2015 GAIT President-Elect and will serve as the 2016 GAIT President. He served as GAIT President in 1995. Dr. Baker currently serves as Dean of Libraries at Clayton State University in Morrow. His career spans 40+ years including serving as an elementary school teacher, elementary, middle, and high school library media specialist, high school facilitator of Latin, and Coordinator of Instructional Technology and Library Media Services for the Henry County School System. He has opened an elementary library media center and three high school media centers. For the last three years he has led the Clayton State Library through a \$4.5 million renovation. During 2013-2014 he served as the President of the Southeastern Library Association (SELA). He has co-chaired the Georgia Student Media Festival since 2000. Dr. Baker is a former Georgia Media Specialist of the year!



Lynn Craig was elected to complete the second year of a two-year term as Secretary of GAIT. Lynn is the founding library/media specialist at Rock Spring Elementary School in McDonough. Previously she was the founding library/media specialist at Red Oak Elementary School in Stockbridge. In addition to her work in the library work, Lynn is an outstanding church musician.



Laura Herndon is a compulsive reader and a lifelong Georgia resident who pursued the cataloging track in Valdosta State University's Master of Library and Information Science program, earning her degree in 2011. She has been employed at Clayton State University Library for over 15 years. Laura is an active member of various groups and committees in GLA, including serving as the secretary for the Technical Services Interest Group, advisor for the

Paraprofessional Division and member of the COMO Team. Laura is serving a two-year term as Treasurer for GAIT!



Jacqueline Keeton is the current Immediate Past President of GAIT. Jacqueline is the media specialist at Clifton Elementary Schools in DeKalb County. In addition to her tenure as GAIT President, Jacqueline has worked with the Georgia Student Media Festival and the Georgia State Technology Fair. Jacqueline

holds a Master Of Education from the University of West Georgia and a B.S. from Norfolk State University.

GAIT BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Dr. Phyllis R. Snipes worked in P-12 schools as a kindergarten, first, and second grade classroom teacher for six years. She held the position as elementary, middle, and high school media specialist in various Georgia schools for 10 years and received National Board Certification in Library Media in 2002. Phyllis has served on the Georgia Governor's Information Technology Policy Council and was Media Coordinator for the Carrollton Georgia School District for 15 years. For the past 10 years she has worked as an Associate Professor at the university of West Georgia teaching in the fully online School Library Media & Instructional Technology Program. She earned her Ph.D. from Georgia State in 1992. She currently serves as the GAIT Higher Education Representative.



Jennifer Lane Duke is the library/media specialist at Howard Middle School in Macon. This is her second year as a library/media specialist. Prior to her current position, Jennifer was the Executive Assistant to the Dean of Libraries at Clayton State University. She started her work at Clayton State as Reserves Assistant. She also has worked for the Henry County Library System, the Clayton County Library System, and the Brooks County Library. She is married to Lamar and has one son, Arthur. She holds both a Master's and Specialist's degree from Valdosta State University. She currently serves as GAIT K-12 Representative.



Dr. Warren Goetzel is GAIT's Business, Industry, and Government Representative. Warren is the Media Services Coordinator for the Atlanta Public Schools. Warren began his career as a science teacher. His love of technology lead him serve as an elementary school technology coordinator. He advanced to become one of the district technology specialists. He holds a BS from Emory University, Master's degrees in Science Education, and Library Media Technology from Georgia State University, and an ED.S from Georgia State, and finally a Ph.D. in Instructional Technology and Design from Georgia State. Warren is an avid supporter of the Georgia Student Media Festival.



Dr. Melissa Purcell serves as one of the three At Large Representatives to the GAIT Board of Directors. Melissa is library/media specialist at Glynn Academy in Brunswick, GA and is a part-time professor in the Instructional Technology department at Georgia Southern University. Dr. Purcell was selected as the 2013-2014 Georgia State Media Specialist of the Year. Her media program was recognized as the Exemplary Media Program for the state of Georgia during the 2011-2012 school year and as an Exceptional Media Program for the state of Georgia during the 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 school years. She is Teacher Support Specialist, National Board Certified in Library Media, and Gifted Education endorsed.



Melissa Payne serves as one of the three At Large Representatives to the GAIT Board of Directors. Melissa is

a METI (Media Education and Technology Instructor) at River Eves Elementary in Fulton County Schools. This is her sixth year in the field, and she has eight years of experience as a teacher (German and ESOL). She is originally from the Atlanta area and is a three-time graduate of UGA. Along with reading and playing with technology, Melissa enjoys traveling, photography, all things food, and spoiling her niece and nephews rotten.



Sue Levine serves as one of the three At Large Representatives to the GAIT Board of Directors. Sue is the teacher-librarian at Hawthorne Elementary School in DeKalb County. She holds a Master of Social Work from Stony Brook University, a Master in Public Administration from Georgia State University, and an Ed. S in Media and Instructional Technology from the University of West Georgia. In addition, she is a National Board Certified Teacher with a concentration in Literacy/Reading Language Arts. Sue was selected to participate in the New Zealand Fulbright Distinguished Award in Teaching in August of this year.

AWARDS

The GAIT Leadership Development Committee annually solicits nominations from the membership for **DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD**, the **JUANITA SKELTON AWARD**, and the **WALTER S. BELL AWARD**. Awards are traditionally presented during the Georgia COMO Conference.

- **DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD:** This award is presented to members of the association whose service to GAIT in whatever capacity is acknowledged as exemplary and worthy of special recognition. The number of these awards given during any one year is determined on an annual basis. Past recipients of this award may be found at: http://www.gait-inc.org/GAIT_ServiceAward.htm
- **WALTER S. BELL AWARD:** This is GAIT's highest recognition of achievements in the field of instructional technology from the public school sector and is presented to individuals who have made significant contributions throughout their careers. The award is named in honor of its first recipient, Walter S. Bell, former Director of Learning Resources for the Atlanta School System. Recipients of this award are given Life Membership in the association. Past recipients of this award may be found at: <http://www.gait-inc.org/WalterBellAward.htm>
- **JUANITA SKELTON AWARD:** GAIT's highest recognition of achievements in higher education at the state or national level in instructional technology honors Juanita Skelton, the first recipient of this award and the former head of the Educational Media Department at the University of Georgia. Dr. Skelton's contributions to the field have been the basis for many ongoing developments, and her career serves as a model for service. Recipients of the award are recognized for their distinguished careers and given Life Membership in the association. Past recipients of this award may be found at: <http://www.gait-inc.org/JuanitaSkeltonAward.htm>

GOEN-SLOAN SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship is named for two outstanding GAIT Leaders, the late Marsha Goen, GAIT past president and a media specialist at Dickerson Middle School in Cobb County and the late Mary Jean Sloan, retired GAIT director of membership, and a media specialist at Eastvalley Elementary School in Cobb County. Please see the GAIT website for more information and deadlines.

Georgia Council of Media Organizations



Registration and housing is now open. Please check the website at:
<http://www.georgiacomo.org/>.

2016 Georgia Student Media Festival

Information concerning the 2016 Georgia Student Media Festival is now online at: <http://www.gsmf.us>. To see examples of past winners, please follow this link: <http://clayton.libguides.com/gsmf>. The 2016 State Student Media festival will be held on Friday, May 13, 2016 at the Henry County Academy for Advanced Studies, 401 E. Tomlinson Street, McDonough, GA 30253.

GAIT Membership

It's easy and highly economical to become a member of the Georgia Association for Instructional Technology (GAIT). Simply follow this link: http://www.gait-inc.org/GAIT_Membership_Brochure_2011_Revision.htm, complete the membership form, enclose it and your check and mail it to the address on the brochure! Easy as 1 – 2 – 3!

Publications Chair/Editor: Gordon Baker - gordonbaker@clayton.edu