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Georgia Perimeter College

**Library Paws Event a Big Success with Students, Faculty, and Staff**

Georgia Perimeter College, Clarkston Campus Library in partnership with READing Paws/Georgia, held their first *Library Paws* event to provide stress relief for students during final exams (April 30-May2). Among the nine registered therapy dog/owner teams were a Great Pyrenees, (owned by a GPC faculty member), a Boxer, a Mastiff, and two English Labrador Retrievers.

Students sat on the floor with some spending more than 30 minutes with the dogs while other visited the animals more than once. Rousing success of the program was affirmed by comments from students: “I just came from my last final and this helps a lot. It’s a good way to let go of some stress,” “I was here every day and I’ll come back next time” and “It motivated me to finish my paper so I could go see the dogs. They had to throw me out of here and I’ve been back every day.”

Librarians created a LibGuide® and informational handouts on animal assisted therapy and the library staff plan to make this even a twice-a-year happening.

Stone Mountain Book by GPC Authors Garners Statewide History Award

“Atlanta’s Stone Mountain: A Multicultural History,” by Georgia Perimeter College faculty members Paul Stephen Hudson and Lora Pond Mirza, received the Lilla M. Hawes Award for best book about Georgia local or county history published in 2011. The award was announced during the Georgia Historical Society’s annual meeting in Savannah on May 17.

The Hawes award is presented annually and named in honor of Lilla M. Hawes, director of the Georgia Historical Society from 1948 to 1976.
“Paul Hudson and Lora Mirza have taken the great bluish-gray granite dome that we know as Stone Mountain and built a compelling multicultural history as well as a guide for the inquisitive reader. In ranging from the Paleo-Indians who hunted mammoths in its shadow to the debates over the Confederate Memorial carving to today’s park that honors the primeval grandeur of this enormous stone, they set a standard for how local history, natural history and popular history can be combined into one highly readable volume,” said Paul Pressly, chair of the Georgia Historical Society awards committee.

Hudson, a GPC history professor and newspaper columnist, and Mirza, a GPC research librarian and photographer, are both “stunned and very happy” about the Hawes award, especially since it is their first book. “We consider the mountain a very dear friend, pulsating with life, that we have come to love and cherish in our writing, research and photography,” said Mirza.

“Atlanta’s Stone Mountain: A Multicultural History,” was published by The History Press.

Chartered by the Georgia General Assembly in 1839, the Georgia Historical Society is the oldest continuously operated historical society in the South. As an educational and research institution, GHS teaches Georgia history through a variety of educational programs, scholarly publications, and research services.