

# **The University System of Georgia**

75 YEARS OF TRANSFORMING LIVES



*“Creating A More Educated Georgia”*

# 75 YEARS OF TRANSFORMING LIVES

*Eleanor Roosevelt stands with Chancellor Steadman V. Sanford (center) and Frank Robertson Reade, President of the Georgia State Women's College at the 1941 dedication of The Powell Library.*

*New Deal programs enabled GSWC to expand physically from three to seven buildings. Powell Hall is still in use today at what is*

## The First Institutions

- 1785, University of Georgia, Athens
- 1828, Medical College of Georgia, Augusta
- 1852, Gordon College, Barnesville
- 1873, North Georgia College & State University, Dahlonega
- 1884, Middle Georgia College, Cochran
- 1885, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta
- 1889, Georgia College & State University, Milledgeville
- 1890, Savannah State University, Savannah
- 1895, Fort Valley State University, Fort Valley
- 1903, Albany State University, Albany
- 1906, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro
- 1906, Georgia Southwestern State University, Americus
- 1906, South Georgia College, Douglas
- 1906, Valdosta State University, Valdosta
- 1906, University of West Georgia, Carrollton
- 1908, Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College, Tifton
- 1913, Georgia State University, Atlanta
- 1925, Augusta State University, Augusta





# 75 YEARS OF TRANSFORMING LIVES

## MILESTONES IN THE HISTORY OF THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF GEORGIA 1932-2007

The history and success of Georgia and its people is reflected in the state's commitment to public higher education. This commitment goes back 222 years, with the founding of the University of Georgia.

The most dramatic part of the story of public higher education in Georgia had to wait until the 1930's, when the nation was in the grips of the Great Depression. Despite terrible economic conditions, Georgians, led by a young governor, Richard B. Russell Jr., made the decision to create a unified system of public colleges and universities under a single governing board.

Thus was born 75 years ago, in a time of crisis, Georgia's best hope and wisest investment in the future of its citizens – the University System of Georgia.

# 75 YEARS OF TRANSFORMING LIVES





Today, the University System of Georgia provides broad, affordable access to higher education across the state through 35 institutions educating 260,000 students.

A million more Georgians use the System's continuing education programs. Farmers, businesses, libraries, public schools, and local governments – all rely and depend upon the intellectual capital and resources of the University System to solve problems, create growth opportunities and improve service to the public and customers.

A recent study put the economic impact of the University System on Georgia's economy at an astounding \$23.3 billion annually. Each graduate from a Georgia college or university can expect to add an additional million dollars in earnings over his or her working lifetime.

In short, thanks to the wisdom and vision of those Georgians who acted to create the University System of Georgia 75 years ago, today, through its missions of teaching, research, and service, the System touches the lives of virtually every Georgian.

This remarkable public achievement rests upon the continued commitment of successive governors and legislators to invest in Georgia's future. It is based upon the dedication of Georgians who have answered the call to serve on the Board of Regents. This record is the result of the work of 11 chancellors and thousands of faculty and staff. Finally, the University System's success in serving the state has been aided by the unstinting support by local communities, businesses, and alumni of System institutions.

This success was not inevitable, nor is continued success guaranteed. Throughout its 75-year history, the University System of Georgia has fulfilled its mission during good and hard economic times, during a period when the state's leaders and citizens wrestled with the issue of full equality for all citizens, and through periods of dramatic growth and demands that strained resources.

While the next 75 years cannot be predicted, the record of the past 75 years provides a clear outline of the future direction of the University System of Georgia. That direction is an investment in the single most powerful tool Georgians possess to transform individual lives, and, in turn, communities and the state. This is the chronicle of events, people, and milestones that have charted the course of higher education history, policy and access in Georgia.

## 75 YEARS OF TRANSFORMING LIVES



# 75 YEARS OF TRANSFORMING LIVES

1932-1950

## Birth, Conflict and Constitutional Status

### **1932: The University System of Georgia is Born**

The transformation of higher education in Georgia began with the election in 1930 of Richard B. Russell Jr. as governor on a state government reform platform. As a result, the Reorganization Act of 1931 led to the creation of an 11-member Board of Regents to provide governance to the newly formed University System of Georgia. Among the Board's first challenges were to shift governance from individual institutions to the interests of the state as a whole; to redefine the status of the University of Georgia, which had been the lone guiding force in education in the state; to assess a poorly planned core curriculum; to manage a very significant deficit; and to gain control over a disorganized and uncoordinated approach to meeting the higher education needs of all Georgians.

### **The Budget Process is Unified**

An early accomplishment of the Board of Regents was to present a unified System budget to the governor and general assembly. The state allocated a lump sum, which was then allocated to the institutions. This was a unique and visionary structure, and it paved the way for the University System to advance higher education and promote economic development in Georgia over the next 75 years.

### **Political Interference Threatens Accreditation**

In 1941, longstanding conflicts with Gov. Eugene Talmadge threatened the autonomy of the System. The issue boiled over when the governor managed the firing of two respected employees. The result was the loss of accreditation for 10 University System schools and, for Talmadge, the loss of the governorship as voters reacted to political interference in the administration of the University System.

### **Constitutional Status is Achieved**

Newly elected Governor Ellis Arnall was committed to preserving a strong University System. He was elected governor on a platform that included removing the University System from political interference (see above). In 1943, Arnall secured the passage of a constitutional amendment granting the University System of Georgia constitutional status. This important event paved the way for a new era for higher education in Georgia.

### **GI Bill Drives Post-War Enrollment Boom**

World War II caused a drop in enrollments, but the passing of the GI Bill sparked an enrollment boom. In 1947, the System gained 27,000 students – half of them veterans. The sudden influx of students was a driving force behind a new capital expansion program at institutions statewide, along with a greater focus on research in sciences, technology and liberal arts. Schools of Veterinary Medicine and Engineering were added at UGA and Georgia Tech, respectively.

**1935, Armstrong Atlantic State University, Savannah**

**1948, Southern Polytechnic State University, Marietta**

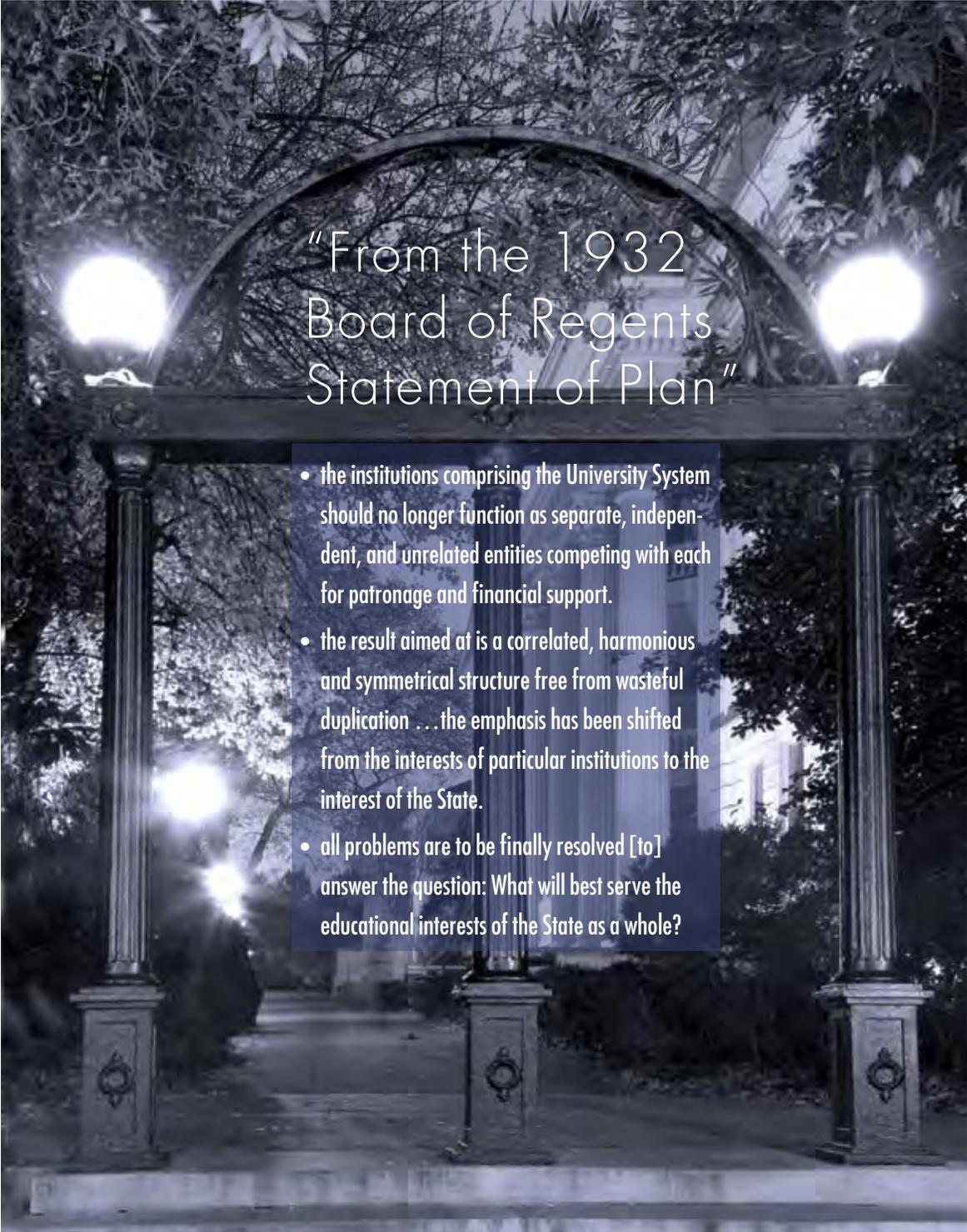
**First Chancellor, Charles M. Snelling (1932-1933)**

**Chancellor Philip Weltner (1933-1935)**

**Chancellor Steadman V. Sanford (1935-1945)**

**Chancellor Raymond R. Paty (1946-1948)**

**Chancellor Harmon W. Caldwell (1949-1964)**



"From the 1932  
Board of Regents  
Statement of Plan"

- the institutions comprising the University System should no longer function as separate, independent, and unrelated entities competing with each for patronage and financial support.
- the result aimed at is a correlated, harmonious and symmetrical structure free from wasteful duplication . . . the emphasis has been shifted from the interests of particular institutions to the interest of the State.
- all problems are to be finally resolved [to] answer the question: What will best serve the educational interests of the State as a whole?

75 YEARS OF TRANSFORMING LIVES



# 75 YEARS OF TRANSFORMING LIVES

1950-1960

## The New System Settles in for Post-War Growth and Expansion

### **Strayer Report Recommends Strategic Changes**

The Board of Regents commissioned a comprehensive study of the University System in the years following World War II and that report became the first plan for System-wide development since its creation. The Strayer Report strongly supported the need to subordinate the competitive ambitions of individual institutions for the sake of advancement of the entire System. It also stressed the need to prepare professionally trained teachers, and to link research with graduate education. The Strayer Report also endorsed the organization of graduate schools with qualified graduate faculty members.

The Strayer Report also recommended distinctive missions for certain institutions, delineated roles for the historically black institutions and addressed the roles and functions of the state's junior colleges.

Finally, the Report addressed the continuing maturation of the new University System. Recommendations were made regarding the administration and governance of the System; its budgeting, accounting and reporting needs; and its organizational structure and procedures. The most significant recommendations focused on the critical issue of financing the education of Georgians beyond high school as enrollments began to double and the System prepared for increased student numbers through the 1960s.

**1958, Columbus State University, Columbus**







75 YEARS OF TRANSFORMING LIVES



# 75 YEARS OF TRANSFORMING LIVES

1960-1970

## The Color Barrier Comes Down, New Junior Colleges Provide Unprecedented Access

### **Integration Begins**

The sixties marked the beginnings of integration of the University System of Georgia as African Americans nationwide campaigned for equal opportunity and access. The critical date in this process was 1961, when two black students - Hamilton Holmes and Charlayne Hunter - made history and were admitted to the University of Georgia. Four other black students, who announced their intentions to apply to Georgia Tech, followed them. From this point forward, the racial and ethnic composition of students enrolled in the University System began to change to reflect the overall population of Georgia.

### **Baby Boomers Impact System Growth**

The Baby Boom generation graduated from high school in the mid-60s and began to apply to Georgia's public colleges and universities in record numbers. During this decade, the Board of Regents applied for federal funds to create additional junior colleges. Students in Georgia now had greater access to a college near their hometown and growth in enrollments System-wide tripled.

**1961, Coastal Georgia Community College, Brunswick**

**1963, Dalton State College, Dalton**

**1963, Kennesaw State University, Marietta**

**1964, Georgia Perimeter College, Decatur**

**1964, Gainesville State College, Gainesville**

**1965, Clayton State University, Morrow**

**1966, Darton College, Albany**

**1967, Skidaway Institute of Oceanography, Savannah**

**1968, Macon State College, Macon**

**1968, Georgia Highlands College, Rome**

**Chancellor George L. Simpson (1965-1979)**





75 YEARS OF TRANSFORMING LIVES



# 75 YEARS OF TRANSFORMING LIVES

1970-1980

## Academic Excellence and Equitable Funding are Major Initiatives, as Recession Hits and Desegregation Efforts Continue

### **Systematic Desegregation Proceeds**

The Board of Regents worked with the federal courts and the U.S. government to develop policies for the fair accommodation of all students regardless of race and for fair employment practices for System employees. The Board of Regents created a clearinghouse for new employees; a panel for investigating incidents of possible discrimination; and a statewide task force to establish goals for every institution.

### **After 15 Years, System Desegregation Plan Earns Federal Approval**

The University System submitted its first plan for desegregation to the U.S. Department of Health Education and Welfare on June 11, 1973. HEW found the plan showed progress, but it was not satisfied with the basis for projections. The Board of Regents created a special committee to negotiate with HEW to satisfy its recommendations. Finally, in 1988 the U.S. District Court in Washington D.C. and the U.S. Office of Civil Rights approved the System's plan. It was a difficult decade of work, but the lofty goal of ensuring fair and equitable access to higher education for all was achieved.

### **Full Formula Funding**

In the early 1980s, under the leadership of two governors, first George Busbee and then Joe Frank Harris, the Board of Regents, the governor's office and the legislature worked together to develop significant changes in the way public higher education in Georgia was funded by the state. Aimed at achieving greater excellence for every institution, the "Formula for Excellence" was developed as an equitable way to appropriate funds based on institutional enrollment. After years of partial formula funding, the state legislature approved full funding of the formula in 1986.

### **Special Funding Initiative Focuses on Access**

In 1988, the general assembly allotted \$10M for a new line in the System's budget request. The "Special Funding Initiative" was a "quality-improvement" package to provide funding outside of the formula to a number of long-range System initiatives to expand access to higher education for all Georgians.

### **Recession Slows Momentum**

In the late 80s and into the early 90s, poor statewide economic conditions resulted in significant budget reductions for the University System of Georgia. The situation reached a climax in 1992 when the System's budget was reduced by \$75 million. Faculty salaries, which were ranked number one by the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) early in the 1980s suffered a set back.

**1973, Bainbridge College, Bainbridge**

**1973, East Georgia College, Swainsboro**

**1974, Atlanta Metropolitan College, Atlanta**

**1976, Waycross College, Waycross**

**Chancellor Vernon Crawford (1979-1985)**

**Chancellor H. Dean Propst (1985-1993)**



75 YEARS OF TRANSFORMING LIVES



# 75 YEARS OF TRANSFORMING LIVES

1990-2000

## Accessibility, Higher Standards and Technology Mark a Decade of Dramatic Change

### **Accent on Access**

In the 90s, the Board of Regents adopted a sweeping new vision statement entitled "Access to Academic Excellence for the New Millennium." Developed with input from institution presidents, it called for Georgia's public colleges and universities to be recognized for first-rate undergraduate education, leading-edge research and committed public service. The Board of Regents also adopted a set of 34 Guiding Principles for Action as a foundation for future policy decisions.

### **Georgia's HOPE Scholarship Program**

Since Gov. Zell Miller established the HOPE (Helping Outstanding Pupils Educationally) Scholarship Program in 1993, over \$3.2 billion in HOPE funds have been awarded to more than 950,000 students attending Georgia's public and private colleges, universities, and technical colleges. HOPE, a merit-based student-aid program for students who graduate from Georgia high schools, provides financial assistance for students who have a "B" high school grade point average and enroll in degree, diploma, and certificate programs at eligible institutions. The program is funded entirely by The Georgia Lottery for Education. As of Fall 2004 (the most recent report available), more than 76 percent of the University System's first-time freshmen entered the System with the help of a HOPE Scholarship.

### **GALILEO Links Libraries**

During this decade, the System took advantage of growing Internet technology to link the libraries at all System institutions by creating GALILEO - Georgia Library Learning Online. The resource was developed in fewer than 150 days with a \$10 million budget allocation from the general assembly. The advent of GALILEO literally opened the doors to libraries around the state to all students regardless of their home institution or location - and today it is available to all Georgians.

### **System Uses Internet Technology to Expand Access**

The Board of Regents further paved the way to use the power and scope of the Internet to attract prospective students to Georgia's institutions by recommending the creation of a "common admission application." Two new online System programs set the stage for greater access to college courses, admissions information, and jobs. GeorgiaEASY, an online admissions site, offered admissions, career and financial information and an "easy" online admissions form; and GeorgiaHire linked businesses seeking qualified employees with students searching for jobs.

### **Raising the Bar for Admissions**

In 1995, the Board of Regents sought to break the cycle of low admissions expectations and inadequate college preparation by adopting the Policy Direction on Admissions. It established higher admissions requirements, which led to record high average SAT scores for first-time freshmen and the highest retention rates ever recorded in Georgia. Five years later, at the beginning of the new millennium, average SAT scores of incoming freshmen in the University System of Georgia had increased by an impressive 31 points. At the same time, the Board of Regents introduced a new P-16 Policy Direction that addressed the need for "co-reform" of public education in Georgia from pre-Kindergarten through high school and aimed at ensuring that all students who graduated from Georgia high schools were prepared for postsecondary education and ready to meet the heightened standards.

### **Prioritizing Capital Expansion**

During this decade, the Board of Regents took action to organize and prioritize the process for requesting funds from the General Assembly for capital expansion at its various institutions. The adoption of Capital Priorities Principles became the core of a process by which the institutions, the System and the legislature worked systematically and equitably to set priorities and fund new buildings at campuses statewide.

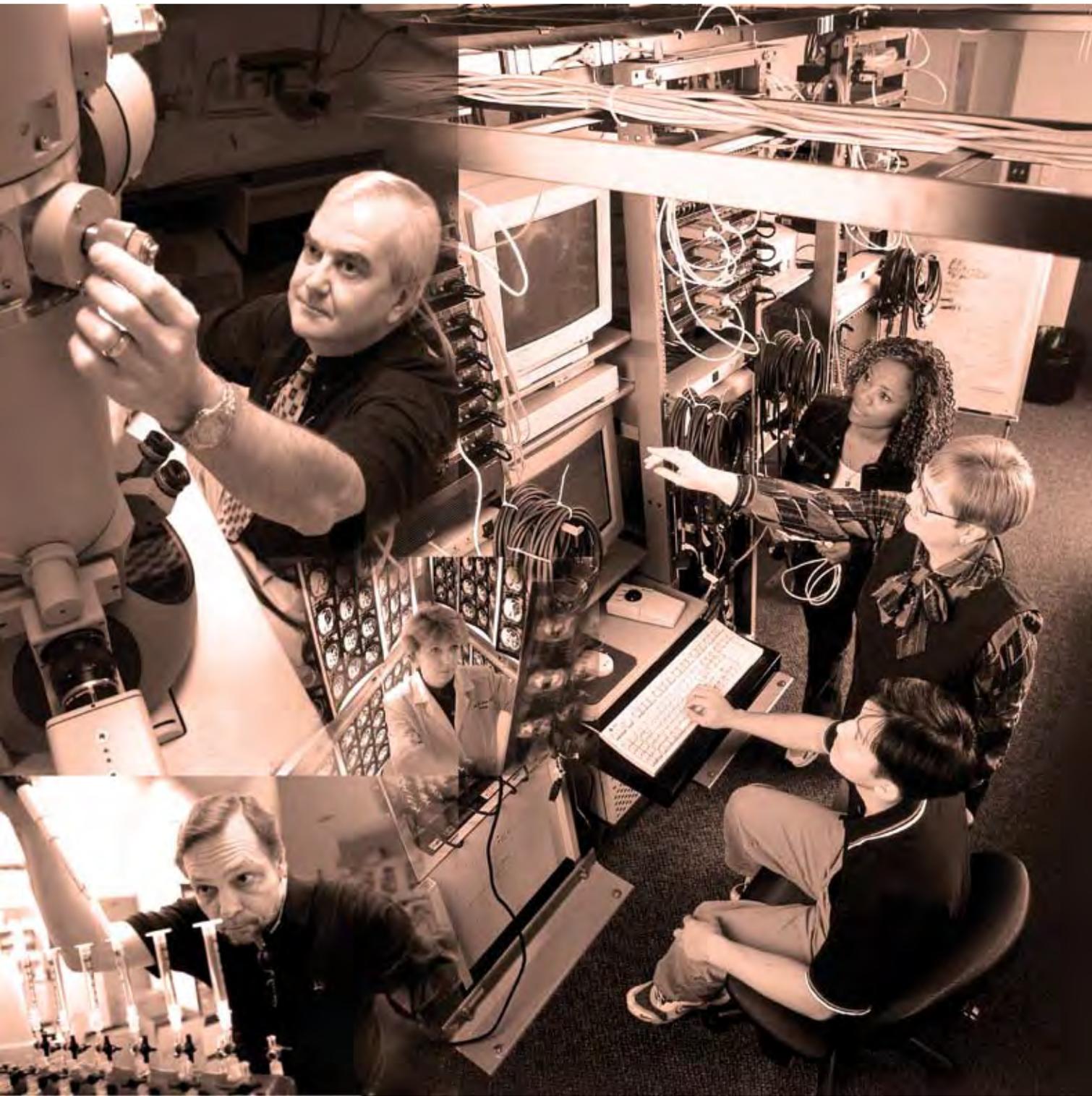
### **Semester Conversion Changes Calendar**

In a move designed to standardize the academic calendars of the 34 institutions, the Board of Regents converted the University System calendar from quarters to semesters. Though the transition went well, it would be three years before enrollments returned to normal patterns.

### **Guaranteed Quality in Teacher Preparation**

As part of a move to expand and enhance its teacher preparation programs and improve teacher quality in Georgia, the Board of Regents voted to guarantee the performance of teachers who graduated from its K-12 programs. This was a promise to school systems that teacher preparation programs at University System institutions were of high quality and a guarantee that the system would retrain any new graduates whose performance was not satisfactory.

### **Chancellor Stephen R. Portch (1994-2001)**



75 YEARS OF TRANSFORMING LIVES



# 75 YEARS OF TRANSFORMING LIVES

## 2001 AND BEYOND

### The New Millennium Brings Record Enrollments, National Attention for Academic Excellence and Continued Strategic Direction

#### 2001

##### **Academic Excellence is Recognized**

Georgia became one of a handful of states with more than one institution ranked among the top 20 public national universities in the *U.S. News & World Report's* annual college rankings. This national recognition underscored the fact that institutions in Georgia were academically competitive with schools throughout the nation.

#### 2003

##### **Targeting African-American Males**

The System launched an African-American Male Initiative to enhance access by black men to higher education and increase black male enrollment in the USG.

##### **Record Enrollments and Rising SAT Scores Signal a New Era**

The benefits of earlier System initiatives to strengthen admissions standards, improve accessibility, and enhance the quality of instruction at institutions statewide, plus the impact of Georgia's HOPE scholarship, resulted in record enrollments and significant increases in SAT scores of entering freshmen across the state.

##### **PRISM Working to Close the Gap in Student Achievement in Math and Science**

The Board of Regents received a \$34.6 million, five-year grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to boost student achievement in science and mathematics. The grant enabled

the University System to play a leading role in the Partnership for Reform in Science and Mathematics (PRISM), a collaborative statewide educational reform initiative. PRISM is helping to improve teaching and learning for more than 170,000 students and more than 10,000 teachers in participating schools throughout Georgia.

#### 2003-2005

##### **The System Wields Formidable Economic Clout**

The economic impact of the System became evident in the middle years of the first decade of the 21st century as the Board of Regents' economic impact study determined that Georgia's 34 public colleges and universities annually contribute \$23.3 billion to the state's economy.

#### 2004-2005

##### **System Revises Relationships with Cooperative Organizations**

Uncertainty regarding the exact relationship among the Board of Regents, the University of Georgia and the University of Georgia Foundation caused the Board of Regents to re-evaluate and revise its own policies related to cooperative organizations. The new Board of Regents' policy ensured that cooperative organizations such as foundations did not have authority over institutional presidents. Three outcomes of the new policy included the ending of the relationship be-

tween UGA and the UGA Foundation; a request that all System-related cooperative organizations sign new memorandums of understanding with the Board; and a change in presidential compensation so that all salaries and benefits would hereafter be paid from public funds. The policy change eliminated the practice of direct supplemental salary contributions from cooperative organizations and made the USG the first system in the nation to move presidential pay entirely to state funds.

#### 2005

##### **A New College is Born**

In 2005, the first new institution in the University System of Georgia since 1970 was created in Gwinnett County. The Board of Regents transformed its Gwinnett University Center into Georgia Gwinnett College, to serve the fastest growing region in the state.

##### **System Capital Expansion Priorities Total \$3.4 billion**

Priorities for capital expansion totaled a record \$3.4 billion in new campus facilities statewide as the System prepared to meet increasing enrollment growth and requirements for state of the art facilities. By then, the Major Capital Projects Priority List had become the primary strategic process for determining the most critical needs for facilities in the System and for securing state funding for these facilities.





Members of the 2006-2007 Board of Regents

Standing, left to right: Regents Felton Jenkins, W. Mansfield Jennings Jr., Richard L. Tucker, Benjamin Tarbuton III, James R. Jolly, Donald M. Leebern Jr., Patrick S. Pittard, Willis J. Potts Jr., Hugh A. Carter, Jr., Elridge W. McMillan, J. Timothy Shelnut and Robert F. Hatcher. Seated, left to right are: Regents Julie Ewing Hunt, Wanda Yancey Rodwell, William H. Cleveland, M.D. (Vice Chair), Allan Vigil (Chair), Chancellor Erroll B. Davis Jr., and Regents Doreen Stiles Poitevint and Michael J. Coles.

2006

New Chancellor Brings New Focus

Selected by the Board of Regents in late 2005, Erroll B. Davis Jr. became the System's 11th chancellor in early 2006. His selection marked a first on two fronts: the first African American permanently appointed as chancellor (prior to his appointment, another African American, Corlis Cummings, served as interim chancellor), and the first chancellor from the corporate sector. Davis wasted no time in learning about the strengths and challenges in the System, visiting all 35 campuses in the first five months of his tenure and pushing forward a guaranteed tuition plan, fixing tuition for a specified period of time. The "Fixed for Four" plan allows students and families to make financial plans for college with the knowledge that tuition will not increase. The guaranteed tuition plan is helping to maintain Georgia's historic status as an affordable state for public college attendance.

Revised Planning Model Impacts Allocation of Funds for New Construction

The Board of Regents endorsed a new Strategic Capital Model to enhance long-term planning for the construction of new facilities on the 35 campuses of the USG. The new model uses data for each institution's enrollment, anticipated growth, square footage, the age and condition of current facilities, and the Board of Regent's strategic priorities.

It enables the System to be more responsive and dynamic in allocating capital construction funds to the 35 campuses of the USG.

Educating More Georgians to Higher Levels

Chancellor Davis has set for the University System a goal of educating more Georgians to higher levels than in the past. To achieve this goal, the Board of Regents are in the process of creating a new Strategic Plan to guide policy and actions that address the key challenges of access, affordability, and accountability. In this respect, the mission and role for the Board of Regents and the University System of Georgia as envisioned by Georgia's leaders in 1931 has not fundamentally changed. The System continues to serve as the primary vehicle driving the state's growth and vitality through teaching, research and service.



Chancellor Erroll B. Davis Jr., (2006- ), Eleventh Chancellor of the University System of Georgia

2005, Georgia Gwinnett College, Lawrenceville

Chancellor Thomas C. Meredith (2002-2005)



# USG Alumni Lives Transformed



**James M. Baker III**  
Clayton State University, 1975  
President, Chaseland Corp. and Baker & Lassiter



**John Wesley Blessingame**  
Fort Valley State University, 1960  
Professor, author, playwright, speaker



**Maxine Burton**  
Gainesville State College, 1969-1970  
University of Georgia, 1972 & 1978.  
Founder, President burton + BURTON™



**James Earl Carter**  
Georgia Southwestern State University, 1941  
Georgia Institute of Technology, 1943  
Governor, U.S. President, Nobel Prize Laureate, 2002



**Dr. Emily Craig**  
Medical College of Georgia, 1976  
Author, state forensic anthropologist, Kentucky



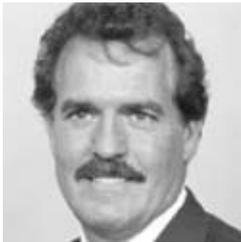
**Gregory Daniels**  
Albany State University, 1974  
Senior Vice President, U.S. Manufacturing  
Nissan North America, Inc.



**Maj. Gen. Walter E. Gaskin, United States Marine Corps**  
Savannah State University, 1974  
Commanding general, U.S. Marine Corps  
Second Division



**Charlayne Hunter Gault**  
University of Georgia, 1963  
Newspaper, television journalist, author



**Dr. J. Phillip Gingrey, Jr.**  
Medical College of Georgia, 1969  
Physician, U.S. Congressman



**Richard H. Glanton**  
University of West Georgia, 1968  
Attorney, service in Nixon and Ford administrations,  
United Airlines, Conrail, deputy counsel, Gov. of  
Pennsylvania



**Brig. Gen. David L. Grange**  
North Georgia College & State University, 1970  
President, Robert R. McCormick Tribune Foundation,  
CNN military analyst



**John Huey**  
University of Georgia, 1970  
Editor-in-Chief, TIME Inc



**Terry Kay**  
University of West Georgia, 1957  
Author, screenwriter, Emmy award winner



**Richard H. Lenny**  
Georgia State University, 1974  
Chairman/CEO/President, The Hershey Company



**Kenneth D. Lewis**  
Georgia State University, 1969  
Chairman/CEO/President, Bank of America Corp



**Harold E. Linnenkohl**  
Southern Polytechnic State University, 1968  
Commissioner, Georgia Department of Transportation



# USG Alumni Lives Transformed



**Percy A. Mack Jr.**  
Savannah State University, 1971  
University of Georgia, 1972  
Georgia State University, 1998, 2000  
Superintendent of Dayton (OH) Public Schools,  
National Alliance of Black School Educators 2006  
Superintendent of the Year



**Sheree Mitchell**  
Columbus State University, 1975  
Founder, Growing Room Child Development Centers  
National Small Businessperson of the Year, 2004



**J. Tom Morgan**  
Darton College, 1975  
University of Georgia, 1977, 1980  
Attorney, former DeKalb County District Attorney,  
national expert on crimes against children



**Dr. Kary B. Mullis**  
Georgia Institute of Technology, 1966  
Nobel Laureate for developing the polymerase chain  
reaction (PCR), which revolutionized molecular biology,  
medicine and many other related scientific fields.



**Larry Nelson**  
Kennesaw State University, 1971  
Professional golfer,  
inducted World Golf Hall of Fame, 1986



**Flannery O'Connor**  
Georgia College & State University, 1945  
author



**Gene Patterson**  
North Georgia College & State University, 1942  
Editor, The Atlanta Constitution,  
Pulitzer Prize winner, 1967



**George I. "Sonny" Perdue**  
University of Georgia, 1971  
Governor



**David M. Ratcliffe**  
Valdosta State University, 1970  
Chairman/CEO, Southern Company



**Glenn Richardson**  
Georgia State University, 1981, 1984  
Speaker, Georgia House of Representatives



**Martha Barrs Robertson**  
Valdosta State University, 1953  
Vice President, the Coca-Cola Company (retired)  
VSU Distinguished Alumnus, 1986



**Theresa A. Rodgers**  
Macon State College, 1983  
Georgia's first woman U.S. Marshal



**George T. Smith**  
Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College, 1940  
Only Georgian to be elected to all three branches of state government:  
Georgia House, Lt. Governor, Georgia Supreme Court



**James D. Yancey**  
Columbus State University, 1964  
Chairman, Synovus Financial Corp. (retired)  
Member, Board of Regents, 1999-2006

# 75 YEARS OF TRANSFORMING LIVES BY THE NUMBERS

The University System of Georgia was created to provide a strong, unified, academically excellent system of public higher education for Georgians. This mission has been fulfilled for 75 years.

The future challenge is to educate more Georgians than in the past to even higher levels.

Georgia's wise and continued investment in its university system will ensure this challenge will be met.

---

1930

State population: 2,908,506

Enrollment in public colleges in Georgia: approximately 6,000 students

---

1940

State Population: 3,123,723

USG enrollment: 18,736

---

1950

State population: 3,444,478

USG enrollment: 18,417

---

1960

State Population: 3,943,116

USG enrollment: 30,686

---

1970

State population: 4,589,575

USG enrollment: 96,321

---

1980

State population: 5,463,105

USG enrollment: 126,807

---

1990

State population: 6,478,149

USG enrollment: 180,447

---

2000

State population: 8,186,453

USG enrollment: 205,878

---

2006

State population (estimated): 9,363,941

USG enrollment: 260,000



*"Creating A More Educated Georgia"*  
[www.usg.edu](http://www.usg.edu)