

February 2005



UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF GEORGIA
"Creating a More Educated Georgia"



Chancellor
Thomas C. Meredith

Letter from the Chancellor

Greetings:

University System of Georgia students, faculty, staff and alumni continue to earn all types of honors and recognition from prominent publications, organizations, corporations and even the state legislature. Here is a small sampling of the kudos that have crossed my desk in recent weeks:



- ▶ **Patrick Evans**, a 2002 graduate of *North Georgia College & State University*, was saluted by the Georgia General Assembly on Jan. 24 for his honorable service to our country under extremely hazardous conditions in Iraq. Evans, a first lieutenant in the U.S. Army, became the first member of the NGCSU family to suffer serious injury in Iraq when a suicide bomber struck a military mess hall in Mosul on Dec. 21, killing 22 people and wounding approximately 70 others. Evans, who suffered extensive abdominal injuries and is recuperating at his home in Blue Ridge, received a standing ovation as well as commendations and resolutions in recognition of his service during an appearance at the state Capitol with NGCSU President **David Potter** and **Col. Tom Palmer**, commandant of the university's Corps of Cadets.
- ▶ **Allen Zow**, executive assistant to *Savannah State University* President **Carlton Brown** and the university's legal counsel, has been appointed to the board of directors of the Education Law Association. The ELA is a national non-profit organization that promotes interest in and understanding of the legal framework of education and the rights of students, parents, school boards and school employees.
- ▶ A *University of Georgia* education professor was one of 10 outstanding young African-American scholars in the nation featured in *Black Issues in Higher Education* in January. **Dr. Derrick P. Alridge**, an associate professor in social foundations of education, was identified by the magazine as "one of the rising stars in the academy" in part because of his research, which ranges from the social and educational ideas of African-American intellectuals, educators and social activists to the civil-rights movement and the study of hip-hop. Alridge, who currently has two books on W.E.B. Du Bois under contract, also has helped produce four film documentaries focusing on unrecognized and overlooked figures in the civil rights movement, including one on UGA alumnus Hamilton Holmes that aired on Georgia Public Television in January 2004. By the way, the University System also has another connection to the 10 "Standout Scholars" in *Black Issues in Higher Education*: **Michael P. Johnson**, an associate professor of management science and urban affairs at Carnegie Mellon University, obtained his master of science in electrical engineering at *Georgia Tech*.
- ▶ *Darton College* was one of six community colleges in the nation selected to receive a pilot grant to participate in an initiative to help female and minority students pursue their goals in science and engineering. The \$75,000 grant received from the Hewlett-Packard–Mathematics, Engineering and Science Achievement (MESA) Community College Diversity in Education Initiative will fund the establishment of a Diversity in Engineering Center at Darton. The center will provide one-on-one and group tutoring, computer stations and other forms of technology, and a gathering place for female and minority students in the fields of engineering, science and math.
- ▶ **Dr. Max E. Stachura**, a Georgia Research Alliance Eminent Scholar in Telemedicine and director of the *Medical College of Georgia's* Center for Telehealth, has been elected president of the Alliance for Public Technology. This non-profit organization, based in Washington, D.C., has approximately 120 members and works to foster broad access to affordable and useful information, communication services and technologies by all people.
- ▶ *Kennesaw State University's* first-ever corporate image campaign – a series of ads appearing in business publications around the state that stress the important role Georgia companies play in helping KSU educate tomorrow's leaders – won the Grand Award in Print Advertising from District III of the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education.

Please join me in congratulating these USG leaders on their accomplishments.

Sincerely,

Thomas C. Meredith