

September 2004



UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF GEORGIA  
"Creating a More Educated Georgia"

## Letter from the Chancellor



Chancellor  
Thomas C. Meredith

Greetings:

Today, we are beginning a new tradition of chronicling recent significant news from around the University System of Georgia in a brief letter that can be shared with all of our constituents in a variety of ways. Proud of the remarkable accomplishments and accolades earned by our campuses and the University System's employees, I want to share these achievements with you. I hope you find this method of communicating our Good News informative and useful and that you share our pride in the stature our System has attained.



- ▶ **Gov. Sonny Perdue** has tapped the president of *Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College*, **Michael F. Vollmer**, to serve as the new commissioner of the Department of Technical and Adult Education (DTAE). While this is not good news for the University System, which has benefited greatly from Mike's leadership in a variety of senior administrative positions over the years — and especially is not welcome news for the ABAC community — the Governor once again has recognized the depth of experience and ability available within the System's ranks. Mike was appointed president of ABAC in July 2001.
- ▶ *Georgia Tech* is ranked No. 10 among the nation's top public national universities and the *University of Georgia* is ranked No. 19 in the just-released 2005 edition of *U.S. News & World Report's* undergraduate college rankings. The two universities rank 41st and 58th respectively among the top 100 public and private institutions. The report also ranks *Georgia Tech* as having the nation's sixth best undergraduate engineering program among public and private institutions whose highest degree is a doctorate. In addition, the report ranks *Georgia State University* and the *University of Georgia* among the top five institutions in the nation with insurance programs. (Georgia State is ranked No. 3, and UGA is ranked No. 5.)
- ▶ *U.S. News & World Report* also publishes an annual report on "America's Best Hospitals," and once again the *Medical College of Georgia* Medical Center has been named to the list of the top 50 hospitals in the diagnosis and treatment of hormonal disorders such as diabetes and thyroid conditions. Only 177 of the 6,000-plus medical centers in the United States were cited in the report, including such nationally recognized facilities as the Mayo Clinic, Duke University Medical Center and Johns Hopkins Hospital.
- ▶ The journal *Black Issues in Higher Education* released its annual reports on the Top 100 Undergraduate and Graduate Degree Producers this summer, naming *Georgia State University* as the nation's No. 1 producer of African-American graduates at the baccalaureate level among traditionally white institutions, and *Georgia Tech* as the No. 1 producer of African-American engineers at the master's degree level and the No. 2 producer of African-American engineers at the baccalaureate level. The report also ranked the *University of Georgia* as 18th in the nation in the number of doctoral degrees conferred on African Americans.
- ▶ *The Chronicle of Higher Education* recently reported that three highly respected researchers have left their institutions to become eminent scholars in the University System of Georgia, bringing the total number recruited by the Georgia Research Alliance to 49. In addition, two of these researchers have faculty spouses who will be joining our USG family. The *Medical College of Georgia* has gained two eminent scholars — **Eberhard O. Voit**, a professor of bioinformatics at the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC), and **Lin Mei**, an associate professor of neurobiology at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. Lin Mei's wife and research partner, **Wen-Cheng Xiong**, an associate professor of neurology at MUSC, also will be employed by MCG. The *University of Georgia* added **Roberto Docampo**, a professor of pathobiology at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, as an eminent scholar. UGA also has hired Docampo's wife, **Silvia N.J. Moreno**, an associate professor of pathobiology at Illinois.

If you have an opportunity, please join me in congratulating these USG leaders on their accomplishments!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive that reads "Thomas C. Meredith".

Thomas C. Meredith  
Chancellor

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