



USG Chancellor  
Erroll B. Davis Jr.

Hello.

The talented leaders, faculty, staff and students of the University System of Georgia continued to earn recognition and honor in a variety of ways as the spring semester drew to a close. Here is a sampling of their recent achievements:



➤ **John Culbreath**, a former member of the Georgia Professional Standards Commission who is currently chairman of the advisory committee for the *University of Georgia's* program in Lifelong Education, Administration and Policy, was honored with the 2006 Excellence in Educational Leadership Award by the University Council for Educational Administration (UCEA). The *Albany*

*State University* (ASU) alumnus, who recently retired as interim dean of ASU's School of Teacher Education, helped lead the Georgia public school desegregation effort in the early 1970s. Culbreath has served in almost every capacity a person can serve in academia. He has been a teacher at every grade level, a principal, an assistant superintendent in the Glynn County School System, and a superintendent in Dougherty County. UCEA is an international organization devoted to improving the professional preparation of educational leaders. Culbreath was the unanimous choice of the faculty in the UCEA's educational administration and policy program for his significant contributions to improving administrator preparation in education.

- **Dr. Beheruz Sethna**, president of the *University of West Georgia* and, as of last week, interim senior vice chancellor for academic affairs at the System Office, recently was included in the inaugural edition of "Who's Who in Asian-American Communities." The 90-page publication, published annually provides a brief history of Asian Americans who live in Georgia.
- The United States Senate recently confirmed the nomination of **Gale A. Buchanan**, former dean and director of the *University of Georgia* College of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences (CAES), as under-secretary of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Buchanan was dean and director of the CAES from 1995 until his retirement in 2005. He was a member of the Auburn University faculty for 21 years before joining UGA in 1986 as associate director of the Georgia Agricultural Experiment Stations and resident director of the Coastal Plains Experiment Station.
- Two members of the Board of Regents' Office of Information and Instructional Technology's Advanced Learning Technologies (ALT) division have had articles published by Educause, a non-profit organization that promotes the use of information technology in advancing higher education. **Catherine Finnegan**, director of assessment and public information for ALT, published an article entitled "Aligning Technology with Accreditation Standards," in the May 9, 2006, inaugural issue of the Educause Center for Research' *Research Bulletin*. ALT Project Manager **Liz Johnson** will have an article entitled "Managing Intellectual Property for Distance Learning" in the June 2006 issue of *Educause Quarterly*.
- Gleeds, the construction management consulting firm used by the USG's Office of Facilities to build the *Medical College of Georgia's* Cancer Research Center, has earned a Project Achievement Award from the Construction Management Association of America. The award recognizes professionalism and excellence in the management of the construction process in the category of New Construction with a Value Between \$30 Million and \$50 Million.
- Interest in advancing the field of robotics has generated sizeable corporate gifts to two University System campuses in the past month. *Georgia Tech's* College of Computing has received a \$1.5 million grant from KUKA Robotics to endow the KUKA Chair of Robotics. Georgia Tech officials have appointed international robotics expert **Henrik Christensen**, founding chairman of the European Robotics Research Network, to the position. They noted that Christensen will help enrich the robotics curriculum within the College of Computing's Interactive and Intelligent Computing Division and further solidify Tech's position as a national academic leader in robotics. Meanwhile, *Southern Polytechnic State University* has announced plans to name a robotics lab in honor of Lockheed Martin after the Marietta-based aviation company pledged \$250,000 over the next five years in support of SPSU programs not supported by state funds. This is the largest gift Lockheed Martin has made to SPSU. The company is the largest employer of SPSU graduates.
- The Chair Academy, an organization dedicated to advancing academic and administrative leadership training worldwide, has selected two department chairs at *Georgia Perimeter College* as the recipients of its 2006 International Exemplary Leader Award. **Dr. Margaret Ehrlich**, chair of math, computer sciences and engineering at GPC's Clarkston Campus, was recognized for leading a team effort in creating a pilot student retention program in the math department that increased retention by 25 percent in its first

semester. **Dr. Barbara Brown**, former chair of social science at GPC's Dunwoody Campus, caught the Chair Academy's attention by masterminding the creation of a unique workshop, the Adjunct Leadership Summit, to empower and increase the efficiency of adjunct faculty.

- ▶ Project: A-Kon17, the 2006 national animation and comic book convention to be held in Dallas, Texas, will feature the work of *Darton College* art major **Zel Harris**. The 19-year-old, whose artwork has been published in comic books under the pseudonym Darkzel, won a national competition to provide the advertising art for the three-day gathering of artists, publishers, fans, voice actors and others involved in the animation and comic-book genre. Harris also will attend the convention, courtesy of A-Kon organizers.

Please join me in congratulating these USG leaders on the well-deserved recognition they have received.

Sincerely,



Erroll B. Davis Jr.  
Chancellor