



USG Chancellor  
Erroll B. Davis Jr.

Hello.

The University System of Georgia's faculty, students and alumni continue to reap major recognition for their hard work and outstanding dedication. For your consideration, I submit the following examples:



- **Georgia Tech** and the **University of Georgia** are included in *The Princeton Review's 2007 Guide to the Best 361 Colleges*. Along with **Georgia College & State University** and the **University of West Georgia** (UWG), Georgia Tech and UGA also are listed in *The Princeton Review's 2007 Guide to the Best Southeastern Colleges*, which lists 146 institutions in 12 states. In addition, Georgia Tech and UWG are included in *The Princeton Review's Guide to America's Best Value Colleges*.
- The national newspaper *Community College Week* has ranked **Georgia Perimeter College** (GPC) 17<sup>th</sup> in the nation in the total number of degrees awarded in liberal arts, sciences, general studies and humanities in its annual "Top 100 Associate Degree Producers" feature. The publication also placed GPC at No. 25 in the nation in terms of associate degrees awarded to African-American students. GPC's overall ranking among the "Top 100" was 61 this year, up from 63 last year and 81 two years ago.
- The **Augusta State University** (ASU) College of Business Administration has a new name, thanks to the generosity of a local businessman. Faculty members in the college voted unanimously to recommend that the college be named the James M. Hull College of Business in honor of the Augusta philanthropist who made a \$2 million cash gift to the ASU Foundation to benefit the business college, the largest in ASU's history.
- **Fort Valley State University's** Cooperative Developmental Energy Program (CDEP) has received a \$150,000 donation from the Marathon Oil Company Foundation. Marathon's general manager for corporate development and diversity, Willie Stanfield, praised the program's "proven track record of increasing the pool of technical minority talent." CDEP focuses on increasing the number of minorities and women working in the private and government sectors of the energy industry. The program offers dual degree programs in engineering, geosciences and health physics through partnerships with **Georgia Tech** and five other universities around the country. Students enroll at Fort Valley State for three years, majoring in mathematics, chemistry or biology, then transfer to one of the six partnering institutions to continue their studies. The program also provides job opportunities and develops internships that involve industry and government representatives.
- The National Federation of the Blind (NFB) has selected the Georgia Library for Accessible Services (GLASS), which is part of the **Georgia Public Library Service**, to receive a 2006 White Cane Award. The award honors individuals and organizations that assist the NFB in its mission of achieving equality, opportunity and security for the blind. "The efforts of GLASS to make literature and other printed information accessible have helped countless blind people to expand their learning and develop their creativity and imagination," said Anil Lewis, president of NFB of Georgia.
- **Georgia Southwestern State University** (GSW) received the 2006 Rising Environmental Steward Award from the Pollution Prevention Assistance Division (P2AD) of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources on Oct. 2 for its innovative Green Campus initiative, which is designed to improve existing environmental efforts as well as to discover some potential cost-saving measures. In 2005, GSW became the first college or university in Georgia to make a full-campus commitment to the P2AD program. The partnership allows GSW access to free, environmental technical assistance in the areas of pollution prevention, resource conservation, waste reduction, by-product reuse and recycling. The P2AD staff is working directly with GSW to find ways to cut costs through pollution prevention efforts such as reducing waste streams, improving energy and water efficiency, as well as enhancing process efficiencies.

- ▶ **Dr. Kenneth Sajwan**, a professor in *Savannah State University's* Department of Natural Sciences and Mathematics who has earned national recognition for his teaching, research and scholarly activities in environmental science as well as his mentoring of minority students, has done it again. He received a 2006 National Role Model Award from the non-profit organization Minority Access, Inc., a few weeks ago at a national conference in Las Vegas. Sajwan's previous honors have included the Richard Nicholson Excellence in Science Teaching Award from the Quality Education for Minorities in Math, Science and Engineering Network; the National Science Teachers Association's 2004 Distinguished Science Teacher Award; and the 2003 Ernest L. Boyer International Award for Excellence in Teaching, Learning and Technology from the Center for the Advancement of Teaching and Learning.
- ▶ **Dr. William King**, an assistant professor in *Georgia Tech's* George Woodruff School of Mechanical Engineering, recently became the third person from Georgia Tech to be featured in "TR35," *Technology Review's* annual list of the top technology innovators under the age of 35. The magazine's list includes top young scientists, inventors and entrepreneurs in disciplines ranging from biology and chemistry to microchip design and software engineering. King's research focuses on nanometer-scale thermal processing, with applications in nano-manufacturing and nano-materials analysis. With the help of his graduate students, King recently developed instruments for probing the nanometer-scale thermal properties of solid materials. In 2004, he was part of a group that developed a new thermal dip pen nanolithography (DPN) method.
- ▶ **Kris Biesinger**, assistant vice chancellor for advanced learning technologies, received a commendation on Oct. 4 from Gov. Sonny Perdue for her outstanding work in launching the new GAcollege411 program while on loan from the Board of Regents to the Georgia Student Finance Commission over the past two years. This online resource, the Governor's brainchild, helps high-school students and their families select a college, apply for admission, and plan to finance higher education.
- ▶ **Jennifer Lance Atkinson**, a high-school biology teacher who received a Master of Education degree from the *University of Georgia* (UGA) earlier this year, has been named the first Mary Frasier Scholar by the National Association for Gifted Children. Atkinson, who has taught at Washington-Wilkes High School in Washington, Ga., for the past three years, earned bachelor's degrees in plant biology and horticulture from UGA and spent three years doing plant research before deciding that this was "not the job I wanted to do for the rest of my life." She turned to teaching and, through her course work at UGA, became concerned about the lack of representation of minorities and English language learners in gifted education classes in Georgia. Atkinson plans to use her Mary Frasier Scholarship to refine methods of assessing, identifying and retaining minorities and English language learners in her school's gifted education program. Frasier, a nationally recognized scholar and researcher in gifted education, founded the UGA College of Education's Torrance Center for Creativity and Talent Development.
- ▶ *Clayton State University* alumnus **William Jacocks "Ja" Rivers III** is the third University System of Georgia graduate to join the 77 students nationwide selected to receive a 2006 Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Graduate scholarship. Designed to give college students with outstanding potential the financial means to continue their studies, the scholarships cover tuition, room, board, fees and books. Rivers, who graduated from Clayton State in December 2005, received a scholarship worth \$200,000 (\$50,000 annually) to attend Mercer University's School of Medicine beginning this fall.

Please join me in congratulating the USG leaders mentioned above on the national recognition they have received.

Sincerely,



Erroll B. Davis Jr.  
Chancellor