

The System Supplement

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“Creating a More Educated Georgia”

Regents Approve 8 Percent Budget-Reduction Plan for USG Additional Mandatory Student Fee Approved for 2010

As state tax collections continue to decline, the Board of Regents in November approved plans to adjust the Fiscal Year 2010 budget of the University System of Georgia (USG) from a 6 percent reduction (\$135 million) to an 8 percent reduction level, (\$176 million). The board's actions call for new reductions to the System's 35 public colleges and universities as well as implementing an additional mandatory student fee.

The increase in the mandatory fee for all USG students, which will be effective for the upcoming spring 2010 semester, has been set at \$100 at research universities and six other universities, \$75 at most comprehensive universities, and \$50 at two-year and state colleges. The increase will be added to the current mandatory fee, which went into effect in January 2009. The total new mandatory fee thus will be \$200/\$150/\$100.

In addition to the fee, the board approved a moratorium on

student-fee increases for FY 2011 and a sunset date of June 30, 2012, for the total mandatory-student-fee increase. The lone exceptions to the moratorium will be: 1) fees for public/private venture projects, such as residence halls, student-financed recreation centers and other facilities with a revenue stream or 2) fees required under extraordinary circumstances and with significant student support.

Initially approved in concept and for planning purposes by the regents in August 2009, the 8 percent reduction plan is designed to help preserve academic quality while having the least possible negative effect on students, Vice Chancellor for Fiscal Affairs **Usha Ramachandran** advised the board.

“We are striking that delicate balance between maintaining high academic quality and preserving affordability in these very tough economic times,” she said.

While the additional student fee will generate \$24 million in FY 2010,

8% Reduction Plan for FY 2010 Amended



an additional \$12 million in savings must also be realized in the budgets of the System's 35 public colleges and universities, either through additional employee furlough days, the elimination of positions, employee layoffs or other program and structural changes. Including continuing

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USG Enrollment Hits Record of 301,892 Students Fall 2009 Enrollment Up 6.7 Percent Over Last Year

A record 301,892 students enrolled this fall in the University System of Georgia's (USG) 35 public colleges and universities, an increase of 18,914 students over fall 2008. **Chancellor Erroll B. Davis Jr.** announced the latest numbers in a report to the Board of Regents at its November meeting.

The numbers represent a 6.7 percent increase from fall 2008 to fall 2009, well above the 4.8 percent growth in enrollment from fall 2007 to fall 2008. Since fall 2006, enrollment in the USG has grown 16 percent, or by 41,947 students.

“We added almost the equivalent of a *Georgia Southern University* (fall 2009 enrollment: 19,086) since last fall,” Davis said. “The trend

lines historically are up; we have grown just above 16 percent since fall 2006. We have exploding demand for public higher education as individuals prepare themselves for careers requiring a college education in a changing and uncertain economy.”

The fall 2009 Semester Enrollment Report shows enrollment gains across the board. Thirty-four USG institutions posted a record high enrollment this fall.

Ten institutions had double-digit growth from fall 2008 to fall 2009, accounting for 6,072 students or 32.1 percent of the overall enrollment increase. Eight of these institutions are in either the state or two-year college sectors. These are

the sectors identified in the regents' Strategic Plan to accommodate the bulk of the System's projected enrollment growth through 2020. Both state as well as two-year college sector enrollment increased 10.4 percent from fall 2008 to fall 2009. These two-year or state colleges are:

- ◆ **Georgia Gwinnett College** with an increase of 88.5 percent (2,947 total students);
- ◆ **Atlanta Metropolitan College**, 19.9 percent (2,688 total students);
- ◆ **Gordon College**, 17.9 percent (4,545 total students);
- ◆ **Darton College**, 16.6 percent (5,854 total students);

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Inaugural USG Diversity Summit Draws More Than 200 Attendees



Dr. Walter Allen addresses Summit attendees.

by Dr. Marci Middleton, Summit Coordinator

The University System of Georgia (USG) held its inaugural Diversity Summit in late October with more than 200 attendees representing the state's public colleges and universities, private institutions, the corporate sector, and military personnel. The theme, "Valuing Diversity and Committing to Inclusion in Dialogue and Practice," reflected conference objectives concerning diversification of institutional leadership at the administrative, cabinet, department and deanship, and staff levels.

Keynote speakers for the Summit were Dr. Walter Allen, Allan Murray Cartter Professor of Higher Education and professor of sociology at the University of California at Los Angeles, and Dr. Sylvia Hurtado, director of the Higher Education Research Institute at the University of California at Los Angeles. Both speakers are well known in research and education communities for their scholarship on educational equity, race and ethnicity in higher education, and campus climate. Panelists included Dr.

Jane Smith, executive director of the Spelman College Center for Leadership and Civic Engagement, and Frank McCloskey, vice president of diversity for Georgia Power. The Summit also hosted remarks from Nia Phillips, deputy general counsel for the U.S. Department of Higher Education, and **Dr. Warren Brown**, director of the *University of Georgia's* Applied Demography program.

The program highlighted the accomplishments and tenacity of unsung leaders from USG institutions – administrators and faculty who helped open the doors of higher education access and opportunity within the University System. Among those spotlighted was **Dr. Lille B. Johnson**, an alumna of *Augusta State University* who began her studies at the institution in the late 1960s, graduating in 1971. At a time when Augusta State (then known as *Augusta College*) had few minority students, Johnson was the institution's valedictorian when she earned her bachelor of arts degree. Johnson's determination led her to earn a master's degree from the University of Chicago and later a doctor of philosophy degree from the University of Georgia (UGA).

A scholar in the humanities and a champion for the study of African-American literature, Johnson has been chair of Augusta State's Department of English and Foreign Languages since 1984. She was lauded for her accomplishments and for further opening the doors of higher education for so many students who followed her path to the institution. Also present at the summit, **Mary Francis Early**, UGA's first black graduate student, was recognized and honored for her achievements as well, as was **Eldridge McMillan**, who retired from the Board of Regents in August after 34 years of service to the University System. McMillan's presence at the summit underscored the vital role of leadership in building diverse campuses.

The summit ended with a call for institutions to further discuss diversity initiatives on their campuses and share opportunities and challenges with the system office. All USG presidents and provosts were asked to delineate their top three priorities with regard to diversity before Jan. 1, 2010. Many have already replied and indicated intentions to work on such matters as faculty diversity, climate studies, developing tolerance in student bodies, leadership structures and other critical initiatives that enhance inclusion on college and university campuses. 🏡

Fees

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cuts from FY2009 of \$275 million as well as FY2010 reductions, USG officials are currently managing \$410 million in state funding cuts, which were only partially offset by \$148 million in formula funding received in FY 2010 as a result of significant increases in student enrollment.

To move from the 6 percent to the 8 percent reduction level, the original August budget reduction plan called for no additional cuts to institutional budgets and a somewhat higher student fee of \$150 at the research universities and six comprehensive universities, \$100 at most comprehensive universities, and \$75 at two-year and state colleges.

"When the board approved the initial concept, we were working from data we had at the time on the economy and the state budget," said **Chancellor Erroll B. Davis Jr.** "Since August, the situation has evolved. While the state's budget situation has continued to decline, we were able to revise our 8 percent reductions in a way that minimizes the financial burden on students as much as possible."

Ramachandran noted that the overall FY 2010 reductions spread the impact among faculty and staff, campus operations and students in a very balanced manner. "Approximately 86 percent, or \$152 million, of the reductions are being borne by our institutions and employees," she said. "The student share of the cuts with the additional fee is 14 percent, or \$24 million."

For more information, see http://www.usg.edu/student_affairs/tuition/2010_Mandatory_Fee_FAQ.pdf 🏡

Fuchko Named Chief Audit Officer, AVC for USG

John M. Fuchko III has been appointed chief audit officer and associate vice chancellor of Internal Audit for the University System of Georgia (USG) by **Chancellor Erroll B. Davis Jr.**, effective Dec. 1.



Fuchko, who joined the staff of the University System's Office of Internal Audits in July 2006, has been serving in the office's lead position on an interim basis since it was vacated last spring by former Chief Auditor **Ron Stark**, who accepted a position at a university in Saudi Arabia.

Before being named interim chief audit officer and associate vice chancellor, Fuchko served for nearly two years as the System's assistant director of compliance, a position in which he oversaw the University System's compliance program, Enterprise Risk Management Initiative and the development of the USG's ethics policy. He was appointed to this position just one year after having been hired as auditor-in-charge in the Office of Internal Audits in July 2006. 🏡

USG Digest

Georgia State U.

■ Georgia State University is poised to launch its first virtual computer lab, allowing students access to educational and research resources 24 hours a day. As one of the first higher education institutions worldwide to join IBM's Cloud Computing Academy, Georgia State aligned with 16 others, including North Carolina State University and New York University, as a founding member of IBM's academy. The academy will share and collaborate using "cloud computing," a technology that provides access to data and software through the Internet rather than on local computers. The virtual computing lab, similar to a regular computer lab except that it is online, is planned to open later this fall. It has been designed for student use, but will be available for faculty and staff as well. GSU also uses a similar system for faculty with research computing.

"We are very pleased to be a founding member of this innovative initiative that will bring on-demand computing resources to all Georgia State students," said J. L. Albert, GSU's associate provost for IS&T and chief information officer. "The IBM Cloud Academy will also expand the platform for researchers to exchange ideas and further advance the university's mission in teaching, research and service."

Through funding from the university's student technology fee, GSU recently acquired a state-of-the-art IBM server solution for the initiative. The lab will be an open-source community application that allows computer software and hardware to be shared online.

Mitchell Scholar at UGA

■ For the second consecutive year, a University of Georgia undergraduate is among the nationally selected recipients of the George J. Mitchell Postgraduate Scholarship. Stephen Dörner, an Honors student who is one of nine Mitchell Scholars announced Nov. 23, will use his fellowship to earn a master's degree in global health at Trinity College in Dublin, Ireland, during the 2010-2011 academic year. Dörner will graduate in spring 2010 with a bachelor's degree in microbiology from UGA's Franklin College of Arts and Sciences and a bachelor's degree in environmental health from UGA's College of Public Health.

Dörner was selected from a pool of almost 300 applicants from more than 150 colleges and universities across the U.S. He is the second UGA student to receive the award. Christina Faust, who graduated in May 2009 with bachelors and master's degrees in ecology, was the first recipient. The Mitchell Postgraduate Scholarship, sponsored by the U.S.-Ireland Alliance, is a competitive one-year post-graduate fellowship for any discipline offered by institutions in Ireland and Northern Ireland. ■

ON CAMPUS

MCG Nursing Faculty Bring Affordable Health Care to Thousands via 'The Clinic at Walmart'

Walmart and the *Medical College of Georgia* School of Nursing opened "The Clinic at Walmart," operated by MCG Nursing Faculty Clinics, in November at a Walmart located in Evans, Ga.

The walk-in health clinic – the first to be owned and operated by MCG in a Georgia Walmart – provides fast, affordable access to basic health care services such as check-ups, immunizations, screenings and minor injuries. The clinic will be open seven days a week.

These clinics play a key role in the health care system, helping to keep people out of overcrowded emergency rooms. Ten to 15 percent of Walmart clinic customers surveyed said they would have used an emergency room had the clinic they visited not been available, while another 5 to 10 percent would have gone without treatment entirely, potentially leading to more serious complications down the road.

The goal of the MCG Nursing Faculty Clinics, a subsidiary of the MCG Nursing Faculty Practice Group, is to provide high quality, cost-effective and easily accessible care while supporting the service, education and research

missions of the School of Nursing. For example, nurse practitioner students will receive clinical supervision and mentoring in the clinic, and faculty will be able to maintain their primary-care skills. Physicians from the MCG Department of Emergency Medicine will provide medical oversight.

"We at the MCG School of Nursing are dedicated to improving access to health care, and this clinic is yet another step toward that goal," said School of Nursing Dean **Lucy Marion**. "The clinic is staffed with our nurse practitioners who will treat everyday illnesses and injuries and make referrals as needed. We will connect these patients to local primary care homes and ease the burden on our area emergency rooms." ■



Dean Lucy Marion speaks at the clinic's Nov. 16 opening ceremony.

GACLEA Honors Two USG Campus Safety Officers

The Georgia Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators presented its annual Officer of the Year Award to both *Georgia Tech* Officer **Alexis Gutierrez** and *University of Georgia* (UGA) Sergeant **Adam Fouche** on Nov. 5.

The Officer of the Year Award recognizes an officer employed by an institutional member of GACLEA for outstanding contributions to campus safety.

Georgia Tech Deputy Chief **Pat Wypasek** nominated Gutierrez for the award, noting that he demonstrated great courage after responding to a suspicious person call that led him to arrest a high-profile suspect. Wypasek said Gutierrez has received several letters of praise from members of the community for his professional service as a public safety officer and praised him for frequently volunteering for departmental special assignments and willingly staying after work when needed by his supervisors. Gutierrez is currently assigned to the department's Crime Prevention Unit as a full-time crime prevention officer.

University of Georgia Chief of Police **Jimmy Williamson** nominated Fouche for the award. Williamson said Fouche exemplifies the qualities everyone wants in a police officer and is willing to lead and influence others in the same way. After graduating with a degree in journalism from UGA and working for six years as an award winning reporter, he changed his career to law enforcement in 2004 in order to be in a better position to give back to the community. After graduating as president and top-honors graduate of his academy class, Fouche became a certified instructor with an emphasis on leadership and ethics and a member of the UGA Finance and Administration's Staff Representative Group. ■



Enrollment

Continued from Page 1...

- ◆ **Dalton State College**, 15.4 percent (5,722 total students);
- ◆ **Bainbridge College** (3,558 total students) and **Waycross College** (1,077 total students), both 15.1 percent; and
- ◆ **Georgia Highlands College**, 11.3 percent (5,219 total students).

The remaining two institutions with double-digit growth are two of the USG's three historic black colleges and universities:

- ◆ **Fort Valley State University**, 14.4 percent (3,553 total students); and
- ◆ **Savannah State University**, 10.6 percent (3,820 total students).

The USG's six largest institutions had 41.1 percent of the enrollment growth, or 7,775 students.

Georgia State University enrolled an additional 2,198 students for total enrollment of 30,427, a 7.8 percent increase. **Georgia Perimeter College's** enrollment grew by 1,741 students to 24,549 or 7.6 percent. **Georgia Southern University's** enrollment grew by 1,322 students to 19,086 or 7.4 percent. **Georgia Tech** enrolled 869 more students, a 4.5 percent increase to hit 20,293 students. **Kennesaw State University's** enrollment increased by 940 students to 22,389 or 4.4 percent. The **University of Georgia** had an additional 705 students, or growth of 2.1 percent for a record high of 34,885 students.

Freshmen, Female, Ethnic and FTE Enrollment Also Rose

First-time freshmen enrollment continued to show gains, increasing 5.7 percent over last fall to a total of 49,157 freshmen this fall.

Women, continuing a long-term trend in both the University System and nationally, have an enrollment in fall 2009 in the USG that is 35.7 percent higher than men: 173,818 women to 128,074 men. Female enrollment increased from fall 2008 to fall 2009 by 6.4 percent, or 10,498 students, while male enrollment was up 7 percent, or 8,416 students. However, women now account for a slightly lower percentage of total enrollment, dropping from 57.7 percent in fall 2008 to 57.6 in fall 2009.

The University System continues to be a diverse system, as evidenced by the numbers in the Enrollment Report, and minority enrollment saw the largest percentage increase from fall 2008 to fall 2009.

African-American enrollment increased from fall 2008 to fall 2009 by 10,205 students, or 14.6 percent, more than double the percentage enrollment increase for all students. African-American enrollment now stands at 79,976 students, or 26.5 percent of total USG enrollment.

Hispanic enrollment increased by 29 percent, from 9,874 students in fall 2008 to 12,734 students in fall 2009, an increase of 2,860 students. Hispanic students now comprise 4.2 percent of total USG enrollment.

Asian enrollment also continued to show gains, increasing by 1,451 students, or 8.1 percent, from a fall 2008 total of 17,805 to a fall 2009 enrollment of 19,256. Asian students make up 6.4 percent of all students.

Reporting of Hispanic and Asian/Pacific Islander enrollment is slightly different this year, following new reporting requirements by the federal government. Now individuals must report their ethnicity (Hispanic or not) and race separately. Also, Asian and Pacific Islanders were formerly combined, now they are two separate reports.

The system's full-time equivalent enrollment (FTE) for fall 2009 is 266,575, an increase of 7.9 percent over fall 2008, adding 19,407 FTE students. This increase is above the overall enrollment increase of 6.7 percent and is a record high for the University System. The increase in FTE enrollment indicates that more students are taking additional hours of courses, compared to students in fall 2008.

The USG fall 2009 enrollment report is available on the web at: <http://www.usg.edu/research/students/enroll/fy2010/fall09.pdf> 📄



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