

System Supplement

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“Creating a More Educated Georgia”

Executive Leadership Institute Produces First Scholar Graduates

The University System of Georgia (USG) honored the first graduating class of the System’s Executive Leadership Institute (ELI) with a Scholar Awards Luncheon at *Macon State College* on April 23.

“You have blazed the trail and set high standards for all who will follow you in this leadership development program,” **Robert Hatcher**, chairman of the Board of Regents told the scholars, who hail from every unit of the USG.

Said **Chancellor Erroll B. Davis Jr.**, “If we are going to be successful in meeting the mission of the System and the state’s needs, we must have the right leaders in place. I don’t mean just our institutional presidents. Quality leadership must exist at every level of the organization, and that is why you are here today – leaders must be nurtured, trained, and grown.”

“Your leadership among the 35 colleges and universities is vital if we are to achieve our mission of ‘creating a more educated Georgia,’” said Regent **William “Dink” NeSmith**.

The 61 ELI scholars who have been meeting and participating in group discussions, peer-mentoring and job-shadowing experiences for the past eight months “are the standard bearers for our leadership culture in the System,” Davis said.

He noted that when he became chancellor in 2006, the USG’s leadership-development efforts were “not formalized, but rather ad hoc” and lacked a System-wide scope.

Thanks to the work of a task force led by former *Georgia Tech* President **Wayne Clough** and the Board of Regents’ decision to build leadership and professional development into its Strategic Plan, the ELI is now cultivating a culture



Board of Regents Chair **Robert Hatcher** presents **Gary Barnette** of *Darton College* with an award for having completed the USG’s inaugural Executive Leadership Institute.

of leadership and strengthening the USG’s internal resources, Davis said.

Last summer, an application process led to each USG president selecting two campus representatives with high leadership potential to participate in the inaugural institute. The scholars selected – a mixture of academic and administrative personnel – then committed to devoting 100 hours to the ELI. 🏠

Scores of High-Achieving USG Students Earning National Recognition

Fulbright scholars, Truman scholars, Goldwater scholars, Udall scholars, Mitchell scholars, New Century scholars, Coca-Cola Foundation scholars – the University System of Georgia (USG) can include all of these and much more on the list of national-level academic honors earned by its students this year.

“We are very proud of – and not at all surprised by – the many outstanding achievements of University System of Georgia students as they pursue their goals in their chosen fields of study,” said **Chancellor Erroll B. Davis Jr.** “Our top students can and do compete with their counterparts at the most prestigious institutions in the nation and around the globe.”

“We salute the hard work and intellectual drive that has earned many of our gifted graduate and undergraduate students recognition from top-notch organizations both here and abroad,” added **Dr. Susan Herbst**, the USG’s executive vice

chancellor and chief academic officer.

A roundup of recent notable achievements by USG students includes the following prestigious academic awards, scholarships, internships, residencies and fellowships:

SCHOLARSHIPS

George J. Mitchell Postgraduate Scholarship

Sponsored by the U.S.-Ireland Alliance, this program is designed to introduce and connect generations of future American leaders to Ireland, while recognizing and fostering intellectual achievement, leadership and a commitment to public service and community. This year, just nine U.S. students were chosen to receive a year of postgraduate study in Ireland or Northern Ireland.

Stephen Dornier, *University of Georgia* – An honors student, who will earn bachelor’s degrees in microbiology and

environmental health this spring, Dornier will use his fellowship to pursue a master’s degree in global health at Trinity College in Dublin during the 2010-11 academic year.

New Century Scholarship

This program, administered by Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society in cooperation with the American Association of Community Colleges, honors the top-scoring student from each state in the Coca-Cola All-State Community College Academic Team program. New Century Scholars receive a \$2,000 stipend from the Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation and the Coca Cola Foundation.

Stephanie Llanes, *Gainesville State College* Phi Theta Kappa



Llanes

See “Recognition,” Page 3...

USG's Shared Services Center Opens in Sandersville

Members of the University System of Georgia (USG) Board of Regents and staff gathered in Sandersville on April 28 to celebrate the opening of the System's new Shared Services Center, a high-tech processing and call center that will facilitate processing of the payroll for approximately 38,000 employees, retirees and student assistants at 32 of the University System's institutions, as well as at the University System Office.

Located in Washington County, the USG's Shared Services Center opened with 18 employees, but eventually the scope of the center will expand beyond payroll to include additional back-office business functions and provide the local community with as many as 150 jobs.

"These new jobs are significant for our area," Board of Regents member **Benjamin J. Tarbutton III**, a Sandersville businessman and past chairman of the Washington County Chamber of Commerce, told a crowd that included many local dignitaries instrumental in the creation of the facility. "Sandersville and Washington County do not get a lot of great opportunities to land technology and call-center-oriented employment."

Increasing efficiency and having the University System's



Cutting the ribbon to open the center are (left to right): Washington County Commission Chair Tommy Walker, state Rep. Mack Jackson, Regent **Robert Hatcher** and Sandersville Mayor Jimmy Andrews.



Photos courtesy of Bill Durden

35 institutions work together more is one of the key goals in the Board of Regents' Strategic Plan, and the opening of the center represents "the dawn of a new era for the University System," as the center will centralize work that until recently had been done independently at each campus, said Board of Regents Chair **Robert Hatcher**. "We have the power of 35 institutions, and if we can find new ways to harness that collective power, we will become more efficient."

The consolidation of human resources and payroll into a single system that facilitates paperless processing of time sheets and employee benefits enrollment has been accomplished during the past year through a partnership with ADP, a national provider of transaction processing and

information-based business solutions for payroll.

Hatcher and Tarbutton both expressed gratitude during the center's ribbon-cutting ceremony for the hard work of the local leaders, including State Rep. Mack Jackson, Sandersville Mayor Jimmy Andrews and Washington County Board of Commissioners Chairman Tommy Walker.

In addition to Hatcher and Tarbutton and several USO administrators, five other members of the Board of Regents attended the ribbon-cutting ceremony: Vice Chair **Willis J. Potts Jr.**, **James R. Jolly**, **William "Dink" NeSmith Jr.**, **Richard L. Tucker** (who was chairman of the board when the Shared Services Center concept was developed), and **Larry Walker**. 🏡

Recognition

Continued from Page 1...

also selected the second-year sociology major as one of 20 outstanding community college students around the nation that comprise the *USA TODAY* 2010 All-USA Community College Academic Team, based on academic achievements, campus leadership and service to her institution and the community. Recipients each receive \$2,500 from *USA TODAY* and will be featured in this national publication on April 19.

Coca-Cola All-State Gold Scholarship

Based on their scores in the All-USA Community College Academic Team competition (see above), Phi Theta Kappa selects 50 additional outstanding community college students from around the nation to receive \$1,500 stipends sponsored by the Coca-Cola Scholars

Foundation and the Coca Cola Foundation.

Benjamin Wentworth, Gainesville State College

– Wentworth, a second-year sociology major, had his name listed in *USA TODAY* on April 19.

Harry S. Truman Scholarship

This award recognizes outstanding juniors who are planning careers in government or other public service by providing them with up to \$30,000 in graduate study. This year's applicant pool consisted of 576 candidates, and only two of the 60 scholarship recipients hail from Georgia.

Tracy Yang, University of Georgia – An anthropology major, Yang hopes to enter a master's-in-public-health/doctor-of-medicine program and pursue a career as a physician policy-maker or health program administrator.

Yasmin Yonis, University of Georgia – Yonis, who is pursuing bachelor's degrees in international affairs and journalism (newspapers), would like to pursue a master's degree in public affairs and a law degree, focusing on a career in human rights law and policy in the U.S. and African nations, including her homeland.

Udall Foundation Scholarship

This award recognizes sophomores and juniors who are pursuing careers focused on environmental or Native American issues. The Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Foundation awarded 80 \$5,000 scholarships to students nationwide this year and 50 honorable mentions.



Natrajan

See "Recognition," Page 3...



Young

■ The University System of Georgia Student Advisory Council (SAC) recently presented Samantha Young, president of the Student Government Association at Georgia Southern University, with the Regent J. Willis Potts SAC Leadership Award for her service and dedication to the System-wide organization of student leaders.

The SAC named the award it created last year to honor Regent Potts for his strong support and involvement with SAC students, for his leadership and knowledge with the University System of Georgia, and for his open, honest, and enthusiastic engagement in Student Advisory Council activities.

According to Young's SAC peers, she "is known on her campus for having a unique way of obtaining results and connecting with people. She has made positive contributions to the Student Advisory Council through her contagious enthusiasm and ability to communicate. Her dedication to the Student Advisory Council has continued beyond the four meetings this year. She delivered a commendable presentation to the Chancellor's Cabinet regarding student life on her campus."

"Samantha is not only an outstanding person, but an outstanding leader," said Teresa Thompson, vice president of student affairs and enrollment management at Georgia Southern University. "Samantha has been one of the best student leaders I have had the pleasure of working with at Georgia Southern."

Following graduation this month, Young will work on a master's degree in higher education and student affairs with a graduate assistantship in student engagement.

The Student Advisory Council provides a forum for communication between USG students and the chancellor, the Board of Regents, state officials and the public.

■ Augusta State University's Henrik Norlander, a junior from Sweden, has been selected to represent Europe in the 2010 Palmer Cup, according to a recent announcement from the Golf Coaches Association of America. The annual Ryder Cup-style competition between American collegiate golfers and their counterparts from Europe will be played June 24-26 in Northern Ireland. Norlander is the No. 5-ranked individual in the nation according to *Golfweek* magazine. ■

Shelley Nickel Named Interim President of Gordon College

University System of Georgia (USG) Chief Operating Officer Rob Watts recently appointed Shelley C. Nickel to serve as interim president of *Gordon College* in Barnesville.

Nickel, currently the USG's associate vice chancellor for planning and implementation, will begin her interim presidential appointment on July 1, following current Gordon College President Lawrence Weill, who is stepping down after eight years as the institution's leader. Nickel will serve as interim president until a permanent appointment can be made.

In her current role at the University System Office, Nickel is responsible for executing the board's strategic plan and implementing system-wide projects. She also provides leadership and direction to USG institutions on how to move strategic initiatives forward with ARRA funds and provides leadership for the development of the proposed research park at Fort McPherson.

From 2005 until 2007, Nickel was director of the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget (OPB), where she had overall responsibility for the State of Georgia's annual budget, which then totalled \$20.1 billion.

From 2003 to 2005, Nickel was president of the Georgia Student Finance Commission. There, she was responsible for administering the state's scholarship, grant and loan programs totaling \$748 million in Fiscal Year

2004, and serving 321,416 students. Nickel also provided leadership for the state's public policy on access to higher education, including development of *www.GAcollege411.org*, a one-stop shop helping students plan, apply and pay for college.

Prior to heading up these two state agencies, Nickel held two key executive positions for the Board of Regents. First, from 1997 until 2000, she served as budget director, where she administered the USG's then \$4.7 billion annual budget. From 2000 to 2003, Nickel was the special assistant to the chancellor. In this role, she served as the chancellor's senior policy advisor.

Earlier in her career, Nickel was a policy analyst at OPB (1985-1996).

A native of Pennsylvania, Nickel earned a master's degree in public administration and a bachelor of science in community development, both from Penn State University.

Nickel just graduated as a member of the inaugural class of the USG's new Executive Leadership Institute, which prepares USG staff for higher leadership positions (see article, Page 1). ■



Nickel

Recognition

Continued from Page 2...

Muktha Natrajan, University of Georgia – Natrajan is the sixth UGA student to receive this scholarship. She is pursuing a combined bachelor's/master's program in which she will earn a bachelor of science degree in genetics and a master of public health degree in environmental health science. After graduation, Natrajan plans to enter a Ph.D. program in neuroscience, focused on toxicology.

HONORABLE MENTION: Stephen Pettigrew, University of Georgia – A third-year honors student pursuing a combined bachelor's/master's degree in political science and a bachelor's degree in history, Pettigrew would like to pursue a Ph.D. in political science and then a law degree with a focus on environmental law.

Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship

This award annually recognizes exceptional undergraduates in mathematics, science and engineering. This year, 278 recipients were selected from an applicant pool of more than 1,000 candidates to receive up to \$7,500 for either one or two years toward tuition, fees, books, and room and board.

Christine Akoh, University of Georgia – Akoh, a sophomore, is pursuing bachelor's degrees in food science and interdisciplinary applied science. After earning her degrees in 2012, Akoh plans to pursue a Ph.D. in international nutrition, focusing on global nutrition and health.

Meagan Cauble, University of Georgia Cauble, a junior, is pursuing a bachelor's degree in biochemistry and molecular biology. She would like to pursue a Ph.D. in chemical and biomolecular engineering after graduating from UGA in 2011.

See "Recognition," Page 4...

Recognition

Continued from Page 3...

Fulbright Scholarship

This program provides participants chosen for their academic merit and leadership potential with the opportunity to study, teach and conduct research, exchange ideas and contribute to finding solutions to shared international concerns.

Charles Bauch, University of West Georgia – After graduating this May, Bauch – a philosophy major minoring in German and English – will spend a year in Germany teaching high-school English.



Bauch

FINALIST: Katherine Bundy, Kennesaw State University – Bundy, a senior in the honors program who is pursuing a degree in modern languages with a concentration in Spanish education, also was named the 2009 U.S. Student Ambassador of the Year from the Embassy of Spain's Study-in-Spain program.

Fulbright-Garcia Robles Scholarship for the Bi-National Business Program

The U.S. Department of State grant provides American students the opportunity to acquire professional experience and cultural understanding working for companies or non-profit organizations in Mexico.

Kathleen "Katie" Steffen, Valdosta State University – Steffen, a 2007 summa cum laude graduate of Valdosta State, began the 10-month program with Nestle Mexico, in Mexico City, in September 2009. She is working on a project to introduce a new Nestle product into the Mexican market.

Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarship

The purpose of this program is to further international understanding and friendly relations among people of different countries and geographical areas. Since 1947, more than 40,000 men and women from about 100 nations have studied abroad under its auspices.

Erinn King, Georgia State University – King, a junior communication major and honors student, received \$25,000 to spend the 2010-11 academic year at Massey University Wellington in New Zealand.

Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship

This scholarship provides awards for U.S. undergraduate students who are receiving Federal Pell Grant funding at two-year or four-year colleges or universities to participate in study abroad programs worldwide.

Cadet Ashley Duffins, North Georgia College & State University – Duffins, a sophomore majoring in international affairs with an Asian concentration, is spending a semester at Sogang University in Seoul, South Korea. She is the first student to attend Sogang as part of a fledgling bilateral agreement between the Korean institution and North Georgia.

Mattie Stepanek Caregiving Scholarship

The Rosalyn Carter Institute for Caregiving launched this program to provide financial assistance to family, professional, or paraprofessional caregivers who are seeking training or education in specific skills, procedures and strategies that lead to more effective care, while also protecting the health and well-being of the caregiver. Only four \$2,500 scholarships are awarded each year.

Stacy Creighton, Medical College of Georgia – Creighton, who will earn a bachelor of science in nursing degree this year, hopes to work in adult care on graduating. Creighton and a friend at the University of Georgia are currently collaborating in launching a caregivers training and support program for Northeast Georgia.

Sidney D. Rodenberg Memorial Scholastic Award

The Alpha Eta Honor Society gives this award to outstanding students from graduate programs in the allied health professions.

Trisha Marie McCulloch, Armstrong Atlantic State University – McCulloch is on track to earn a doctor of physical therapy degree in 2012.

Ortho-McNeil Janssen Scientific Affairs, LLC Student Scholarship

Administered by the American Psychiatric Nurses Association (APNA), this program provides a one-year membership to the APNA and funding to attend to the APNA Annual Conference.

Tranika Eaton, Medical College of Georgia – Eaton is a senior at MCG.

Michelle Morris, Medical College of Georgia – Morris is a 2009 graduate of the college.

OTHER AWARDS/DISTINCTIONS

First Place Finish – National Conference Poster Competition

Hevil Shah, Medical College of Georgia – Shah's study of the effectiveness of instant messaging in helping medical students develop patient interviewing skills won him first place at the American Academy of Family Physicians Family Medicine Residents and Medical Students National Conference this past fall.

U.S. Department of Defense Internship

Chad Maddox, Kennesaw State University – Maddox, an honors student and an international affairs major, received one of only 10 DOD internships awarded this year.

George C. Marshall ROTC Award

This award is presented to approximately 270 cadets nationwide who have demonstrated leadership and scholastic qualities that epitomize the career of Gen. George C. Marshall and who have demonstrated outstanding leadership potential. Recipients attend three days of roundtable discussions on national security issues led by experts from the Department of Defense, other federal government agencies and academia.

Cadet Jessica Carlock, North Georgia College & State University

Carlock, a senior, was the seventh-ranked cadet out of more than 4,7000 students on the Army's 2009 National Order of Merit List, which ranks all Army ROTC cadets in the country based on scholastic achievement, leadership skills, physical fitness and performance in the Army's annual Leadership Development and Assessment Course.



Carlock

ESPN Academic All-America Team (Women's Soccer)

Selected by ESPN the Magazine in conjunction with the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA), this program salutes high-achieving student athletes in 12 different sports.

See "Recognition," Page 5...

Recognition

Continued from Page 4...

Kristin Burton, Armstrong Atlantic State University—Burton, a senior, became the first student athlete at AASU to earn this distinction three times when she was named to the first team of the 2010 ESPN the Magazine Academic All-American Team in Women's Soccer.

Evan A. Evans Constitutional Law Moot Court Competition

Hosted by the University of Wisconsin at Madison.

The **University of Georgia School of Law Moot Court Team**, made up of second-year students **Shemanne T. Davis** and **Meredith C. Lee**, defeated New York University, the University of California at Hastings and the University of Brooklyn to take first place in this national competition. Lee also took home the individual award for best oralist. Coaching the duo was third-year law student **William T. "Bill" Bozin**.

Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) National Competition

Sponsored by the Goldman Sachs Foundation, a global philanthropic organization that promotes excellence and innovation in education.

Gainesville State College 2009-10 SIFE Team—The Goldman Sachs Foundation named this 33-member team's Teaching Capital Markets program one of the top five such programs in the nation and awarded the Gainesville State students prize money and a trip to Berlin, Germany, to attend the SIFE World Cup this past fall. The team also placed second nationally in the Campbell Soup Let's Can Hunger Business Plan Competition last summer and has been a national finalist in several other events.

Presidential Management Fellowship

This two-year program is designed to attract to federal service outstanding men and women from a variety of academic disciplines and career paths who have a clear interest in, and commitment to, excellence in the leadership and management of public policies and programs. Fellows are placed with a variety of federal agencies and are fast-tracked into top management in the public sector.

Rebecca Halloran, Georgia State University Halloran is a student in the master's in computer information systems program.

Merage American Dream Fellowship

Each year, the Merage Foundation for the American Dream selects a number

of promising immigrant senior college students to receive mentoring, access to leadership networks and up to \$20,000 to spend over two years on graduate education; travel related to professional development; training, etc. Twenty-two partner universities nominate up to three candidates per year for these fellowships.

Lindel Cecilia Krige, University of Georgia—Honors student Krige will graduate in May with bachelor's degrees in biology and psychology. She is the fifth consecutive UGA recipient of the Merage American Dream Fellowship.

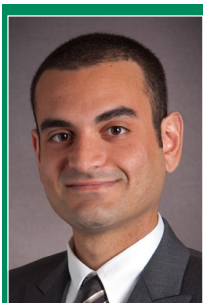
Invitation to Perform at the National American College Dance Festival

Works from about 30 different colleges and universities are presented at this biennial festival, held at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C., in May.

Shawn Evangelista, Kennesaw State University—Evangelista, who will earn his degree in dance this spring, will perform at the Kennedy Center with nine other members of the KSU Dance Company.

Veterans Affairs Post-graduate Administrative Fellowship

Brittany Pesak, Armstrong Atlantic State University—Pesak, a senior in AASU's master of health services administration program, will begin her fellowship with the Veterans Affairs Sunshine Healthcare Network Office in St. Petersburg, Fla., in June.



Jurdi

Johns Hopkins Health System Post-Graduate Administrative Residency

Zahi Jurdi, Armstrong Atlantic State University—Jurdi, a senior in the master of health services administration program at AASU,

will begin a residency with the Johns Hopkins Health System of Baltimore, Md., in July.

Best Actor Award – International Casablanca Theatre Festival

Phillip Justman, Kennesaw State University—Scheduled to graduate this summer, the theater and performance studies major won this honor for his performance as Ahab in *Moby Dick* at the festival, held annually at Casablanca University in Morocco. 🏠



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To Provide Feedback

write to: diane.payne@usg.edu