

The System Supplement

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“Creating a More Educated Georgia”

Growth in University System Student Enrollment Accelerates

The latest University System of Georgia (USG) fall enrollment report shows that current enrollment in Georgia’s 35 public colleges and universities stands at an all-time high of 270,022 students for fall of 2007. This is a gain of 10,077 students from fall 2006 to fall 2007, reflecting a steady growth in demand for higher education.

The 3.9 percent increase over fall 2006 represents a more robust rise from more modest percentage increases in recent years of 2.5 percent from fall 2005 to fall 2006 and 1.5 percent from fall 2003 to fall 2004.

And, critical to state funding for the University System, the number of credit hours students are taking – known as full-time equivalent (FTE) enrollment – has increased by 4.4 percent since Fall 2006. FTE enrollment

is used to calculate the USG’s funding formula, so any increase in this measurement translates into new budget dollars that are requested to meet the instructional needs of additional students.

While the current growth reflects a larger percentage increase than in the previous two years, it continues a more stable pattern of growth from a series of explosive years of enrollment gains that began in 1998. Over the nine years since 1998, the System has added 69,920 students, or an overall increase of 34.9 percent.

“Our new Strategic Plan indicates we should expect an additional 100,000 students in the University System by 2020,” said Chancellor Erroll B. Davis Jr. “This new report indicates that enrollment growth is continuing and strengthening.”

“More importantly, we are seeing some significant increases at our two-year access institutions and at some of our comprehensive universities,” Davis said. “And this is exactly where we need to direct enrollment growth in the future if we are going to meet enrollment demand in the System. We need more of our students selecting our access institutions and our comprehensive universities as a ‘first choice’ for college.”

The largest gains by type of institution were at the state colleges, where enrollment grew 8.7 percent. *Middle Georgia College* gained 12.9 percent and *Gainesville State College* gained 11.2 percent.

In addition, two-year colleges also grew faster than the System at a rate of 6.2 percent. Well

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Strong Progress in Number, Diversity of New Teachers Prepared

A progress report on the University System of Georgia’s (USG) production of new teachers released during the November meeting of the Board of Regents demonstrates the University System’s strong commitment to meeting the state’s critical need for additional and more diverse educators.

The System’s production of new teachers has increased 44 percent over the past five years. The report also shows that USG-prepared teachers are retained by Georgia’s public school systems longer than those not prepared by the University System.

“Since the first group of teachers prepared under the ‘Regents’ Principles for the Preparation of Educators for the Schools’ graduated in 2002, the University

See “Teacher Production,” Page 2 ...



McMillan a Keeper of the Flame

Regent **Elridge W. McMillan**, president emeritus of the Southern Education Foundation, Inc., and scholar-in-residence at *Atlanta Metropolitan College*, was one of six leading educators saluted on Nov. 30 for an unwavering commitment to educating African-American males at the inaugural University System of Georgia (USG) African-American Male Initiative (AAMI) Best Practices Conference. Held on the campus of *Kennesaw State University*, the program shared outcomes and best practices resulting from the USG’s five-year-long initiative aimed at increasing the recruitment, retention and graduation of black males from the state’s 35 public colleges and universities. McMillan received “The Advocacy Award” for his unyielding advocacy of minority educational programs within the USG. In addition to encouraging the Board of Regents to dedicate attention and resources to the AAMI, he has presented at national conferences, conducted media interviews and worked to ensure the provision of resources to fulfill the purpose and mission of the AAMI. ■

The University System of Georgia Strategic Plan

USG Launches Core Curriculum Reform Initiative

The University System of Georgia has launched a significant review of its transfer core curriculum, which shapes the first two years of undergraduate education at 34 University System institutions. This initiative, named "Strong Foundations for a Global Future," is part of the USG's new strategic plan. The first goal of the plan is to "renew excellence in undergraduate education to meet students' 21st century educational needs."

In launching this initiative, **Chancellor Erroll B. Davis Jr.** said, "Undergraduate education should be transformational as students are challenged to stretch and grow intellectually and to master the knowledge and skills needed for citizenship and leadership in

a complex world."

The University System's transfer core curriculum was developed 10 years ago to facilitate student transfer between USG institutions. The revised core curriculum framework will continue to facilitate transfer while also implementing the reforms necessary to ensure the quality of student learning.

According to Davis, "the objective of this initiative is to ensure that we are providing students with the knowledge and skills they will need to meet the challenges of our rapidly evolving, technologically interconnected global world. Our core curriculum must also reflect an appropriate level of academic challenge, articulate clear student performance expectations, and be taught in ways that facilitate student learning and achievement."

Dr. Dorothy Leland, president of *Georgia College & State*

University, is leading the Strong Foundations initiative. Faculty committees with representation from 35 University System colleges and universities will participate in identifying the competencies to be included in the new core curriculum and its student-achievement assessment structure.

"This initiative will serve as a national model of curriculum reform responsive to issues of relevance, quality and accountability," Leland stated. "There is a remarkable consensus among higher-education thought leaders and industry leaders that American higher education must ramp up its expectation for student learning and achievement to prepare students to live, work and lead in a complex global environment." 🏡



Leland

The first goal of the plan is to "renew excellence in undergraduate education to meet students' 21st century educational needs."

Fall Enrollment

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above the enrollment increase for this group was *South Georgia College*, which posted a 19.9 percent increase; *East Georgia College* which had a 15.6 percent increase; *Atlanta Metropolitan College* which grew at 11.8 percent and *Georgia Highlands College* which posted a 10.5 percent increase.

The System's 15 four-year universities posted overall gains of almost 3 percent and enrollment increased 2.3 percent at the four research universities. Most notably among the state universities, *Fort Valley State University* increased enrollment by 17.7 percent. Among the research universities, the *University of Georgia* was the only institution to experience a decline in enrollment of -0.4 percent.

Eight USG institutions had a greater than a 10 percent increase. Of these institutions, *Georgia Gwinnett College*, the newest in the system, increased enrollment by 568 percent, enrolling 788 students after welcoming its first freshman class.

Other institutions posting growth on par with or above the

System average were the *Medical College of Georgia* with a 6.2 percent increase to 2,862; *North Georgia College & State University* posting a 6.2 percent increase to 5,227; and *Georgia Perimeter College* with a 7.6 percent increase to 21,473 students.

In terms of total enrollment, the *University of Georgia* continues to lead the System, with 33,831 students. The remaining of the top three institutions in enrollment each have more than 20,000 students: *Georgia State University* (27,134 students), *Georgia Perimeter College* (21,473 students), and *Kennesaw State University* (20,607 students).

The number of first-time freshmen students in the USG increased from 41,060 students in fall 2006 to 42,689 students in fall 2007. The percentage increase in first-time freshmen enrollment from fall 2006 to fall 2007 of 4 percent was larger than the 2.8 percent jump from fall 2005 to fall 2006.

African-American enrollment increased by 5.4 percent, or 3,353 students, from 61,540 students in fall 2006 to 64,893 stu-

dents in fall 2007 - representing 24 percent of total University System enrollment. Both the percentage and number increase in African-American enrollment from fall 2006 to fall 2007 are a gain over fall 2005 to fall 2006, which saw a 2.8 percent (or 1,650 student) increase.

Hispanic enrollment in the USG continues to increase at double-digit rates, with a 12.6 percent jump, or 988 students, up from 7,827 students in fall 2006 to 8,815 students in fall 2007.

The number of students enrolled full-time in the University System increased by 5.23 percent from fall 2006 to fall 2007 to a System percentage of 70.2. Full-time enrollment ranged from a high of 91.1 percent at the *Medical College of Georgia*, to a low of 36.8 percent at *Coastal Georgia Community College*. These wide differences reflect the unique missions of USG institutions, where two-year and state colleges serve a significant number of students with work and family responsibilities in addition to college study, as opposed to four-year colleges and universities that enroll a higher percentage of full-time students. 🏡

USG Digest

■ The *University of Georgia* is the only public university in the nation to have more than one Rhodes Scholar this year, and only six private institutions had more than one student among the 32 scholarship recipients. UGA senior **Deep Shah** and 2005 graduate **Kate Vyborny** have been awarded 2008 Rhodes Scholarships to attend Oxford University, England's oldest and world-renowned institution of higher education. Both are UGA Foundation Fellows, and Shah was also the recipient of a 2007 Truman Scholarship.

Shah, who will graduate in May 2008 with bachelor's degrees in both international affairs and biology, plans to pursue a master of science degree in global health science at Oxford.

Vyborny, who earned bachelor's degrees in both economics and international affairs with a perfect 4.0 grade point average, currently works for the Center for Global Development in Washington, D.C. She would like to complete a master of philosophy degree in development studies at Oxford. UGA now lays claim to a total of 21 Rhodes Scholars.

■ Skidaway Institute of Oceanography (SKIO) Director **James Sanders** has been appointed to the Environmental Protection Agency's Science Advisory Board by EPA Administrator Stephen Johnson. The three-year appointment will run through October 2010. Sanders, who is president of the National Association of Marine Laboratories, will join approximately 30 other scientists from academia, industry and environmental communities on the Science Advisory Board. The board provides scientific advice to the EPA administration and various congressional committees. Members of the board constitute a distinguished body of scientists, engineers and economists who are recognized, non-governmental experts in their respective fields. The Skidaway Institute is an autonomous research unit of the University System of Georgia located on Skidaway Island. Sanders has been its director since 2001. 🏠

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Chancellor Salutes USG Campuses, Teams, Individuals for Outstanding Customer Service

Chancellor Erroll B. Davis Jr. honored University System of Georgia (USG) employees, teams and institutions that demonstrated the most outstanding service to the System's customers over the last year at the November meeting of the Board of Regents as part of Gov. **Sonny Perdue's** statewide customer-service initiative.

"It's important to recognize individuals, institutions and programs that are making a real difference in improving customer service and implementing process improvements," Davis said. "This program is to show appreciation to all of our outstanding employees that have provided faster, friendlier and easier services to our constituents."

Board Chair **Allan Vigil** noted that the University System, led by Chancellor Davis, has responded to the Governor's call for better customer service "to an award-winning level." He referred to the Georgia Summit and Recognition Program on Oct. 30, at which the chancellor represented the entire System in accepting the Governor's Special Award for Extraordinary Commitment to Customer Service and the Academic Resource Center at **Bainbridge College** earned the Team Excellence Award.

On Nov. 13, the chancellor and Board of Regents saluted a larger group of the USG's shining stars in customer service – the gold award winners in six categories at both the institutional level and the System level.

A committee appointed to review the 350 nominations received by the University System Office named **Kennesaw State University** the Customer Service Institution of the Year, an honor reserved for the campus showing the highest commitment, the highest performance levels and the most improvement in customer-service across the System during the year.

Jim Flowers, who headed up the University System's Customer-Service Initiative during the past year,



Many Awards for KSU – Kennesaw State University faculty and staff award winners posing with Chancellor Erroll B. Davis Jr. (standing third from left) include: (standing, left to right) Dr. Gary Selden, associate professor of marketing and professional sales; Linda Lyons, customer service champion and director of the Center for University Learning; Victor Marshall, an instructor in the Department of Management and Entrepreneurship; Dr. Scott Widmier, associate professor of marketing and professional sales; Dr. Keith Tudor, chair of the Department of Marketing and Professional Sales; (seated, left to right) Dr. Richard Franza, chair of the Department of Management and Entrepreneurship; Coles College of Business Dean Timothy Mescon and Dr. Terry Loe, associate professor of marketing and professional sales. Loe, who is director of KSU's Center for Professional Selling, accepted the Regents' Teaching Excellence Award for Programs on behalf of the Professional Sales Degree Program, which also was presented at the Board of Regents' November meeting.

applauded KSU's customer-service champion, **Linda Lyons**, for establishing a Shining Star Recognition Program that rewards outstanding work performance in customer service, communication and building relationships. Flowers noted that KSU also improved its financial-aid services, and a team from the university's Michael J. Coles College of Business used the techniques of the Six Sigma process-improvement methodology to develop a schedule of courses that better meets the demand from students.

KSU won a number of the awards given out during the program. Lyons, who is director of Kennesaw State University's Center for University Learning, brought home the gold Outstanding Customer Service Leadership Award at the institutional level. **Debbie Farmer**, a business analyst who provides System-wide support for the human resource management software PeopleSoft, was the top finisher for this award at the System level.

KSU's Coles College of Business earned the gold Outstanding Customer Service Improvement Initiative Award at the institutional level. See "Awards," Page 4 ...

Leadership Transitions Ongoing at Seven USG Institutions

The University System of Georgia (USG) has seen three presidential appointments (one of them interim), launched the search for a fourth and accepted the resignation or retirement announcements of four additional presidents this fall.

Dr. John O. Schwenn, vice president for academic affairs at Emporia State University in Emporia, Kan., was named president of **Dalton State College** on Nov. 30. Affiliated with Emporia State since 1989, Schwenn is scheduled to assume his new post in March 2008.

The Board of Regents announced at its November meeting the decision to make the interim appointment of **Dr. Gary Allen McGaha Sr.** as president of **Atlanta Metropolitan College** (AMC) a permanent one. The former vice president for academic affairs had been serving as the

college's interim president since Jan. 1, 2007, when then AMC President **Harold E. Wade** retired.

In late November, USG Chief Operating Officer **Rob Watts** appointed **Dr. Mary Ellen Wilson**, currently vice president for academic affairs at **Middle Georgia College** (MGC), to serve as the college's interim president. Wilson's appointment, effective Jan. 1, 2008, will follow the departure of MGC President **Richard J. Federinko**, who has accepted a position as senior vice chancellor for administration and student services at Troy University in Troy, Ala.

In early December, Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief Academic Officer **Susan Herbst** announced the appointment of the two search committees charged with assisting in the selection of a new president for

Columbus State University. Current CSU President **Frank Brown**, who announced last August that he would retire on June 30, 2008, is the longest-serving president in the University System. He will have been president of CSU for 20 years upon his retirement.

Also leaving their posts as of June 30 are:

- **Coastal Georgia Community College** President **Dorothy L. Lord**, who is retiring after serving the University System in this role since 1991;
- **Georgia State University** President **Carl V. Patton**, who is retiring after 16 years of leadership at the downtown Atlanta campus; and
- **Valdosta State University** President **Ronald M. Zaccari**, who will retire after completing six and half years in office. 🏡

Customer Service Awards

Continued from P. 3 ...

level. The winner of this award at the System level was **Brenda Trezvant**, an administrative assistant in the University System's Office of Media and Publications.

Individuals honored with the Excellence of the Year Award were: at the institutional level, **Allison Strong**, a financial aid counselor at **North Georgia College & State University**; and, at the System level, **Vernon Davis**, manager of office re-sources at the University System Office.

Top finishers for the Team Excellence of the Year Award were: at the institutional level, **Valdosta State University's**



Trezvant Wins Kudos

Brenda Trezvant, administrative assistant in the University System's Office of Media and Publications, receives the Outstanding Customer Service Improvement Initiative Award from Chancellor Erroll B. Davis Jr.

OASIS Center for Advising and First-Year Programs, led by **Beverly Blake**, director of learning support; and, at the System level, the GIL Express Program Team, led by **Merryl Penon**, executive director of library services at the University System Office.

The Call Center Excellence Award went to: **Georgia State University's** Information Systems and Technology Help Center at the institutional level, and, at the System level, the Office of Information and Instructional Technology Customer Service Help Desk. 🏡

GGC Freshmen Leading by Example in the Community

Engaging in community-out-reach is an emerging trend in corporate America, where many leading employers now weigh a commitment to good citizenship along with an applicant's education and experience. **Georgia Gwinnett College** (GGC) is leading the way in fostering a sense of community with its students by requiring every freshman to get involved in local community service.

This fall, new GGC students teamed with the non-profit Gwinnett Great Days of Service, the local branch of the national volunteer effort to complete service projects. Ultimately, the college became the largest Great Days of Service participant in the county and one of the largest participants in the country – with the help of its inaugural freshman class.

According to **Mary Greiss-Shiple**y, director of student success programs, students are demonstrating their ability to put theory into practice and connect with their community through such service activities.

"It heightens their understanding of the differences and commonalities of other people, and helps them develop a sense of empathy for others," she said. 🏡



GPLS Wins National Award for Technology

The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation has named the Georgia Public Library Service as one of 10 recipients of the second annual Mellon Awards for Technology Collaboration. The \$50,000 grant recognizes GPLS for the development and release of the Evergreen open-source library automation system.

The Mellon Awards honor not-for-profit organizations for leadership in the collaborative development of open-source software tools with particular application to higher education and cultural heritage not-for-profit activities. The awards were presented Dec. 10 by Sir Timothy Berners-Lee, director of the World Wide Web Consortium and inventor of the World Wide Web, at the Fall Task Force meeting of the Coalition for Networked Information.

Accepting the award on behalf of GPLS were (left to right, with Berners-Lee pictured third from right): Brad LaJeunesse, consultant and leader of the Evergreen development team; David Singleton, deputy state librarian; Dr. Lamar Veatch, state librarian; Elizabeth McKinney de Garcia, PINES program director; and Julie Walker, assistant state librarian for support services and strategic initiatives. 

Teacher Production

Continued from P. 1 ...

System has prepared more than 20,000 new teachers, most of whom were hired by Georgia's public school systems," said **Dr. Jan Kettlewell**, associate vice chancellor for P-16 Initiatives, who presented the report to the regents. "Our annual production rate has increased 44 percent in the last five years, and the number of minority teachers we produce is up 17 percent compared to three years ago."

The report issued in November is the first in a series of annual reports on the status of teacher preparation by the USG institutions. Prepared by **Dr. Mark Pevey**, director of P-16 data management, the report tracks progress in teacher production made under the "Regents Principles" – which offered school systems a guarantee of the quality of USG-prepared teachers – and the "Double the Numbers/Double the Diversity of Teachers Prepared by the University System Initiative," launched in 2005.

In 2002, when the USG's teacher-quality guarantee went into effect, the University System prepared 2,600 new teachers. The Double/Double Initiative used as its baseline data from 2004, by which time the USG was producing 3,157 new teachers. In launching Double/Double in 2005, Kettlewell and her staff asked the USG's colleges of education to set specific goals for improving the number and diversity of their teacher-education graduates, and in 2007, the System prepared 3,822 new teachers, an increase of 44 percent over 2002 and 21 percent over 2004.

"By stepping up their recruiting efforts and providing increased support to teacher candidates throughout their preparation, our institutions have made great strides in improving both the number and the diversity of the teachers they prepare," Kettlewell concluded. "Despite our progress, a lot of challenges still remain. We will continue to stretch to increase our efforts to meet more of the state's needs for qualified teachers."

The USG colleges of education that achieved the largest increases in the number of initial-certification graduates between 2004 and 2007 were as follows:

- ◆ **Armstrong Atlantic State University** went from 181 new teachers prepared in 2004 to 318 in 2007, an increase of 76 percent;
- ◆ **The University of West Georgia** went from 306 new teachers prepared in 2004 to 416 in 2007, an increase of 36 percent;
- ◆ **Kennesaw State University** went from 358 new teachers prepared in 2004 to 473 in 2007, an increase of 32 percent; and
- ◆ **Georgia State University** went from 363 new teachers prepared in 2004 to 462 in 2007, an increase of 27 percent.

Overall, the University System has improved the diversity of the new teachers it prepares by 17 percent since 2004, producing 702 new minority teachers in 2007, compared to 600 in 2004). Among the frontrunners in this regard:

- ◆ **Armstrong State** increased the number of its minority initial-certification graduates by 193


percent, from 27 in 2004 to 79 in 2007;

- ◆ **The University of Georgia** has seen a 144 percent increase, from 25 in 2004 to 61 in 2007;
- ◆ **Augusta State University** has experienced a 136 percent increase in new minority teachers prepared, from 14 in 2004 to 33 in 2007; and
- ◆ **Kennesaw State** increased its minority numbers by 88 percent, from 25 in 2004 to 47 in 2007.

Kettlewell noted that **UGA** consistently prepares the largest number of new teachers in the University System (572 in 2007) and **Georgia State** consistently prepares the largest number of new minority teachers (180 in 2007).

The report also shows that USG-prepared teachers are hired by almost every public school system in the state and that they tend to stay in Georgia classrooms longer than those not prepared by the University System.

New teachers in 2005 prepared by the USG were hired in 170 (94 percent) of Georgia's 180 public school systems in 2006, and more than 95 percent of them were still teaching in Georgia one year later, compared to only 86 percent of non-USG-prepared teachers.

"How long teachers stay in the classroom, once hired, is a measure of the effectiveness of their preparation," Pevey said. "Right now, we only have the data to track the retention rate for one year, but in time, we'll have more long-term results to show what a good investment University System of Georgia teacher preparation is for both students and local school systems." 

Recent Appointments at the University System Office

◆ **Dr. Jan Kettlewell** has been promoted from associate vice chancellor to vice chancellor for P-16 initiatives, which serves as the System's outreach arm to other state education agencies, the Governor's Office, P-12 schools and business partners in collaborative efforts to influence improvements for Georgia students, pre-school through college. She had held the associate vice chancellor position since 1995. Kettlewell also serves, on a part time basis, as executive director of the University System of Georgia Foundation, Inc.

◆ **Usha Ramachandran** has been named interim vice chancellor for Fiscal Affairs, overseeing the \$5.6 billion annual budget of the University System of Georgia (USG). Ramachandran has nine years of experience in the University System Office, where most recently she has served in the position of assistant vice chancellor for Fiscal Affairs and budget director. She is stepping into the position currently held by **William Bowes**, who is leaving the System Office to become vice president for finance and chief financial officer for the **Medical College of Georgia**. Both position changes are effective Jan. 1, 2008.

◆ **Reid Christenberry** has joined the University System Office staff as associate vice chancellor for operations in the Office of Informational and Instructional Technology. Since 2003,

Christenberry had served as vice president for information technology at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, but before that, he spent eight years as the associate provost for information systems and technology and chief information officer at **Georgia State University** and 14 years as director of financial information systems at the **University of Georgia**.

◆ **Sandra Neuse** has been named assistant vice chancellor for compliance and operations. Neuse has worked in the Office of Facilities since 2003, first as environmental health and safety program manager and most recently as director of management and operations. Since the departure earlier this year of **Mark Demyanek**, who is now assistant vice president of **Georgia Tech's** Office of Environmental Health and Safety, she had also been serving as interim assistant vice chancellor for compliance and operations.

◆ **John Vanchella** has joined the University System Office staff as special assistant to the associate vice chancellor for Media & Publications. Vanchella had served as director of Development and Community Services at **Waycross College** since 2000. He has a wide range of experience in public relations and communications in both the public and private sectors and also has been a teacher at both the K-12 and postsecondary level. 🏡

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