

The System Supplement

A report of the Georgia Board of Regents • Vol. 43, No. 7 • October 2007

“Creating a More Educated Georgia”

USG Facilities Staff Rolls Out Long-Term Building Plan to Serve Additional 100,000 Students Expected by 2020

University System of Georgia (USG) projections call for Georgia’s 35 college and university campuses to see an influx of new faces in the coming years, and officials have spent months planning needed facilities to meet conservative projections for an additional 100,000 students by 2020.

The Board of Regents in October approved a list of facilities needed throughout the System that calls for a total investment of \$1.7 billion in general-obligation bonds between 2008 and 2014 for a capital implementation program with more than 100 new construction, renovation, and infrastructure projects. Using the new capital planning model approved by the regents in 2006, University System Office and campus staff developed the capital implementation program list.

Facilities planning also is a fundamental element of the

regents’ new Strategic Plan. This plan, approved by the regents in August, has as its underlying theme the need to build capacity in the system in many key areas, including facilities to accommodate enrollment significantly higher than the current 260,000 students.

“The new strategic capital model enables us to better integrate planning for buildings on our campuses into the board’s strategic plan as well as with individual institutions long-term campus master plans,” said Vice Chancellor for Facilities **Linda Daniels** in her presentation to the board. “With this new planning model, we are moving away from a year-to-year view to a more strategic, long-term approach that will result in a more efficient and effective use of state resources.”

In August, the regents approved as part of the USG’s fiscal year 2009 budget request a \$215 million program of capital projects using the new strategic

capital model for the first time. This new model is data driven, and is based upon each institution’s current enrollment, anticipated enrollment growth, total square footage on campus, the age and condition of current facilities, as well as the priorities of the board as reflected in its new Strategic Plan.

The October presentation added five additional years of proposed investment, completing the six-year capital implementation program that provides the regents a comprehensive, long-term view of needed general obligation bond capital investment. The capital implementation program list will be reviewed annually to inform the board’s capital budget request, with comprehensive revisions and additions occurring on a three-year cycle.

The six-year facilities list for each of the System’s 35 campuses can be downloaded at http://www.usg.edu/ref/capital/capital_projects.phtml



Regents Meet at University of West Georgia



At left, Regent **Jim Bishop** listens as President **Beheruz N. Sethna** gives a presentation on the *University of West Georgia* to the Board of Regents, which held its October meeting on the Carrollton campus. Above, Sethna (right) and **Dr. Carol Wilson** (left), professor of nursing, update Regent **Felton Jenkins** on West Georgia’s nursing programs during a tour of the campus.

Georgia ONmyLINE Website Puts USG's Online Courses at Fingertips

As part of an ongoing effort to broaden access to public higher education, the University System of Georgia (USG) has launched Georgia ONmyLINE. This new website provides access to a full array of distance-education offerings from the 35 colleges and universities in the University System, thus improving service to students, both within the USG and at other institutions in Georgia and nationally.

The website, found at www.georgiaonmyline.org, will provide students with a searchable catalog of online courses and programs updated each semester and a central location that allows students to register and transfer credits among multiple USG institutions.

"Through this site, prospective and enrolled students can quickly find online programs and/or courses that meet their career or degree needs. They can apply for admission to colleges and universities, and once accepted, register for courses," said **Dr. Kris Biesinger**, associate vice chancellor for Information and Instructional Technology Services. The offerings also meet the educational needs of on-campus students who seek occasional online formats to meet their content, time, and scheduling needs, she noted, adding that, "Georgia ONmyLINE brings together inno-

vative practices in higher education organization, governance, financing and technology."

"This website will help us to achieve Goal Two of the Board of Regents' new Strategic Plan – to create enrollment capacity to meet the needs of the 100,000 additional students expected to enroll at University System of Georgia institutions by 2020," said **Chancellor Erroll B. Davis Jr.** "One of the ways we are increasing our enrollment capacity is expanding and emphasizing our distance-education offerings."

Featured among the 1,600 courses and 35 programs on the searchable website are six new

online graduate programs designed for Georgia teachers. In a presentation showcasing Georgia ONmyLINE at the October meeting of the Board of Regents, Biesinger told the regents that each of these degrees will provide a quality education experience that is:

- ◆ convenient and flexible in format;
- ◆ complements a practicing teacher's schedule and environment; and
- ◆ responds quickly to enrollment growth instead of asking students to wait a year for the next available slots.

See "ONmyLINE," Page 4 ...


All USG Campuses Now 'Live' on Gacollege411

The University System of Georgia completed Phase I of its transition to the Gacollege411 website in August when the last of its 35 institutions made its undergraduate admissions application available to visitors to this comprehensive site for planning, applying and paying for college in Georgia (www.gacollege411.org).

During Fiscal Year 2007, with 32 of the 35 state colleges and universities "live," Gacollege411 received 2,863,462 site visits and tallied 354,583 new accounts created – an average of 971 new accounts

daily. USG institutions received 96,555 applications during this period.

"With a continued public awareness campaign and the addition of the University of Georgia, Georgia Tech and the Medical College of Georgia to the site, we are confident that Fiscal Year 2008 will bring substantially larger numbers in all categories," said **Tonya Lam**, the University System's associate vice chancellor for student affairs.

During Phase II of the transition, Lam said the USG will focus on offering all content areas in Spanish as well as English; expanding the section for adult learners; and implementing an online high-school-transcripts exchange. 

Susan Herbst is USG's New Chief Academic Officer

Chancellor Erroll B. Davis Jr. recently announced the appointment of **Dr. Susan Herbst** as executive vice chancellor and chief academic officer (EVC/CAO) for the University System of Georgia (USG).

The selection of Herbst concludes a national search launched this past May. Herbst currently serves as the acting president of the University at Albany, State University of New York. She assumed her new role at the USG on Nov. 1.

"We sought an individual with the vision and drive needed to implement the complex academic facets of the Board of Regents'

new strategic plan," Davis said. "Dr. Herbst clearly stood out among the excellent candidates that were identified for her experience and her ability to provide leadership for the System's core academic mission as we work to create a twenty-first century educational model for Georgia."

The EVC/CAO is responsible for meeting the academic needs of more than 260,000 students and approximately 10,000 University System faculty members. The position also provides leadership to the System's comprehensive universities and to a division at the University System Office that includes academic

programs and planning, faculty affairs, student affairs, international programs, teacher-education initiatives, strategic research and analysis, and information and instructional technology.

The presidents of the 15 institutions in the System's comprehensive university sector report to the EVC/CAO. These institutions mostly consist of Carnegie masters universities. The sector also includes four institutions with limited doctoral programs – **Georgia Southern University**, **Kennesaw State University**, the **University of West Georgia** and **Valdosta State University**.

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USG Digest

■ **Dr. Timothy Crimmins**, a professor of history at *Georgia State University*, and Georgia State Capitol historian Anne Farrissee are the co-authors of a new book, "Democracy Restored: A History of the Georgia State Capitol," published by the *University of Georgia Press*. The illustrated history not only pays tribute to the building's architecture, symbolism and monuments but highlights the history made there over more than a century. Crimmins, director of Georgia State's Center for Neighborhood and Metropolitan Studies, served as chair of the Commission on the Preservation of the Georgia Capitol, which oversaw the decade-long restoration just recently completed on the building. 🏠

The System Supplement

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USG African-American Male Initiative Hosts First-Ever Best Practices Conference

The University System of Georgia's African-American Male Initiative (AAMI) will convene its Inaugural Best Practices conference on the campus of *Kennesaw State University*, on Friday, Nov. 30, and Saturday, Dec. 1, marking five years of activities aimed at enhancing the recruitment, retention and graduation of black males within the state's public colleges and universities.

The conference will assemble more than 250 statewide AAMI administrators, student participants, notable dignitaries and other special guests for activities aimed at enhancing educational outcomes for Georgia's African-American male students.

An awards dinner on Friday will showcase best-practice AAMI programs and administrators within the University System of Georgia. High-profile national and local honorees who have strongly supported the AAMI project also will be saluted.

Saturday's activities will include three plenary sessions featuring nationally recognized speakers and more than 10 specialized workshop

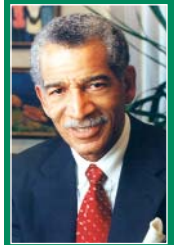
sessions tailored to the concerns and needs of the adult and youth participants.

Chancellor **Erroll B. Davis Jr.** will bring greetings from the Board of Regents, and conference participants will hear from nationally recognized speakers such as:

- ◆ **Mr. Thomas Dortch Jr.**, president emeritus, 100 Black Men of America;
- ◆ **Dr. William Cox**, president and CEO, *Diverse: Issues in Higher Education*;
- ◆ **Dr. Rosa Smith**, former president of the Schott Foundation/publisher, "Public Education and Black Male Students: A State Report Card";
- ◆ **Dr. Thomas Parham**, past president, National See "AAMI Conference," *Page 4 ...*



Dortch



Cox



Smith

Governor Recognizes Chancellor, Bainbridge College

The University System of Georgia took home two of the 15 awards Gov. **Sonny Perdue** bestowed on individual state employees and state-agency-based teams who have exemplified his push to provide "faster, friendlier and easier" service to the citizens of Georgia during a ceremony in Atlanta on Oct. 30.

The Team Georgia 2007 Customer Service Recognition Program honored **Chancellor Erroll B. Davis Jr.** with the Governor's Special Award for Extraordinary Commitment to Customer Service, and the **Bainbridge College** Academic Resource Center with the Governor's Award in Customer Service Team Excellence.

"Chancellor Davis has focused on his student customers, recognizing that student satisfaction is strongly related to their retention, progression and graduation," Perdue said. "And he has made it 'faster, friendlier and easier' for military personnel to obtain college degrees."

Perdue lauded Davis for his wholehearted commitment to the state-wide Customer Service Initiative, noting that Davis instituted a customer-service program on each of the University System's 35 campuses, named a customer-service champion to head each program, and has actively supported

the champions in their service-improvement efforts.

"His leadership continues to create value for the entire state through our outstanding research and educational system," the governor concluded.

The Bainbridge College Academic Resource Center, under the leadership of Director **Lori Kuhn-Hancock**, competed against approximately 42 other state agencies to win the team award.

Bainbridge College Continuing Education Director **Greg McDonald**, who nominated the center for the award, praised its staff for their dedication to helping students, faculty and community members become academically successful lifelong learners, noting that they "continually work to improve their training, resources and overall availability to help clients."

The ARC team is credited with transforming what was The Learning Center with peer tutoring into a complete Academic Resource Center. In addition to tutoring, study space and computers, the center offers study groups, handicapped-accessible computer stations, a private study room, a resource library, computer access, scanner, CD burner and other current technology. In 2006, the team also designed a 10-course module available to all students preparing to take the Regents' Test. 🏠

AAMI Conference

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Association of Black Psychologists;

- ◆ **Mr. Kevin Powell**, author, "Who's Gonna Take the Weight? Manhood, Race, and Power in America," and convenor, "State of Black Men Tour"; and
- ◆ **Dr. Tyrone Bledsoe**, founder and executive director, Student African American Brotherhood

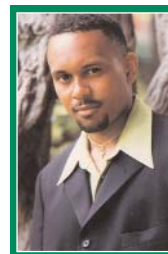
"The University System of Georgia has done pioneering work in identifying and address-

ing the educational challenges faced by black males, and our work is frequently benchmarked," said AAMI Project Director **Arlethia Perry-Johnson**. "We are convening to share the vital information we have learned with our USG colleagues and others doing this important work. Our goal is to demonstrate what works, so that others might replicate, expand and – most importantly – fund these important programs."

Launched in the summer of 2002 by the University System of Georgia (USG), AAMI focuses on



Parham



Powell



Bledsoe

increasing the enrollment, retention, and graduation rates of black men throughout the state of Georgia through a wide variety of programs that foster academic achievement, encompassing tutoring, mentoring, leadership development and college visitation. 🏠

www.usg.edu/aami/bestpractices07

Georgia ONmyLINE

Continued from P. 2 ...

The six new online Master of Education programs that will be available for admission beginning in January 2008 and course registration later this fall include Instructional Technology, Middle Grades Math and Science, Secondary Math, Secondary Science, Reading, Language and Literacy, and a new degree appropriate for all teaching levels called Accomplished Teaching. In addition, two Master of Arts in Teaching degrees for individuals who wish to change careers and become teachers will be available in Special Education and Reading, Language and Literacy.

Five of the University System's colleges of education are piloting this new program development

and delivery model. They include *Columbus State University*, *Georgia State University*, *Georgia Southern University*, *North Georgia College & State University*, and *Valdosta State University*. These institutions were selected through a proposal process, and participation in the prototype program includes adhering to a set of expectations for customer service, quality, growth and financing. Several of the programs involve institutional collaboration to make better use of expertise and resources.

In order to leverage institutional talents and enable students to benefit from the offerings of more than one institution toward a single program, the USG is establishing a new registration system that will easily allow cross-institutional registrations.

Once the initial set of Master of Education programs has been launched, the University System expects to solicit proposals for additional online degree programs that are well suited to meeting areas of state need. In addition, existing collaborative online programs will be migrated to the new registration system to improve service to students and minimize back-office processing by institutions.

USG officials have set targets for increased student participation in the new Georgia ONmyLINE strategic initiative. The goal is to increase the percentage of semester credit hours generated by distance learning from the current level of 4 percent to 8 percent by 2012. 🏠

Herbst

Continued from P. 2 ...

Officer in Charge – a term for acting president – since 2006 at the University at Albany, State University of New York, Herbst was responsible for a \$400 million annual budget. The university's three campuses, ten colleges, and 1,000 faculty serve 17,000 undergraduate and graduate students. Herbst also served as provost and executive vice president for the university, a position she held since 2005.

Herbst has extensive administrative and scholarly experience that covers 18 years in a number of faculty and administrative positions, including Northwestern University, Evanston, Ill., and

Temple University, Philadelphia, Pa. While at Northwestern, Herbst taught political science and communications studies and served as both chair of the Department of Political Science and as associate dean for Faculty Affairs, among other key administrative positions. Prior to coming to the University at Albany, she was dean of the College of Liberal Arts at Temple.

An accomplished scholar, Herbst has published a number of books and textbooks on politics and public opinion and has contributed to numerous journals, publications and books in her field of study. She also serves as a member of the editorial board for the *Journal of Politics and Political Communication* and has served in

key leadership posts in a number of political science associations.

Herbst earned her bachelor's degree with honors in political science from Duke University, Durham, N.C., and a doctorate in communication theory and research from the University of Southern California, Annenberg School for Communications, Los Angeles. She also has pursued additional professional education at Harvard University's Graduate School of Education's Institute for Educational Management, as well as advanced studies at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. 🏠



Herbst

USG Campuses Receive Grants to Step Up Production of Nursing Grads

In keeping with a strategic goal to increase the number of college graduates in the health professions, the University System of Georgia (USG) has launched a Nursing Education Initiative with the distribution to 16 of its campuses of a total of \$3 million in competitive grant awards from the Fiscal Year 2008 Budget.

Dr. Daniel Rahn, president of the *Medical College of Georgia* and the University System's senior vice chancellor for health and medical programs, briefed the Board of Regents in October on the grants, which are intended to boost the production of registered nurses and alleviate the nursing shortage in Georgia.

Examples of how the 16 institutions receiving funding through a competitive process will address this goal include expanding the capacity of existing nursing programs, offering new, accelerated programs for registered nurses, making nursing faculty salaries more competitive and hiring additional faculty in order to teach more students.

"The USG Nursing Education Initiative's primary goal is to increase by 50 percent the number of new registered nurses prepared in the University System by 2010," Rahn said. "This translates to about

700 additional nurses in Georgia, bringing the total number of pre-licensure nursing graduates produced by the University System to more than 2,400 annually."

Goal Three of the Board of Regents' newly updated Strategic Plan – to "increase the USG's participation in research and economic development to the benefit of a Global Georgia" – includes the objective of increasing the number of health profession graduates. The new Nursing Education Initiative is intended to build on the University System's ongoing, highly successful "Healthcare Professionals Initiative (HPI)," which has been pumping out graduates of nursing and other healthcare-related programs through the USG's Intellectual Capital Partnership Program (ICAPP) since 2003. By December 2008, this public-private partnership will have produced an additional 1,800 nursing graduates, to complement the System's traditional nursing programs.

The following University System institutions have received funds from the USG Nursing Education Task Force formed by Rahn and chaired by **Lucy Marion**, dean of the *Medical College of Georgia* School of Nursing and project director for the USG Nursing Education Initiative:

- ◆ **Armstrong Atlantic State University** will use \$189,320 – in addition to \$235,000 in support pledged by Memorial Health University Medical Center over each of the next two fiscal years – to hire new faculty, adjust the salaries of existing faculty, hire additional staff, purchase equipment and increase the operating budget to support the expanded enrollment.
- ◆ **Augusta State University** will use \$189,320, along with funds from a health-care partner, to expand the capacity of the Associate of Science in Nursing (ASN) program from 50 to 100 students annually, to make equity adjustments to nursing faculty salaries as a faculty recruitment and retention strategy, to create the new staff position of a retention coordinator as a student retention strategy, and to begin the process of converting

the ASN program to a BSN program.

- ◆ **Coastal Georgia Community College** will use \$164,585, along with funds from a health-care partner, to enhance faculty recruitment and retention with the goal of increasing the number of graduates of the ASN program by at least 50 percent (from 75 to 115 students) by May 2010.
- ◆ **Columbus State University** will use \$141,043 to: increase nursing faculty salaries to more competitive levels; admit 96 applicants to the BSN program annually (an increase of 26 students); and increase student retention and graduation rates to produce 66 additional BSN graduates by 2010 via BSN Student Success program activities and increased admissions and enrollment.
- ◆ **Darton College** will use \$189,320 to: expand current enrollment in its Accelerated Registered Nursing Track for Healthcare Professionals from 24 to 30 students; provide salary increases for nursing faculty; and add two part-time faculty to support Darton's partnership with East Georgia College.
- ◆ **Georgia College & State University** will use \$167,124 to increase the capacity of the BSN program from 80 to 95 students per year and implement a student-success strategy to increase the program's student retention and graduation rates.
- ◆ **Georgia Highlands College** will use \$189,036, along with funds from a health-care partner, to start an Accelerated Nursing Track in addition to its existing pre-licensure tracks and also to fund the implementation of a Registered Nurse Student Success Program.
- ◆ **Georgia Perimeter College** will use \$140,097, along with funds from a health-care partner, to fund the implementation of a Registered Nurse Student Success Project, which is expected to increase the number of ASN graduates by 19 students in each of the first two years.

See "Nursing Grants," Page 6 ...

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Nursing Grants

Continued from P. 5 ...

- ◆ **Georgia Southern University** will use \$189,320 to add several new positions to support the BSN program. Georgia Southern also is addressing student retention through a program called Successful Careers Reaching Unlimited Boundaries for Students (SCRUBS), which provides mentors and stipends for minority students and academic mentoring and intervention for students in trouble with their courses.
- ◆ **Georgia State University** will use \$189,320 to: increase the number of students in the BSN program each year from 112 to 144; shift more students into the Accelerated Nursing Track; recruit and retain more qualified nursing faculty; and develop new clinical sites, teaching partnerships and/or instructional techniques to support the increase in students.
- ◆ **Gordon College** will use \$188,137 to add a second class of students to its ASN program each year and expand the simulation lab. To increase student retention and graduation rates, Gordon College plans to strengthen its remediation and tutorial offerings with the creation of a resource center for students and by assigning faculty mentors to them.
- ◆ **Kennesaw State University** will use \$189,320 to fund a partnership with Appalachian Technical College (ATC) to offer an BSN program on the ATC campus in Jasper, an area of Georgia devoid of either generic or accelerated baccalaureate nursing programs. KSU anticipates produc-

ing 30 BSN graduates initially in this underserved area of northwest Georgia.

- ◆ **Medical College of Georgia** will use \$189,320, along with funds from a health-care partner, to expand its Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL) program, an accelerated, graduate-level program designed to be completed in four semesters of continuous, full-time academic study.
- ◆ **Middle Georgia College** will use \$162,039 to recruit and retain both nursing faculty and students for its ASN program and to develop a course that expedites graduation for students seeking to move up the career ladder from licensed practical nurse (LPN) to registered nurse (RN).
- ◆ **North Georgia College & State University** will use \$189,320, along with funds from a health-care partner, to maintain enrollment in its ASN program at 150 students per year, which has been possible because of a two-year allocation from the University System's Healthcare Professionals Initiative which will expire in Spring 2008.
- ◆ **University of West Georgia** will use \$188,847 to double the number of BSN graduates; more effectively recruit and retain nursing faculty by making their salaries more competitive; and provide academic support to students to improve graduation rates and performance on the nursing licensure examination.

For more information about the University System of Georgia's Nursing Education Initiative, contact Project Director Lucy Marion, dean of the Medical College of Georgia School of Nursing, at 706-721-3771. 📍

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