

KSU-SPSU TIMELINE, 1947-2016

- 06/11/1947** The Board of Regents authorizes Georgia Tech to establish a vocational technical institute at the Atlanta Naval Air Station (NAS) in Chamblee “provided that a satisfactory lease may be made with the Navy.” About a year and a half earlier, in January 1946, Georgia Tech had leased 23 NAS buildings and converted them into Tech dormitories and classrooms, but the 1946 lease did not cover the creation of a new technical institute.
- 09/10/1947** The Board of Regents allocates \$60,000 to Georgia Tech for Fiscal Year 1948 to establish a technical institute in Chamblee once a lease with the Navy was completed.
- 10/08/1947** With the approval of the Navy, the Board of Regents authorizes Georgia Tech to continue to lease nine of the 23 NAS buildings to establish The Technical Institute.
- 10/15/1947** On the recommendation of Georgia Tech President Blake R. Van Leer, and the approval of the Board of Regents, Professor Lawrence V. Johnson’s assumes office as The Technical Institute’s first director.
- 01/01/1948** John D. Sewell’s appointment as assistant to the director becomes effective. Sewell’s duties included public relations.
- 03/24/1948** The Technical Institute holds its first registration. The students who successfully enrolled included 115 men and one woman, Barbara Hudson. The initial five programs of study were Building Construction Technology; Electrical Technology; Electronics and Radio Technology; Mechanical Technology; and Heating, Ventilation, and Air-Conditioning Technology.
- 05/12/1949** The Board of Regents approves a name change from The Technical Institute to Southern Technical Institute.
- 09/06/1949** Southern Tech holds its first commencement ceremony with 55 students receiving certificates.
- 10/28/1949** The national Engineers Council for Professional Development accredits the Building Construction, Electrical, Electronics and

Radio, and Mechanical Technology Programs for five years, and accredits the Heating and Ventilation Program for two years.

- 03/20/1958** Governor Marvin Griffin delivers a speech to the Marietta Kiwanis Club in which he pledges \$600,000 to move Southern Tech to Marietta. (He would later increase the amount to \$2 million). By this time, the Atlanta Naval Air Station was in the process of relocating from Chamblee to Marietta, adjacent to Dobbins Air Force Base. NAS would officially begin operations in Marietta on August 1, 1958. DeKalb County was in the process of turning much of the NAS facility into Peachtree-DeKalb Airport. Since DeKalb had failed to respond to requests for an upgrade of Southern Tech facilities, the Board of Regents had begun looking for a new campus site. In April 1958 a regents committee visited Cobb and expressed interest in a site along Clay Street (presently South Marietta Parkway).
- 06/05/1958** A Board of Regents sub-committee meets with Georgia Tech President Edwin D. Harrison and, with Harrison's blessings, recommends the Cobb County site.
- 06/11/1958** The Board of Regents votes unanimously to move the Southern Technical Institute to Marietta. At the time, STI had 1195 students and 50 full-time faculty members. The regents' decision was based on the willingness of Cobb County Commissioner Herbert C. McCollum to donate the land for the 93-acre campus and to grade and pave the necessary streets and parking lots. Meanwhile, the City of Marietta agreed to provide curbs and sidewalks, the Cobb County-Marietta Water Authority agreed to put in water lines, the Marietta Board of Lights and Water offered to provide electricity and sewerage, and the Marietta Housing Authority promised to furnish dormitory rooms. Prior to the building of Kennesaw Junior College, this was the most that any community had ever offered to attract a University System of Georgia institution.
- 07/09/1958** The Board of Regents selects the firm of Tapp and Savani for the preliminary architectural design. The firm would later do the final architectural work. William R. Tapp, Jr., of Powder Springs, was a prominent local architect who had completed a number of government and private projects.
- 12/17/1958** The groundbreaking takes place at 4:30 p.m. on a chilly December day with Harold Willingham serving as master of ceremonies and

with speeches by Governor Griffin, Georgia Tech President Harrison, STI Director L.V. Johnson, Marietta Off-Campus Center Director Archie Rushton, UGA President O.C. Aderhold, and Willingham. Governor Griffin took the controls of a bulldozer and turning a small amount of sod. The groundbreaking was combined with a Kiwanis Club appreciation banquet for the Board of Regents and Governor Griffin held that evening less than a mile away at the old Larry Bell Center, and attended by over 1000 people. Griffin made a speech at the gathering in which he referred to a deal he struck with three Cobb County legislators (Harold Willingham, Raymond Reed, and Gene Holcombe) to gain their support for a rural roads bill: "I am not used to paying \$200,000 a piece for votes upstairs, but damned if it didn't cost me \$666,666 each before I got through." The Public and Business Affairs Committee of the Marietta Kiwanis Club had also played a leading role in bringing Southern Tech to Cobb County. At the time, the committee was headed by Bill Kinney of the Marietta Daily Journal and included Lockheed General Manager Carl Kotchian, Representative Harold Willingham, Judge Jim Manning, Emmett Hobbs, Bill Hardy, Claud Hicks, John Hill, and John King. King was a personal pilot for Governor Griffin.

- 07/01/1959** L.V. Johnson becomes director of Georgia Tech's Engineering Extension Division and Hoyt L. McClure becomes acting director of Southern Tech. In 1961 McClure would become permanent director.
- 03/16/1960** After massive resistance to school desegregation caused a series of local and statewide delays, the Board of Regents finally accepts a \$1,797,000 bid from the Coite Somers Company of Vidalia to construct the new Southern Tech campus.
- 04/04/1960** Southern Tech holds a second groundbreaking as work on the new campus gets underway.
- 10/02/1961** The Southern Tech campus finally opens in Marietta. The new campus consists initially of eight buildings, although only two were totally completed at the time of the opening. The remainder would be finished during fall quarter. Landscaping would be completed over the next year and a half. During this period, Professor Chester R. Orvold of the Building Construction Technology Department (later named the School of Architecture) led a successful campaign to save "The Rock," a limestone protrusion near the center of campus that would become a traditional campus gathering place.

- 05/06/1962** The official dedication of Southern Tech’s Marietta campus takes place.
- 06/05/1962** The Southern Tech annual report for 1962 indicates that calculus is a requirement in almost all degree programs and such programs led to an Associate in Engineering Technology degree.
- 04/03/1963** Cobb County Commissioner Herbert McCollum and the Boards of Education of the Marietta and Cobb County School Districts submit to the Board of Regents a formal application for a new liberal arts junior college in Cobb County.
- 04/12/1963** The Georgia General Assembly approves an act (Ga. L. 1963, p. 617), amending a 1919 Georgia law. The amendment permits local Boards of Education, “alone or in conjunction with other districts and systems, to acquire real property and to acquire, construct, and equip buildings and facilities for education beyond the twelfth grade and to convey such property so acquired to the Regents of the University System of Georgia, its successors or assigns; to contribute funds to the Board of Regents to be applied toward the acquisition of real property and the acquisition, constructing, and equipping of buildings and facilities for education beyond the twelfth grade; to issue bonds in accordance with the Constitution and laws of the State of Georgia; provided only, that prior to exercising such authority any board or governing body shall have agreed by contract to convey any such property so acquired or to contribute such funds, and the Regents shall have agreed to accept such property or contribution and to acquire, construct, and equip such buildings and facilities and to operate and maintain the same as a unit of the University System of Georgia rather than as a part of the public school system of this State.” This amendment removed any constitutional issues if the Cobb County School Board and the City of Marietta decided to issue bonds to allow the Board of Regents to construct a new liberal arts college in Cobb County. Harold Willingham is widely acknowledged as the author of the amendment. “‘Harold put a bill through the Legislature to allow the Cobb County Board of Education the authority to issue \$2 million, and that was enough to start it,’ [former Cobb Board of Education member John] Strother said.” (Jon Gillooly, “Class Is in Session: Governor Sanders, Barnes on Rise of KSU,” *Marietta Daily Journal*, 6 May 2013).

- 10/09/1963** The Board of Regents charters a new liberal arts junior college in Cobb County at a site to be approved later.
- 03/03/1964** The Board of Regents approves a campus site in north Cobb County between Steve Frey Road and Frey Lake Road, formerly part of the Steve Frey Farm and owned at this date by Pinetree Corporation.
- 03/11/1964** The Board of Regents approves a degree program at Southern Tech in Architectural Engineering Technology.
- 04/21/1964** The *Marietta Daily Journal* runs a top-of-the-front page headline that reads, “Cobb Bond Vote Will Be Tomorrow: Massive Turnout Desired.” The article says that “at stake is the largest junior college ever built in Georgia” and that “a widespread get-out-the-vote campaign was in progress Tuesday [April 21st] as a small army of Jaycees, PTA workers and civic club representatives personally urged voters to go to the polls Wednesday.” A one-half mill tax increase was to be levied to finance the 30-year bonds. According to the MDJ, “the junior college program is the state’s answer to the zooming number of high school graduates. The number of Georgia high school graduates eligible for college is expected to increase by 100 percent in the next 10 years. In Cobb, this increase is even more startling. A 50 percent increase over last year’s graduates is expected here by the time the college opens.”

In the top center of the front page, the MDJ ran an editorial entitled, “Our College Opportunity.” It began,

One day soon, possibly next year, an impressive new college will open its doors to hundreds of local high school graduates.

The campus will be the hub of much activity. Eager students will converge there to pursue higher education in preparation for richer and more satisfying lives....

All in all, few will be untouched by the college. The entire community will be the beneficiary of more and higher paying jobs and a general elevation of cultural interests.

All this hinges on the outcome of tomorrow’s bond issue to finance the initial construction of the junior college. Without the necessary approval of the bonds, the college will be nothing more than an unfulfilled dream.

Cobb County cannot afford to dream. Our future is dependent on providing college opportunities for thousands whose only hope of getting an adequate education is a local community college.

The State Board of Regents has given us this chance to help ourselves. The rest depends on us. No one else can do it for us.

Do your part Wednesday. Vote FOR the school bonds for education beyond the 12th grade.

- 04/22/1964** Voters of Marietta and Cobb County overwhelmingly approve a referendum authorizing the City of Marietta and the Cobb County School Board to sell bonds of \$425,000 and \$1,925,000, respectively, to finance the construction of what will become Kennesaw Junior College (total of \$2,350,000). The referendum receives an 88 percent affirmative vote (6,305 to 871) and passes in every county election district and city ward. The margin of victory in Marietta was 12 to 1. The victory margin in the county was 6 to 1.
- 04/23/1964** Under a front page banner of Overwhelming Approval, the *Marietta Daily Journal* runs a headline that reads, “Junior College Gets Big Okay from Voters: Bonds Approved by 8-1 Margin,” The story begins, “Amazement and satisfaction were voiced today by the overwhelming endorsement for the \$2,350,000 junior college bond issue Wednesday [the 22nd].” Later in the story, MDJ editor Robert D. Fowler, the chairman of the 28-member steering committee that orchestrated the bond campaign, was quoted as saying that the “Wednesday vote shows what can be done in Cobb County when everyone pulls together. We should be proud of our entire community.” Marietta mayor Howard (Red) Atherton adds that the “bond issue approval [was] the most important local development since the government aircraft plant was built in Marietta.”
- 06/10/1964** The Board of Regents awards a contract to Bothwell & Associates, a Marietta architectural firm, to draw up the preliminary plans and specifications for the original eight campus buildings of what will become Kennesaw Junior College.
- 07/24/1964** The Cobb County School District and the City of Marietta purchase the original 152-acre campus from Pinetree Corporation for \$100,000, the first expenditure from the \$2,350,000 of bond revenues.

- 07/31/1964** Cobb County School Board attorney Harold Willingham sends a letter to Hubert Dewberry, the University System of Georgia's Director of Plant and Business Operations, containing the warranty deed for the 152-acre Kennesaw campus and a \$2.0 million check to pay for the construction of the initial eight buildings. The remaining \$250,000 from the bond referendum went to Cobb County to pay for campus grading, paving, and utilities. The county ultimately spent much more than a quarter million dollars to complete these tasks.
- 08/12/1964** The Board of Regents accepts the deed for the 152-acre campus site from the Cobb County School District and the City of Marietta.
- 11/18/1964** The groundbreaking for the future Kennesaw Junior College takes place at 3:00 PM on a cold, drizzly day. Dr. W.C. Mitchell, president of the Cobb County Board of Education, serves as master of ceremonies. Greetings are offered by several individuals, including former MDJ editor Robert Dobbs Fowler, who headed the local 28-person steering committee behind the drive for the new college. Governor Carl Sanders delivers the main address. A photo in the KSU Archives shows County Commissioner Herbert McCollum holding an umbrella over Sanders while he spoke. Sanders arrived a little late, claiming he got lost on the way. Fred Bentley, Sr., was one of the dignitaries in attendance. He remembers that attendees arrived by way of Frey Lake Road and that the groundbreaking ceremony was held in a pasture in approximately the location of the future original Administration building, presently Campus Safety (telephone conversation with Tom Scott, 02/18/2013). Malinda Jolley Mortin also attended, along with her father, Lex Jolley. She recalls, "Dad and I drove out from Atlanta from our office at Five Pts. We did not go back downtown after the ceremony and I remember being one of a few women that were there and I was only there because dad and I were in the same car. Mrs. Brumby may have been one of the other women....I think that some people went on to the Pinetree after the end. I can't remember if the Governor went but daddy was a member of the PCC and Harold Willingham" (e-mail, Malinda Jolley Mortin to Tom Scott, 14 February 2013). Mr. Bentley also attended the cocktail reception and confirms that it was held at Pinetree Country Club.

The members of the 28-member community steering committee that led the campaign to create KJC were, in alphabetical order, the following:

Hon. J. B. (Jake) Ables (former Smyrna mayor)
 Hon. James Adams (“Johnny” Adams—Kennesaw mayor)
 Hon. L. Howard Atherton (Marietta mayor)
 Mr. T.C. Cantrell, Jr. (Deputy Superintendent, Cobb County Schools)
 Sen. Cy Chapman (state senator)
 Judge J. J. Daniell (former probate judge)
 Rep. Robert E. Flournoy, Jr. (state representative)
 Mr. Robert Dobbs Fowler (committee chair, MDJ editor)
 Dr. Luke G. Garrett (physician and Austell mayor)
 Mr. Jasper M. Griffin (Superintendent, Cobb County Schools)
 Mr. Henry Kemp (Superintendent, Marietta School System)
 Sen. Edward S. Kendrick (state senator)
 Hon. George Kreeger (Smyrna mayor)
 Mr. R. H. Lindley (community leader)
 Mr. A.D. Little (Marietta businessman, community leader)
 Hon. Mary B. McCall (Acworth mayor)
 Hon. Herbert McCollum (Cobb County Commissioner)
 Mr. Dempsey Medford, Jr. (Chairman, Marietta Board of Education)
 Dr. W.C. Mitchell (Chairman, Cobb County Board of Education)
 Dr. Archie Rushton (Director, Marietta Center—an UGA off-campus center)
 Mr. Richard L. Sims, Jr. (community leader)
 Mr. W.P. (Paul) Sprayberry (former Cobb County School Superintendent)
 Rep. E.W. (Bill) Teague (state representative)
 Mrs. Elizabeth Tomlinson (community leader)
 Hon. Sam J. Welsch (former Marietta mayor)\
 Hon. Harold Willingham (former state representative and senator, attorney for Cobb County School District)
 Rep. Joe Mack Wilson (state representative)
 Sen. Kyle Yancey (state senator)

- 02/10/1965** The Board of Regents approves preliminary plans and specifications for the initial KJC buildings and gives Bothwell & Associates a contract to draw up the final plans and specifications.
- 05/12/1965** The Board of Regents selects Georgia Tech Associate Registrar Dr. Horace W. Sturgis as president of the Cobb County liberal arts college.
- 07/01/1965** Dr. Sturgis begins work as the first employee of the new college. With campus construction not yet under way, Dr. Sturgis is given office space in the Administration Building at Southern Tech (today’s Marietta campus of the new KSU).

- 07/21/1965** The Board of Regents approves the appointment of Toney Walter Bryant as Controller of the college in Kennesaw, effective March 1, 1966.
- 08/11/1965** Upon the recommendation of Chancellor George L. Simpson, Jr., the Board of Regents officially approves the name of Kennesaw Junior College.
- 09/15/1965** The Board of Regents awards a contract to the Thompson & Street Company of Atlanta to construct the original eight KJC buildings. Thompson & Street's low bid was \$2,497,700, far in excess of the bond referendum approved by Marietta and Cobb County voters. Fortunately, the University System had recently received a \$993,586 construction grant for the KJC campus from the Higher Education Facilities Commission of the U.S. Department of Education.
- 09/15/1965** The Board of Regents approves the appointment of Dr. Derrell C. Roberts as Dean of the College and Professor of History at KJC, effective January 1, 1966.
- 10/13/1965** The Board of Regents approves the appointment of Robert J. Greene as KJC's first Librarian, effective April 1, 1966.
- 01/01/1966** Dr. Roberts assumes his duties as academic dean and administrative offices move from Southern Tech to Banberry Elementary School, an underutilized school in the Marietta system located just east of U.S. 41 (the Four-Lane Highway) and several blocks south of Roswell Street.
- 01/11/1966** The Board of Regents approves the appointment of Dr. Mark Eugene (Gene) Meadows as Dean of Students and Associate Professor of Psychology at KJC, effective July 1, 1966.
- 02/09/1966** The Board of Regents approves the appointment of George Henry Beggs as Assistant Professor of Political Science, effective with Fall Quarter, 1966. Even though several other faculty appointments were approved that day, Beggs is regarded as KJC's first full-time faculty member recruited by Sturgis and Roberts. In the April 19-20, 1966 meeting of the Board of Regents, he would have his status upgraded to Chairman of the Division of Social Sciences with the rank of Associate Professor.

- 02/09/1966** The Board of Regents also approves the appointment of the following charter KJC faculty members: Julian Earle Bolton (Business Administration), Joseph Benjamin Fennell (Business Administration), Evelyn Nichols Gibson (Chemistry), Virginia Cooksey Hinton (English), Cecil Lee Jackson (Registrar and Director of Admissions), David Morgan Jones, Jr. (English), and Mary Louise Lance (Biology). Over the next several months, the rest of the charter faculty would be approved.
- ___/___/1966** Southern Tech holds its first annual Bathtub Race, an event that would give Southern Tech nationwide publicity. A campus tradition maintains that the race started when one of the fraternities put wheels on an old bathtub and filled it with ice to chill the beer for a campus party; another fraternity saw the rolling bathtub and challenged the first fraternity to a race. By 1968 the bathtubs would become motorized. After the race was featured on CNN in the 1980s, Ted Turner, the owner of the Atlanta Braves, held a few bathtub races prior to games to help attract crowds to the ballpark. The bathtub races at Southern Tech continued until 1991.
- 08/23/1966** Dr. Sturgis and Dean Meadows meet with a group of interested students who become the acting staff of the *Sentinel*, KJC's student newspaper.
- 09/26/1966** With the KJC campus not ready for occupation, the first Registration Day occurs in the Marietta Place Recreation Center. A total of 1,014 students attend KJC for Fall Quarter, 1966, with most classes being held in designated classrooms at Southern Tech. (Marietta Place was a project of the Marietta Housing Authority at Fairground Street and Clay Street, today's South Marietta Parkway, that had originally been built by the federal government for Bell Bomber employees during World War II; from 1961 until the 1965-66 school year Marietta Place housed approximately 400 Southern Tech students and served as STI's only dormitory. During the 1965-66 school year, Southern Tech no longer needed Marietta Place for housing with the opening of two new dormitory buildings that could house about 500 students).
- 10/03/1966** The first issue of the KJC student newspaper, *The Sentinel*, appears. Robert McDearmid is Editor in Chief. Faculty advisors are Mary H. Swain (English) and Earl Calhoun (Business Administration).

- 12/03/1966** A Christmas dance for KJC students was scheduled to be held at the YWCA in Marietta on Henderson Street.
- 01/01/1967** John Patillo becomes the Southern Tech librarian.
- 01/09/1967** KJC's registration is set back five days from January 4 to January 9 so that Winter Quarter could begin on the Frey Lake Road campus. Three buildings are completed by opening day: Science (currently, the Mathematics and Statistics Building), Humanities (the present Willingham Hall), and Student Services (today's Technology Annex).
- 01/13/1967** The Administration Building opens (today's Public Safety Building).
- 01/18/1967** The Maintenance Building opens (remodeled to become the Music Building in 1980).
- 02/01/1967** Social Science Building opens (today's University College). For the first several weeks of Winter Quarter, history and social science classes were held in the Student Services Building.
- 03/16/1967** The Library opens (today's Pilcher Building). For the past two months the Physics Laboratory had housed the library collection.
- 06/09/1967** KJC's first commencement ceremony is held at 2:00 P.M. in the College Library. The first five graduates are Sarah Marguerite Faw, Wilson Jack Gilbert, Roy Herman Price, Jr., Carla Eidson Eidschun, and Stephen John Hanges (the first three receiving A.S. degrees in Business Administration and the last two A.A. degrees in Liberal Arts).
- 06/10/1967** The KJC Gymnasium opens. During Winter and Spring Quarters, physical education classes had been held first in the Student Services Building and then in the Social Science Building.
- 10/03/1967** The *Sentinel* announces that the first volume of the *Montage* (the yearbook) was ready for students to pick up. It had been edited by Grady Eskew and Ross Henderson. The faculty advisor was David M. Jones, Jr.
- 10/23/1967** The first election of KJC Student Government Association officers occurs. Bob Myatt is elected as the first SGA president.
- 12/13/1967** As a result of a number of minor change orders approved by the Board of Regents, the final bill from Thompson & Street for the construction of the KJC campus comes to \$2,524,995.98. (In

addition, Marietta and the Cobb County School District had paid \$100,000 to buy the land, and Cobb County government had spent well over a half million dollars on grading, paving, and putting in utilities. So the total cost of the initial campus was somewhere between \$3.0 million and \$3.25 million.

- 12/13/1967** The Board of Regents approves an Associate of Science in Nursing degree program at KJC to begin with Fall Quarter 1968. Students who earned their degree and passed the State Board Examination would become Registered Nurses.
- 02/28/1968** In its third year, the Cobb County Symposium holds its programs for the first time on the campus of Kennesaw Junior College. The main speaker is Dr. Mary S. Calderone on human sexuality. The Cobb County Symposium brought together the leading professional groups in the county from the fields of medicine, law, religion, and education.
- 04/21/1968** KJC holds its first open house with faculty and administrators available to guide the public through all buildings on campus. Approximately 2,000 visitors were in attendance.
- 05/24/1968** After classes are dismissed at noon, the campus holds its first annual KJC Day of fun and games topped off with a dance in the evening.
- 12/04/1968** The Southern Association of Colleges & Schools announces that KJC has been granted full accreditation.
- 04/17/1969** The KJC Foundation holds its first official meeting. The Board of Trustees begins with 23 trustees. Retired Arrow Shirt Company president Robert T. Garrison serves as the first chairman. At the April 17 meeting, he accepts the Charter from attorney G. Conley Ingram, who explains that the articles of incorporation had first been legally approved in Cobb and then had been certified by Georgia Secretary of State Ben Fortson. R. Steve Tumlin is the original Vice Chairman, Wilder G. Little is Secretary-Treasurer, and Howard Ector becomes the fourth member of the original Executive Committee. The fundraising committee is chaired by Sidney Clotfelter. The first gift received by the Foundation is \$1,000 from Smyrna Federal Savings & Loan Association, presented by trustee W. Wyman Pilcher to Bob Garrison. In the 1969-70 Fiscal Year the Foundation would raise \$21,255.50 for the institution. Dr. Sturgis says that the creation

of the Foundation is “one of the most significant events in the development of our college.”

- 03/__/1970** The Board of Regents approves the elevation of Southern Tech into a senior college, effective fall quarter 1970.
- 07/01/1970** Under a new administrative structure, Walter O. Carlson (former acting dean of Georgia Tech’s College of Engineering) becomes the dean of Southern Tech with Hoyt McClure as associate dean. Carlson was responsible for academic matters, and McClure handled non-academic concerns. Since Southern Tech would be a branch of Georgia Tech until 1980, Carlson reported to the dean of Engineering at Georgia Tech, who reported to Georgia Tech’s vice-president for academic affairs.
- 01/__/1971** Charles Williams becomes just the second African American employee of KJC and the first in a management position as Food Service Supervisor. Dorothy Freeman appeared in the 1969 *Montage* as a maid.
- 01/13/1971** A local delegation, headed by State Senator Cy Chapman, makes a presentation to the Board of Regents on the benefits of converting KJC to four-year status.
- 04/27/1971** The U.S. Office of Education awards KJC a renewable grant of \$113,000 to implement the first year of a three-year Higher Education Achievement Program (HEAP). HEAP was designed to increase educational opportunities for minority and high-risk students.
- 06/03/1971** Terri Ferguson [Thomas Arnold] becomes KJC’s first African American secretary.
- 06/12/1971** Southern Tech awards its first baccalaureate degrees.
- 09/01/1971** Bobby L. Olive begins work as a counselor in the HEAP program, thus becoming the first African American member of the KJC faculty.
- 09/01/1972** Karen P. Maples (Biology) and Ruth I. Rundles (Economics) become the first two African American members of the KJC teaching faculty.
- 03/03/1973** The *Marietta Daily Journal* reports on a meeting between Associate Dean Hoyt McClure and Southern Tech students concerning the need for a student center and the question of possible separation from Georgia Tech. Although Georgia Tech had seemed open to the

idea of separation in the late 1950s when Southern Tech was planning to move to Marietta, McClure seemed to believe that the Atlanta institution would oppose secession during a period of national economic decline in the early 1970s.

- 08/27/1973** Governor Jimmy Carter visits the Southern Tech campus to make amends for a letter he had written to the chancellor earlier in the month. In the process of advocating KJC's elevation to four-year status, the governor had referred to Southern Tech as a "vo-tech" school. In addition to apologizing for that remark, Carter calls for Southern Tech to become independent from Georgia Tech.
- 10/10/1973** A second Cobb County delegation, headed by State Senator Jack Henderson, asks the Regents to turn KJC into a senior college.
- 03/17/1974** The *Marietta Daily Journal* runs an article on Southern Tech's first annual national academic conference named INTERFACE that was organized by STI's English Department to promote dialogue between scholars in the humanities and the sciences. The conferences were organized by Southern Tech professors Robert Fischer and Amos St. Germain.
- 09/__/1974** The W. Clair Harris Chair in Apparel Engineering Technology is established at Southern Tech.
- 11/05/1974** George Busbee is elected governor of Georgia with strong Cobb County support after pledging to support Kennesaw's conversion to four-year status. Having managed the Busbee campaign in Cobb County, State Representative A.L. Burruss becomes Cobb County's "ear" in the governor's office.
- 03/04/1975** The Southern Tech faculty creates an Ad Hoc Committee to study whether Southern Tech was being properly funded and to examine the school's relationship to Southern Tech. Professor Robert W. Hays, a former longtime chair of the English Department and a strong supporter of separation, is elected committee chair.
- 03/12/1975** A Cobb Chamber of Commerce select committee, headed by Bob Garrison, with Harold Willingham as vice-chair, addresses the Board of Regents and asks that KJC become a non-dormitory, four-year school. For the third time, the Board thanks the delegation but takes no action.

- 05/20/1975** Southern Tech Professor Robert Hays sends a letter to Georgia Tech President Joseph M. Pettit to report the results of a faculty poll in which 49 of the 60 participating faculty members favored separation from Georgia Tech, while 7 favored closer ties, and only 4 favored the status quo. Roughly 60 percent of the faculty took part in the survey. By this time, student polls were also showing a growing desire for separation.
- 10/02/1975** The James V. Carmichael Student Center is dedicated at KJC, becoming the first new building since the construction of the original eight. Following Governor Busbee's address, student leaders gathered in the balcony unfurl a huge banner reading "Four Years Now." The audience turns and erupts in loud applause, breaking up the meeting. Later in the day, President Sturgis writes a note to SGA president June Rowland [Krise] that he "could not have been more proud of you and our students than I was this morning."
- 01/30/1976** After a series of meetings with the Ad Hoc committee, administrators, and legislators, Georgia Tech President Pettit approves a reorganization plan for Southern Tech. Implementation begins on January 30, 1976. Dean Walter O. Carlson becomes Dean of the Georgia Tech College of Technology and Executive Director of the Marietta Campus. In his new role, he reports directly to Georgia Tech's Vice-President for Academic Affairs. Since 1970, when Southern Tech became a senior college, Carlson had been reporting to the Dean of Engineering who reported to the Vice-President. With the reorganization, one layer of bureaucracy was removed. Hoyt McClure becomes Associate Executive Director of the Marietta Campus.
- 04/14/1976** After an intense lobbying campaign conducted by KJC Foundation trustees, the KJC administration, the Cobb Chamber of Commerce, members of the legislature (especially Joe Mack Wilson, Al Burruss, and Joe Frank Harris), and other local leaders, a Cobb County delegation, headed again by Bob Garrison, makes its fourth and final appeal to the Board of Regents. Thanks to Regent James D. Maddox of Rome, the Kennesaw question for the first time is a formal agenda item. Regent Maddox makes the motion to designate Kennesaw as a senior college, effective Fall Quarter, 1978. The motion carries in an 11-2 vote. The two negative votes come from regents who lived in Carrollton and Columbus, who fear the impact of Kennesaw's conversion on the schools of their hometowns.

- 10/24/1976** The *Marietta Daily Journal* runs a story on a new organization at Southern Tech, Women in Technology, led by Roberta Gates of the English Department. Women in Technology attempted to be a voice for women on campus. In the 1960s Southern Tech students were almost entirely male, but by 1974 females made up 17 percent of the student body and by the fall of that year were housed on campus for the first time in a 4th floor wing of Howell dormitory.
- 11/05/1976** The *Atlanta Journal* runs an article on the recent formal organization of the Southern Tech Foundation. Alumnus L. Glenn Dewberry, the president of Atlantic Steel Company, becomes the first chair.
- ___/___/1977** President Sturgis invites a number of former student leaders to an organizational meeting of the Kennesaw College Alumni Association. He asks local banker J. Edward (Ed) Mulkey to serve as the first alumni president (1977-1979). Mulkey had never attended Kennesaw, but he was a strong supporter, and his wife Marie was part of the nursing faculty.
- 03/28/1977** Southern Tech officially opens its new student center.
- 05/11/1977** The Board of Regents approves a name change to Kennesaw College, the creation of a Division of Education, and the approval of BA and BS degrees effective with the start of Fall Quarter, 1978.
- 06/008/1977** The Board of Regents agrees to speed up the establishment of a Division of Education and the name change to Kennesaw College, effective with the start of Fall Quarter, 1977.
- 09/01/1977** KJC's name changes officially to Kennesaw College as part of the conversion to four-year status.
- 12/21/1977** I-75 opens adjacent to the Kennesaw College campus. The 17-mile segment from Roberts Road (the future Barrett Parkway) to Red Top Mountain becomes the last part of the interstate highway to be completed, creating a direct interstate route from the Canadian border to Tampa, Florida. According to the *MDJ*, within minutes of the 11:00 A.M. opening, all lanes were full of traffic as if the road had been there forever. I-75 fulfills another pledge that George Busbee made to local leaders during his successful 1974 gubernatorial campaign.

- 02/08/1978** The Board of Regents approves the following six bachelor degree programs at Kennesaw College, effective at the beginning of Fall Quarter, 1978: BA in Music, BS in Business Administration (with concentrations in Management, Accounting, Marketing, Finance, and Economics), BA in English, BA in History, BS in Biology, and BS in Mathematics. The minutes note that these 6 “generic areas” are half of the usual offering of “fundamental programs” in senior colleges in the Georgia system and are expected to increase minority enrollment by up to 10 percent.
- 05/04/1978** The Board of Directors of the Southern Tech Alumni Association votes unanimously for separation from Georgia Tech.
- 09/18/1978** Kennesaw College offers its first upper level classes during Fall Quarter, 1978.
- 04/11/1979** The Board of Regents approves Kennesaw College BS degree programs in Education (K-4), (4-8), and (7-12), and a BA degree program in Education (7-12). At the same time, it approves BA and BS degree programs in Political Science.
- 10/09/1979** Reflecting growing support among faculty, students, and alumni for Southern Tech’s independence from Georgia Tech, the Cobb County Board of Commissioners issue a proclamation calling for separation.
- 10/17/1979** Acting Chancellor Vernon Crawford and Georgia Tech President Pettit meet with the Southern Tech faculty and ask it to vote in a secret ballot to be held soon on several options for Southern Tech’s future. Of the 104 eligible faculty members, 67 voted for separation, 20 for complete absorption into Georgia Tech, and 8 for the status quo. Another 8 did not vote, and 1 abstained.
- 10/23/1979** Dean Carlson sends a memo to the Southern Tech faculty announcing his intention to resign, effective June 30, 1980, so that a new leader could guide Southern Tech during its transition to independence.
- 12/12/1979** The Board of Regents vote to separate Southern Tech from Georgia Tech, effective July 1, 1981, or sooner, pending the results of a presidential search, which was to begin immediately.
- 04/___/1980** The renovated Kennesaw College Maintenance Building reopens as the new Music Building. The one-story, 8,600-square-foot building

was renovated at a cost of a half million dollars. The faculty moves into the new facility early in April.

- 06/10/1980** Kennesaw College awards its first bachelor's degrees at the spring 1980 commencement. State Representative and future Governor Joe Frank Harris delivers the commencement address where he remarks on how far the college has come from its beginnings and that it has become one of the most respected colleges in the state, academically. The first student to finish the requirements for a bachelor's degree was Nicholas J. Bowers, a Business Administration major in accounting, who completed his degree work prior to enlisting in the Air Force in February (there was no Winter Quarter commencement at the time). The first actually to cross the stage and receive a diploma was Martha Ellen (Marti) Barrett, a Music major in voice and flute. Both Bowers and Barrett were honor graduates. Barrett was chosen KC's 1980 Student of the Year by the SGA and Alumni Association. Of the approximately 260 degrees awarded, some 74 were BA's or BS's, the rest associate degrees.
- 06/11/1980** With the selection of a Southern Tech president well under way, the Board of Regents votes to make the effective separation date July 1, 1980.
- 09/01/1980** Dr. Stephen R. Cheshier, Chair of the Electrical Engineering and Technology Department at Purdue University, takes office as the first president of Southern Tech.
- 09/02/1980** At the Kennesaw College Foundation Fund Drive Kick-off breakfast, President Sturgis makes a surprise announcement that he will retire officially on 03/09/1981, but that his actual last day of work would be 12/31/1980.
- 11/11-12/80** The Board of Regents approves BS degree programs in Music Education and Chemistry, effective Winter Quarter, 1981. In the same meeting the Board appoints Dean of the College Eugene R. Huck as Acting President, effective 1 January 1981 and until a new president takes office.
- 12/10/1980** The Board of Regents bestows the title of President Emeritus on Dr. Sturgis, effective 03/10/1981, the day after his retirement.
- 12/___/1980** The new Humanities Building is completed at the end of 1980 and is ready for classes early in 1981. The new home of the Divisions of

Humanities and of Education, it was built for \$1.5 million and was 35,000-square-feet in size.

- 04/15/1981** The Board of Regents approves a BS degree program in Psychology, effective with the beginning of Fall Quarter, 1981.
- 05/15/1981** The Kennesaw College Alumni Association coordinates the first annual Homecoming, corresponding with the annual Kennesaw College Day. Among other events, the returning alumni eat lunch in the Student Center Activities Room and are given a tour of the new buildings on campus.
- 08/19/1981** The Board of Regents officially selects Betty L. Siegel as the first woman president in the history of the University System. She replaces charter president Horace Sturgis, who served through the end of December 1980, and Eugene R. Huck, who served as interim president from Sturgis's retirement until Siegel's appointment.
- 10/05/1981** The \$4 million new Library opens and becomes the first five-story, 100,000-square-foot building on campus.
- 10/15/1981** President Siegel chooses political science professor Helen S. Ridley to chair a View of the Future Committee. For the rest of the school year the entire faculty would be involved in a major study of Kennesaw College's mission, the quality of its professional life, the publics it served, and means of personalizing teaching and learning. That study would be the blueprint for Kennesaw's development in the 1980s.
- 01/04/1982** Dr. Harris T. Travis becomes Southern Tech's vice president and dean of the faculty (later renamed vice president for academic affairs). He was the first African American chief academic officer at a non-historically black institution in the University System of Georgia. Previously, he had headed the mechanical engineering technology department at Purdue University, where he had worked closely with Dr. Cheshier. An article in *The Sting*, February 8, 1982, indicates that he was also a Baptist minister and had pastored a congregation in Lafayette, Indiana. Dr. Travis later described Southern Tech at the time as having a student body that was about 92 percent white male and a faculty with few African American professors.

- 04/11/1982** President Siegel announces the appointment of James Davis (Spec) Landrum as Kennesaw College's first athletic director. KC plays men's soccer as a club sport that spring.
- 05/07/1982** President Cheshier sends a memo to the Vice-Chancellor for Academic Affairs indicating that Southern Tech had admitted the first students into new associate's and bachelor's degree programs in computer science, offered by the Electrical Engineering Technology Department.
- ___/___/1982** In a faculty meeting near the end of Spring Quarter, Stephen E. Scherer becomes the first recipient of Kennesaw College's Distinguished Teaching Award.
- 09/14/1982** Intercollegiate athletics begin officially at KC with a loss by the men's soccer team against Berry College in Rome, Georgia. Coached by Luis Sastoque, the soccer team would go on to a successful 8-6 first season.
- 02/08/1983** The Board of Regents approves a reorganization plan for Kennesaw College, effective 1 July 1983. It replaces the academic divisions of the junior college era with four schools and seventeen departments. The original four schools are Arts & Behavioral Sciences, Science & Allied Health, Business Administration, and Education. The office of Dean of the College is converted to Vice President for Academic Affairs. At the same time, the office of the Controller becomes the Vice President for Business and Finance, and Developmental Studies is placed under the School of Education.
- ___/___/1983** In an awards ceremony near the end of Spring Quarter, Morris Barrett, property control officer and warehouse supervisor, is named KC's Outstanding Staff Employee for 1983. Barrett was the first recipient of this new award.
- 08/01/1983** James W. Kolka begins work as Kennesaw College's first Vice President for Academic Affairs.
- 09/13/1983** A Kennesaw College news release says that Political Science professor Joseph H. (Pete) Silver had recently been appointed Coordinator of Minority Affairs. Following Silver's advice, President Siegel would appoint an African American advisory board consisting of a number of prominent Cobb County civil rights leaders.

- 09/16/1983** Kennesaw College issues a news release relating that Arthur N. Dunning had been hired recently to serve as Assistant to the Vice President for Academic Affairs. At the time, he was the highest ranking African American in the Kennesaw College administration.
- 09/19/1983** Craig E. Aronoff becomes the first permanent holder of the Chair of Private Enterprise with an appointment effective fall of 1983.
- 09/19/1983** With the beginning of Fall Quarter, 1983, Kennesaw begins its First-Year Experience program by offering the initial sections of KC 101 (Freshman Seminar). Nancy S. King (English) and Bowman O. Davis, Jr., (Biology) are the program coordinators.
- 06/08/1984** Kennesaw College's Small Business Development Center is officially dedicated. Eventually, Professor of Marketing W. Wray Buchanan would be named the first permanent director.
- 06/13/1984** The Board of Regents approves Kennesaw College's first two master's programs, a M.B.A. and a M.Ed. in Early Childhood Education (for grades K-8). Dean Harry Lasher describes the MBA program as "non-traditional" and "innovative." The first cohorts of both programs would enroll in 1985.
- 09/24/1984** Recognizing that the label, "Technical Institute," was now outdated and connoted a two-year and vocational degree programs, the Southern Tech faculty votes to recommend a name change to Southern Institute of Technology, a name more in line with what similar institutions around the country were being called. However, the Board of Regents tables the recommendation at its November meeting. Chancellor Crawford expresses concerns that the name could imply that Southern Institute of Technology and Georgia Institute of Technology have the same mission or even that "Southern" had a broader mission than "Georgia."
- 11/19/1984** President Siegel is elected to the Board of Directors of the American Association of State Colleges & Universities (AASCU).
- 01/02/1985** The MBA program enrolls its first class of students, becoming the first master's program in operation at KC.
- 01/08/1985** The "Year of Japan" holds its first program—the first ever program in the annual "Year of" series that has featured a different country each year from 1985 to the present.

- 03/13/1985** The Board of Regents implements a Minority Youth Opportunity Program at Georgia College and Kennesaw College in conjunction with the Small Business Development Center at the University of Georgia. The purposes of the program were to identify high school students with the potential for success in college; to introduce them to basic principles of business, economics, and entrepreneurship; and to acquaint them with education opportunities in the University System. The 10-day on-campus program was to begin in June 1985 and the results of the program were to be reported to the Office for Civil Rights as one of the University System of Georgia's desegregation activities.
- 05/24/1985** At the annual Honors Day Convocation, Terri Thomas [Arnold] is designated the Outstanding Staff Employee for 1985. When she was hired in 1971, she was the first African American secretary at the college.
- 09/__/1985** Assistant to the Vice President for Academic Affairs Arthur Dunning becomes Dean of Graduate Studies and Sponsored Research. He is the first African American to become an academic dean at KC.
- 10/__/1985** The Board of Regents approves Southern Tech's first master's program in Technology Management.
- 12/__/1985** The Board of Regents approves a reorganization of Southern Tech into three schools: Arts and Sciences, Engineering Technology, and Management, effective with the fall quarter of 1986. The Computer Science Department is housed with the Arts and Sciences. The Technology Management master's degree is renamed the Master of Science in Technical Management.
- 09/10/1986** Upon the recommendation of President Cheshier, the Board of Regents changes the name of Southern Technical Institute to Southern College of Technology, effective October 1, 1986.
- 10/03-04/1986** Southern College of Technology holds a two-day open house and celebration to introduce its new name and to open officially a new academic building, the campus's first new building in almost twenty years, despite a doubling in enrollment in that time. The celebration also includes the dedication of the Burruss auditorium and ground breakings for a library extension and a new Apparel and Textile Building.

- 10/27/1986** A Kennesaw College news release indicates that Betty Siegel had been elected to a three-year term on the Board of Directors of the American Council on Education (ACE).
- ___/___/1986** KC is highlighted in *Searching for Academic Excellence* as one of twenty colleges and universities in the nation that are “on the move.”
- 07/01/1987** David L. Waples begins work as Kennesaw’s second athletic director, replacing Spec Landrum, who had recently retired.
- 07/08/1987** The Board of Regents names the old library the W. Wyman Pilcher Public Service Building. Pilcher, who had died in 1984, had been a charter member of the KJC Foundation and, as Foundation president, represented the Foundation on the presidential search committee that brought Betty Siegel to campus. The Pilcher Building was the second on campus to be named for an individual, following the Carmichael Student Center twelve years earlier.
- 08/01/1987** KC’s dean of Graduate Studies and Sponsored Research, Art Dunning, assumes his duties as Vice Chancellor of Services and Minority Affairs at the Board of Regents.
- 08/07/1987** The groundbreaking takes place for Southern Tech’s W. Claire Harris Center of Excellence in Textile Engineering. Supported by state and private funds, the center attempted to serve the needs of the apparel, rug, carpet, sewing, and textile industries and was the only one of its kind in the US. The building was completed during the 1988-89 academic year.
- 11/02/1987** The official dedication of the Pilcher Building occurs with the Pilcher family in attendance.
- 03/09/1988** The Board of Regents approves the naming of the Bentley Special Collections—Rare Book Gallery in honor of Fred Bentley, effective immediately. Mr. Bentley had been a member of the KC Foundation Board of Trustees for the past fourteen years, and was a former state legislator and Cobb Chamber of Commerce president.
- 04/06/1988** The Kennesaw College faculty votes to recommend a name change to Kennesaw State College to distinguish Kennesaw from junior colleges and private colleges. “State” implied senior and public.
- 04/17/1988** A dedication ceremony is held at 4:00 P.M. for the new Bentley Rare Book Gallery. For the past decade, Fred and Sara Bentley had been

giving the library rare documents and books, many of them first editions, worth over a half million dollars. Kennesaw had also received significant collections from Dr. Cecil Toole and Mary Quadfasel, the latter in memory of her late husband, Dr. F. A. Quadfasel. Furnishing for the rare book gallery included a number of antiques and were designed to model an 18th- or 19th-century neoclassical gentleman's library. The woodwork was milled and finished by hand by master craftsman John Frey. The son of Steve Frey, John and his wife Nina had once planned to build their home approximately where the Bentley Gallery was located. Library director Bob Williams described Kennesaw's rare book collection as "world class." He said that "with this collection, Kennesaw College joins the very best."

- 06/08/1988** The Board of Regents approves the name change to Kennesaw State College, effective July 1, 1988. The Board noted that the faculty had approved the change in two successive faculty meetings and that the alumni had approved it through an extensive survey. The consensus of supporters was that KSC connoted a greater institutional mission and reflected the college's positive reputation. Since FY 1988 marked Kennesaw's Silver Jubilee, the Regents remarked that "the 25th Anniversary Celebration is an opportune time to announce the new name."
- 06/11/1988** Southern College of Technology awards its first master's degrees.
- ___/___/1988** Kennesaw State's Office of International Programs is established with Royce Q. Shaw as the first director. Assistant Director Thomas H. Keene would replace Shaw as director in 1989.
- 07/___/1988** The A.L. Burruss Institute of Public Service & Research is established as Kennesaw's first public service/applied research center.
- 11/16/1988** Jerome Ratchford is named Kennesaw State's Coordinator of Minority Retention.
- 05/22/1989** The KSC College Council votes to ban smoking in all buildings on campus. The vote would later be confirmed in a full faculty meeting.
- 09/___/1989** The School of Architecture opens at Southern College of Technology during fall quarter.

- 09/20/1989** KSC's new Education and Performing Arts Building opens in time for the start of fall quarter (09/20/1989). It would go through several name changes in its early history. The School of Education moved after about a year to the original Humanities Building (today's Willingham Hall), and by the 1991-1992 school year the new building was known as the Continuing Education and Performing Arts Building. In September 1994 the Board of Regents officially named it the Joe Mack Wilson Building (please see entry for 09/13-14/1994). The Performing Arts Theater would be officially dedicated in early 1990 (please see entry for 02/23/1990).
- 10/19/1989** A dedication ceremony is held for the Burruss Institute with Governor Joe Frank Harris speaking.
- ___/___/1989** In a fall issue, *U.S. News & World Report* names Kennesaw for the first time as a "top-up-and-coming" regional college or university.
- 12/14/1989** A KSC news release announces that President Siegel was elected Chair of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU) at its recent annual meeting in San Francisco.
- 01/16/1990** Kennesaw State's charter president, Horace W. Sturgis, dies at age 77.
- 02/14/1990** The Board of Regents approves a request from Kennesaw State to rename the library as the Horace W. Sturgis Library, effective immediately. The renaming honored the memory of Kennesaw's charter president. The Board of Regents approved the construction of the building during his presidency, and it officially opened on October 5, 1981, less than a year after his retirement. In the minutes, the Board took note of Sr. Sturgis's decision to place the library in the center of the campus to symbolize the library's role as the heart of the college. The minutes also noted Sturgis's role in organizing the KSC Foundation in 1969 and Alumni Association in 1977. He always had a special fondness for the college library and maintained his President Emeritus office on its 3rd floor (in the northwest corner of the building).
- 02/23/1990** The grand opening of KSC's million dollar Performing Arts Theater occurs with the first of three nights of performances of Leonard Bernstein's *Candide*. In 1992, Fred E. Stillwell would receive the KSC Foundation's first Erwin Zaban Prize for Entrepreneurial Spirit for his 1991 gift to endow the Howard Logan Stillwell Theater in memory of

his father. At the time, his \$270,000 gift was the largest made by an individual in the school's history. In 2002, Mr. Stillwell was given an honorary doctorate and was a commencement speaker.

03/27/1990 With Spring Quarter 1990 registration, KSC successfully launches telephone registration.

06/16/1990 KSC for the first time holds two commencement ceremonies on the same day due to the growing number of graduates and the limited seating capacity of the gymnasium. According to a news release, Kennesaw had initiated a December commencement several years earlier and had added a March commencement earlier in 1990.

09/15/1990 A KSC news release relates that Jack and Mary Dinos had pledged \$250,000—the largest single gift ever received from an individual or individual couple—to endow KSC's Chair of Private Enterprise. Dinos was the newly retired CEO of Southern Tea Company. At this point, the chair becomes the Jack and Mary Dinos Distinguished Chair of Private Enterprise, with Craig E. Aronoff the first chair holder.

09/18/1990 For the first time, KSC's Fall Quarter 1990 registration tops 10,000 students. The 10,000th student to register for the fall quarter is Amy Barksdale, age 19, of Cobb County. The final enrollment for the quarter reaches 10,030.

__/__/1990 The KSC Physical Education annex opens in the fall of 1990.

__/__/1990 In fall 1990 Kennesaw bans smoking in all buildings.

07/10/1991 Effective immediately, the Board of Regents approves the naming of the new Business Administration Building for the late Georgia Representative A.L. Burruss (1927-1986), who was also a KSC Foundation trustee and a leader in the effort in the 1970s to convert Kennesaw into a senior college.

08/15/1991 A KSC campus news release indicates that Chris Schaufele and Nancy Zumoff had recently received grants from the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the Department of Education's Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE) to develop their *Earth Algebra* textbook and implement it in their classes.

__/__/1991 After five years of preparation, Kennesaw fully implements a new General Education program.

- 10/25/1991** The 110,000-square-foot, \$10 million, Burruss Building is dedicated in a ceremony on campus. Faculty in business, mathematics, and computer science had moved into the building over the summer, and classes were first held in the building on 09/20/1991, the first day of classes for Fall Quarter.
- 01/14/1992** The groundbreaking ceremony takes place for the LeoDelle and Lex Jolley Lodge at KSC.
- 04/18/1992** The annual National Model U.N. Competition concludes in New York City with Kennesaw State College capturing first place among the 154 teams competing from 140 colleges and universities. In the simulated U.N. sessions, Kennesaw students represented Ukraine. The advisor is Political Science instructor Steve McKelvey. The 13-student delegation was led by Head Delegate David J. Register of Smyrna, a senior majoring in International Affairs.
- 06/15/1992** The Student Advisory Council to the Board of Regents selects Kennesaw State as the “Best SGA in the University System.” The president of Kennesaw’s Student Government Association was David Ake.
- 08/__/1992** KSC’s application is accepted by the NCAA at the Division II level.
- 08/11/1993** The Board of Regents authorizes the execution of a rental agreement with CSL/Chastain Associates to lease 50,110 square feet of office and classroom space at Chastain Center, 200 Chastain Center Boulevard, to house KSC’s Continuing Education, the School of Nursing, and the Small Business Development Center. The agreement was for the 10 months between September 1, 1993, and June 30, 1994, at a monthly rental not to exceed \$39,670.41, with an option to renew for four consecutive one-year periods beginning July 1, 1994. The board noted a critical need for space to accommodate an anticipated enrollment of over 12,000 students in the fall of 1993.
- 09/08/1993** At the September board meeting, Regent Eldridge W. McMillan objects to the Renewing American Civilization course at KSC, taught by Congressman Newt Gingrich, saying he found it “personally reprehensible” and an abuse of the principle of academic freedom. He did not believe that publicly supported institutions should ever give sitting politicians a platform to expound their “brand of politics or social theory.” Regent Juanita P. Baranco, the chair of the

Committee on Organization and Law, stated that the course violated the spirit of the board's policy on adjunct appointments and that her committee would look into the possibility of amending the policy for the consideration of the board at a future meeting.

09/18/1993 Gingrich and Dean Tim Mescon begin team-teaching *Renewing American Civilization* to 68 undergraduate students who enrolled in Management 490 and 26 graduate students enrolled in GBA 890. To fund the course, Gingrich and officials of his political action committee, GOPAC, had raised approximately \$300,000 that was deposited in a KSC Foundation account. The external funding was used, in part, to purchase equipment to broadcast Gingrich's lectures to campuses and other viewing sites across the nation. Part of the funds were also used to pay the salary of Jeffrey Eisenach, who resigned as executive director of GOPAC to serve as the project director and chief fundraiser for *Renewing American Civilization*. Some of his fundraising letters to key donors were blatantly political, arguing that the purpose of the course was to train at least 200,000 citizens to work for government reforms that would replace the welfare state. The course would bring into question the tax-exempt status of the KSU Foundation.

09/__/1993 After years of delays, the 1993-94 school year begins with the dedication of the new Joe Mack Wilson Student Center at Southern Tech.

__/__/1993 The Lex and LeoDelle Jolley Lodge opens officially in fall 1993.

10/13/1993 The Board of Regents approves the settlement of condemnation cases filed against 1.78 acres owned by Chastain Development Company and 28.031 acres owned by M.D. Hodges Enterprises, Inc., for the use and benefit of KSC. The condemnation of the Chastain and Hodges properties had been heard by a Special Master appointed through the Cobb Superior Court. The awards made by the Special Master were appealed by the condemnees, but they also made an offer of settlement to the Board of Regents. Upon the recommendation of outside counsel, the board at the October 12-13 meeting votes to accept that offer of \$133,900.00 to Chastain Development Company for its 1.78 acres, and \$3,041,443.87 to M.D. Hodges Enterprises, Inc., for its 28.031 acres. Located to the east of Steve Frey Road, the two tracts of almost 30 acres would allow for future campus expansion. Kennesaw Hall, the East Parking Deck,

the East Parking Lot, and the Convocation Center would later be constructed on this land, after Frey Road was relocated to the eastern edge of the property near I-75.

- 10/13/1993** The Board of Regents amends its policy on employees holding state or federal elected office. The Policy Manual of the Board of Regents already said that candidates and elected political office holders at the state or federal level could not be employed by any institution in the University System of Georgia. Gingrich, however, was not technically an employee because he had agreed to teach as an adjunct professor without compensation. To remove this loophole, the new policy statement added the language “with or without compensation.” Consequently, Gingrich would move *Renewing American Civilization* to Reinhardt College for the Winter Quarter.
- 11/___/1993** Deborah S. Wallace becomes Acting Dean of the School of Education in the wake of an administrative reshuffling following the denial of its application for reaccreditation by the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE). Despite an excellent performance year after year by Kennesaw graduates on the Georgia Teacher Certification Test, the program had come up short on a majority of NCATE standards.
- 02/09/1994** The Board of Regents authorizes KSC to rename the business school as the Michael J. Coles School of Business Administration, in recognition of the first million dollar gift to the KSC Foundation, donated by the Coles-Novak Family Foundation established by Michael and Donna Coles. Michael Coles had been a trustee of the KSC Foundation since 1990.
- 04/___/1994** The Coles School of Business is granted full accreditation by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB).
- 06/01/1994** Coach Mike Sansing’s KSC baseball team wins the national NAIA tournament with a victory in the championship game over Southeastern Oklahoma State University.
- 06/08/1994** The Board of Regents approves KSC’s fifth school, the School of Nursing. With the departure of Nursing, the School of Science & Allied Health is renamed the School of Mathematics and Science. The chair of the Nursing Department, Julia L. (Judy) Perkins, becomes the charter Dean of the School of Nursing. The school had two departments, the Department of Associate Degree Nursing and

the Department of Baccalaureate Degree Nursing. These changes became effective on July 1, 1994.

- 09/14/1994** The Board of Regents approves KSC's request to rename the Continuing Education and Performing Arts Building the Wilson Building in memory of Joe Mack Wilson, the former state legislator (1961-1988) and Marietta mayor (1989-1993) who died in office in 1993. The Board recognized his efforts in gaining support for the building's construction. In 1994 it contained classrooms and offices for the School of Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences.
- 10/04/1994** Gingrich files a report with the House Ethics Committee describing his role in the Renewing American Civilization course. In response to questions from the committee, Gingrich's attorneys would file additional responses, over the new Speaker of the House's signature, dated 8 December 1994 and 27 March 1995. Unfortunately for the Speaker, these last two statements untruthfully claimed that GOPAC had no involvement in the course. In December 1995 Gingrich would admit he filed erroneous reports and paid the committee \$300,000 as a fine to cover the costs of its investigation.
- 11/__/1994** Through the collaborative efforts of the School of Education and faculty in the liberal arts content areas, Kennesaw implements a Teacher Education Council and a Professional Teacher Education Unit (PTEU). As a result, an NCATE review team announces that the PTEU had met all eighteen standards for reaccreditation and gives Kennesaw a special commendation for its college-wide collaborative effort.
- __/__/1994** Coach Stan Sims' KSC cross country teams win the men's and women's Peach Belt titles for the first of 6 straight years (1994-99).
- 04__/1995** NCATE sends Kennesaw official notification that the School of Education was approved for reaccreditation.
- __/__/1995** Coach Scott Whitlock's softball team wins the NCAA Division II tournament. KSC will repeat as national champion in 1996.
- 01/02/1996** KSC's new \$15-million, 104,336-square-foot Science Building opens in time for the beginning of Winter Quarter 1996.
- 01/02/1996** The first group of students begins classes in the Master of Science in Nursing for Primary Care Nurse Practitioners program.

- 01/10/1996** The Board of Regents approves a Specialty in Organizational Behavior Bachelor of Applied Science degree program at Southern College of Technology. The program was designed to provide a general coverage of management systems for individuals attempting to move into supervisory roles in business or industry. It was not designed to provide a formal baccalaureate competency in any specific discipline.
- 02/14/1996** The Board of Regents approves the appointment of Nancy S. King as KSC's first permanent Vice President for Student Success and Enrollment Services, effective 02/15/1996. King becomes the first woman to hold the title of vice president in any of the administrative areas at Kennesaw State.
- 03/23/1996** The Learning Disabilities Association of Georgia presents KSC President Betty L. Siegel with its first Significant Accomplishment Award in recognition of KSC's creation of a graduate program in learning disabilities and other advances in special education (cited in the Chancellor's Report at the May 7-8, 1996, Board of Regents meeting).
- 04/10/1996** The Board of Regents declares a tract of land of approximately 4800 feet by 120 feet to be no longer advantageously useful to KSU or the USG and approves its transfer to Cobb County for the relocation of Frey Road, in exchange for the existing Frey Road right-of-way from Cobb County, subject to existing utility easements. The board noted that it had acquired the property in 1993 between Frey Road and I-75 for the future development of the Kennesaw State campus, and that Cobb County plans to relocate Frey Road to the edge of the campus (adjacent to I-75) and to widen Frey Road from the present two lanes to a four lane divided road at no cost to the Board of Regents. Construction by Cobb County was expected to start in fall 1996 to be completed by summer 1997. The existing Frey Road was expected to remain partially in place to the extent necessary to serve KSC, but not as a thoroughfare. [The only part remaining in 2014 was the pavement running north from the East Parking Deck toward the Campus Green, between the Convocation Center and the Student Recreation Center].
- 05/07/1996** In a meeting of the Board of Regents' Committee on Planning and Oversight (meeting as a Committee of the Whole), Chancellor Portch describes former Kennesaw faculty member Dr. Joseph "Pete" Silver

as his “mentor and conscience” in rethinking admissions standards and access. Chancellor Portch credited Silver and Dr. Jan Kettlewell with obtaining a Woodruff Grant of \$4 million for the University System.

- __/__/1996** The KSC baseball team wins the NCAA Division II tournament.
- 06/12/1996** The Board of Regents elevates Kennesaw and six other state colleges to university status. All seven offered masters’ as well as bachelors’ degrees and had names that everyone agreed could be changed merely by substituting “university” for “college.” The seven were Albany State University, Augusta State University, Columbus State University, Fort Valley State University, Kennesaw State University, Savannah State University, and the State University of West Georgia. Five other state colleges (Armstrong State College, Georgia College, Georgia Southwestern College, North Georgia College, and Southern College of Technology) would receive university status in the coming months after a consensus developed on what they should be called. The board made clear that the changes in nomenclature reflected the institutions’ current missions and in no way implied an expansion of institutional mission, academic programming, or budget.
- 07/09/1996** Upon the recommendation of Chancellor Stephen R. Portch, the Board of Regents grants university status and changes the name of Southern College of Technology to Southern Polytechnic State University.
- 09/11/1996** The Board of Regents approves a BS in Surveying and Mapping at SPSU, effective Fall quarter 1996. The degree program was to be housed in the Civil Engineering Technology Department with classroom and office space in the recently renovated CET Building. The program was expected to help land surveyors meet registration requirements in Georgia and other states.
- 10/__/1996** Funded with state and private sources and with the proceeds from the sale of a parcel of land to Life College, Southern Poly completes an indoor recreational complex. An outdoor complex opened the previous year (1995).
- 10/09/1996** The Board of Regents authorizes KSU to separate the Department of Music and Performing Arts into two new departments: Music and Theater. The change recognizes the programs’ increase in quality

with the Music Performance and Music Education programs having gained NASM accreditation and with the Cobb Symphony Orchestra housed at Kennesaw State and conducted by a tenured KSU faculty member.

- 10/09/1996** The Board of Regents approves President Siegel's request to name the KSU baseball stadium in memory of Gertrude Richardson Stillwell, effective immediately. Previously, the campus theater was named in honor of Mrs. Stillwell's husband, Howard Logan Stillwell. To date, the Stillwell family had donated close to a million dollars to KSU, and Howard and Gertrude's son Fred and daughter-in-law Jane were major donors to KSU athletics. Fred Stillwell was a trustee emeritus of the KSU Foundation and members of the Owls Club, an athletic booster association.
- 12/11/1996** The Board of Regents approves a new major at KSU in Special Education under the existing MEd degree, effective immediately.
- ___/___/1997** The Legacy Gazebo is built with funds raised by the KSU Staff Council. The accompanying Teahouse opens in 1998.
- 02/11/1997** The Central Office Staff of the Board of Regents presents a summary of a Request for Proposal (RFP) to the Committee on Real Estate and Facilities regarding student housing at Southern Poly. According to the report, the Board, in March 1995, endorsed a public-private partnership to build student housing, but the developer failed to arrange independent financing. With the assistance of the Attorney General's office, the staff prepared a RFP that would solicit the financing, design, construction, and operation of a student housing facility. In 1997 SPSU had housing for 450 students with a 97 percent occupancy rate. Its ultimate goal was to maintain 1500 beds to house approximately 20 percent of a projected 6500 student population. The immediate goal contained in the RFP was for a developer to plan a housing complex on an eight-acre site for 250-300 beds, to produce a financing plan to cover development and construction costs, and provide an operational plan that outlined the relationship between the privately-operated housing facility and SPSU. The RFP was to be released on February 28, 1997, proposals were to be received by April 18, and the selected firm notified on May 26.

- 02/12/1997** In his report to the Board, Chancellor Portch notes that KSU President Betty Siegel had been named the 1996 Cobb Citizen of the Year by the MDJ at the annual Cobb Chamber of Commerce meeting in January.
- 02/12/1997** Effective, February 12, 1997, KSU's College of Education is named the Clarice and Leland Bagwell College of Education after the largest gift received by the KSU Foundation to that time—680 acres of land in Bartow County—was donated in their behalf. Leland Bagwell was a chemistry teacher for three years in Canton before going into private business. American Proteins, Inc., the family business, became the world's largest processor of poultry by-products for animal and pet food. Clarice taught special education in Cherokee County for many years. She served for three years as president of the Georgia Parent-Teacher Association and six years on the Board of Directors of the National PTA. When Leland died in 1972, she made the transition from educator to businesswoman. In 1997 she was Chairman of the Board of American Proteins. She had been a member of the KSU Foundation since 1982.
- 03/12/1997** The Board of Regents approves a BA degree at SPSU for majors in Computer Science, Mathematics, Management of Technology, Physics, and Technical and Professional Communication, effective immediately. The BA degree was created to give students the flexibility to internationalize their education to increase their preparedness in the global economy of the 21st century. Students in the degree program would be required to complete an 18 semester hour block of courses that would include a second foreign language course and the 15-hour International Studies minor or its equivalent, including the option of 3 to 9 semester hours of pre-approved study abroad experiences. The rationale for the new degree was that proficiency in a foreign language, understanding of different cultures, and cross-cultural communication skills were learning outcomes increasingly being sought by today's companies.
- 03/12/1997** The Board of Regents votes to re-appoint most of the presidents of University System institutions, including KSU's Betty Siegel. However, SPSU President Steve Cheshier was not on the list of re-appointments.
- 04/09/1997** In his report to the Board, Chancellor Portch notes that Governor Zell Miller had asked KSU President Betty Siegel to represent the State of

Georgia on the 1998 Commission on the Future of the South. The committee was to make recommendations to the Southern Growth Policies Board, chaired by Governor Sundquist of Tennessee.

05/30/1997 Vice President for Academic Affairs Harris T. Travis removes five department heads after they express no confidence in his leadership. The five were Williams S. (Sandy) Pfeiffer, Humanities; Robert Fischer, Social and International Studies; Michael G. Murphy, Computer Science; Julian A. Wilson Jr., Electrical Engineering Technology; and Britt Pearce, Mechanical Engineering Technology.

According to a story by Kevin Marks entitled “Five Department Heads Dismissed by Dr. Travis,” *The Sting*, June 3, 1997, the department heads were upset over a decision affecting faculty salaries by Harris, President Cheshier, and John Hosey, the vice president for business and finance. The Board of Regents had authorized average raises of 6 percent. The department heads alleged that the three chief administrators had created a formula that would give higher raises to administrators than to teaching faculty. As a result, the five department heads had added an item to the agenda of the Deans & Department Heads meeting for May 30, 1997, calling for discussion of a resolution stating, “Whereas Dr. Harris Travis, Vice President for Academic Affairs, has failed to protect the interests of the faculty, we express no confidence in his ability to guide the future or academic affairs at SPSU.” According to *The Sting* article, Dr. Travis interrupted the meeting, called the five administrators into his office, and handed them dismissal letters.

The Sting’s front page headline for June 3, 1997 was “Southern Poly Welcomes Dr. Daniel Papp.” Papp had recently been appointed as interim president, effective July 1, 1997. The other front page story was “Five Department Heads Dismissed by Dr. Travis.” *The Sting* ran Travis’s dismissal memo to the five heads. In it he notes that the department heads had pushed under his office door on May 27 an envelope labeled “Urgent and Confidential” and announcing their plans to introduce the resolution of no confidence. He strongly disagreed with their claim that he did not have the best interest of faculty at heart, reminded them that he had already made plans to retire, and claimed that he had remained because Dr. Papp had asked him to do so during the transitional period between permanent presidents. He accused the five administrators of a “continuing pattern of behavior” towards the top campus leadership that had

“contributed to a state of unrest and turmoil” at SPSU. So he fired them, effective immediately, as department heads, but recognized that, as tenured faculty, they could return to the full-time teaching faculty if they chose.”

06/09/1997 Regent Juanita P. Baranco recognizes KSU President Siegel as the recipient of the Governor’s Council on Women’s 1997 Georgia Woman of the Year.

06/09/1997 Regent Kenneth W. Cannestra, the recently retired president of Lockheed Aeronautical Systems Group, tells the Board of Regents that he had worried ten years earlier that the quality of programs at Southern Poly had deteriorated. However, he says that he is now convinced that President Cheshier had done an outstanding job of raising standards and that Southern Poly graduates were as qualified as any graduates in the country. He also thanks President Cheshier for revitalizing the SPSU Foundation. President Cheshier thanks the Board “for all its support.”

06/11/1997 The Board of Regents announces its ranking list for new building projects, with SPSU’s \$11.1 million School of Architecture Building Expansion ninth on the ranking list.

06/11/1997 The Board of Regents unanimously approves KSU’s request to award its first honorary doctorate to Mrs. Clarice C. Bagwell, chairman of the board and co-owner of American Proteins, Inc. The previous December, American Proteins had donated 680 acres in Bartow County worth in excess of \$2 million to KSU. Mrs. Bagwell had been a member of the KSU Board of Trustees since 1982

07/01/1997 Dr. Daniel S. Papp takes office as interim president of Southern Polytechnic State University.

07/09/1997 The Board of Regents approves a request from KSU to reorganize the School of Nursing, effective immediately. With the associate degree Nursing program having graduated its last cohort of students in June, KSU dissolved the Department of Associate Degree Nursing and created a Department of Primary Care Nursing.

07/09/1997 The Board of Regents approves a major in Operations and Purchasing under the existing BBA degree at KSU, effective immediately.

- 07/09/1997** The Board of Regents approves a pilot Internet delivery of the existing MS in quality assurance degree at SPSU. The Board also approves a new MS in Software Engineering degree at Southern Poly, effective immediately.
- 07/09/1997** The Board of Regents approves the concept and a contract for a ground lease agreement at SPSU. The terms and conditions of the lease were to be reviewed at a special meeting of the Real Estate and Facilities Committee and were to be brought to the full Board for finalization at a later date.
- 08/04/1997** SPSU Athletic Director George Perides is placed on paid academic leave while an investigation is conducted into possible financial improprieties in the athletic department. Perides was a highly successful basketball coach with a record with the Hornets of 460-258 and six NAIA District 25 championships.
- 09/12/1997** After a federal jury found KSU and the Board of Regents guilty of retaliating against former Communication chair Candace Kaspers, the State's attorneys negotiate a compromise final settlement of \$750,000 that cover the jury award, Kaspers' attorney fees, and all other expenses, but stipulates that she relinquishes her claims to reinstatement. While the jury did not rule on the charges of anti-Semitism, the newspaper accounts focused almost exclusively on the bias charge.
- 09/19/1997** For the first time, Fall Quarter 1997 African American student enrollment exceeds 1,000. The final official figure was 1,078.
- 01/13/1998** Ms. Dena Roth, KSU's Director of Environmental Health and Safety, gives a report to the Board of Regents on her department, which was created with the hiring of the first director in December 1993. Ms. Roth was hired as director in 1995. Since then, the director has reported to KSU's Vice President for Business & Finance. Her responsibilities included advising the administration on environmental issues in the construction of the Governor's first "Fast-Track" building—the new science building—and the protection of the habitat of a State of Georgia protected plant species popularly known as the pink lady-slipper (*Cypripedium Acaule*) in a wooded area near the Science Building [and near where University Place, KSU's first campus housing would be built]. She said her primary

responsibilities were regulatory compliance, technical issues, and training.

- 02/10/1998** The Board of Regents' Committee on Organization and Law denies an application for review in the matter of the termination of employment of George Perides at SPSU.
- 02/11/1998** The Board of Regents approves Heery International, Inc. of Atlanta as the architectural design firm for SPSU's School of Architecture Building Expansion project.
- 02/11/1998** The Board of Regents approves a B.S. in Exercise and Health Science at KSU, effective immediately.
- 03/11/1998** The Board of Regents approves a \$1.7 million project at KSU to construct a Campus Services Building to house approximately 60 staff persons in Procurement, Business Services, Personnel, and Campus Police.
- 03/11/1998** The Board of Regents approves KSU President Betty Siegel's request to 1) realign interrelated professional programs and departments (including Nursing; Health, Physical Education, and Sport Science; Public Administration and Human Services; and the Wellness Center) into a new College of Health and Human Services; 2) realign the Special Education programs and faculty into a new Department of Special Education; and 3) realign Social Science faculty into a new Department of Sociology, Geography, and Anthropology.
- 03/31/1998** Dr. Harris T. Travis retires as SPSU's vice president for academic affairs. He was already full-time pastor of Zion Baptist Church in Marietta, a post he would hold until his retirement from the church at age 82 in 2016. Dr. Ed Vizzini, dean of the college of arts and sciences, was appointed as interim vice president while a search took place for Travis' successor.
- 05/13/1998** The Board of Regents approves the request of SPSU Interim President Dan Papp to name the library the Lawrence Virgil Johnson Library in memory of the founding director of the Technical Institution, which became Southern Polytechnic State University. Mr. Johnson ended his career as associate dean of Engineering at Georgia Tech. He retired in 1972 and died in June 1997.

- 05/13/1998** The Board of Regents approves a M.S. in Informational Systems at KSU, effective immediately.
- 05/13/1998** The Board of Regents approves a B.S. in Telecommunications Engineering Technology at SPSU.
- 05/13/1998** The Board of Regents unanimously approves the Chancellor's nomination of Dr. Lisa A. Rossbacher for the presidency of SPSU, effective August 1, 1998.
- 05/15/1998** *The Sting* runs a front-page story written by Bryan Garmon entitled "Department Heads." It references the firing of the five SPSU department heads on May 30, 1997, and mentions a campus protest that called for their reinstatement. Instead, SPSU took a middle course between permanent removal and reinstatement. The university conducted national searches to fill the positions, but encouraged the former chairs to apply for their old jobs if they chose. As a result, Dr. Sandy Pfeiffer and Dr. Britt Pearce were reinstated. In English Fischer would be replaced by Dr. Charlie Weeks. In Computer Science Jorge L. Diaz-Herrera followed Mike Murphy. In Electrical Engineering Technology was replaced by Kim Davis.
- [Sandy Pfeiffer would become vice president for academic affairs from 2001-2003 and ended his career as president of Warren Wilson College in North Carolina. Mike Murphy spent several years in the early 21st century as dean of the School of Computing and Software Engineering. Robert Fischer and Julian Wilson remained part of the teaching faculty for several more years.]
- 06/10/1998** The Board of Regents approves a B.S. in Sport Management, effective immediately.
- 07/08/1998** Effective immediately, the Board of Regents approves President Siegel's request to divide the College of Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences into two distinct units: A School of the Arts and a College of Humanities & Social Sciences. Three departments (Music, Theater, and Visual Arts) would form the School of the Arts. Together, they had 500 declared majors and 33 full-time faculty and staff members. Joseph D. Meeks continued as chair of the Department of Music while assuming the added duties as Acting Dean. The remaining seven departments and their 135 faculty

members would constitute the College of Humanities & Social Sciences.

- 07/08/1998** The Board of Regents approves President Siegel's request to establish the Wachovia Chair of Family Business, effective immediately. The KSU Foundation had on deposit a total of \$300,000 to establish the chair. The lead gift and challenge grant for the chair was made in November 1997 to the KSU Foundation by Wachovia Foundation, Inc. Joseph H. Astrachan, a member of the business faculty since 1992, would become the first chair holder.
- 07/08/1998** To increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the M.B.A. faculty, seven existing full-time positions in marketing and management are redirected into a new Department of Leadership & Professional Development.
- 08/22/1998** Kennesaw begins its first fall semester after approximately two years of work where every course was reevaluated in the conversion process from quarter to semester hours.
- 09/09/1998** The Board of Regents authorizes the execution of a sub-rental agreement with the KSU Foundation for 162,677 square feet of space at 3333 George Busbee Parkway, Kennesaw, [formerly Kinder Outlet Mall] for the period from July 1, 1999 through June 30, 2000 at a yearly rental of \$1,464,093 with the option to renew on a year-to-year basis for seven consecutive years for the use of KSU. The board required a memorandum of understanding between the board and the foundation that the property would be transferred to the board at the time the foundation's mortgage was liquidated. The KSU Foundation planned to long-term lease the facility for 20 years and to renovate it to suit the needs of KSU. KSU would initially occupy 123,677 square feet. As leases for existing tenants expired, the foundation planned to renovate the space and lease it to KSU. When fully occupied by KSU, it was to contain Continuing Education, the Burruss Institute, Board of Regents Peachnet, the Small Business Development Center, the graduate business program, Central Receiving, the Copy/Mail Center, and Auxiliary Enterprises. When fully occupied, Kennesaw was expected not to need rental space at Chastain Center and the use of 24 modular buildings.
- __/__/1998** The re-routing of Frey Road is completed.

- __/__/1998** After a major renovation of the old Natural Science Building, the structure reopened in the summer as the Nursing Building.
- __/__/1998** Campus Services Facility opens.
- __/__/1999** Kennesaw Hall opens in the summer of 1999.
- __/__/1999** The Carmichael Student Center addition opens in the summer of 1999, tripling the amount of space devoted to student activities.
- __/__/1999** The new Visual Arts Building opens.
- 01/06/1999** The College of Science & Mathematics enrolls the first students in its first graduate program, a Master of Science in Information Systems.
- 02/02/1999** The Internal Revenue Service notifies the KSU Foundation that it is no longer under investigation over its involvement in the Renewing American Civilization course, removing a cloud over the Foundation's ability to raise tax-deductible funds. By that time, Congressman Newt Gingrich had resigned from Congress and the Foundation had paid close to \$400,000 to King & Spalding in legal fees to protect its charitable 501 (c) (3) status.
- __/__/1999** The KSU Foundation leases the Kinder Outlet Mall to house Continuing Education, the Burruss Institute, and numerous other campus functions.
- 08/11/1999** The Board of Regents authorizes a project tentatively titled "Athletic Building and Softball Stadium" budgeted at \$4 million from athletics funds and private donations. The Athletic Building would occupy the space between the baseball and softball fields and would consist of a 17,300-square-foot, two-story field house. The softball stadium would be approximately 6,700 square feet and include bleachers for about 400 spectators, concessions, restrooms, dugouts, and a press box. The field house was estimated to cost a little over \$2 million, and the stadium a little over \$0.8 million. The board noted that KSU had received a challenge grant of \$1 million and had commitments of additional funds. An additional \$1 million would come from athletic funds. (See 03/13/2002 for the final approval of a scaled-back plan, when available fund would allow only a \$3 million project.
- 08/11/1999** The Board of Regents approves a B.S. in Sociology, effective immediately.

- 09/08/1999** The Board of Regents accepts on behalf of KSU gifts-in-kind of \$100,000 from Goldkist and \$1 million from Ann and John Clendenin, both intended to help construct a new computer science and mathematics building. At the same time, the board approves the name, "Ann and John Clendenin Computer Science and Mathematics Building." Mr. Clendenin was chairman and CEO of BellSouth from 1984-1996 and chairman through 1997. Among his public services were terms as chairman (or president) of the Atlanta Chamber of Commerce, the United Way, the Woodruff Arts Center, the Atlanta Council of the Boy Scouts; and he served as co-chair of the 1994 Atlanta Super Bowl. Nationally, he served as chairman of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the National Alliance of Business, the Boy Scouts, and other civic organizations. He also was a member of a number of corporate boards. In the September 8-9, 1998 meeting, the Board of Regents had approved \$4,050,000 as a minor capital project for KSU's new computer science and mathematics building. With these two gifts, the board agrees in the September 1999 meeting to increase the project budget to \$5,150,000.
- 10/13/1999** The Board of Regents approves a M.S. in Conflict Management.
- 04/___/2000** The Campus Green, surrounded by the Millennium Walk, is dedicated.
- 04/19/2000** The Board of Regents approves a request from a Consortium of KSU, Georgia College & State University, Georgia Southern, Valdosta State, and West Georgia to offer their existing MBA programs via the Internet, effective immediately. The educational objectives of the WebMBA program would be identical to what the respective universities offered on their campuses.
- 09/13/2000** The Board of Regents approves a B.S. in Biology Education.
- 01/09/2001** The Board of Regents approves a Bachelor of Fine Arts with a major in Art.
- 05/09/2001** The Board of Regents approves a B.S. in Geographic Information Services (GIS).
- 06/13/2001** On a motion by Regent Michael J. Coles, the Board of Regents approves ground lease agreements on 14.3 acres where new student housing and parking decks would be constructed at KSU. Under the

agreement, the student housing and parking decks would be constructed and managed by the KSU Foundation.

- 07/01/2001** Upon the approval of President Siegel, the Department of Learning Support is renamed the Department of University Studies and reports directly to the dean of Undergraduate Studies.
- 08/18/2001** The MS program in Applied Computer Science for Experienced Professionals enrolls its first students.
- 09/12/2001** The Board of Regents accepts on behalf of KSU \$1 million from the Goizueta Foundation, with half going to create the Goizueta Foundation Distinguished Endowed Chair in Early Childhood Education (to create a model program to provide specialized training and education for daycare center directors and owners); and the other half directed toward Hispanic student recruitment efforts. The board also indicated that the endowed chair would be placed on the fiscal year 2003 Eminent Scholar Trust Fund list for state matching funds.
- 09/12/2001** The Board of Regents authorizes the execution of a rental agreement with the KSU Foundation for the East and West Parking Decks for the period from August 1, 2002, to July 31, 2003, with the option to renew on a year-to-year basis for 23 consecutive one-year periods at the same rent rate of \$857,198 per calendar year for the east deck and \$658,700 per calendar year for the west deck. The construction projects were to be completed by August 1, 2002. The projected operating costs, in addition to rent, were estimated at \$100,000 per year for each deck for utilities, cleaning, and minor repairs.
- 10/10/2001** Based on the findings of a Comprehensive Program Review, the Board of Regents terminates KSU's B.S. in Secondary Science Education.
- 11/14/2001** The Board of Regents approves the establishment of an M.S. in Applied Computer Science for Experienced Professionals with an executive program tuition rate of \$25,000 per participant. This 22-month, 36-graduate-credit-hour program was to center around Yamacraw-related knowledge areas. Admission to the program was to require three years of experience in the computing industry. The program was similar in cost and design to KSU's Executive M.B.A. program, which currently charged \$28,500 per participant, and the M.S. in Conflict Management which charged \$18,500 per participant.

- 11/14/2001** The Board of Regents approves the request of President Siegel to reorganize the existing Department of Nursing to the School of Nursing, effective immediately. The administrative head of the School of Nursing was to continue holding the title of Chair and reporting to the dean of the College of Health and Human Services.
- 01/09/2002** The Board of Regents approves a B.S. in Criminal Justice, effective immediately.
- 02/06/2002** The Board of Regents approves Dr. Siegel's request to establish the Neel Distinguished Chair of Biotechnology, effective immediately. The chair is named for Mr. Holmes Neel who made a gift of \$500,000 to the KSU Foundation on 6 December 2001 for the purpose of endowing this distinguished chair.
- 03/13/2002** The Board of Regents authorizes the Athletic Facility and Softball Stadium project at KSU with a total project budget of \$3.0 million to be funded by \$1.0 million of athletics funds and \$2.0 million of private donations. Under a scaled-back plan, the softball stadium would seat 350 rather than the original proposal of 400 seats, and the field house would be 20,500 square feet rather than 24,000.
- 04/17/2002** The Board of Regents approves a M.Ed. in Educational Leadership, effective 04/17/2002.
- 04/17/2002** The Board of Regents approves the naming of Willingham Hall to honor the late attorney and state representative Harold S. Willingham, a member of the original 28-member steering committee that helped persuade the Board of Regents to place a liberal arts college in Cobb County. As the Cobb County School board attorney, he helped write state legislation that allowed school districts to sell bonds to build junior colleges for the University System of Georgia (please see entry for 04/12/1963).
- 04/17/2002** The Board of Regents authorizes the execution of a rental agreement with the KSU Foundation for 9 houses along Frey Lake Road (current Campus Loop Road) for institutional use. The rent was set at \$400,000 per year with an option to renew on a year-to-year basis for 24 consecutive one-year periods at the same rent rate.
- 05/08/2002** The Board of Regents recognizes Dr. Sarah Robbins, Associate Professor of English, as one of two recipients for 2001-2002 of the Regents' Research in Undergraduate Education Award. She was

recognized for a number of nationally recognized, pioneering projects in the scholarship of teaching and learning. Her work with the Kennesaw Mountain Writing Project gained special recognition.

- 08/17/2002** The 700-bed University Place, KSU's first residence halls, opens officially in time for Fall Semester.
- 08/24/2002** West Parking Deck and East Parking Deck open in time for the start of Fall Semester (08/24/2002) to relieve some of the parking problems for commuter students.
- 09/11/2002** The Board of Regents approves a B.S. degree program in Biotechnology, effective immediately.
- 10/09/2002** The Board of Regents authorizes a 15,000 square foot Recreation Center Addition to Physical Education Building project with a total budget of \$2.5 million from accumulated student fees. The Recreation Center was to be a two-story facility located north of the PE building and connected by a covered walkway. It was to include space for student amenities, including a student fitness facility, a wellness suite, and administrative offices.
- 11/20/2002** The Board of Regents approves a B.S. degree program in Biochemistry, effective immediately.
- 01/17/2003** The 37,000-square-foot Ann and John Clendenin Computer Science Building celebrates its official opening.
- 03/12/2003** The Board of Regents authorizes a Frey Road Parking Lot project to provide 6.2 acres of additional campus parking in a surface lot east of Frey Road. The project is budgeted at \$1.98 million.
- 03/11/2003** The Chancellor reports to the Board that KSU's InTech program has won the 2003 Best Practice Award for innovative use of technology from the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education. The program trains elementary school teachers in the use of instructional technology. More than twenty thousand Georgia teachers and student teachers had completed the program since 1996.
- 04/16/2003** The Board of Regents approves an amendment to its ground lease and rental agreement with the KSU Foundation to allow the construction of new parking levels in the East Parking Deck, the

expansion targeted for a fall semester 2003 completion date. The expansion was necessitated by significant enrollment increases.

- 04/16/2003** Upon the request of President Siegel, the Board of Regents approves the establishment at KSU of a Division for Diversity, Equity, and Legal Affairs, making the vice president of the division a member of the president's cabinet. Flora B. Devine would head the division.
- 05/21/2003** The Board of Regents recognizes Dr. Gail B. Schiffer, Professor of Biology at KSU, as the winner of the Regents' Research in Undergraduate Education Award at regional and state universities of the 2002-2003 academic year. She was recognized for her role in helping to reform the University System's general education science curriculum, to develop an innovative laboratory program, to conduct an assessment of the general education science program, and to create a first-year learning community program.
- 06/11/2003** The Board of Regents accepts a gift of \$4.35 million from WellStar Health Systems on behalf of KSU. The gift includes \$3.1 million in cash to support KSU's School of Nursing, College of Health & Human Services, and RTM Center for Leadership, Ethics, and Character; and \$1.25 million of in-kind support pledged for health and wellness programs over the next ten years.
- 06/11/2003** The Board of Regents approves a ground lease to the KSU Foundation for about 8.449 acres for additional student housing, the lease not to exceed 27 years (including up to two years for construction), with the land and all improvements becoming the property of the Board of Regents at the end of the lease.
- 08/06/2003** The Board of Regents approves an MSN in Advanced Care Management and Leadership, effective immediately.
- 09/10/2003** The Board of Regents approves the selection of a design/build firm for the English Classroom and Office Addition; the project was to be add about 31,000 square feet of new construction at an estimated cost of slightly under \$5 million.
- 08/06/2003** The Board of Regents approves a MSN program with a major in Advanced Care Management and Leadership, effective immediately.
- 11/19/2003** The Board of Regents leases from the KSU Foundation 41,600 square feet of office space at Chastain Pointe. The Board authorizes

the demolition of the 13,154-square-foot Plant Operations Building (constructed in 1978), the 14,051-square-foot Warehouse (1974), the 8,140-square-foot Grounds Maintenance Buildings (1974), and the 952-square-foot Welding Arts Building (1990).

- 11/19/2003** The Board of Regents approves an amendment to the ground lease given to the KSU Foundation on June 11, 2003 for Student Housing Phase II to provide 3.0 acres of land for the North Parking Deck.
- 12/06/2003** Led by Coach Rob King, goalkeeper Jessica Marek, and freshman Laura Tucker, who scored both goals, the women's soccer team, in only its second year of competition, wins the NCAA Division II National Championship with a 2-0 victory over Franklin Pierce.
- 03/26/2004** Led by Coach Tony Ingle and All-American Terrence Hill, the men's basketball team wins the NCAA Division II National Championship with a 84-59 victory over Southern Indiana in the championship finals at Bakersfield, California.
- 04/21/2004** The Board of Regents approves B.A. degree programs in African and African Diaspora Studies and in Modern Language and Culture.
- 04/21/2004** The Board of Regents approves the establishment of the Craig E. Aronoff Professorship in Family Business, in honor of Dr. Aronoff's years of distinguished service to KSU and the USG, supported by an endowment in excess of \$100,000.
- 04/21/2004** Upon the request of President Siegel, the Board of Regents terminated KSU's B.A. majors in French and Spanish and B.S. programs in French and Spanish Foreign Language Education. The four majors were replaced with one major in Modern Language and Culture.
- 04/21/2004** The Board of Regents approves the renaming of the School of the Arts to the College of the Arts.
- ___/___/2004** University Village, Phase I and II, with 878 beds, opens on the north side of campus.
- 05/19/2004** The Board of Regents recognizes the Master of Science program in Conflict Management as the 2003-2004 recipient of the Regents' Award for Teaching Excellence for programs at regional and state universities. Dr. Helen Ridley and Dr. Ansley Barton are singled out for their leadership roles in developing the program.

- 06/09/2004** President Siegel makes the initial presentation to the Board of Regents for a Health Science Building with a plan to finance it with \$39 million in state funds and \$10 million in private funds (coming from WellStar Health Systems and other community sources). The \$55 million Prillaman Hall would eventually open on 08/05/2010.
- 07/01/2004** President Siegel officially launches University College with only one department, the Department of University Studies. Dr. Mary Lou Frank, formerly the dean of Undergraduate Studies, becomes the first dean of University College. Frank retains her former responsibilities and continues to chair the General Education Committee even though general education had no reporting structure through the new college.
- 07/01/2004** Dr. Nancy King and Dr. Becky Casey officially launch the Center for Student Leadership, with Brian Wooten as the first director. Wooten holds the first joint appointment in University College, where he was a tenure-track instructor, while reporting also to the Vice President for Student Success and Enrollment Services.
- 08/__/2004** Dr. Lendley Black, the vice president for academic affairs, convenes the first meeting of the University College Advisory Council.
- 08/04/2004** The Board of Regents agrees to enter into an annual rental agreement for the 1,538-space North Parking Deck, beginning 09/01/2004 or as soon as the landlord, the KSU Foundation, receives a certificate of occupancy. The rental rate could not exceed \$1,105,697 per year, with options to renew on a year-to-year basis for up to 25 years. When the Board approved a ground lease for the North Deck in November 2003, it had not anticipated a rental agreement. But subsequent review indicated that such an arrangement would make possible more favorable financing and reduced bond premiums. The Board expected the deck to be completed within the month.
- 08/__/2004** The North Parking Deck opens, primarily for the use of University Village residents.
- 08/04/2004** The Board of Regents approves a Master of Social Work, effective immediately.
- 11/17/2004** The Board of Regents leases from the KSU Foundation an additional 16,453 square feet of office space at Chastain Pointe.

- 11/17/2004** The Board of Regents approves a B.S. in Information Security and Assurance, effective immediately.
- 01/05/2005** The Atlantic Sun Conference announces KSU as its newest member, as Kennesaw begins a transition to NCAA Division I.
- 04/20/2005** The Board of Regents authorizes the execution of a rental agreement for 23,531 square feet on the 4th floor at Town Point for the use of Kennesaw State's Early Childhood Education program and University Relations. The Regents would lease the property from Duke Realty Limited Partnership, with the understanding that the KSU Foundation was in negotiations to purchase the 4-story property and approximately 14 surrounding acres.
- 04/20/2005** The Board of Regents approves KSU's request to establish the Shaw Distinguished Chair in Southern Business and Economic History, funded by an endowment from Shaw Industries, in fulfillment of a pledge made by the firm's chairman emeritus, J.C. (Bud) Shaw. As of April 2005, Shaw Industries had donated \$500,000 of what would be a \$1 million endowment in recognition of Dr. Randall Patton's publication of two books on the carpet industry, *Carpet Capital: The Rise of a New South Industry* (UGA Press 1999) and *Shaw Industries: A History* (UGA Press 2002).
- 05/12/2005** The Convocation Center at KSU opens.
- 08/02/2005** The Board of Regents approves an administrative reorganization in which the position of Chief Information Officer at KSU is elevated to vice presidential status with supervision for the Division for Technology and Human Resources. At the same time, the Division for Diversity, Equity, and Legal Affairs is renamed the Division for Diversity, Legal, and Community Affairs.
- 09/07/2005** The Board of Regents approves a Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) degree program at KSU.
- 10/11/2005** The Board of Regents terminates the rental agreement of 04/20/2005 with Duke Realty and authorizes a new rental agreement with the KSU Foundation for 93,849 square feet of office space at Town Point and approximately 7 adjacent acres. The lease agreement is for one year with option to renew for up to 25 consecutive one-year periods. Initially, KSU will rent 23,532 square feet for the Bagwell College of Education, with other offices moving over to Town Point as existing

tenant leases expire. The approval of this agreement by the Board of Regents completes the process by which the KSU Foundation purchases the property from Duke Realty. At the end of the terms of the rental agreements, the improvements and land will become the property of the Board of Regents.

- 10/12/2005** The Board of Regents approves a B.S. in Interdisciplinary Studies in the University College at KSU.
- 01/11/2006** The Board of Regents approves a M.S. in Applied Statistics at KSU.
- 02/16/2006** The Board of Regents selects Dr. Daniel S. Papp to be the third president in the history of Kennesaw State University. Over the next several months he will transition to KSU from his position as Senior Vice Chancellor for Academics and Fiscal Affairs for the University System of Georgia.
- 03/08/2006** The Board of Regents amends its rental agreement with KSU Center Real Estate Foundation for 162,677 square feet of space at 3333 George Busbee Parkway to include additional options to renew on a year-to-year basis for an additional 12 consecutive one-year periods (a total of 18 consecutive one-year option periods) at the same rent rate for the use of KSU. In September 1998, the board initially approved a subrental agreement for the facility. In 2005, the KSU Foundation acquired the property from The University Financing Foundation (TUFF). This amendment assured continued occupancy by KSU as needed. At the end of the term of the rental agreement, the land and all improvements would become the property of the Board of Regents.
- 03/08/2006** The Board of Regents amends its ground lease with KSU UP Real Estate Foundation to increase the number of student housing beds from 658 to 700 for University Place. In June 2001, the board originally approved the ground lease for University Place.
- 03/08/2006** The Board of Regents amends its ground lease with KSU Village I Real Estate Foundation to decrease the acreage from approximately 8.449 acres to approximately 5.87 acres, to decrease the number of student housing beds from 1,600 to 881 and to add approximately 25,000 square feet of space to be used for classrooms, computer labs, lounges, retail space, offices, meeting rooms, and security for University Village. In June 2001 the board originally approves a ground lease for University Place. Site availability permitted a large

number of beds to be effectively constructed. In June 2003 and November 2003, the board approves a ground lease for University Village. While construction was in progress, a second phase of housing was contemplated, but further market research indicated that such action should be deferred, and the site had been reduced accordingly.

- 03/08/2006** The Board of Regents amends its rental agreement with KSU Parking Decks Real Estate Foundation to decrease the acreage from approximately 3.0 acres to approximately 2.57 acres and to decrease the number of parking spaces from about 2,000 to 1,558 for the North Campus Parking Deck. The board initially approved the ground lease for the North Campus Parking Deck in November 2003, but site constraints limited the size of the tract and number of spaces.
- 05/17/2006** The Board of Regents approves an Ed.D. in Leadership for Learning, KSU's first doctoral program, effective 17 May 2006.
- 06/07/2006** The Board of Regents approves a B.S. in Construction Engineering at SPSU, effective immediately.
- 07/01/2006** Dr. Daniel S. Papp officially takes office as president of KSU upon the retirement of Dr. Betty L. Siegel, who had served as president since 19 August 1981.
- 07/01/2006** After a national search, Dr. Ralph J. Rascati becomes the second dean in the history of University College at KSU. He continues to be an associate vice president for academic affairs.
- 08/09/2006** The Board of Regents approves the creation of a new position of Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at KSU.
- 08/09/2006** President Papp names Lendley C. Black, KSU's vice president for academic affairs, as the first provost
- 08/09/2006** The Board of Regents establishes a Specialist in Education in Leadership for Learning at KSU, effective immediately.
- 08/09/2006** The Board of Regents approves a revised mission statement for KSU that includes language regarding programs, "up to and including a professional doctoral degree."
- 10/11/2006** The Board of Regents approves a B.S. in Anthropology at KSU, effective 10/11/2006.

- 10/11/2006** The Board of Regents approves a B.S. in Mechatronics Engineering at SPSU, effective 10/11/2006.
- 10/11/2006** The Board of Regents approves a rental agreement with KSU Village I Real Estate Foundation for approximately 4,700 square feet of space at Village Centre, 3805 Idlewood Avenue, to be used as classrooms as an integral part of the living and learning community. The annual rent was \$75,200 with options to renew on a year-to-year basis through October 31, 2030, at the same rent rate for the use of KSU. In March 2006, the board initially authorized an amendment to the ground lease for University Village to include classrooms.
- 10/24/2006** Daniel S. Papp is inaugurated as Kennesaw State's third president in a ceremony in the Convocation Center.
- 11/08/2006** Dr. LeeAnn Lands is recognized at the monthly Board of Regents meeting for her Summer Hill Project where KSU and its Center for Regional History & Culture partnered with the Etowah Valley Historical Society and the Summer Hill Foundation in Cartersville. The project won for KSU the annual Board of Regents award for teaching excellence at the regional and state university level. In her remarks to the Board of Regents, Dr. Lands recognized six of her students who attended the board meeting with her. She explained that the Etowah Valley Consolidated Housing Authority invited the Center for Regional History & Culture to participate in a community development project in late 2002. The Summer Hill community is the largest black neighborhood in Cartersville. The goal was to develop the historically black Summer Hill High School into a community center. Between 2003 and 2005 Dr. Lands and her students developed a museum, curriculum, and auxiliary services for the community center. During that time, the project hired a filmmaker who produced a full-length documentary about the Summer Hill community that appeared nationwide on PBS.
- 11/09/2006** The Board of Regents approves the establishment of an External M.B.A. on a three year pilot basis to be offered by KSU at the Cobb Galleria Center, effective January 1, 2007.
- ___/___/2006** The new Social Sciences Building opens.
- 01/05/2007** Classes begin for Spring Semester with the first cohort of doctoral students beginning classes in the new Ed.D. program in Leadership for Learning.

- 01/16 /2007** The Board of Regents amends its rental agreement with the KSU Foundation to add approximately 10,078 square feet in Suite 212, Chastain Pointe for the period from 02/01/2007 to 06/30/2007 at a monthly rent of \$5,545.00 with options to renew on a year-to-year basis for the remaining option periods contained in the rental agreement at this same rate for use of KSU. The board took note of the fact that the original rental agree at Chastain Pointe in November 2003 was for 41,600 square feet, with the understanding that as additional space was vacated, the board would have to opportunity to rent at market rent. In November 2004 the board authorized the rental of an additional 16,453 square feet. This additional 10,078 square feet was to provide office, storage, and staging space for KSU's Presentation Technology Department and Information Technology Services, which would vacate space it currently occupied in the Sturgis Library. On occupancy of this space, KSU planned to vacate 4,150 square feet in Suite 303.
- 03/21/2007** The Board of Regents approves SPSU's request for a BS in Systems Engineering. The program was seen as complementary to SPSU's MS program in Systems Engineering. The multidisciplinary program was designed to meet industry's need for graduates that had the skills to engineer large and complex systems.
- 04/18/2007** The Board of Regents approves a B.A. in Geography, effective 18 April 2007.
- 04/18/2007** The Board of Regents approves a lease of 3.48 acres of real property on the KSU campus to KSU Village II Real Estate Foundation, LLC, for the purpose of constructing and owning housing facilities containing approximately 913 student housing beds and site amenities. The lease was for a period not to exceed 32 years and not to exceed 30 years from the time that the LLC obtained a certificate of occupancy). The 915-bed University Village Suites would be completed in July 2008 (see below).
- 06/26/2007** Upon authorization to act on the Board's behalf, Chancellor Erroll B. Davis approves the creation at KSU of a Master of Science in Applied Exercise and Health Science. The Board of Regents ratifies Davis' action at its 7 August 2007 meeting.

- 07/01/2007** Dean Ralph Rascati receives presidential approval to split off a new Department of First-Year Programs from the Department of University Studies.
- 08/08/2007** The Board of Regents ratifies the Chancellor's action earlier in the summer in approving the establishment of the existing B.S.N. as an external degree at Appalachian Technical College.
- 08/08/2007** The Board of Regents authorizes KSU to establish its existing BBA in Management as an external degree offered at a distance, predominantly online.
- 08/08/2007** The Board of Regents approves a B.B.A. in International Business at KSU.
- 08/08/2007** The Board of Regents approves a B.S. in Chemistry at SPSU, effective immediately.
- 10/06/2007** KSU celebrates the grand opening of the Dr. Bobbie Bailey and Family Performance Center opens.
- 12/11/2007** At its annual meeting, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) accredited KSU for the first time as a doctoral-level university.
- 03/19/2008** The Board of Regents approves a B.A. degree program in Dance and a Doctor of Business Administration, KSU's second doctoral program, both effective 03/19/2008.
- 05/18/2008** The grand opening of Phase I of the KSU Art Museum takes place with more than 300 people in attendance inside the Dr. Bobbie Bailey & Family Performance Center. As part of the grand opening, the university dedicates the Don Russell Clayton Gallery, which housed the Athos Menaboni Collection. Clayton was a 1981 Kennesaw College graduate and longtime teacher in the Cobb County School District, who became a friend of Athos Menaboni, the artist best known for his bird and wildlife paintings that graced the annual Christmas cards of Robert W. Woodruff for more than forty years.
- 07/__/2008** The 915-bed University Village Suites are completed.
- 08/14/2008** The Central Parking Deck officially opens with spaces for 2,700 cars.

- 11/10/2008** The Board of Regents approves a Master of Arts in American Studies, with classes to begin in the fall of 2009. It becomes the 21st master's level program at KSU.
- 01/13/2009** The Board of Regents approves a Master of Science in International Policy Management.
- 02/10/2009** The Board of Regents approves a Doctorate of Nursing Science, the 3rd doctoral program at KSU.
- 03/17/2009** The Board of Regents approves a partnership between KSU and Georgia Highlands College to offer classes in Dallas, Georgia, with Georgia Highlands offering lower level and KSU offering upper level and graduate classes. The renovated Bagby Building, the site of the classes, was officially unveiled five months later on August 14, 2009, with classes beginning on August 19.
- 03/17/2009** The Board of Regents approves a B.S. and M.S. in Accounting at SPSU, effective March 18, 2009.
- 03/28/2009** Matthew Laposata, associate professor of environmental sciences, wins the 2009 Board of Regents Award for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning.
- 05/12/2009** The Board of Regents approves a B.S. in Computer Game Design and Development at SPSU, effective immediately.
- 06/___/2009** The June 2009 issue of *College Planning & Management* magazine recognizes University Village Suites as a "Project of Distinction Winner" in its Education Design Showcase Awards.
- 06/10/2009** The Board of Regents approves a B.S. in Political Science at SPSU.
- 06/16/2009** KSU announces the names of the first six recipients of Clendenin Fellowships for graduate study, established with a million dollar endowment established the previous years by former BellSouth CEO John Clendenin, his son Tom, and other members of the Clendenin family. The program provides annual fellowships of up to \$15,000 to students working on masters or doctoral degrees at any accredited institution, with a preference given to applicants currently enrolled or on the faculty at KSU.
- 07/___/2009** The NCAA informs KSU that it has met all requirements for Division I status, thus completing a four-year transition from Division II. As of

August 1, 2009 all sixteen sports would compete at Division I level in the Atlantic Sun Conference.

- 08/06/2009** The Commons—Student Culinary Center holds an open house to showcase its different dining venues. It officially begins operations on August 14, 2009. The \$21 million “green” facility was financed by the KSU Foundation through student meal plans.
- 08/12/2009** The Board of Regents approves SPSU’s request for the establishment of three core engineering programs for working professionals under the B.S. degree: degrees in Mechanical Engineering, Electrical Engineering, and Civil Engineering. The board recognizes that the programs had been developed collaboratively with Georgia Tech.
- 08/17/2009** The Confucius Institute at KSU—one of only two such programs in Georgia and 42 nationwide—celebrates its grand opening. Delegates from Yangzhou University and the Chinese Consulate General in Houston are in attendance. Funded by the Chinese government, the Institute is designed to promote the Chinese language and culture.
- 10/06/2009** KSU announces that it has received a \$8.9 million grant, the largest in school history. The grant from the U.S. Department of Education was to establish an innovative K-12 teacher preparation program in high-need urban schools in Cobb County.
- 01/12/2010** The Board of Regents approves a request from President Papp to change the existing Ed.D. and Ed.S. with a major in Leadership for Learning to establish additional stand-alone degrees in Educational Leadership for Learning, effective 01/13/2010.
- 01/12/2010** The Board of Regents approves a request from President Papp to offer the existing M.B.A. and M.S. in Information Systems in a dual degree format, effective 01/13/2010.
- 01/12/2010** Effective fall 2010, the Board of Regents agrees to reallocate \$35 per semester from the “Land Acquisition” mandatory fee to the “Sports & Recreation Park” fee.
- 01/12/2010** The Board of Regents authorizes the execution of a rental agreement between the KSU Foundation and the Board for the house at 3495 Campus Loop Road for use of the Cox Family Enterprise Center. The house was built as a two-story single family residence in 2002. The

Foundation acquired the property in December 2008 for \$240,000. The Board's lease of the property was to be on a year-to-year basis with the option to renew for 29 consecutive one-year periods at the same rent rate for the use of KSU. At the end of the rental agreement, the land and all improvements were to become the property of the Board of Regents.

- 02/09/2010** The Board of Regents approves a M.Ed. in Instructional Technology, effective immediately. The program was designed to prepare students to use technology to improve instruction and professional collaboration at the K-12 level.
- 03/10/2010** The Board of Regents approves a Ph.D. in International Conflict Management, effective immediately. The program was designed to prepare students in 1) ethical foundations of global conflict, 2) cross-cultural analysis, 3) international relations, and 4) international negotiations. It becomes KSU's first Ph.D. program.
- 04/21/2010** The Board of Regents approves a B.S. in Early Childhood Education (Birth to Age Five), effective immediately.
- 05/02/2010** The new Kennesaw State University Soccer Stadium opens. The 8300-seat stadium was to be the home of the KSU women's soccer team and the Atlanta Beat of the Women's Professional Soccer league.
- 07/28/2010** James Clinton (Clint) Stockton receives the first earned doctorate in KSU's history, an Ed.D. in Leadership for Learning.
- 08/05/2010** Prillaman Hall opens. The 192,000-square-foot building is named for longtime KSU trustee Bob Prillaman and his wife Lil. In a public/private partnership, the building was financed by \$47 million from the State of Georgia, \$5 million from a 2007 gift from WellStar Health System, \$1.9 million diverted from a 2003 WellStar gift, \$1.1 million from private donors, and \$0.3 million from a federal grant.
- 08/11/2010** The Board of Regents ratifies Chancellor Erroll B. Davis' approval on July 1, 2010, of the External (2 + 2, site-based) B.S. degree with a major in Early Childhood Education at the Paulding County site to be offered by KSU in partnership with Georgia Highlands College. At the June 2010 meeting the board had authorized the chancellor to act on its behalf during July when the board was not meeting.

- 10/13/2010** The Board of Regents approves a B.A. in Philosophy at KSU, effective immediately.
- 04/20/2011** The Board of Regents approves the following new programs at KSU: a B.A. in Art History, an M.S. in Criminal Justice, and an Executive, Master of Arts with a major in Integrated Global Communication.
- 04/20/2011** The Board of Regents grants a non-exclusive easement to the City of Marietta for approximately 0.334 acres of improved real estate on the SPSU campus at the edge of the athletic fields complex for use as a bicycle and pedestrian trail.
- 05/10/2011** The Board of Regents agrees to negotiate a ground lease with the KSU University II Real Estate Foundation LLC for approximately 5.59 acres of undeveloped land for the purpose of building student housing consisting of approximately 451 beds and site amenities. The lease was for a period not exceeding 32 years (not exceeding 30 years from the time the LLC obtained a certificate of occupancy, although the lease could be extended up to 5 additional years should there be debt outstanding at the end of the original ground lease term. At the end of the ground lease, all real estate, improvements, and any accumulated capital reserves were to become the property of the Board of Regents. [Please see 08/16/2012 for the opening of the 451-bed University Place II, adjacent to the original 2002 student housing, University Place I.]
- 06/07/2011** The Board of Regents approves President Lisa A. Rossbacher's request for a BA in New Media Arts at SPSU, effective immediately. The new degree program would provide students an opportunity to develop the technical and artistic skills needed to serve as practitioners in the fields of multimedia development and design, web design, and video production. By emphasizing both the aesthetic and technical aspects of new media arts and production, it would give SPSU students a competitive edge in meeting the workforce demand for individuals with the skills to produce video games, movie and television special effects, and three dimensional media.
- 06/11/2011** The Board of Regents approves President Rossbacher's request for new BS degree programs in Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and Mathematics (all with secondary teacher certification), effective immediately. The programs would provide a strong STEM (science,

technology, engineering, and mathematics) foundation along with a strong understanding of the respective science disciplines.

- 06/11/2011** The Board of Regents authorizes Project No. BR-90-1102 at KSU to renovate the Carmichael Student Center at an estimated cost of \$3.3 million to be funded from KSU auxiliary reserve funds. The project was designed to infill approximately 3100 square feet of additional second floor space and upgrade interior finishes and such building systems as mechanical, electrical, fire protection, fire alarm, and fire sprinkler systems.
- 06/11/2011** The Board of Regents authorizes Project No. PPV-90-1102 to renovate and expand KSU's Student Recreation & Activities Center. The total project budget of \$48.0 million was to be funded through a public private venture. The renovation of the current 55,000 square foot Student Recreation & Activities Center would upgrade and reorganize the existing floor layout for maximum efficiency. The current gymnasium was to be converted into a multi-activity court. The expansion project would add 119,000 square feet to provide a leisure pool, lap pool, indoor jogging track, and climbing wall at an estimated cost of \$37.0 million. The funding would come from a \$35 KSU student recreation fee approved by the Board of Regents in April 2011 to take effect in Fiscal Year 2013; a redirection of a total of \$32 from the student activities fee (\$20 in FY 2012 and \$12 in FY 2017); and \$3.0 million from the KSU student activities fee reserve. [Please see 10/10/2012 for the Board of Regents' final approval of a \$38.7 million Dr. Betty L. Siegel Student Recreation and Activities Center].
- 08/10/2011** The Board of Regents approves a request from President Dan Papp to create and enter into an agreement with the KSU Athletic Association to assist the university in athletic and affinity endeavors.
- 08/10/2011** The Board of Regents appoints the Sizemore Group LLC, Atlanta, as the design professional firm for Project J-189, the Educational Classroom Addition to Kennesaw Hall for the Bagwell College of Education. The project was approved by the board in August 2010 and was to be funded with FY 2012 general obligation bonds at a total cost of \$20.3 million.
- 09/14/2011** The Board of Regents modifies the budget of Project J-133 for the Engineering Technology Center and Building I renovation on the

SPSU campus, increasing the total cost from \$39,995,000 to \$40,677,000. The project was approved in August 2007 and the Engineering Technology Center was completed in October 2010. The additional funding was for proposed renovations to the first floor of Building I. The extra \$682,000 was to come from SPSU institutional funds.

- 11/08/2011** The Chancellor's staff presents to the Board of Regents six "Principles" to be used in determining which institutions in the University System of Georgia should be consolidated. The principles were 1) increase opportunities to raise education attainment levels; 2) improve accessibility, regional identity, and compatibility; 3) avoid duplication of academic programs while optimizing access to instruction; 4) create significant potentials for economy of scale and scope; 5) enhance regional economic development; and 6) streamline administrative services while maintaining or improving service level and quality.
- 01/11/2012** The Board of Regents approves a new and online Master of Science with a major in Biology (Integrative Biology), effective 01/11/2012.
- 03/14/2012** The Board of Regents approves the construction of KSU's Art Museum Phase II, to be built with \$2 million of private donations and \$1 million of institutional funds.
- 04/18/2012** In recognition of a substantial gift to KSU from Mr. Zuckerman, the Board of Regents approves the naming of the Bernard A. Zuckerman Museum of Art. In 1999 Mr. Zuckerman had also become one of the most important benefactors of the KSU permanent art collection when he donated about one hundred sculptures by his late wife Ruth Zuckerman. To facilitate the study of her work, he also donated her sketches, notes, maquettes, and other materials.
- 04/30/2012** Final phase of KSU's \$50 million, 88-acre Sports & Recreation Park opens.
- 05/08/2012** The Board of Regents approves Ed.D. and Ed.S. programs in Special Education, Instructional Technology, Middle Grades Education, Secondary Education, Early Childhood Education, and Teacher Leadership at KSU. In the same meeting, the Board approves M.Ed. programs in Special Education, Middle Grades Education, Secondary Education, Reading, and ESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages).

- 05/09/2012** The Board of Regents approves a MS in Computer Science at KSU (replacing Applied Computer Science for Experienced Professionals).
- 08/08/2012** The Board of Regents approves a MS in Chemical Sciences at KSU, effective immediately. The interdisciplinary program was thesis-basis and had a flexible program designed to give students a broad background in advanced topics in chemistry and biochemistry along with focused study and laboratory research in their specialization areas.
- 08/16/2012** KSU celebrates its tenth anniversary as a residential campus with the opening of University Place II, a new 451-bed, 207,500-square-foot apartment complex for upper-class students, adjacent to the original 2002 project, University Place I. As students moved into the new apartments, the number of on-campus residents reached 3,500.
- 09/25/2012** Construction begins on the Bernard A. Zuckerman Museum of Art. It is scheduled to be completed by October 2013, in time for the university's 50th anniversary.
- 10/10/2012** The Board of Regents approves a \$38.7 million Dr. Betty L. Siegel Student Recreation and Activities Center that would more than triple the size of the current recreation center and would include an indoor competition swimming pool, an outdoor leisure swimming pool, an indoor track, four indoor and one outdoor basketball courts, a multi-activity court large enough for soccer, eight tennis courts, and other facilities. It opened in the summer of 2015.
- 10/10/2012** The Board of Regents approves an Ed.S. in Curriculum and Instruction and an M.Ed. in Teacher Leadership.
- 10/25/2012** KSU opens \$21-million, 73,000-square-foot Science Laboratory Building, as an addition to the Science Building.
- 11/13/2012** The Board of Regents approves a 25-year, \$520,000 rental agreement between the Board and the KSU Real Estate Foundation for about 4000 square feet in the soon-to-be restored and renovated Fortezza Poliziana in Montepulciano, Tuscany, Italy. The space was to be utilized for five classrooms, a program office, the program director's residential quarters, and a teaching kitchen for culinary programs. The KSU study abroad program in Montepulciano had begun 15 years earlier, and in that time had served nearly 1100 student and

faculty participants. KSU's use of the Fortezza was to begin in the fall of 2014. Funding was to come from private donations and the KSU Foundation.

- 02/13/2013** The Board of Regents approves football at KSU. In the same meeting the Board approves an increase to the athletic fee from \$152 to \$252 per semester, effective fall semester 2013, for the purpose of initiating a football program and Title IX women's athletic programs. Shortly afterwards, KSU announces that the stadium is renamed Fifth Third Bank Stadium as a result of a partnership by which Fifth Third agreed to donate \$5 million over ten years. Beginning in 2015, Kennesaw planned to compete in the Football Championship Subdivision.
- 02/15/2013** As KSU prepares to carry out a goal of the 2012-2017 Strategic Plan to create an Honors College, Dean Ralph Rascati (with the approval of the president and the provost) moves the Dual-Enrollment and the Undergraduate Honors Programs out of the Department of University Studies and has them report directly to the dean. The honors programs move to a new home in Willingham Hall.
- 04/17/2013** The Board of Regents approves a BS in Culinary Sustainability & Hospitality, housed in KSU's Institute for Culinary Sustainability & Hospitality, effective immediately. The program was designed to offer a unique approach to the study of culinary and hospitality management. The curriculum would be infused with state-of-the-art knowledge in sustainability, along with food science, nutritional analysis, resource conservation, and business skills. The innovative emphasis on worldwide sustainable practices was to include agro-ecology, food science and nutrition, and resource-conserving practices. KSU was the first four-year public college in Georgia to offer an affordable, accredited bachelor's degree in culinary sustainability and hospitality.
- 05/14/2013** The Board of Regents authorizes a rental agreement between KSU Chastain Pointe Real Estate Foundation and the board for approximately 200,305 square feet of classroom, administrative support, and student support space located at 1200 Chastain Road, Chastain Pointe, for the period from 07/01/2013 to 06/30/2014. At a monthly rental of \$95,645.64, with options to renew on a year-to-year basis for 16 consecutive one-year periods at the same rent rate, for the use and benefit of KSU.

- 05/15/2013** Rebecca LeFebvre receives the first PhD ever awarded by KSU. Her dissertation for the International Conflict Management program was titled, “Deciding to Fight: A Cross-Cultural Comparative Study of Decision-Making in Conflict Situations.”
- 05/18/2013** The National Restaurant Association gave KSU its “Innovator of the Year” Award and its Operator Innovations Award for Sustainability, citing its “comprehensive, closed-loop waste management program” and “Farm to Campus to Farm” initiative. KSU was the first educational institution ever to receive the prestigious Innovator of the Year award.
- 07/01/2013** Following presidential approval, the Department of First-Year Programs is renamed the Department of First-Year and Transitional Studies.
- 08/14/2013** The Board of Regents approves a BA in Applied Computer Science at KSU, effective immediately. The program was designed to be less theoretical and more applied and diverse than KSU’s existing BS in Computer Science. The program of study was to include applications of computing such as cloud computing, robotics, mobile devices, and computing security. The program was similar to ones already in existence at SPSU and Georgia State, but was to require less mathematics and theory than those programs.
- 08/14/2013** The Board of Regents approves an updated institutional function and mission policy, intended to provide clarity as to the functions and roles of the various colleges and universities. In the new statement, Kennesaw State is listed as a Comprehensive University (with Georgia Southern, Valdosta State, and West Georgia). Such institutions offer a number of undergraduate and master’s-level programs and some doctoral programs, but the graduate programs are characterized as master’s-dominant. They place a heavier emphasis on basic and applied research than do the state colleges and universities, but not as heavy an emphasis as that in the research universities. Comprehensive Universities were expected to be committed to being world-class academic institutions.
- 09/11/2013** The Board of Regents approves a request from President Papp that KSU be authorized to rename to existing B.S. in Exercise and Health Science to a B.S. in Exercise Science (removing the health promotion component) to conform to the reorganization of the

Department of Health, Physical Education, and Sport Science into two departments: Exercise Science and Sport Management (ESSM) and Health Promotion and Physical Education (HPE).

- 09/11/2013** The Board of Regents included tables as part of its agenda that showed that KSU awarded 4,355 degrees in FY 2012 (only UGA, Georgia Tech, and Georgia State offered more). The number of degrees awarded by KSU in FY 2012 was a 13.9 percent increase in 5 years. Another table for first-time, full-time degree-seeking freshmen revealed an increase in system-wide bachelor's degree six-year graduation rates at KSU from 42.5 percent for the fall 2002 cohort to 51.5 percent for the fall 2006 cohort, a five-year percentage point improvement of 9.0, considerably above the system five-year percentage point improvement of 3.8.
- 10/09/2013** The Board of Regents approves an MS with a major in First-Year Studies (online), effective immediately. This was the first such graduate program in the University System. The minutes describe first-year studies as "an emerging academic discipline focusing on the unique transition experience occurring in the first year or early college experience." Scholarship on first-year programs documents the positive impact that they have on retention, progression, and graduation rates. The MS program was designed to turn out graduates that could develop curricular and co-curricular programs to help colleges and technical schools meet their goals for student success. KSU's Department of First-Year and Transition Studies was the recipient of the Board of Regents' FY10 Teaching Excellence Award for a Department/Program. The *U.S. News & World Report's* 2013 "America's Best Colleges" edition rated KSU for the 11th consecutive year as one of the top 16 institutions in the country for first-year experience programs.
- 11/01/2013** The University System of Georgia issues a press release this afternoon announcing plans to consolidate Kennesaw State University and Southern Polytechnic State University into a new institution to be named Kennesaw State University with KSU President Dan Papp as the president of the new university. The USG announces a timeline for the approval of the consolidation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) in December 2014, followed by Board of Regents final approval in January 2015. Chancellor Hank Huckaby said he planned to ask the Board to approve the consolidation plan at its November 2013 meeting. He

said, “This proposal offers us some exciting possibilities to enlarge our academic outreach through the existing talent and resources at both these institutions.” President Papp maintained that the consolidation “creates a new dynamic for us to raise educational attainment levels and enhance our ability to contribute to regional economic development.” SPSU President Lisa Rossbacher added that “the unique strengths and assets of both institutions will enable us to improve access and expand the scope of the new institution among students and key stakeholders. We will be able to strengthen our core mission of teaching, research and service.” The two universities had a combined enrollment in fall 2013 of 31,178 students and an annual economic impact of \$1.15 billion.

- 11/04/2013** SPSU vice president for academic affairs and professor of chemistry Zvi Szafran writes in his *Weekly Blab*: “When the talk started about mergers two years ago, we were all nervous, but we thought that the distinctiveness of our mission and the fact we were growing so quickly would keep us off the list. . . . As everyone has heard by now, Southern Polytechnic State University is to be merged into Kennesaw State University, due to both tough economic times and propinquity. I’m wiping away a tear as I type this. . . . The good news is that Kennesaw State University is a fine university, and it will be finer still when we become part of it. With KSU’s strengths in the traditional liberal arts and social sciences and SPSU’s strengths in science, engineering, technology, computing, architecture, and technologically-focused liberal arts, the combination will be formidable.”
- 11/12/2013** Despite an anti-consolidation petition signed by several thousand individuals, the Board of Regents votes unanimously to consolidate KSU and SPSU. Board Chairman Dink NeSmith said that the action “will strengthen both institutions’ ability to serve students” and would “ensure we can direct resources appropriately into the academic mission.” Chancellor Huckaby said that “this decision is in the long-term interests of students and the state” and that the new KSU “will be in a strong position to broaden its academic and research mission and expand its scope not just locally and statewide, but nationally.”
- 11/21/2013** Chancellor Huckaby announces the appointment of the SPSU-KSU Consolidation Implementation Committee. The chairs were

Presidents Papp and Rossbacher and membership included 13 KSU and 13 SPSU representatives.

- 03/19/2014** The Board of Regents approves President Papp's request to terminate three programs in which no students were enrolled, effective immediately. The programs were the MS in Applied Computer Science, BS in Information Security and Awareness, and BS in Information Systems.
- 03/19/2014** The Board of Regents agrees to enter into a rental agreement with the KSU Foundation for the old BrandsMart Building at 3305 Busbee Drive in Kennesaw. The rental agreement was for a short term with the anticipation that the University System would soon purchase the property. [Please see the Board minutes for 02/11/2015].
- 03/19/2014** The Board of Regents approves the naming of the stadium in the KSU Sports & Recreation Park as the Fifth Third Bank Stadium. The bank had committed up to \$5 million to KSU Athletics over the next ten years to help launch the new football program.
- 04/16/2014** The Board of Regents approves the naming of the premium club ticket holder section at Fifth Third Bank Stadium the Superior Plumbing Ticket Holder Section in recognition of the company's gift of \$1.5 million to support KSU Athletics.
- 04/16/2014** The Board of Regents approves a new mission statement for the consolidated new KSU, effective immediately. It had earlier been approved by the 48-person Consolidation Implementation Committee, comprised of representatives from both KSU and SPSU.
- 05/20/2014** The Board of Regents authorizes the demolition of Complex K Buildings on the SPSU campus. The three 1961 era original buildings on the Marietta campus were one-story of brick/concrete material. The Board agreed to follow mitigation stipulations of the Georgia Historic Preservation Division and to follow proper disposal guidelines for asbestos-containing materials, lead-based paints, and other hazardous products. The site was to become a green space on the Marietta campus. The buildings were between the J (Atrium) Building and the Stingers Restaurant.
- 09/09/2014** The Board of Regents approves substantive changes to the existing Master of Arts in Teaching, effective immediately. With the changes the minimum number of credit hours required to complete the

program was dropped from 39 to 36, and modifications were made in the curriculum to comply with requirements from the Georgia Professional Standards Commission, the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation, and the appropriate specialized professional associations.

- 09/09/2014** The Board of Regents approves a request from SPSU interim president Ron Koger, with the endorsement of KSU President Dan Papp, to establish the Siemens Distinguished Scholar in Mechatronics Education. Siemens AG was a global company specializing in electronics and electrical engineering. For more than a decade Siemens had been contributing to the SPSU Foundation, including a gift of \$225,000 in December 2005 to help establish the BS in Mechatronics Engineering [officially approved by the board on 10/11/2016]. In total the company had donated some \$700,000. The board confirmed that \$121,614 was on deposit to support the new faculty position. The position was open to faculty of all departments in the School of Engineering that taught or researched in the field of Mechatronics Engineering.
- 10/15/2016** The Board of Regents endorses a proposal from President Dan Papp for Chattahoochee Technical College to develop a new Associate of Science degree in Culinary to articulate with KSU, effective immediately. Those who received the AS in Culinary and met the transfer admission requirements for KSU's program in Culinary Sustainability and Hospitality would have the opportunity to enroll as rising juniors. The agreement had been approved by faculty of both institutions.
- 11/12/2014** The Board of Regents authorizes the purchase of approximately 3.66 acres of undeveloped land on Big Shanty Road just east of I-75 from Cobb County for \$845,000 for use by KSU. The property would be used to connect the main campus and the east campus, to alleviate traffic congestion, and to be available for future campus development.
- 01/06/2015** The Board of Regents approves a BS in Public Relations at KSU. Previously, Public Relations had been a concentration under the BS in Communication degree. In FY 1914, KSU granted 336 BS degrees in Communication. Of that number, 139 had a concentration in Public Relations. More than 400 students were enrolled in the program.

- 01/06/2015** The Board of Regents approves an amendment to Article I.6 of its bylaws, revising its institutions to reflect the consolidation of KSU and SPSU into the new KSU.
- 02/11/2015** The Board of Regents approves KSU's second PhD program--a PhD in Analytics and Data Science—effective February 11, 2015. The program was designed to train students to translate large, complex data into information to improve decision making. Graduates were expected to pursue careers as college professors or to work in the public or private sectors as Data Scientists. Demand was expected to greatly exceed supply of qualified professionals. The program would build on KSU's successful MS program in Applied Statistics where graduates have had a 100 percent placement record. In developing the program, KSU worked closely with public and corporate partners, and companies represented on its Statistical Advisory Board have agreed to work with interns for a minimum of one year between the completion of their course work and the completion of their dissertations. Other students were expected to work with faculty on applied research/scholarship projects. The program is housed in the College of Science and Mathematics on the Kennesaw campus. No other similar programs existed at the time with the University System of Georgia.
- 02/11/2015** The Board of Regents authorizes the purchase from the KSU Foundation of approximately 16.775 acres at 3305 Busbee Drive, Kennesaw (the old BrandsMart location) for \$12.55 million. In March 2014 the board had approved the rental of the property, which includes 720 parking spaces and a 114,000 square foot building. The facility was expected to be used for campus storage and to house a university health clinic, practice space for the marching band, and various departments.
- 04/15/2015** The Board of Regents approves an MS in Healthcare Management and Informatics, effective immediately. The program was designed to meet the need for skilled professionals in the rapidly growing Health IT field. Four departments (Information Systems, Computer Science, Mathematics & Statistics, and Nursing) from three colleges were expected to offer courses in the program. The program was to be housed in the Information Systems Department of the Coles College of Business. No other similar programs existed at the time in the University System of Georgia.

- 04/15/2015** The Board of Regents approves the renaming of the existing Institute of Culinary Sustainability and Hospitality to the Michael A. Leven School of Culinary Sustainability and Hospitality, effective immediately. Mr. Leven had recently made a gift commitment of \$5 million to support the program. Mr. Leven worked 44 years in the hospitality industry, including terms as president of Holiday Inn Worldwide and Days Inn of America. At the time of his retirement, he was president of the Los Vegas Sands Hotel Corporation. In 2015 he served as president and CEO of the Georgia Aquarium. His gift to KSU endowed a chair, provided scholarships based on financial need, and provided other program enhancements.
- 08/21/2015** KSU holds a ceremonial ribbon-cutting to celebrate the opening of the new 78,756-square foot \$20.3 million Education Building addition. In the last three years the Bagwell College of Education has prepared more new teachers than any other college in Georgia. The 2015 enrollment in the Bagwell College was 2,195 students.
- 09/03/2015** KSU plays its first ever football game on the road at East Tennessee State University in Johnson City, Tennessee. Final score: KSU 56, ETSU 16.
- 09/12/2015** The KSU football team plays its first ever home opener at Fifth Third Bank Stadium against Edward Waters College. Final score: KSU 58, EWC 7. KSU would finish the season with a record of 6 wins and 5 losses.
- 10/14/2015** The Board of Regents approves a BS in Public Health Education, effective immediately, to meet a growing need for Health Education Specialists.
- 11/10/2015** The Board of Regents approves a BS in Environmental Engineering, effective immediately. SPSU (now KSU) had offered a BS in Environmental Engineering Technology since 2013.
- 01/06/2016** The Board of Regents approves a substantive change, effective immediately, to the existing BS in Communications, creating a stand-alone BS in Journalism and Emerging Media. The request from KSU indicates that in addition to traditional types of journalism, emerging media includes online and mobile news with social media applications. There were already 180 enrollees in the existing journalism and emerging media concentration in the BS in Communications.

- 01/06/2016** The Board of Regents approves the termination of a BA in Physics due to low enrollment. KSU continues to offer a BS in Physics.
- 01/06/2016** The Board of Regents approves the acquisition from Cobb County for \$875,000 of approximately 1.02 acres of improved real property at 3051 George Busbee Parkway, Kennesaw. It formerly operated as a Kids R Kids Daycare and includes a 12,320 square foot, one-story building and parking lot. Consistent with the KSU master plan, the property will link the main and east campuses and will provide for future campus development.
- 03/09/2016** The Board of Regents approves a BA in Asian studies, effective immediately. The program requires mid-level Asian language proficiency and includes four concentrations: Asian cultures; history and politics; Asian business; and teaching English as a foreign language. No other college in the university system offers an Asian studies major.
- 03/09/2016** The Board of Regents approves a substantive change in the BA in New Media Arts to a BS in Interactive Design, effective immediately. The name change is accompanied by a major curriculum redesign focused on the intersection of liberal arts education with specific technical training in front-end web development and interactive design. The change seemed necessary to prepare students for the demands of the workplace.
- 03/09/2016** The Board of Regents endorses an AS in Biology at Chattahoochee Technical College to articulate with KSU. Graduates of the Chattahoochee Tech program would enroll as rising juniors in KSU's BS in Biology. The new AS program will articulate only between Chattahoochee Tech and KSU. All faculty teaching in this program were to meet the credentialing guidelines of SACS Commission on Colleges.
- 03/09/2016** The Board of Regents authorizes Project BR-90-1601, Laboratory Addition-Science Building-5th Floor Build Out at KSU. The total project budget was \$1.5 million paid out of institutional funds. The project will build out the remaining laboratory shell space on the 5th floor of the Science Lab Addition Building. It will help meet the needs of the Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology, which has grown significantly since the consolidation of KSU and SPSU. The 5th floor shell space was programmed and designed during the

original building project approved by the board in August 2008 and completed in 2012.

- 03/09/2016** The Board of Regents approves the naming of the Chantal and Tommy Bagwell Education Building at KSU. The naming is in recognition of the Bagwells' \$2 million gift to KSU. The 78,756-square-foot building opened in August 2015.
- 05/10/2016** The Board of Regents authorizes KSU to make substantive changes in the existing MA in Integrated Global Communication, effective immediately. The number of semester credit hours for completion was reduced from 33 to 30 and a number of courses were restructured to place a greater emphasis on research. The final capstone was revised from a team-based to an individual research project that will be presented as a solution for clients.
- 05/10/2016** The Board of Regents authorizes KSU to make substantive changes in the existing MS in Applied Engineering, effective immediately. The number of semester credit hours for completion was reduced from 34 to 30 and the program was restructured to facilitate enrollment of practicing professionals that needed additional technical expertise to maintain their practice. Previously, the program was offered online with significant laboratory requirements in several courses. The revised program will be transitioned to online delivery methods.
- 05/10/2016** President Daniel S. Papp sends a letter entitled "My Retirement" by e-mail to the campus community. It begins "It is with a heavy heart that I share some important news with you. Today I announced my retirement as president of Kennesaw State University to the chancellor or the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia, effective June 30." The second paragraph reads: "It has been a pleasure to serve as president of this great University for the past 10 years, and to enjoy a 43-year career with the University System of Georgia." The letter does not explain why he is retiring.
- 05/23/2016** KSU Faculty Senate President Humayun Zafar and KSU's AAUP (American Association of University Professors) President Andrew L. Pieper send a letter to Kessel Stelling Jr., chair of the Georgia Board of Regents, urging the board to conduct a national search for the next president. They say in part, "The faculty at KSU understand the final selection of a new president is the responsibility and prerogative of the BOR. However, our experience, and the

experience of universities around the country, suggests a process that incorporates voices of faculty, staff, students, and community members will result in a more legitimate, and likely more successful, outcome.”

- 05/26/2016** President Papp notifies the campus that Chancellor Huckaby had chosen Dr. Houston Davis as interim president. Dr. Davis was executive vice chancellor and chief academic officer for the University System of Georgia. His service as interim president would begin officially on July 1.
- 06/02/2016** Kessel Stelling responds to Dr. Zafar, thanking him for his letter and agreeing that “a key part of KSU’s success has been the excellent working relationship between KSU’s president and its faculty, administration, staff, and students.” He adds that, “Ensuring this search reflects that representative voice of the campus community is key to our process, and we will therefore continue to do so consistent with Board policy.”
- 06/02/2016** KSU alumnus John M. Fuchko III, in his capacity as chief audit officer and vice chancellor of the University System of Georgia, submits a report to Chancellor Henry M. Huckaby regarding executive compensation practices at KSU. The opening statement reads, “We have found that KSU’s executive compensation practices are out of line with the policies, procedures, and standards of the University System of Georgia (USG) with respect to certain payments made to KSU President Dr. Daniel S. Papp (Dr. Papp).” Board Policy 2.8 as revised in 2004 specified that presidential compensation was solely controlled by the Board of Regents (BOR) and was to be paid with state funds. Foundations could contribute funds to the institution to defray institutional expenses but were not to provide compensation directly in order to avoid potential conflicts of interest.”

In December 2004 the Board of Regents established a 457(f) deferred compensation plan for use by USG presidents in lieu of foundation-administered plans. However, when Dan Papp became president of KSU in 2006, for reasons that are unclear, he never entered the Regents’ deferred compensation plan. Instead, the KSU Foundation contributed each year to a deferred compensation fund for Dr. Papp in a fund maintained at KSU by the foundation. Initially, the KSUF provided \$30,000 per year in deferred compensation, the amount

stipulated in Dr. Papp's contract, as approved by the Board of Regents.

According to Mr. Fuchko's report, the funds accumulated in this account from 2006 to 2012. By that time his accrued deferred compensation came to \$260,000. In 2012 the foundation paid Dr. Papp that amount and also a \$45,000 retention bonus. In 2012 the KSUF also created its own deferred compensation plan. When Dr. Papp was interviewed by the auditors, he said he was unaware that he was supposed to be in the Board of Regents' deferred compensation plan. Apparently, no one in the System Office noticed that he was not enrolled, and no one in the System Office seemed aware of the KSUF plan. Each of his contracts with the USG stipulated his annual base salary as well as his salary supplement and deferred compensation, but no one seemed to pay attention to where those funds were deposited. Dr. Papp said he assumed that the foundation was coordinating with the chancellor's office regarding his compensation package, but unfortunately that was not the case. Dr. Papp received additional payouts in 2013, 2014, and 2015. Between 2012 and 2015 Dr. Papp received from the KSUF some \$577,500 in accrued "deferred compensation." The audit notes that this amount was "consistent with the amounts of *deferred* compensation authorized by the BOR. However, neither the chancellor nor the Board authorized or were aware that Dr. Papp was receiving deferred compensation *before* he retired. Nothing in the record indicated that the KSU Foundation ever notified the Board of Regents about what it was doing.

This section of the audit concludes that "the process of payment through the KSUF is a direct violation of Board Policy and also impairs the USG's ability to have visibility of the payment." It also notes that the KSUF annual financial reports provided to the System Office make no mention of the deferred compensation payments to Dr. Papp.

The audit notes two other violations: 1) a \$13,981.63 annual leave payout from Georgia Tech in 2011, when he formally resigned his Georgia Tech tenured professorship, and 2) approximately \$40,000 in unauthorized compensation since 2012 in the form of payments on his behalf for automobile purchases. By the time of the audit, Dr. Papp had already refunded the \$13,981.63 to Georgia Tech. With regard to the extra car allowance, President Papp told the auditors

he thought the foundation and the chancellor's office had negotiated the change. The maximum the chancellor's office permitted for car allowance was \$10,000 a year and he was received double that amount. Mr. Fuchko says in his final paragraph that Dr. Papp agreed to cooperate fully in remediating all these issues.

06/03/2016 A "Statement from the Office of Dr. Daniel Papp, President, Kennesaw State University" was released to the campus community. It makes the following points:

"No deferred compensation was paid to Dr. Papp that was not due to him under his contracts."

"The early payments resulted from a series of misunderstandings and miscommunication between University System officials, the KSU Foundation and Dr. Papp about the policy. Dr. Papp and the KSU Foundation were unaware of the policy's application to his situation."

"The other issues raised in the University System report—accrued vacation pay and annual car allowances—are also the results of a lack of coordination and understanding between organizations."

"Discussions about Dr. Papp's retirement began in the fall of 2015, unrelated to any University System review. His decision to retire now was one he made to ensure the best outcome for the University and his family."

06/02/2016 Vice Chancellor for Internal Audit & Compliance/Chief Audit Officer John Fuchko sends a memorandum to President Papp with regard to "Special Review — Randy Shelton." In it he notes a number of irregularities in the operations of KSU's Auxiliary Services and Programs. Fuchto writes that "the review conducted to date confirms numerous policy violations by [Assistant Vice President for Auxiliary Services and Programs] Mr. Shelton." Among the charges against him were the following:

He performed consulting work for Ballard Brands starting in May 2013 while a Ballard subsidiary, PJ's Coffee, was a KSU vendor, while Ballard coffee was used in the Commons, and just a month after another Ballard Brands subsidiary, WOW Wingery, was reinstated as a campus vendor despite losing money in an earlier presence on campus.

On at least one occasion he travelled to a conference in Minneapolis at state expense but spent about 20 percent of his time, by his estimate, representing Ballard Brands.

He violated the Request for Proposal process by communicating privately in 2015 with a representative of a company bidding on a dining contract. Such contact violated the USG Ethics Policy as well as the Request for Proposal process.

Without authorization, he renegotiated the KSU Dining Services contract with the successful bidder, Compass Group (Chartwells Division) to allow the company more time to pay its \$3 million signing bonus. KSU Legal and KSU Procurement and Contracting were not consulted about the change until after the fact. Part of the renegotiated deal was that Chartwells would make an annual donation to KSU Auxiliary Services of \$30,304. Changing the terms of the contract in a way that directly benefited his department without consulting with Legal or Procurement and Contracting was an impermissible conflict of interest in violating of university system policy.

The audit also brings to light the likelihood of a host of other ethics violations.

06/07/2016 Interim President Davis sends an announcement to the faculty and staff of a leadership change he had implemented. The following would work directly with him during the transition: 1) Julie Peterson moved from the position of controller to interim chief financial officer; 2) Lectra Lawhorne moved from associate chief information officer and associate vice president for UITS to interim chief information officer; and 3) Alicia Stignani moved from director of Human Resources Services to interim chief human resources officer.

Although the interim president was silent on whom they replaced, the area newspapers reported the removal of four senior administrative officials.

08/10/2016 The Board of Regents approves a Bachelor of Business Administration with a major in Entrepreneurship, effective immediately. The program will work directly with the KSU Entrepreneurship Center to provide opportunities for students to work with local entrepreneurs. The program is the first in the university system and has been identified as a top priority for the

Coles College and for KSU. It will be taught mainly in a traditional classroom setting.

- 08/10/2016** The Board of Regents approves a substantive change in the former SPSU's MBA program into a MS in Engineering Management, effective immediately. In essence, the board rescinds a previously approved name change and reverts the program back to its original purpose, thereby eliminating redundancies following consolidation with the MBA programs on the Kennesaw campus. The program was originally approved as a MS in Technology Management in 1985. In presenting the program KSU argued that it was not a business degree with an engineering focus. Rather it was an engineering degree with a management focus. The MS in Engineering Management is a partnership between the Southern Polytechnic College of Engineering and Engineering Technology and the Coles College of Business and reflects the new KSU's evolution toward a single integrated culture.
- 09/08/2016** AAUP President Andrew Piepper sends a letter to Kessel Stelling Jr., chair of the Georgia Board of Regents, regarding media speculation that the board was considering Georgia Attorney General Sam Olens for the KSU presidency. Piepper acknowledges that Olens is a person "of high integrity and deep community ties," but argues that such an appointment, without a national search, "would circumvent the norms for institutions of higher education" and cause the university system to be "subject to political machination, which as our letter this summer [dated 05/23/2016] discussed, has had negative ramifications at virtually all institutions where it has occurred." He added, "The substantial growth of KSU, an involuntary consolidation that has yet to reflect a new, unified organizational culture, and the presidential transition, beg for a President with experience in higher education." To do otherwise, he asserts, "would damage the already frayed morale of us at KSU who have maintained proper stewardship of the resources entrusted to us."
- 09/14/2016** In a telephone meeting the Board of Regents approves a proposal from interim president Houston Davis to lower mandatory commuter meal plans from Access 40 to Access 25 for first-year full-time students (with less than 30 credit hours) and from Access 14 to Access 7 for full-time commuter sophomores and juniors (30-89 credit hours), thereby reducing the cost for freshmen from \$475 to

\$324 per semester and for sophomores and juniors from \$160 to \$84, effective spring semester 2017. In April 2016 the board had eliminated the mandatory commuter meal plan for full-time seniors or anyone with more than 90 earned credit hours. In an effort to meet one of the Board of Regents' goals of keeping a college education affordable, Dr. Davis had announced in July 2016 that KSU would eliminate all mandatory full-time student meal plans by fall semester 2018.

- 09/28/2016 Samuel S. Olens writes to Hon. Hank M. Huckaby, Chancellor, University System of Georgia, formally applying for job of president of KSU. He points to his experience as a successful attorney, chair of the Cobb County Commission, and Georgia Attorney General, and argues that leaders in higher education must have the ability to raise money, handle the many legal requirements, and provide public accountability. He points to his success in managing 4200 employees and a \$700 million budget as Cobb commission chair, while helping Cobb to maintain a triple AAA credit rating. He also cites his service as chair of the Atlanta Regional Commission at a time when the ARC, among other things, developed Concept 3, a long-range transit vision for metropolitan Atlanta. He says that he is "committed to the kind of tireless work it takes to build consensus." He cites as his vision for KSU a refocusing on serving students, improving graduation rates, providing enhanced scholarships and student financial aid, and keeping higher education affordable.**
- 10/03/2016 Chancellor Huckaby sends a letter to the "Kennesaw State University Community" in which he acknowledges that he had asked the Board of Regents to consider Sam Olens for the presidency of KSU. He claims that he had originally intended to conduct a national search, but "through sincere and earnest conversations with Mr. Olens, I now believe he should be considered at this time." The BOR's Executive and Compensation Committee was scheduled to interview him the following day. The chancellor asserted that "Kennesaw State University has gone through more change over the past two years than most institutions experience over decades. You successfully navigated through a complex consolidation to create a world-class institution of higher education. This summer, you have thoughtfully endured significant changes in the leadership of your institution. Through all of this, you have remained steadfast in your**

commitment to Kennesaw State and to each other as an institution of higher learning and a true community.”

- 10/12/2016** The Board of Regents names Sam Olens president of Kennesaw State University to take office officially on November 1, 2016. Board of Regents chair Kessel Stelling Jr., says, “Sam Olens’ two decades of public service and outstanding leadership qualities make him the right person to lead Kennesaw State University at the right time. While Sam has successfully led a large workforce and managed a substantial operating budging, he also has a passion for KSU and public higher education.” Chancellor Hank Huckaby added, “Sam Olens is a proven consensus builder, and he will bring this important quality to Kennesaw State’s campus to partner with faculty and staff to the benefit of students.”
- 10/12/2016** Pursuant to authority delegated by the Board of Regents, the chancellor took the following action: the negotiation of a contract with the design professional firm, HOK [Hellmuth Obata Kassabaum], Atlanta, for Project J-296, Academic Learning Center (ALC), at KSU. The board authorized the ALC project at its September 2015 meeting. The proposal calls for a building of approximately 147,000 square feet, including an auditorium, state-of-the-art classrooms, and common and study spaces for students. The ALC is to house University College, the Foreign Languages Department, and various Student Success and Advising functions, as well as expansion space for the Coles College. A pedestrian walkway will connect the ALC to the Burruss Building. Once the building is opened, it will free up space in the upper floors of the Sturgis Library and permit future planned renovations. The ALC project was to be funded with \$2 million from private/philanthropic sources, \$2.5 million in FY 2017 general obligation bonds, \$39.5 million anticipated FY 2018 general obligation bonds, and \$3 million anticipate FY 2019 general obligation bonds.
- 10/27/2016** According to a news release from KSU, fall semester enrollment topped thirty-five thousand for the first time in KSU’s history. The final figure was 35,018, up 5 percent from the previous year. Of that number, 5,182 were beginning freshmen, 32,166 were undergraduates, and 2,852 were graduate students. Additional data on the website for Enterprise Information Management and Institutional Research revealed an ethnicity breakdown of 19,845 non-Hispanic whites (56.7 percent), 7,408 non-Hispanic blacks (21.2

percent), 1,442 multiracial (4.1 percent), 3,041 Hispanic (8.7 percent), 1,597 Asian or Pacific Islander (4.6 percent), 704 International (2.0 percent), 883 Undeclared (2.5 percent), 65 American Indian or Alaskan Native (0.2 percent), and 33 Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander (0.1 percent). The total of graduate and undergraduate full-time students was 25,253 (72.1 percent). International students came from 92 different countries, with the Republic of South Korea (95) and India (93) contributed the largest numbers.

11/01/2016 Sam Olens begins service as the 4th president of Kennesaw State University.

11/09/2016 The Board of Regents approves a Bachelor of Fine Arts with a major in Digital Animation, effective immediately. The degree is designed to prepare students for a variety of animation and animation-related careers.

Compiled by Thomas A. Scott, based mainly on Richard Bennett's *Southern Polytechnic State University: The History* (Marietta: Southern Polytechnic State University Foundation, 1998); Thomas Allan Scott, *Kennesaw State University: The First Fifty Years, 1963-2013* (Kennesaw: Kennesaw State University Press, 2013); copies of *The Sting* and *The Sentinel*; and Minutes of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia.