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Professor finds earliest evidence of chocolate consumption

That nice mug of hot cocoa you're sipping from this winter is something humans have enjoyed for...

Georgia (Jan 2, 2008) — Professor finds earliest evidence of chocolate consumption

Jeremy Craig

Abstract

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The earliest chocolate drink concocted, circa 1900 B.C.
Kennesaw State professor links cacao use to ancient cultures in Central America

KENNESAW, Ga. (Dec. 21, 2007) -- That nice mug of hot cocoa you're sipping from this winter is something humans have enjoyed for centuries.

And thanks to the work of an international group of researchers, led by a Kennesaw State University archaeologist, there's evidence that the first time people consumed chocolate was earlier -- by several hundred years -- than previously thought.

"There is conclusive evidence that shows that by 1900 B.C., chocolate was being made," said Terry G. Powis, assistant professor of anthropology at Kennesaw State.

The research by Powis' team appears in the December edition of "Antiquity," a peer-reviewed quarterly review of world archaeology based in Oxford, England.

Evidence in Mexico from ancient ceramic vessels reveals that cacao seeds -- from which chocolate is made -- was used by a people known as the Mokaya as early as 1900 B.C., and by pre-Olmec peoples as early as 1750 B.C. Previously, the earliest evidence of chocolate use was found at the site of Puerto Escondito in northern Honduras, which dates from about 1400 to 1100 B.C.

In affixing a time period to chocolate's earliest use by humans, vessels found in archaeological sites in the Mexican states of Chiapas and Veracruz yielded residues containing key chocolate chemicals -- theobromine and caffeine.

To confirm the presence of these substances, Powis' team turned to today's chocolate experts -- in Hershey, Pa. At the Hershey Foods Technical Center, scientists positively identified the particles through scientific analysis.

Clearly, the chocolate consumed by ancient civilizations of that region prior to contact by Spanish explorers in the 16th century A.D. was nothing like the cocoa or candy bars eaten today in the developed world, which is mostly sweetened and combined with milk in liquid or solid form.

The Maya -- who came centuries after the Mokaya and Olmec -- probably served chocolate as a watery beverage, whipping it to create a prized foam, Powis said. As for the preferred form of chocolate believed to be savored by the Mokaya and other pre-Olmec peoples centuries earlier, it's still a mystery.

Asked Powis: “It raises all sorts questions: How was the chocolate prepared? Were other additives used, perhaps chilies, fruits or other flavors? Who, in those societies, drank chocolate, and for what purposes?”

Inevitably, Powis’ research leads to more questions than immediate answers. For one thing, the cacao tree -- where chocolate comes from – is not native to Central America, but most likely originated in South America, perhaps Venezuela.

Powis said he hopes his research inspires other archaeologists to pursue further inquiry into mysteries around the origins of one of the world’s favorite flavors.

“As an archaeologist, attempting to reconstruct past cultures really fascinates me,” Powis said. “If an even earlier use of chocolate is found by another archaeologist, that would be wonderful.”

The professor also hopes to take a few Kennesaw State students to Chiapas in the next year for more research into ancient Central American cultures.

Those involved in the research outlined in the December “Antiquity” included Powis; W. Jeffrey Hurst, of the Hershey Foods Technical Center in Hershey, Pa.; María del Carmen Rodríguez, of the National Institute of Anthropology and History, Veracruz, Mexico; C. Ponciano Ortiz, of the Institute of Anthropology of the University of Veracruz, in Mexico; and Michael Blake, of the University of British Columbia, Vancouver.

To schedule an interview with Powis, please contact Jeremy Craig at 770-499-3448 or jcraig19@kennesaw.edu. The article in *Antiquity* is available online at <http://antiquity.ac.uk/ProjGall/powis/index.html>. (This link will open in a new window.)

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President emeritus addresses global ethics and leadership

Betty L. Siegel, president emeritus at Kennesaw State University, will speak on global ethics and...

Georgia (Jan 4, 2008) — President emeritus addresses global ethics and leadership

Karen Pressley

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KSU president emeritus instigates global ethics movement from Cobb County
Betty Siegel 'Winters into Wisdom' on an international scale

KENNESAW, Ga. (Dec. 18, 2007) -- Betty L. Siegel, president emeritus at Kennesaw State University, will speak on global ethics and social responsibility on Tuesday, Jan. 8 as part of the institute's "Why Leadership and Ethics Matter" speaker series.

The event starts with a reception at 6:30 p.m. at the KSU Center, 3333 Busbee Drive, Kennesaw, followed by an address at 7 p.m.

A new book written in her honor, "Wintering Into Wisdom," will be presented and available for signing after the evening's activities.

Siegel's dreams for retirement after 25 years of presidency at Kennesaw State did not include visions of kicking back or slowing down. "Retirement set me free to pursue my goals," she insisted, in 2006. It's been no easy task keeping up with her projects and honorable mentions since then.

In early 2007, she spent three months in South Africa at Stellenbosch University, creating special programs for students and her "Imbuzu" program for women. This summer, the Safe America Foundation of Marietta named their new 6,700 square foot facility the Siegel Leadership Center for Safety & Health Innovation, honoring her as the founding chair and long-time supporting friend. This fall, Stephen R. Covey, author of "The Seven Habits of Highly Successful People" and "The Eighth Habit" endorsed her signature program, the Oxford Conclave on Global Ethics. She's proceeding with plans to convene this conclave in 2008 in Oxford, England.

This December, she received special recognition at the Ethics Advocate Awards held by the Center for Ethics and Corporate Responsibility of Georgia State University at the Carter Center. The Center acknowledged her work of more than two decades leading national and international initiatives encouraging universities to focus on the development of ethical leadership for a global society.

Betty Siegel is one of the most popular public figures in Georgia, having been named as one of Georgia Trend magazine's most influential Georgians on five occasions. Calling herself "a coal miner's daughter from Kentucky," she broke records in academia and business. She became the first female president of a Georgia public university 25 years ago, thus breaking the glass ceiling for women serving as university presidents in the state. Her presidential tenure of nearly three decades earned her the distinction of the longest-running female university president in America. She also

served as the first woman chairperson of the 6,000 member Cobb Chamber of Commerce near Atlanta.

The cost for tickets is \$15 for the general public and \$10 for KSU students. Tickets are available online at www.siegelinstitute.org, or by calling 678-797-2000.

###

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Giant Map of Asia comes to Kennesaw State University

Children will explore geography in a very hands-on — or, rather feet on — way, as...

Georgia (Jan 9, 2008) — Giant Map of Asia comes to Kennesaw State University

Dwight Cunningham

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Giant Map of Asia comes to Kennesaw State University

A really big adventure awaits young students

KENNESAW, Ga. (Jan. 9, 2008) — Children will explore geography in a very hands-on — or, rather feet on — way, as the Giant Map of Asia comes to Kennesaw State University next month.

Produced by the National Geographic Society and measuring a massive 41 feet by 31 feet, the Giant Map of Asia has brightly-colored, smooth vinyl surfaces that accurately illustrate and label countries, as well as bodies of water, mountains and cities. Recommended for students from kindergarten through sixth grade, they will be able to walk across the Asian continent and engage in safaris, scavenger hunts and competitive games.

Along the way, they gain knowledge of country locations, capital cities, population centers, geo-physical characteristics, as well as important historical, wildlife and cultural information of the world's largest continent. A set of ready-to-use activities accompany the map, including atlases, books, videos, music and game materials.

“Teachers nationally have found the Giant Map of Asia a tremendous learning tool to help schoolchildren learn their geography,” said Garrett Smith, chair of KSU’s Department of Geography and Anthropology. Smith said the map, on loan to KSU from the National Geographic Society in Washington, is available for classroom tours from Feb. 1-18. The exhibit will be at KSU’s Social Sciences Building.

Teachers are urged to register for the interactive map tour with Charlette Corey via e-mail:

ccorey@kennesaw.edu.

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University wins national award for success in preparing graduates

At a time when many college grads are found lacking in workforce skills, Kennesaw State University...

Georgia (Jan 10, 2008) — University wins national award for success in preparing graduates

Jennifer Hafer

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KENNESAW, Ga. (Jan. 10, 2008) — At a time when many college grads are found lacking in workforce skills, Kennesaw State University received national accolades recently for producing competent college graduates.

Kennesaw State was one of only three institutions of higher learning nationally to receive the “2008 CHEA Award for Institutional Progress in Student Learning Outcomes.” Bestowed by the Washington-based Council for Higher Education Accreditation, the award recognizes success in developing, applying and maintaining evidence of student learning outcomes.

CHEA recognized KSU’s accomplishments in preparing students for the 21st century workforce. These accomplishments include:

- For the last five years, more than 90 percent of nursing graduates have passed their licensing exams – a passing rate higher than the national average;
- From 2001 through 2004, nearly 98 percent of 2,268 teaching candidates passed exams for their degree programs;
- Nearly all graduates were employed – 96 percent of bachelor degree recipients, 92 percent of master of business administration candidates and 92 percent of all other graduates;
- Median salaries were close to \$80,000 for MBA graduates; and
- Nearly three-fourths of bachelor degree holders and MBA graduates were employed in a field related to their majors. An equally high percentage of all other graduates reported that their education at KSU was beneficial in their current careers.

“This award demonstrates that Kennesaw State is among the leaders nationally to demonstrate our students know and are able to do what we expect them to do before they graduate,” said Thomas P. Pusateri, associate director of Kennesaw State’s Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning.

A national concern about accountability in higher education stems from a highly critical 2006 commission appointed by Education Secretary Margaret Spellings. Its report, “A Test of Leadership,” concludes U.S. higher education was resting on its laurels and needs “to improve in dramatic ways.”

“Over the past decade, literacy among college graduates has actually declined,” the report said. “Unacceptable numbers of college graduates enter the workforce without the skills employers say they need in an economy where, as the truism holds correctly, knowledge matters more than ever.”

In 2003, KSU established its Assurance of Learning Initiative to enhance assessment of both general education and discipline-specific student learning outcomes within each degree program. The AOL initiative is strategically integrated with other university initiatives, including Comprehensive Program Review, faculty development in the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning and the university's Quality Enhancement Plan, called "Global Learning for Engaged Citizenship."

"During my first year at KSU, we began the Assurance of Learning program as a way to develop a meaningful process to assess student learning outcomes," Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Lendley C. Black said. "I am very pleased that the Council for Higher Education Accreditation selected KSU for this prestigious award."

Kennesaw State's Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning was chosen from a pool of 31 applications. CETL provides leadership, support and advocacy of initiatives designed to enhance learning through teaching and scholarship. Other 2008 winners include the academic affairs department at Hocking College in Ohio and Seton Hall's Stillman School of Business in New Jersey.

Moving forward, a key measurement of student success will be global learning, according to CETL's Pusateri.

"Within five years, we want global learning for all ideally, but practically, we want to show we have a large number of students who have the knowledge, skills and attitudes to succeed in a global environment."

For further information, please contact Jennifer Hafer, 770-423-6711 or jhafer@kennesaw.edu.

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Former Congressman Bob Barr joins KSU as adjunct professor

Some Kennesaw State University graduate students are exploring the issues of civil liberties versus...

Georgia (Jan 11, 2008) — Former Congressman Bob Barr joins KSU as adjunct professor

Jennifer Hafer

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KENNESAW, Ga. (Jan. 10, 2007) -- Some Kennesaw State University graduate students are exploring the issues of civil liberties versus government power with one of the nation's top constitutional advocates – former Georgia Congressman Bob Barr who represented Georgia's 7th District in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1995 to 2003.

Former Congressman Bob Barr has received a joint appointment to the Coles College of Business and the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, where he will instruct master's of business administration and master's public administration students in a new course, "Privacy and Public Policy in 21st Century Business and Society."

An outspoken critic of government invasion of personal privacy, Barr believes individual civil liberties are being eroded by a growth in government power and technological advances. A former U.S. attorney with a Georgetown University law degree, Barr has also worked as an official with the CIA. He is currently president and CEO of Liberty Strategies, a public policy consulting firm headquartered in Atlanta, and practices law.

"We are thrilled to have Congressman Barr on campus," Kennesaw State President Daniel S. Papp said. "He brings a wealth of professional expertise and knowledge to campus that will greatly benefit our students."

During Barr's tenure in Congress, he was a senior member of the Judiciary Committee, vice-chairman of the Government Reform Committee and a member of the Committee on Financial Services.

Dubbed "Mr. Privacy" by columnist William Safire of The New York Times, Barr has appeared on virtually every major cable and network television program dealing with public policy matters. He also has served as a contributor for CNN and hosted a weekly, nationally syndicated radio show.

Barr writes a regular column for The Atlanta Journal-Constitution and serves as a contributing editor for The American Spectator.

"I'm honored to be a part of the KSU family," Barr said. "Teaching students about privacy policy as a fundamental right and as a critical matter of public policy, particularly in business administration, will benefit students in their studies and professional careers."

For further information, please contact Jennifer Hafer at jhafer@kennesaw.edu or (770) 423-6711.

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International opera star Jennifer Larmore returns for artist residency at Kennesaw State

International opera sensation, and Marietta native, Jennifer Larmore will serve as an artist-...

Georgia (Jan 11, 2008) — International opera star Jennifer Larmore returns for artist residency at Kennesaw State

Cheryl Anderson Brown

Abstract

International opera sensation, and Marietta native, Jennifer Larmore will serve as an artist-...

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KENNESAW, Ga. (Jan. 11, 2008) — International opera sensation, and Marietta native, Jennifer Larmore will serve as an artist-in-residence this semester in the Department of Music at Kennesaw State University. She will be at the university teaching lessons and offering master classes Jan. 13 through Jan. 15 and again April 22 through April 24.

During her January visit, Larmore will teach voice lessons for KSU music majors on Sunday and Tuesday. She will also offer a master class at 2 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 14 in the concert hall of the Dr. Bobbie Bailey & Family Performance Center. On Tuesday, Jan. 15, she will offer a question-and-answer session at 1 p.m. in the same location. The master class and the Q&A session are free and open to the public. More details about her April visit are forthcoming.

Larmore, whose family still lives in Cobb County, made her operatic debut in 1986 as Sesto in Mozart's "La clemenza di Tito" in France, marking the start of a brilliant international career in which operas of Rossini, Bellini, Mozart and Handel have come to figure prominently. After a decade in Europe, she returned to the states for her Metropolitan Opera debut as Rosina in "Il barbiere di Siviglia" in 1995.

Larmore has performed with the most renowned opera companies of the world, including those in La Scala, Lisbon, Geneva, Paris, Torino, Berlin, Buenos Aires, Bologna, Melbourne, Chicago and Vienna. She has performed at the Salzburg Festival, Klangbogen Festival in Vienna and at the Early Music Festival in Innsbruck, Austria. She has sung under the direction of the world's most acclaimed conductors, including Donald Runnicles, Günther Neuhold, Christoph von Dohnanyi, Kurt Masur, Andreas Delfs, Mariss Jansons, Marco Guidarini, Manfred Honeck and Seiji Ozawa among others.

Throughout her career, she has been an active recording artist. She now has more than four dozen recordings and five Grammy nominations to her credit. Among these are "Semiramide," "Orfeo," "Giulio Cesare," "Jennifer Larmore—A Portrait," "Il barbiere di Siviglia," "Carmen," "Durufle's Requiem," "Born in Atlanta" (following her performance at the closing ceremony of the 1996 Olympic Games), "Elisabetta d'Inghilterra," "La Rimembranza," and "Great Operatic Arias."

Larmore has visited Kennesaw State University twice before, in January 2006 and January 2007. For more information and directions, contact the KSU Box Office at 770-423-6151.

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Violence in Kenya spurs KSU peace conference

In the wake of Kenya's disputed election and the ensuing humanitarian crisis, Kennesaw State University's Institute for Global Initiatives is hosting "A Call for Peace, National Unity, Harmony and Reconciliation" on Jan. 20. (For the complete story, please click on the headline above.)

Georgia (Jan 11, 2008) — In the wake of Kenya's disputed election and the ensuing humanitarian crisis, the Institute for Global Initiatives is hosting "A Call for Peace, National Unity, Harmony and Reconciliation."

At 2 p.m. on Jan. 20, Kenyans and their Georgia supporters will gather in the Social Sciences Building auditorium for a forum celebrating diversity, peace, national unity and reconciliation. The forum also serves as a fundraising effort for ongoing humanitarian relief efforts. The Kenya Red Cross Society has made an international appeal for more than \$15 million to assist an estimated 500,000 people affected by the chaos.

The event is free and open to the public, and attendees are asked to carry a Kenyan flag while wearing a white ribbon symbolizing peace.

Charges of vote rigging greeted President Mwai Kibaki's surprise victory on Dec. 27, and within minutes of the official announcement, violence erupted, pitting one ethnic group against another. Hundreds have since been killed in the ensuing violence.

"The humanitarian crisis is urgent, and we must play our part to help bring normalcy," Institute director Akanmu Adebayo said. "Kenya has not faced a crisis of this magnitude and proportion. Our sympathy goes to all who have become victim of this crisis, especially women and children."

KSU has many programs in Kenya either ongoing or in development stages. A recent visit by 24 members of the Kenyan children's choir, Shangilia, and a partnership with Kenyatta University for faculty exchanges and student study abroad programs are among the ties the university has with Kenya.

For further information, please contact Jennifer Hafer at jhafer@kennesaw.edu or (770) 423-6711.

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Chuck D of Public Enemy to speak at Kennesaw State's observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Kennesaw State University will honor the legacy of Martin Luther King Jr. and other important civil...

Georgia (Jan 14, 2008) — Chuck D of Public Enemy to speak at Kennesaw State's observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Jeremy Craig

Abstract

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KENNESAW, Ga. (Jan. 14, 2008) — Kennesaw State University will honor the legacy of Martin Luther King Jr. and other important civil rights leaders during the university's observance of Jan. 21 holiday in his honor. Sponsored by KSU's African American Student Alliance, a keynote address by rapper and activist Chuck D is planned.

What:

The event, intended to demonstrate Kennesaw State's commitment toward establishing a campus that is accepting and tolerant of diversity, will feature the address by Chuck D (alias Carlton Ridenhouer), founder of Public Enemy — a group that delivered powerful messages about race, inequality and life's realities. He continues to deliver these messages through the wider media, and he has been intensely involved in the diffusion of music through the Internet. The event also features music by the KSU Gospel Choir, and a commemorative march from the Performance Center to the KSU Convocation Center.

Who:

Those taking part in KSU's ceremonies include Chuck D, keynote speaker; Punit Patel, president of the KSU African American Student Alliance (AASA); Oral Moses, professor of music and leader of the KSU Gospel Choir; Nicole A. Phillips, assistant director of Minority Student Retention Services; LaDrina Jones, AASA vice president; Jasmine Vega, AASA secretary; Tricia Holt, AASA financial secretary; and Carlton A. Usher, assistant professor of KSU's First-Year Experience and author of "A Rhyme is a Terrible Thing to Waste."

When:

1 p.m., Monday, Jan. 21, 2008

Where:

Dr. Bobbie Bailey and Family Performance Center, Campus Loop Road near Jolley Lodge; the commemorative march will then travel to the Convocation Center on the Campus Green.

Media coverage is welcome. Please contact Jeremy Craig at 770-499-3448 or jcraig19@kennesaw.edu to reserve parking.

For more information about KSU's observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day and future Black History Month events in February, contact the African American Student Alliance at 770-423-6712, or visit www.kennesaw.edu/stu_dev/msrs/celebration_calendar.shtml.

A downloadable biography of Chuck D is available at
<https://files.kennesaw.edu/staff/jcraig19/MediaGraphics/Chuck%20D-%20Bio.doc>.

###

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College of the Arts hosts three nights of laughs with one-man show

The College of the Arts at Kennesaw State University will present the one-man show, "Il...

Georgia (Jan 15, 2008) – College of the Arts hosts three nights of laughs with one-man show

Cheryl Anderson Brown

Abstract

The College of the Arts at Kennesaw State University will present the one-man show, "Il...

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Contact: Cheryl Anderson Brown, Assistant Director of Public Relations for the College of the Arts, 770-499-3417 or cbrown@kennesaw.edu

KENNESAW, Ga. (Jan. 15, 2008) -- The College of the Arts at Kennesaw State University will present the one-man show, "Il Teatro Machiavelli," Jan. 30 through Feb. 1 in Howard Logan Stillwell Theater at 8 p.m.

"Il Teatro Machiavelli" is a two-part Italian-style comedic performance featuring masks and puppetry. The first part of the show, "La Commedia Sprezzatura," puts a unique spin on traditional commedia dell'arte as the impresario, "Bruno Machiavelli", deftly leads his company of players through a traditional improvised scenario, "It's a boisterous whirlwind trip through 400 years of theater history and a good time for all," says Machiavelli.

The second part of the evening, "The Prince," is a Punch-and-Judy style puppet show adaptation of Niccolo Machiavelli's famous treatise on political power; the puppets satirically illuminate salient and practical aspects of the 1532 publication for modern consumption. "All the traditional elements of a Punch and Judy show are there," Machiavelli says, "But, this is a true story—true to history, and true to my ancestor Niccolo's writings—except in the end, the Italians win."

The celebratory atmosphere continues after the double-bill performance when "everyone is invited to stay and discuss the themes, politics and techniques of Machiavelli," said Vincenzo Tortorici, the creator and performer behind "Il Teatro Machiavelli." KSU Assistant Professor of Theatre and Performance Studies Harrison Long says, "I've been trying to get Vincenzo to KSU for two years. He'll make you laugh and think at the same time."

Tortorici, the great-grandson of a Sicilian marionette artist, has taught and performed with several acclaimed theatre organizations including The North Carolina School of the Arts, Georgia Shakespeare, the Atlanta Shakespeare Company, Emory University and the Big Apple Circus Clown Care program at Children's Healthcare of Atlanta. He also serves as the creative director of Polytropic Productions Inc., an organization that presents educational and entertainment services for universities, corporations and festival audiences around the world.

"Il Teatro Machiavelli" will be performed Jan. 30 through Feb. 1 in Stillwell Theater at 8 p.m. Admission is \$15. Tickets are available online at www.kennesaw.edu/arts. For more information, call the box office at 770-423-6650.

###

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Kennesaw State University to Study Athletics Program

As part of Kennesaw State University's transition to NCAA Division I status, KSU President Daniel S. Papp announced Jan. 16 that Kennesaw State will begin a year-long, campus-wide study of its athletics program. The study, part of the NCAA Division I athletics certification program, will cover academic integrity, governance and commitment to rules compliance, gender and racial equity, and the well-being of student-athletes. (For the complete story, please click on the headline above.)

Georgia (Jan 16, 2008) — As part of Kennesaw State University's transition to NCAA Division I status, KSU President Daniel S. Papp announced Jan. 16 that Kennesaw State will begin a year-long, campus-wide study of its athletics program. The study, part of the NCAA Division I athletics certification program, will cover academic integrity, governance and commitment to rules compliance, gender and racial equity, and the well-being of student-athletes.

While academic accreditation is common in colleges and universities, this program focuses solely on certification of athletics programs. Following a pilot project, the Division I membership overwhelmingly supported the program and its standards at the 1993 NCAA Convention. At the 1997 Convention, the Division I membership voted to change the frequency of athletics certification from once every five years to once every ten years and to require a five-year interim-status report.

The certification program's purpose is to help ensure integrity in the institution's athletics operations. It opens up athletics to the rest of the university/college community and to the public. Institutions will benefit by increasing campus-wide awareness and knowledge of the athletics program, confirming its strengths and developing plans to improve areas of concern.

The committee responsible for the study will include Papp, in addition to representatives from a broad spectrum of the larger KSU community, including faculty, administrators, staff, campus governance bodies, student-athletes, student government, alumni, the KSU Foundation, the KSU Athletics Board and leaders in the local community. (A complete committee list is attached to the end of this news release.)

Within each area to be studied by the committee, the program has standards, called operating principles, which were adopted by the Association to place a "measuring stick" by which all Division I members are evaluated.

Once the university/college has concluded its study, an external team of reviewers will conduct a two-day minimum evaluation visit on campus. Those reviewers will be peers from other colleges, universities or conference offices. That team will report to the NCAA Division I Committee on Athletics Certification, another independent group. The committee will then determine the institution's certification status and announce the decision publicly. For institutions that fail to conduct a comprehensive self-study or to correct problems, tough sanctions can be imposed.

The three options of certification status are: (a) certified; (b) certified with conditions; and (c) not certified. While universities/colleges will have an opportunity to correct deficient areas, those universities/colleges that do not take corrective actions may be ruled ineligible for NCAA championships.

The NCAA is a membership organization of colleges and universities that participate in intercollegiate athletics. The primary purpose of the Association is to maintain intercollegiate athletics as an integral part of the educational program and the athlete as an integral part of the student body. Activities of the NCAA membership include formulating rules of play for NCAA sports, conducting national championships, adopting and enforcing standards of eligibility, and studying all phases of intercollegiate athletics.

###

- Nancy King, Chair (King additionally serves as KSU's Vice President for Student Success and Enrollment Services)
- Dave Albert, Alumnus
- Ron Bell, Community Leader
- Sarah Brooks, Staff Senate Representative
- Tracey Carter, Student Government President
- Richard Corhen, Community Leader
- Dan Dale, Student Athlete (baseball)
- Ron Day, Director of Student Financial Aid
- Wayne Dennison, Administrative Senate Representative
- Patrick Devine, Intercollegiate Athletics Board Representative
- Charlotte Doolin, Campus Liaison
- Stan Dysart, Trustee
- Joe Head, Dean of University Admissions and Enrollment Services
- Ronco Johnson, Community Leader
- April Keasler, Student Athlete (softball)
- Tom Keene, Professor of History
- Barry Morris, Director of Cabinet Strategic Projects
- Daniel Papp, President
- R. C. Paul, Faculty Senate Representative
- Darryl Pope, Assistant Athletic Director for Compliance
- Jerome Ratchford, Interim Dean of Student Success
- Sarah Robbins, Chief Report Writer
- Brenda Stopher, Interim Senior Women's Administrator
- Dave Waples, Director of Athletics
- Cheryl Wayne, Director of Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) and Diversity Programs
- Kim West, Registrar
- Susan Whitlock, Assistant Professor of Health, Physical Education and Sport Science

Subcommittees

Academic Integrity, Tom Keene, Chair

Equity and Student–Athlete Well Being, Cheryl Wayne, Chair

Governance and Rules, Barry Morris, Chair

Academic Integrity

- Tom Keene, Professor of History, Chair
- Susan Blake, Associate Dean of University Admissions and Enrollment Services
- Steve Benton, Coordinator of Student Athlete Success Services
- Patrick Devine, Intercollegiate Athletics Board
- Richard Franza, Chair, Management and Entrepreneurship
- Suzy Millwood, Assistant Registrar
- Michael Redd, Assistant Athletic Director
- Leonard Witt, Distinguished Chair of Communication

Equity and Student–Athlete Well Being

- Cheryl Wayne, Director of EEO and Diversity Programs, Chair
- Gerald Donaldson, Director of Environmental Health and Safety
- Thomas Greggs, Assistant Director of Residence Life
- Valerie Jones, Head Women's Volleyball Coach
- Karen Pfeifer, Head Athletic Trainer
- Jerome Ratchford, Interim Dean of Student Success
- Brenda Stopher, Interim Senior Women's Administrator
- Amy Westergren–Amlicke, Senior Student Affairs Counselor
- Susan Whitlock, Assistant Professor of Health, Physical Education and Sport Science

Governance and Rules Compliance

- Barry Morris, Director of Cabinet Strategic Projects, Chair
- Adrian Epps, Assistant Dean, College of Science and Mathematics
- Catherine Lewis, Associate Professor of History and Women's Studies
- Nita Paris, Director of Doctor of Education and Specialist in Education programs, Bagwell College of Education
- Darryl Pope, Assistant Athletic Director for Compliance
- Ashok Roy, Assistant Vice President for Business and Finance
- Kurt Schulzke, Associate Professor of Accounting and Business Law

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Rapper, activist Chuck D urges sound choices

Martin Luther King may have followed the path of nonviolence, but that high road should not be mistaken for weakness. That was one of the key messages of rapper-activist Chuck D, who told more than 500 students, local residents, faculty, staff and administrators at KSU on Jan. 21 that King had “an essential strength” that put the civil rights leader at the front of social change in America. (For the complete story, please click on the headline above.)

Georgia (Jan 22, 2008) — Martin Luther King may have followed the path of nonviolence, but that high road should not be mistaken for weakness.

That was one of the key messages of rapper-activist Chuck D, who recently told more than 500 students, local residents, faculty, staff and administrators that King had “an essential strength” that put the civil rights leader at the front of social change in America.

“He was no punk, people. Dr. King was a radical,” Chuck D said during a speech at Kennesaw State University’s Jan. 21 observance of the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday. “He stood in the face of those who wouldn’t let him, or his children, have what other Americans had.”

Intelligence, Chuck D said, is too often derided in America, particularly among African Americans who embrace what he called a romance with the “thug life.”

“If you are a thug, it’s a one-stop shop toward the prison-industrial complex,” the 47-year-old hip-hop pioneer said.

Chuck D, born Carlton Ridenhouer in New York, helped start Public Enemy, the groundbreaking music group that has stood at the forefront of politically conscious hip-hop for more than two decades. He continues his role as an activist, author and technological pioneer with online music.

Mentioning the upcoming 40th anniversary of King’s assassination in Memphis, Tenn., Chuck D said the civil rights leader, as well as others in the struggle for equality, influenced his childhood.

Chuck D urged the audience, many of whom were KSU students and youth from the local community, to pursue education and follow a path outside of what mass media puts value on — wealth, violence, sex and immaturity.

“Don’t become what you see on TV,” he said. “Choose the film ‘The Great Debaters’ as a model over ‘American Gangster.’”

The event, sponsored by KSU’s African American Student Alliance (AASA), also featured joyous music by the KSU Gospel Choir, directed by Oral Moses, as well as singing of the Black National Anthem, “Lift Every Voice and Sing.”

After the Bailey Performance Center event, many in the audience walked in a commemorative march to the KSU Convocation Center to honor King and other civil rights leaders. The KSU Black Alumni Society held a reception at the Convocation Center.

KSU’s observance of the King holiday is just one of many events of KSU’s 2008 Black history celebration this winter. Another high-profile event includes a Feb. 19 address by former U.S. Surgeon General David Satcher. His visit is sponsored by the [Siegel Institute for Leadership, Ethics and Character](#).

Other [events](#) include AASA’s Black History Pageant on Jan. 31, a session on KSU’s Black history on Feb. 7, and a Black history bowl on Jan. 22.

On March 20, a spoken-word competition will be held in the Leadership Room of the Carmichael Student Center. The Black history celebration wraps up April 11 with a senior citizens’ luncheon at the student center.

A full schedule of events is available online at

http://www.kennesaw.edu/stu_dev/msrs/celebration_calendar.shtml.

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University president honored as one of ‘100 Most Influential Georgians’

Kennesaw State University President Daniel S. Papp has been named one of “The 100 Most Influential...

Georgia (Jan 23, 2008) — University president honored as one of ‘100 Most Influential Georgians’

Jeremy Craig

Abstract

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KSU president honored as one of ‘100 Most Influential Georgians’

Georgia Trend *magazine recognizes Daniel S. Papp*

KENNESAW, Ga. (Jan. 23, 2008) — Kennesaw State University President Daniel S. Papp has been named one of “The 100 Most Influential Georgians” in the January edition of [Georgia Trend](#) magazine. The honor recognizes his “global security understanding, expertise in technology and experience in education.”

“I am honored and flattered to be identified as one of ‘The 100 Most Influential Georgians,’” said Papp. “This shows the impact that Kennesaw State University is having throughout the state of Georgia.”

The magazine recognizes Papp for “efforts to put programs and policies in place that help students succeed in life,” not just at Kennesaw State, but for students across Georgia.

The institution’s third president, the 60-year-old Papp took Kennesaw State’s helm in 2006. Previously, he served as University System of Georgia senior vice chancellor for academics and fiscal affairs, responsible for higher admission standards, a comprehensive program review and a statewide assessment of the university system.

Papp also directed educational programs in the late 1990s for Yamacraw, Georgia’s initiative to lead globally in broadband technologies, and served as founding director of Georgia Tech’s Sam Nunn School of International Affairs, from 1990 to 1993.

Papp will join his fellow “Most Influential Georgians,” University System of Georgia Chancellor Erroll B. Davis Jr.; Georgia Trend’s 2008 Georgian of the Year, Gov. Sonny Perdue, and other top state leaders during a luncheon and awards ceremony at noon on Thursday, Jan. 24 at The Ritz-Carlton in downtown Atlanta.

For a complete biography of Papp, visit www.kennesaw.edu/president/biography.html. A photograph suitable for publication (1.17 MB) is available online at http://acsdev1.kennesaw.edu/access/gallery/pres_papp.jpg. (All links will open in new windows.)

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Mitchell receives national award for promoting healthy lifestyles

Beverly F. Mitchell, an assistant dean in the Bagwell College of Education, has been...

Georgia (Jan 24, 2008) – Mitchell receives national award for promoting healthy lifestyles

Jennifer Hafer

Abstract

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Contact/Writer: Jennifer Hafer, 770-423-6711 or jhafer@kennesaw.edu

Mitchell receives national award for promoting healthy lifestyles

KENNESAW, Ga. (Jan. 24, 2008) – Beverly F. Mitchell, an assistant dean in the Bagwell College of Education, has been named an honor award recipient by the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation & Dance (AAHPERD).

AAHPERD, based in Reston, Va., is the largest organization of professionals supporting and assisting those involved in physical education, leisure, fitness, dance, health promotion and education, and all specialties related to achieving a healthy lifestyle.

Mitchell's award recognizes her years of dedicated service to health and physical education and to the alliance. Recipients are "persons of personal integrity, who exemplify the spirit of devoted service to the professions and who, have by their leadership and industry, made an outstanding and noteworthy contribution to the advancement of health, physical education, recreation or dance."

Mitchell will receive her award in April at the alliance's national convention in Fort Worth, Texas.

Mitchell has served on several AAHPERD committees and is also a past president of the Georgia AAHPERD.

"This award is a real treasure and certainly a testimony to this organization," Mitchell said. "that it goes to such lengths to show appreciation to individuals whose talents help advance our profession and the lives of the professionals."

Mitchell has served in many capacities during her career at Kennesaw State, including professor, interim department chair and assistant dean of the Bagwell College of Education, among others.

For further information, please contact Jennifer Hafer at jhafer@kennesaw.edu or (770) 423-6711.

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Kennesaw State offers nation's first certificate for SPSS software

Kennesaw State University students are gaining an edge on their resumes or graduate school...

Georgia (Feb 5, 2008) — Kennesaw State offers nation's first certificate for SPSS software

Jeremy Craig

Abstract

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Contact/Writer: Jeremy Craig, 770-499-3448 or jcraig19@kennesaw.edu

Kennesaw State offers nation's first certificate for SPSS software
Program certifies knowledge of powerful statistical analysis package

KENNESAW, Ga. (Feb. 5, 2008) — Kennesaw State University students are gaining an edge on their resumes or graduate school applications with the nation's first certificate program in data analysis using SPSS software.

SPSS Base 15.0 is a powerful statistical software package that provides a broad range of functions to help provide important decision-making information used in marketing, psychology and political science, among other fields.

Kennesaw State's certificate program, in partnership with Chicago-based SPSS Inc., started this semester, which began Jan. 7.

"We are pleased to offer this certificate — the first in the nation — to our students at Kennesaw State, because it will help give our students a competitive edge in the marketplace," said Jennifer Lewis Priestley, assistant professor of statistics. "We are very grateful for our partnership with SPSS in helping to lay a foundation for student success."

SPSS, a leading worldwide provider of predictive analytics software, leads the charge in education as universities worldwide incorporate it in their applied statistics training programs.

"Students prefer SPSS because of its ease-of-use for beginners, as well as its advanced user programmability and ability to handle massive data sets," said Venkat Muthukrishnan, SPSS vice president of educational services. "It also gives students an advantage in today's competitive business world, as the SPSS statistical suite of products is what students-turned-business leaders use in daily analysis of understanding and meeting customer expectations."

The certificate program is a cross-collaboration with multiple disciplines at KSU, including business, political science and psychology, among other fields.

"The SPSS certificate is a great resource for psychology majors," said Amy M. Buddie, assistant professor of psychology. "The certificate definitely will aid students in graduate school admission, as programs — especially doctorate programs — are interested in students who have statistical expertise.

"In addition, students who have the SPSS certificate likely will be better prepared for graduate

coursework, compared to their peers without such training,” Buddie added.

The certificate is offered through KSU’s minor in applied statistics and data analysis. Students will be required to complete five courses to obtain the SPSS certificate:

- Computer Applications of Statistics (STAT 3010);
- Statistical Methods I (STAT 3120);
- Statistical Methods II (STAT 3130);
- Applied Experimental Design (STAT 4120); and
- An elective from the following: Applied Regression Analysis (STAT 4210), Statistical Data Mining (STAT 4310), Modern Information Retrieval (CSIS 4491) or a directed study (STAT 4490).

Additionally, students must complete a minimum of eight assignments in SPSS, Priestley said.

KSU also offers another statistics-package certificate, specializing in the SAS program in partnership with the SAS Institute — the first such certificate program in the University System of Georgia.

Media wishing to interview Priestley or other KSU officials should contact Jeremy Craig at 770-499-3448 or jcraig19@kennesaw.edu. Media wishing to interview SPSS officials are asked to contact Tim Powers at 312-261-6553 or tpowers@spss.com.

For more information about KSU’s Department of Mathematics and Statistics, visit <http://math.kennesaw.edu>. Full descriptions of courses required by the certificate program are available through the KSU Undergraduate Catalog, located online at http://www.kennesaw.edu/registrar/crsdesc_main.shtml.

For more information about SPSS, visit www.spss.com.

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Symposium explores complex life and legacy of controversial Confederate tactician

To some, Nathan Bedford Forrest was a brilliant and heroic military tactician for the Confederate...

Georgia (Feb 6, 2008) — Symposium explores complex life and legacy of controversial Confederate tactician

Jeremy Craig

Abstract

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Nathan Bedford Forrest: Hero or Villain?

Symposium explores complex life and legacy of controversial Confederate tactician

KENNESAW, Ga. (Feb. 6, 2008) — To some, Nathan Bedford Forrest was a brilliant and heroic military tactician for the Confederate cause.

But for many others, he was the leader of a horrific 1864 war crime, and embodied fear and hatred from his ties to an organization — the Ku Klux Klan — that terrorized millions of people because of their race or religion.

At 9 a.m. on March 1, historians will examine all of these aspects to one of Southern history's most controversial figures at the 2008 Civil War Symposium at Kennesaw State University. The symposium is sponsored by KSU's Center for the Study of the Civil War Era and Kennesaw's Southern Museum of Civil War and Locomotive History.

The cost is \$15 for the general public and includes admission, breakfast, a dessert reception and book signing. Kennesaw State students will be admitted free to the event, held in Room 400 of the KSU Center, 3333 Busbee Drive, Kennesaw.

"This is a great topic for this year's symposium, as there are vastly different views of Forrest and his place in history," said John D. Fowler, director of the Center for the Study of the Civil War Era.

Speakers who will examine Forrest's life, legacy and myth include John Cimprich, professor at Thomas More College, Crestview Hills, Ky.; Paul Ashdown and Ed Caudhill of the University of Tennessee at Knoxville; Jack Hurst, author of a Forrest biography; and Brian S. Wills, professor of history at the University of Virginia's College at Wise.

How Forrest is remembered depends on a person's background and perspective, Fowler said. For example, those who wish to view the South and the Confederacy in a positive light will focus on Forrest as a brilliant, tenacious fighter, and view the war as less about slavery and more about a limited role for national government.

Others take an opposite view. For them, Forrest epitomizes the ugliness of Southern racism by virtue of leading what is viewed by some as the massacre of African American Union troops at Fort Pillow in Tennessee, in 1864.

Further, he was involved in the founding of the Ku Klux Klan — becoming its first Grand Wizard, though Forrest attempted to disband the KKK in 1869 after realizing its violent nature.

Today, Forrest's name evokes old wounds, as many institutions and governments in the South deal with buildings, schools, parks and monuments to the Confederate cavalryman. In recent decades, officials have battled over renaming edifices and removing monuments to Forrest.

Though such a conversation about Forrest examines old scars that are very much still scars on the Southern consciousness, such examination is necessary, Fowler said.

“My job as a college professor is to have students, and the public, deal with these issues,” he said. “If we think that if we can ignore history and that the issues will just simply go away, it's not going to happen. Eventually, it will take people like our students at KSU to solve these problems.”

The Center for the Study of the Civil War Era at Kennesaw State serves as a repository of academic resources to examine this tumultuous era, and its importance to the past and its relevance to the present and future. As part of the university's Comprehensive Capital Campaign, officials seek to raise \$4 million to create, maintain and perpetuate the center, through scholarships, Civil War collection development, endowed professorships, symposia and community outreach.

(All links below open in new windows.)

To register or for more information about the symposium, visit www.kennesaw.edu/ksumall and click on “Center for the Study of the Civil War Era,” or call Heather Howell at 678-797-2084.

For maps and directions to the Kennesaw State University campus, please visit www.kennesaw.edu/about/maps.shtml.

###

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Student wins award from Southern Order of Storytellers

Kennesaw State University student Kristi Rivas of Macon won the 2008 Outstanding Student...

Georgia (Feb 7, 2008) – Student wins award from Southern Order of Storytellers

Cheryl Anderson Brown

Abstract

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Contact: Cheryl Anderson Brown, Assistant Director of Public Relations for the College of the Arts, 770-499-3417 or cbrown@kennesaw.edu

KENNESAW, Ga. (Feb. 7, 2008) – Kennesaw State University student Kristi Rivas of Macon won the 2008 Outstanding Student Storyteller scholarship award from the Southern Order of Storytellers.

The theatre and performance studies major competed against several other KSU students who were nominated for the award. She auditioned with a storytelling performance of an English and Irish children's folktale.

"I am very happy that I won," said Rivas. "I'm also very thankful because I was up against some very good people."

The \$500 award was given by the Southern Order of Storytellers, who regularly perform at the Jimmy Carter Center and host the Winter StoryFest and Spring StoryFest.

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University names new associate provost

In response to Kennesaw State University's unprecedented growth in student enrollment and academic...

Georgia (Feb 11, 2008) – University names new associate provost

Sabbaye McGriff

Abstract

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KENNESAW, Ga. (Feb. 11, 2008) – In response to Kennesaw State University's unprecedented growth in student enrollment and academic programs, Teresa Joyce, dean of the graduate college, has been named to the newly created position of associate provost.

In her new role, Joyce will primarily be responsible for managing strategic planning for academic affairs and supervising the university's special learning centers, such as the Institute for Global Initiatives and Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning - as well as the KSU Press.

"KSU has grown to such a size and complexity that we needed to expand our ability to manage the growth," said Lendley Black, provost and vice president for academic affairs. He noted that enrollment has surpassed 20,000, a new doctoral program has been added with two more under consideration, and the number of new academic and specialty programs has increased.

In making the announcement, Black emphasized the significance of Joyce's selection. "Dr. Joyce was the top choice among three extremely qualified candidates after an extensive nationwide search. She has made significant contributions to KSU, and I'm certain she will continue to do so as academic affairs' second in command."

Joyce joined KSU in 1987 as an assistant professor of management and quickly progressed to full professorship. She was appointed chair of the Department of Management and Entrepreneurship in 1993 and dean of the Graduate College in 2000.

She also has served on the faculties of Emory University, the University of Pittsburgh and Saint Bonaventure University in New York, and as a management consultant with Organizational Design Consultants, Inc. in Pittsburgh, Pa.

Joyce is the co-author, with Ralph Kilmann, of "Corporate Transformation: Revitalizing Organizations for a Competitive World," and has written or co-authored more than 80 articles on organizational change, strategic planning and human resource management.

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Former U.S. Surgeon General David Satcher to speak at Siegel Institute

Former U.S. Surgeon General David Satcher will speak to a Kennesaw State University audience on...

Georgia (Feb 15, 2008) — Former U.S. Surgeon General David Satcher to speak at Siegel Institute

Karen Pressley

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KENNESAW, Ga. (Feb. 15, 2008) -- Former U.S. Surgeon General David Satcher will speak to a Kennesaw State University audience on ways the country can reduce racial disparities in America's broken health care system during a speech at 7 p.m. Feb. 19.

Satcher will speak at the KSU Center, 3333 Busbee Drive, Kennesaw, as part of the Siegel Institute's "Why Leadership and Ethics Matter Speaker Series: on the role of leadership in the reduction and ultimate elimination of disparities in health, with a reception preceding the speech at 6:30 p.m.

Satcher was the 16th U.S. Surgeon General from 1998 to 2002, and served as the assistant U.S. Secretary for Health 1998-2001.

He was the first person in history to hold both positions simultaneously, and the first African-American male surgeon general since the position was created after the Civil War. He is the first surgeon general to be commissioned as a four-star admiral in the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps to reflect his dual offices.

Satcher is respected for his service in medicine and health care, including his roles as director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), director of the National Center for Primary Care at the Morehouse School of Medicine in Atlanta, and faculty at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) School of Medicine.

He is the recipient of many honorary degrees and numerous distinguished honors, including top awards from the American Medical Association, the New York Academy of Medicine Lifetime Achievement Award, and the Jimmy Carter Award for Humanitarian Contributions for the Health of Humankind.

Tickets are \$15 for general admission; \$10 for the KSU campus. For more information about the event, visit www.siegelinstitute.org.

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Music majors selected for intercollegiate band

Eight Kennesaw State University music majors have been selected to participate in the College Band...

Georgia (Feb 21, 2008) – Music majors selected for intercollegiate band

Cheryl Anderson Brown

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Kennesaw State music majors selected for intercollegiate band

KENNESAW, Ga. (Feb. 21, 2008) – Eight Kennesaw State University music majors have been selected to participate in the College Band Directors National Association Southern Division Intercollegiate Band. They are Brandon Bell (saxophone) of Moultrie, Kerry Brunson (oboe) of Kennesaw; Melissa Harris (horn) of Gainesville; Robert Hays (trombone) of Kennesaw; Crystal Penland (trombone) of Kennesaw; Luke Rabun (horn) of Marietta; Nicole Rosten (flute) of Canton; and Theresa Stephens (clarinet) of Kennesaw.

“I feel great and excited about being selected to participate in the band,” said music education major Hays, who is one of several of students participating in the band for the first time. “I’m looking forward to playing with instrumentalists from different colleges and learning from different people.”

“Exposure to new teachers and repertoires will be a good experience,” said performance major Bell.

These KSU music students were chosen from approximately 120 students who auditioned for the select ensemble. The intercollegiate band will rehearse and perform at the division’s convention, which takes place Feb. 27-29 in Columbus, Ga.

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Visual arts student's work selected for Australian art book

Artwork by Kennesaw State University visual arts major Kelly McKernan of Duluth has been selected...

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Kennesaw State student's work selected for Australian art book

KENNESAW, Ga. (Feb. 21, 2008) — Artwork by Kennesaw State University visual arts major Kelly McKernan of Duluth has been selected to appear in the 2008 publication of "Curvy," an annual Australian arts publication. McKernan is one of only 100 artists from 20 countries to be selected for this book.

"I'm very honored to have been selected," she said. "I look up to all the artists that have been featured in the book."

"Curvy" is a publication of Yen, an independent women's magazine, whose goals aligned with McKernan's in emphasizing different views of the female form. "Milk-Eyed Mender" is the piece that will be appearing in the book.

The book launch for "Curvy" is scheduled for April 3 in Sydney, Australia.

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Cobb County NAACP donates historical legacy to Kennesaw State archives

A photograph of Hugh Grogan, the first African American elected to public office in Cobb County, is among a treasure trove of archival documents donated Feb. 21 to Kennesaw State University by the Cobb County chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. (For the complete story, please click on the headline above.)

Georgia (Feb 22, 2008) — A photograph of Hugh Grogan, the first African American elected to public office in Cobb County, is among a treasure trove of archival documents donated Feb. 21 to Kennesaw State University by the Cobb County chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

While Grogan was president of the Cobb County chapter of the NAACP, the organization filed a redistricting lawsuit against the city of Marietta. The lawsuit, settled out of court in 1975, led to Grogan's election to the city council two years later.

Throughout the turbulent school desegregation period of the 1960s and 1970s, the Cobb County NAACP was on the front lines for equality. The organization was a strong voice for civil, educational and political rights, and much of that history is reflected in the historical records donated to KSU.

"It's a significant collection," said Tamara Livingston, director of archives and records management at Kennesaw State. "It will be an absolute gold mine for KSU and the community as a source of information on the African-American experience in Cobb County."

Livingston and NAACP Cobb County Branch President Deane Bonner on Thursday signed the official deed giving KSU the collection, which also includes:

- A 1975 photograph documenting an historic meeting between NAACP members and officials at Dobbins Air Force Base, which addressed hiring issues and race relations;
- 1970s-era issues of "Cobb Community News," the only African-American newspaper in the county; and
- A signed letter from former Sen. Sam Nunn, dated Oct. 11, 1990, congratulating the chapter on their annual Freedom Fund awards banquet.

"We are elated to be passing our archives onto Kennesaw State University," Bonner said.

The NAACP will begin transferring the documents to the university within a week, and the collection will be available to researchers, as well as the public, in about two months.

"The NAACP of Cobb County and Kennesaw State share many ideals, such as educating everyone," President Dan Papp told those gathered for the signing ceremony. "That's what the NAACP is about, and what Kennesaw State is about."

"We also share the values of equality for all human beings, the dignity of all human beings and the right to equal opportunity for all human beings."

Cobb County historian and history professor Tom Scott is credited with the partnership between university and the NAACP. Scott is the author of "Cobb County, Georgia, and the Origins of the Suburban South: A Twentieth-Century History."

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Former U.S. Surgeon General addresses healthcare disparities in America

Former U.S. Surgeon General David Satcher was the featured speaker Feb. 19 in the “Lessons from Leaders: Why Leadership and Ethics Matter Speaker Series,” sponsored by the Siegel Institute for Leadership, Ethics & Character at KSU. The series focuses on lessons learned from leaders across a spectrum of disciplines.(For the complete story, please click on the headline above.)

Georgia (Feb 22, 2008) — At \$2 trillion a year, the U.S. spends more money on health care than any other nation in the world.

Nearly all of that money, according to former U.S. Surgeon General David Satcher, is spent treating preventable diseases.

“We need to make prevention a priority,” said Satcher, who also served concurrently as the assistant secretary for health under both the Clinton and Bush administrations, from 1998–2002. “The U.S. spends 16 percent of its gross national product for health care. There is no excuse for not having universal health care.”

Satcher envisions any universal health care program in the U.S. would probably be a public–private partnership, which would help reduce the nearly \$400 million in administrative costs for health care.

“In countries where there is universal health care, they pay less of their gross national product and have better outcomes,” he said. “Money is driving the system in the U.S., and it’s driving it into the ground.”

Satcher was the featured speaker Feb. 19 in the “Lessons from Leaders: Why Leadership and Ethics Matter Speaker Series,” sponsored by the Siegel Institute for Leadership, Ethics & Character at KSU. The series focuses on lessons learned from leaders across a spectrum of disciplines.

“His message was that we should be leaders and advocates of health and wellness,” said nursing senior Gerri Baxter, her 4–year–old son Omari Tunstall in tow.

Satcher, 66, made history for holding the surgeon general and assistant secretary for health positions simultaneously. He was also the first male African–American surgeon general since the high–ranking post was created after the Civil War.

Today, he serves as director of the Center of Excellence on Health Disparities and The Satcher Health Leadership Institute Initiative, based at the Morehouse School of Medicine. There, he also holds the Poussaint–Satcher–Cosby Chair in Mental Health.

Upcoming speakers in the Siegel Institute series include:

- Atlanta Women’s Foundation President Deborah Richardson;
- Kent “Oz” Nelson, former CEO of UPS; and
- Billy Hayes, CEO of Northside Hospital–Cherokee.

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Gov. Perdue awards Kennesaw State University three customer service honors

Gov. Sonny Perdue has awarded three customer service honors to Kennesaw State University, the only...

Georgia (Feb 22, 2008) — Gov. Perdue awards Kennesaw State University three customer service honors

Sabbaye McGriff

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Gov. Perdue awards Kennesaw State University three customer service honors
Awards to financial aid office, bookstore and top individual 'champion'

KENNESAW, Ga. (Feb. 22, 2008) — Gov. Sonny Perdue has awarded three customer service honors to Kennesaw State University, the only University System of Georgia institution to garner three awards.

The university was cited for its systematic approach to improving customer service and focusing on understanding students' needs. Its financial aid office and designated customer service "champion" also were honored for team and individual accomplishments, respectively.

KSU honorees were among 45 teams and individuals selected from some 400 nominated to receive the first "Team Georgia Customer Recognition Program" awards. Perdue launched the program last year to recognize contributions state agencies and their employees make to providing Georgia residents faster, friendlier and easier service.

"We are very pleased that Gov. Perdue recognizes and appreciates the hard work our staff and departments are doing to make sure we remain customer-focused," said KSU President Daniel S. Papp. "These honors motivate us, and let us know that we are on the right track when we devote the kind of time and effort it takes to achieve an institutional customer service culture."

Top Customer Service Team

KSU's financial aid office team, represented by director Rondall Day and Nancy King, vice president for student success and enrollment services, were cited for customer service initiatives resulting in reduced wait times for students to see counselors and more privacy when they discuss individual financial aid matters.

For example, financial aid officials eliminated the bank-style windows where students formerly stood in line and transacted business. Now students meet individually in counselors' private offices. The department also redesigned the office lobby to be more attractive and comfortable for students and visitors.

The emphasis on service has become a way of thinking and operating, said Day, noting departmental changes including extensive staff training, using focus groups and surveys to help guide the department and designating an intern whose sole focus is customer service.

“We train and retrain our staff on how to answer phones, deflate situations, be tactful, and offer the best possible customer service in the face of many federal guidelines, such as those about confidentiality and how much financial aid we can award each student,” he said.

Top Individual Honor

The “top individual” customer service award went to Linda Lyons, director of the Center for University Learning and KSU’s customer service “champion.” She was cited for leadership in establishing the university-wide recognition program. Called, “Shining Star,” the program rewards outstanding work performance in customer service, communication and building relationships. In November, Lyons also won top customer service honors from the University System of Georgia.

KSU’s bookstore is indicative of what Lyons had in mind when she created the university-wide recognition program, she said.

A “Shining Star” recipient for both team and individual performance, the bookstore mantra became, “Just smiling and greeting customers,” says Percy Ivey, bookstore assistant manager. “It’s a small thing, but we weren’t doing that before. Then we tried an escort service. Instead of telling someone where a book was, a staff member escorted them to it.”

“Shining Star” also recognized bookstore employees for service above and beyond. For example, when Jenaid Bhatti, an associate, encountered a distressed customer with a flat tire, he changed it. Sharon Chesser, a buyer, volunteered to stay late to help a customer who had an emergency and could not get to the store before closing.

The bookstore’s team effort has produced harder evidence of the value of a focused, team approach to customer service. The store previously relied on part-time staff to operate the cash registers. During the rush at the beginning of each semester, long lines were customary.

Not now.

“Now, everybody pitches in to man all 10 of the registers during the rush – full-time staff and managers,” Ivey said. “During the most recent rush, we served 25 customers in five minutes. That’s pretty good in retail.”

As honored as she was to receive the special honor from the governor, Lyons says she is equally excited about the impact “Shining Star” is having on campus culture.

“This award just reiterates the university’s commitment to service,” Lyons said. “The program has created a ripple effect among employees because it motivates people – not only to provide better service, but to engage in more quality interactions with their customers. People are taking the initiative to go beyond just doing the job and really improving their communications. Everyone reaps the benefits of that.”

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Journalism professor receives grant to launch innovative online community news project

A Kennesaw State University journalism scholar's brainchild – community-funded online news...

Georgia (Feb 22, 2008) — Journalism professor receives grant to launch innovative online community news project

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Journalism professor receives grant to launch innovative online community news project

KENNESAW, Ga. (Feb. 22, 2008) – A Kennesaw State University journalism scholar's brainchild – community-funded online news media – will soon take form with the help of a recent grant from the Harnisch Family Foundation and a collaboration with a Minnesota-based online news community.

The foundation's \$51,000 grant will fund a trial run of a concept called "representative journalism" that envisions communities funding journalists who deliver Web-based, local and topical news.

Leonard Witt, KSU's Robert D. Fowler Distinguished Chair in Communication, recently began sharing his idea on his blog (PJNet.org). His writings caught the attention of Ruth Ann Harnisch, the foundation's president and a former journalist who encouraged Witt and helped advance the concept.

"The Harnisch Family Foundation is delighted to provide the financial resources needed for the first test of this concept," Harnisch said. "From the first time I heard about representative journalism and read Leonard Witt ideas in his blog, I was eager to help launch it. Len's idea has the potential to revolutionize the practice of journalism, especially as American journalism struggles with the loss of its advertising support base."

Witt is launching the project in Northfield, Minn., on "Locally Grown," an interactive Weblog and podcast with a large participatory following of area residents and community leaders. Griff Wigley, one of its managers, is considered a pioneer in online community building.

Also joining Witt in the test project will be Chris Peck, editor of *The Memphis (Tenn.) Commercial Appeal*, who will act as a part-time editorial consultant. William Densmore, founder of the Media Giraffe project at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst, will provide administrative support and oversight.

The key question the organizers hope to answer is: How can a community work together to develop a system that funds journalists who provide news and information that meets the community's specific information needs and desires?

"In the past, advertising paid the lion's share of the news and information delivered to a community," Witt noted. "Those days are waning."

If the Minnesota project succeeds, Witt envisions a representative journalism center that will be a

full-service hub enabling groups, institutions, communities or individuals to underwrite their own journalists.

“This is social networking applied to news-gathering and sharing,” says Witt. “The center will provide everything communities need to have their own journalists, while at the same time protecting journalistic integrity and ensuring communities high-quality journalism.”

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Music department, youth symphony partner to offer high school music clinic

The Kennesaw State University Department of Music will offer its second annual music clinic for...

Georgia (Feb 22, 2008) — Music department, youth symphony partner to offer high school music clinic

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Kennesaw State, youth symphony partner to offer high school music clinic

KENNESAW, Ga. (Feb. 22, 2008) — The Kennesaw State University Department of Music will offer its second annual music clinic for high school students with the Georgia Youth Symphony Orchestra June 8-13 in the new Dr. Bobbie Bailey & Family Performance Center at Kennesaw State. The clinic offers a comprehensive music experience for student instrumentalists, pianists, and guitarists. Registration is open through May 10.

Students will interact with 24 members of Kennesaw State's music faculty, many of whom perform with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, Atlanta Opera Orchestra or Cobb Symphony Orchestra. In addition to having master classes on their instrument and playing in large and small ensembles, the students will study music theory, history, conducting, and improvisation.

Partnering with the Georgia Youth Symphony Orchestra program, in residence at KSU and now the largest youth orchestra program in the Southeast, provides a vibrant atmosphere where students can immerse themselves in music. The week culminates with student chamber music and large ensemble performances on Friday, June 12. Rising seniors who participate in the clinic will be considered for music scholarships at Kennesaw State.

"The summer music clinic connects our exceptional music faculty with talented students throughout the state," said Peter Witte, chair of the KSU Department of Music. "This will be the Clinic's first year in our new home, the Bailey Performance Center. We're looking forward to making music with these students in one of the finest concert halls in the region. The smiles on their faces when they first experience music in our hall are a joy to see."

The registration fee for the clinic is \$275 and includes lunch each day. For more information about the clinic or to register online, click the music clinic link on the department's website at www.kennesaw.edu/music.

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President delivers 2008 State of the University address

A string of national awards, re-affirmation of Kennesaw State University's accreditation and reaching the 20,000-student milestone were key highlights among several impressive accomplishments of the past 12 months cited by KSU President Daniel S. Papp in his second annual State of the University address, delivered Feb. 27-28 to the university's campus community. (For the complete story, please click on the headline above.)

Georgia (Feb 27, 2008) — A string of national awards, re-affirmation of Kennesaw State University's accreditation and reaching the 20,000-student milestone were key highlights among several impressive accomplishments of the past 12 months cited by KSU President Daniel S. Papp in his second annual State of the University address, delivered this afternoon to the university's campus community.

It was an impressive year because the university has outstanding students, faculty and staff, said Papp, who was named president of the University System of Georgia's third-largest university two years ago. He told an audience of more than 300 KSU faculty, staff and students that KSU was one of only three universities in the United States to receive the Council for Higher Education Accreditation's award for "institutional success" in preparing students for workforce life.

Papp also highlighted the critical 10-year, re-affirmation of accreditation awarded to the university in December by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS). The re-affirmation of the institution's standing with SACS culminated a multi-year process that included a detailed self-study and campus visits last March by a team of accreditation experts, he said.

Papp said the university continues to meet the need for high-demand academic programs, as evidenced by an array of new degree programs being offered by the university, including KSU's first doctoral program, the Ed.D. in Educational Leadership.

Other programs that came on board last year were undergraduate degrees in anthropology, geography, information security and assurance, and a completely on-line bachelor's in business administration. KSU also added a master's in applied statistics and a master's in applied exercise and health.

"More degrees are to come," he said. "Indeed, if things go as planned, the Board of Regents in March will approve a new KSU bachelor's of arts with a major in dance, as well as our second doctoral degree – the doctorate in business administration."

Papp offered a mix of similarly impressive highlights achieved over the last 12 months, but he tempered his address with funding realities faced by the institution as the university's enrollment continues to soar. He said last fall's enrollment was 20,607 students – a milestone record – and that KSU's continuing education program served nearly another 23,000 students.

Two major new KSU facilities – the environmentally friendly Social Sciences Building and the Dr. Bobbie Bailey and Family Performing Arts Center – both of which came on line in 2007, also were cited as major highlights for the university. Another highly anticipated project is the new 913-bed residence hall now under construction for occupancy, "which means next fall we will have 3,200 students living on campus," he said.

Additionally, opening this summer is a new, 2,600-vehicle parking deck and the addition of the Wilson Building, just begun this week, which will house a "black-box theater" and performance rooms.

Papp also praised KSU's student athletes. "Both the women's softball team and the women's soccer team won Atlantic Sun championships, and I would be remiss if I did not mention the KSU Competitive Cheer team, which finished third in the nation, beating every Division I university except Louisville and Maryland," he stated.

Such are the range of accomplishments as the university experiences a tremendous growth spurt, but Papp said he is very mindful that the university is "stretched painfully thin."

He cited the candid conversations he has held recently with Board of Regents' officials to secure additional funding to meet the university's increasing capacity challenges. "We used the system office's own numbers, which clearly demonstrate how under-funded we are," said Papp. "I know what we said was heard. I am guardedly optimistic that KSU's budget next year will be increased to help us respond to the need that the system's own numbers demonstrate exists. We shall see."

Papp also announced a series of administrative appointments and one key resignation:

- After more than 30 years of service to KSU, Vice President for Student Success and Enrollment Services Nancy King retires at the end of the semester, but she will stay part-time involved with the university on major projects. Jerome Ratchford will serve in the interim.
- A special assistant to the president for diversity will be appointed, Papp said. The cabinet-level position also has faculty responsibilities that include "fostering a campus climate that respects and values diversity among students, faculty and staff – and developing systemic structures" to enhance the university's diversity efforts.
- Hiring a "chief diversity officer" will also allow Flora Devine, the assistant to the president for legal affairs and diversity, to become "university attorney," given the increasing need for her to respond to legal matters.
- Papp also announced the search for a "director of sustainability" to head up efforts that will make KSU a "green institution" from facilities to environmentally friendly policies and practices.

Papp praised the KSU Foundation, with whom the university's efforts to keep pace with its phenomenal growth would not have been as successful.

"Over the last 10 years, the KSU Foundation has provided the university with almost \$300 million in land and buildings, including houses, residence halls, parking decks and offices ... And the astounding part: during the same 10 years, the state provided KSU about \$150 million, including the soon-to-be-constructed Health Sciences Building.

"Suffice it to say that without the foundation, we would not be the university we are today."

The audience responded to those comments with applause.

"What, then, is the state of Kennesaw State University? Put simply, from my perspective, even though we are incredibly stretched, and stretched painfully in many areas, we are blessed with students, faculty and staff who are doing a phenomenal job as we strive to make KSU the best learning-centered, comprehensive university in the country."

Doing so is part of the university's five-year strategic plan, which culminates in 2012. Part of that strategy is the university's first comprehensive capital campaign to raise \$75 million. About \$30 million has been raised to date, he said, again to applause.

"We are fortunate to be here at this time and at this place at Kennesaw State University," he concluded.

ONLINE PRESS KIT

Text of Papp's address is available for download at:

<https://files.kennesaw.edu/staff/jcraig19/08SOTU/KSU08SOTUtext.pdf>

Audio of Papp's address in MP3 format (22.7 MB) is available at:

<https://files.kennesaw.edu/staff/jcraig19/08SOTU/KSU08SOTUaudio.MP3>

(These links will open in new windows.)

[MORE NEWS...](#)

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Theatre and Performance Studies offers three days of international storytelling performances, workshops

The Kennesaw State University Department of Theatre and Performance Studies and the KSU Tellers...

Georgia (Feb 27, 2008) – Theatre and Performance Studies offers three days of international storytelling performances, workshops

Cheryl Anderson Brown

Abstract

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Kennesaw State offers three days of international storytelling performances, workshops

KENNESAW, Ga. (Feb. 27, 2008) — The Kennesaw State University Department of Theatre and Performance Studies and the KSU Tellers will present the first annual Spring StoryFest March 13–15 in Howard Logan Stillwell Theater. Two world-renowned performers will take the stage along with the KSU Tellers. Headliners Jeff Gere from Hawaii and Eddie Lenihan from Ireland will perform and offer beginner workshops open to the public.

“Gere and Lenihan have two very unique styles of telling and we are delighted to have them perform for us,” says Assistant Professor of Theatre and Performance Studies Hannah Harvey, director of the KSU Tellers and coordinator of the KSU Spring StoryFest.

Gere is a dynamic storyteller who often combines puppetry, movement, video and audio. His unique style has captivated audiences for two decades. Lenihan brings us tales of Irish fairies, ogres, monsters, ghosts and the banshee, making use of his background as a noted storyteller and folklorist.

The KSU Tellers are also recognized stateside and internationally. In addition to performing at local schools and southeastern festivals, the student ensemble’s recent performance of an original adaptation of “Beowulf” in Edinburgh, Scotland earned a four-star review from the British Theatre Guide.

Performances will take place March 13–15 at 8 p.m. in Stillwell Theater. The performance on March 13 features the KSU Tellers, Gere and Lenihan. The performances on March 14 feature Gere and Lenihan. Admission for each evening is \$15. For more information and to order tickets, call the box office at 770-423-6650, or visit www.kennesaw.edu/arts.

Workshops will take place on March 14 at 10 a.m., 2 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. in the Social Sciences Building Auditorium, Room 1021. Admission is \$10 for each workshop or \$15 for all three. Tickets for workshops can be purchased by cash or check and are only available at the door. For more information, call the box office at 770-423-6650.

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Cyber Defense contest challenges six college teams to keep computers secure

Kennesaw State University hosted and placed third among six teams in the 2008 Southeast Collegiate...

Georgia (Mar 6, 2008) – Cyber Defense contest challenges six college teams to keep computers secure

Aixa Pascual

Abstract

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Cyber Defense Contest Challenges Six College Teams to Keep Computers Secure
KSU team places third

KENNESAW, Ga. (March 6, 2008) – Kennesaw State University hosted and placed third among six teams in the 2008 Southeast Collegiate Cyber Defense Competition last weekend.

The University of Louisville won first place and the University of North Carolina at Charlotte finished second in the competition, where five-to-eight-member teams competed to maintain a computer network and defend it from hackers in what has been dubbed “The Geeks’ World Series.”

For 18 hours, teams competed to maintain – and keep secure – a computer network whose systems were malevolently attacked. Experts from Internet Security Systems and PricewaterhouseCoopers attacked and harassed the student teams and their fragile networks. The teams, in turn, had to defend their information.

The simulation had everyday challenges faced by a small Internet service provider, from keeping up with Web servers and maintaining e-mail networks to adding firewalls. Teams were scored on their ability to detect and respond to outside threats, maintain existing services while responding to business requests – all the while balancing data protection and security needs against business needs.

More than just a showcase for cyber-security technical skills, the competition took expertise in project management and multitasking. For KSU senior Drew Sutton, it required “being able to stay cool under pressure,” he said.

The competition is an excellent teaching tool, said professor Michael Whitman, director of KSU’s Center for Information Security Education and event coordinator. “It provides a very real-world focus for our information security majors, allowing them to compete in a hands-on, realistic experience.”

Other participant teams included: Southern Polytechnic State University; the University of Alabama-Birmingham and Mercer University. The University of Louisville team will go on to the National Collegiate CyberDefense Competition to be held in San Antonio, Texas, April 18-20.

For more information, contact Aixa M. Pascual at 678-797-2549 or apascual@kennesaw.edu.

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Local students selected as finalists in music competition

Seven Kennesaw State University student musicians will compete in the 2008 KSU Concerto Competition...

Georgia (Mar 6, 2008) — Local students selected as finalists in music competition

Cheryl Anderson Brown

Abstract

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Contact: Cheryl Anderson Brown, Assistant Director of Public Relations for the College of the Arts,
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Local students selected as finalists in music competition

KENNESAW, Ga. (March 6, 2008) — Seven Kennesaw State University student musicians will compete in the 2008 KSU Concerto Competition finals at 8 p.m. on Tuesday, March 25 in the concert hall of the Dr. Bobbie Bailey & Family Performance Center. The winners will earn the high profile featured soloist positions with the KSU Orchestra for next season.

The Annual Concerto Competition is held to expose students to large ensemble performance experience and to give real-world “audition” practice. This year, the students were evaluated in the semi-finals by invited judges Regina Zorn, Angelle Lawless and Paula Thomas-Lee.

The students selected to compete in the finals are:

Theresa Stephens of Kennesaw, who is working toward a bachelor’s degree in performance, is a clarinet student of artist-in-residence Ted Gurch. She will perform “Premiere Rhapsody for Clarinet and Orchestra” by Claude Debussy.

Nicholas Morrett of Marietta, who is working toward a bachelor’s degree in theatre and performance studies, is a baritone vocal student of artist-in-residence Eileen Moremen. He will sing the “Soliloquy” from the musical “Carousel” by Rogers and Hammerstein.

Brett Carson of Mount Airy, who is working toward a bachelor’s degree in piano, is a piano student of Professor of Music David Watkins. He will perform Concerto No. 19 in F Major, K. 459 by Mozart.

Brandon McDaniel of Powder Springs, who is working toward a bachelor’s degree in music education, is a bass violin student of artist-in-residence Douglas Sommer. He will perform Concerto for Double Bass and Orchestra by Serge Koussevitsky.

Michael Alcorn of Acworth, who is working toward a bachelor’s degree in performance, is a tenor student of artist-in-residence Valerie Walters. He will perform with Melissa Harris of Gainesville, who is also working toward a bachelor’s degree in performance, is a horn student of artist-in-residence Tom Witte. The duet will perform Serenade for Tenor, Horn and Strings by Benjamin Britten.

Brian Palat of Kennesaw, who is working toward a bachelor’s degree in music education, is a marimba student of lecturer John Lawless. He will perform Concerto No. 1 for Marimba and

Orchestra, Movement 2 by Ney Rosauero.

The competition will take place on March 25 at 8 p.m. at the Bailey Performance Center. Admission is free. For more information, visit www.kennesaw.edu/arts or call the box office at 770-423-6650.

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Nationally renowned writers to speak at children's and adolescents' literature conference

Georgia school teachers will get a chance to learn from award-winning authors speaking at a...

Georgia (Mar 6, 2008) – Nationally renowned writers to speak at children's and adolescents' literature conference

Aixa Pascual

Abstract

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Nationally renowned writers to speak at children's and adolescents' literature conference
Evening reading is open to the public

KENNESAW, Ga. (March 6, 2008) -- Georgia school teachers will get a chance to learn from award-winning authors speaking at a children's and adolescents' literature conference at Kennesaw State University March 27-28.

The 2008 Annual Conference on Literature for Children and Adolescents: Expanding the Boundaries of Literature, includes an evening reading open to the public Thursday, March 27 featuring Jack Gantos, author of the popular Joey Pigza and Rotten Ralph adventurous cat books series. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and the talk starts at 7 p.m.

On March 27, the focus is on literature for students in middle and secondary school. Keynote speakers include Gantos; Robert Lipsyte, a former New York Times sports writer and author of sports novels such as "Raiders Night" and "The Contender"; and Peter Bowerman, who wrote "The Well-Fed Writer" series. On Friday, March 28, the focus will be on elementary school literature. Keynote speakers are Gantos; Robert D. San Souci, writer of children's books inspired on traditional tales from around the world, such as "Dare to be Scared: Thirteen Stories to Chill and Thrill" and "Little Gold Star: A Spanish American Cinderella Story;" and Debbi Chocolate, author of "Talk, Talk: An Ashanti Legend" and "The Piano Man." Breakout sessions will follow.

The conference will be held at the KSU Center for Continuing Education at 3333 George Busbee Drive, Kennesaw.

For registration, visit www.kennesaw.edu/education/ece/childlit.

Media coverage is welcome, and news media representatives are asked to contact Aixa M. Pascual at 678-797-2549 or apascual@kennesaw.edu.

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University to recognize hundreds of board members April 1

Kennesaw State University will host the 9th annual All Boards Day Tuesday, April 1 to honor the...

Georgia (Mar 6, 2008) – University to recognize hundreds of board members April 1

Aixa Pascual

Abstract

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Kennesaw State University to recognize hundreds of board members April 1

KENNESAW, Ga. (March 6, 2008) – Kennesaw State University will host the 9th annual All Boards Day Tuesday, April 1 to honor the nearly 1,000 volunteers who serve on the institution's 66 advisory boards. As a growing university with more than 20,000 students, KSU relies heavily on volunteer advisors from the community for its seven colleges to help guide and shape its programs, from athletics and academics to service organizations.

Featured speaker is KSU President Daniel S. Papp. He also will present awards to the board member of the year and the board of the year.

What:

9th annual All Boards Day recognizing the school's advisory boards

When:

Tuesday, April 1, 2008, 8:30 to 10:30 a.m.

Where:

KSU Convocation Center, 1000 Chastain Road, Kennesaw

For maps of the Kennesaw State campus, visit www.kennesaw.edu/maps.

Media coverage is welcome, and news media representatives are asked to contact Aixa M. Pascual at 678-797-2549 or apascual@kennesaw.edu.

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Gypsy life before and after World War II showcased in new exhibit

Jan Yoors was just 12 years old when he left his home in Belgium to travel with a group of Roma who...

Georgia (Mar 10, 2008) – Gypsy life before and after World War II showcased in new exhibit

Jennifer Hafer

Abstract

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Gypsy life before and after World War II showcased in new exhibit
"The Heroic Present: The Gypsy Photographs of Jan Yoors" opens March 18

KENNESAW, Ga. (March 10, 2008) - Jan Yoors was just 12 years old when he left his home in Belgium to travel with a group of Roma who were traveling through his town.

The only child of a prominent artist and human rights activist, Yoors traveled widely with the Roma — commonly referred to as gypsies — for six years, capturing the daily life of a European Romani community with a Kodak Brownie camera. Yoors' parents, Magda and Eugene, regarded their son's adventure as a learning experience.

"The Heroic Present: The Gypsy Photographs of Jan Yoors" features 65 extraordinary photographs, many of which have never before been seen. The reprinted photos, which span five decades, are part of a rare collection of images aimed at giving viewers a sense of the Roma community.

"We came across the Jan Yoors story while researching another exhibition at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C.," said Catherine Lewis, associate professor of history and director of KSU's Holocaust Education Program. "We subsequently got in touch with the family, and it happened they were looking for someone to curate an exhibit of Jan's photos."

The exhibit opens March 18, in the [Social Sciences Building](#), with a 6:30 p.m. lecture by Ian Hancock, a leading scholar on Roma life, language and history, from the University of Texas. The exhibit will be on display at KSU for about a month, before the eight free-standing panels and 65 prints are packed up for a 10-city tour of libraries, museums and community centers in the U.S. and abroad.

"These photos offer an unparalleled look at a people who have lived among us for hundreds of years and still remain the least understood culture of our time," Kore Yoors, Jan's son, said.

Kore Yoors will attend the exhibit's opening.

It was in Kore's New York City apartment where the details of the exhibit were finalized and the 65 photos were chosen from among the 50,000 in his late father's collection. Jan Yoors died on Nov. 27, 1977, at the age of 55.

"It's exactly how you come across historical stories — in people's living rooms and basements," Lewis said. "Most of history's greatest stories aren't yet archived in museums."

For more information, or to schedule an interview with Catherine Lewis or Kore Yoors, contact Jennifer Hafer at 770-423-6711.

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Hiring optimism strong at Kennesaw State job fair

Corporate recruiters at the 2008 National Collegiate Sales Competition said they are in a robust...

Georgia (Mar 14, 2008) — Hiring optimism strong at Kennesaw State job fair

Aixa Pascual

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Hiring optimism strong at Kennesaw State job fair

Recruiters target top sales students at national sales competition

KENNESAW, Ga. (March 14, 2008) — Corporate recruiters at the 2008 National Collegiate Sales Competition said they are in a robust hiring swing.

The U.S. economic picture might be bleak, perhaps even in recession, but many Fortune 500 recruiters at Kennesaw State University's career fair were optimistic — even enthusiastic — about finding talented salespeople for entry-level jobs.

Recruiters from [Johnson & Johnson](#), [Liberty Mutual](#), [Assurant](#), [HP](#), [Novartis](#) and [Careerbuilder.com](#), among others, said they were thrilled to have access to such a rich talent pool — business students intent on sales careers. Many firms said they were looking for strong communications skills, drive, initiative, leadership — and persistence, of course.

“In a down economy, you're going to see more people looking for jobs,” said recruiter Raymond Dinglasan, sales director for Chicago-based Careerbuilder.com, the nation's largest Internet job site. “Our job market goes up exponentially at a time like this.”

At Kennesaw State, the collegians were “exactly what we're looking for,” he said. By focusing their studies on sales, they will have to learn less on the job and, therefore, already have “half the job in the bag.”

Base salaries for entry-level sales employees at Careerbuilder.com start at \$25,000, but can climb beyond \$50,000 with bonuses and commissions, he said.

The National Collegiate Sales Competition, the country's largest collegiate sales competition, pits top sales students in a test of one-on-one sales call challenges. Students from some 50 schools across the nation participated in the competition — when not being eagerly pursued to sign on with top companies. The NCSC continues on Saturday, with finals beginning at 3 p.m.

In tough economic times, experts and employers say, smart companies keep looking for talent. And they want to make sure there's talent in the pipeline when times get better.

“If your sales or revenues are decreasing, you don't want to fire the people who are bringing in revenues,” said Terry Loe, director of the Center for Professional Selling at Kennesaw State's Michael J. Coles College of Business. Loe, who also directed this year's sales competition, said a record 48 companies were recruiting and sponsoring the annual event, now in its 10th year.

Johnson & Johnson's Vision Care, a maker of contact lenses, and LifeScan, which manufactures products to manage diabetes, are growing fast and looking for talent, recruiters said.

For its homeowners and auto insurance business, Liberty Mutual's sales force is growing 10 percent to 12 percent, said Nikki Soares, recruitment manager for Liberty Mutual.

For its part, HP is focusing more this year than last in hiring entry-level college graduates for its sales staff. Assurant, a risk management company that manages mortgage insurance, among other businesses, also is in hiring mode because now is a good time to be selling mortgage insurance.

"We're definitely hiring more than last year," said talent acquisition director Jose Carbia. "We have a lot of new positions. We're expanding in certain areas of business."

Also hiring more salespeople this year than last is [Standard Register](#), a document services provider. The Dayton, Ohio firm is trying to fill sales 37 positions. "We have more open spots," said Eric Bierman, senior manager for sales learning and development.

For more information on the National Collegiate Sales Competition, visit www.ncsc-ksu.org.

For more information, contact Aixa M. Pascual at 678-797-2549.

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New KSU master's degree, scholarships to help ease state's science teacher shortage

In response to predictions that Georgia will experience a shortfall of almost 1,800 middle and high...

Georgia (Mar 19, 2008) — New KSU master's degree, scholarships to help ease state's science teacher shortage

Sabbaye McGriff

Abstract

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New KSU master's degree, scholarships to help ease state's science teacher shortage
Up to \$20,000 available

KENNESAW, Ga. (March 19, 2008) — In response to predictions that Georgia will experience a shortfall of almost 1,800 middle and high school science teachers by 2010, Kennesaw State University is offering two new opportunities to propel college students toward science-teaching careers.

First, the new Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) Secondary Science degree program will be launched in July.

The MAT is designed to accelerate certification of those currently holding bachelor's degrees in biology, chemistry, physics or a related field. The program requires completion of 48 hours of coursework, which is normally spread over four semesters, and in-school field experiences. Completion of the program leads to teacher certification in chemistry, biology or physics.

In addition, Robert Noyce Scholars Program scholarships are available by application through April 1. Under the Noyce program, students can receive \$5,000 to \$10,000 per year for up to two years.

Both initiatives are designed to encourage and support students who choose teaching careers, a need underscored by the current reality. For example, of Georgia's 25,000 public college graduates in 2006, only three became physics teachers and just nine accepted offers to teach chemistry.

In a 2007 report titled, "Math+Science=Success," University System of Georgia presidents documented the state's critical need for graduates and teachers of so-called "STEM" disciplines — science, technology, engineering and math. The report also made projections for helping meet those needs. KSU President Daniel S. Papp was a member of the STEM initiative.

The USG report cited an estimate suggesting the state will need to produce 2,060 middle school science and high school teachers of life sciences, chemistry, earth science and physics by 2010. By 2013, the reports projects, the university system will more than double production of middle and high school science teachers, from 267 to 590.

"The workforce implications of these estimates and projections are tremendous," Papp said. "It places the challenge on colleges and universities to really focus on helping the state meet these needs. It also creates opportunities for us to marshal resources, as we have done with these two

programs.”

Funded by the National Science Foundation, the Noyce scholars program was designed for KSU and Georgia Institute of Technology seniors pursuing science degrees.

A Noyce scholarship recipient receives funds to pay expenses during their senior year of undergraduate studies and during a year of study in the MAT program. Those receiving funds must commit to a year of teaching in a metro Atlanta public school district for every \$5,000 received, up to a \$20,000 maximum. Partnering school districts include Atlanta, Cobb County School, DeKalb, Fulton County and Paulding County.

Adrian Epps, associate dean of KSU’s College of Science and Mathematics, said the MAT also can benefit career-changers who need a path toward becoming certified teachers or those who hold undergraduate science degrees from other institutions. In a 2007 report titled, “Math+Science=Success,” University System of Georgia presidents documented the state’s critical need for graduates and teachers of so-called “STEM” disciplines — science, technology, engineering and math. The report also made projections for helping meet those needs. KSU President Daniel S. Papp was a member of the STEM initiative.

“There is such a well-documented and longstanding need for science teachers throughout the state,” said Epps, who has worked to improve educational quality in science and math since joining KSU in February 2007 and the previous 18 years in the Atlanta Public Schools.

“These programs are a great way to motivate KSU and Georgia Tech students toward teaching careers. But we’re also prepared to be flexible with other eligible MAT candidates to continue making a dent in the problem.”

For more information on KSU’s MAT Secondary Science program, e-mail grushton@kennesaw.edu.

To download a Noyce scholarship application, go to www.GANoyceScholars.org.

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University adds new doctorate of business administration and dance major

Kennesaw State University's Michael J. Coles College of Business will start offering an innovative...

Georgia (Mar 19, 2008) – University adds new doctorate of business administration and dance major

Aixa Pascual

Abstract

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Kennesaw State adds new doctorate of business administration and dance major
Degree for working professionals is KSU's second doctorate program

KENNESAW, Ga. (March 19, 2008) – Kennesaw State University's Michael J. Coles College of Business will start offering an innovative Doctor of Business Administration (D.B.A.) degree this summer, the first at a University System of Georgia institution. Also, a new undergraduate major in dance will be offered by the College of the Arts.

Both new degrees were approved today by the state's Board of Regents at its monthly meeting.

"With these new degrees, Kennesaw State is addressing the needs of our community. The doctorate in business provides a visionary solution to emerging global challenges and opportunities," said President Daniel S. Papp. "The dance major will help us to continue attracting qualified undergraduates to our campus."

Going beyond an M.B.A.

The D.B.A. is the university's second doctoral degree program and solidifies KSU's stature as a comprehensive institution, now granting almost 20 master's degrees. KSU started offering the Doctor of Education in Leadership for Learning (Ed.D.) in January 2007. The D.B.A. and Ed.D. are targeted to working professionals.

There is huge demand for the new business doctorate, which combines theory with applied business concepts, said Tim Mescon, dean of the Coles College of Business. With a scarcity of people with business doctorates and increasing demand for their services, doctoral salaries have gone through the roof, he added. Few business schools in the United States offer a D.B.A.

"The launch of this program is a direct reflection of the high quality of faculty and academic programs in the Coles College, along with the tremendous market shortage of doctorally qualified business faculty," Mescon said.

Kennesaw State is the first school in the University System of Georgia to offer a D.B.A., Mescon said. Unlike a traditional, full-time research degree like the Ph.D., the D.B.A. is targeted to working mid-career professionals with an M.B.A. who want to enhance their careers or move into academia. The program, designed to be completed in three years, is a natural extension of Coles' top-ranked Executive M.B.A. Program.

Many business schools are not increasing their number of doctorates. “It is wonderful that accredited schools like Kennesaw State are creating new and innovative programs,” said Dan LeClair, vice-president and chief knowledge officer of the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB), the largest organization that accredits business schools. “In the U.S. there are few, if any, accredited doctorate degree programs for working professionals.”

Tuition for the D.B.A. is about \$24,000 a year.

KSU steps into dance

Kennesaw State will also enhance its undergraduate offerings with a Bachelor of Arts with a major in dance, becoming one of a handful of schools in the University System of Georgia to offer the program. The dance major strengthens the College of the Arts’ offerings, which now include theatre and performance studies, music, and visual arts.

The dance major evolved from a minor that proved popular when introduced almost three years ago. The dance program now has 143 dance minors, five adjunct faculty, a 30-member strong pre-professional dance company and an array of dance course offerings that include technique classes in modern, ballet, jazz, tap, African and ballroom dance, said Ivan Pulinkala, director of dance in the College of the Arts.

The new dance major helps fill the void for college dance programs in the state. Many students studying dance in high school or in dance studios end up leaving Georgia to pursue an undergraduate degree in dance at other universities, due to the state’s lack of programs, Pulinkala explained.

“The dance program at Kennesaw State University has grown very quickly, not just in numbers but in national recognition,” said Joseph D. Meeks, dean of the College of the Arts. “After the dance minor was launched in 2005, it soon became clear that our students and our community were hungry for a collegiate-level dance program. By creating a major in dance, we are adding another vibrant and significant discipline to our stellar arts programs.”

The KSU Dance Company recently won the regional American College Dance Festival, triumphing over 33 other dance programs in the southeast region. It has been invited to perform at the National College Dance Festival in New York City in June 2008.

KSU currently offers 45 undergraduate majors. The College of the Arts will start accepting applications for the new dance major next fall.

For more information, call Aixa M. Pascual at 678-797-2549 or apascual@kennesaw.edu.

Further information about other actions taken by the Regents at the board’s March meeting is available online at www.usg.edu.

Find out more about the Coles College of Business at <http://coles.kennesaw.edu>.

More about the College of the Arts is available at www.kennesaw.edu/arts.

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Forum offers view on Mexican labor migration to the U.S.

A comparison between the “Bracero” movement — the World War II-era contract system that...

Georgia (Mar 24, 2008) — Forum offers view on Mexican labor migration to the U.S.

Sabbaye McGriff

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KSU forum offers view on Mexican labor migration to the U.S.

KENNESAW, Ga. (March 24, 2008) — A comparison between the “Bracero” movement — the World War II-era contract system that brought millions of Mexican workers to the U.S. — and the Bush administration’s proposed guest worker program will be among topics discussed at a Kennesaw State University forum next month.

Noted scholar Gilbert G. Gonzalez, author of “Guest Workers or Colonized Labor?: Mexican Labor Migration to the United States,” will offer reflections on a century of Mexican migration at the Thursday, April 3 session. The talk begins at 6:30 p.m. in KSU’s Social Sciences building, Room 1019.

On Friday, April 4, Gonzalez will document U.S. labor history amid Mexican labor migration, emphasizing the Bracero Program, in which more than 4 million Mexican farm laborers came to work in American fields during World War II to ease agricultural labor shortages. That session begins at 9:30 a.m. in the Social Sciences building, Room 2028.

Both sessions are free and open to the public. Those attending the Friday session may also reserve lunch at jmedeari@kennesaw.edu.

Sponsoring the talks are KSU’s Shaw Chair of Business and Economic History, American Studies Program and the A.L. Burruss Institute of Public Service and Research.

A professor of social science and director of the University of California-Irvine’s Labor Studies Program, Gonzalez’s published works also include: “Culture of Empire: American Writers, Mexico, and Mexican Immigrants, 1880-1930” and “Chicano Education During the Era of Segregation.”

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University dance company earns top honors at festival, invited to perform in New York

The Kennesaw State University Dance Company received top honors at the southeast regional American...

Georgia (Mar 31, 2008) — University dance company earns top honors at festival, invited to perform in New York

Cheryl Anderson Brown

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Kennesaw State Dance Company earns top honors at dance festival, invited to perform in New York City

KENNESAW, Ga. (March 31, 2008) — The Kennesaw State University Dance Company received top honors at the southeast regional American College Dance Festival, held on March 8–11 at the University of Florida. Thirty-three university dance programs performed at the prestigious event. The KSU Dance Company a piece entitled “Incubus” with choreography by KSU Assistant Professor of Dance Ivan Pulinkala. The KSU Dance Company was one of two universities subsequently invited to perform at the national American College Dance Festival, which will be held June 4–6 in New York City.

“Our students had an amazing experience at the festival,” Pulinkala says. In addition to their performance, the students were able to participate in a number of dance classes with master teachers and attend many performances. “Our participation at the national festival will give our program and university national recognition and provide our students with an incredible opportunity to perform on a New York stage.”

The works submitted to the festival are adjudicated through a blind review process. The three national adjudicators viewing the approximately fifty pieces at the festival every year are only allowed to know the title of the work being adjudicated and the title of the musical score used. This process ensures that all the works are judged without bias towards the program, its performers or the choreographer.

This was the second year that the KSU Dance Company was invited to perform at the festival gala concert that features the top-ranked performances from the festival.

Founded less than three years ago, the KSU Dance Company is a pre-professional level dance company, for which students audition each year. Its mission is to bring Western concert dance to the community, as well as serve the mission of education in dance through its outreach programs. Every year the company tours to regional high schools, performing and educating students about dance as a performing art. Through this outreach program, students in the company gain valuable touring experience, while serving an important community mission.

Earlier this month, the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia approved a bachelor of

arts degree program in dance at Kennesaw State. The university first launched its dance program as a minor in the Department of Theatre and Performance Studies in Fall 2005. Many of the current 143 dance minors are expected to become dance majors when the new degree is implemented next fall.

“The KSU dance program has been incredibly successful in a very short period of time,” says Joseph Meeks, dean of the KSU College of the Arts, which houses the program. “This is due to the extraordinary vision and capability of Prof. Pulinkala and the strong desire on the behalf of the students to make dance a vibrant part of the growing arts community at Kennesaw State.”

For more information about dance at Kennesaw State, visit www.kennesaw.edu/dance or call 770-423-6789.

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KSU expands global vision with museum project in Morocco

Seeds for the Muslim world's first community museum — coming soon to Morocco's legendary city of...

Georgia (Apr 1, 2008) — KSU expands global vision with museum project in Morocco

Sabbaye McGriff

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KSU expands global vision with museum project in Morocco

KENNESAW, Ga. (April 1, 2008) — Seeds for the Muslim world's first community museum — coming soon to Morocco's legendary city of Casablanca — were planted in February when a delegation from Kennesaw State University joined officials and university representatives there in laying the groundwork.

Unlike traditional museums that primarily preserve and display antiquities and great works of art, the yet-to-be-named community museum will document the day-to-day lives of local people — their customs, traditions, language, transportation, cuisine, dress, art and stories — as well as the community's architecture, migration and personalities.

It will be the first of its kind among Morocco's 14 public museums, none of which are located in Casablanca.

During the seven-day research and planning mission, KSU representatives and project partners from the Universite Hassan II Mohammedia in Casablanca's Ben M'Sik district announced the planned museum's first exhibit — Ben M'Sik: Creating Community in Casablanca. It is scheduled to open by year's end.

The KSU delegation included Catherine Lewis, associate professor of history, Thierry Leger, associate dean of humanities and social sciences, and Cindy Vengroff, project coordinator for KSU's Holocaust Education Program.

"Community museums are a relatively new phenomenon, even in America," said Lewis, who also directs the Holocaust Education Program and coordinates the Public History Program at KSU. "To build one in this large, multicultural and diverse working-class area in Casablanca really offers an opportunity to examine how museums can simultaneously preserve what is important to know and remember about a community and serve as a major cultural resource for that same community."

KSU's involvement in the project resulted from a December 2007 visit to Kennesaw's campus by Rahma Bourquia, Hassan II's president. Following a tour of three exhibits managed by the Holocaust Education Program, she expressed a desire to begin collaboration on a public history and museum project for Casablanca.

"What Dr. Bourquia saw in these exhibits and what we hope to create in Casablanca is a way to record social history and preserve the memory of a community," Lewis said.

The subject of the museum's first exhibit, Ben M'Sik is the largest, poorest and most densely populated of Casablanca's six districts. It has long been considered a "holding room" for successive waves of migrants — most recently from the drought-stricken Chaouia and Doukala regions of Morocco.

The area is ripe for a community museum, says Lewis, because of the cultural and ethnic diversity resulting from a steady influx of Arabic, Berber and French-speaking migrants. In addition, since the 1980s, the local government has worked to improve social conditions and establish cultural and social institutions in the area.

Municipal officials announced in February that the government will construct a building to house the planned community museum on public land in the heart of the Ben M'Sik district, directly across from the neighborhood mosque, amid clinics and shops. Project leaders expect the museum to be completed by 2009.

Until then, Hassan II University will house the museum's first exhibit. The multilingual display will consist of 10 panels of text, photographs and other images, with each panel presenting different aspects of the community's people, customs and artifacts. The exhibit is designed to travel to public facilities throughout the region.

Leading the project in Morocco are Hassan II's Leila Maziane, assistant professor of history and Samir El Azhar, assistant professor of English.

For more information about the Casablanca project or KSU's Public History Program, visit:
www.kennesaw.edu/history/public_history/PublicHistoryWebsite/intro.htm

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University honors boards, board members

Kennesaw State University honored almost 300 volunteers at the ninth annual All Boards Day breakfast April 1 at the Convocation Center. Stewart Cobb was honored as the 2008 Board Member of the Year for his work with the Bagwell College of Education Advisory Board since 2004. Cobb, a Kennesaw resident who has lived in Cobb County all his life, has been active in search committees and in raising funds for the three Bagwell Balls, bringing a number of corporate sponsors to this prominent event. (For the complete story, please click on the headline above.)

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“This is a total shock. It’s a total surprise and a complete honor,” Cobb told the audience after receiving his award. “If you ever became connected to this university, it’s hard to get away from.”

Cobb’s relationship with KSU began when he established the Jackie Dobbins Cobb Memorial Scholarship to honor his wife, who passed away in 2002. This endowed scholarship allows education students from Paulding County, where his wife taught for many years, to attend KSU.

With the launch of the KSU [Comprehensive Capital Campaign](#) last fall, Cobb was named to lead the Early Learning Center Advisory Board. The campaign’s goal is to raise at least \$7 million for the center, which will serve the early learning needs of the community and provide a valuable clinical and research facility for early childhood education.

The advisory board for Continuing Education was honored as the 2008 Board of the Year. This board includes Chet Austin and Bob Prillaman, who are co-chairs of KSU’s Comprehensive Capital Campaign.

KSU President Daniel S. Papp praised the important role that advisory boards play. “You help us stay in touch with the real world. You help us spread the word about KSU,” Papp said. “We appreciate everything you do tremendously.”

As a growing university with more than 20,000 students, KSU relies heavily on volunteer advisors from the community to help guide and shape its programs, from athletics and academics to service organizations. KSU has nearly 1,000 volunteers who serve on its 66 advisory boards.

[MORE NEWS...](#)

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NEA visit

Add text later

Georgia (Apr 7, 2008) — Add text later

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Congressman Gingrey hosts National Endowment for the Arts chairman at KSU

Georgia Congressman Phil Gingrey recently welcomed the chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts, Dana Gioia, to campus as Kennesaw State University hosted an NEA grant-writing workshop. The visit ended with a tour of the state-of-the-art Dr. Bobbie Bailey and Family Performance Center. (For the complete story, please click on the headline above.)

Georgia (Apr 10, 2008) —

Georgia Congressman [Phil Gingrey](#) welcomed the chairman of the [National Endowment for the Arts](#), Dana Gioia, to campus on April 4 as Kennesaw State University hosted an NEA grant-writing workshop. The visit ended with a tour of the state-of-the-art Dr. Bobbie Bailey and Family Performance Center.

Gingrey and [Gioia](#), accompanied by KSU President Daniel S. Papp, addressed about 200 workshop participants from school systems and arts organizations in Gingrey's 11th District. The turnout was the largest since the NEA, the largest source of funding for the arts and arts education in the country, started offering the workshops in 2002, said the NEA.

KSU is the largest recipient of NEA funds in Gingrey's district. In the past three years, the [College of the Arts](#) has received \$30,000 in grants for community outreach for its art galleries and music concerts. Prior to 2004, Gioia said, no NEA grants were awarded in the district.

The NEA, with a budget of \$145 million, offers grants for projects that provide hands-on learning in the arts for children and youth; help preserve cultural traditions through exhibits; and present works of art.

Gingrey introduced Gioia, an award-winning poet who has been NEA chairman since 2003, to workshop participants as a poet and literary critic who also translates poetry from Latin, Italian and German. "I can't even understand it in English," Gingrey joked.

During the visit Friday morning, Papp welcomed Gingrey and Gioia, as well as Susan Weiner, executive director of the [Georgia Council for the Arts](#), and Earl Smith, chairman of the [Cobb-Marietta Coliseum and Exhibit Hall Authority](#), to the Art Gallery in the Sturgis Library to view the Senior Art Exhibition. Then, they visited the Bentley Rare Book Gallery, where they examined several volumes, including a 1542 edition of "Chaucer's Works," the most valuable book in the collection, and a 1502 edition of Dante's "Divine Comedy."

Later, College of the Arts Dean Joseph Meeks gave the distinguished guests a personal tour of the \$9 million Bailey Center, which opened last fall. There, they visited the D. Russell Clayton Gallery to see the Athos Menaboni painting exhibit and toured the concert hall. They were treated to a brief performance by voice professor Oral Moses, who sang to demonstrate the quality of the hall's acoustics.

Gingrey spokesman Chris Jackson said the congressman was impressed with the Bailey Center and called it a "crowning jewel" for northwest Atlanta.

Gioia's presence at the onset of the workshop underscored his vision to bring the best of the arts and arts education to all Americans.

"That is an impossible task," he said. When he took over as chairman in 2003, he said he realized "we did not reach everywhere in the United States."

"We should be wherever Americans are," Gioia said.

Gioia, who was reappointed in 2006, talked about the importance of funding the arts in a free society and about their economic impact. The arts, he said, generate \$7 to \$8 for every dollar of public funds invested.

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Regents, legislature provide Kennesaw State with needed fiscal support

Kennesaw State University will receive valuable funding in the next fiscal year to expand students...

Georgia (Apr 18, 2008) — Regents, legislature provide Kennesaw State with needed fiscal support

Jeremy Craig

Abstract

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Regents, legislature provide Kennesaw State with needed fiscal support

Funds for Health Sciences Building, eminent scholar endowment included in FY '09 budget; new tuition and fees to enhance student opportunities

KENNESAW, Ga. (April 18, 2008) — Kennesaw State University will receive valuable funding in the next fiscal year to expand students' global learning opportunities, bolster the institution's academic offerings, expand student advising and retention efforts, and to enhance the university's athletic programs.

The funds – which include new tuition and fees – are being allocated to KSU as part of the Board of Regents' fiscal year 2009 budget, which is subject to Gov. Sonny Perdue's approval of the FY09 state budget.

The university's \$92.2 million FY09 budget allocation represents an increase of nearly \$12.2 million over last year, and according to an internal university analysis is one of the best budget allocations Kennesaw State has received. "The funding leap," said KSU President Daniel S. Papp, "demonstrates state leaders' and our funding partners' responsiveness to the needs of the institution as it expands."

The new budget will provide funding for several critical needs at KSU, including:

- \$4.5 million to equip the university's future Health Sciences Building with state-of-the-art medical technology to train Georgia's future nurses;
- \$500,000 for an endowed eminent scholar position in KSU's Department of Communication; and
- Merit salary increases of up to 2.5 percent to retain top-notch faculty, staff and administrators who serve KSU's more than 20,000 students.

Additionally, a new tuition rate and several fee requests have been approved for KSU by the Board of Regents, including a long-awaited \$14 "International" fee that will allow the university to expand its global learning opportunities for students, as well as continue the institution's transition to Division I of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA).

“We are grateful to the governor, the General Assembly, the Cobb County legislative delegation, and the Board of Regents for recognizing our funding needs at KSU,” Papp said. “As Georgia’s college population has expanded, KSU’s operating costs also have escalated, as we’ve grown significantly to accommodate more and more students. We’re appreciative that our partners have been very receptive to our needs. Thanks to this new support, Kennesaw State will be able to continue serving an ever-growing student body.”

HEALTH SCIENCES BUILDING

Kennesaw State’s Health Sciences Building has a price tag of \$60 million, with \$13 million to be raised from private sources as part of the university’s first-ever comprehensive capital campaign. During the 2007 legislative session, the General Assembly approved the Board of Regents’ request of \$42.5 million for construction of the facility. The \$4.5 million allocated by the legislature in the 2008 session is being allocated by the Regents to equip the building’s nursing–skills labs, the exercise science lab, the human performance lab and the biology labs.

Scheduled to open in 2010, the new building will allow the university to increase its nursing–student enrollment in the WellStar College of Health and Human Services by 80 students. It also will allow the university to enroll 250 more graduates annually in human services and health- and wellness-related disciplines.

EMINENT SCHOLAR ENDOWMENT

The fiscal year 2009 budget also includes \$500,000 for an eminent scholar endowment in KSU’s Department of Communication. Endowment funds will assist Professor Leonard Witt, the [Robert D. Fowler Distinguished Chair in Communication](#), in his groundbreaking work exploring new media, blogs and citizen journalism in an ever–changing media landscape.

As traditional media is changing, and where ordinary citizens have far more impact than ever before on the way society views news, Witt’s work helps to advance the concept of public journalism where all citizens are empowered and have a voice. Public journalism provides the practical and theoretical framework to help journalists, citizens and academics navigate this sea change.

RETAINING, RECRUITING THE BEST PEOPLE

The merit salary increase of up to 2.5 percent provided in the state’s budget will assist KSU in retaining qualified faculty, staff who serve the university’s more than 20,000 students in academic, administrative and support service roles, Papp said.

“The merit increase is important in positioning Kennesaw State as an attractive option to the best and brightest potential faculty and staff, and will help us enhance our services to students,” he said.

A significant portion of the news funding also will assist in lowering KSU’s student-to-faculty and student-to-staff ratios to serve students better by hiring more personnel, meeting one of the key goals of KSU’s [2007–2012 Strategic Plan](#) (this link will open in a new window as an Adobe PDF).

TUITION AND FEES

During their [April meeting](#) at Columbus State University, the Board of Regents also approved this week new “Fixed for Four” tuition rates for the University System of Georgia’s 35 campuses.

Last year, Kennesaw State was placed into a tier of comprehensive universities which are targeted for growth in student enrollment and academic programs as the state’s population grows. Sister institutions in this tier – which have been approved to charge a different tuition rate than the USG’s state universities – include Georgia Southern University, the University of West Georgia and Valdosta State University.

KSU’s new tuition rate of \$1,598 per semester for in-state students represents an 8 percent increase over last year’s amount. The new tuition rate of \$1,598 per semester will be locked in until fiscal year 2011 for first-year students enrolling at KSU during the 2008–2009 academic year – keeping with a BOR plan to keep college affordable for students.

Also, the Regents approved new fees for KSU students, including a global learning fee which will allow the university to provide additional learning opportunities for students to study abroad as part of the institution's "[Get Global](#)" initiative. In addition, an enhanced athletic fee was approved to better support KSU's intercollegiate student athletic programs. Both fee increases were supported by KSU students.

ONLINE PRESS KIT

All links will open in new windows

For renderings of KSU's future Health Sciences Building in print-quality JPEG format (previous versions available last year are now out-of-date), visit:

https://files.kennesaw.edu/xythoswfs/webui/xy-876871_1.

For more about KSU's "Get Global" initiative, visit: www.kennesaw.edu/getglobal.

For more information about the University System of Georgia, visit: www.usg.edu.

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A member of the 35-unit University System of Georgia, Kennesaw State University is a comprehensive, residential institution with a growing student population of more than 20,000 from 132 countries. The third-largest university in Georgia, Kennesaw State offers more than 60 graduate and undergraduate degrees, including new doctorates in education and business.

A leader in innovative teaching and learning, Kennesaw State University offers undergraduate, graduate and doctoral degrees to its nearly 43,000 students. With 11 colleges on two metro Atlanta campuses, Kennesaw State is a member of the University System of Georgia. The university's vibrant campus culture, diverse population, strong global ties and entrepreneurial spirit draw students from throughout the country and the world. Kennesaw State is a Carnegie-designated doctoral research institution (R2), placing it among an elite group of only 6 percent of U.S. colleges and universities with an R1 or R2 status. For more information, visit kennesaw.edu.

Former NFL player and Georgia Tech coach Bill Curry talks about leadership at KSU

Bill Curry, former NFL player and Georgia Tech coach, shared leadership wisdom gained from more than 50 years playing and coaching football in the “school of hard knocks” at Kennesaw State University on April 21. Curry’s address was sponsored by the Siegel Institute for Leadership, Ethics and Character as part of the institute’s “Lessons from Leaders: Why Leadership and Ethics Matter” speaker series. (For the complete story and a link to audio of the speech, please click on the headline above.)

Georgia (Apr 22, 2008) —

Some of the hardest decisions former NFL player and Georgia Tech coach Bill Curry has had to make in his decades-long career involved kicking players off the team for not following rules.

“I felt like I had failed as a leader,” said Curry, “because they were no longer able to play, to be at their best, because they didn’t follow the rules and live up to their potential.”

After all, he said, one of the key aspects of leadership is making others realize that they have the potential to achieve anything.

Curry shared this and other tidbits of leadership wisdom gained from more than 50 years playing and coaching football in the “school of hard knocks” at Kennesaw State University on April 21.

Curry’s address was sponsored by the Siegel Institute for Leadership, Ethics and Character as part of the institute’s “Lessons from Leaders: Why Leadership and Ethics Matter” speaker series. Other speakers this year have included former U.S. Surgeon General David Satcher; Atlanta Women’s Foundation President Deborah Richardson; and Kent “Oz” Nelson, former CEO of UPS.

Curry spoke about five characteristics that define a leader:

- focus on a single purpose in achieving great goals, in spite of mitigating circumstances;
- being unselfish and willing to help those who don’t expect it and those who don’t even deserve it;
- having the toughness to tell the truth when others don’t, and to face hostility when others aren’t;
- preparing yourself for challenges; and
- never quit.

Curry, an ESPN football analyst, spoke at the Carmichael Student Center to a room packed with hundreds of KSU students, student-athletes, faculty, staff, coaches and administrators — including KSU President Daniel S. Papp. Papp, as a professor at Georgia Tech during the 1980s, verbalized support for Curry’s efforts to revamp the institution’s football program during tough times.

“Dan Papp was one of our professors who went out of his way to let me know that we could do it,” Curry said.

Curry, a native of College Park, Ga., played in the NFL from 1965 to 1974 for the Green Bay Packers under coach Vince Lombardi in Super Bowl I, as well as for the Baltimore Colts, Houston Oilers and the Los Angeles Rams. He went on to coach at Georgia Tech, Alabama and Kentucky.

He currently serves as executive director of the [Baylor School](#) Leadership Program of the Baylor School, a private preparatory school, in Chattanooga, Tenn. He also serves on the executive committee of the National Consortium for Academics and Sports, which brings former athletes back to college to complete their degrees at no cost to them.

Next in the Siegel Institute speaker series is a talk on May 27 by Billy Hayes, CEO of Northside Hospital-Cherokee, titled “Philosophies of a Healthcare Leader.”

For more information on this event or others sponsored by the Siegel Institute, visit www.siegelinstitute.org.

To download audio of the speech (MP3, 60 MB), visit <https://files.kennesaw.edu/staff/jcraig19/MediaGraphics/billcurry2.mp3>.

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National accreditation reaffirmed for theatre programs at Kennesaw State

The National Association of Schools of Theatre has reaffirmed full accreditation for the Department...

Georgia (Apr 25, 2008) – National accreditation reaffirmed for theatre programs at Kennesaw State

Cheryl Anderson Brown

Abstract

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National accreditation reaffirmed for theatre programs at Kennesaw State

KENNESAW, Ga. (April 25, 2008) – The National Association of Schools of Theatre has reaffirmed full accreditation for the Department of Theatre and Performance Studies at Kennesaw State University.

“National accreditation signifies the outstanding quality of the faculty and academic programs available in the Department of Theatre and Performance Studies,” said Joseph Meeks, dean of the KSU College of the Arts, which houses the department. “The re-accreditation process is a long and rigorous review, but its successful completion indicates that our students are receiving exceptional instruction.”

NAST, founded in 1965, is an organization of approximately 150 schools, conservatories, colleges and universities. It establishes national standards for undergraduate and graduate degrees and other credentials for theatre and theatre-related disciplines. Institutional membership is gained only through peer review.

“This re-accreditation marks a milestone for our degree program,” said John Gentile, chair of the Department of Theatre and Performance Studies. “This affirmation for our innovative program of study speaks well for its future and confirms its unique mission in integrating the two fields of theatre and performance studies.”

The department offers a Bachelor of Arts degree in theatre and performance studies, with concentrations in acting, performance (including storytelling, performance art, dramaturgy, directing and adapting literary texts for the stage), musical theatre and design/technology. The major provides student artists with a foundation in theatre as a historic, global and aesthetic form, through the study of a variety of performance texts and styles, from classical and modern drama to musical theatre, folk and literary narratives, performance art, and classical and contemporary poetry. Emphasizing the interrelationship between theory and praxis, the major prepares students for entry into the profession or for graduate study in theatre or other related fields.

The department also houses a dance program that, in March 2008, received approval from the University System of Georgia Board of Regents to begin offering a Bachelor of Arts degree in dance.

The College of the Arts at Kennesaw State University also has programs accredited by the National Association of Schools of Art and Design, the National Association of Schools of Music and the

National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education.

Accreditation is an academic review which periodically evaluates and produces an independent judgment by peers about the extent to which an institution or program achieves its own educational objectives and meets the standards established by NAST. Standards address operational and curricular issues fundamental to educational quality. The granting of accreditation signifies that an institution has successfully demonstrated compliance with the procedures, standards, and guidelines of the association.

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Kennesaw State sponsors Civil War workshop for Georgia educators

This summer, Georgia middle and high school educators who teach social studies will get a rare ...

Georgia (Apr 28, 2008) – Kennesaw State sponsors Civil War workshop for Georgia educators

Jeremy Craig

Abstract

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Kennesaw State sponsors Civil War workshop for Georgia educators

KENNESAW, Ga. (April 28, 2008) -- This summer, Georgia middle and high school educators who teach social studies will get a rare chance to explore up close the great battles that led to the end of the Civil War at a workshop sponsored by Kennesaw State University and the Georgia Humanities Council.

The 2008 Summer Workshop for Teachers, hosted by KSU's Center for the Study of the Civil War Era, will take 30 Georgia teachers on visits to historic sites in metro Atlanta and give them access to Civil War scholars. The workshop will be held July 9-11.

"Georgia was where the war was decided, and we hope that through the workshop, teachers will be able to stress this when teaching about the Civil War," said Heather Howell, project coordinator for the center.

The workshop will take teachers to the Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park, as well as the Southern Museum of Civil War and Locomotive History and the Atlanta History Center, to expose them to primary-source materials that will enrich student learning, Howell said.

In teaching history, primary-source materials – from battlefields to letters and first-hand accounts – are valuable, as they give perspectives of what the war was like from the people who experienced it.

"Primary sources give a first-hand, authentic look at what happened, which makes history more realistic for both researchers and students, as opposed to relying on materials from those looking back on events from afar," Howell added.

The free workshop is supported through a grant from the Georgia Humanities Council. Teachers will be offered \$50 stipends to defray travel costs and will also earn two Professional Learning Units. Teachers will be asked to complete a lesson plan to implement in their classrooms based on what they learned.

The Center for the Study of the Civil War Era at Kennesaw State serves as a repository of academic resources for this nation-shaping event and its relevance to the present and future. As part of the university's Comprehensive Capital Campaign, KSU expects to raise \$4 million to create and maintain the center through scholarships, Civil War collection development, endowed professorships, symposia and community outreach.

The workshop is limited to 30 educators. For high school teachers wishing to sign up, please contact Heather Howell at 678-797-2084 or hhowell2@kennesaw.edu.

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Students receive high marks in statewide mathematics competition at Kennesaw State

Kennesaw State University honored on April 12 talented high school mathematics students from all...

Georgia (Apr 28, 2008) — Students receive high marks in statewide mathematics competition at Kennesaw State

Jeremy Craig

Abstract

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Contact: Jeremy Craig, 770-499-3448 or jcraig19@kennesaw.edu

Students receive high marks in statewide mathematics competition at Kennesaw State

KENNESAW, Ga. (April 28, 2008) -- Kennesaw State University honored on April 12 talented high school mathematics students from all over the state who received the top scores at the second annual Kennesaw State University Mathematics Competition.

The top prizes went to:

- First Place: Miles Edwards, Lassiter High School (Cobb County)
- Second Place: Billy Dorminy, Soli Deo Gloria Home School (Henry County)
- Third Place: Santhosh Karnik, Wheeler High School (Cobb County)

More than 2,350 students representing 112 public and private high schools from 50 counties participated in the two-round competition that started in November 2007 and ended in February. The KSU contest is one of the largest math competitions for high school students in the state. The top 8 percent of students in the first round – 228 – advanced to compete in the second round. The three students with the highest scores received cash prizes of \$100, \$50 and \$25, respectively. The top 35 students were awarded plaques.

The KSU Mathematics Competition is administered at each participating high school, with contest questions mailed to the schools and students' responses sent back to KSU for scoring. The competition covers high school mathematics content through precalculus.

In the rigorous competition, students in the first round have 90 minutes to answer 25 multiple choice questions to be completed in 90 minutes. They are invited to compete in the second round based on their first-round score.

"The problems were very challenging," said Charles Koppelman, math lecturer at KSU and coordinator of the contest. "They required students to be highly creative problem solvers. The students who were honored at the reception are among the finest mathematics students in Georgia."

Out of a total possible score of 300, Edwards received a score of 260; Dorminy scored 234; and Karnik achieved a score of 226.

A complete list of honorable mentions follows, in alphabetical order:

- Scott Brothers, Walton High School (Cobb County)
- Samuel Brotherton, Rockdale Magnet High School (Rockdale County)
- Harrison Brown, Centennial High School (Fulton County)
- Sitan Chen, Northview High School (Fulton County)
- Eddy Ferreira, Roswell High School (Fulton County)
- David Ferretti, Kell High School (Cobb County)
- Victoria Gao, Walton High School (Cobb County)
- Christopher Hallacy, Walton High School (Cobb County)
- Benjamin Hu, Northview High School (Fulton County)
- Neal Kansara, Alpharetta High School (Fulton County)
- Nicholas Keith, Peachtree Ridge High School (Gwinnett County)
- Nayoon Kim, Rockdale Magnet High School (Rockdale County)
- Jacob Kovac, Rockdale Magnet High School (Rockdale County)
- Jonghun Kwak, Tallulah Falls High School (Habersham County)
- Emilie Lancaster, Alpharetta High School (Fulton County)
- Sang Lee, Columbus High School (Muscogee County)
- Tomas Leon, Pope High School (Cobb County)
- Andrei Markov, Columbus High School (Muscogee County)
- Henry Mei, Walton High School (Cobb County)
- Robert Molina, Houston County High School (Houston County)
- Sun Jin Moon, Tallulah Falls High School (Habersham County)
- Eric Morphis, Woodward Academy (Fulton County)
- Rohan Mukhopadhyay, Lassiter High School (Cobb County)
- Karthik Narayan, Northview High School (Fulton County)
- Jimmy Nugent, Druid Hills High School (DeKalb County)
- Steven Rouk, Rockdale Magnet High School (Rockdale County)
- Heng Tong, Northview High School (Fulton County)

- Cyrus Vafadari, Columbus High School (Muscokee County)
- Maja Wichrowska, Alpharetta High School (Fulton County)
- William Yengue, Covenant Christian Ministries Academy (Cobb County)
- Cosmo Zhang, Northview High School (Fulton County)
- Claus Zheng, Walton High School (Cobb County)

ONLINE EXTRA: Take a look at questions and solutions from the competition at <http://math.kennesaw.edu/~ckoppelm>.

###

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Kennesaw State vice president, student success guru retires after 35 years

Nancy King, who led Kennesaw State University to become a national leader in developing programs to help students succeed and stay in college, will retire May 31 after 35 years at the university. (For the complete story, please click on the headline above.)

Georgia (May 1, 2008) — Nancy King, who led Kennesaw State University to become a national leader in developing programs to help students succeed and stay in college, will retire May 31 after 35 years at the university.

The campus community will honor King, who rose from English instructor to vice president of student success and enrollment services, at a 3 p.m. reception May 1 at the university's Jolley Lodge.

Under King's leadership, Kennesaw State gained national recognition for programs aimed at helping first-year students make a smooth transition to college.

In 2005, U.S. News and World Report ranked KSU among the nation's top 40 colleges providing comprehensive first-year programs. The university was also among 16 colleges and universities — Harvard and Stanford among them — Time magazine cited in 2001 for helping freshmen successfully acclimate to college life

King has played a pivotal role in shaping KSU's approach to first-year academic achievement. She helped implement "learning communities," in which 25 freshmen take up to four classes with the same group of peers. These academic groups have played a role in increasing KSU's freshmen retention rates.

"Dr. King's many contributions have made Kennesaw State University one of the leading universities in the country in terms of freshmen experience programs, student advising, admissions and registrar activities," said KSU President Daniel S. Papp. "She is leaving behind a tremendous legacy: the many structures in place to assure that students get off to a great start and receive solid support throughout their studies."

A published scholar of dozens of articles on advising and student success, King advocates comprehensive first-year approaches that include student and parent orientation, academic advisement and counseling and skill development. All KSU freshmen must enroll in learning communities or in a first-year seminar emphasizing college survival skills, such as study methods, time management and effective written communication.

Among her accomplishments, King considers her role in developing KSU's academic advisement and first-year experience program highlights that have led her to national leadership in these areas. She served as president of the National Academic Advising Association (NACADA) from 1997 to 1999, and consulted at more than 100 colleges and universities across the country, as well as in England, Scotland and Ireland.

King joined the faculty at Kennesaw Junior College in 1973 as an adjunct English instructor. Before assuming her current role, she served as full professor of English, coordinator of the New Student Experience program, director of the Counseling and Advising Program Services Center (CAPS) and associate vice president for student affairs.

KSU's Student Government Association designated King "Outstanding Faculty Advisor" in 1992. She also has been the recipient of the university's "Outstanding Administrator" award and the KSU Alumni Association's Betty L. Siegel Award for Outstanding Scholarship, Leadership and Service.

"No matter the role I've played at KSU, the common thread for me has been a commitment to academic achievement and student success," King said. "I began my career as a teacher and I don't believe I ever

really left teaching, only the venue changed.”

As a transition to retirement, King will complete a number of special assignments at KSU, including chairing a steering committee that oversees the 10-year NCAA Division 1 certification process. She also will consult part time at KSU on enrollment, student leadership and advising matters.

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Econometric Center: Georgia Purchasing Managers Index (PMI) for April is up over March

Manufacturing activity in Georgia was up for the month of April, according to the

Georgia (May 2, 2008) — Econometric Center: Georgia Purchasing Managers Index (PMI) for April is up over March

Aixa Pascual

Abstract

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Georgia Purchasing Managers Index (PMI) for April is up over March *Increases* since December suggest improved economic activity among Georgia manufacturers, outperforming the national PMI, says KSU economics professor

[Econometric Center](#)[Michael J. Coles College of Business](#)

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Nearly 2,000 graduates to receive degrees during spring commencement

Kennesaw State University continues its record-setting ways, graduating 1,981 students in...

Georgia (May 12, 2008) — Nearly 2,000 graduates to receive degrees during spring commencement

Jennifer Hafer

Abstract

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Nearly 2,000 graduates to receive degrees, up 32 percent over last year

WellStar College of Health and Human Services graduates first class of master's in social work candidates

[social work](#)

When:

Tuesday, May 13, 2 p.m.

[College of Humanities & Social Sciences](#)

<https://files.kennesaw.edu/staff/jcraig19/Sp08Comm/Osher%20bio.pdf?uniq=91ilcn>

Tuesday, May 13, 7 p.m.

[Michael J. Coles College of Business](#)

<https://files.kennesaw.edu/staff/jcraig19/Sp08Comm/Anderson%20bio.pdf?uniq=91ilch>

Wednesday, May 14, 2 p.m.

[WellStar College of Health and Human Services College of Science and Mathematics](#)

<https://files.kennesaw.edu/staff/jcraig19/Sp08Comm/Dr%20Simone%20bio.pdf?uniq=91ilck>

Wednesday, May 14, 7 p.m.

[College of the Arts Leland and Clarice C. Bagwell College of Education University College](#)

<https://files.kennesaw.edu/staff/jcraig19/Sp08Comm/Stoner%20biography.pdf?uniq=91ilcq>

[MORE NEWS...](#)

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University graduates nearly 2,000 students during spring commencement

Spring commencement at Kennesaw State University May 13 and 14 featured a record number of graduates and the first class of students to earn a master's degree of social work. "When you receive your degrees later on in this ceremony, this does not mean that you are done learning," KSU President Dan Papp told the newest alums during commencement. "Indeed, the name of this ceremony is 'commencement,' not conclusion. You are at a new beginning, not an ending." (For the complete story, please click on the headline above)

Georgia (May 16, 2008) — Spring commencement at Kennesaw State University May 13 and 14 featured a record number of graduates and the first class of students to earn a master's degree of social work.

"When you receive your degrees later on in this ceremony, this does not mean that you are done learning," KSU President Dan Papp told the newest alums during commencement. "Indeed, the name of this ceremony is 'commencement,' not conclusion. You are at a new beginning, not an ending."

A record 1,981 students graduated in four ceremonies this week, up 32 percent over last spring, when the university awarded 1,503 degrees in three ceremonies.

Among the newly minted graduates was the first class of students receiving master's degrees of social work, some of whom work at the Georgia Department of Family and Children's Services. Other graduates will find work in the fields of mental health and substance abuse counseling. With 34 graduates this spring, the graduate degree program will more than double in the fall, with 80 full-time students expected to graduate in 2010.

KSU awarded its 12th honorary doctorate of humane letters to philanthropist Bernard Osher, who also delivered the commencement address May 13 to graduates of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences.

Osher is founding director of World Savings, which grew to be the second largest savings institution in the U.S. and recently merged with Wachovia Corp.

Known as "the quiet philanthropist," Osher is a patron of education and the arts, and the namesake of KSU's Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, which offers a variety of educational and social opportunities for adults 50 and older.

Other commencement speakers included Richard Anderson, executive director of the Georgia Regional Transportation Authority; state Sen. Doug Stoner; and Dr. Gregory Simone, president and chief executive officer of WellStar Health System.

"Whatever you do, continue to learn," Simone urged the graduates.

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KSU senior spins, wins big on “Wheel of Fortune”

Adam Kleg, a Kennesaw State University biochemistry major swept the May 19th episode of the popular game show, walking away with cash and prizes worth almost \$62,000 after solving the game’s opening toss-up, five of six puzzles and the prize-rich bonus round.(For the complete story and video, please click on the headline above.)

Georgia (May 20, 2008) — Adam Kleg’s two fellow contestants on the May 19th episode of “Wheel of Fortune” never had a chance.

The Kennesaw State University biochemistry major swept the game, walking away with cash and prizes worth almost \$62,000 after solving the game’s opening toss-up, five of six puzzles and the prize-rich bonus round.

“It was an awesome, life-changing experience,” said Kleg, whose winnings included \$15,000 in cash, a trip to Maui and a 128i BMW valued at \$40,526.

To watch Kleg proudly proclaim his KSU connection and clench his bonus-round victory, visit:

http://www.kennesaw.edu/ur/video_files/Wheel_of_Fortune_intro_student.mov

and:

http://www.kennesaw.edu/ur/video_files/Wheel_of_Fortune_winning_student.mov

(These clips will open in new windows, but require Quicktime to view. To download, visit Apple's Web site at www.apple.com/quicktime/download/.)

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Eminent scholar funds to help propel KSU to forefront of new media scholarship

Kennesaw State University will receive \$500,000 from the Board of Regents of the University System...

Georgia (May 23, 2008) – Eminent scholar funds to help propel KSU to forefront of new media scholarship

Jeremy Craig

Abstract

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Eminent scholar funds to help propel KSU to forefront of new media scholarship
Communications professor Leonard Witt named to new eminent scholar post

KENNESAW, Ga. (May 23, 2008) – Kennesaw State University will receive \$500,000 from the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia to fund an eminent scholar in communications, thanks to Gov. Sonny Perdue's approval of the state's fiscal year 2009 budget last week. The funds will help propel KSU to the forefront of research in new media, blogging and citizen journalism.

State Sen. John Wiles of Cobb County initiated efforts to obtain the allocated funds via the Board of Regents' highly successful "Eminent Scholar" program, which funds endowed professorships to attract high-caliber scholars to join the faculties of USG institutions. At KSU, a total of \$1 million is required to endow an eminent scholar's chair - with the KSU Foundation already holding funds sufficient to match the state-funded amount.

Kennesaw State was one of only two institutions in the state university system - the other being Georgia Southern University - to receive funding for eminent scholars in the fiscal year 2009 budget. Leonard Witt, who presently serves as the Robert D. Fowler Distinguished Chair in Communication at the university, is being named to Kennesaw State's new eminent scholar post.

In addition to the \$500,000 in eminent scholar funds, KSU will receive an allocation of more than \$92 million in state funding through the Board of Regents' fiscal year 2009 budget, to support and enhance the operation of the state's third-largest university.

"We are grateful to the Board of Regents and the governor - as well as to our state legislative delegation - for providing the funding for this important academic appointment," said KSU President Daniel S. Papp. "Professor Witt is contributing significantly to the scholarship of 'new media,' which is becoming more important as it changes how news is gathered, distributed and discussed in our society.

"We are particularly indebted to state Sen. John Wiles, who personally assisted KSU in securing these funds," Papp added. "This support will allow professor Witt to continue his groundbreaking work exploring new media, blogs and citizen journalism in the

rapidly changing media landscape.”

As traditional media are evolving, and with ordinary citizens playing an increasing role in shaping the news, Witt’s work is advancing the concept of public journalism, where citizens are empowered and have a voice.

Through gatherings such as his 2007 and 2008 “[SoCon Unconference](#),” Witt has brought together journalists from traditional media with citizen journalists and bloggers so they can communicate with one another, instead of existing in distinct spheres.

A founder of [PJNet.org](#), a citizen journalism clearinghouse, Witt also is participating in a trial run of a concept called “representative journalism,” which envisions communities funding journalists to deliver local news via the Web. Partners in this endeavor include Chris Peck, editor of the Memphis (Tenn.) Commercial Appeal, and William Densmore, founder of the Media Giraffe at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. The experiment is sponsored by the Harnisch Family Foundation.

Witt, who has taught at KSU since 2002, said the endowment will allow him to continue doing important work as the field of journalism evolves.

“This much-appreciated state funding will allow us to do even more important scholarly and applied work in the future,” Witt said. “To be the first professor to hold this endowed chair at KSU and to have it evolve to eminent scholar status is an honor.

“The important funding that this position is receiving - both from the state and from the KSU Foundation - is allowing KSU’s department of communication and me to be agents of national change as we all work to reinvent journalism in the digital era.”

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A member of the 35-unit University System of Georgia, Kennesaw State University is a comprehensive, residential institution with a growing student population of more than 20,000 from 132 countries. The third-largest university in Georgia, Kennesaw State offers more than 60 graduate and undergraduate degrees, including new doctorates in education and business.

A leader in innovative teaching and learning, Kennesaw State University offers undergraduate, graduate and doctoral degrees to its nearly 43,000 students. With 11 colleges on two metro Atlanta campuses, Kennesaw State is a member of the University System of Georgia. The university’s vibrant campus culture, diverse population, strong global ties and entrepreneurial spirit draw students from throughout the country and the world. Kennesaw State is a Carnegie-designated doctoral research institution (R2), placing it among an elite group of only 6 percent of U.S. colleges and universities with an R1 or R2 status. For more information, visit kennesaw.edu.

Kennesaw State launches fundraising drive for China earthquake victims

In response to the rising toll — more than 67,000 dead, nearly 350,000 injured and some 5 million homeless so far — resulting from the earthquake that struck China's Sichuan Province May 12, Kennesaw State University will host a three-hour cultural and informational event on June 4 to kick off a community-wide China relief fundraising effort. (For the complete story, please click on the headline above.)

Georgia (May 28, 2008) — In response to the rising toll — more than 67,000 dead, nearly 350,000 injured and some 5 million homeless so far — resulting from the earthquake that struck China's Sichuan Province May 12, Kennesaw State University will host a three-hour cultural and informational event on June 4 to kick off a community-wide China relief fundraising effort.

What:

The “China 5.12 Earthquake Condolence” fundraising kickoff will feature eyewitness accounts by a KSU professor returning from a conference near the earthquake's epicenter and a student who just completed a work-study program in Beijing. KSU faculty, staff and students will play Chinese music and read poetry to honor earthquake victims.

Who:

Representatives of the affiliated organizations — KSU's Institute for Global Initiatives and Asian Studies Program, and local affiliates of the National Association of Chinese Americans and the Association of Chinese Professionals — are hosting the event. They will be available to accept monetary contributions.

When:

Wednesday, June 4, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Where:

KSU Student Center, Rooms A-E.

Why:

The earthquake that struck southwest China on May 12 is the worst natural tragedy to afflict the country in decades. The death toll from the magnitude 7.9 earthquake — and aftershocks of up to 6.0 — is expected to rise as high as 80,000. Some 15 million people, mostly in Sichuan province, need immediate assistance, and KSU wants to help.

Kennesaw State University has established and maintained formal relationships with China since 1989, primarily through faculty-student exchange, study abroad, professional training and development and language proficiency testing programs.

The university is home to 37 faculty members and 51 students of Chinese origin. Another 80 students are studying Chinese language at KSU. In the fall 2008, KSU will launch a [Confucius Institute](#) to promote Chinese language and culture.

For information on how to make tax-deductible contributions to support the [China Red Cross Society's](#) relief efforts, contact KSU by calling 678-797-2569 or the [National Association of Chinese Americans](#) at 770-394-6542.

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Kennesaw State appoints university's first chief diversity officer

Kennesaw State University President Daniel S. Papp has named Jennifer Wade-Berg, an assistant ...

Georgia (May 29, 2008) – Kennesaw State appoints university's first chief diversity officer

Jeremy Craig

Abstract

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Writer: Jeremy Craig, 770-423-6203 or jcraig19@kennesaw.edu

Kennesaw State appoints university's first chief diversity officer
New administrator and professor will oversee KSU's efforts toward equity, diversity

KENNESAW, Ga. (May 29, 2008) – Kennesaw State University President Daniel S. Papp has named Jennifer Wade-Berg, an assistant professor of nonprofit and public management at the University of Colorado Denver, to serve as KSU's first chief diversity officer. In her cabinet-level role effective July 1, Wade-Berg will oversee continuing efforts to foster an environment that values diversity on campus.

Wade-Berg's appointment as chief diversity officer will allow Flora Devine, longtime special assistant to the president for legal affairs and diversity, to devote more time to legal matters, which are becoming increasingly important as the university of nearly 21,000 students continues to expand. Under Devine's university-wide leadership, KSU developed its first Diversity Vision – the first university strategic plan for diversity – and many campus and community diversity programs, including the annual Student Peace Conference. Devine's new title will be university attorney and special assistant to the president for legal affairs.

□

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Rep. Phil Gingrey presents federal grant to distinguished biotech professor

U.S. Rep. Phil Gingrey presented a \$201,000 federal grant on June 2 to a distinguished KSU professor whose groundbreaking research probes the enzymatic production of nitric oxide — a neurotransmitter and controller of vital body functions such as blood pressure and insulin secretion — to understand control and cell-to-cell communication. (For the complete story, please click on the headline above.)

Georgia (Jun 2, 2008) — U.S. Rep. Phil Gingrey presented a \$201,000 federal grant on June 2 to a distinguished KSU professor whose groundbreaking research probes the enzymatic production of nitric oxide — a neurotransmitter and controller of vital body functions such as blood pressure and insulin secretion — to understand control and cell-to-cell communication.

Gingrey presented the [National Institute of General Medical Sciences](#) award to John C. Salerno, the research project's principle investigator and the Neel Distinguished Professor of Biotechnology at KSU, during a campus ceremony. The NIGMS is one of 27 institutes and centers that comprise the National Institutes of Health.

"It is a privilege to be here once again to acknowledge what a great asset Kennesaw State is to our district," said [Gingrey](#), a physician and ranking member of the House of Representative's [Science Subcommittee on Technology and Innovation](#).

"Dr. Salerno's work exemplifies the power and promise of higher education," Gingrey said. "The work he and other researchers are doing here is absolutely essential to improving our understanding of health and science."

Salerno's research seeks to determine the control mechanisms for nitric oxide production. The enzymes that make nitric oxide have embedded control elements, the first of which Salerno described in the 1990s.

"By studying a series of control element mutants, we hope to provide a clear picture of how these elements function together to regulate the production of signals in response to physiological factors like blood flow," Salerno explained.

Salerno holds a Bachelor of Science in physics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a Doctor of Philosophy in biophysics from the University of Pennsylvania. He has taught courses in biochemistry, biophysics and bioinformatics at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute; State University at Albany; Albany Medical College and the Duke University Medical School. A professor of bioinformatics at KSU, Salerno started the first U.S. undergraduate degree program in this field at Rensselaer. The NIGMS award is Salerno's first federal grant since moving his laboratory to Kennesaw State in August 2006. He said the grant will allow him to advance research he began nearly 15 years ago and continue with no funding gap.

As the lead investigator, Salerno is joined on the research project by KSU professors Dale Vogelien and Army Lester. Three undergraduate students are also working on the research with Salerno: Natalie Dinsmore; Laura Couser and Issac Assan-Mensah.

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Manufacturing activity in Georgia down for May, according to Purchasing Managers Index at Kennesaw State

Manufacturing activity in Georgia was down significantly for the month of May, according to the...

Georgia (Jun 3, 2008) – Manufacturing activity in Georgia down for May, according to Purchasing Managers Index at Kennesaw State

Aixa Pascual

Abstract

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Georgia Purchasing Managers Index (PMI) for May is down 8.2 points from April
Latest reading is more in line with Georgia figures for first quarter of 2008; commodity prices reach highest level in years, says KSU economics professor

KENNESAW, Ga., (June 3, 2008) – Manufacturing activity in Georgia was down significantly for the month of May, according to the [Econometric Center](#) at Kennesaw State University's [Michael J. Coles College of Business](#).

Georgia's Purchasing Managers Index (PMI) – a reading of economic activity in the state's manufacturing sector – for May was 48.8, down 8.2 points from 57.0 in April and indicating a contraction in manufacturing activity.

The latest Georgia figure is more in line with readings for the Georgia PMI for the first three months of 2008, when it averaged 49.2. April's PMI of 57.0 appears to be an anomaly, said Don Sabbarese, professor of economics and director of the Econometric Center at the Coles College of Business.

The Georgia PMI provides a snapshot of manufacturing activity in the state, just as the monthly PMI released by the Institute for Supply Management provides a picture of national manufacturing activity. A PMI reading above 50 indicates that manufacturing activity is expanding. A reading below 50 indicates the manufacturing industry is contracting.

The Georgia May PMI, which realigned with the national PMI reading of 49.6, underscores the economy's slow growth.

“The manufacturing sector, at best, keeps growing at a very slow pace,” Sabbarese said. “What's happening is there's a lot of uncertainty around manufacturers. They're on the edge. It's just not clear if the market is going to increase substantially or slow down more.”

The Georgia PMI reading is a composite of five variables –new orders, production, employment, supply deliveries and finished inventory. A sixth variable, commodity prices, is compiled by the Coles College's Econometric Center but doesn't go into the PMI calculation.

The commodity price reading of 92 for the May Georgia PMI is one of the highest recorded going

back to 1991, when the Econometric Center first started compiling the data, Sabbarese said. Commodity prices have increased 23.8 points since December, the sharpest increase for a six-month period. Some 84 percent of manufacturers surveyed reported higher commodity prices from the previous month.

Rising commodity prices not only raise manufacturers' costs and cut into profits, but also affect hiring policies. As higher commodity prices take a bite out of earnings, businesses typically try to lower their labor costs through measures such as hiring freezes.

A slip of 5.7 points in new orders for the month of May translated into a decline of 13.7 points in employment and 12.7 points in finished inventory.

"The employment picture is still very weak for the manufacturing sector. Manufacturing jobs are not growing," Sabbarese said.

The PMI, compiled from a monthly survey of manufacturers, is the earliest indicator of market conditions in the sector. Since manufacturing is sensitive to changes in the economy, it can also reveal changing macroeconomic trends, even if manufacturing accounts for only 13 percent of gross domestic product (GDP).

The PMI's value is in its timeliness and sensitivity to variables such as interest rates, global markets and other economic changes. The Georgia PMI provides valuable data that the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta analyzes, along with many other data sources, to get a picture of economic activity.

For a full report of the May PMI or to schedule an interview with Professor Don Sabbarese, please contact Aixa M. Pascual at 678-797-2549 or apascual@kennesaw.edu.

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Kennesaw State an economic engine in Cobb, pumping \$585 million into economy

Kennesaw State University is a key economic engine in Cobb County, creating 5,244 jobs and pumping...

Georgia (Jun 5, 2008) — Kennesaw State an economic engine in Cobb, pumping \$585 million into economy

Jennifer Hafer

Abstract

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Kennesaw State an economic engine in Cobb, pumping \$585 million into economy
Student spending at fast-growing university accounts for \$301 million

KENNESAW, Ga. (June 5, 2008) — Kennesaw State University is a key economic engine in Cobb County, creating 5,244 jobs and pumping nearly \$585 million into the local economy, according to a recent study commissioned by the Board of Regents of the [University System of Georgia](#).

The university's 2,306 employees created 2,938 additional jobs in the community. Likewise, \$382 million spent by the university in personnel services and operating expenses, as well as money spent by students, resulted in the \$585 million economic impact.

"As the third-largest university in the state of Georgia, Kennesaw State is proud to call Cobb County home, and to help fuel the region's economy in such a significant manner," said KSU President Daniel S. Papp. "It is important to quantify the extent of our economic impact in such monetary terms — which is in addition to the increasing impact we are having in producing college graduates, providing employment for local citizens, and in stimulating intellectual enterprise."

The Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia commissioned the [Selig Center for Economic Growth](#) at the University of Georgia's Terry College of Business to calculate the impact of the USG's 35 institutions on the state's economy, based on data collected between July 1, 2006 and June 30, 2007. Together, the 35 institutions generated an economic impact totaling \$11 billion during fiscal year 2007.

"Kennesaw State University is a tremendous asset to Cobb County," Cobb Commission Chairman Sam Olens said. "The university generates a tremendous economic impact in our community while clearly playing a critical role in educating our future workforce for success."

At Kennesaw State, which now boasts nearly 21,000 students, explosive growth in enrollment over the last several years has fueled student spending — accounting for \$301 million in economic impact — up by 157 percent, from \$117 million in fiscal year 1999.

By contrast, KSU's economic impact from personnel services and operating expenditures combined rose from \$157 million in fiscal year 1999 to \$284 million in fiscal year 2007 — up 81 percent, said Dr. Jeffrey M. Humphreys, director of economic forecasting for the Selig Center.

All 35 of the university system's institutions are economic engines in their communities and the

state, Humphreys said.

“The benefits they provide permeate both the private and public sectors of the communities that host the campuses,” Humphreys stated. “For each job created on a campus, there are 1.4 off-campus jobs that exist because of spending related to the college or university.

“These economic impacts demonstrate that continued emphasis on colleges and universities as a pillar of the state’s economy translates into jobs, higher incomes and greater production of goods and services for local households and businesses,” he continued.

The Selig Center’s research has its limitations – it neither quantifies the many long-term benefits that a higher-education institution imparts to its host community’s economic development nor does it measure intangible benefits to local residents, such as cultural opportunities, intellectual stimulation and volunteer work. Spending by USG retirees who still live in the host communities and by visitors to USG institutions, such as those attending conferences or athletic events, is not measured, nor are additional sources of income for USG employees, such as consulting work, personal business activities and inheritances.

“This Economic Impact Report continues to be an invaluable study,” said Terry Durden, interim assistant vice chancellor of the university system’s office of economic development. “It conclusively demonstrates that — beyond all the benefits colleges and universities offer communities through a more education society, cultural opportunities and other activities — our campuses have an ongoing and powerful economic impact on communities large and small.”

To download the full report, go to: http://www.icapp.org/pubs/usg_impact_fy2007.pdf.

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Kennesaw State relief fundraiser garners \$3,000 for victims of China earthquake

In response to the rising toll from the earthquake that struck China's Sichuan province on May 12, Kennesaw State University students, faculty and staff recently paid tribute to the victims with poetry and music as part of its "China 5.12 Earthquake Condolence" fundraising efforts. (For the complete story, please click on the headline above.)

Georgia (Jun 5, 2008) — In response to the rising toll from the earthquake that struck China's Sichuan province on May 12, Kennesaw State University students, faculty and staff paid tribute to the victims with poetry and music as part of its "China 5.12 Earthquake Condolence" fundraising efforts.

Kennesaw State has raised \$3,000 so far to provide food, water, tents and medical supplies to earthquake survivors. The fundraiser was organized by KSU's Institute for Global Initiatives and the Asian Studies Program, in partnership with the National Association of Chinese Americans and the Association of Chinese Professionals.

"It is the right thing to do. We want to empathize with our Chinese friends for their losses and for the reconstruction efforts that they face," said Akanmu Adebayo, executive director of KSU's Institute for Global Initiatives.

The funds will go to the China Red Cross Society to provide relief assistance for survivors of the magnitude 7.9 earthquake that hit Sichuan province in southwest China on May 12. The earthquake left more than 69,000 dead, nearly 370,000 injured and some 5 million homeless so far. The death toll is expected to rise to as high as 80,000. Some 15 million people need immediate assistance.

During the fundraising program, participants expressed condolences for the earthquake victims through different art forms. One professor read poetry in Mandarin that evoked a conversation between a mother and a son who died in the earthquake; another played a traditional Chinese violin with two strings known as the erhu.

In the audience, there were about 20 Chinese government officials from the Guangxi autonomous region who arrived at Kennesaw State last week to start in a Master of Public Administration program. The Guangxi autonomous region, which shares a border with Vietnam, is not far from Sichuan province.

Kennesaw State University has established and maintained formal relationships with China since 1989, primarily through faculty–student exchanges, study–abroad programs, professional training and development, and language proficiency testing. The university is home to 37 faculty members and 51 students of Chinese origin. Another 80 students are studying Chinese language at KSU. In the fall 2008, KSU will launch a Confucius Institute to promote Chinese language and culture.

For information on how to make tax–deductible contributions to support the China Red Cross Society's relief efforts, please contact Lani Wong, chair of local chapter of the National Association of Chinese Americans at 770–394–6542.

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Global information technology conference, cosponsored by KSU, to convene in Atlanta

Information technology professionals, students and academics from all over the world will converge...

Georgia (Jun 17, 2008) — Global information technology conference, cosponsored by KSU, to convene in Atlanta

Jeremy Craig

Abstract

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Global information technology conference to convene in Atlanta
Kennesaw State cosponsors ninth-annual conference

KENNESAW, Ga. (June 17, 2008) – Information technology professionals, students and academics from all over the world will converge June 22-24, in Atlanta for the ninth annual Global Information Technology Management Association (GITMA) conference.

The event, at the Hyatt Regency in downtown Atlanta, is cosponsored by Kennesaw State University's Institute for Global Initiatives and Department of Computer Science and Information Systems, the University of Texas at El Paso and the McDowell Research Center for Global IT Management at the University of North Carolina Greensboro.

Participants will engage in a wide range of IT topics, including the nature of global IT outsourcing and offshoring, information systems and technology on a global scale among multinational corporations, and IT and cultural differences in different regions of the world, as well as global electronic commerce and complex worldwide networks.

This global conference, which alternates between an international location and a location inside the United States, fits in well with KSU's "Get Global" Global Learning for Engaged Citizenship initiative, which seeks to enhance the international learning experience for students, faculty and staff.

"There is no question that today's IT professionals must be global workers," said Pamila Dembla, assistant professor of information systems at KSU and a conference coordinator. "In a 'flat' world with corporations spanning the globe, IT professionals must learn how to interact with coworkers all over the world and view IT from a global perspective."

In previous years, the conference has been held in Naples, Italy; Calgary, Alberta, Canada; San Diego; New York; Dallas and Memphis, Tenn. The 2009 conference will be held in Mexico City.

Leading the conference are conference chair Prashant Palvia, director of the [McDowell Research Center for Global IT Management](#) at the University of North Carolina Greensboro; program chair Kallol Bagchi, associate professor in the [information and decision sciences department](#) at the University of Texas of El Paso; and local chair, Pamila Dembla of Kennesaw State.

Conference registration begins Saturday, June 21, from 4 to 6 p.m. Sessions start Sunday, June 22, at 8 a.m., with registration beginning that day at 7 a.m.

The conference hotel is located at 265 Peachtree St. N.E. and is accessible by rail at [MARTA's Peachtree Center Station](#) (click this link for a station-area map) from Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport. For more information about the conference, including a complete list of conference topics, as well as registration, visit: <http://www.science.kennesaw.edu/~pdembla/gitma/>.

For more information about GITMA and its other conferences and activities, visit: <http://www.gitma.org>.

For more information about KSU's "Get Global" initiative, visit www.kennesaw.edu/getglobal.

For more information about KSU's Department of Computer Science and Information Systems, visit <http://science.kennesaw.edu/csiss>.

Media coverage is welcome. Media professionals should contact Jeremy Craig at 770-499-3448 or jcraig19@kennesaw.edu for more information or to arrange interviews.

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Kennesaw State hires new chair of visual arts department

Following a competitive national search, Kennesaw State University has appointed Joe Thomas...

Georgia (Jun 17, 2008) – Kennesaw State hires new chair of visual arts department

Cheryl Anderson Brown

Abstract

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Kennesaw State hires new chair of visual arts department

KENNESAW, Ga. (July 17, 2008) – Following a competitive national search, Kennesaw State University has appointed Joe Thomas as chair of the Department of Visual Arts. Thomas' previous position was associate professor of art history at Clarion University of Pennsylvania.

One of Thomas's goals as department chair is to heighten the profile of the visual arts program at KSU. "I plan for us to sit down and see where we want to go and how our department can meet the goals of the university. As we emphasize what makes our program unique, students will see Kennesaw State as an important arts program, and when comparing with other schools, they will consider KSU their top choice."

He holds a doctoral degree in art history from University of Texas at Austin, a master of arts degree in art history from Southern Methodist University and a bachelor of fine arts degree in studio art with a specialization in art history from North Texas State University. Thomas' specializations include 20th century and contemporary art history, sexuality and representation, and Italian Renaissance art. Thomas' understanding and experience in both studio art and art history will assist him in furthering an environment for a cohesive art program at KSU.

In addition to serving as department chair at Kennesaw State, Thomas will continue to teach art history. As an educator, Thomas says, "I enjoy creating artistically literate citizens who have a basic knowledge to understand and be comfortable with art."

Thomas will begin serving as chair of the visual arts department on Aug. 1.

MEDIA: Headshots available. Please contact Cheryl Anderson Brown at 770-499-3417 or cbrown@kennesaw.edu.

###

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John Clendenin and family donate \$1 million to KSU for graduate fellowships

Members of the Clendenin family presented a \$1 million donation this week — the largest single gift ever for scholarships at Kennesaw State University — to endow fellowships for graduate students and doctoral candidates. (For the complete story, please click on the headline above.)

Georgia (Jun 25, 2008) — Members of the Clendenin family presented a \$1 million donation this week — the largest single gift ever for scholarships at Kennesaw State University — to endow fellowships for graduate students and doctoral candidates.

John Clendenin, who retired as CEO of the former BellSouth in 1994, presented the check to establish the Clendenin Fellows Program to KSU President Daniel S. Papp and senior officials of the KSU Foundation at a signing ceremony. Joining him in making the donation were his son, Thomas, and grandson, Josh, a recent college graduate.

“The emphasis for the Clendenin Fellows is on producing high quality graduates who will give back to the university,” Papp said. “We are pleased the Clendenins have made this generous donation and structured it in a way that will benefit graduate and doctoral students, as well as the university.”

Beginning in the fall of 2009, the Clendenins’ endowment gift will support up to seven graduate and doctoral students annually — including KSU faculty members pursuing doctoral degrees — with fellowships of up to \$15,000. Master’s-level fellowships are available for up to two years, while doctoral candidates may receive the fellowships for up to three years. The fellowship is open to master’s and doctoral candidates pursuing degrees in any field. KSU currently offers 19 master’s programs and last year began offering doctorate programs.

Potential fellows may be invited to teach at KSU for two years upon completion of their master’s or doctoral programs. Candidates with undergraduate degrees from any university may apply for the fellowship program and may attend any accredited university, but preference will be given to KSU students and those planning to enter graduate programs at KSU. Preference for doctoral fellowships also will be given to KSU faculty seeking to complete doctoral studies.

Clendenin, 74, is fulfilling a long-held desire to contribute to graduate education. Thomas Clendenin said his father was unable to afford graduate school while working and supporting a young family upon graduating from Northwestern University.

“With my family history, I never expected to live this long,” Clendenin said. “But here I am at 74, and I now have this wonderful opportunity to create the Clendenin Fellows Program, which we hope will become a major endowment as the corpus grows. It is especially gratifying to support a graduate program that is meaningful to individuals and to society.”

The Clendenins have lasting ties to KSU and have been ardent supporters for many years, according to Wesley K. Wicker, vice president for University Advancement and executive director of the KSU Foundation, which will administer the endowment.

Thomas Clendenin, a private consultant, is a trustee of the KSU Foundation and serves on one of the university’s advisory boards. In 1999, John Clendenin and his wife, Ann, contributed \$1 million to build and equip high technology classrooms in the College of Mathematics and Science building, which now bears their family name.

“Members of our very large family have, over the years, taken undergraduate and graduate classes at KSU and worked in its athletics department,” said John Clendenin, who has served on the boards of corporate powerhouses like Coca-Cola, RJR Nabisco, Wachovia, Equifax and Home Depot.

A leader in innovative teaching and learning, Kennesaw State University offers undergraduate, graduate and doctoral degrees to its nearly 43,000 students. With 11 colleges on two metro Atlanta campuses, Kennesaw State is a member of the University System of Georgia. The university's vibrant campus culture, diverse population, strong global ties and entrepreneurial spirit draw students from throughout the country and the world. Kennesaw State is a Carnegie-designated doctoral research institution (R2), placing it among an elite group of only 6 percent of U.S. colleges and universities with an R1 or R2 status. For more information, visit kennesaw.edu.

Kennesaw State forges unique sports partnership with Egyptian universities

Kennesaw State University is entering into a partnership with the Egyptian University Sports Federation (EUSF) to advance athletic opportunities for persons with disabilities in Egypt and other countries. (For the complete story, please click on the headline above.)

Georgia (Jun 26, 2008) — Kennesaw State University is entering into a partnership with the Egyptian University Sports Federation (EUSF) to advance athletic opportunities for persons with disabilities in Egypt and other countries.

The agreement is the only one of its kind between an American academic institution and the Egyptian University Sports Federation, the government organization charged with organizing all sports activities in Egypt's public and private universities. The agreement, effective immediately, establishes an exchange of students, faculty and staff, as well as joint programs and conferences in the field of health and exercise science.

KSU President Daniel S. Papp signed the agreement with Essam El-Helaly, general secretary of the Egyptian University Sports Federation, this week at Kennesaw State University.

"We are very pleased that we are expanding cooperation with our Egyptian partners," said Papp. "This is yet another milestone as Kennesaw State steps forward as an international university."

In October, KSU plans to collaborate with the Egyptian organization in programs aimed at youth sports education and expanding athletic opportunities for persons with disabilities, according to Ben Johnson, associate dean for community partnerships and global initiatives at KSU's WellStar College of Health and Human Services.

An exchange of 20 Egyptian youth with disabilities is planned for this fall, allowing them to come to KSU for leadership training in partnership with BlazeSports America —which provides training, competitions, summer camps and other opportunities for youth and adults with disabilities.

The EUSF, in partnership with KSU and Paralympic bodies, hopes to establish a major international championship for university athletes by 2010, El-Helaly said.

"I believe this is a very important and beneficial partnership between our two organizations," he said Essam El-Helaly. "This will prove to be a unique experience in learning from one another in how to manage athletics programs, as well as how to enhance sporting education."

The Kennesaw State-Egypt connection stems partly from relationships Johnson, who is also professor of health, physical education and sport science at KSU, has forged throughout the years. While at Georgia State University, he was involved with the State Department's International Sport Programming Initiative — a public-diplomacy effort launched after 9/11 to forge athletic links between American institutions and those in Muslim and other countries with the goal of enhancing mutual understanding with nations of strategic importance to the U.S. This work has continued at Kennesaw State University in concert with BlazeSports America, garnering \$1.5 million from the State Department in grants and in-kind contributions.

The agreement between KSU and the Egyptian sports organization solidifies the university's budding ties with this Arab country.

In May, Papp entered into similar agreements with Alexandria University and Helwan University in Cairo. A key goal is to establish a center for educating disabled people and those who teach, coach, live and work with them. Alexandria University also is working with the Bagwell College of Education to expand services and education for children with disabilities.

KSU's international partnerships with academic institutions abroad are just some examples of how the university is stepping up to meet Kennesaw State's commitment to enhance global learning. The university's "Get Global" initiative is an effort to enhance global learning opportunities for all students, faculty and staff.

For more about KSU's efforts for persons with disabilities, read the Fall 2007 issue of Kennesaw State University Magazine, available for download in PDF format at:

<http://www.kennesaw.edu/ur/downloads.html>.

A publication-quality photo of the signing is available at:

<https://files.kennesaw.edu/staff/jcraig19/MediaGraphics/EUSF/egyptsigning.jpg>.

Please use the following caption:

Caption: KSU President Daniel S. Papp (far right) exchanges gifts with Faten Abd El-Latif, dean of the faculty of kindergarten at Alexandria University in Egypt, while Essam El-Helaly, general secretary of the Egyptian University Sports Federation in Cairo, Egypt, looks on. Papp and El-Helaly signed an agreement on June 23 establishing a partnership with KSU and the EUSF. Photo: Jim Bolt

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Adaptation showcased in Kennesaw State theater season

The Department of Theatre and Performance Studies at Kennesaw State University opens its 2008...

Georgia (Jun 27, 2008) — Adaptation showcased in Kennesaw State theater season

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Abstract

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Adaptation showcased in Kennesaw State theater season

KENNESAW, Ga. (June 27, 2008) -- The Department of Theatre and Performance Studies at Kennesaw State University opens its 2008-2009 season in September with an original adaptation of a classic children's tale by Kenneth Grahame and closes in April with an original stage adaptation of a classic short story from one of the South's most famous writers, Flannery O'Connor. The university will offer a total of nine productions.

We are very excited about the upcoming season, says Assistant Professor of Theatre and Performance Studies and resident dramaturg Jane Barnette. Each of the performances will feature adaptation, either of literature or of history, broadly construed. Overall, we offer unique productions that we hope will attract spectators from across the campus and throughout the community."

The season kicks off on Sept. 13 with a centennial celebration of the classic children's novel "The Wind in the Willows" by Kenneth Grahame. Adults and children will delight in hearing faculty readers as they bring to life the beloved characters of Mole, Ratty, Badger and the irrepressible Toad.

The readings continue with the next performance, "The Spoken Word: Poetry in Performance," on Sept. 19 and 20. Coordinated by Assistant Professor of Theatre and Performance Studies Hannah Harvey, the event features performances by local and nationally known poets. This event includes themes and language that may not be suitable for all audiences.

Another classic, "The Glass Menagerie" by Tennessee Williams, runs from Sept. 23-28. Assistant Professor of Theatre and Performance Studies Harrison Long directs this well-known play about a transplanted Southern family in crisis as seen through the eyes of Tom, the frustrated writer who dreams of escaping his overbearing mother and fragile sister.

The next offering continues the theme of written stories becoming stage productions. "The Apple Tree," which runs from Oct. 21-26, is a co-production of the Department of Music and the Department of Theatre and Performance Studies. Based on the short stories "The Diary of Adam and Eve" by Mark Twain, "The Lady or the Tiger?" by Frank Stockton and "Passionella" by Jules Feiffer, this musical triptych includes humorous and satirical adaptations of some of our cultures formative stories, including the Garden of Eden and Cinderella.

Going back in time to an ancient comedy that continues to amuse today's audiences, the "Lysistrata" by Aristophanes runs from Nov. 18-23. This memorable play, recently adapted by J.A. Ball and Michael

Chemers, features the battle of the sexes and remains remarkably relevant in the 21st century. Prepare yourself for extra helpings of sexual innuendoes, double entendres and ribald humor! This event includes themes and language that may not be appropriate for all audiences.

"Picasso at the Lapin Agile," written by Steve Martin and directed by Assistant Professor of Theatre and Performance Studies Jim Davis, can be seen from Jan. 27–Feb. 1. Imagine a young Pablo Picasso meeting Albert Einstein in 1904 Paris -- both geniuses on the verge of major discoveries in their respective fields of art and science. Seen through the absurd lens of comedian Steve Martin, the ensuing debates at once delight and enlighten, heralding the major artistic and scientific shifts of the 20th century. This event includes themes and language that may not be appropriate for all audiences.

From Feb. 5–6, enjoy storytelling by nationally known and locally grown tellers at StoryFest. Each evening features folktales and personal stories to delight, excite -- and perhaps even fright! -- performed by nationally recognized storytellers and the university's own KSU Tellers. The festival also includes storytelling workshops to hone your own tale-telling talents. This event is appropriate for ages 10 through adult.

"New Works and Ideas" will be presented from March 24–29. Some of the highlights of this week include "Memorabilia," a collaboration with The Alliance Theatre's Collision Project in which high school students create works based on Tennessee Williams' "The Glass Menagerie." One night will also be devoted to staged readings of 10-minute plays written by emerging artists at KSU. This event includes themes and language that may not be appropriate for all audiences.

The season concludes with "Everything That Rises Must Converge" by Flannery O'Connor. This production is a new stage adaptation of native Georgian Flannery O'Connor's last short stories, including the title piece as well as "A View From the Woods," as devised by New York director Karin Coonrod. Both stories feature startling family dynamics, revealing the paradoxical fragility and explosive power of love. The dates for this event are April 14–19.

Community members may wish to join the department's First Call Club to receive 25 percent off all ticket purchases, invitations to special events and other benefits. For more information, visit www.kennesaw.edu/arts or call 770-423-6650.

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A member of the 35-unit University System of Georgia, Kennesaw State University is a comprehensive, residential institution with a growing student population of more than 20,000 from 142 countries. The third-largest university in Georgia, Kennesaw State offers more than 60 graduate and undergraduate degrees, including new doctorates in education and business.

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