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# Georgia manufacturing index accelerates again in March



*Jump of 5.1 points due to strong increases in production, employment and finished inventory...*

*Georgia (Apr 1, 2011) — Jump of 5.1 points due to strong increases in production, employment and finished inventory*

KENNESAW, Ga. (April 1, 2011) — Manufacturing activity in Georgia jumped in March to its highest level since April 2006, according to the Econometric Center at Kennesaw State University's Coles College of Business.

Georgia's Purchasing Managers Index (PMI) — a reading of economic activity in the state's manufacturing sector — was 67.6 in March, up 5.1 points from February's level of 62.5. The latest reading reveals a growing number of respondents experiencing growth. Nearly 52 percent of respondents reported higher new orders, and almost 58 percent reported higher levels of production. Even more significant is 42 percent of respondents reported increased hiring versus only 3 percent reporting a decrease. Georgia's March PMI recorded 6.4 points higher than its national counterpart.

"As new orders remain high at 69.7 and production increases even more, the sharp increase in finished inventory is stronger evidence that these respondents believe this uptick in business is sustainable," said Don Sabbarese, professor of economics and director of the Econometric Center at the Coles College of Business. "Added support for this point is the 42 percent of respondents who reporting increased hiring."

The higher commodity price reading of 90.9 is the one negative in the March report. Rising commodity prices will begin to put pressure on profit margins for those manufacturers who cannot increase their prices.

Highlights of the March PMI include:

- New orders were up by 0.9 of a point, to 69.7
- Production was up by 9.1 points, to 75.8
- Hiring was up 5.1 points, to 69.7, only 3 percent report decreased hiring
- Commodity prices increased another 5.5 points, to 90.9, its highest level since June 2008
- Finished inventory increased 8.5 points, to 60.6
- Supplier delivery time increased 1.7 points, to 62.1

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 it is contracting.

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 does not go into the PMI calculation.

The PMI, compiled from a monthly survey of manufacturers, is the earliest indicator of market conditions in the sector. Since manufacturing — which accounts for 11 percent of GDP — is sensitive to changes in the economy, it can also reveal changing macroeconomic trends.

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 used by institutions such as the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta to assist in their analysis of current economic conditions, along with many other data sources, to get a picture of economic activity.

For a full report of the March PMI, or to speak with professor Sabbarese, please call 770- 423-6094.

# # #

Kennesaw State University is the third-largest university in Georgia, offering more than 70 graduate and undergraduate degrees, including new doctorates in education, business and nursing, and a new Ph.D. in international conflict management. A member of the 35-unit University System of Georgia, Kennesaw State is a comprehensive, residential institution with a growing population of more than 23,400 students from 142 countries.

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# Kennesaw State lecturer honored by Georgia Association of Economics & Finance

*Michael Patrono named professor of the year for revamping global economics course KENNESAW, Ga...*

Georgia (Apr 1, 2011) – *Michael Patrono named professor of the year for revamping global economics course*

KENNESAW, Ga. - (April 1, 2011) – Michael Patrono, an economics lecturer at the Coles College of Business at Kennesaw State University, has been named professor of the year by the Georgia Association of Economics & Finance.

“Michael is a phenomenal and passionate teacher of economics who really conveys that passion for learning to his students,” said Govind Hariharan, chairman of KSU’s Department of Economics, Finance and Quantitative Analysis. “He truly deserves the award. For a KSU employee to be honored in this manner reaffirms the value we place on global knowledge.”

Patrono revamped Economics 1100, a global economics course all KSU students are required to take. Originally the course was taught as if everybody was intending to be an economics major, Patrono said.

“We revised the class to be more philosophical and deal with the politics and economies of different societies around the world,” Patrono said. “With the revision it’s become incredibly popular.”

Patrono received the award recently during the spring meeting of the GAEF in Cartersville. The Georgia Council on Economic Education, a nonprofit that helps public and private teachers in kindergarten through the 12<sup>th</sup> grade, contributed a \$500 cash stipend.

The Georgia Association of Economics & Finance was founded in the early 1970s. It was formed to improve the teaching of economics and finance and to create opportunities for economics and finance to be broadly understood in society.

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# Kennesaw State professor honored by the Academy of Marketing Science

*Joseph F. Hair Jr. of Coles College of Business named educator of the year KENNESAW, Ga. – (...*

*Georgia (Apr 1, 2011) – Joseph F. Hair Jr. of Coles College of Business named educator of the year*

KENNESAW, Ga. - (April 1, 2011) – Joseph F. Hair Jr., executive director of the Doctor of Business Administration Program at Coles College of Business at Kennesaw State University, has been named educator of the year by the Academy of Marketing Science.

“Joe richly deserves this award,” said Kathy S. Schwaig, interim dean for the Coles College of Business. “He’s recognized around the world as an expert in the field of marketing and quantitative methods. Kennesaw State’s reputation and reach extends any time he delivers a lecture, whether he does so here on campus or in Europe or Australia.”

Hair, also a professor of marketing, has written nine different books updated with about 50 editions. He thinks the recent seventh edition of “Multivariate Data Analysis” was a big reason he won the award.

“It’s a book that teaches individual statistical methods that are the foundation for what is called data mining,” Hair said. “I provide an overview and how-to for all the techniques that you don’t hear about but are used to identify important relationships and find the pearls of wisdom.”

Hair previously was director of the Entrepreneurship Institute at the Ourso College of Business Administration at Louisiana State University. He has won many other awards and was named the Coles College Foundation Distinguished Professor for 2009. He’s also a past president of the Academy of Marketing Science, which is based out of Louisiana Tech.

He will receive this newest award May 25 at the AMS annual conference in Coral Gables, Fla.

The Academy of Marketing Science is an international organization founded in 1971. It is dedicated to promoting high standards and excellence in the creation and dissemination of marketing knowledge.

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# KSU's oldest continuing ed teacher shares joy of drawing with students

## Read more: The Marietta Daily Journal - KSU s oldest continuing ed teacher shares joy of drawing with students

*Some people find their passions early in life while others discover hidden talents much later. But...*

Georgia (Apr 1, 2011) — Some people find their passions early in life while others discover hidden talents much later.

### Publication

### Link To Article

[http://mdjonline.com/view/full\\_story/12583666/article-KSU-s-oldest-continuing-ed-teacher-shares-joy-of-drawing-with-students?instance=home\\_news\\_special\\_coverage](http://mdjonline.com/view/full_story/12583666/article-KSU-s-oldest-continuing-ed-teacher-shares-joy-of-drawing-with-students?instance=home_news_special_coverage)

But it makes them no less meaningful or life changing.

William "Bill" Singleton of Woodstock stumbled upon his knack for drawing at age 63 when he took a night school class.

Now, at 84, he is the oldest instructor at the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Kennesaw State University.

The institute, which is a part of the school's College of Continuing and Professional Education, offers educational and social opportunities for adults age 50 and older.

For the past eight years, Singleton, known as "Mr. Bill" to students and faculty, has been teaching people of all ages the joy of art in his pencil, pen and ink drawing classes.

Not long after moving to Cherokee County about 12 years ago from his hometown of Buffalo, N.Y., he enhanced his drawing hobby by taking classes at a senior center in Cobb County.

Read more: [The Marietta Daily Journal - KSU s oldest continuing ed teacher shares joy of drawing with students](#)

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# Kennesaw State University Names UConn's Vaughn Williams as Athletic Director



*National search concludes with announcement of successful NCAA Division I administrator...*

Georgia (Apr 5, 2011) — *National search concludes with announcement of successful NCAA Division I administrator*

Downloadable photo available at [http://www.kennesaw.edu/ur/photos/vaughn\\_williams.jpg](http://www.kennesaw.edu/ur/photos/vaughn_williams.jpg)

KENNESAW, Ga. — (April 5, 2011) — Kennesaw State University President Dr. Daniel S. Papp today named University of Connecticut Associate Athletic Director Vaughn Williams as the university's new athletic director. Williams brings more than 17 years of NCAA Division I senior athletic administrative experience to KSU.

A press conference will be held in the coming weeks to formally introduce the new athletic director to the Kennesaw State campus and the local community. With the UConn men's basketball team basking in the national limelight from garnering last night's national NCAA Division I championship, the athletic program is quite preoccupied with celebrations and recognition ceremonies.

"I am extremely pleased that Vaughn Williams is bringing his leadership to the athletic director's position at KSU, as we set our sights on becoming increasingly competitive in the top-tier of collegiate sports," Papp stated. "Vaughn is well suited to grow and develop our athletic program, as he brings a wealth of experience in teambuilding, compliance, fiscal responsibility, administrative management, academics, fundraising and marketing. We are looking forward to his arrival."

Williams has served for the past six and a half years as UConn's associate athletic director, where he is responsible for strategic planning, facility master planning, and policy and procedure improvement. He also served as chair of the University of Connecticut's Sportsmanship/Fan Environment Initiative Committee, which established the Husky Honor Program. A former student-athlete himself, Williams played football at the University of Massachusetts and believes strongly in the importance of athletes succeeding in the classroom, as well as on the field.

"I am very honored and excited to become part of the Kennesaw State University family," says Williams. "Owl Athletics has made incredible progress as it has made the transition from Division II to the Division I level. I look forward to continuing and growing our presence regionally and nationally at the Division 1 level. The entire University is on an upward path toward excellence in all areas and I want athletics to be a key part of the building process. The vision we have is for us to be champions

with integrity in academics, in the community and in athletics.

Williams currently directs the operation and management of 11 campus athletic facilities for 24 varsity sports and 600 student-athletes, as well as the university's recreational/intramural program, which serves 3,500 participants. He also oversees the Huskies' event management team that provides support to varsity sports, including the hosting of conference or NCAA post-season events. In addition, Williams is UConn's home-game administrator for football and basketball games.

The project manager for all aspects of his university's athletic capital projects – including a new practice football facility, and a track/field hockey/lacrosse facility – Williams has overseen a total of \$53 million in capital projects for the Huskies to-date.

The national search for a new Kennesaw State athletic director was conducted to replace David Waples, who stepped down last August after serving for more than 23 years as the university's athletic director. Scott Whitlock, the school's senior associate athletic director and head softball coach, was named by President Papp at that time to serve as interim athletic director. Whitlock will remain in the post until Williams' arrival.

The university's 12-member Athletic Director Search Committee was comprised of students, administrators and faculty, and was led by Thomas H. Keene, a professor of history and interim chair of the university's Department of History and Philosophy. Keene also serves as chair of the KSU Athletics Board. Parker Executive Search assisted the committee's search, soliciting input from various internal and external constituencies.

Kennesaw State's athletics program made the successful transition to NCAA Division I competition in 2009, and now is embarking on a multi-million dollar fundraising initiative that is critical to making football part of the KSU athletic program. As athletic director, Williams will play a key role in this important initiative.

Another major assignment awaiting the new athletic director is the selection of KSU's men's basketball coach, to replace long-serving former KSU head basketball coach Tony Ingle, whose contract was not renewed for the 2011-2012 season.

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# Author Isabel Wilkerson to speak at KSU April 12



*Pulitzer Prize winner will discuss best-selling “The Warmth of Other Suns” KENNESAW, Ga...*

Georgia (Apr 6, 2011) – *Pulitzer Prize winner will discuss best-selling “The Warmth of Other Suns”*

KENNESAW, Ga. (April 6, 2011) – Isabel Wilkerson, a former *New York Times* journalist whose recent book about the “great migration” of American blacks landed on all the nation’s top best seller lists, will speak at Kennesaw State University on April 12.

What:

Wilkerson’s “The Warmth of Other Suns” chronicles what has been labeled “the biggest underreported story of the 20th century” – the migration of some 6 million blacks who fled the discrimination they faced in the American South for uncertain futures in the North and West. The author, whose research included interviews with more than 1,200 people, will discuss the migration, which started in 1915 and did not end until the 1970s. The author also will sign copies of her book. Her talk is sponsored by KSU’s Office of Diversity & Inclusion.

Who:

Wilkerson, a former national correspondent and bureau chief for *The New York Times*, is the first black woman to win a Pulitzer Prize for journalism and the first black American to win for individual reporting. She moved to Atlanta in 1994 after winning the Pulitzer to devote herself full-time to researching and writing “The Warmth of Other Suns,” which was published by Random House in 2010.

When:

Tuesday, April 12 at 2 p.m.

Where:

University Rooms C, D and E in the Student Center on the Kennesaw State campus at 1000 Chastain Road, Kennesaw, GA 30144

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# Rewarding Excellence



*Sabine Smith, associate professor of German in KSU's Department of Foreign Language, was...*

Georgia (Apr 7, 2011) –

Sabine Smith, associate professor of German in KSU's Department of Foreign Language, was among 10 University System of Georgia faculty, alumni and supporters honored at the Seventh Annual Regents' Award for Excellence in Education Celebration on March 26.

Smith received the award during a gala at Atlanta's Mariott Marquis Hotel that raises funds for scholarships for students at 35 USG institutions. She was among three USG faculty members receiving the Regents' Teaching Excellence Award and two who received the Regents Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Award. Four alumni, including Former First Lady Rosalynn Carter and former Board of Regents member Donald M. Leebern Jr., also were honored. The USG Foundation hosted the event, which drew some 900 higher education leaders, elected officials and supporters.

Also recognized from KSU was Jessica R. Hicks, a KSU music education major. She was one of two Regents' scholarship recipients from among 74 at USG institutions selected to extend greetings to the gala's distinguished guests, including Gov. Nathan Deal.

Designating Smith the most outstanding teacher at a regional or state university, the Board of Regents cited her innovative teaching, the co-curricular activities she devises to immerse students in German language and culture, and her leadership in establishing a German studies major at KSU.

An individual faculty member representing the system's two-year and state colleges and one representing research universities also received teaching excellence awards.

"This is an outstanding and richly deserved honor for Dr. Smith and for Kennesaw State," President Daniel S. Papp said when the awards were announced. "She exhibits an extraordinary level of dedication to her students and the teaching profession, and a commitment to the university's academic ideals. We are very proud of her accomplishments."

Smith, who holds a Ph.D. in German from the University of California, Davis, joined the KSU faculty in 1999 as the only full-time German professor in the foreign languages department. Since then, the German studies program she helped design evolved into an undergraduate minor at Kennesaw State in 2000, and became a major in 2007, and now has seven instructors. Enrollment in German courses at KSU grew from 78 in spring 1999 to 231 in spring 2010.

"What a special day in my life, a momentous experience," Smith said of the award presentation. "It was a privilege to have been selected and a reminder to live up to the honor by continuing to put my heart into what I truly love about this profession: teaching, mentoring, and sharing my love for learning with others."

Smith is the fifth KSU faculty member to receive a Regents' Award in five consecutive years. Past KSU recipients include Karen Robinson, theater and performance studies (2010); Matthew Laposata, environmental science (2009); Mary Garner, mathematics and mathematics education (2008); and Randolph Smith, psychology (2007).

-- Sabbaye McGriff

Photo by Carolyn Richardson

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# A 'natural' hired to run Pawlenty campaign

Article by: KEVIN DIAZ and JEREMY HERB , Star Tribune staff writers WASHINGTON - He's...

Georgia (Apr 12, 2011) – Article by: [KEVIN DIAZ](#) and [JEREMY HERB](#) , Star Tribune staff writers

## Publication

## Link To Article

<http://www.startribune.com/politics/national/119665709.htm>

WASHINGTON - He's just a few years out of college, but he's already been dubbed one of the top political "free agents" in Washington. One of his teachers calls him a "natural."

Now Nick Ayers, 28, is taking charge as campaign manager for Gov. Tim Pawlenty's presidential exploratory committee, which is expected to morph into a full-blown campaign in the next month.

"He is without question one of the best political talents in America," Pawlenty said Monday. "His leadership and record of winning tough races in every part of our country will provide even more momentum to our campaign to get America back on track." ...

... Kerwin Swint, a political science professor at Kennesaw State University near Atlanta who taught Ayers, said Ayers seemed "older than his years."

"My nickname for him is 'The Natural,'" Swint said. "He is someone who, from a very young age, displayed enormous instinct and talent and just made a real name for himself."

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# Around Town: Rising South Cobb political guru picked by Pawlenty

by Otis Brumby, Bill Kinney and Joe Kirby Around Town Columnists The Marietta Daily Journal...

Georgia (Apr 12, 2011) —

## Link To Article

[http://www.mdjonline.com/view/full\\_story/12748488/article-Around-Town--Rising-south-Cobb-political-guru-picked-by-Pawlenty](http://www.mdjonline.com/view/full_story/12748488/article-Around-Town--Rising-south-Cobb-political-guru-picked-by-Pawlenty)

by Otis Brumby, Bill Kinney and Joe Kirby  
Around Town Columnists The Marietta Daily Journal

WILL AUSTELL native Nick Ayers go down in history as the next David Plouffe? The next Karl Rove? The next James Carville? He no doubt hopes so. And so, no doubt, does his new boss, former Minnesota Gov. Tim Pawlenty, who on Monday announced the hiring of Ayers as manager of his presidential campaign exploratory committee.

What do Plouffe, Rove and Carville have in common? They all managed successful presidential campaigns (for Barack Obama, G.W. Bush and Bill Clinton, respectively.) Ayers' new job puts him in line to be Pawlenty's campaign manager should the Minnesotan formerly declare himself a candidate.

Ayers, 28, until recently was executive director of the Republican Governors Association, which was headed by Mississippi Gov. Haley Barbour, who like Pawlenty is thinking of running for the White House. ...

Although not exactly a household name, Ayers is widely seen as a "comer" in political circles. The South Cobb High grad met then-state Sen. Sonny Perdue as president of the Kennesaw State University College Republicans during Perdue's first run for governor, when he upended incumbent Gov. Roy Barnes and become the first Republican governor here since Reconstruction.

Ayers' new job is a step toward fulfilling a prediction made to the MDJ last summer by KSU political science professor Dr. Kermit Swint, who taught Ayers.

"I'm convinced he will someday manage a successful presidential campaign," Swint said. "He is very talented and very driven. He is also very likable, which is also part of his secret. He's nice and well spoken, and people usually end up falling all over themselves trying to help him with whatever he's doing.

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# Kennesaw State University Introduces UConn's Vaughn Williams as New Athletic Director



*Landing of well-respected NCAA Division I administrator is culmination of national search To watch...*

Georgia (Apr 12, 2011) — *Landing of well-respected NCAA Division I administrator is culmination of national search*

To watch the press conference, click [here](#).

To view photos from the press conference, click [here](#).

Downloadable photo of Vaughn available at [http://www.kennesaw.edu/ur/photos/vaughn\\_williams.jpg](http://www.kennesaw.edu/ur/photos/vaughn_williams.jpg)

KENNESAW, Ga. – (April 12, 2011) — Former University of Connecticut Associate Athletic Director Vaughn Williams was introduced today as Kennesaw State University's new athletic director, bringing more than 17 years of NCAA Division I senior athletic administrative team experience to KSU.

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"We are also embarking on a multi-million dollar fundraising initiative that will be critical to making football part of the KSU athletics program," Papp continued, "and the person who will lead these important athletic initiatives is Kennesaw State's new athletic director Vaughn Williams."

Williams will officially start at Kennesaw State in early May. In his current role at UConn, Williams is responsible for strategic planning, facility master plans and policy/procedure improvement. He also served as chair of the University of Connecticut Sportsmanship/Fan Environment Initiative Committee, which established the Husky Honor Program.

"I am very honored and excited to become part of the Kennesaw State University family," Williams said. "Owl Athletics has made incredible progress as it has transitioned from Division II to the Division I level. I look forward to continuing and growing our presence regionally and nationally at the Division 1 level. The entire University is on an upward path toward excellence in all areas and I want athletics to be a key part of the building process. The vision we have is for us to be champions with integrity in academics, in the community and in athletics."

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Williams, who has served for the past six and a half years as UConn's associate athletic director, joins KSU as the institution embarks on adding football and is in the midst of a search for a new head basketball coach. A four-year letterman in football at the University of Massachusetts, Williams understands the importance of academic success for athletics at KSU.

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stepped down last August after serving for more than 23 years as the university's athletic director. The school's senior associate athletic director and head softball coach, Scott Whitlock, was named by Papp to serve as interim athletic director.

Thomas H. Keene, a professor of history and interim chair of the university's Department of History and Philosophy, led the university's 12-member Athletic Director Search Committee. The panel was composed of students, administrators and faculty. Parker Executive Search assisted the committee's search, soliciting input from various internal and external constituencies.

"We were looking for an outstanding individual, one who knew how to run an athletics program at the university level, how to help us build and shape a football program from the ground up," explained Keene, who also serves as chair of the KSU Athletics Board.

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Contact: Robert S. Godlewski, [rgodlews@kennesaw.edu](mailto:rgodlews@kennesaw.edu), 770-499-3448

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# KSU Organized Successful Inaugural Conference on Asia

By *gasiantimes* · April 9, 2011 Over 300 participants participated at the first ever...

Georgia (Apr 12, 2011) — By [gasiantimes](#) · April 9, 2011

## Publication

## Link To Article

<http://gasiantimes.com/metro-asian-news/ksu-organized-successful-business-conference-on-asia/>

Over 300 participants participated at the first ever Symposium on Asia-USA Partnership Opportunities (SAUPO) at W Hotel Midtown Atlanta on April 8. The inaugural event was organized by Kennesaw State University's Asian Studies Program.

Highlighting the morning program was a panel discussion on Asian investments in U.S. featuring Alex Gregory, President and CEO of YKK Corporation, Sandeep Dadlani, Vice President of Infosys Technologies, Tae In Kim, President of Kyosung Motors America, and Henry Yu, President of Shanghai Bosun Capital Advisors.

The discussion was followed by another panel sharing insights on foreign direct investments in Asia. Dr. John Endicott, President of Woosong University, Roger Neuenschwander, President of tvsdesign, Lisa Wallace, Corporate Marketing Manger of UPS, and Jorge Frenandez, Vice President of Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce presented a lively discussion on the economic development growth in Asia.

“SAUPO aims to provide a platform for diplomats, corporate executives, policymakers, academia and scholars to address critical issues and strategies related to business and communities in the era of globalization,” said Dr. May Hongmei Gao, Associate Professor of Communication, Asian Studies Coordinator and Chair of SAUPO Planning Committee.

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# KSU's New Athletic Director



*Landing of well-respected NCAA Division I administrator is culmination of national search To...*

Georgia (Apr 12, 2011) —

*Landing of well-respected NCAA Division I administrator is culmination of national search*

To watch the press conference, click [here](#).

To view photos from the press conference, click [here](#).

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# Listen: 'Burning of Atlanta' Legacies

*Tuesday is the 150th anniversary of the start of the American Civil War. A new marker now stands at...*

Georgia (Apr 12, 2011) – Tuesday is the 150th anniversary of the start of the American Civil War. A new marker now stands at the site where Union General William T. Sherman ordered what's known as the "Burning of Atlanta."

## Publication

## Link To Article

<http://www.gpb.org/georgia-traveler/blog/2011/04/11/listen-burning-of-atlanta-legacies>

The site is two blocks from the state capitol on Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive. Hermina Glass-Avery, Associate Director of the Center for the Study of the Civil War Era at Kennesaw State University, says one site can share historical legacies:

"This marker dedication is most appropriate for this site because it offers authenticity of setting and context. This is the location of the burning of Atlanta and this is the place to have it. And to have it elsewhere is akin to heresy."

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# Suburban Conference to explore ‘Love, Marriage and Family in the Suburbs’



*Yale University professor, leading urban ethnographer to deliver keynote address KENNESAW, Ga. (...*

*Georgia (Apr 12, 2011) – Yale University professor, leading urban ethnographer to deliver keynote address*

KENNESAW, Ga. (April 8, 2011) –Recent census figures indicate that suburbs in major metropolitan areas in the South, including Atlanta, are rapidly integrating and becoming more racially and ethnically diverse at levels not seen in decades. The ninth annual Suburban Conference, hosted by KSU’s sociology department and criminal justice student organizations, will address these suburban trends. Experts will examine issues like the end of public housing in Atlanta and the implication for the surrounding suburbs, blighted suburban areas, dating, marriage and family relationships and homelessness in the suburbs.

Who:

Elijah Anderson, conference keynote speaker, is the William K. Lanman Jr. Professor of Sociology at Yale University and one of the leading urban ethnographers in the United States. His publications include “*Code of the Street: Decency, Violence, and the Moral Life of the Inner City*” and “*Streetwise: Race, Class, and Change in an Urban Community.*” Anderson’s most recent ethnographic work is titled “*The Cosmopolitan Canopy: Race and Civility in Everyday Life.*”

When/Where:

Friday, April 15, 2011  
8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

SocialSciences Building(SO22), KSU campus, 1000 Chastain Rd., Kennesaw, GA 30144

Parking for the media will be available in Visitor Lot  
(See link to campus map for directions - [www.kennesaw.edu/campusmaps.shtml](http://www.kennesaw.edu/campusmaps.shtml))

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# KSU's Williams looking forward to opportunities

*“By Doug Roberson The Atlanta Journal-Constitution What some people call challenges facing...*

Georgia (Apr 13, 2011) – “By [Doug Roberson](#)

## Publication

## Link To Article

<http://www.ajc.com/sports/ksus-williams-looking-forward-906995.html>

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

What some people call challenges facing Kennesaw State’s athletic department, incoming athletic director Vaughn Williams called opportunities at his introductory news conference Tuesday.

We have an opportunity to be excellent in the next class we take, community we serve, or shot or goal we take,” said Williams, who was hired to lead the Owls after spending the past 6 ½ years as an associate AD at Connecticut. “We can advance excellence in all these ways.”

Among the opportunities for Williams is the hiring of a new basketball coach. Some candidates are expected to be interviewed this week. Florida State assistant Corey Williams is a candidate, according to a person familiar with the Florida State basketball program. Former Georgia Tech standout Mark Price may interview as well, according to a person familiar with the Kennesaw State coaching search. Neither Williams nor Price’s agent would comment on the specifics of the search.

Williams did say he has no preference regarding previous experience as a coach and has no timetable, but he wants someone with integrity who can teach and lead.

“There are a lot of head coaches who can’t do both,” he said. Kennesaw State President Daniel Papp said the decision will be Williams’ to make. Former coach Tony Ingle was fired last month.

Other "opportunities" for Williams include:

-- Improving the academic performance of the men’s basketball team. One of the reasons that Ingle was fired was his team’s poor performance in the classroom. The team has failed to meet the NCAA’s minimum standards in the Academic Progress Rate. Kennesaw State could lose two scholarships and practice time as penalties when the next APR scores are released later this year.

“I feel like we are in good shape with academic support,” Williams said. “It’s really about the leader we are going to hire who believes in the value of Kennesaw State. They will get the student-athletes who want to go to class. The right leader is what we are after.”

-- Fundraising and overseeing the improvements to Kennesaw State’s facilities in anticipation of starting football, possibly as early as 2014. Williams has extensive experience in strategic planning, facility master plans and policy and procedure improvements. Papp said the school is trying to raise at least \$8 million, per a recommendation made by Vince Dooley and his exploratory committee for football, as well as adding women’s teams in undecided sports to comply with Title IX requirements.

Dooley, a former Georgia athletic director and football coach, attended the news conference at Kennesaw State’s request and said he liked what he heard from Williams. Dooley played no part in the hiring process, which was aided by a search firm.

More than 100 candidates applied for the Kennesaw State AD job, which came open when David Waples resigned in August after more than 23 years at the school.

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# USG's African-American Male Initiative hosts 2011 AAMI Best Practices Conference



*Nearly 300 conferees will focus on improving educational outcomes for black males* CONTACT:...

Georgia (Apr 13, 2011) – *Nearly 300 conferees will focus on improving educational outcomes for black males*

CONTACT: Arlethia Perry-Johnson, (770) 423-6350

KENNESAW, Ga. (April 13, 2011) – The University System of Georgia’s African-American Male Initiative (AAMI) will convene its “AAMI 2011 Best Practices Conference” at Macon State College, on Friday, Apr. 14 and Saturday, Apr. 15 – sharing best practices and outcomes from the USG’s nationally recognized program aimed at enhancing the recruitment, retention and graduation of Black males within the state’s public colleges and universities. The University System-wide conference will assemble nearly 300 AAMI administrators and student participants from 22 USG campuses, along with notable dignitaries and other special guests in two days of activities aimed at enhancing educational outcomes for Georgia’s African-American male students.

The conference will launch on Friday evening, April 15, with a networking reception, followed by an Awards and Recognition Banquet showcasing the best-practice AAMI program and administrator, and saluting advocates and supporters of the program who have contributed immensely to the program’s success. In addition, high-profile national and local honorees that have strongly supported the AAMI project also will be saluted. Saturday’s activities will include three plenary sessions featuring more nationally recognized speakers, and two tracks of specialized workshop sessions tailored to the concerns and needs of the adult and youth participants. Networking breaks on Saturday will provide additional opportunities for conference attendees to meet and exchange information with their USG colleagues who are dedicated to enhancing educational opportunities for Black males.

Conference participants will hear from nationally recognized speakers such as:

- Mr. Hill Harper - Award winning actor, bestselling author and philanthropist;
- Ms. Tina Gridiron Smith - Senior program officer at the Lumina Foundation for Education; and
- Dr. Randal Pinkett - A former Rhodes scholar; president and CEO of BCT Partners; and winner of the NBC television show, *The Apprentice*, with Donald Trump;
- Dr. Shaun R. Harper - Author, researcher and faculty member at the University of Pennsylvania;
- Dr. Tyrone Bledsoe - founder and executive director of the Student African American Brotherhood (SAAB).

Harper will be the keynoter for the awards banquet, and facilitate an “Open Forum for Black Males” later that evening.

“The University System of Georgia’s African-American Male Initiative is now over eight years old, and we have made giant strides in addressing the educational challenges faced by Black males in attending college,” said AAMI Project Director Arlethia Perry-Johnson. “The pioneering work that the

USG began in the fall of 2002 is now yielding significant results - most notably in the increased number of Black males that are earning their degrees from USG colleges and universities. So we are taking the time to honor and thank those who have helped undergird and strengthen our efforts, and to highlight the practices and programs that are contributing to our outcomes. Still, we recognize that in spite of our progress we must continue to work hard, leverage more resources, and do even more to ensure that increasing numbers of Black males in Georgia attend and graduate from college.”

Launched in the summer of 2002 by the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia, AAMI focuses on increasing the enrollment, retention, and graduation rates of Black men throughout the USG’s network of 35 public colleges and universities. AAMI achieves its goals through a wide variety of programs that foster academic achievement, including advising, tutoring, mentoring, leadership development, learning communities, and student-engagement initiatives, among other programmatic activities.

In July 2002, there were three known programs in the USG focusing on improving Black males’ educational participation and outcomes. Today there are more than 37 such programs at 23 different institutions throughout the University System of Georgia - many launched and/or funded by AAMI, with many others launched and sustained by USG campuses supportive of the initiative.

Since AAMI’s inception, Black male enrollment in the University System of Georgia has increased by 67.78 percent, from 17,068 students in fall 2002, to 28,637 in fall 2010 - an increase of 11,569 Black male students. As the enrollment swells, the six-year graduation rate (the national benchmark) for USG African-American, first-time freshmen is seeing an impressive gain as well. The graduation rate for the cohort of Black male freshmen that entered in fall 1997 - the cohort of students who entered before the launch of AAMI - was 28.95 percent. The six-year graduation rate for the fall 2004 cohort, which graduated by Spring 2010, had risen to 38.98 percent - a 10.03 percent increase in the African-American male graduation rate since AAMI’s inception. Perhaps most importantly, the number of bachelor’s degrees conferred annually upon African-American males at USG institutions has jumped by 49.77 percent, from 1,294 Black male students awarded bachelor’s degrees in fiscal year 2003, to 1,938 students awarded degrees in fiscal year 2010 - an increase of 644 additional bachelor’s degrees being awarded annually to Black male students.

In July 2006, the Indiana-based Lumina Foundation for Education’s McCabe Fund awarded a two-year, \$100,000 grant to AAMI. That funding enabled AAMI to more strongly partner with the USG’s Office of Strategic Research and Policy Analysis, dedicating a research assistant to work directly with that office on the program’s data analysis. In October of that year, AAMI moved its home from the Board of Regents’ offices to the campus of Kennesaw State University, with strong support from KSU President Dr. Daniel S. Papp, who also was highly involved in AAMI’s initial implementation during his tenure as a senior vice chancellor at the Board of Regents. The program now is housed in the office of KSU’s Vice President of External Affairs, the role Perry-Johnson also holds.

In 2009, the Lumina Foundation awarded a second grant to AAMI, for \$500,000 over two years. That generous grant has enabled AAMI to significantly expand its programming, its outcomes, and its reporting capabilities. With the infusion of the Lumina grant in 2009, the enrollment of African-American males in the University System jumped by an unprecedented 15.07 percent over the previous year, from 23,255 students in fall 2008 to 26,760 in fall 2009 - an increase of 3,505 Black male students. This past year, Black male enrollment in the USG increased by another 7.01 percent, from 26,760 students in fall 2009 to 28,637 in fall 2010, reflecting an additional 1,877 Black male students.

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#### ONLINE PRESS KIT:

SAVE THE DATE: A “save-the-date” card, featuring key highlights of the conference, is available at: <http://www.usg.edu/aami/bestpractices11/date-saver.pdf>

CONFERENCE WEBSITE: For more information on the upcoming AAMI Best Practices conference, please visit the conference website at: [www.usg.edu/aami/bestpractices11/](http://www.usg.edu/aami/bestpractices11/)

GO IN-DEPTH: An in-depth article about the University System of Georgia's African-American Male Initiative (AAMI) can be accessed at: [http://www.kennesaw.edu/ur/pdf/aami\\_program.pdf](http://www.kennesaw.edu/ur/pdf/aami_program.pdf)

MORE ON AAMI: For more information on the USG'S AAMI, please visit the project's website at

<http://www.usg.edu/aami>

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# KSU Competitive Cheer Squad Claims Top Spot at National Championship



*Win marks squad's fourth national championship since 2004 To view videos of the KSU dance and...*

Georgia (Apr 14, 2011) – *Win marks squad's fourth national championship since 2004*

To view videos of the KSU dance and cheer routines, click [here](#).

KENNESAW, Ga. - (April 13, 2011) – Kennesaw State University's competitive cheer squad took home the top award in their division at the national collegiate championships last week.

The 31st annual National Cheerleaders Association and National Dance Association (NCA/NDA) Collegiate Cheer and Dance Competition brought more than 250 teams from 37 states to Daytona Beach, Fla., to compete for cheer and dance championships. KSU placed first out of nine teams vying for the All-Girl Division I championship.

The NCA/NDA reports that more than 5,000 student athletes and up to 12,000 supporters and spectators convene annually for the competition.

Volunteer coach A.J. Lawrence choreographed the winning routine. Jocilyn Yarnell, club president and a KSU senior majoring in exercise and health science, said the squad has practiced the routine since August.

"We've had several competitions before this one, but this is definitely the biggest one of the year," Yarnell said. "It's tough to even qualify, which we had to do early in the season."

KSU received a bronze bid, which provides discounts to team members to come to nationals. One of 25 KSU club sports, the competitive cheer squad provides much of its own budget.

Throughout the year, the 26 team members attend three-hour practice sessions three times each week.

"Most of us work jobs as well as go to school full-time," said Yarnell. "We have to really manage our time well."

"KSU is proud that our student-athletes can take part in a sport they enjoy, balance their academic and personal commitments and be truly competitive in a national competition like this," said Laura St. Onge, collegiate club sports director.

"This program has been around for 13 years, and it's been in the hands of many great alumnae," Yarnell said. "Our team strives to hold up the program, and we're driven by the knowledge that we're capable of winning national titles."

The team was in second place going into the finals, behind the University of New Hampshire.

"We both hit our routines, so we weren't sure how it was going to come out until we were on stage

for the awards,” Yarnell said. “We were thrilled when they announced that we’d won. It was a good, tough competition and worth all the hard work we put into it.”

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# KSU recognized as one of Atlanta's top workplaces



*State's third-largest university shares honors with 99 local employers Kennesaw State...*

Georgia (Apr 19, 2011) — *State's third-largest university shares honors with 99 local employers*

Kennesaw State University was recognized as one of Atlanta's best 100 workplaces by the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*.

KSU, the state's third-largest university, was named one of the top 20 large workplaces in the 15-county metro area, alongside companies such as Ernst & Young, Turner Broadcasting System and T-Mobile USA, in the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution's* debut edition of "Metro Atlanta's Top 100 Workplaces."

KSU scored high in professional development, human resources, work-life balance and management support, among others. Kennesaw State was the only university included in the top 100 list.

"We are proud and honored to be recognized among Atlanta's best employers," said KSU President Daniel S. Papp. "Kennesaw State not only offers students a great education, but its employees enjoy working here. We are committed to providing our 2,015 employees the best working environment."

Atlanta's top workplaces were selected based on feedback from employee surveys conducted earlier this year. More than 40,000 employees from 166 companies in the metro area participated in the survey, which was conducted by consulting firm Workplace Dynamics. Approximately 62 percent of KSU faculty and staff completed the survey.

"KSU values its employees, and we do that in so many ways, offering a variety of training initiatives, best-in-class benefits and employee-friendly programs," said Rodney Bossert, Kennesaw State's assistant vice president for human resources.

Some 495 companies were initially nominated last fall and Workplace Dynamics narrowed the list down to 166 finalists. Survey respondents graded companies on the direction of the company, execution, work conditions, career paths, management, pay and benefits as well as intangibles, according to the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*.

In referencing KSU, one employee said, "The people and work environment are exceptional. There are many opportunities for employees here."

KSU has been recognized previously as a great place to work for. Two years ago, *The Chronicle of Higher Education* featured KSU in its "2009 Great Colleges to Work for" issue. KSU was recognized among the top 10 schools in six categories: confidence in senior leadership, teaching environment, collaborative governance, professional/career development programs, physical work space conditions and post-retirement benefits.

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# Kennesaw State Names Penn State's Lewis Preston as Head Men's Basketball Coach



*National search culminates with announcement of Nittany Lion Assistant Basketball Coach For...*

Georgia (Apr 20, 2011) –

*For a downloadable photo of Coach Preston: <http://www.kennesaw.edu/ur/photos/lewis.jpg>*

KENNESAW, Ga. - (April 20, 2011) – Kennesaw State University officials have named Lewis Preston, widely regarded as one of the top assistant coaches in the country, as the Owls new Head Men's Basketball Coach. Preston, an assistant to Penn State's Ed DeChellis for the past three years, also served as an assistant to Florida's Billy Donovan when the Gators won the national championship in 2007 and was a member of Coach Mike Brey's staff at Notre Dame.

A press conference will be held in the coming weeks to formally introduce the new head men's basketball coach to the Kennesaw State campus and the local community.

"The hiring of Lewis Preston represents a new chapter in the elevation of our basketball program, and we are eagerly looking forward to the arrival of our new coach," Kennesaw State University President Daniel S. Papp said. "This appointment builds on the momentum within KSU Athletics that just keeps getting stronger."

"This is a tremendous opportunity, and I am thrilled and humbled to have been chosen by Kennesaw State," Preston said. "My focus has always been on developing my student-athletes, both athletically and academically, to their fullest potential. I can't wait to get started on hiring our assistant coaches and recruiting the additional players that will complement our current team. I am happy to be coming to KSU as it kicks its athletics program into high gear."

Preston's appointment is the first for newly named Kennesaw State Athletic Director Vaughn Williams, who was introduced to the campus at a press conference last week. Williams is slated to join KSU on May 2 from his role as associate athletic director at the University of Connecticut.

"Lewis Preston's leadership and drive to win is unsurpassed," Williams said. "He has what it takes to both motivate and inspire our players, and to fully leverage the top-notch basketball facilities he will have at his disposal. He is one of the best collegiate assistant basketball coaches around, and we are fortunate to have him on board."

Preston, who has served for the past three years as assistant coach of the Nittany Lions, earned a reputation as a strong national recruiter and developer of post players. A former player himself, the 40-year-old Preston excels in such key areas as scouting, game preparation, recruiting and on-court teaching. He has coached in the collegiate ranks for more than 10 years.

Prior to joining the Nittany Lions, Preston was an assistant coach at the University of Florida for two years. During his first year, the Gators won the second of their back-to-back national championships. He assisted in the development of eight current professional players who were All-SEC performers, and also coordinated and assisted in the recruitment of the top-ranked (Scout.com) recruiting class of 2007.

Preston also was an assistant coach at the University of Notre Dame for six years, where he was part of three National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) tournaments and three National Invitation Tournament (NIT) appearances. He also assisted in the development of six current professional players. Before joining Notre Dame, Preston was an assistant coach for two years at Coastal Carolina University.

A 1993 graduate of Virginia Military Institute, Preston was a basketball standout for the Keydets, and later played professionally in Europe for four years.

Preston will replace Tony Ingle, KSU's former head men's basketball coach, whose contract was not renewed at the end of the 2010-11 Season.

As KSU's new head coach, Preston will be charged with recruitment, coaching, budget management, purchasing equipment and uniforms, scheduling of games and practices, public relations and fundraising. In addition, he will be fully responsible for the academic achievement, retention and graduation of the team's student athletes.

For additional quotes on "What They Are Saying About Lewis Preston," go to:  
<http://www.kennesaw.edu/ur/pdf/lewis.pdf>

# # #

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# Kennesaw State to offer two new master's degrees, new bachelor's degree



*Board of Regents approves new majors in criminal justice, integrated global communication and art...*

Georgia (Apr 20, 2011) —

*Board of Regents approves new majors in criminal justice, integrated global communication and art history*

Kennesaw, Ga. (April 20, 2011)- Kennesaw State University continues to expand its degree offerings, with the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia today approving two new master's degrees, and a new bachelor's degree.

The new Master of Science in Criminal Justice, Master of Arts in Integrated Global Communication and Bachelor of Arts in Art History degree programs all will be launched this fall.

“As Kennesaw State University grows as an institution, our capacity to serve our community’s expanding needs likewise is growing,” Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs W. Ken Harmon said. “The faculty and administrators of these programs identified significant community demand for these new degrees, and we are pleased the Board of Regents supported our request to add these exciting new offerings here at KSU.”

In keeping with the university’s emphasis on global education, KSU’s new master’s programs will include a focus on internationalization. In addition, the Master of Science in Criminal Justice has an international criminal justice focus, including experiential learning through study-abroad opportunities. The program also includes a comparative criminal justice systems course and will help to recruit and prepare diverse groups for careers in criminal justice professions.

“The increased diversity in the metro area, and across the country, represents a multi-layered phenomenon that criminal justice practitioners must be able to understand and work with,” Sam Abaidoo, chair of the Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice Chair, said. “The MSCJ provides an opportunity for criminal justice practitioners to acquire the necessary knowledge and skills.”

The Master of Arts in Integrated Global Communication also will offer a study abroad opportunity and culminate with student teams competing against each other to resolve a global communications problem for a client. It will be the only graduate communication program in Georgia with a purely global focus.

“Only a handful of U.S. universities offer graduate communications programs with an international or global focus,” said Charles M. Mayo, associate professor of communication at Kennesaw State. “By offering the M.A. in Integrated Global Communication, Kennesaw State University will not only fulfill an important need in Georgia, the Southeast and the nation for communications managers

knowledgeable of the global economy, global media and global audiences, but we also will join an elite group of universities across the U.S. that have recognized this need.”

While also meeting the needs of the larger community, a grassroots effort by students is partially credited with the addition of the new Bachelor of Arts in Art History.

“This new program has been driven by popular demand from the students,” KSU Department of Visual Arts Chair Joe Thomas said. “There is a high level of interest, and we have people who are waiting for the degree to be approved.”

Supporters of the new bachelor’s degree even started their own Facebook page. The group boasts 77 members.

“The program presents new opportunities for students who are interested in art but are not necessarily artists,” Thomas said. “The degree is strong because it is interdisciplinary. All students are required to take one foreign language, and they are encouraged to take two. The program also connects to English, history and studio art. Art history majors will have access to careers in museum work, television production, publishing and the auction industry. Many art history majors may even go on to earn professional degrees in business or law.”

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# Regents Decide: Fall 2011 tuition increases by only three percent for Kennesaw State students



*University also receives \$18 million in legislative funding to construct Education Building...*

Georgia (Apr 20, 2011) –

KENNESAW, Ga. (April 19, 2011) – Tuition for Kennesaw State University students will increase by only three percent for the 2011-2012 academic year - much lower than anticipated - based on a vote by the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia at its monthly meeting today. The increase impacts all 35 colleges and universities within the USG.

KSU students will pay an additional \$69 in the upcoming academic year, for a total of \$2,367 per semester, based on full-time enrollment of 15 credit hours. The University System of Georgia's special institutional fee, implemented two years ago in the midst of state budget cuts to preserve academic quality and access, also will increase from \$165 to \$265 per semester.

Tuition, however, will not increase for students on the USG's guaranteed tuition plan, also known as "Fixed for Four."

"The Board of Regents recognizes the hardship that today's economic times have had on students and their families, and they have responded with as fair a tuition increase as possible," said KSU President Daniel S. Papp. "This measured rise in tuition and fees will enable KSU and all of Georgia's colleges and universities to continue meeting the academic needs of our students while maintaining access and affordability."

Today's tuition and fees decisions were just one part of today's agenda for the Board of Regents regarding the University System's Fiscal Year 2012 budget. According to the regents, FY12 state appropriations to the University System are \$1.74 billion, reflecting a reduction of 10.7 percent - a loss of \$208 million - from FY11 appropriations.

In addition, for the first time, USG institutions will not receive state funding for enrollment growth as part of the funding formula used by the state to fund the Board of Regents. The result of that decision is that \$177 million in FY12 funding was not part of the final budget that was allotted to the Board of Regents by the General Assembly. The absence of funds for enrollment growth, plus the USG's share of \$146 million of the state's budget reductions, and the elimination of \$23 million in federal stimulus funding means the University System's 35 colleges and universities must absorb a \$346 million funding shortfall in FY12.

At its April meeting, the BOR also approved \$18 million in bonds to fund the construction of a \$20.3 million addition to KSU's Bagwell College of Education. This 82,900-square-foot education classroom

facility will enable KSU to strengthen its leadership role in the preparation of P-12 teachers and educational leaders and accommodate future expansion of the Bagwell College due to rapid enrollment growth. Since 2007, the number of doctoral candidates enrolled in the college has doubled, and undergraduate and graduate student enrollment have increased by 64 percent.

The classroom addition project is included in the Board of Regents' capital construction budget that totals \$180.9 million, and is subject to the final approval of Gov. Nathan Deal.

In other actions, the Board of Regents also approved three new degree programs for Kennesaw State University, one at the undergraduate level, and two at the master's degree level.

Additional information on the three new degree programs may be accessed at:

<http://web.kennesaw.edu/news/stories/kennesaw-state-offer-two-new-master%E2%80%99s-degrees-new-bachelor%E2%80%99s-degree>

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# Greetings KSU, from Seongdong-gu



*A delegation of top officials and business leaders from the Seongdong-gu district of Seoul, South...*

Georgia (Apr 21, 2011) –

A delegation of top officials and business leaders from the Seongdong-gu district of Seoul, South Korea, made the rounds at KSU April 19 during a visit to strengthen partnerships with the university and Cobb County.

The delegation of 13, led by Mayor Jae Deuk Goh, met with top university officials, including President Daniel S. Papp. They also held sessions with administrators and faculty of the Institute for Global Initiatives and Bagwell College of Education, students in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences and participants and alumni of KSU's Teaching English in Korea Program.

The delegation's visit is a result of the three-year partnership KSU shares with Seongdong-gu and the Hanyang University campus located there. Both partnerships were instrumental in the success of KSU's "Year of Korea" country study during the 2009-2010 academic year. KSU has hosted groups of Hanyang students, and this summer will mark the fourth year that KSU education students have taught English in Korea. Members also met independently with officials of Cobb County, with which it shares "sister city" status.

"These partnership activities have been extremely beneficial and are expanding," said Dan Paracka, director of education abroad. "We are very pleased to welcome our guests from Seongdong-gu."

Speaking through KSU students who served as interpreters, Mayor Goh, gave students in professor Heeman Kim's intercultural communication class a prepared lesson in Korean history, civics, economy and culture, complete with diagrams and PowerPoint slides.

"Soengdong-gu is small, but so are Koreans; we don't need much space,"

Goh said during an extensive comparison of his 6.5 square-mile-district of 310,000 people to Cobb County's 344.1 square-mile area with more than 700,000.

Goh also described government responsibilities at the local, state and national levels with regards to budget, education, health, police and other public services. During a rigorous Q&A, students got responses to questions about transportation, taxes, business, access to and attitudes about education, living conditions, healthcare and programs to protect the environment.

Jinny Kim, a KSU graduate who majored in education, and Eunkyung Park, a junior international business major, escorted the delegation during the visit and translated for members.

Other members of the delegation included Hee So Eun, bureau director; Hwan Chang Shin, secretary to the mayor; Ki Ho Na, team manager; So Jung Jun, visit coordinator; Jong Wook Yoon, Seongdong-gu council chairman; Hwa Mok Kim, council representative; Chang Kwan Kim, head of the district's office of education; Sangwon Lee, Duksoo High School principal; Sangdon Shim, CEO of Starkey Korea; Yisuk Park, CEO of Dongnam Motors; and Jeongwoo Lee, CEO of Vitzrosys.

-- Sabbaye McGriff

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# KSU men's golf captures Atlantic-Sun Championship



*BRASELTON, Ga. - Kennesaw State ended all three rounds of the 2011 Atlantic Sun Men's Golf...*

Georgia (Apr 21, 2011) — BRASELTON, Ga. - Kennesaw State ended all three rounds of the 2011 Atlantic Sun Men's Golf Championship with the lead and on Wednesday afternoon earned its first championship in school history winning by nine shots. The Owls' Jeff Karlsson fired a three-day total of six-under-par, 207, to earn the individual medalist honor.

The Owls posted a 54-hole score of (280-283-282/845, -7) to finish as the only team under-par besting second place UNF (854, +2) by nine-strokes. Campbell concluded just one-stroke behind UNF carding a (855, +3). Kennesaw State's 845 total tied the conference's all-time scoring record. UCF, in 2004, and Jacksonville, in 2006, matched the Owls three-day total.

"We knew what we had to do coming in to today's round," head coach Jay Moseley said. "We played the same we have all year and all week and our best was unbeatable. Our goals were set high and it's special to achieve them and I am proud to be taking the trophy home to Kennesaw."

Beyond Karlsson, the individual race ended with a tight finish as a quartet of individuals tied for second including Karlsson's teammate Matt Nagy, Matt Moot of Campbell, Kevin Phelan of UNF and Hans Reimers of Mercer. These five made up the All-Tournament team. Karlsson's win gives the junior his third individual title of the season.

"We have been wanting this all year," Karlsson said. "We played our best and no one could catch us. We have been through this before with our previous wins this year and we were well prepared."

Sophomore Ben Greene and freshman Jonathan Klotz each tied for 21st finishing with a (218, +5) while senior Chad Wilson in his last A-Sun Championship posted a (219, +6) to finish tied for 28th.

Mercer finished in fourth place (860, +8) just ahead of 2010 A-Sun Champions ETSU (861, +9). The Bears matched the lowest third-round score in A-Sun history with a 7-under-par 277, tying the score shot by Jacksonville en route to the 2006 crown.

Defending champion ETSU improved for the second-straight round, shooting a 2-under 282 to take fifth. The Buccaneers' Patrick Spraggs shot the low round of the day, a 4-under 67 to jump into a tie for 10th. FGCU and USC Upstate shared sixth, with Belmont Jacksonville, Stetson and Lipscomb rounding out the field.

The Owls next challenge will be the NCAA Regional's May 19-21. For more updates on the Owls postseason play visit [www.ksuowls.com](http://www.ksuowls.com).

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# Freedom Rider shares his Civil Rights-era experiences

by Marcus E. Howard [mhoward@mdjonline.com](mailto:mhoward@mdjonline.com) KENNESAW - Nearly 50 years ago, Dr. Bernard...

Georgia (Apr 25, 2011) —

## Link To Article

[http://mdjonline.com/view/full\\_story/12900576/article-Freedom-Rider-shares-his-Civil-Rights-era-experiences?instance=lead\\_story\\_left\\_column](http://mdjonline.com/view/full_story/12900576/article-Freedom-Rider-shares-his-Civil-Rights-era-experiences?instance=lead_story_left_column)

by Marcus E. Howard  
[mhoward@mdjonline.com](mailto:mhoward@mdjonline.com)

KENNESAW - Nearly 50 years ago, Dr. Bernard Lafayette Jr. became a part of history when he and other people set out to defy Jim Crow laws in the Deep South.

On Friday, Lafayette spoke at Kennesaw State University about his experiences as an original member of the Freedom Riders, a biracial group of mostly young people who risked their lives by riding buses to test and challenge segregated interstate travel facilities, after the U.S. Supreme Court outlawed such.

At 9 p.m. May 16, a documentary that tells the inspirational and powerful story of the May 1961 bus rides, titled "Freedom Riders," will air nationally on PBS.

Before Lafayette spoke, KSU students and other guests received a sneak preview of the film that was hosted by the university's Center for the Study of the Civil War Era. Guests included Stan Bond, Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park superintendent, and Cobb NAACP President Deane Bonner. ...

Brian Wills, director of the KSU Center for the Study of the Civil War Era, said the story of the Freedom Rides fit into the mission of the center.

"Part of what we've been interested in trying to examine, are the causes of the war and some of those things that lead up to the war, the war itself, and then those things that come out as a result of the war," said Wills.

Read more: [The Marietta Daily Journal - Freedom Rider shares his Civil Rights era experiences](#)

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# Lewis Preston Introduced as Owls Head Men's Basketball Coach



*To watch the press conference, [click here](#). [Click here](#) for a photo gallery from today's press...*

Georgia (Apr 26, 2011) – *To watch the press conference, [click here](#).*

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*Click [here](#) for Lewis Preston's bio.*

*Click [here](#) for facts about Lewis Preston.*

KENNESAW, Ga. (April 26, 2011) - In front of a large crowd on the floor of the KSU Convocation Center on Tuesday morning, Kennesaw State Athletic Director Vaughn Williams formally introduced Lewis Preston, the fourth head men's basketball coach in program history.

Flanked on the podium by Williams, KSU President Dr. Daniel Papp and Senior Associate Athletic Director Scott Whitlock, Preston expressed his excitement of getting the opportunity to be a head coach for the first time in his career. He comes to Kennesaw after having been an assistant most recently at Penn State, and prior to that at Florida, Notre Dame and Coastal Carolina.

"Not many people have the opportunity to do what they truly love for a living, especially for as long as I have," said Preston, who was a standout player at Virginia Military Institute prior to embarking on his coaching career. "This is not a job to me, this is an avocation. I enjoy the hard work that we will need to put in every day here, and I'm confident that we can reach our goal of winning championships."

Preston has been accustomed to success throughout his career as an assistant coach, having been part of staffs that have won NCAA and NIT championships, at Florida and Penn State respectively, and has coached in a total of five NCAA Tournaments. He made it clear to those in attendance that there is no question that similar triumphs can be obtained at Kennesaw State. With the current Owls roster in attendance, he spoke directly to them as well as the crowd, expressing his belief that with hard work comes success, but that there are no shortcuts.

"I want to make sure we all realize that we will all work very, very, hard as a team to get to where we want to go," said Preston, who was accompanied at the press conference by his wife, Angela, with who he has two daughters. "All of our players will have to understand that we are on a journey, and that there will be some difficult days and some bumps in the road, but when we're cutting down nets, we will know why we worked as hard we did."

The hiring of Coach Preston was the culmination of a nationwide search that encompassed several weeks, and was conducted by a search committee headed by Senior Associate Athletic Director Scott Whitlock. The opening attracted many qualified candidates, but in the end, said Williams, the choice was clear.

"After the comprehensive search that our committee conducted, Coach Preston was a choice that everyone is excited about," Williams said. "We're very pleased that he has decided to take this on

the opportunity and become a part of the Kennesaw State family.”

As someone who is new to the area, Preston understands that it will be extremely important to focus recruiting efforts in the Atlanta area, one of the top areas in the country for high school basketball talent.

“This area is a real hotbed for talent, and it will be important for myself and my staff to understand that and take advantage of that,” said Preston, who hails from Boones Mill, Va. “Beyond that, it will also be extremely important to set our sights all across the south, into the Carolinas and beyond. This is a great place to be when it comes to building a program.”

Preston knows a thing or two about coaching top talent, as he coached four All-Americans in Florida’s Joakim Noah, Al Horford, Taurean Green and Corey Brewer, four of the nine future NBA players he has coached during his career. He has coached a total of 19 all-conference selections during his four stops along his journey to Kennesaw.

Also significant, he coached Lee Humphrey, who was not only an essential part of Florida’s national championship in 2007, but was also an Academic All-American honoree that season. For Preston, the academic performance of his student athletes will be of the utmost importance.

“Starting today, I will hold very high expectations for our student-athletes in how they perform in the classroom. They will be expected to take academics very seriously, and they will be held accountable for their performance,” he said.

Coach Preston steps in for Tony Ingle, who was at the helm of the Owls program for 11 seasons.

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# Meet KSU's New Basketball Coach



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Coach Preston steps in for Tony Ingle, who was at the helm of the Owls program for 11 seasons.

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# Deal raising money for re-election

By Larry Peterson Signaling that he'll seek re-election in 2014, Gov. Nathan Deal has...

Georgia (Apr 27, 2011) —

## Publication

## Link To Article

<http://savannahnow.com/news/2011-04-26/deal-raising-money-re-election>

By [Larry Peterson](#)

Signaling that he'll seek re-election in 2014, Gov. Nathan Deal has scheduled a \$1,000-per-person luncheon for May 10 in Atlanta.

"He has every intention of running again," said spokesman Brian Robinson, adding that the event will be Deal's first fundraiser since he was sworn in Jan. 10.

Late in January, Deal declined to speculate on any possible plans for 2014, saying his immediate goal was "to do the best job I can." .....

"If you raise a lot of money early," Swint said, "You sometimes can scare away potential opponents." .....

Under state law, Deal was barred from raising money during the session of the General Assembly, which began on Jan. 10 and ended April 14.

Kennesaw State University political science professor Kerwin Swint said it's not rare for a new officeholder to start raising money early in his term.

"If you raise a lot of money early," Swint said, "You sometimes can scare away potential opponents." ...

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# Elke Leeds



*Elke Leeds is an associate professor of information systems at the Coles College of Business and...*  
Georgia (Apr 28, 2011) — Elke Leeds is an associate professor of information systems at the Coles College of Business and currently serves as interim executive director of KSU's Distance Learning Center.

## [Link To Website](#)

Leeds is on the faculty of the Coles College of Business and teaches in the MBA, Executive MBA and the Georgia Web MBA programs. She has published research papers in various respected information systems journals, including *INFORMS Transactions on Education*, the *International Journal of Information and Communication Technology* and the *International Journal of Applied Management and Technology*. Leeds' research interests include technology acceptance and fit, ethics in IT, communication technology, and online student retention and success.

She is a visiting professor at Anhalt University of Applied Sciences in Bernburg, Germany, and at Romania's Institute for Business Administration in Bucharest.

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# Georgia manufacturing index records third consecutive month above 60



*Georgia PMI dips slightly to 67.4 even as new orders increase KENNESAW, Ga. (May 2, 2011)...*

*Georgia (May 2, 2011) — Georgia PMI dips slightly to 67.4 even as new orders increase*

KENNESAW, Ga. (May 2, 2011) — Manufacturing activity in Georgia remained strong and stable in April, according to the Econometric Center at Kennesaw State University's Coles College of Business.

Georgia's Purchasing Managers Index (PMI) — a reading of economic activity in the state's manufacturing sector — for April was 67.4, down 0.2 point from March's level of 67.6. Despite the dip, the latest reading reveals that more manufacturers continue to experience growth. Fifty-two percent of survey respondents saw higher new orders, while only 3 percent saw a decline. Forty-five percent of respondents reported increased hiring.

Georgia's PMI for April is 7 points higher than its national counterpart, which recorded 60.4.

"Growth remains strong and solid for Georgia manufacturers," said Don Sabbarese, professor of economics and director of the Econometric Center at the Coles College of Business. "We are now into three consecutive months of 60-plus readings, and this confirms a distinct and broad-based improvement in manufacturing activity."

New orders were up by 4.5 points, to 74.2, the highest level in 11 months.

Highlights of the April PMI include:

- Production was down by 1.6 points, to 74.2
- Hiring was down 0.3 point, to 69.4
- Commodity prices decreased 5.4 points, to 85.5. The lower commodity price reading of 85.5 is the first decrease in 2011
- Finished inventory increased 0.7 point, to 61.3
- Supplier delivery time decreased 4.1 points, to 58.1

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 it is contracting.

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 does not go into the PMI calculation.

The PMI, compiled from a monthly survey of manufacturers, is the earliest indicator of market conditions in the sector. Since manufacturing — which accounts for 11 percent of GDP — is sensitive to changes in the economy, it can also reveal changing macroeconomic trends.

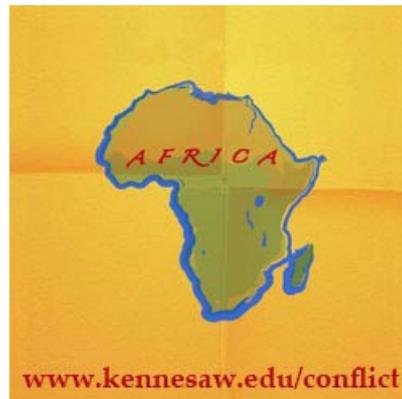
The PMI's value is in its timeliness and sensitivity to variables such as interest rates, global markets and other economic changes. The Georgia PMI provides valuable data used by institutions such as the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta to assist in their analysis of current economic conditions, along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

For a full report of the April PMI, or to speak with professor Sabbarese, please call 770- 423-6094.

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# KSU symposium to examine election conflicts in Africa's newest democracies



*Participants to discuss orderly political transitions in wake of upheavals in Tunisia, Egypt, Libya...*

Georgia (May 2, 2011) – *Participants to discuss orderly political transitions in wake of upheavals in Tunisia, Egypt, Libya and Ivory Coast*

KENNESAW, Ga. (May 2, 2011) – African diplomats, international electioneers, pro-democracy advocates and conflict management scholars will convene May 13 at Kennesaw State University to gauge where some of the hot spots will be as some 40 elections take place in at least 25 African countries this year.

The symposium will explore managing election and post-election conflicts similar to the recent violence that erupted from stalemate between Ivory Coast's 10-year presidential incumbent and its newly-elected leader.

What:

Kennesaw State's Center for Conflict Management will host an all-day symposium titled "Managing Conflicts in Africa's Democratic Transitions." The symposium is free and open to the public, but registration is encouraged. Lunch and dinner can be reserved for \$15 and \$30 at [https://epay.kennesaw.edu/C20923\\_ustores/web/product\\_detail.jsp?PRODUCTID=976](https://epay.kennesaw.edu/C20923_ustores/web/product_detail.jsp?PRODUCTID=976)

Who:

Among the featured speakers and participants:

- Attahiru Jega, chairman, Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC), Nigeria (dinner keynote speaker)
- Neneh MacDouall-Gaye, Gambia's former ambassador to the U.S.
- Hrair Balian, director, conflict resolution, Carter Center
- Ilona Tip, acting director, Electoral Institute for the Sustainability of Democracy in Africa
- Professor Abdul Karim Bangura, professor of political science, Howard University (lunch keynote speaker)
- More than 20 Africa and conflict management scholars, practitioners and activists from KSU, Ohio State, London's King's College, Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College, the Carter Center, the United States Institute for Peace, the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping and Training Center, Campaign for Democracy and Women Arise.

When and Where:

Friday, May 13, from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. in the Social Sciences Building (#22 ) on the KSU campus, 1000 Chastain Rd, Kennesaw, Ga., 30144. Register and view a full symposium schedule at <http://www.kennesaw.edu/conflict/ElectionConflicts.html>

###

This symposium is co-sponsored by KSU's College of Humanities and Social Sciences and the Center for African and African Diaspora Studies.

Kennesaw State University is the third largest university in Georgia, offering more than 70 graduate and undergraduate degrees, including doctorates in education, business and nursing, and a new Ph.D. in international conflict management. A member of the 35-unit University System of Georgia, Kennesaw State is a comprehensive, residential institution with a growing population of more than 23,400 students from 142 countries.

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# About KSU

*The following resources provide background information on Kennesaw State University: Kennesaw...*

Georgia (May 3, 2011) —

- [KSUFactSheet2015.pdf](#)

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# Atlanta Mayor Kasim Reed and other local officials to address graduates



*First alum of KSU's Academy for Inclusive Adult Education among more than 2,200 graduating...*

Georgia (May 3, 2011) – MEDIA:

*First alum of KSU's Academy for Inclusive Adult Education among more than 2,200 graduating this spring*

KENNESAW, Ga. (May 3, 2011) –Atlanta Mayor Kasim Reed is one of the scheduled speakers who will address graduates as Kennesaw State University confers 2,229 degrees in five ceremonies during spring commencement exercises next week.

Among the graduates will be Kelsey Bizzell and Chris Hunnicutt, the first alum of Kennesaw State's Academy for Inclusive Adult Education. The academy is a unique two-year certificate program designed to provide students with developmental disabilities a college experience. The academy is part of the WellStar College of Health and Human Services.

## WHO/WHEN:

Commencement speakers are:

Bill Bolling, founder and executive director, Atlanta Community Food Bank  
WellStar College of Health and Human Services and College of Science & Mathematics  
Tuesday, May 10, 10 a.m.

Click [here](#) for bio. Click [here](#) for photo.

Tim Lee, chairman, Cobb County Board of Commissioners  
Bagwell College of Education, College of the Arts and University College  
Tuesday, May 10, 3 p.m.

Click [here](#) for bio. Click [here](#) for photo.

David Connell, president and CEO of the Cobb Chamber of Commerce  
Graduate College  
Tuesday, May 10, 7 p.m.

Click [here](#) for bio. Click [here](#) for photo.

Kasim Reed, mayor of Atlanta  
College of Humanities and Social Sciences

Wednesday, May 11, 10 a.m.

Click [here](#) for bio. Click [here](#) for photo.

Mark Wilson, founder and former CEO of Ryla, Inc.

Coles College of Business

Wednesday, May 11, 3 p.m.

Click [here](#) for bio. Click [here](#) for photo.

**WHERE:**

The Convocation Center on the KSU campus, 1000 Chastain Rd., Kennesaw, Ga.

*Please park in the KSU East Parking Deck located adjacent to the Convocation Center. Click [here](#) for a campus map.*

*Please R.S.V.P. to Jennifer Hafer, 770/423-6711 or [jhafer@kennesaw.edu](mailto:jhafer@kennesaw.edu).*

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Kennesaw State University is the third-largest university in Georgia, offering more than 70 graduate and undergraduate degrees, including new doctorates in education, business and nursing, and a new Ph.D. in international conflict management. A member of the 35-unit University System of Georgia, Kennesaw State is a comprehensive, residential institution with a growing population of more than 23,400 students from 142 countries.

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# Preston wants to build KSU hoops the right way

By Doug Roberson The Atlanta Journal-Constitution 2:44 p.m. Tuesday, May 3, 2011 New Kennesaw...

Georgia (May 4, 2011) — By [Doug Roberson](#)

## Publication

## Link To Article

<http://www.ajc.com/sports/preston-wants-to-build-933672.html?printArticle=y>

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

2:44 p.m. Tuesday, May 3, 2011

New Kennesaw State basketball coach Lewis Preston is focused on bringing more integrity to the Owls program. He said he wants recruits with character, assistant coaches with good work ethics and the players he has inherited to understand that his plan for success doesn't come with shortcuts.

There is work to do, which started when Preston officially showed up for his first day on Monday.

The program is coming off an 8-23 season and expects the NCAA later this summer to take away scholarships and practice time for the 2011-12 season because of the team's poor academic performance.

The circumstances don't intimidate Preston. He points to his father, who worked three jobs, including a 40-hour-per-week occupation as a crane operator in a steel mill in Virginia, as evidence that he's also not one to shy away from challenges.

"There's nothing as humbling as working in a steel mill or cleaning offices to make you understand the value of what you want out of life," he said.

Click [here](#) for the AJC's Q&A with Lewis Preston.

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# China's growing economic footprint - Op Ed

*By Ashok K. Roy Major structural shifts continue to unfold and reverberate in the global economy....*

Georgia (May 5, 2011) –

## Link To Article

[http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/usa/opinion/2011-05/05/content\\_12452943.htm](http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/usa/opinion/2011-05/05/content_12452943.htm)

By Ashok K. Roy

Major structural shifts continue to unfold and reverberate in the global economy. One of these shifts, seismic in nature and proportion, is the increase of China's influence on industries across the globe and on the global supply chains.

China is characterized by an array of languages and ethnicities, low ratio of arable land, rising income inequality. In spite of these challenges, within the span of forty years, by compressing development time, China has become a global economic superpower from a poor economy.

The pace of China's economic rise, which causes the rest of the world to gasp in awe, is without precedent in modern history. One of the things I find so unusual is that China has moved from a fairly egalitarian society to a capitalist society-----all within one generation.

If I reduce the grand sweep of China's rise to a granular level, I would attribute its rise to timely execution of sound public policy by the Chinese government. Execution of sound public policy is vital in any nation's progress. In 1965, Jamaica and Singapore had the same wealth. Look at their economic difference today. China's quantum leap over the past three decades is no less noteworthy.

As I observed in my article titled "[A Journey of Wonder in China](#)" in the China Daily of June 18, 2010, I saw the components of good economic order everywhere I travelled in China. Stanford University's Francis Fukuyama argues in his new book that the strong state, which is at the core of China's strategic public policies, started with the Qin dynasty in 221 BC and continued to the Han state.

China's economic superpower status can be seen simply by considering these impressive achievements: it is the world's largest exporter, the world's second largest importer, has the world's largest trade and current account surplus, has the world's biggest flow of savings, is the world's second largest economy, is the world's fourth largest filer of patent applications, the world's largest automobile producer, and the world's largest consumer of cars. The list goes on and on.

One of the most interesting facts in geopolitics today is that China has demonstrated that a nation can become a global economic superpower without becoming a global military superpower. Paul Kennedy and Oswald Spengler have theorized that nations have a trajectory of rise and fall stemming from economic and military over-reach, the classic examples being Rome, Spain, France and Great Britain.

In similar fashion, I have found that China thinks strategically and not just tactically. China, which is already a world leader in high-speed railways, is now expanding its railway system across its borders into Thailand, Laos, and Vietnam.

Angel Guerria of the OECD has observed that China is the "perfect fit" for Latin America where China has made \$65 billion in deals across the region since 2010, as well as surpassing the United States as Brazil's largest trading partner.

With over \$3 trillion in foreign reserves, China has latitude in what it wants to do. Beijing holds \$1.6 trillion of US debt. The Asian economic tailwind contributes to Pan-Asian economic integration which, in turn, will transform the Pacific Rim's current strategic regional order by shifting Australia's alliances, trade and multilateral institutions.

Let me end where I should have begun. It should be remembered that although Asia today has the world's most dynamic economies producing the most sustained economic boom in modern history, there is not a single entity that wields power and has wide disparities in per capita GDP.

There is no doubt that, in the Asian drama, the gravitational pull of Zhongguo (the Mandarin name for China) is shaking and even shaping the world economy.

*The author is an assistant vice President for financial services/CFO & associate professor of Asian studies in the Kennesaw State University, the United States*

*The opinion expressed reflects that of the author only.*

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# Kennesaw State University symposium on trade with Asia

*“China has to improve its governance in order to sustain its economic growth in the world;...*

Georgia (May 6, 2011) — “China has to improve its governance in order to sustain its economic growth in the world; otherwise it will become stagnant in the future,” said Dr. Ilan Alon, Cornell Chair of International Business at Rollins College, FL, and author of 24 books on China.

## Publication

## Link To Article

[http://www.khabar.com/magazine/around-town/Kennesaw\\_State\\_University\\_and\\_South\\_Asians\\_in\\_GA](http://www.khabar.com/magazine/around-town/Kennesaw_State_University_and_South_Asians_in_GA)

China has transformed from a Communist backwater into a rising industrial tiger along with India, Dr. Alon added, as he spoke to a 200-odd audience in the Symposium on Asia-USA Partnership Opportunities (SAUPO), organized by Kennesaw State University and held at the W Atlanta-Midtown Hotel on April 8, 2011.

The dialogue between diplomats, policymakers, corporate managers, nonprofit practitioners and scholars included economic, social and cultural insights for strengthening trade between the USA and Asia, especially China, India, South Korea and Japan.

Click [here](#) to read the full article.

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# First Class



*Academy for Inclusive Adult Education graduates first alumni It was a typical graduation scene:...*

Georgia (May 13, 2011) –

*Academy for Inclusive Adult Education graduates first alumni*

It was a typical graduation scene: friends and family were gathered; diplomas were conferred; congratulations were offered; and lots of photographs of the new graduates were taken. There were even a few tears.

But this wasn't your typical college commencement. On May 10, Kelsey Bizzell and Chris Hunnicutt became the first alumni of Kennesaw State University's Academy for Inclusive Adult Education.

The academy offers a unique two-year certificate program designed to provide students with developmental disabilities a college experience. The academy is part of the WellStar College of Health and Human Services.

"We're the only university in the state of Georgia to give young adults with developmental disabilities the opportunity to have a college experience," said WellStar College of Health and Human Services Dean Richard Sowell. "Here at Kennesaw State we are focused on inclusion as part of the university's mission, so the academy is a natural extension of what KSU is all about."

Bizzell's mom, Kimberly Tilford, expressed her gratitude for the academy and praised the university's spirit of inclusiveness.

"We have watched Kelsey's immense growth as a young adult under the guidance of many awesome KSU people," Tilford said. "Specifically, (program director) Harry Stern and (program coordinator) Jill Sloan are absolutely amazing in their daily plight. Truly, everyone that has worked with Kelsey has been a positive influence. Our heartfelt thanks are extended to the excellent professors, the Bursar's office, the unsurpassed bookstore staff, the friendly Commons staff, the smiling parking lot attendants, and anyone who took the time to be kind and encouraging to our daughter as she has walked the KSU campus these last two years. It is refreshing to know people at KSU are choosing to see the possibilities and minimize any perceived disabilities."

Program coordinator Sloan said Bizzell and Hunnicutt each brought different talents to the university. Bizzell was an "exemplary scholar," she said, while Hunnicutt's gregarious personality helped raise the visibility of the program.

"I am very, very proud of you," she told the new graduates. "You are so brave to be the leaders in offering something that has never been offered before."

Bizzell and Hunnicutt were part of the academy's original three-student cohort, arriving on campus in fall 2009. The program has been so successful that three additional students will be enrolled in the academy this fall, and a future collaboration with Georgia State University and the University of Georgia will create a consortium dedicated to replicating the program throughout the University System of Georgia's 35 colleges and universities.

Plans call for enrolling 25 students in the academy by 2012, and that's welcome news to Karla Wade, the transition specialist for Cobb County Schools.

"This program has been a long time in coming," Wade said. "This is a huge accomplishment, not just for these two students, but for all students with developmental disabilities in Georgia who want a

post-secondary education, and until today, those doors have been closed.”

Of the 800 special-education students statewide, Wade estimates there are 250 potential academy students in Georgia alone.

*By Jennifer Hafer*

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# Civil War's echoes still resound in U.S

Andrew Hunt Sat May 14 2011

Anniversaries mean a lot to...

Georgia (May 16, 2011) –

## Link To Article

<http://www.guelphmercury.com/opinion/columns/article/530079--civil-war-s-echoes-still-resound-in-u-s>

- Andrew Hunt
- Sat May 14 2011
- 

Anniversaries mean a lot to our neighbours south of the border. Every time the anniversary of a significant event rolls around – be it the 100th, 50th, 25th or 10th – some sort of commemoration occurs in the United States.

The Civil War, an event that looms large in American history, is now celebrating its 150th anniversary. For the next several years, you can expect plenty of commemorations, re-enactments, books, documentaries, auctions of Civil War-themed collector's items and new interpretations of a bloody conflict that, more than any other war in the nation's history, has defined modern America.

The war's sesquicentennial officially kicked off last month at Fort Sumter, in the harbour of Charleston, S.C. On April 12, re-enactors dressed in Confederate grey and Union blue met at the island fortress to mark the event that triggered the war, when Confederate batteries opened fire at 4:30 a.m. on weary Union soldiers who'd been occupying the half-constructed federal fortification for months. ...

Over the course of the next four years, hundreds of thousands perished in this seething meat grinder of a war. The figure most often cited is 620,000, with some claims reaching as high as 700,000. Whatever numbers one chooses to accept, the figures exceed the combined death tolls from all other American wars from the Revolution to the Vietnam War.

But the war's significance goes far beyond the devastation it wrought. Today, 150 years later, it's still a source of fascination, not only in the United States, but elsewhere as well. ...

It is hyperbole to insist the Civil War is still going on. Current divisions pale compared to those that drove ordinary Americans to take up arms against each other a century and a half ago.

Still, unresolved tensions persist. Mike Martinez, political science professor at Kennesaw State University in Georgia, aptly noted: "The difficulties with the American system are we're not all one thing and we're trying to balance two competing values - liberty versus equality - and they're antithetical values. (Historian) Shelby Foote once said the genius of America is our ability to compromise, and the Civil War is the one time in history when that spirit of compromise broke down and two per cent of the population was killed as a result." ...

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# KSU receives NEA grant for production of "Splittin' the Raft"



*For media inquiries: Cheryl Anderson Brown, Director of Public Relations, 770-499-3417 or [cbrown@...](mailto:cbrown@kennesaw.edu)*

Georgia (May 17, 2011) —

For media inquiries: Cheryl Anderson Brown, Director of Public Relations, 770-499-3417 or [cbrown@kennesaw.edu](mailto:cbrown@kennesaw.edu)

KENNESAW, Ga.— The [National Endowment for the Arts](#) recently awarded the Kennesaw State University [Department of Theatre, Performance Studies & Dance](#) with the Arts Education in American Communities grant in support of the upcoming production of the play "Splittin' the Raft." This new theatre production fulfills KSU President Daniel S. Papp's call for "The Engaged University."

After a six-night run in the Black Box Theater at KSU, Sept. 20-25, the production will travel to be performed at various community arts organizations and schools, including The Cultural Arts Council of Douglasville in Douglas County, The Arts Association in Newton County, The Earl Smith Strand Theatre in Marietta and various high schools in North Georgia.

"This project is exemplary in its community engagement," says John Gentile, chair of the department. "It brings a canonical work of American literature and a thoughtful consideration of contemporary social issues involving diversity to today's students in the greater Atlanta community."

Written by Scott Kaiser, "Splittin' the Raft" is a dramatic adaptation of the Mark Twain classic "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn" as seen through the eyes of the great orator and abolitionist Frederick Douglass. The play, featuring African-American spirituals and songs by Stephen Foster, will be directed by Associate Professor [Harrison Long](#). "I'm very excited," Long explains. "We have an amazing cast which reflects the range and diversity of our talented student body. It's amazing to see the quality of our students and how they have grown in recent years." Rehearsals, which will feature five to seven performers playing a total of more than 30 characters, will begin in July.

To prepare students and audience members for the play, a web site will be created with an electronic curriculum guide, historical information, biographies, photographs and journal entries documenting the rehearsal process. Audience members and workshop participants will be encouraged to post comments before and after each performance. In addition, the performers and the director will conduct a 20-minute discussion following each performance.

Long served as primary writer of the grant with assistance from Associate Professor [Dean Adams](#). Long says that the pre- and post-production activities are important because they will help the audience grasp the theme behind the production, particularly in light of the recent controversy surrounding the use of derogatory language in the novel. "It's important that the students understand the social, historical and literary contexts of this material. Both Twain's text and Kaiser's adaptation foreground the social injustice of 19th-century America. We don't want to hide from the atrocities of the past or pretend they didn't happen. Instead, we intend to examine these events critically and, in the process, learn something valuable about the current age."

# # #

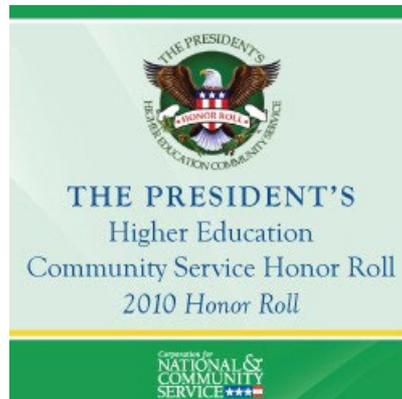
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*The KSU College of the Arts is one of only four Georgia institutions to have achieved full national accreditation for all of its arts departments.*

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# Kennesaw State University named to national community service honor roll



*President's Higher Education Community Service award recognizes Volunteer KSU for second...*

*Georgia (May 23, 2011) — President's Higher Education Community Service award recognizes Volunteer KSU for second consecutive year*

KENNESAW, Ga. (May 17, 2011) — For the second consecutive year, Kennesaw State University has been named to the 2010 President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll by the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS), which has recognized KSU as a leader among institutions of higher education for its support of volunteering, service-learning and civic engagement.

Kennesaw State is one of 641 colleges and universities named to the 2010 honor roll. Honorees are chosen based on a series of selection factors, including the scope and innovation of service projects, the extent to which service-learning is embedded in the curriculum, the school's commitment to long-term campus-community partnerships and measurable community outcomes as a result of the service.

"We are honored to receive this recognition. Community service and civic engagement are at the core of a Kennesaw State education," said Jerome Ratchford, Kennesaw State vice president for student success. "Through our curriculum-based projects, student organizations and the efforts of Volunteer KSU, our students are learning how to be successful leaders committed to building and strengthening the communities they serve."

During the 2009-2010 academic year, over 900 KSU students volunteered more than 15,200 hours at 230 different on and off-campus agencies and programs.

Volunteer KSU (VKSU), a campus-based volunteer service center matching KSU volunteers' interests with community needs, coordinates with more than 300 organizations in the community. Partnering with various university colleges and departments, VKSU encourages students to learn and serve through individual volunteer placements and group service projects.

"Congratulations to Kennesaw State University and its students for their dedication to service and commitment to improving their local communities," said Patrick A. Corvington, chief executive officer of CNCS. "We salute all the Honor Roll awardees for embracing their civic mission and providing opportunities for their students to tackle tough national challenges through service."

The Corporation for National and Community Service oversees the Honor Roll in collaboration with the U.S. Departments of Education and Housing and Urban Development, Campus Compact, and the American Council on Education. Honorees are chosen based on a series of selection factors, including the scope and innovation of service projects, the extent to which service-learning is embedded in the curriculum, the school's commitment to long-term campus-community partnerships, and measurable community outcomes as a result of the service. For a full list of recipients and descriptions of their

service, visit [www.NationalService.gov/HonorRoll](http://www.NationalService.gov/HonorRoll).

# # #

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# Kennesaw State students take top state honors for experiential learning



*Award recognizes excellent work habits, high academic performance and good citizenship KENNESAW, Ga...*

*Georgia (May 24, 2011) – Award recognizes excellent work habits, high academic performance and good citizenship*

KENNESAW, Ga. (May 24, 2011) – Two Kennesaw State University students were recently recognized by the Georgia Association of Colleges and Employers (GACE) for doing an outstanding job at internships during the 2010 -2011 academic year.

Terrence Young and Randy Fussell each received \$250 for the Jack Mangham Experiential Learning Award in business and engineering/technology, respectively.

“This is the first time two KSU students have won the award in the same year,” said Lori Trahan, KSU’s assistant director of career services. “It’s very unusual for two students from the same school to win in the same year, and it’s been several years since the last KSU student won, so this is very exciting. ”

GACE presents the awards annually to students in experiential learning programs. The award is given to four students in each of the following categories: business, education, arts and sciences and engineering/technology. The organization receives nominations for the Jack Mangham award from every college in the state, which are reviewed by a panel.

Young did his internship with the KSU Career Services Center, where he worked with students in the Coles College of Business through Iota Chi Epsilon, a student organization focused on internships and co-op experiences.

“Terrence is simply a change-master,” his boss, Experiential Education Associate Kathy Hallmark, wrote in his nomination. “He changes people, organizations and cultures due to his commitment to improving the lives of others. He works tirelessly to aid in the growth of everyone he encounters. Students, faculty, staff and employers are drawn to him. He is a natural leader and a natural community builder.”

Fussell’s internship was in IT with Home Depot. After completing his internship, Fussell was offered a full-time position following his May graduation.

“Through this internship, I learned exactly what I would like to be doing when I graduate (mobile web development),” Fussell wrote in a required essay. “I also made myself a career roadmap spanning the next five to 10 years. This experience has not only driven my academic advancement, but opened opportunities for me due to my professional - and meaningful - experience as an intern.”

Jack Mangham worked for the Central Intelligence Agency in Washington, D.C., before transferring to

Atlanta. He retired from the agency in 1973 and began working with Georgia Power Company, first with recruiting, then becoming the coordinator for their large, centralized co-op program. In 1986, Mangham began another career as assistant director of the Cooperative Education Division at Georgia Tech, administering one of the largest centralized co-op programs in the country. GACE presents the Jack Mangham Award to students in experiential learning programs in recognition of Mangham's commitment to students and support of co-ops and internships.

# # #

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# Coles College professor Charles Hofer retires

*After four years teaching at KSU's...*

Georgia (May 25, 2011) — After four years teaching at KSU's Coles College of Business, Regents Professor of Strategy & Entrepreneurship Charles W. Hofer is retiring at the end of the 2010-2011 academic year.

Hofer, an award-winning professor who came to KSU in 2007 after teaching at the University of Georgia for 27 years, is known around the world as one of the pioneers in the academic fields of strategic management and entrepreneurship. He taught entrepreneurship and strategic management for four decades, with stints also at Northwestern, Stanford, Columbia and New York University, and won many awards for his scholarship and teaching.

During his short tenure at KSU, Hofer, who has a DBA and an MBA from the Harvard Business School, restructured the MBA program in entrepreneurship, earning accolades for the university. He is credited with revitalizing the entrepreneurship program at the Coles College of Business and with preparing student teams to participate in national business-plan competitions.

"It has been an honor to have Chuck Hofer on our faculty for the past four years," says Kathy Schwaig, interim dean of the Coles College of Business. "He led the effort to restructure our entrepreneurship curriculum at the graduate level and he moved the Georgia Bowl® Competition, the third oldest business-plan competition in the world, to KSU from UGA. Without a doubt, Chuck has helped solidify the Coles College's position as a national leader in the field of entrepreneurship."

In 2007, Hofer was named by *Fortune Small Business* magazine one of the top 18 entrepreneurship professors in the U.S.

Hofer was the first business school professor in the history of the University System of Georgia -- where he has taught for 31 years -- to be named a Regents Professor and is the first and only Regents Professor that KSU has had.

At KSU, Hofer restructured the MBA entrepreneurship program by adding new courses such as "Developing Effective Business Plans," "Launching New Ventures" and "International Entrepreneurship," as well as restructuring "Entrepreneurial, Angel & VC Financing" and other courses. As a result of his efforts, the Coles College's MBA entrepreneurship program was awarded the United States Association for Small Business and Entrepreneurship's 2010 National Model Program Award.

Hofer also worked closely with Kennesaw State student teams to prepare them for national business-plan competitions. During his four years at KSU, he helped Coles College MBA teams get accepted 43 times to 10 of the major U.S. and Canadian business-plan competitions, winning three times and finishing in the top over more than a dozen times. Hofer has assisted numerous KSU students start their own businesses. Six have already successfully launched their ventures and 17 are in the process of doing so.

Hofer also launched the semiannual Concept-2-Reality® competition to provide KSU students, faculty, staff and members of the community the opportunity to pitch their ideas for new products and services to local entrepreneurs, venture capitalists and angel investors. Seven of the 17 teams that have won the competition have successfully launched their products and nine are in the process of launching.

"Through his various endeavors at the Coles College, professor Hofer has raised the national profile of our entrepreneurship program," says Rick Franza, chair of the Department of Management and Entrepreneurship. "He put us back on the map. Also, his track record preparing students for national competitions is outstanding. We will miss him."

Hofer, who has bachelor's and master's degrees in physics, became interested in

entrepreneurship while studying physics as a graduate student at Harvard, where he took classes at each of the professional schools, including law, medical and business schools. “I pretty much decided I didn’t want to be a doctor and I also decided I didn’t want to be a lawyer,” Hofer says.

Hofer, whose father was a businessman, explains that he likes entrepreneurship because he likes to “make things happen. All new products and services come from entrepreneurs. Entrepreneurship is the most important function in the world,” he says.

Though his stint at KSU was brief, he cherished the years he was here, praising the friendly faculty and students with real-world experience.

“KSU has been exceptionally supportive of what I have done. The students are one of the positive reasons for coming here,” Hofer said.

Hofer laid the foundations for the creation of a Center for Entrepreneurial Leadership at the Coles College, which is being continued by his colleagues.

Says Hofer: “The future of entrepreneurship at the Coles College and at KSU is extremely bright.”

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# Kennesaw State student accepted to Newcastle University Summer Institute



*Jonathan Henry of Atlanta one of 60 students worldwide invited to program in England ...*

Georgia (May 25, 2011) –

*Jonathan Henry of Atlanta one of 60 students worldwide invited to program in England*

Kennesaw, Ga. (May 24, 2011) Jonathan Henry, a rising sophomore at Kennesaw State University, has been accepted to the prestigious Newcastle University Summer Institute in England.

Henry, a student in the President's Emerging Global Scholars program at KSU, also received a scholarship to offset a portion of the cost of the institute.

"This is a major accomplishment for Jonathan and Kennesaw State," said Jerome Ratchford, Vice President for Student Success. "The university's reputation and emphasis on global studies will spread as students of his caliber become involved in programs such as this."

The Institute is a five-week cultural and academic program for U.S. students at Newcastle University in northeast England. Participants explore the culture, heritage and history of the United Kingdom; further develop leadership skills and meet people from all over the world. This year's institute takes place July 3 to Aug. 8.

Henry, an Atlanta resident and international business major, plans to take courses on "21<sup>st</sup> Century Leadership."

"There's a global environment in the world of business," he said. "I hope to learn more about that."

Brian M. Wooten, assistant professor for university studies and director of the Center for Student Leadership, said only 60 students from around the world are accepted yearly into the Newcastle program

The President's Emerging Global Scholars Program, part of the Center for Student Leadership and University College, is designed to build future leaders. Students enroll in specific classes, travel internationally and take part in civic engagement projects on the local, national, and international scale.

They enjoy a variety of experiences that enhance their applications for prestigious, nationally competitive scholarships such as the Rhodes, Marshall and Fulbright scholarships.

For more information about the Newcastle University Summer Institute program, click [here](#).

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# KSU to Start Construction on Bagwell College of Education Addition



*Georgia's FY 2012 budget allocates \$18 million to build 82,900-sq.ft. facility ...*

Georgia (May 26, 2011) – *Georgia's FY 2012 budget allocates \$18 million to build 82,900-sq.ft. facility*

KENNESAW, Ga. - (May 26, 2011) – Kennesaw State University will start construction next year on a more than \$20 million addition to the Bagwell College of Education, thanks to an \$18 million allocation in the state's budget.

"We are deeply appreciative of the strong support from the University System of Georgia's (USG) Board of Regents for this much-needed addition to the Bagwell College of Education and to Gov. Nathan Deal and the General Assembly for recognizing the important role Kennesaw State plays in the education of the state's teachers," said KSU President Daniel S. Papp. "The outstanding support and advocacy on behalf of KSU by the members of our Cobb County delegation also played a key role in the funding of this critical need for the university."

KSU graduates more teachers each year than any other USG institution. Since the mid-2000s, enrollment in the Bagwell College of Education has more than doubled.

"The university and the Bagwell College of Education are top choices for students who aspire to careers in teaching and educational leadership," said Arlinda Eaton, dean of the Bagwell College of Education. "As the number of future teachers enrolling at Kennesaw State continued to grow so did momentum for the new education building addition. We simply needed more space to meet the need for more teachers in Georgia."

The addition will adjoin the existing classrooms in Kennesaw Hall. When construction is completed in 2013, it will feature 17 fully equipped classrooms and contain 82,900 square feet. The facility will include eight state-of-the-art model classrooms for specialization in high-need areas, such as science and math and the new Birth-Through-5 degree program.

It will feature two cutting-edge computer labs designed to support a new master's degree for K-12 teachers who want to integrate digital tools into instruction. Office space for 36 faculty and staff members also is included in the project. The new facility is expected to obtain the Georgia Peach Certification for Energy Efficiency and Sustainability.

Eaton said this important project, which was included in the USG's Board of Regents Capital Priority Request, is being rolled out over two years with \$18 million earmarked for design and construction funds in FY 2012. Another \$2.3 million for equipment is budgeted in FY 2013.

The projected enrollment growth at KSU and new educator preparation degree programs require more dedicated space. Also, new initiatives in the Bagwell College - such as the Center for Literacy and Learning - require room to grow.

Currently, the USG satisfies only 30 percent of the state's teacher requirements, with another 20 percent of teachers coming from private universities. However, a "20,000 by 2020" USG initiative seeks to meet 80 percent of the state's need for teachers by the year 2020 while strengthening teacher quality, recruitment and retention.

According to Eaton, the addition will allow the Bagwell College of Education to continue its upward trajectory to meet Georgia's demand for high-quality teaching professionals and educational leaders.

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Contact: Robert S. Godlewski, [rgodlews@kennesaw.edu](mailto:rgodlews@kennesaw.edu), 770-499-3448

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# Nigerian Elections Open Doors for Investment

Ann Cantrell Atlanta - 05.26.11 After the April elections in Nigeria, a renewed...

Georgia (May 31, 2011) —

## Publication

## Link To Article

<http://www.globalatlanta.com/article/24813/>

[Ann Cantrell](#)

Atlanta - 05.26.11

After the April elections in Nigeria, a renewed confidence in the country's political stability could help the country attract more foreign investment.

In the past, rigged elections have marred the country's international image, scaring away investors, Attahiru Jega, chairman of the Independent National Electoral Commission, told GlobalAtlanta.

Dr. Jega was the keynote speaker at a May 13 symposium at Kennesaw State University on managing conflicts in Africa during democratic transitions.

Speaking to a crowd of 100 plus local Nigerians and other African immigrants, Dr. Jega said that these "political transitions in Africa have always been conflict-ridden." ...

The fairness of the election, though, means the prospect of good governance and a stable business climate in the future, said Akanmu Adebayo, interim director of the Center for Conflict Management at Kennesaw State University.

"Most businesses prefer a stable environment - an environment where the rule of law is not only followed on paper but in reality," Dr. Adebayo told GlobalAtlanta. ...

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# School board clashes reflect changes facing city councils, other bodies

*Clara Roberts didn't even want to enter politics, but she had served on the boards of several...*

Georgia (May 31, 2011) – Clara Roberts didn't even want to enter politics, but she had served on the boards of several service organizations when friends convinced her to run in 2007.

## Publication

## Link To Article

[http://romenews-tribune.com/view/full\\_story/13479967/article-School-board-clashes-reflect-changes-facing-city-councils--other-bodies?instance=home\\_news\\_lead\\_story](http://romenews-tribune.com/view/full_story/13479967/article-School-board-clashes-reflect-changes-facing-city-councils--other-bodies?instance=home_news_lead_story)

So, it was distressing to her when she wound up the focus of a controversy that put her name in newspapers across the state until the governor took the unusual step of removing her from office.

"I still don't know what I did," she said.

The retired teacher from tiny Warren County is not alone. Hers was one of six school boards in Georgia facing loss of accreditation because of "governance," or bickering. They're in big cities and small.

Many people outside of those communities may be breathing a sigh of relief, but those circumstances aren't unique. And they're not even limited to school boards.

From city councils to Congress, newcomers are changing the way things have been done, and those resisting the changes are fighting back. Sparks are flying. ...

SACS has been accused of defending the education establishment and the status quo, according to Kerwin Swint, political science professor at Kennesaw State University. He's watched the Cobb County School Board tangle with SACS over governance.

"Some board members want to be independent of the administration, and that's created conflicts," Swint said. "There are some members of the administration that are defensive, combative." ...

Read more: [RN-T.com](http://RN-T.com) - [School board clashes reflect changes facing city councils other bodies](#)

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# Georgia manufacturing index slips for second consecutive month



*Georgia PMI drops by 2.8 points KENNESAW, Ga. (June 2, 2011) — Despite a second consecutive ...*

*Georgia (Jun 2, 2011) — Georgia PMI drops by 2.8 points*

KENNESAW, Ga. (June 2, 2011) — Despite a second consecutive month of manufacturing activity decreases, Georgia's manufacturing sector remains strong although somewhat weaker in May, based on the latest report by the Econometric Center at Kennesaw State University's Coles College of Business.

Georgia's Purchasing Managers Index (PMI) — a reading of economic activity in the state's manufacturing sector — for May was 64.6, down 2.8 points from April's level of 67.4. The decrease in May is more pronounced than for April with substantial decreases in new orders, production, and employment.

Georgia's PMI for May is 9.1 points higher than its national counterpart, which recorded 53.5, down 6.9 points from April.

"Georgia's growth is still relatively strong but May's drop in new orders and production reveals some weakening from March's high mark of 67.6," said Don Sabbarese, professor of economics and director of the Econometric Center at the Coles College of Business. "It is not clear whether May's lower new orders and production is an early signal of a turning point from the strong growth path that started in February."

New orders and production were down 6.2 points from their highest readings in 2011 of 74.2 for new orders in April and 75.8 in March.

Highlights of the May PMI include:

- Production down by 6.2 points, to 67.9
- New Orders down by 6.2 points to 67.9
- Hiring down 2.7 points, to 66.7
- Commodity prices decreased 2.2 points, to 83.3. The lower commodity price reading of 83.3 is the second consecutive decrease in 2011
- Finished inventory decreased 2.3 points, to 59
- Supplier delivery time increased 3.5 points, to 58.1

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 it is contracting.

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 does not go into the PMI calculation.

The PMI, compiled from a monthly survey of manufacturers, is the earliest indicator of market conditions in the sector. Since manufacturing -- which accounts for 11 percent of GDP -- is sensitive to changes in the economy, it can also reveal changing macroeconomic trends.

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 used by institutions such as the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta to assist in their analysis of current economic conditions, along with many other data sources, to get a picture of economic activity.

For a full report of the April PMI, or to speak with professor Sabbarese, please call 770- 423-6094.

# # #

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# Breakfast, politics and a chance to be heard

By April Hunt The Atlanta Journal-Constitution 6:49 p.m. Saturday, June 4, 2011 ...

Georgia (Jun 6, 2011) — By [April Hunt](#)

## Publication

## Link To Article

<http://www.ajc.com/news/dekalb/breakfast-politics-and-a-967318.htm>

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

6:49 p.m. Saturday, June 4, 2011

... State lawmakers long have known that holding off-hour community meetings can help keep voters informed -- and keep their own profiles up.

Now some officials are bringing the idea down to the local level, with turnouts that dwarf the handful of gadflies who turn up at regular government meetings.

Watson's monthly breakfasts routinely draw 150-200 people, the same number who turn out for quarterly listening sessions held by Fulton County Commissioner William "Bill" Edwards.

In Gwinnett, Commissioner Mike Beaudreau has met with as few as half a dozen and as many as 80 people in his monthly meetings. But he remembers vividly the impact a woman made for the whole county by coming in one Saturday. ... ..

... The cynic in Kerwin Swint believes the community meetings could be a springboard to higher political office for some local lawmakers.

But even Swint, a professor of political science at Kennesaw State University, thinks the potentially self-serving aspect is more than outweighed by the benefits for residents.

"The best thing is, it's an opportunity for people to hold their officials accountable and force transparency," Swint said.

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# Jin Wang



*Jin Wang is a professor in the department of health, physical education and sport science at the...*

Georgia (Jun 6, 2011) – Jin Wang is a professor in the department of health, physical education and sport science at the WellStar College of Health and Human Services, and currently serves as the program coordinator of the college's coaching minor.

## [Link To Website](#)

Wang teaches sociological and psychological aspects of HPS, motor learning and coaching practicum programs. He received the R. Tait McKenzie Award from the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance at the 2010 AAHPERD Convention, as well as being selected as a finalist for the 2010 Distinguished Research & Creative Activity Award at KSU. He is the chairperson for the Sports Psychology Symposium at the Asia Pacific Conference of Exercise and Sport Science (APCESS 2011) in Shanghai in October.

As a sports psychology consultant, Wang worked with the Chinese Olympic Men's and Women's Free Style Skiing - Aerial Jump Teams for the 2010 Winter Olympic Games in Vancouver, Canada, and the Chinese Women's Soccer Team in preparation for the 2008 Olympic Games.

His professional interests include sports psychology, mechanical analysis of human movement and motor learning.

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# Special legislative session begins Aug. 15 to draw new district lines

by Jon Gillooly [jgillooly@mdjonline.com](mailto:jgillooly@mdjonline.com) The Marietta Daily Journal June 05, 2011 12:00 AM | ...

Georgia (Jun 6, 2011) —

## Link To Article

[http://mdjonline.com/view/full\\_story/13828690/article-Special-legislative-session-begins-Aug--15-to-draw-new-district-lines?instance=lead\\_story\\_left\\_column](http://mdjonline.com/view/full_story/13828690/article-Special-legislative-session-begins-Aug--15-to-draw-new-district-lines?instance=lead_story_left_column)

by Jon Gillooly

[jgillooly@mdjonline.com](mailto:jgillooly@mdjonline.com) The Marietta Daily Journal

June 05, 2011 12:00 AM | 1198 views

MARIETTA — State lawmakers will convene Aug. 15 to draw new lines for Georgia's U.S. congressional districts and all the state General Assembly districts. They plan for the work to take a month: two weeks for the congressional seats and two more for the General Assembly seats. ...

Reapportionment Committees in both the state Senate and state House ultimately must define the districts in words in a piece of legislation. Then, the committees must approve the bills before they can be voted on by the full General Assembly chambers, just like any other bill, Rogers said. ...

Dr. Kerwin Swint, a political science professor at Kennesaw State University, said there is pressure to draw the new congressional district for the Hall-Forsyth County area in north Georgia.

"It's had significant growth, and the new seat would almost have to go somewhere in the northern metro-Atlanta suburbs, because that's where the growth is," Swint said. ...

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# Professor Details 30 Years Of Airport Contract Corruption

Posted: 6:00 pm EDT June 7, 2011 Updated: 8:15 pm EDT June 7, 2011 ATLANTA -- A local professor has...

Georgia (Jun 8, 2011) — Posted: 6:00 pm EDT June 7, 2011 Updated: 8:15 pm EDT June 7, 2011

## Publication

## Link To Article

<http://www.wsbtv.com/news/28162010/detail.html>

ATLANTA -- A local professor has created an eye-opening list detailing what he calls 30-years of corruption involving contracts at Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport.

The list was prepared for watchdog group Common Cause. The organization is once again asking political candidates in Atlanta to set a \$250 cap on campaign contributions from vendors, even though a similar plea in 2009 received very little support.

Lucrative contracts at the airport are up for renewal, so the group asked a Kennesaw State University professor to compile the list.

"The 30-year history is horrific in its effect on city government, on the confidence that Georgians have in Atlanta city government." professor Kerwin Swint told Channel 2's Richard Belcher. Swint is a Common Cause board member and political science professor.

Also see:

Your morning jolt: A 30-year history of corruption at Hartsfield-Jackson airport "

by Jim Galloway in the *Atlanta-Journal Constitution*

<http://blogs.ajc.com/political-insider-jim-galloway/2011/06/08/your-morning-jolt-a-30-year-history-of-corruption-at-hartsfield-jackson-airport/>

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# Kennesaw State approves new Interdisciplinary Studies Department

*Seven existing programs will combine under College of Humanities and Social Sciences KENNESAW, Ga...*

Georgia (Jun 9, 2011) — *Seven existing programs will combine under College of Humanities and Social Sciences*

KENNESAW, Ga. – (June 9, 2011) — Kennesaw State University Interim Provost W. Ken Harmon has approved the formation of a new Interdisciplinary Studies Department (ISD) within the College of Humanities and Social Science, effective fall 2011.

The new academic department will encompass seven existing academic programs, including:

- African And African Diaspora Studies;
- American Studies;
- Asian Studies;
- Environmental Studies;
- Gender and Women’s Studies;
- Latin American Studies; and
- Peace Studies

Tony Grooms, professor of creative writing and literature, has been named interim chair of the new department. He will begin the new post July 1, and will serve as the ISD chair for at least the first year of the program.

Grooms, who joined KSU’s English department in 1995, is the nationally recognized author of a book of poetry titled “Ice Poems;” “Trouble No More,” a collection of short stories; and “Bombingham,” a novel. He is a Fulbright fellow, a finalist for the Legacy Award from the Hurston-Wright Foundation, an arts administration fellow from the National Endowment for the Arts, and the recipient of two Lillian Smith Prizes from the Southern Regional Council.

“The creation of this new interdisciplinary department advances the university’s commitment to interdisciplinary approaches to learning, and to its major goals of promoting diversity, inclusion, global learning and engaged citizenship,” Harmon said. “The department is the culmination of nearly two years of study and planning by faculty and administrators in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences. They should be pleased that what previously functioned as a cluster of programs is now a full-fledged academic department.”

Harmon said the new department will rely on existing faculty and program coordinators and will not require additional resources to launch.

The programs comprising the ISD previously operated as a cluster under the office of the dean of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences. The various academic programs offer courses leading to a master’s degree in American Studies; bachelor’s degrees in American Studies, African and African Diaspora Studies and Environmental Studies; and undergraduate minors in all of the seven programs. An interdisciplinary approach is stressed in each program.

“The alignment of these programs and their successful history of collaboration in terms of curriculum delivery, the sharing of resources, interdisciplinary research and the staging of successful events and activities reinforce the strategic goal of nurturing interdisciplinary and intercultural learning,” said Richard Vengroff, dean of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences. “The new department will provide the necessary structure and support the growing demand for intellectual content among an increasingly diverse and engaged student population.”

Enrollment in courses offered by the current cluster of interdisciplinary programs has increased substantially. An introductory course for the Asian Studies minor drew nearly 20 students when it

was introduced in 2008. That same course now averages more than 30 students per semester. Gender and Women's Studies courses average 130 students per semester. In spring 2010, the American Studies Program enrolled 113 students, and grew to 145 students by fall 2010. The African and African Diaspora program has graduated 11 majors and minors, but now has 20 students majoring in the program, and another 20 students are pursuing a minor.

Faculty members teaching in the cluster of programs endorsed the creation of a new department following a series of meetings and discussions that began in 2009. In March of this year, 49 faculty members voted in favor of becoming a department compared to six who were opposed.

"The departmental structure will allow decisions about faculty tenure, promotion, service and scholarship to reside wholly within the department, rather than in the discipline-based home departments to which the faculty members were previously assigned," Vengroff said.

For more information about programs within the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, go to <http://hss.kennesaw.edu/>.

Contact/Writer: Sabbaye McGriff, 678-797-2550 or [smcgrif1@kennesaw.edu](mailto:smcgrif1@kennesaw.edu).

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# KSU's economic impact grows by \$100 million

*Student spending fuels university's growing impact on metro Atlanta's economy KENNESAW...*

Georgia (Jun 9, 2011) — *Student spending fuels university's growing impact on metro Atlanta's economy*

KENNESAW, Ga. (June 9, 2011) — Spending by Kennesaw State University students was the driving force behind a 14 percent jump in the university's local economic impact in fiscal year 2010 over FY 2009, according to a report released this week by the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia.

The institution's FY 2010 economic impact on the 28-county Atlanta metropolitan region was more than \$800 million, up from \$701 million in FY 2009. The overall economic impact of the 35-unit university system on the state's economy in FY 2010 was \$12.6 billion.

"Kennesaw State's impact on the local economy is substantial and expanding," said KSU President Daniel S. Papp. "With a growing student body of more than 23,400, we are proud to call Cobb County home and to contribute in such a significant manner to the region's success."

The USG study was conducted by the Selig Center for Economic Growth at the University of Georgia's Terry College of Business, which analyzed data collected between July 1, 2009, and June 30, 2010, to calculate the university's economic impact.

The study measures initial spending on personal services, operating expenses and student spending, as well as the impact of this spending on output, value-added, labor income and employment.

"Colleges and universities are key drivers in economic development," said study author Jeffrey M. Humphreys, director of economic forecasting for the Selig Center. "Higher education institutions educate the work force, innovate through basic and applied research, and collaborate with employers to help them become more competitive."

Initial spending by KSU totaled \$508 million. This spending includes salaries and fringe benefits, operating expenses and other budgeted expenditures. When combined with nearly \$278 million in student spending in FY 2010, total initial spending accounted for the lion's share of

KSU's \$800 million in overall economic impact. The remaining \$14 million in economic impact was created by re-spending — the multiplier effect of those dollars as they are spent again in the region.

"Seventy-five percent of the increase can be attributed to your students, rather than spending by KSU itself," Humphreys said, noting that the university's operating expenses were up from FY 2009. "Student spending totaled \$278 million, the economic impact of which was \$422 million on the local economy."

Humphreys offered one cautionary note on student spending, however.

"With the changes in the HOPE scholarship program, student spending may not rise as much going forward," he said.

Additionally, as part of its economic impact, Kennesaw State generated 8,870 full- and part-time jobs during the study period. Most of the jobs — 5,705 — were off-campus jobs in the public or private sectors that exist because of the presence of KSU in the community. The remainder of the jobs — 3,165 — were on campus.

Several new campus amenities helped keep students — and their money — in the region during FY 2010, including the state-of-the-art student dining hall, The Commons; the 16,000-square-foot Owls Nest, an indoor training facility for student-athletes in club and intramural sports programs; and the 8,300-seat KSU Soccer Stadium.

To download the full report, go to: [http://www.icapp.org/pubs/usg\\_impact\\_fy2010.pdf](http://www.icapp.org/pubs/usg_impact_fy2010.pdf)

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# Coles College professor Joe Hair honored by Academy of Marketing Science

*Kennesaw State University Professor Joseph Hair, Jr. Honored as 2011 AMS Cutco/Vector Distinguished...*

Georgia (Jun 14, 2011) –

**Kennesaw State University Professor Joseph Hair, Jr. Honored as 2011 AMS Cutco/Vector Distinguished Marketing Educator by the Academy of Marketing Science**

CORAL GABLES, FL--(Marketwire - Jun 13, 2011) - Joseph F. Hair, Jr., Professor of Marketing and DBA Director at Kennesaw State University in Kennesaw, Georgia, was awarded the 2011 AMS Cutco/Vector Distinguished Marketing Educator Award at The Academy of Marketing Science's (AMS) 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference, held May 25 at the Biltmore Hotel in Coral Gables, Florida. Hair was honored for his outstanding contributions to the marketing industry, his commitment to education and mentorship and his leadership within the AMS. The award is sponsored by [Vector Marketing Corporation](#), the single-level direct sales division of Cutco Cutlery Corporation, the largest manufacturer and direct seller of kitchen cutlery in North America.

Hair earned his Ph.D. in marketing in 1971 from the University of Florida and has made an indelible impact on the marketing profession through his leadership, teaching, research, publications and textbook authorship. He has authored more than 40 books, including "Multivariate Data Analysis," which has made a lasting contribution to research across all the social sciences.

Hair's academic publications have appeared in top-level professional journals including the *Journal of Academy of Marketing Science*, *Journal of Marketing Research*, *Journal of Advertising Research*, *Journal of Business Research*, *Journal of Retailing*, *Multivariate Behavioral Research*, and others.

Hair served as president of the AMS from 1996 - 1998 and has also served as program chair and chair of the Board of Governors, helping to shape AMS' strategy and grow the organization in size and prestige internationally. AMS formally recognized his achievements with the title of Distinguished Fellow and as the 2009 recipient of the Harold W. Berkman Service Award.

<http://www.marketwire.com/press-release/kennesaw-state-university-professor-joseph-hair-jr-honored-as-2011-ams-cutco-vector-1525893.htm>

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# Reed finds national stage on 'Meet the Press'

By David Wickert *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution* 5:31 p.m. Sunday, June 12, 2011...

Georgia (Jun 16, 2011) —

## Publication

## Link To Article

<http://www.ajc.com/news/atlanta/reed-finds-national-stage-974703.html?printArticle=y>

By [David Wickert](#)

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

5:31 p.m. Sunday, June 12, 2011

Atlanta Mayor Kasim Reed called on U.S. Rep. Anthony Weiner to resign and defended the Obama administration's economic record on NBC's "Meet the Press" Sunday morning as the mayor continues to raise his national profile.

It was Reed's second stint on "Meet the Press" and the latest in a series of national appearances that could mark the mayor as a key figure in President Obama's re-election plans.

"The Obama White House is clearly paying attention to him and what he says," said Kennesaw State University political scientist Kerwin Swint, who watched the mayor on television. "If the Obama campaign is going to make a serious run at Georgia, as it says it is, Kasim Reed is going to be important to those discussions." ...

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# Kennesaw State University women's soccer team travels to Ecuador to conduct soccer camp



*Coach Rob King and six student-athletes depart soon for Colegio Menor San Francisco de Quito...*

Georgia (Jun 17, 2011) – *Coach Rob King and six student-athletes depart soon for Colegio Menor San Francisco de Quito*

KENNESAW, Ga. - (June 17, 2011) – Kennesaw State University women's soccer coach and six KSU women's soccer team student-athletes are making preparations to travel to Ecuador this month to conduct a soccer camp for 150 boys and girls, aged 7 to 17, at Colegio Menor San Francisco de Quito.

The invitation to conduct the soccer camp was an outgrowth of KSU's successful Student Teaching International Study Abroad program held in conjunction with Colegio Menor and Universidad de San Francisco de Quito. For the past several years, KSU has offered teacher preparation candidates the opportunity to gain valuable field teaching experience at the English speaking K-12 international school, Colegio Menor.

"This soccer camp is an excellent example of Kennesaw State's international outreach and engagement," said KSU President Daniel S. Papp. "Our international programs are central to KSU's academic mission, and we encourage our students to take part and get involved in these exciting projects. This Athletics project represents a unique opportunity for our student-athletes to teach others, while at the same time learn more about different cultures."

This marks the first time any KSU student-athletes have ventured outside of the country to conduct a summer camp, which will be held June 27- July 8. The KSU contingent will be assisted by camp counselors at Colegio Menor. Approximately 150 bilingual children are expected to participate. The camp in Ecuador is sandwiched between KSU's own summer soccer camps, so there will be no disruption for boys and girls attending camps on the KSU campus during June and July.

"We have several education majors making the trip and two fluent in Spanish, so we're going to be able to handle whatever comes our way," said Rob King, head coach women's soccer and assistant athletic director. "This is a wonderful opportunity for all concerned and appears to fit well with Kennesaw State's mission of global outreach and service to the community. Plus, while we're there we're looking to expand our horizons with educational excursions for our student-athletes to the Galapagos Islands, an active volcano and the rainforest, which are all nearby."

In addition to King, the following women's soccer team members are making the trip:

Caroline Austin of Peachtree City, Ga., defense – 2011 graduate, Bagwell College of Education  
Sofia Blanco of Roswell, Ga., midfield – junior, biology major

Savannah Duet of Marietta, Ga., forward – senior, communication major

Lexi Hastings of Ontario, Canada, defense – junior, early childhood education major

Kristin Marietta of Douglasville, Ga., forward – senior, early childhood education major

Katie Schwartz of Fayetteville, Ga., defense – senior, biology major

KSU's Bagwell College of Education offers the Student Teaching International Study Abroad program, which allows students to gain 12 hours of course credit to prepare them to become better teachers. In addition to student teaching for this semester abroad, this program engages students in observations, interactions and analyses of critical and contemporary educational issues.

Against this backdrop, students reflect on and interpret the meaning of education and schooling in a diverse culture and examine the moral and ethical responsibilities of teaching in a global environment. Student teachers take advantage of cultural trips in and around Ecuador, and the opportunity to perform a service project for the country.

*Colegio Menor San Francisco de Quito is located in the valley of Cumbaya about 15 minutes from Quito and is a private bilingual school founded in 1995. It is affiliated with the Universidad San Francisco de Quito, the top private university in Ecuador with more than 5,000 students and a research station with Boston University in the Amazon and a community college in the Galapagos.*

*More than 1,300 students are enrolled in Colegio Menor in the four sections of the school, early childhood, elementary, middle and high school and special classes in art, music and physical education. Eighty percent of the students are Ecuadorian, with the remainder coming from the United States and other countries.*

# # #

Kennesaw State University is the third-largest university in Georgia, offering more than 70 graduate and undergraduate degrees, including doctorates in education, business and nursing, and a new Ph.D. in international conflict management. A member of the 35-unit University System of Georgia, Kennesaw State is a comprehensive, residential institution with a growing population of more than 23,400 students from 142 countries.

Contact: Robert S. Godlewski, [rgodlews@kennesaw.edu](mailto:rgodlews@kennesaw.edu), 770-499-3448

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# Global KSU



*KSU among eight institutions that received coveted 2011 Sen. Paul Simon Awards KENNESAW, Ga...*

Georgia (Jun 20, 2011) —

*KSU among eight institutions that received coveted 2011 Sen. Paul Simon Awards*

KENNESAW, Ga. — (June 20, 2011) — Kennesaw State University received a 2011 Sen. Paul Simon Award for Campus Internationalization from NAFSA: The Association for International Educators at a ceremony earlier this month.

The Simon Award for Comprehensive Internationalization recognizes the broad diversity of approaches the university employs to internationalize its campus. It was among five universities named in the comprehensive category. Three other institutions were awarded Simon Spotlight Awards for a specific international program or initiative.

The Simon awards are named for the late Paul Simon, a long-term Illinois senator known for his support of international education and foreign language learning, in general, and specifically for his leadership in creating the National Security Education Program.

“This prestigious award signals that KSU is on target with the goals we established in 2007 to create an integrated, interdisciplinary and multi-faceted global learning environment at KSU,” said Daniel S. Papp, KSU president. “Each of the university’s eight colleges has strategically incorporated these goals into curriculum, faculty and student development objectives. We are extremely pleased that NAFSA recognizes the results.”

Other institutions recognized for comprehensive internationalization of their campuses are Wisconsin’s Beloit College; Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis; Macalester College in Minnesota and New York University. Barnard College in New York, the University of Rhode Island and the University of San Diego will receive Simon awards for specific programs or initiatives.

“We’re among an elite group of institutions receiving this honor,” said Barry J. Morris, KSU’s vice provost of global engagement and strategic initiatives. “KSU’s distinction as a comprehensive internationalized campus results from the commitment of administrators and faculty to collaborate across disciplines to create rigorous academic programs and global learning experiences and opportunities for students, faculty and local community.”

KSU’s approach to internationalizing the campus includes an Institute for Global Initiatives that coordinates many of the university’s global engagement activities and programs; an intensive “Year of” country study program, now in its 28th year; a Global Engagement Certification that assesses and certifies students’ global competencies; an education abroad program supported by student-funded scholarships; extensive partnerships with universities, governments and non-government organizations around the globe; and an active global admissions department that attracts international students from more than 140 countries. A Global Learning Coordinating Council of administrators, faculty and students helps shape policy and guides the expansion of global learning opportunities.

Over the past year, KSU has received two additional awards for its work in comprehensive institutional internationalization. In January, the university was awarded the Institute for International

Education's 2011 Andrew Heiskell Award for Innovation in International Education. The U.S. Center for Citizen Diplomacy awarded KSU the 2010 Top Citizen Diplomacy Program award in September 2010.

For more information, visit <http://www.nafsa.org/>

# # #

Kennesaw State University is the third-largest university in Georgia, offering more than 70 graduate and undergraduate degrees, including doctorates in education, business and nursing, and a new Ph.D. in international conflict management. A member of the 35-unit University System of Georgia, Kennesaw State is a comprehensive, residential institution with a growing population of more than 23,400 students from 142 countries.

*\*\*Photo courtesy of NAFSA: Association of International Educators*

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# Colleges Continue to Add Football Teams

*Eight schools set to add football programs in 2011, creating a total of 36 schools fielding new...*

Georgia (Jun 22, 2011) – The National Football Foundation & College Hall of Fame (NFF) highlighted today that eight new college football teams are set to take the field for the first time this season with 17 more programs set to launch between 2012 and 2014. ...

## Publication

## Link To Article

<http://www.footballfoundation.org/nff/story/2902/colleges-continue-add-football-teams>

*Eight schools set to add football programs in 2011, creating a total of 36 schools fielding new gridiron teams in the span of six years.*

Universities and colleges are adding football at all levels, and administrators have developed sound plans, ensuring the new programs address the unique financial, academic and long-term objectives of their respective schools. The 36 institutions, who have implemented firm plans during the past few years, coupled together the more than 20 schools with exploratory committees, create a clear and undeniable trend that presidents and trustees nationwide see the value of a football program as part of their overall academic mission.

The rationale for adding football varies at each institution, and all of the decision makers who helped develop a plan for launching a program explain that an in-depth study played a critical role in finding the right level of play and the proper financial balance. Small colleges may cite increasing enrollment and addressing gender imbalances while larger universities might highlight the role of football in raising the institution's profile and its ability to attract research grants. All mention creating a more vibrant on-campus community and connecting with alumni. ...

## A Natural Progression in the South

Founded in 1966 as a two-year school, Kennesaw State has experienced robust growth during the past five decades. The school gradually added bachelors, master's, and then doctoral degrees, and its current student body exceeds 23,000 with projections of 30,000 in the next ten years.

However, the university only has 4,000 beds on its campus, which is just 20 minutes north of Atlanta, Ga. Hoping to shed its reputation as a commuter school and build a more vibrant campus life, Kennesaw State impaneled an exploratory committee last year to examine the possibility of adding football.

Headed by the legendary football coach and Georgia athletics director Vince Dooley, the committee did extensive work, gathering input from students, faculty, staff, business leaders, and governmental leaders. Their work produced a positive report, suggesting that the school launch a scholarship program as a Football Championship Subdivision program.

"The primary driver behind us adding football is a large level of interest from our student body and the community," said Kennesaw State President Daniel S. Papp. "Football is king in the American South and having a football team tremendously heightens the visibility of an institution and in many cases the attractiveness of an institution as well."

Papp also cited the academic benefits of having a football program.

"We think that football program adds to the overall student experience at a university. And we believe

that it demonstrably helps improve retention and progression rates for students as well. Students get more involved with the institution, so the students are more likely to stay in school and are more likely to concentrate on their academics so they can stay in school."

Papp explained that a few critical steps remain before the university will officially move forward with its plan. Specifically, the university needs to raise \$8 to 12 million needed to build infrastructure for the program, which Papp said they fully intend to raise. Once that money is raised, the university will then submit its final business plan to the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia for ultimate approval.

"We have done the studies. So, we know the investment that it will take," said Kennesaw State athletics director Vaughn Williams. "It's about the brand and the university, so in essence it's an investment in the overall university. We're not thinking that we're going to make millions of dollars. We're looking to create an excellent program that is going to enhance everything that we do in the fiber of this university. It's bigger than football. Football is just another piece of the puzzle. We are going to raise the bar academically. And it's going to get more competitive to get into Kennesaw. "

An important step in the process came last year when the student body voted by 56 percent to increase athletics fees to support football by \$100 per person each semester. The increase will annually raise approximately \$5 million. Papp said the university's football budget will breakeven through a combination of the student fees, ticket sales, sponsorships and donations.

"We understand that very few institutions make money playing football. We don't want to lose money, however," said Papp. "We are going into football in a very slow and measured, well-thought-out and well-planned way. There is only one thing worse than a major university in the American South without a football team, and that's a major university in the American South with a football team that it can't afford. If we do football, we will be extremely fiscally responsible."

Kennesaw State plans to begin play in 2014 in the NCAA Football Championship Subdivision.

#### *ABOUT THE NATIONAL FOOTBALL FOUNDATION & COLLEGE HALL OF FAME*

*Founded in 1947 with early leadership from General Douglas MacArthur, legendary Army coach Earl "Red" Blaik and immortal journalist Grantland Rice, The National Football Foundation & College Hall of Fame, a non-profit educational organization, runs programs designed to use the power of amateur football in developing scholarship, citizenship and athletic achievement in young people. With 121 chapters and 12,000 members nationwide, NFF programs include the College Football Hall of Fame, Play It Smart, the NFF Hampshire Honor Society, the NFF National Scholar-Athlete Alumni Association, the NFF Gridiron Clubs of New York City, Dallas, and Los Angeles, and annual scholarships of more than \$1.3 million for college and high school scholar-athletes. The NFF presents the MacArthur Bowl, the Campbell Trophy, endowed by HealthSouth, and releases the Bowl Championship Series (BCS) Standings. Learn more at [www.footballfoundation.org](http://www.footballfoundation.org).*

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# KSU soccer heading south for summer

by Adam Carrington [acarrington@mdjonline.com](mailto:acarrington@mdjonline.com) The Marietta Daily Journal 06.23.11 - 12:33...

Georgia (Jun 23, 2011) —

## Link To Article

[http://mdjonline.com/view/full\\_story/14440283/article-KSU-soccer-heading-south-for-summer](http://mdjonline.com/view/full_story/14440283/article-KSU-soccer-heading-south-for-summer)

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# Kennesaw's new AD has full plate, including football

By Tim Tucker *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution* 6:15 p.m. Thursday, June 23, 2011 As Kennesaw...

Georgia (Jun 24, 2011) —

## Link To Article

<http://www.ajc.com/sports/kennesaws-new-ad-has-985945.html>

By [Tim Tucker](#)

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

6:15 p.m. Thursday, June 23, 2011

As Kennesaw State's recently hired athletic director makes the rounds of his new campus and community, the same question keeps finding him.

"Everybody wants to know," Vaughn Williams said, "when the day is" — the day KSU will play its first football game.

"Sometimes I cut them off and say, 'Hey, 2014. If everything goes right, that's what our plan is.' I've actually been telling [the university's incoming freshmen] at orientation, 'If everything goes right and you're lucky ... when you're a senior, we'll be kicking that ball off and you'll be part of history.'"

Williams is in his third month as KSU's AD — a whirlwind introduction that has included hiring a new men's basketball coach, interviewing candidates for two other key positions, retaining an architectural firm to propose and price new facilities, being hit with NCAA penalties for the basketball team's academic deficiencies, and generally familiarizing himself with a 16-sport department that has experienced some growing pains in recent years.

Amid the whirlwind, the conversation always seems to return to football.

Williams, 41, formerly an associate athletic director at Connecticut, arrived at KSU with Georgia's third largest university well on its way toward launching a football program. Last September, an exploratory committee, chaired by former University of Georgia football coach and athletic director Vince Dooley, recommended moving forward with plans to field an FCS (formerly Division I-AA) team. Two months later, a survey of KSU students showed 55-percent support for a \$100-per-semester football fee.

Major hurdles remain, including raising \$8 million to \$12 million in projected start-up costs. The pace of fundraising could dictate whether the first game is played in 2014 or perhaps 2015.

A former college football player himself — he played defensive back at Massachusetts from 1988-91 — Williams says the KSU job would have appealed to him with or without the lure of football. In fact, he's not sure he fully grasped the school's football intentions until he was hired and Dooley showed up for the news conference.

"At that moment, I was, like, 'OK, we're going to do football,'" Williams said with a laugh.

There is much to do.

Costs are being "reconfirmed," Williams said, and myriad issues are being sorted through.

An architectural firm, Kansas City-based 360 Architecture, was retained last month to present options for facilities. The team would begin play in KSU's state-of-the-art soccer stadium, but the question is open as to whether the 8,300-seat stadium should be expanded initially or later. And there would be a need for football offices, locker room, training room, etc.

Then there's the question of which women's sports would be added to keep the school in compliance with Title IX gender-equity requirements.

And the question of a league to play in, since KSU's current conference, the Atlantic Sun, doesn't feature football.

And the considerable matter of fundraising, which hasn't started in earnest yet.

If the fundraising campaign succeeds, a football business plan would be presented in spring 2012 or spring 2013 to the Board of Regents, which would be asked to approve the additional student fee.

"Football has a place in the mission of this university," Williams said. "We believe it is going to bring people on this campus. It is going to give us exposure that we probably don't have right now.

"In my mind, we're going [to add football]," Williams said. "Either it's 2014 or '15, but we're going. I have not heard any other direction. We are going to add football unless something happens that we're unaware of at this moment, some circumstance we're unaware of. But in my mind, that's what we're doing, and we're gearing up as such."

Williams is in the process of hiring an associate athletic director for development, who will be involved in fundraising, and an associate AD for compliance, who will oversee adherence with NCAA rules.

"People will say finance is the biggest transition from Division II to Division I, but I say compliance," Williams said. KSU completed its move to Division I in 2009.

Also in the works is a change of the department's structure to a separate association, similar to the Georgia and Georgia Tech athletic associations. That will offer various advantages, including the flexibility to sign coaches to multi-year contracts, Williams said. Currently, he can give coaches — including recently hired men's basketball coach Lewis Preston — only one-year commitments.

Aside from the football chatter, basketball has commanded much of Williams' early attention. He was hired April 5, and 15 days later he hired Preston, a former Penn State assistant, to succeed Tony Ingle, who was fired in March. Preston accepted the job knowing that the NCAA was about to hit the team with penalties because of poor Academic Progress Rate (APR) scores.

Williams said the penalties — a loss of two scholarships and a reduction of practice time — constitute a "serious" issue that "we have to deal with," but expressed confidence the team's academic performance will improve under Preston. "We have the right coach in place," he said.

Amid the frenzy of his new job, Williams exudes energy and enthusiasm. "My timing couldn't be better," he said. "I landed in a place where things are in movement."

[See all stories on this topic »](#)

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# Timothy Blumentritt: The implications of the ‘new normal’

*The Kennesaw State University Corporate Partners program recently hosted a session exploring what...*

Georgia (Jun 24, 2011) — [Copyright 2011 The Marietta Daily Journal. All rights reserved.](#)

## Publication

## Link To Article

[http://mdjonline.com/view/full\\_story/14457313/article-Timothy-Blumentritt--The-implications-of-the-%E2%80%98new-normal%E2%80%99?instance=special](http://mdjonline.com/view/full_story/14457313/article-Timothy-Blumentritt--The-implications-of-the-%E2%80%98new-normal%E2%80%99?instance=special)

The Kennesaw State University Corporate Partners program recently hosted a session exploring what the term “new normal” means with respect to our economy. In previous conversations, our partners had asked such questions as “Is this economic environment here to stay?” and “How do we make sense out of our current economy?” The session on the new normal dug into those issues.

Don Sabbarese and Brett Katzman, two of our prominent faculty economists, provided data on a variety of economic statistics, including current account and budget deficits, unemployment rates, U.S. debt held by foreign institutions and economic recovery statistics compared to those of previous recessions. They discussed how policy decisions, not from political perspectives but from economic perspectives, may influence our economic future.

In the end, they convinced me that the U.S. economy is different now than it was five, 10, 20 years ago. While the past sets the stage for future decisions, our economic landscape has fundamentally changed. Suggestions that we can go back to where we were in the boom-boom days of the mid-2000s seem to be fanciful.

Several key points jumped out at me. First, past business cycles have been fairly predictable, moving in relatively smooth ups and downs. We have had recessions and crashes in the recent past — within the last 50 years — for instance, moving off the gold standard while facing an oil crisis in the early 1970s; dealing with stagflation in the late 1970s; and the burst of the tech bubble in 2000 certainly threw some curveballs. But the unprecedented decline in personal wealth, especially through the decline in housing prices, and the enduring high level of debt — both personal and governmental — undermines the tried-and-true means of coming out of economic malaise.

Second, it will be very difficult to bring down the persistently high unemployment rate. Once we include the underemployed and the many people who have given up on the job search, statistics put the continuing impact of the downturn at more than 20 percent of our workforce. Shifting demographics, as the baby boomers move to the end of their careers and millennials enter the job market, complicates things. Even the providers of jobs seem to be on the sidelines; large corporations are conservatively sitting on historic cash balances, small businesses are having difficulties accessing the capital they need to serve their traditional role as the engine of job creation.

Third, technological advancements have changed the way people interact and access information. The smartphone and social media technologies are the latest in a string of advancements. It’s often difficult to remember that the Web browser is only 17 years old. But anyone who can remember pre-Internet business is probably out of touch with the way young people use these technologies. Despite the already significant impact, the pace of new-technology introductions should only continue to get faster.

Taken together, it seems like things will be permanently different this time. That people are fundamentally wary of our economic stability even one year after the National Bureau of Economic Research officially called an official end to the recession in June 2009 reinforces this viewpoint.

But just saying that things are “different this time,” and mostly in troubling ways, is insufficient. We also have to consider how businesses might respond to the new normal. A lot of firms have already figured it out. Many big companies have successfully deleveraged their balance sheets, reducing interest payments and raising cash. Like many others, one of the participants in the KSU session noted to me that his small business was doing very well in this economy.

The general idea is to create business agility. There is no way to predict the future; executives are no more prescient than your corner psychic (perhaps less so). What we can do is rethink assumptions, rely less on intuition and gut feel and more on current data and trends, and most certainly listen to people with different perspectives. The goal is to create new ideas for doing business, ideas that fit with the new economic environment.

There are a variety of strategic development tools that can help business forecast their futures, even in very difficult economies. Most of them rely on gathering solid data, making novel but realistic projections, and relaxing assumptions about the past. While it’s often difficult to think about anything but near-term problems, a long-term view always helps businesses put current issues in perspective.

Just as not a single person would advocate doing business today as we did five or 10 years ago, we should anticipate that the business practices of five to 10 years in the future will be just as different. We don’t have to know what those differences will be, but just be ready to act once the necessary changes become evident.

*Dr. Timothy Blumentritt is a business professor at Kennesaw State University’s Coles College of Business. The MDJ will periodically publish columns from KSU business faculty.*

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# Ga. redistricting maps may land in court first

By Aaron Gould Sheinin *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution* Georgia Republicans may bypass ...

Georgia (Jun 27, 2011) – By [Aaron Gould Sheinin](#)

## Publication

## Link To Article

<http://www.ajc.com/news/georgia-politics-elections/ga-redistricting-maps-may-988985.html>

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

Georgia Republicans may bypass the Obama Justice Department and go straight to court after they draw new legislative maps this summer.

The General Assembly is expected to reconvene in August to consider new district lines for the state's 180 state House districts, 56 Senate districts and 14 congressional seats. The maps are based on detailed population counts from the 2010 Census, the every-10-year process of counting the nation's residents. The Census showed Georgia had grown enough to gain one U.S. House seat.

The once-a-decade redrawing of the state's election map determines which political party dominates and directly impacts representation for tens of thousands of Georgians who will find themselves with new state representatives, senators or members of Congress. With the state gaining a new seat in the U.S. House, more federal dollars could also flow to the state for projects and programs funded by district.

But Georgia is one nine states that must get any change to voting or election law approved by the federal government, as required by the Voting Rights Act. The law says the state may petition either the Justice Department or the federal court for approval, although it's far more typical to start with the DOJ, which can issue a ruling in as little as 60 days. ... . ...

Kerwin Swint, a Kennesaw State University political scientist and former Republican consultant, also thinks the GOP could go straight to court.

"I'm sure they are," he said, "because I think from their point of view that gives them the best chance. Whether that's true or not, that's how they're looking at it, from everything I hear and people I speak to." ... ..

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# Kennesaw State University expects to reach capital campaign goal one year ahead of schedule



*Contributions expected to surpass \$75 million; five-year goal set in 2007* KENNESAW, Ga. (...  
Georgia (Jun 27, 2011) —

KENNESAW, Ga. (June 27, 2011) -In spite of the tight economy that has adversely affected fundraising by higher education institutions, Kennesaw State University officials expect to surpass this fall the \$75 million goal of the university's first capital campaign a full year ahead of schedule.

Launched in October 2007, KSU's five-year comprehensive capital campaign --labeled "The New Faces of Kennesaw State" -- has raised \$73.7 million in contributions as of June 2011. Major campaign contributions include:

- Annual Gifts: \$5.5 Million
- Scholarships: \$5.7 Million
- Private Foundations: \$7.9 Million
- Tangible Property: \$9.7 Million
- Major Gifts: \$9.9 Million
- Research Grants: \$30.1 Million
- Other Gifts: \$4.9 Million

The capital campaign raised both the largest single private contribution (\$5 million from an anonymous donor) and the largest grant the university has ever received (\$8.9 million from the U.S. Department of Education), as well as 14 new gifts of at least \$1 million each.

"Kennesaw State University is a young, dynamic, growing institution with a developing entrepreneurial spirit that is evident in our faculty, students, staff and alumni," said KSU President Daniel S. Papp. "The individuals and institutions that contribute to and support Kennesaw State recognize and appreciate how far we have come and the great accomplishments we are making, and we, in turn, make it clear how much we highly value our donors' support."

Just 47 years old, Kennesaw State -- Georgia's third-largest university -- has one of the youngest alumni bases among colleges and universities in the state. Yet among Georgia's more established institutions, KSU consistently ranks fourth and fifth in contributions behind Emory University, the University of Georgia, Georgia Tech and Georgia State.

"The success that we achieved with this capital campaign is a tremendous accomplishment," said Norman Radow, chairman of the Kennesaw State University Foundation, which led the campaign. "The Foundation's executive committee and board members are pleased to play a key role in helping KSU meet the goal of the university's first-ever capital campaign. We are even more excited that the goal was achieved ahead of schedule."

Although the capital campaign is close to meeting its overall goal, strong efforts continue as university officials work toward fulfilling a \$2 million campaign pledge made by Bernard A. Zuckerman.

In August 2010, motivated by his desire to honor the artwork of his late wife -- renowned Georgia sculptor Ruth Zuckerman -- the retired carpet-industry leader and longtime Kennesaw State supporter made a \$2 million pledge to name phase II of the proposed Art Museum at the university. Under the terms of the pledge agreement, Kennesaw State must raise an additional \$1 million for the museum by June 29. Campaign officials indicate they are quite close to raising the funds needed to meet the challenge match deadline.

“Mr. Zuckerman’s pledge has enabled us to leverage both individual and major donor support for the museum project,” said Wesley Wicker, vice president for university advancement. “We are closing in on our goal and hope to help Mr. Zuckerman honor his late wife Ruth in a tasteful and fitting fashion.”

The capital campaign has allowed Kennesaw State to move forward on many fronts toward its quest for national preeminence, including new scholarship programs, initiatives to reward outstanding faculty and staff performance, new facilities, and a strong expansion in funded research.

Highlights of the campaign include:

- The Clendenin family donated \$1 million — the largest single gift ever for scholarships at Kennesaw State University — to endow fellowships for graduate students and doctoral candidates. The Clendenin Graduate Fellows Program supports graduate and doctoral students pursuing master’s or doctoral degrees.
- KSU’s faculty and staff recognition awards program, the largest among University System of Georgia institutions, is made possible through an anonymous donation. Last August, more than \$180,000 was awarded to faculty and staff who excel in service, teaching and scholarship.
- KSU has raised more funds for need-based and other scholarships during its capital campaign than at any other time in the university’s history, establishing 41 endowed scholarships and 42 annual scholarships that have helped defray tuition costs for hundreds of students.
- Over the past four years, sponsored research at KSU has increased by 159 percent, from \$6.2 million in 2007 to \$16.2 million as of June 2011. Recent awards include an \$890,000 grant from the National Science Foundation for teacher recruitment and professional development and a \$2.38 million grant from the Department of Defense to study brain injuries.
- In 2009, the Harnisch Foundation donated a five-year, \$1.5 million gift to establish the Center for Sustainable Journalism housed in KSU’s College of Humanities and Social Sciences.
- Bobbie M. Bailey donated \$2.4 million for the Dr. Bobbie Bailey & Family Performance Center. This included a gift of 27 Steinway pianos, earning KSU the designation as an “All-Steinway School.”
- In 2007, Don Russell Clayton donated his extensive collection of work by the Italian-born, Georgia artist Athos Menaboni. Combined with the support from the Robert W. Woodruff Foundation, Kennesaw State completed phase I of its Art Museum, which now houses 87 pieces of Menaboni artwork, valued at \$1.1 million. The Zuckerman challenge gift will contribute to the construction of phase II of the museum project.
- A 56-acre historic farm in Bartow County was donated by Marietta resident Jodie Hill. Valued at more than \$1 million, the property was deeded to the university in 2008 and has been transformed into the KSU Harmony Hill Organic Farm & Apiary. The property houses an organic farm that produces produce used in the food served at The Commons, the university’s state-of-the-art student culinary center.
- The Osher Foundation donated \$3.3 million to KSU. The gift supports re-entry scholarships for students who interrupted their college careers for five years or more and also provides funding for adults over 50 to participate in lifelong learning through KSU’s continuing education programs.

According to Bob Prillaman, KSU trustee and co-chair of the capital campaign, the success of the capital campaign is due to the hard work of KSU’s development staff and the generosity of the

individuals and organizations that contributed to the university. “The real winners,” he said, “are the students of Kennesaw State.”

# # #

KennesawState University is the third-largest university in Georgia, offering more than 70 graduate and undergraduate degrees, including doctorates in education, business and nursing, and a new Ph.D. in international conflict management. A member of the 35-unit University System of Georgia, Kennesaw State is a comprehensive, residential institution with a growing population of more than 23,400 students from 142 countries.

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# KSU alums expand ice cream brand

*KSU alums Keith Schroder and Hunter Thornton launched their ice cream company when they were...*

Georgia (Jun 29, 2011) – KSU alums Keith Schroder and Hunter Thornton launched their ice cream company when they were students in the Executive MBA program at the Coles College of Business. Their business, High Road Craft Ice Cream & Sorbet, now sells to more than 100 restaurants in the Southeast and offers 80 different flavors.

## Publication

## Link To Article

<http://vidcache.newsoverwireless.com/wgcl/pmd-2/WGCL-2708337.mp4>

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# Streaming live



*Watershed assessment course debuts with strong demand A former KSU student's decade-old paper...*

Georgia (Jun 30, 2011) —

*Watershed assessment course debuts with strong demand*

A former KSU student's decade-old paper assessing local watershed conditions resurfaced recently, prompting a phone call from an environmentally conscious local resident who wondered if such a class still existed. It did not.

Thanks to the inquiry and receptive and responsive faculty members with interdisciplinary capabilities, it does now.

Launched in summer 2011, the new course—Watershed Assessment and Analysis—teaches students how to assess the quality and condition of a watershed as well as to engage with private and public agencies to improve it.

The new course – a brainchild of a pair of geography professors - was intended for 12 students; however, this summer 26 enrolled from multiple disciplines, including geography, environmental studies and geographic information science.

Mark Patterson, associate professor of geography and the lead instructor for the course, fielded the call from a member of the Watershed Alliance of Sandy Springs. With co-instructor Nancy Hoalst-Pullen, assistant professor of geography, Patterson designed a course that allows students to examine changes at different locations within a small urban watershed over time. The course also is intended to provide students hands-on learning experiences with the physical, chemical and biological testing of streams, the restoration of impaired sections of a stream, and the dynamics of civic and political engagement for the sake of the watershed.

The timing was perfect since Patterson and Hoalst-Pullen were already working with Beth Giddens, associate professor of English, to draft a proposal for a new bachelor's degree in Environmental Analysis and Sustainability. The three professors collaborated with members of a faculty environmental studies working group last spring to assure the proposed degree program provides students field-based research opportunities incorporating skills and knowledge across various disciplines. If approved, the proposed degree program will be housed in KSU's new Interdisciplinary Studies Department.

Largely through field work, students in this summer's Watershed Assessment and Analysis class are collecting and analyzing water quality data at twelve locations along Sandy Springs' Long Island Creek, conducting an urban tree inventory of species adjacent the stream sites, and learning methods and techniques of stream bank restoration. Additionally, students learned to use satellite imagery and geospatial technologies like geographic information systems (GIS) to create maps of the watershed that showcase changes in land cover and land use over time.

For example, Patterson explained, students looked at satellite images over time to determine the amount of concrete and pavement, called impervious surfaces, in the watershed.

“The more of these surfaces you see, the poorer the water quality tends to be,” Patterson said. “Generally as you move downstream, the worse water quality gets as more pollutants enter the stream.”

Patterson and Hoalst-Pullen designed the course to balance students’ academic and practical learning experiences. During the four-week course, students split their time between on-campus and field activities, including certification in water quality testing by the Georgia Adopt-a-Stream program. In the field, students collected environmental data and analyzed the stream water for pH, dissolved oxygen, and conductivity. Back in the lab, students tested their water samples for chemicals and bacteria that indicate pollution, primarily nitrate, phosphate and *E.coli*.

A series of experts enhanced the course with presentations from scientific, community-based or land management perspectives on the needs and issues of metro-Atlanta’s watersheds. Guest presenters included representatives from Kennesaw State University, the U.S. Geological Survey, the Watershed Alliance of Sandy Springs, Georgia’s Adopt-a-Stream/Cobb County Water and the city of Sandy Springs.

At one field outing, KSU biology professor Bill Ensign led groups of students in exploring the stream’s fish ecology. Donning hip waders, students followed a similarly-clad Ensign up the stream as he “shocked” fish species to the surface using an electroshock backpack. Once identified and inventoried, all fish were released back to the stream unharmed.

“I am really enjoying this class, especially the tangibility of doing something compared to just reading about it,” said Chris Hawk, a junior GIS major. “You learn it; then you go do it. It’s a welcome change.”

Kimberly Atlee, an environmental studies major and self-described “nature girl,” noted the opportunity the class provides to do something positive for the environment. She said what she is learning supports her career goal of working in water conservation.

Mark Long, a senior GIS major, said the course allows him to tie together skills he learned in his first career in wildlife rehabilitation. “I’ve been working with land surveying and the AutoCAD software program and now I can tie in mapping and land assessment,” he said.

As a capstone project, the students will complete a report and present their findings to representatives of the National Park Service, the City of Sandy Springs, Georgia Adopt-a-Stream and the Watershed Alliance of Sandy Spring.

“A major accomplishment of the course is that the final project is a deliverable to the community,” said Hoalst-Pullen, who helped design and teach the course. “It’s an excellent way for students to be engaged citizens.”

-- Sabbaye McGriff

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# Summer reading academy helps Cobb County elementary students hone skills



*The scene was best described as organized chaos when 30 Cobb County elementary school students...*

Georgia (Jun 30, 2011) —

The scene was best described as organized chaos when 30 Cobb County elementary school students participated in a campus planting project June 20, as part of Kennesaw State University's America Reads Fast Start Academy.

The theme for this year's program, now in its 11<sup>th</sup> year, is "The World Around Us," and focuses on recycling, weather, pollution, water and planting through reading and enrichment projects.

As one elementary student dug a hole, four or five others stood in a quasi-line, purple verbena plants in hand. In all, five flats were planted in a newly dug garden between the University College and English buildings.

"This program is not a substitute for summer school, rather its designed to help keep the children on track, so they don't lose their reading skills over the summer," said Sylvia Inman, assistant director of Volunteer KSU and founder of the Fast Start Academy. "The kids really enjoy being on campus, and we've already planted the seed for them to come to KSU one day."

Fast Start Academy is an extension of VKSU's America Reads Program, part of the Federal Work-Study Program, a federally funded program that sends about 25 KSU students to seven elementary schools in Cobb County during the academic year to tutor kids in reading. In the summer, the rising third-and fourth-graders come to KSU.

"The purpose of the Federal Work-Study Program is to give relative work experience to students while they're in school," program coordinator Cheryl Betts said. "The academy helps keep the kids from falling behind during the summer through reinforcement of reading and vocabulary skills."

Of the 100 invitations sent out, with recommendations from local school teachers, Betts received 75 responses back for 30 slots. The program is free for participants.

"The program is extremely popular with the local elementary schools," Betts said. "And, it's valuable experience for our education majors, who get to work with the kids in a live setting."

The Fast Start Academy is staffed by KSU education majors, two lead teachers and 20 additional students who serve as teacher assistants and rotate in and out of the program during its three-week run.

*By Jennifer Hafer*

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