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Georgia manufacturing index for March rises again



Georgia PMI shows strong signs of improvement, with second consecutive month of above-50 readings, ...

Georgia (Apr 1, 2010) – *Georgia PMI shows strong signs of improvement, with second consecutive month of above-50 readings, says KSU economics professor*

KENNESAW, Ga. (April 1, 2010) – Manufacturing activity in Georgia showed strong signs of growth in March, according to the Econometric Center at Kennesaw State University's Coles College of Business. Employment, which had remained weak for months, has started to show solid gains.

Georgia's Purchasing Managers Index (PMI) – a reading of economic activity in the state's manufacturing sector – for March was 61.3, up 4.9 points from February. The March PMI is 7 points above the index's six-month average, and is more in synch with the national PMI. The various variables underlying the Georgia PMI -- new orders, production, employment, supply deliveries and finished inventory -- have improved dramatically in the first three months of the year.

In February, the PMI recorded its highest reading since April 2008. The March reading continued to ride on that trend, with the PMI now up 15.2 points for the first three months of 2010.

"We are finally seeing signs of solid growth in manufacturing," said Don Sabbarese, professor of economics and director of the Econometric Center at the Coles College of Business. "Employers are starting to hire with more confidence, and their production is up. This may as well signal the beginning of manufacturing's recovery after months of sluggishness, and we hope this continues over the next few months."

Highlights of the March PMI include:

- Hiring has gained momentum, with employment up 5.1 points, to 59.7 points
- Though new orders slipped 3.9 points, to 61.3 points, they are still strong. Some 42 percent of survey respondents reported an increase in new orders, compared to 19.4 of respondents reporting a decline in new orders
- Production showed the strongest gains, up by 16.5 points, to 72.6 points. More than half of survey respondents reported increases in production. Only 6.5 of respondents reported lower production
- Commodity prices rose 9.5 points, to 82.3 points, the highest reading since July 2008. Some 64.5 percent of respondents reported higher commodity prices

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 national PMI for March was 59.6, up 3.1 points from February.

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.

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

Alisa Weilerstein and Lera Auerbach to perform in Premiere Series



Kennesaw State performance features two internationally acclaimed musicians KENNESAW, Ga.—...

Georgia (Apr 2, 2010) — Kennesaw State performance features two internationally acclaimed musicians

KENNESAW, Ga.—Kennesaw State University's Premiere Series presents cellist [Alisa Weilerstein](#) and pianist and composer [Lera Auerbach](#) in concert on April 10 at 8 p.m. in the Performance Hall of the Dr. Bobbie Bailey & Family Performance Center. Both the recipients of international acclaim and recognition, Weilerstein and Auerbach have only collaborated in performance on a few occasions.

The program for the concert will feature Shostakovich's Twenty-Four Preludes for Piano, arranged for cello and piano by Auerbach, as well as one of Auerbach's original composition, Twenty-Four Preludes for Violoncello and Piano, op. 47.

Weilerstein, considered one of the great cellists of her generation, is hailed for her virtuosic powers and passionate artistry. Last November, Weilerstein performed at the White House as part of the White House Music Series. One of only four musicians invited to the event, Weilerstein participated in student workshops and an evening concert in the East Room of the White House.

With a performance style described by The New York Times as "an ecstasy and a generosity that lift performance into the realm of pure happiness," Weilerstein has appeared with many of the finest ensembles in the country, including the orchestras of Baltimore, Boston, Chicago, Cleveland, San Francisco and the National Symphony Orchestra. Weilerstein began playing the cello at a young age and first publicly performed at the age of four. Her professional debut, with the Cleveland Orchestra, was at the age of 13.

[David Daly](#), assistant director of the Bailey Center, observes that "Weilerstein and Auerbach are both unique in their own right." Auerbach, one of the most widely performed composers of her generation, is also a performing artist and an author. Her music is often characterized by its juxtaposition of tonal and atonal music and stylistic freedom. Auerbach, like Weilerstein, has performed in the leading performance halls around the world including the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C., Carnegie Hall in New York and the Salle Pleyel in Paris.

Auerbach's commissions include ballets, symphonies, concertos and string quartets. She is also currently working on her first opera, based on one of her original screenplays. Additionally, Auerbach has published five volumes of poetry and prose and was named Poet-of-the-Year by the International

Pushkin Society.

On the day of the concert, Weilerstein will participate in a master class 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m. in the Performance Hall of the Bailey Center. From 1-2 p.m., Auerbach will participate in a question-and-answer session. Both the sessions are free and open to the public.

Tickets for the concert are \$30. Student and group discounts are available. For more information and directions, [click here](#) or call at 770-423-6650.

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. A member of the 35-unit University System of Georgia, Kennesaw State is a comprehensive, residential institution with a growing student population of more than 22,500 from 142 countries.

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KSU presents August Wilson's "Fences"



KENNESAW, Ga.—The KSU Department of Theatre and Performance Studies presents August Wilson...

Georgia (Apr 2, 2010) —

KENNESAW, Ga.—The KSU Department of [Theatre and Performance Studies](#) presents August Wilson's Pulitzer Prize-winning "[Fences](#)" at the Howard Logan Stillwell Theater April 13-18, during the same week that Kenny Leon's revival of the same play, starring Denzel Washington, begins previews on Broadway. The play focuses on a family living in Pittsburgh during the early days of the civil rights movement.

In the play, Troy Maxson, husband to Rose, father to Cory and provider for his family, struggles to reconcile his present identity as a garbage collector with his past potential as a negro-league baseball player before Jackie Robinson broke the major league color line. When a recruiter offers Cory a scholarship to play college football, Troy rejects the opportunity as an impractical dream, and the ensuing father-son conflict tears the family apart. "Fences" is a play about relationships: father-son, mother-son and husband-wife.

Associate Professor of Theatre and Performance Studies [Karen Robinson](#), who directs the KSU production, describes Troy as "a deeply conflicted character who is committed to fulfilling his responsibilities as father and provider for his family, yet he falls into a situation where he betrays his wife. Thanks to Wilson's writing, audiences can't help but feel empathy even though he has acted wrongly toward his wife."

"Fences" interweaves poetry, humor and unforgettable characters to create a drama that has become a highlight of American theatre. "Fences" is one of the most beloved plays in Wilson's 10-play cycle chronicling African American life in the 20th century. Each play in this cycle represents a particular decade. "Fences" takes place during the 1950s and represents family struggles, particularly an African American father trying to give his son a better life. As Robinson explains, "Wilson captures this struggle with detail, clarity and great insight. The characters are really richly developed, fully realized human beings."

August Wilson passed away prematurely of cancer at age 60 but not without seeing his 10-play cycle materialized. Actor James Earl Jones played Troy Maxson in the 1980s Broadway production. The premiere of KSU's production coincides with Atlanta director Kenny Leon's Broadway premiere of "Fences" starring Denzel Washington and Viola Davis. The entire cast of the KSU play had the opportunity to meet Leon in person for additional insight into the play.

Robinson says, "August Wilson's objective was to commemorate the African American experience and to illuminate African American culture for all audiences; in doing so he has bequeathed an invaluable gift to American theatre."

Tickets are \$18 for general admission and \$12 for KSU students. Performance times are 8 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday. For more information, click the [box office](#) link at www.kennesaw.edu/arts or call 770-423-6650.

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KSU recognized by non-traditional student organization



University wins awards at 13th annual conference of the Association for Non-Traditional Students in...

Georgia (Apr 2, 2010) – University wins awards at 13th annual conference of the Association for Non-Traditional Students in Higher Education (ANTSHE)

KENNESAW, Ga. (April 2, 2010) — Kennesaw State University won a string of awards at the 13th annual conference of the Association for Non-Traditional Students in Higher Education (ANTSHE), held in Charlotte, N.C. in March.

ANTSHE is a national organization that supports adult learners, defined as degree-seeking students over the age of 25 who enroll in a university after being out of school for several years. They many times juggle the responsibilities of parenting and work while attending college. About 54 percent of Kennesaw State’s students are adult learners, according to Todd Powell, assistant director of KSU’s Adult Learner Programs.

KSU won the following awards at the 2010 ANTSHE conference:

- KSU received a 4-star rating (out of 5) and a 92.15 score (out of 100) in the annual “Non-Traditional Student Services Survey,” the highest ranking among all 51 participating institutions.
- Todd Powell, assistant director of KSU’s Adult Learner Programs, received the ANTSHE National Treasure Award, given annually to professors or academic professionals for their dedication and support of non-traditional students. This award recognizes individuals who go above and beyond their duties in supporting non-traditional students.
- KSU student and Adult Learner Student Association member Jean Gerard “Jerry” DeVarannes received the “ANT” Award, which recognizes outstanding student members who have made significant contributions to their local organization and serve as an inspiration to other ANTSHE members.

Kennesaw State has been an institutional member of ANTSHE since 2004. ANTSHE members include Oklahoma State University, University of Texas, University of Utah, University of Iowa, University of North Carolina at Charlotte, Middle Tennessee State University, Eastern Kentucky University, Central Washington University, University of Wisconsin-Parkside, Johnson C. Smith University and Central Piedmont Community College.

Next year’s ANTSHE national conference will be held March 11-13, 2011 at Kennesaw State.

Adult Learner Programs, part of the division of Student Success and Enrollment Services, is housed in the Lifelong Learning Center in room 261 of the Carmichael Student Center.

The Lifelong Learning Center is considered the campus commuter lounge that provides academic and

social support for nontraditional students. The center receives over 17,000 visits each year.

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Economic Indicator Shows Improved Outlook Among Georgia Manufacturers

ATLANTA, GA (WABE) - The Purchasing Managers Index--or PMI--shows an increasingly positive outlook...

Georgia (Apr 6, 2010) — ATLANTA, GA (WABE) - The Purchasing Managers Index--or PMI--shows an increasingly positive outlook among Georgia manufacturers. One highlight is that more companies say they've stepped up production, and will continue to do so in the next three to six-months.

Publication

Link To Article

<http://www.publicbroadcasting.net/wabe/news.newsmain/article/0/0/1632104/Top.Stories/Economic.Indicator.Shows.Improved.Outlook.Among.Georgia.Manufacture>

"When you take all those numbers together, it starts to paint a picture that this might very well be sustainable," says Don Sabbarese, head of Kennesaw State's Econometrics Center, which publishes Georgia's PMI. He adds that another promising part of this month's report is that employment, a lagging economic indicator, also shows growth.

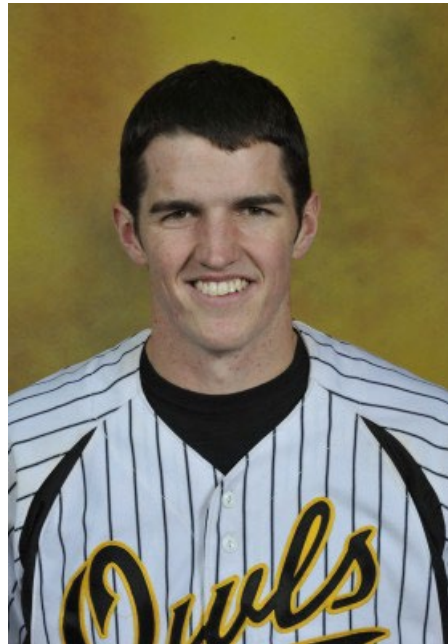
"Prior to January, 2010, there was about 10% of our respondents hiring. Now it's about 22%," he says.

One negative though is that the report finds commodity prices have sharply increased in the past three months.

Jim Burress, WABE News.

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KSU's Ronnie Freeman Named A-Sun Baseball Player of the Week



KENNESAW, Ga. (April 5, 2010) - Kennesaw State freshman catcher Ronnie Freeman has been named...

Georgia (Apr 6, 2010) — KENNESAW, Ga. (April 5, 2010) - Kennesaw State freshman catcher Ronnie Freeman has been named Atlantic Sun Conference Player of the Week after leading the Owls to a 3-1 week, including a series win over Belmont and a victory over No. 2-ranked Georgia Tech. The announcement was made by the conference office in Macon Monday afternoon.

"We're very excited for Ronnie," said KSU head coach Mike Sansing. "Being that he's only a freshman, he's made tremendous strides with his adjustment to college baseball, both from at the plate offensively and defensively handling our pitching staff. He's very deserving of this award and we hope this is just the first of many more awards he'll receive during his career."

Freeman went 7-for-15 on the week, including 6-for-12 with home runs in every game of the Belmont series. Against the Yellow Jackets, Freeman had a hit and scored the first run in a, 7-4, upset win for the Owls. In game one against Belmont, Freeman went 2-for-4 with an RBI single and a two-run home run as the Owls won 14-3. In the first game of Friday's doubleheader against the Bruins, the freshman had a solo home run and a run-scoring single, helping the Owls to an 8-7 win. In the finale, Freeman connected for a three-run home run to left and scored three runs. On the week, Freeman scored seven runs and drove in eight, leading the Owls to their first conference series win of the season.

The Lawrenceville native is currently KSU's triple crown leader, posting the best batting average (.327) and RBI total (26) while tying for the team lead in home runs with six.

Freeman and the rest of the Owls will be back in action tomorrow evening at 6 p.m. as they travel to Atlanta to take on Georgia Tech.

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The March PMI is 7 points above the index's six-month average, and is more in synch with the national PMI.

U.S. manufacturing in March grew at the fastest rate since mid-2004, according to the latest report from the [Institute for Supply Management](#). The report shows the [national PMI hit 59.6 percent last month](#), a more than 3 point jump from February.

The variables underlying the Georgia PMI -- new orders, production, employment, supply deliveries and finished inventory -- have improved dramatically in the first three months of the year.

Employment, which had remained weak for months, has started to show solid gains. Hiring has gained momentum, with employment up 5.1 points, to 59.7 points.

Though new orders slipped 3.9 points, to 61.3 points, they are still strong. Production showed the strongest gains, up by 16.5 points, to 72.6 points. Commodity prices rose 9.5 points, to 82.3 points, the highest reading since July 2008.

"We are finally seeing signs of solid growth in manufacturing," said Don Sabbarese, professor of economics and director of the Econometric Center at the Coles College of Business. "Employers are starting to hire with more confidence, and their production is up. This may as well signal the beginning of manufacturing's recovery after months of sluggishness, and we hope this continues over the next few months."

In February, the PMI recorded its highest reading since April 2008. The March reading continued to ride on that trend, with the PMI now up 15.2 points for the first three months of 2010.

Publication

Link To Article

<http://atlanta.bizjournals.com/atlanta/stories/2010/03/29/daily61.html>

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Coles College launches partnership with b-school in India



Collaboration with Mumbai Business School marks Coles College's entrance into India...

Georgia (Apr 7, 2010) –

Collaboration with Mumbai Business School marks Coles College's entrance into India's booming economy

Kennesaw, Ga. (April 7, 2010) - The Coles College of Business has entered into a partnership with one of India's up-and-coming business schools, launching one of the country's first executive M.B.A. programs offered in collaboration with an American university.

Under the agreement, the Coles College of Business will help Mumbai Business School launch its first executive M.B.A. program and teach the curriculum. Graduates of Mumbai Business School's Post-Graduate Program for Working Executives (PGPX) will receive certificates from the Coles College of Business.

"We are very excited about our new educational partnership in Mumbai, India's financial center," said W. Ken Harmon, dean of the Coles College of Business, who traveled to India in March to seal the deal. "Our collaboration with Mumbai Business School will extend the Coles College's brand into the heart of one of the most dynamic economies in the world. We are looking forward to a productive partnership that will yield benefits for both schools."

The revenue-sharing agreement will provide Coles College faculty the opportunity to teach at Mumbai Business School, whose faculty includes Indian business leaders as well as professors from renowned U.S. business schools such as Northwestern's Kellogg School of Management and Emory's Goizueta Business School. The partnership will also provide funding for research, travel and development opportunities for Coles College faculty, and will open the door for the college to help train U.S. executives whose companies want to do business in India.

This collaboration marks the Coles College of Business' entrance into one of the world's largest and fastest-growing economies. India, which has a large English-speaking population, is quickly becoming one of the most important business economies in the globe, thus creating demand for the education of managers and executives leading India's businesses. India's economy is projected to grow 8.5 percent this year, and U.S. Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner traveled to India in early April to work on improving bilateral economic and financial relations.

Harmon and other Coles College administrators visited several business schools in Mumbai, Delhi, Mysore and Bangalore in fall 2009 and they decided Mumbai Business School, which started operations in 2008, was the right partner "because of its entrepreneurial spirit and flexible approaches to education," Harmon said.

"Most of the business schools we visited in India were very young, which reflects the dynamic nature of the burgeoning economy," he explained. "While there are a number of long-standing business schools, we liked the fresh approach Mumbai Business School takes to business education."

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Teens -- get a job! Here's how

Roughly \$160 million from Washington is headed Georgia's way to hire 15,000 teenagers and 5,...

Georgia (Apr 7, 2010) –

Roughly \$160 million from Washington is headed Georgia's way to hire 15,000 teenagers and 5,000 adults this summer.

Businesses, local governments and nonprofits that employ young people between the ages of 14 and 18 will be fully reimbursed with funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. The economic stimulus money will cover 80 percent of adults' salaries.

"We have a unique opportunity to put Georgians back to work, reinvigorate Georgia businesses and spark an economic recovery across our state," B.J. Walker, commissioner of the Georgia Department of Human Services, said in a statement released Tuesday.

DHS will run the program, the latest federally financed effort to reduce the nation's 9.7 percent unemployment rate. Metro Atlanta's jobless rate is 10.8 percent.

In all, 287,616 Atlantans are unemployed, according to the state Labor Department. So the creation of 20,000 jobs will help parry, at least temporarily, the lingering recession's blows.

"Do you want temporary jobs being created from all this money or would you rather have permanent jobs created?" asked Don Sabbarese, director of Kennesaw State's Econometric Center. "The federal government has to establish an environment by which small businesses have an incentive to start hiring more people and creating permanent private sector jobs."

The teen job program, which pays \$8.50 an hour, runs June 1 to July 31. Eligible applicants must come from homes making less than \$66,000 a year for a family of four.

Employers must cover 20 percent of an adult worker's salary. The adult must have at least one dependent child and an income below \$66,000 for a family of four. The adult jobs program ends in late September.

"These jobs will provide opportunities for youths to learn essential new work habits, and will give adults an opportunity to learn new skills," Walker said. "And [the subsidy] gives employers strong incentives to hire."

About one-third of the \$160 million will help families with "one-time emergencies" for rent, mortgage and utility payments. It will also be used for child care for working parents.

For more information: www.jobsforgeorgia.org and www.georgiateenwork.org.

Publication

Link To Article

<http://www.ajc.com/business/teens-get-a-job-440804.html>

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Economist: No Economic Benefits to New Stadiums

"The Baseball Economist" author J.C. Bradbury and Fmr. Cleveland "Tech Czar"...

Georgia (Apr 8, 2010) – "The Baseball Economist" author J.C. Bradbury and Fmr. Cleveland "Tech Czar" Michael DeAloia on the economic impact of big government projects like arenas and stadiums.

Publication

Link To Article

http://video.foxbusiness.com/v/4116336/economist-no-economic-benefits-to-new-stadiums?playlist_id=87050

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

Finances paramount in Georgia governor's race

Last week's detailing of campaign finances revealed a pecking order in the race for governor...

Georgia (Apr 12, 2010) — Last week's detailing of campaign finances revealed a pecking order in the race for governor that is likely to become more important. The candidates who have struggled to raise money could find it increasingly difficult to remain competitive heading into the July primaries.

Publication

Link To Article

<http://www.ajc.com/news/georgia-politics-elections/finances-paramount-in-georgia-451267.html>

... Republicans John Oxendine, Eric Johnson and newcomer Raymond Boyd, and former Democratic governor Roy Barnes have the cash on hand to be competitive across the state. ...

The numbers, especially on the Republican side, didn't surprise Kennesaw State University political scientist Kerwin Swint.

"That's why I say it's going to remain competitive and it may come down to who turns out their people," Swint said.

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Softball Team Raises Money For Disabled Child

KENNESAW, Ga -- The Kennesaw State University ladies softball team raised \$ 800 to help buy a...

Georgia (Apr 12, 2010) — KENNESAW, Ga -- The Kennesaw State University ladies softball team raised \$ 800 to help buy a special tricycle for 7-year-old Alexis "Lexi" Kaiser.

Publication

Link To Article

<http://www.cbsatlanta.com/news/23114814/detail.html>

Lexi Kaiser is a triplet born with cerebral palsy, a debilitating condition that effects how Lexi walks, talks, eats and plays. While her brother and sister play outside, her grandfather said Lexi is left trying to keep up. "She has a brother and two sisters, and they all ride bicycles, and of course, she is not going to be able to do that. But with this tricycle and a little bit of help, she will be right in there with them," Roger Kaiser said. "I remember her saying, 'I want to go, I want to ride a bicycle.' And, of course, she will say, 'Please don't leave me ' and those three little kids will come back and get her."

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KSU hopes to raise profile with new soccer stadium

By *Ralph Ellis* *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution* Wednesday, April 14, 2010 Next month will...

Georgia (Apr 15, 2010) —

By [Ralph Ellis](#)

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

Wednesday, April 14, 2010

Next month will be big at Kennesaw State University.

On May 2, the school will officially open its \$16.5-million, 8,300-seat soccer stadium, the centerpiece of a major expansion of its athletics facilities. An open house will be held for students and the community.

On May 9, the Atlanta Beat, a new women's pro soccer team, will play its first home game in the stadium.

KSU President Daniel Papp hopes the stadium will raise the school's profile and provide a new revenue stream while becoming a spot for student activities such as concerts and graduations.

The stadium has a performance stage at one end and could accommodate up to 16,000 for concerts by putting seats on the field. The KSU women's soccer team will use the stadium in the fall.

People keep asking Papp about that other fall sport involving an oblong ball and feet. He said the stadium could be used for football if KSU goes ahead with the idea of starting a program. An exploratory committee led by former University of Georgia coach Vince Dooley is expected to deliver a report on the prospect this fall, Papp said.

"The possibility is there but the bigger issue is whether funding could be found for football," Papp said.

The stadium is a public-private partnership, with the facility owned by the KSU Foundation and managed by the Beat. The team will handle all stadium booking. Private donations, including a chunk from Beat owner T. Fitz Johnson, and student fees are paying for the stadium. The students will chip in about \$75 per semester until the 30-year bonds are paid off.

The money will also go for other facilities on the 88-acre tract KSU bought east of I-75. The school, which now has 22,300 students, plans to build other soccer and rugby fields for intramural and club teams and walking trails around a 10-acre lake. Last fall the school opened artificial turf fields and an indoor training facility called the Owls Nest.

Senior Megan Talbert of Woodstock doesn't use athletic facilities much but thinks the complex is a good idea.

"Kennesaw has grown so much in the four years I've been here," she said. "I think there is a demand for intramural sports and this will allow Kennesaw to be more attractive to prospective students."

A cold, rainy winter slowed construction but Beat and school officials say they expect the stadium to be finished on time for the team's May 9 home opener. Crews still need to pave parking lots, attach seats onto the bleachers and install a large video screen. The stadium is being constructed in a natural bowl at the corner of Busbee Drive and Busbee Parkway, near the Chastain Road exit from I-75.

Papp said he's not worried about partnering with a pro team with no record of success during a shaky economy. Even if the Beat or the Women's Professional Soccer league doesn't make it, the stadium will still be paid for because money from donors and student fees has been committed, Papp said.

Johnson said he hopes the Beat averages 6,000 fans per game. So far, the team has sold about 1,500 season tickets. The league's June 10 All-Star game will be played in Kennesaw.

"We've built a model that's sustainable," Johnson said. "If we can sustain this for a number of years it will just get better. ... While the cash flow may not be great, the franchise value increases over time."

Publication

Link To Article

<http://www.ajc.com/news/cobb/ksu-hopes-to-raise-462143.html>

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KSU hosts soccer stadium opening May 2



Grand opening of Kennesaw State University Soccer Stadium slated for May 2 Venue is home to KSU...

Georgia (Apr 15, 2010) – Grand opening of Kennesaw State University Soccer Stadium slated for May 2

Venue is home to KSU women's soccer team and Atlanta Beat Women's Professional Soccer team

KENNESAW, Ga. (April 15, 2010) – Kennesaw State University President Daniel S. Papp will host the grand opening and ribbon cutting of the Kennesaw State University Soccer Stadium on Sunday, May 2, 2010 from 3 to 6 p.m. at the site of the new stadium, located at 3200 George Busbee Parkway, Kennesaw, Ga.

Who:

- Daniel S. Papp, president, Kennesaw State University
- Norman Radow, chairman, KSU Foundation
- T. Fitz Johnson, owner, Atlanta Beat
- Daniel Street, president, KSU Student Government Association

What: The grand opening and ribbon-cutting ceremony launches the opening of the new, 8,300-seat Kennesaw State University Soccer Stadium, home to the KSU women's soccer team and the Atlanta Beat Women's Professional Soccer team. Festivities also will include live music, food concessions, tours of the stadium, soccer drills, photo ops, and appearances by the KSU and Atlanta Beat soccer players.

When: 3 to 6 p.m., Sunday, May 2

Where: Kennesaw State University Soccer Stadium, 3200 George Busbee Parkway, Kennesaw, Ga. 30144.

Parking: Available at the KSU Center, 3333 Busbee Drive. The stadium is a short walk from the KSU Center. Courtesy shuttles also will be available.

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Dance program graduates its first class



First bachelors degrees awarded in May After Myles Johnson graduates this spring he...

Georgia (Apr 19, 2010) –

First bachelors degrees awarded in May

After Myles Johnson graduates this spring he plans to travel the globe in search of inspiration. Jillian Soden wants to perform on cruise ships and Chase Todd will pursue his dream of performing on Broadway.

Johnson, Soden and Todd are among 15 students who are the first to receive a bachelor's degree in dance from KSU this May. Launched in January 2009, there are currently 62 dance majors in the program.

"Response to the program has been remarkable and with 15 graduates this year, we have already exceeded the Board of Regents requirements for graduation during our second year," said Ivan Pulinkala, program director and associate dance professor at KSU. According to Pulinkala, new programs are typically given five years to graduate 10 students.

Courses in the dance program include dance composition, history, criticism, kinesiology and pedagogy, along with African, tap, musical theater and social dance. Concentrations in the program include ballet, modern or jazz.

"We had more than 90 students audition for the dance major in its first year, and we accepted 55," Pulinkala said. "We are estimating an additional 25-30 dance majors joining the program in fall 2010."

Although still in its infancy, the dance program, offered through KSU's College of the Arts, has already garnered regional and national recognition. In 2008, the KSU Dance Company won top honors at the regional American College Dance Festival held at the University of Florida. Their performance, "Incubus," was one of 29 dances selected out of a national pool of 430 to be performed at the National American College Dance Festival held at the Arthur Miller Theatre in New York City.

This fall, the program will move into an 8,000-square-foot facility at Chastain Point that boasts one large instructional studio, one small practice studio, dance offices, showers and a student lounge.

"Our growth and success is directly related to the quality of dance education we are able to offer at KSU, our strong faculty and supportive administration," Pulinkala said.

- by Jennifer Hafer

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Kennesaw State to offer bachelor's degree in birth-to-5 education



Board of Regents approves new major for early childhood teachers Kennesaw, Ga. (April 21, 2010)...

Georgia (Apr 21, 2010) – *Board of Regents approves new major for early childhood teachers*

Kennesaw, Ga. (April 21, 2010) - Kennesaw State University's Bagwell College of Education will offer a Bachelor of Science in Early Childhood Education-Birth through Five, responding to an increasing need for professionally prepared teachers to work with the state's youngest learners.

The Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia (USG) approved the new degree at its April 21 meeting.

The new program, which will launch in fall 2010, expands KSU's early childhood education degree program beyond the current emphasis on preparing teachers for pre-K through fifth grade.

Kennesaw State's Department of Elementary and Early Childhood Education, the USG's largest producer of elementary teachers, has more than 2,000 undergraduate majors and more than 100 majors at the master's, specialist and doctoral levels. The university joins three other USG institutions offering early childhood degrees designed to prepare teachers to work with infants, toddlers and children 3 to 5 years old.

In keeping with the university's emphasis on global education, KSU's new Birth-through-Five program will include a focus on second language acquisition and working with children whose native language is not English. It also will provide a track for those seeking certification in Montessori education.

"We are excited about this unique new degree program that is a timely response to the state's efforts to get children off to a better start," said Lendley C. Black, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs. "With KSU's proven track record of educating outstanding teachers, this is a very significant step towards the university's mission of preparing teachers at all levels within Georgia's education spectrum."

Higher teacher education standards for the state's children birth to age 5 evolved from the recommendations of national early childhood accrediting organizations – the National Association for the Education of Young Children, the Council for Exceptional Children and the Association for Childhood Education International among them.

As a result, the Georgia Professional Standards Commission (PSC) in 2004 announced a new certification for early childhood educators in Georgia. Previously, those working with infants and toddlers in childcare centers and Head Start programs required only a high-school diploma and a Child Development Association (CDA) credential, achieved largely through on-the-job professional development.

KSU new degree program will support teacher candidates who come to Kennesaw State from Head

Start programs, technical colleges, those who have achieved CDA credentials and others seeking to qualify for the PSC's Birth Through Five teaching certificate. The curriculum consists of 126 academic hours, including four existing early childhood courses, 11 newly designed courses and 12 hours of student teaching.

"We've taken our time to develop an approach that delivers the highest quality of instruction for teaching children at this very critical stage of development, using multiple delivery formats, best practices and the latest technology," said Arlinda Eaton, dean of the Bagwell College of Education.

According to a 2009 USG report on new teacher preparation, fewer than 2 percent of teachers in Georgia are professionally certified to teach children from birth to 5 years. Both the state's early childhood department and the USG have worked towards new standards for the care and education of very young children.

In 2004, Georgia replaced and expanded the Office of School Readiness with a comprehensive department called Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning, which oversees all child care and education programs for children birth to five years. KSU's Confucius Institute partners with Bright from the Start to provide Chinese language instruction to pre-K students at lottery-funded centers throughout the state.

"KSU is uniquely positioned with this Birth-to-Five degree program," said Provost Black. "It builds on the impetus within the state for improvements in education for very young learners, while it emphasizes second language acquisition at a very early age and recognizes the cultural and linguistic diversity resulting from demographic shifts occurring in Georgia."

Contact: Sabbaye McGriff, 678-797-2550 or smcgrif1@kennesaw.edu

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Kennesaw State University is the third-largest university in Georgia, offering more than 71 graduate and undergraduate degrees, including new doctorates in education, business, nursing and 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 22,300 students from 142 countries.

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KSU to offer new education degree



Board of Regents approves new major for early childhood teachers By Sabbaye McGriff...

Georgia (Apr 21, 2010) –

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Arts College at Kennesaw State announces faculty, staff awards

Georgia (Apr 23, 2010) —

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Green on the Green: Earth Day at KSU



At 40, the nation's celebration of Earth Day has grown up, and with it, a new generation of...

Georgia (Apr 23, 2010) – At 40, the nation's celebration of Earth Day has grown up, and with it, a new generation of environmental enthusiasts who constitute a savvy, energetic front for today's green revolution.

KSU's annual celebration has evolved too, according to Robert C. Paul, the university's director of sustainability and coordinator of the April 22 Earth Day festivities organized by the student-run Progressive Earth Alliance at Kennesaw (PEAK). "This is probably as well attended as I've seen," he said.

At more than a dozen tables set up on the Campus Green, students – committed individuals or representatives of campus organizations – passionately shared information with hundreds of visitors. Joining the students' crusade were vendors offering everything from raw, whole and organic snacks to information on saving energy, as well as KSU units with a green bent, including culinary services, residence life and the bike shop.

Their green topics, demonstrations and activities ran the gambit: from solar and other types of renewable energy and recycling; to distinguishing between so-called green products advertised by well-known household cleaning product companies and the "real thing" produced by green upstarts; to making jewelry from recycled items and candles from natural soy; to composting for apartments and dorms using worms.

"It's really something we have to do," said student Tori Wester, representing the Epsilon Nu chapter of Phi Sigma Pi honors fraternity. "It's our turn."

Accepting PEAK's challenge to all sectors of the KSU community to work towards sustainability and a healthy environment, Wester described Phi Sigma Pi's commitment to several green behaviors, like using PowerPoint presentations at all meetings rather than handing out information on paper; having a recycling bin on hand for any events they hold; making and distributing recyclable water bottles and carpooling wherever they travel.

Second-year student Julianne Trew has made a personal commitment to eliminating waste. For about 16 months, she has been turning all her table scraps (except meat and citrus) and newspaper into a rich, dark compost with the help of about one-half pound of red wiggler worms, a technique she learned at a green expo. She makes the compost in a plastic bin she keeps next to her bed in her on-campus apartment. "Most people that visit don't even know I have it," she said. "There's no smell and the worms can't get out." Trew gives most of the compost to her dad for gardening, but on Earth Day, she was happy to share it with visitors who got small cups with vegetable or herb seeds planted in the mixture.

Chris Smith, a graduate student in American Studies and PEAK organizer, helped orchestrate a demonstration of solar power using two polycrystalline photovoltaic solar panels with a storage bank and inverter that supplies a 120-volt AC current, just like the power in a normal wall outlet.

“You’d need about 16 of these at a cost of about \$10,000 to power an entire single-family house,” Smith explained. “We hope to display these panels in the area of the Social Science building to help promote the feasibility of solar power. “It sounds like a lot, but over time it’s an investment that will pay for itself and help us move towards more sustainable energy.”

The Earth Day celebration is one more indication of KSU’s commitment to achieving and educating about environmental health and sustainability, said Paul, who was clutching a framed copy of the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEEDS) recertification award he had just received for the Social Sciences building. “We’ve come a long way but we still have a long way to go.”

- Sabbaye McGriff

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Final touches

KENNESAW - The final additions are being made to Kennesaw State University's new soccer stadium as...

Georgia (Apr 26, 2010) — KENNESAW - The final additions are being made to Kennesaw State University's new soccer stadium as it approaches its May 2 grand opening and ribbon-cutting ceremony.

Publication

Link To Article

http://www.mdjonline.com/view/full_story/7192466/article-Final--touches?instance=lead_story_left_column

Standing on the field's luscious bermuda grass, KSU President Dr. Dan Papp on a recent stadium visit confidently asserted that the \$16.5 million, 8,318-seat stadium at Busbee Parkway and Big Shanty Road will go far in putting the 47-year-old university on the national stage.

The stadium is the centerpiece of KSU's new sports and recreation park that will include at least nine athletic fields and nearly a mile of nature and hiking trails in proximity to a 10-acre lake. The first phase of the park included two synthetic-turf fields and a 16,000-square-foot indoor training facility called the Owls Nest, which opened in October. It's all expected to be completed by the end of the year and cost between \$53 million and \$56 million.

"We're on the verge of becoming a national university," Papp said. "By the time we start our second half century in five years, we want to be a national university."

The multi-use stadium includes a stage that can be placed at one end, thus increasing seating capacity to 16,316 with attendees seated on field chairs for performances. It also includes 572 club seats, 132 patio seats, 12 private suites, two press suites and a media interview room. The facility is also designed for football play if KSU decides to begin a program, which is currently under review, led by former University of Georgia football coach Vince Dooley.

"It would give us sufficient seating, we think, for the first couple of years," Papp said. "After that, if we were to go football, who knows?"

Dooley has noted that a football program would add more male students to KSU, which has more women enrolled than men.

Choate Construction crews have been working 24-hour shifts to complete the stadium before the new Atlanta Beat professional women's soccer team plays its first home game on May 9. The Atlanta Beat will share the stadium with KSU's womens soccer, which plays in the fall.

The major remaining construction tasks are the installation of bleachers and a large video screen, pouring more concrete and paving the parking lot. Matt Matthews, Choate project manager, said Thursday that the stadium should be upwards of 95 percent finished by May 2, and 100 percent complete by May 9.

Heavy rains since construction began in September proved to be a challenge for crews, Matthews said.

"With most projects on a typical building you reach a point where you've got a roof, so the rain doesn't really impact your schedule," he said. "But when you're building an open-air stadium, you never reach that point."

The fact that the stadium was built in what was already a natural bowl in 88-acres of land bought by KSU between Interstates 75 and 575, saved hundreds of thousands of dollars, Matthews said. Papp reported no cost overruns.

The cost of the expansion project, including stadium, is being funded through private donations, student fees and 30-year bonds, KSU Foundation chairman Norman Radow said. The facility is owned by the university's fundraising arm, the KSU Foundation, and will be managed by the Beat.

The Atlanta Beat's 7 p.m. May 9 home opener is scheduled to be nationally televised on the Fox Soccer Channel. The Women's Professional Soccer league's All-Star game will be played at the stadium on June 30.

All the national attention fits right into Beat owner T. Fitz Johnson's vision for bringing soccer enthusiasm to Kennesaw and the rest of metro Atlanta.

"I can feel the energy in our team, our staff here and when I go out into the community to some of the (soccer) clubs. Folks are real excited," said Johnson, who lives near Marietta Country Club.

He acknowledged that it will take some work turning Southern die-hard football fans into soccer enthusiasts. But he said he has a plan that includes partnerships with several soccer clubs and the Georgia State Soccer Association, as well as marketing toward area college students.

"It's very grassroots," he said. "Having that new stadium helps. What we hope is for folks who are just coming to check it out - we get them hooked."

So far, 4,900 tickets have been sold for the home opener, Johnson said on Wednesday. He said he hopes to attract an average of 6,000 fans per game for the regular season. About 1,500 season tickets have already been purchased, he reported.

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College club lacrosse is no Club Med

By Ray Glier Kennesaw State's Mark Tortorello held out his left arm, then his left leg, as...

Georgia (Apr 27, 2010) —

By Ray Glier

Kennesaw State's Mark Tortorello held out his left arm, then his left leg, as proof club lacrosse is not a simply a recreational sport, but serious business.

His skin was tattooed with bruises and scrapes from opponents' sticks that had hammered his body. There was a particularly nasty red mark under the pad that was supposed to protect his elbow.

He paid \$600 for the expressed pleasure of being whacked with a stick -- the rules call it "checking" -- or tripped to the turf and then stepped on. They don't wheel out the keg of beer on the sidelines like the old days of club lacrosse, lesser the chance to dull the pain.

"You get hit with a stick and it hurts just as much as varsity lacrosse," said Tortorello, a sophomore midfielder from Etowah. "It's a 'play-on' type deal. There's no sympathy. You stay out there."

Indeed, the culture of college club lacrosse matches up pretty well with the culture of the varsity scholarship lacrosse played by the Division I behemoths at Syracuse, Johns Hopkins, Princeton and Virginia. The collisions and sacrifice -- Kennesaw State practices five days a week -- are the same as the scholarship schools.

"The only thing different," said Scott Schulze, a junior attackman for Kennesaw State, "is the money."

The Division I schools grant scholarships while the club schools give a pat on the back with one hand and extend the other hand for the student's check for the honor of playing. The students who play club lacrosse pay anywhere from \$600 to \$1,000 per season and then have to do fund-raising events to help with costs, such as travel and equipment.

Coaches work for free. Ken Byers, the Kennesaw State coach, is a battalion chief for the Atlanta Fire Department. Ken Lovic, the Georgia Tech coach who is retiring after 15 seasons, is the Sport Clubs director at Georgia Tech.

"A lot of times when that brand 'club lacrosse' gets put out there, people don't consider it as serious and competitive as an NCAA program," Byers said. "Believe me, we have kids out here who break bones. We practice five days a week and we're disciplined.

"I have a million-dollar Astro Turf field lined for men's and women's lacrosse. You can't say we're not serious."

Adds Tortorello, who is one of Byer's star players, "We practice a lot harder than the varsity baseball team."

The Owls (15-4) made it to the Division II championship game of the South Eastern Lacrosse Conference (SELC) on Sunday, where they lost to Elon, 12-10, at Northview High School. KSU will find out next Sunday if it gets an at-large berth to the national tournament in Denver, which starts May 11.

Georgia Tech made it the semifinals of the Division I SELC Tournament on Saturday before it was eliminated by Virginia Tech.

There are 262 men's lacrosse teams sanctioned by the NCAA. The Men's Collegiate Lacrosse Association (MCLA) sanctions 213 club teams.

Lovic, the Georgia Tech coach, said his program has a budget of a little more than \$60,000. The program gets \$15,000 from the school (via student fees), but the rest has to be dug out of pockets. The players contribute \$800 each and the rest is raised through the sold-out Tech lacrosse camp and a fall tournament.

“Fifteen years ago when I first started, there was the keg on the sideline and we wanted to change that image,” Lovic said. “I think we have made the school proud of us and our players are proud as heck that they get to wear the school colors.”

There is an ever-expanding pipeline for the state’s club teams, which include Georgia, Georgia State, Georgia Southern, Reinhardt, Emory and Savannah College of Art and Design, among others.

According to the GHSA, there are 59 boys high school teams and 60 girls teams competing this school year and 67 boys teams and 65 girls teams planned for 2010-11.

The club lacrosse teams travel -- Tech, for instance, played five out-of-state games -- but it is not the first-class bonanza afforded varsity sports. Asked how Kennesaw State paid for its plane trip for a three-game swing through Texas in March, Tortorello just scoffed.

“Plane?” Tortorello asked. “We went to Texas by bus. We got to know each other real well on that trip. It was long.”

Kennesaw State players not only pay their own way, they worked during the season for gas money for the bus for road trips. They were ushers at basketball games, which paid \$8 an hour, and they refereed a dodge ball tournament on campus.

“If we get an at-large bid to the national tournament in Colorado, I’m not sure how we’ll pay for it,” Tortorello said. “Yeah, maybe we’ll be standing at the traffic lights holding a bucket for people to throw money into.”

Publication

Link To Article

<http://www.ajc.com/sports/college-club-lacrosse-is-495007.html>

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

KSU Alum Nick Ayers has full-grown plans for a Republican return to the White House

By Jason Horowitz Washington Post Staff Writer Tuesday, April 27, 2010 To call Nick Ayers the...

Georgia (Apr 28, 2010) —

Publication

Link To Article

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/04/26/AR2010042603992.html>

By [Jason Horowitz](#)

Washington Post Staff Writer

Tuesday, April 27, 2010

To call Nick Ayers the bright young future of the Republican Party is to ignore that the future has already arrived.

"We're the largest political committee in town," says Ayers, the 27-year-old executive director of the Republican Governors Association.

Ensnared a block from the White House, Ayers is a leading player in the GOP's plan to use the momentum of statewide victories in 2010 to knock President Obama out of office in 2012. The Georgia native, who left college as a 19-year-old freshman to help elect Gov. Sonny Perdue, the first Republican governor of Georgia since Reconstruction, is now a veteran Washington hand, bantering with Obama during East Wing receptions and serving as a confidant and strategist to a spate of governors, including the committee's chairman, Mississippi Gov. Haley Barbour.

Since taking the helm in January 2007, Ayers has transformed the creaky committee into a tight ship that has attracted Republican money bundlers disillusioned with Michael Steele's Republican National Committee and its spending sprees.

On a Wednesday afternoon, Ayers, wearing a blue pinstripe suit, chunky silver watch and the blond hair of a barbershop's model book, bounds around the second-floor office. He shows off camouflage-and-shotgun pictures of himself and Barbour standing over a dead quail, or of himself and Perdue crouching over dead turkeys.

He avoids his polished desk, saying he can't sit still for too long, and steps over to the overlapping whiteboards on the wall where he drafts policy and talking points for his candidates, keeps track of their finances and lists his core principles ("No Drama," "We Are All Fundraisers"). Outside his office, he eagerly talks up his communications team, his new-media geeks and the guy who just sold an iPhone app. Almost everyone looks young enough to be carded.

Boasting a runner's build, Ayers cuts across the office, past the mostly empty gray cubicles, over to the finance team's wall. The women have taped papers to their doors reading "I {heart}" over a picture of the actor Jay Mohr. ("They think he looks like me," Ayers says sheepishly.)

He knocks on a door at the end of the hallway and mouths, "Who you on the phone with?" to a woman on a conference call. She mouths a name back, and he quietly closes the door.

"That's a big-money guy, great!" he shouts. Then he walks over to the conference room and introduces his deputy and old college-era buddy Paul Bennecke. The two reminisce about the dives they dwelled in as young advisers for Perdue.

"Everywhere you looked out our balcony you'd see rats," says Bennecke, 31, who also wears a sharp

business suit.

"It was 'affordable housing,'" Ayers says, making air quotes over the words. He clarifies. "The projects."

Behind him hangs a framed 28-star American flag quilt dated 1884. "Pre me, the RGA used to spend money on art," Ayers says, disparagingly. "That's really going to help us win the Wisconsin governor's race this year. A quilt."

Ayers says some things that he probably shouldn't say. Ask him if he has children, and he volunteers that due to his busy schedule, he and his wife, Jamie, "didn't really have sex for the first three years of our marriage."

And he has done some things he probably shouldn't have done. "They dropped the DUI charge," he says of his 2006 arrest in Georgia. "That's really important."

He tweets some things he probably shouldn't tweet. "It's beautiful here," he wrote in a January post imagining a deal by which New York Gov. David Paterson, who is blind, might be sent to New Zealand. "Have you not seen it? Oh right, sorry."

And yet, it is hard to overstate just how charming Ayers is. His Southern gentry affect is backed up with self-made substance. He's got that round Georgia accent and the whole smooth-talking thing down pat. Visitors to his office receive a plastic cup of coffee that reads "Waffle House" on the side, and with it a story of how he asked the Georgia company's CEO for a "big favor" -- to send "the beans, the cups, the grinder, everything" -- and a "small favor" of a quarter-million-dollar contribution. He got both.

His charm oozes across the aisle: He counts Nathan Daschle, his counterpart on the Democratic Governors Association, as a friend and onetime hunting buddy ("He's a very good shot," says Daschle). In a February 2009 reception at the White House for governors, Ayers introduced himself to the president, and says Obama responded, "It's encouraging that you are running a committee at your age. That's what this town needs."

Later in the evening, he claims, Obama came back over to say goodbye, at which point Ayers introduced the president to Daschle. "Did you just introduce me to the [bleeping] president?" he recounts Daschle saying.

Daschle calls that version about "60 percent right." The son of former Obama mentor Tom Daschle says he had already met the president several times.

Running a tight ship

"I'm going to take my coat off," Ayers says in his office.

Leaning forward over a round coffee table, elbows on thighs, fingertips steepled in a politician's prayer, Ayers, a onetime Little League pitcher, explains why donors would be better served putting their money with him than, say, Steele and the RNC.

"I think our finances speak for themselves," Ayers says. "I don't have the details of theirs."

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KSU competitive cheer squad clinches first Division I championship

By Jennifer Hafer In an awesome display of spirit and athleticism, the Kennesaw State University...

Georgia (Apr 28, 2010) —

By Jennifer Hafer

In an awesome display of spirit and athleticism, the Kennesaw State University competitive cheer squad recently clinched its first Division I national championship.

As soon as the squad finished its final performance at the 2010 NCA/NDA Collegiate Cheer and Dance Championship in Daytona Beach, Fla., April 10, the celebration began.

“Our final routine was flawless,” team captain Jocilyn Yarnell said. “We were happy we hit a solid routine. The judges were going to give us whatever score they were going to give us, but I think we all knew in the back of our head that we won.”

Trailing rivals the University of New Hampshire and Quinnipiac University after the preliminary round, the 23 KSU cheerleaders rallied to overcome a small point deficit, said Yarnell, a senior majoring in exercise and health science.

“We had a few errors in our prelim match,” she said, “but afterwards, we just stressed to the team that we needed to work on making corrections in the next round. New Hampshire and Quinnipiac hit their routines on the first day, so there was no room for improvement. Plus our routine was harder than theirs.”

This is the team’s third national championship in six years. The squad won back-to-back Division II championships in 2004 and 2005.

As a club sport, the competitive cheer squad administers its own budget, designs its own uniforms and employs a coach and choreographer. Of the team’s \$22,500 budget this season, the university provided only \$9,380. Now the team is trying to raise an additional \$4,000 for national championship rings.

“We had such a great team this year, especially in terms of bonding,” Yarnell said. “It was just icing on the cake to win the championship at the end of the season.”

To view the squad’s championship-winning routine visit:

http://www.varsity.com/event/1361/2010_nca_nda_collegeiate_cheer_and_dance_championship.aspx.

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The Washington Post features KSU alum Nick Ayers



Republican Governors' Association chief cited as leader in party's strategy to take...

Georgia (Apr 28, 2010) — Republican Governors' Association chief cited as leader in party's strategy to take back White House

Kennesaw, Ga. (April 28, 2010) - Republican Governors' Association Executive Director Nick Ayers' Cobb County and Kennesaw State University roots are prominently featured in an April 27 article in *The Washington Post* about his role in revitalizing the organization and elevating its status in national party politics.

The article describes Ayers, 27, as a "leading player in the GOP's plan to use the momentum of statewide victories in 2010 to knock President Obama out of office in 2012." It credits him with transforming "the creaky [RGA] into a tight ship that has attracted Republican money bundlers disillusioned with Michael Steele's Republican National Committee and its spending sprees."

Ayers, a 2009 KSU graduate, assumed leadership of the Washington, D.C.-based RGA in 2007, after helping in 2002 to elect Sonny Perdue Georgia's first GOP governor since reconstruction and quickly rising in the state's party leadership as a result.

A south Cobb native, Ayers enrolled at KSU in 2000 but left as a freshman to join the Perdue campaign. As a student, Ayers spent most of his time building the university's chapter of College Republicans. He completed his degree in 2009 by taking weekend and evening courses.

As the article by *Washington Post* staff writer Jason Horowitz notes, Ayers, then a 19-year-old freshman, approached KSU political science professor Kerwin Swint about joining his senior-level campaigns and elections class.

"He doesn't necessarily have to crack a book ... I refer to him as the natural," Swint said in the article.

Looking back, it was plain to see that Ayers had a tremendous political future ahead of him, says Swint, who also is a political analyst and author of "Mudslingers: The 25 Dirtiest Political Campaigns of All Time" and a biography of Roger Ailes, political operative and Fox News founder.

"Nick is a great example of what talent and hard work can achieve," Swint said. "He just sort of came out of nowhere, but he was a very talented guy who quickly made an impact in the state and is

now doing so on the national level. All of us at KSU are very proud of him.”

Ayers is also featured in the spring edition of *KSU Magazine* due out next month.

Contact: Sabbaye McGriff, 678-797-2550 or smcgrif1@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 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 22,300 students from 142 countries.

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Undergraduate scholars shine at research symposium



15th annual event draws largest field of student scholars The 216 students who presented...

Georgia (Apr 30, 2010) –

15th annual event draws largest field of student scholars

The 216 students who presented oral and poster projects at the 15th Symposium of Student Scholars & Undergraduate Research set a new record of academic excellence for KSU, creating a triple win for the university.

This year's symposium attracted the largest number of entrants in its history, with each of the university's seven colleges represented for the first time. In addition, more of the young scholars received grants, published and presented research at more venues than in previous years.

For the more than 300 who jammed the University Rooms for the annual reception on April 27 and browsed row after row of visual scholarly presentations, a clear winner was KSU's undergraduate research profile. The participating students and more than 75 faculty mentors with whom they collaborated on more than 100 scholarly and creative activities shared their pride of accomplishment with administrators, family and friends.

"You have no idea how good it makes me feel to see so many here celebrating student research," said President Daniel S. Papp. "It's just a tremendous thing that has happened over the last 15 years."

Papp issued one word of caution to the young scholars: "Be careful, you may end up like me."

Explaining, Papp said he started his career in academia as a junior in college working alongside a professor on a research project on the Soviet Union's involvement in the underdeveloped world.

"That led to a master's and eventually a doctorate," said Papp, an expert on Soviet history, politics and military affairs. "You are beginning on a path that will lead you in directions that will surpass your wildest dreams."

Speaking at the symposium and conveying his enthusiasm to all faculty and staff in a memo following the event, Provost Lynn Black characterized participation in the symposium as a win-win for students and the faculty who nurture their scholarly and creative activities.

"The undergraduate research initiative affords students a unique educational experience of collaborating with faculty mentors on the design and implementation of a diversity of research and creative activities," Black said. "At the same time, faculty members have the opportunity to work closely with students and receive valuable assistance with their own scholarship."

The symposium, organized and sponsored by the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL) at KSU, presented a wide range of student research on topics drawn from 23 disciplines. Among the submissions were projects and activities that have been or will be presented at regional, national and international venues, received awards and special recognition, were

published in undergraduate academic journals, were conducted in collaboration with other universities and provided a service to the local community. (See list of examples below.) More than 75 of the students and faculty mentors received grants from four CETL funding programs.

“Undergraduate research at KSU is thriving,” said Amy Buddie, associate professor of psychology and CETL faculty fellow for advancing undergraduate research. “Studies have shown that students who participate in research as undergraduates show improvements in critical thinking, problem solving writing and oral communication, and are more likely to be accepted into graduate school and to actually succeed in graduate school.”

For Laura Lund, a senior majoring in anthropology, the research she conducted on the fossilized remains of a dog is precisely the type of research she hopes to conduct in graduate school as she prepares for a career in paleoanthropology and forensics. Her project earned departmental recognition as the best anthropology poster. By analyzing the excavated skeletal remains, she was able to determine that the dog had been hit by a car, that it had suffered injuries to its head and side, and that it was a juvenile male. “This has been a great learning experience,” she said.

- by Sabbaye McGriff

Examples of KSU undergraduate scholars who have earned distinction this year:

Students who have presented their work in professional venues:

- Jimi Reece and Ellen Winant (Faculty Mentor: Dr. William Ensign) presented their research at the annual meeting of Association of Southeastern Biologists.
- Vera Koganov (Faculty Mentor: Dr. Marina Koether) gave an oral presentation at the Southeast Regional Meeting of the American Chemical Society.
- Tom Powers and Ed Dean (Faculty Mentors: Dr. Nancy Hoalst-Pullen and Hermina Glass-Avery) presented their research at the Annual Symposium on New Interpretations of the Civil War.
- Lindsay Hixson, Ian McPherson, and Caroline McElveen (Faculty Mentor: Dr. Ping Johnson) will be presenting at the National American School Health Conference sponsored by the American School Health Association.
- Kaylie Greenway (Faculty Mentor: Dr. Kristin Hoyt) presented at the FLAG (Foreign Language Association of Georgia) Conference.
- Dhanashree Thorat (Faculty Mentors: Dr. David Johnson and Dr. Oumar Cherif Diop) has two different projects: One will be presented at Harvard University for a conference organized by the International Journal of Arts and Sciences and the other will be presented at the third Annual Diasporas Conference organized by Inter-Disciplinary.Net at Oxford University, UK.
- Megan Stein (Faculty Mentor: Dr. Faith Wallace) presented at the Young Adult Literature Conference.

Students who have won awards for their work:

- Noah Daleo (Faculty Mentor: Dr. Ana-Marie Croicu) presented at the Joint Mathematics Meetings in San Francisco, the largest meeting of mathematicians in the United States. He was one of only a small number of undergraduates to receive an award for his presentation.
- Krystle Roberts and Mark Segall (Faculty Mentor: Dr. Christopher Dockery) were awarded the Society for Applied Spectroscopy Student Poster Award at the Pittsburgh Conference on Analytical Chemistry and Applied Spectroscopy.
- Rebecca Finch (Faculty Mentor: Dr. Amy Buddie) and Melony Parkhurst (Faculty Mentor: Dr. Adrienne Williamson) won awards for their research at the Georgia Undergraduate Research in Psychology conference.

Students conducting research outside of the immediate area:

- Students in geography have paired with students at Indiana State University to conduct field research in Pennsylvania and West Virginia (see story at <http://www.indstate.edu/news/news.php?newsid=1880>).

Students conducting research that benefits the surrounding community:

- o April Marten, Deanna Roland, Kristel Nubla, and Jordan Rice (Faculty Mentor: Natasha Lovelace Habers) have paired with a local non-profit agency, [The Center Helping Obesity in Children End Successfully](#) (C.H.O.I.C.E.S.), to develop a children's book to educate children and their parents about the importance of implementing healthy eating habits and regular exercise (see http://www.kennesaw.edu/arts/COTA_News/2010/04-21-10_choices_expo.shtml for more information).

Some publishing in undergraduate journals:

- o Mariane Delepaut, Sandesh de Silva, Matthew Squires, and Timothy Walker published their work in The Kennesaw Tower, the annual undergraduate foreign language research journal at Kennesaw State University.

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Grand opening of Kennesaw State University Soccer Stadium yet another milestone



8,300-seat, state-of-the-art stadium is home to KSU women's soccer team and Atlanta Beat...

Georgia (May 3, 2010) – 8,300-seat, state-of-the-art stadium is home to KSU women's soccer team and Atlanta Beat Women's Professional Soccer team

KENNESAW, Ga. (May 2, 2010) – The newly constructed Kennesaw State University Soccer Stadium opened to the public on May 2 amidst grand opening festivities that featured a ribbon-cutting ceremony, live music, soccer drills and appearances by soccer players. The impressive facility is home to the KSU women's soccer team and -- through an innovative partnership -- the new Atlanta Beat Women's Professional Soccer team.

Construction of the state-of-the-art, \$16.5 million soccer stadium was completed this week, in time for the grand opening and one week before the Atlanta Beat's first home game, which is slated for May 9. The Atlanta Beat will lease the 8,300-seat stadium from the KSU Foundation in a collaborative partnership that will allow both the collegiate and professional women's soccer teams to play out their entire seasons in the facility -- billed as the only stadium of this size in the nation designed specifically for women's soccer.

The stadium's grand opening festivities marked yet another milestone for increasingly prominent and burgeoning Kennesaw State, which has rapidly earned its ranking as the state's third-largest university. The institution now enrolls more than 22,300 students, who will be greatly served by the stadium's addition to the university's athletics and campus-life facilities. The stadium is being funded in large part by KSU student fees.

"With this new stadium, our students and student-athletes can pride themselves in having an athletics facility that is best-of-the-best," said KSU President Daniel S. Papp. "This stadium will propel athletics at Kennesaw State to new heights. We are honored the Atlanta Beat selected KSU as its home, and that our women's soccer team also will be able to practice and play on a field that will be the envy of women's collegiate soccer teams across the nation."

Hundreds of KSU students, faculty, staff and community members attended Sunday afternoon's grand opening festivities. Support from the university's students and student organizations, especially the KSU Student Government Association, was critical in making the stadium a reality.

The bowl-shaped stadium -- built on 21 acres of land east of the Chastain Road exit off of Interstate 75, about a mile from Kennesaw State's main campus -- is the latest addition to the KSU Sports & Recreation Park, which opened in fall 2009 to expand the university's facilities for intramural and club sports. The stadium will help showcase varsity athletics at KSU, which completed its transition into NCAA Division I last year.

The 6.5 acres on which the stadium sits is part of 88 acres acquired for the university by the KSU

Foundation in 2008 and 2009, which now are being developed into athletics facilities for the university's growing student population. Over the next few months, the remaining area around the new stadium will be developed into soccer fields, an intramural field, a track and nearly 5,000 feet of nature and hiking trails, enhancing campus life.

Beginning this fall, the Division I Owls will play their women's soccer home games in the new stadium during the August to November season. With an 11-7-0 record in 2009 and two Atlantic Sun Conference championship wins in the last three seasons, the team is poised for more successes. The stadium also will help attract top soccer talent to KSU.

Construction of the stadium was aided by the leasing partnership KSU forged last year with the newly launched Atlanta Beat, whose season runs from April to September. The newest team in the Women's Professional Soccer league, the Atlanta Beat also will manage the stadium's operations and events, which will include festivals and concerts.

"This venue is a win-win for the university, for the foundation and for the Atlanta Beat," said Norman Radow, chairman of the KSU Foundation. "By partnering with the Beat, we were able to build for our student-athletes a top-notch facility that includes features like the suites that the university could not have afforded otherwise."

Atlanta Beat owner T. Fitz Johnson selected KSU as the site for his team to play after scouring numerous college stadiums and municipal venues in metro Atlanta. By partnering with KSU, Johnson was afforded the opportunity to have his team play in a world-class stadium -- built from the ground up -- specifically designed for women's soccer.

"This is the only women's soccer-specific stadium of this size in the world," Johnson said. "Through our partnership with Kennesaw State that provides us access to this state-of-the-art facility, we are the envy of every other team in the league. The stadium is setting a new standard in women's professional soccer."

The Atlanta Beat plays its first home game on May 9 against the New Jersey Sky Blue FC.

To view a photo gallery from the opening, [click here](#).

To read the coverage of the opening in the Marietta Daily Journal,

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KSU Soccer Stadium Grand Opening



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KSU Soccer Stadium Opens



Grand opening of Kennesaw State University Soccer Stadium yet another milestone 8,300-seat...

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"With this new stadium, our students and student-athletes can pride themselves in having an athletics facility that is best-of-the-best," said KSU President Daniel S. Papp. "This stadium will propel athletics at Kennesaw State to new heights. We are honored the Atlanta Beat selected KSU as its home, and that our women's soccer team also will be able to practice and play on a field that will be the envy of women's collegiate soccer teams across the nation."

Hundreds of KSU students, faculty, staff, and community members attended Sunday afternoon's grand opening festivities. Support from the university's students and student organizations, especially the KSU Student Government Association, was critical in making the stadium a reality.

The bowl-shaped stadium -- built on 21 acres of land east of the Chastain Road exit off of Interstate 75, about a mile from Kennesaw State's main campus -- is the latest addition to the KSU Sports & Recreation Park, which opened in fall 2009 to expand the university's facilities for intramural and club sports. The stadium will help showcase varsity athletics at KSU, which completed its transition into NCAA Division I last year.

The 6.5 acres on which the stadium sits is part of 88 acres acquired for the university by the KSU Foundation in 2008 and 2009, which now are being developed into athletics facilities for the university's growing student population. Over the next few months, the remaining area around the

new stadium will be developed into soccer fields, an intramural field, a track and nearly 5,000 feet of nature and hiking trails, enhancing campus life.

Beginning this fall, the Division I Owls will play their women's soccer home games in the new stadium during the August to November season. With an 11-7-0 record in 2009 and two Atlantic Sun Conference championship wins in the last three seasons, the team is poised for more successes. The stadium also will help attract top soccer talent to KSU.

Construction of the stadium was aided by the leasing partnership KSU forged last year with the newly launched Atlanta Beat, whose season runs from April to September. The newest team in the Women's Professional Soccer league, the Atlanta Beat also will manage the stadium's operations and events, which will include festivals and concerts.

"This venue is a win-win for the university, for the foundation and for the Atlanta Beat," said Norman Radow, chairman of the KSU Foundation. "By partnering with the Beat, we were able to build for our student-athletes a top-notch facility that includes features like the suites that the university could not have afforded otherwise."

Atlanta Beat owner T. Fitz Johnson selected KSU as the site for his team to play after scouring numerous college stadiums and municipal venues in metro Atlanta. By partnering with KSU, Johnson was afforded the opportunity to have his team play in a world-class stadium -- built from the ground up -- specifically designed for women's soccer.

"This is the only women's soccer-specific stadium of this size in the world," Johnson said. "Through our partnership with Kennesaw State that provides us access to this state-of-the art facility, we are the envy of every other team in the league. The stadium is setting a new standard in women's professional soccer."

The Atlanta Beat plays its first home game on May 9 against the New Jersey Sky Blue FC.

To view a photo gallery from the opening, [click here](#).

To read the coverage in the Marietta Daily Journal,

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New generation brings its values to work

By Laura Raines It doesn't matter whether you call them Gen Y, GenMe or Millennials, the...

Georgia (May 3, 2010) — By Laura Raines

Publication

Link To Article

http://www.ajc.com/jobs/new-generation-brings-its-514907.html?cxtype=rss_ajcjobs_307880

It doesn't matter whether you call them Gen Y, GenMe or Millennials, the youngest generation of workers, born roughly between 1980 and 1999, is hitting the labor pool. And they're bringing their values with them. They've been variously labeled as entitled, narcissistic, altruistic, individualistic, wired, fast-learning and over-confident.

"Up until now, the differences seen in the younger generation have been largely anecdotal, but now we have data to support the stories," said Stacy M. Campbell, professor of management at the Coles College of Business at Kennesaw State University. Campbell, with psychologists Jean M. Twenge (San Diego State University), Brian J. Hoffman and Charles E. Lance (both from the University of Georgia), recently published "Generational Difference in Work Values: Leisure and Extrinsic Values Increasing, Social and Intrinsic Values Decreasing," in the 2010 Journal of Management.

"We looked at a representative sample [16,507] of graduating high school seniors from 1976 (boomers), 1991 (Gen X) and 2006 (Gen M) from the Monitoring the Future database to see generational differences in work attitudes," Campbell said.

"While 17- and 18-year-olds aren't in the work force yet, there's plenty of research that shows their values are set by that age and influence the major decisions they are about to make."

Campbell and her co-authors looked at the generational attitude differences toward five key work values: extrinsic values (pay, benefits, status); intrinsic values (meaningful and interesting work); social values (wanting friends at work); altruistic values (giving back, volunteerism); and leisure values (vacation time, pace of work).

They found that Gen Y valued intrinsic rewards somewhat less than Gen X and boomers.

"Perhaps most significantly, the younger generations placed a much higher value on leisure time," Campbell said. "Almost twice as many young people in 2006 rated having a job with more than two weeks of vacation as 'very important' than did in 1976." At the same time the youngest generation's interest in salary and status — did not decrease.

"While Generation X valued money highly, they were willing to work hard for it. Gen Y has the high expectations of getting paid well and having more leisure time. They want [to have] their cake and eat it, too."

The researchers also found that Gen Y was no more or less interested in altruism than previous generations, but that it valued social interactions at work less than either Gen X or boomers.

"We conjectured that younger people have so many ways to interact with friends outside of work — Facebook, Internet, texting, etc. — that work was no longer needed as a social outlet," Campbell said.

Campbell cautions that these are average attitude changes. "My students are Gen Y and while I have experience with 'the entitled' attitude, others are really hard-working. This generation is also tech-

savvy. They value diversity and they embrace change – and those traits are a good match for our changing workplace,” she said.

Gen Y was expected to be 30 percent to 40 percent of the workforce by now, Campbell said, but the recession has put that on hold. “Boomers aren’t retiring and jobs are scarce. Gen Y’ers, like everyone else, are having trouble finding jobs,” she said.

“In the short term, the recession could reset some of Gen Y’s high expectations, making them more grateful to find any job,” she said. “On the other hand, the economy is only one factor in many – parents, media, friends – that influence people. We looked at data from 2008 and attitudes had not changed. If things get worse and expectations don’t change, this could be a disappointed, unhappy group,” Campbell said.

But in the long term, more people will be leaving than entering the work force in 2016 – and younger workers will be needed. Employers will be looking for new ways to attract and keep those workers.

“This would be a good time for companies to be proactive and re-evaluate their existing policies – to take some baby steps realizing that, over time, workforce needs change,” she said. “If everyone is working longer, maybe more vacation time up front isn’t such a crazy idea. Maybe somewhere there’s a happy medium.”

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Session ends but issues live on ... on the campaign trail

By Aaron Gould Sheinin 7:41 p.m. Friday, April 30, 2010 Roy Barnes said the just-...

Georgia (May 3, 2010) — By [Aaron Gould Sheinin](#)
7:41 p.m. Friday, April 30, 2010

Publication

Link To Article

<http://www.ajc.com/news/georgia-politics-elections/session-ends-but-issues-510063.html>

Roy Barnes said the just-finished legislative session was a disaster for Georgia. Karen Handel said there were real positive steps taken during the 40-day meeting of the General Assembly.

One is a Democrat, one is a Republican. Both are running for governor, and both will be joined by dozens of other candidates for all kinds of races who have already begun to dissect the legislative session for key talking points on the campaign trail that leads to the July 20 primaries.

"I want to make sure as governor we return to some sanity," Barnes, the former governor, said last week as he filed paperwork with the Democratic Party to seek his former office.

He said Republicans who control the Legislature had failed the state, including passing a long-sought transportation funding plan that is "nothing but smoke and mirrors."

Not 10 minutes later, Handel, a Republican and a former secretary of state, lauded those same issues.

"Clearly, how we dealt with the budget is going to really have an impact going forward," Handel said. "This is our time to make a decision to have limited government and transform government."

She said the transportation bill, which would allow voters in 2012 to decide to raise their sales taxes by a penny to pay for regional road projects, was "solid, a solid step forward."

With at least seven Republicans, seven Democrats, a Libertarian and an independent running for governor, the issues are not always going to fall cleanly along party lines. The fact that so few of the candidates for governor are sitting lawmakers will also change the discussion.

In fact, with the decision by state Rep. Austin Scott (R-Tifton) to run for Congress, the number of legislators running for governor drops to three: House Minority Leader DuBose Porter (D-Dublin), Sen. Jeff Chapman (R-Brunswick) and Rep. Randall Mangham (D-Decatur). There are, however, other veterans of the Gold Dome running, such as former Sen. Eric Johnson (R-Savannah), as well as former Republican U.S. Rep. Nathan Deal and Democratic Attorney General Thurbert Baker, both of whom were in the Senate before running for other offices.

But it has been 44 years since Georgia elected a governor who was not a sitting lawmaker, and that history could be important, said Kerwin Swint, a political scientist at Kennesaw State University. Couple that with some mixed messages from the legislative session and all bets are off.

"You throw in there the divisions among the Republican leadership, the ethics blowup and then a lot of disagreements over the hospital tax and other issues, and it's not a normal cycle," Swint said.

Candidates must find ways to stand out, and blanket agreement with legislative leadership is unlikely to cut it.

State Insurance Commissioner John Oxendine, who is leading in polls and campaign cash among

Republicans, has tried to have it both ways, Swint said. He has campaigned as a Republican stalwart, yet at times he tried to distance himself from elements of the Capitol gang.

"He can distance himself from some of the legislation, but it's awful hard for him to run as any kind of outsider," Swint said. "He's Mr. Inside Baseball, really."

When Oxendine filed his paperwork to qualify as a candidate this week, he saluted the transportation funding bill, yet managed to criticize it as well.

"Transportation has been addressed," he said, according to news reports. "The solution has been different than a lot of us would have wanted. And I tell you, I'm not going to wait until 2012 and years after that for funding to come in."

The strategy is obviously different for Democrats. With little power in the Legislature, they are free to bash Republican leadership and their proposals. Porter believes that's a key advantage for him, as he has led the opposition in the House for the past six years.

This year's session "only strengthened what I was already committed to," Porter said, specifically mentioning education and transportation reform that includes passenger rail.

"Not just this year, but I always have," Porter said. "Like classroom teachers. Classroom teachers haven't had the support of their governor for 12 years."

Of course, Barnes would disagree with that, considering his first term in office began 12 years ago.

Baker, another Democrat running for governor, has also taken shots at the Republican hegemony in Atlanta. At his official campaign kickoff Thursday, Baker decried leaders who "make headlines ... and make the same promises year after year but nothing gets done."

The water crisis got worse and worse. Traffic got worse and worse, yet leadership at the Capitol did nothing, he said.

Still, Baker also took a shot at some Democrats.

"If they're Republicans, they blame President Obama. If they're Democrats, they blame President Bush," Baker said. "They blame everybody ... but themselves."

The legislative session was a huge plus for Baker's campaign. When he stood up to Gov. Sonny Perdue and refused to sue the federal government over President Barack Obama's health care legislation, Republicans in the House began an effort to impeach him. It was the best thing that could have happened, Swint said.

"He probably wishes they'd have gone ahead and tried to impeach him," the Kennesaw State professor said.

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The pavilion.



The pavilion.

Georgia (May 3, 2010) — The pavilion.

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USG chancellor and HM Consul General - British Consulate among KSU commencement speakers



More than 2,000 students to graduate next week KENNESAW, Ga. (May 3, 2010) — Kennesaw...

Georgia (May 3, 2010) — More than 2,000 students to graduate next week

KENNESAW, Ga. (May 3, 2010) — Kennesaw State University will celebrate spring commencement next week, graduating 2,023 students in five ceremonies. University System of Georgia Chancellor Erroll B. Davis Jr. and Her Majesty's Consul General Annabelle Malins will be among the dignitaries feting the new graduates.

WHO/WHEN:

Commencement speakers are:

- C. Michael Cassidy, president and CEO, Georgia Research Alliance
Graduate College
Tuesday, May 11, 7 p.m.
- Lee Rhyant, executive vice president, Lockheed, Georgia
WellStar College of Health & Human Services, College of Science & Math
Wednesday, May 12, 10 a.m.
- Susan V. Booth, artistic director, Alliance Theatre
College of the Arts, Bagwell College of Education, University College
Wednesday May 12, 3 p.m.
- Erroll B. Davis Jr., chancellor, University System of Georgia
Coles College of Business
Thursday, May 13, 10 a.m.
- Annabelle Malins, HM Consul General - British Consulate, Atlanta

College of Humanities & Social Sciences

Thursday, May 13, 3 p.m.

WHERE:

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

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 student population of more than 22,300 from 142 countries.

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

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Wonderful Future

KENNESAW - The new Kennesaw State University Soccer Stadium at Busbee Parkway and Big Shanty Road...

Georgia (May 3, 2010) — KENNESAW - The new Kennesaw State University Soccer Stadium at Busbee Parkway and Big Shanty Road officially opened Sunday afternoon with a ribbon-cutting ceremony attended by more than 1,100 public visitors.

Publication

Link To Article

http://www.mdjonline.com/view/full_story/7278826/article--Wonderful-future?-instance=home_news_left

The \$16.5 million, 8,318-seat stadium is in its final stage of preparations for the home opener this Sunday of the Atlanta Beat professional women's soccer team. Players from the team as well as KSU women's soccer team - which will play at the stadium in the fall - made appearances at the ceremony. Visitors were allowed to tour the facility, take photos, sample concessions food and watch soccer drills.

After his remarks to the crowd, KSU President Dan Papp told the Journal that the stadium's opening is a huge step forward into a "wonderful future" for KSU and the Beat.

"For KSU, this is something that we've been dreaming about for years," he said. "We now have a wonderful stadium that we can use for field sports across the board."

The facility is owned by the university's fundraising arm, the KSU Foundation, and is managed by the Beat. Papp said the stadium gives KSU opportunities to do other things like host concerts, thanks to the ability to seat 16,316 spectators, including on the field, and possibly football in the future. Legendary University of Georgia coach Vince Dooley is scheduled to present findings of a football exploratory committee to Papp in September.

T. Fitz Johnson, Atlanta Beat owner, expressed his excitement to the Journal on Sunday of the stadium's opening. He said more than 5,000 tickets have been sold for Sunday's game.

"We clearly expect to sell this place out," Johnson said. "We need everyone in this community to say, 'lets get behind this.' This is their team and I want everyone to come out and enjoy this."

Johnson said he may have visited the stadium "200 times" in anticipation of the opening.

"Look at this facility, it's absolutely gorgeous," he said. "Watching the progress and everything go in is just amazing."

During the ceremony, remarks were also made by KSU Foundation chairman Norman Radow - who noted the challenge of finding funding for the more than \$53 million, 9-field KSU new sports and recreation park, including \$25 million to purchase the land alone - and Daniel Street, KSU Student Government Association president, who led students in supporting increased student fees to help raise money for the stadium's construction.

Choate Construction crews have worked 24-hour shifts to finish the stadium. On Sunday, there were bright yellow seats that had yet to be installed around the green bermuda grass, that is reported to have been unused sod at Augusta National Golf Club.

The stadium itself is believed to be the only one in the U.S. built specifically for women's soccer and the first soccer-specific stadium in Georgia. In Cobb, only McEachern High School's Cantrell stadium,

which can seat up to 12,500 people, is larger.

KSU's stadium includes four women's locker rooms, a players' lounge, an equipment room, a training facility, 572 club seats, 132 patio seats, 12 private suites, two press suites, a media interview room, and Wi-Fi access.

Among notables at the event were Cobb Commissioner Helen Goreham, former Cobb Commissioner Sam Olens, state Sen. John Wiles (R-Kennesaw), Kennesaw Mayor Mark Mathews and city council members, WellStar Health Systems president and CEO Dr. Greg Simone, KSU Foundation trustees, KSU benefactor Bobbie Bailey, and Journal publisher Otis Brumby Jr.

Goreham, whose district includes part of KSU, said the new stadium will be "an economic engine for the Kennesaw area, Town Center area and obviously for the university." Mathew said the city of Kennesaw will also likely benefit from the increased traffic to the area.

For Beat head coach Gareth O'Sullivan, the stadium is a welcomed sight for his team, which has been playing on the road since March 18.

"Just having a consistent, proper size grass field of this quality - it's only going to be good for the game," he said.

Sean and Suzanne Rodriguez of Kennesaw - who brought their three soccer-playing children, Sebastian, 9, Sheyanne, 6, and Simone, 4, to Sunday's event - said they hope to watch many soccer games at the stadium.

"We're ecstatic about the Beat and Kennesaw women's sports in general," said Carey Bayer of Powder Springs. She attended the opening ceremony with her husband, Dave Bayer, and 4-year-old daughter, Emma, whom they said was excited about perhaps growing up and playing soccer.

The Atlanta Beat's home opener is scheduled to be nationally televised at 7 p.m. Sunday on the Fox Soccer Channel.

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Georgia manufacturing index for April rises again



Georgia PMI shows continued improvement, with third consecutive month of above-50 readings,...

Georgia (May 4, 2010) –

Georgia PMI shows continued improvement, with third consecutive month of above-50 readings, says KSU economics professor

KENNESAW, Ga. (May 3, 2010) – Manufacturing activity in Georgia continued to show strong signs of improvement in April as manufacturers experienced an uptick in new orders, 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 63.3, up 2.0 points from March, marking the third consecutive month of readings above 50 points. The April PMI is 10.6 points above the index's six-month average and shows that more and more manufacturers are doing better. New orders are looking strong, with 21 percent more survey respondents reporting higher new orders since the beginning of the year.

“With each passing month, the recovery in manufacturing is getting stronger and more sustainable,” said Don Sabbarese, professor of economics and director of the Econometric Center at the Coles College of Business. “We are very encouraged with the gains that we are seeing. If this upward trend continues, we should see improvements in other sectors of the economy very soon.”

Highlights of the April PMI include:

- New orders, up by 15.4 points to 76.7, showed strong gains, with 63.3 percent of respondents reporting higher new orders and only 10 percent reporting lower new orders
- Hiring continues to improve since January, with 20 percent of survey respondents doing more hiring, compared to 5.3 percent in January
- Though production slipped 4.2 points, to 68.3, it still remains at very high levels. Some 46.7 percent of survey respondents reported an increase in production, compared to 10 percent of respondents reporting a decline in production
- Commodity prices remain high, rising by 1.1 points to 83.3. Some 66.7 percent of respondents reported higher prices, compared to zero respondents reporting lower commodity prices. This does not seem to be a problem for manufacturers yet, with declines in labor costs and higher productivity, but will be when these positive trends reverse
- Finished inventory declined 6.5 points, to 50, not unusual as new orders showed gains

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 national PMI for April was 60.4 points, up 0.8 point from March.

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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A view of the field.



A view of the field.

Georgia (May 5, 2010) — A view of the field.

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Grand opening of Kennesaw State University Soccer Stadium.



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Georgia (May 5, 2010) — Grand opening of Kennesaw State University Soccer Stadium.

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Grand Opening of the Soccer Stadium included a cake in the shape of the stadium.



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Georgia (May 5, 2010) — Grand Opening of the Soccer Stadium included a cake in the shape of the stadium.

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KSU Soccer Stadium



KSU Soccer Stadium

Georgia (May 5, 2010) — KSU Soccer Stadium

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The stands.



The stands.

Georgia (May 5, 2010) — The stands.

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Coles College of Business to honor former NFL quarterback Fran Tarkenton



NFL Hall of Famer, entrepreneur to be recognized as honorary inductee of Beta Gamma Sigma...

Georgia (May 7, 2010) –

NFL Hall of Famer, entrepreneur to be recognized as honorary inductee of Beta Gamma Sigma honor society for business schools

KENNESAW, Ga. (May 7, 2010) – The Coles College of Business at Kennesaw State University will induct NFL Hall of Fame quarterback and successful Atlanta entrepreneur Fran Tarkenton as an honorary member of Beta Gamma Sigma, an international honor society for business schools.

WHO AND WHAT:

An NFL Hall of Famer who played in the NFL for 18 years, Tarkenton has become known off the field for his success as an entrepreneur over the past four decades. Tarkenton is founder and chief executive officer of the Atlanta-based Tarkenton Financial, a network of independent insurance and financial professionals that delivers services to senior citizens across the U.S. He also owns GoSmallBiz.com, a leading small business portal and consulting services provider.

Tarkenton will give a brief talk to the Beta Gamma Sigma inductees at the Coles College of Business and he will also be made an honorary member of the honor society.

WHEN:

Tuesday, May 11, 4 p.m.

WHERE:

Burruss Building 151, on the KSU campus, 1000 Chastain Rd., Kennesaw, Ga.

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Southeast manufacturing index for April is at highest point since 2006



Southeast manufacturing index (SPMI) is up 3.4 points, says KSU economics professor...

Georgia (May 7, 2010) –

Southeast manufacturing index (SPMI) is up 3.4 points, says KSU economics professor

KENNESAW, Ga. (May 7, 2010) – Manufacturing activity in the southeastern United States was up by 3.4 points for April, to the index's highest reading since 2006, according to the Econometric Center at Kennesaw State University's Coles College of Business.

The Southeast Purchasing Managers Index (SPMI) – a reading of manufacturing activity in the six-state Southeast – for April was 63.3, continuing the strong uptick that started in January. The April reading represents 10.2 points higher than the SPMI's six-month average. The index's underlying variables have registered a similar impressive trend, with strong showings in new orders and production.

The Southeast PMI encompasses Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi and Tennessee, corresponding with the territory served by the Sixth Federal Reserve District.

“Manufacturing activity grew in five of the six states, with Louisiana showing the strongest gains. Georgia, Mississippi and Tennessee were the top performers for April, while Florida registered the lowest numbers,” said Don Sabbarese, professor of economics and director of the Econometric Center at the Coles College of Business. “We continue to see the beginnings of a recovery that hopefully will continue over the next few months.”

The Southeast PMI for April is 17.5 points higher than its January reading of 45.8. April's 63.3 reading exceeded, for the first time, the national PMI, by 2.9 points. Until last month, the Southeast PMI lagged behind the national PMI.

“The Southeast PMI tends to be more volatile than the national PMI, but as we go forward, it should track the national figures,” Sabbarese said.

Highlights of the April SPMI include:

- New orders increased in the double digits, by 11.1 points, to 78.3, 17.3 points above its six-month average. Some 64.5 percent of survey respondents reported higher new orders, while only 7.9 percent reported a decline
- Production was up 3 points, to 73, 14.6 points above its six-month average. Some 53.9 percent of respondents reported higher production, while only 7.9 percent reported a decline
- April employment was down by 1.2 points, but remains more than 6 points above its six-month average. Some 14.5 percent of respondents reported increased hiring, while only 3.9 percent showed a decline
- More manufacturers are feeling optimistic about a recovery: 62 percent said they expect production to increase in the next three to six months, compared to 60 percent in March

The Southeast PMI provides a snapshot of manufacturing activity in the six-state Southeast, 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 national PMI for April is 0.8 of a point higher at 60.4.

The SPMI 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 SPMI 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 Southeast PMI, or to speak with professor Sabbarese, please call (770) 423-6094.

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Commencement



Miguel Tricoche arrived in metro Atlanta in 2002 after serving in the Army. A few years...

Georgia (May 12, 2010) –

Miguel Tricoche arrived in metro Atlanta in 2002 after serving in the Army. A few years later, his younger brother Matthew Walcott moved to Georgia for work. Then Leland Walcott, the middle brother, followed in their footsteps.

On May 11, the three brothers from the U.S. Virgin Islands received graduate degrees from Kennesaw State University. Miguel, 38, earned an executive M.B.A., Leland, 30, a Master of Science in Applied Computer Science, and Matthew, 28, a Master of Science in Applied Statistics. The three brothers were among the 455 graduate students receiving master's degrees from KSU at Tuesday's commencement, the university's 109th.

"It's the first time the three of us are doing something at the same time in terms of academics," says Leland. "We've never been in school all at the same time together."

The brothers, who grew up in St. Croix, all attended the University of the Virgin Islands in St. Thomas, but at different times. They did not plan to attend graduate school simultaneously when they moved to Georgia. But two years ago, one by one decided to go to grad school, and they all chose KSU.

First it was Matthew, who enrolled in the master's program in applied statistics at KSU's College of Science & Mathematics. Then, when Miguel decided to pursue an M.B.A., he looked at the University of Georgia, Georgia Tech and Emory. But he chose KSU's Coles College of Business because of the program's emphasis on leadership skills. Then Leland, who was working as an information technology consultant, decided to go back to school. He came to a College of Science & Mathematics open house and was interested in the master's program in computer science. By the end of 2008, all three brothers were enrolled in grad school at Kennesaw State.

Last year, they realized they would be finishing their studies at the same time. "That's a coincidence," says Miguel.

Throughout it all, the brothers enjoyed their academic experiences at KSU.

Leland secured a one-semester internship at Assurant, the insurance and employee benefits giant, working directly with the chief information officer, through the computer science program. He is now looking for a job.

"It's an excellent program," Leland says of the computer science master's program. "It has a lot of practical applications because we did a lot of real-world projects in our classes."

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And Miguel, a university scholar who made the Beta Gamma Sigma honor society and graduated with honors, will keep working as a project manager for Insituform Technologies, a sewer and pipeline rehabilitation firm.

He says he was impressed with how knowledgeable the Coles College of Business staff and faculty were. “The quality of the guest speakers [was great] and the access to the professors and staff made the program manageable,” he adds.

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KSU launches national competition for business models to reinvent journalism



Winning Concept-2-Reality proposals address concerns about the industry's future ...

Georgia (May 12, 2010) — *Winning Concept-2-Reality proposals address concerns about the industry's future*

Kennesaw, Ga. (May 12, 2010) – Solutions to help journalism survive continuing erosion and maintain professional standards and ethical practices emerged last week in the First National Sustainable Journalism Concept-2-Reality© competition sponsored by the Center for Sustainable Journalism at Kennesaw State University.

The competition, patterned after a successful and similarly named contest at KSU for new business ventures, is designed to generate innovative, entrepreneurial ideas to counter declines in the journalism industry's markets, revenue, quality and credibility.

Taking first place and the \$1,000 prize was a proposal from San Diego-based 4th Estate Mobile to create a proprietary content management system (CMS) platform that allows newspapers to distribute content across multiple smart phone and mobile platforms. The firm, headed by Jesse Villanueva, the 20-year-old advertising director of San Diego State University's [The Daily Aztec](#), was also judged best for startup feasibility, written summary, verbal presentation and second best long-term market potential.

“Through our proprietary CMS, editors can easily upload content onto the application, Villanueva said in an interview with Leonard Witt, executive director, Center for Sustainable Journalism, Robert D. Fowler Distinguished Chair of Communication and associate professor of Communication. “Thousands of publications will be provided a new medium for disseminating news, as well as a new source of revenue, without the significant time and costs of developing an application themselves. With Advibez, our unique online portal, advertisers can instantly update their offerings directly onto the applications that will provide a shared revenue source with the publications.” Witt’s interview with Villanueva can be viewed at <http://sustainablejournalism.org/weblog/post/2268/>

In addition to short-term feasibility and long-term market potential, a panel of five judges representing media, financial, legal and entrepreneurial organizations also rated the entries’ journalistic impact and sustainability.

“Our finalists demonstrated clearly that America’s journalists are developing myriad new ideas to enhance the future of American journalism,” said Charles Hofer, Regents Professor of Entrepreneurship, founder of Kennesaw’s original Concept-2-Reality competition, and co-founder of the Sustainable Journalism Concept-2-Reality competition.

Among the other winning concepts in the 2010 competition were:

- Visual Talking™, a plan to provide rich journalistic content to the reader on demand through any electronic device, captured second place and a \$500 prize, and was judged to have the best long-term market potential. Its goal is to give journalists a platform to easily send visually driven stories to any reader across all digital media simultaneously. Journalists log into VisualTalking.com and use a visual dictionary and visual library of templates to tell their story and send it via a PC, cell phone, or TV. Visual Talking charges a small fee for sending and storing messages, which provides it the revenue to become an up and coming media outlet of the future.
- Online Credibility & Ethics Seal, a registry with a pledge for blogs and web sites emphasizing that the site practices and adheres to professional and ethical journalism standards. The business would be self sustaining through a nominal annual registration fee. The Credibility & Ethics Seal business planted for third place and will receive a plaque recognizing its achievement.
- My Green ATL, also tying for third place, connects Atlanta residents who are socially conscious about the environment with credible news and insight regarding the environment and with information about environmentally conscious businesses and services so they can learn about and engage in ‘green’ friendly practices and buy products and services from ‘green’ friendly companies. Its goal is to become the region’s most comprehensive environmental news and event listings site. My Green ATL will be funded with an affinity-based discount network that connects green consumers to the products and services they want.

“We know there are many good ideas out there to help ensure that high quality, ethically sound journalism will survive and continue to have a vibrant place in our democracy,” said Witt. “The Center is working on several fronts to bring forward the best minds and ideas to achieve that goal.”

The Center for Sustainable Journalism at Kennesaw was established in 2009 with a \$1.5 million grant from the Harnisch Foundation. For more information on the Center and the National Sustainable Journalism Concept-2-Reality competition, visit <http://sustainablejournalism.org/weblog/post/2261/>.

Contact: Sabbaye McGriff, 678-797-2550 or smcgrif1@kennesaw.edu

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Three brothers earn master's degrees at KSU commencement



Brothers from the U.S. Virgin Islands earn graduate degrees in business, computer science and...

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KENNESAW, Ga. (May 11, 2010) --- Miguel Tricoche arrived in metro Atlanta in 2002 after serving in the Army. A few years later, his younger brother Matthew Walcott moved to Georgia for work. Then Leland Walcott, the middle brother, followed in their footsteps.

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KSU Dance Company will perform in national festival at Kennedy Center



Performance part of the American College Dance Festival Association KENNESAW, Ga.—The...

Georgia (May 13, 2010) —

Performance part of the American College Dance Festival Association

KENNESAW, Ga.—The Kennesaw State University [Dance Company](#) will perform in the [American College Dance Festival Association's National College Dance Festival](#) at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. on May 28.

The company was selected for this honor at the 2010 Southeast regional festival, where the performance of "Chakra" progressed to the gala concert at Middle Tennessee State University. At the gala concert, the company was selected to perform in the national festival. Although approximately 450 adjudicated works were performed by schools in regional festival's across the country, only 30 works were selected for the national festival.

"Chakra" was choreographed by [Ivan Pulinkala](#), director of the KSU Program in Dance, with set design by Assistant Professor of Theatre [Ming Chen](#).

KSU is the only school in the Southeast United States to be selected for the gala concert for the last four consecutive years. This is also the second consecutive time the company has been invited to the national festival, which is held every two years. This accomplishment places the company on a distinguished list of very few schools in the history of ACDFA to be selected for the national festival in consecutive national years.

"We are very proud of our students for this accomplishment. The prestige of the Kennedy Center brings national visibility to the Program in Dance" Pulinkala says. Pulinkala also expresses gratitude to the dance faculty who work with the students on a daily basis and the tremendous support the company has received from the university's administration since the program's inception less than five years ago. Pulinkala explains, "Our success is connected to the support we have on campus and in the community."

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KSU hosts Eighth Annual Science Olympiad State Tournament



Largest Science Olympiad for elementary school students in the U.S. Kennesaw,...

Georgia (May 13, 2010) – Largest Science Olympiad for elementary school students in the U.S.

Kennesaw, Ga. (May 12, 2010) – Aerodynamic paper airplanes that can fly straight to a target, water rockets made from plastic bottles, aluminum foil barges, and suspension bridges made out of straws and straight pins. These are just a few of the experiments that will test the creative and scientific skills of the more than 1,300 third, fourth and fifth graders participating in the Eighth Annual Science Olympiad State Tournament at Kennesaw State University, May 15.

WHAT:

Sixty-four teams representing elementary schools from across Georgia will compete in 18 different events at the Eighth Annual Science Olympiad State Tournament. This is the largest Science Olympiad for elementary school students in the U.S.

In addition to the tournament, students and spectators will have the opportunity to participate in a number of science-based activities and demonstrations including performances by the Physics Juggler, Big Thinkers and the award-winning robotics team from Cobb County's Kell High School.

WHEN:

Saturday, May 15

8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Kennesaw State University

WHERE:

Kennesaw State University, 1000 Chastain Rd.

For times and locations of specific events visit our [Web site](#).

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The worst generation?

The worst generation? By BRIAN MOORE Gen Y workers get a bad rap in the workplace, with many a...

Georgia (May 13, 2010) –

The worst generation?

By BRIAN MOORE

Gen Y workers get a bad rap in the workplace, with many a geezer complaining that their work ethic is less developed than their sense of entitlement. But is that really fair?

Yes, according to new research that's yielded actual data to back up that notion.

In a series of studies using surveys that measure psychological entitlement and narcissism, University of New Hampshire management professor Paul Harvey found that Gen Y respondents scored 25 percent higher than respondents ages 40 to 60 and a whopping 50 percent higher than those over 61.

In addition, Gen Y's were twice as likely to rank in the top 20 percent in their level of entitlement – the “highly entitled range” – as someone between 40 and 60, and four times more likely than a golden-ager.

Harvey's conclusion? As a group, he says, Gen Yers are characterized by a “very inflated sense of self” that leads to “unrealistic expectations” and, ultimately, “chronic disappointment.”

And if you think the Gen Yers in your workplace are oversensitive as well as entitled, Harvey's findings back that up, too. Today's 20-somethings have an “automatic, knee-jerk reaction to criticism,” he says, and tend to dismiss it.

“Even if they fail miserably at a job, they still think they're great at it.”

Of course, to be fair, there's another stereotype about Gen Yers. They may be high-maintenance, but they're committed and idealistic, and determined to do work they believe in. A fair estimation?

No, according to another study, which will be published in the *Journal of Management* in September. Co-author Stacy Campbell, an assistant professor of management at Kennesaw State University, says the study revealed that when it comes to work, the two things Gen Yers care most about are a) high salaries, and b) lots of leisure time off the job.

“They want everything,” says Campbell. “They want the time off. They want the big bucks.”

To reach their conclusions, Campbell and co-author Jean Twenge – a professor of psychology at San Diego State and author of “*Generation Me*,” a book examining discontent among members of Gen Y – worked over the data from an ongoing survey of high school students conducted annually since 1975 by the University of Michigan. Among their findings was that while both Gen Y and Gen X want sizable salaries, Gen X workers show greater awareness that a hefty paycheck comes with a hefty workload.

“The findings really support the idea that they're entitled,” says Campbell.

All this leads to a question: Where exactly does this tsunami of privilege come from? As Harvey puts it: “We're wondering, how do they end up like this?”

The answer, he thinks, can be found in a reworking of the children's song “Frere Jacques” that he once heard elementary-school students sing. Instead of braying the original French chorus, the kids instead sang, “I am special/I am special.”

Entitlement “gets ingrained in the formative years,” says Harvey. “It stems from the self-esteem movement, telling kids, ‘You’re great, you’re special,’” he says.

Echoing the findings in Twenge’s “Generation Me,” Harvey says the “ultimate irony” of jamming unwarranted notions of self-worth into youngsters like corn down a goose’s throat is that it has the unintended effect of higher rates of depression in Gen Y.

“You see high levels of disappointment,” he notes, adding that unwarranted self-esteem acts as a shield until the ugly truth intrudes.

Recognizing that is easier than fixing it, he says, noting that excising entitlement from the minds of Gen Yers can be a daunting task. It was thought that giving entitled Gen Yers small bits of feedback ala their beloved Twitter might do the trick, but one study found that approach actually made the problem slightly worse, says Harvey.

The quandary is one that both Gen Yers and their employers will eventually have to confront as Gen Y increases its presence in the workplace, says Campbell, adding that each will have to meet the other halfway.

If not, there’s calamity brewing.

“There’s a chance we’re going to have a group of disappointed and disgruntled employees,” she says. “Surely there could be a crisis if no one budges – where Gen Y says, ‘I want everything,’ and the company says, ‘You’re not getting anything.’”

Publication

Link To Article

http://www.nypost.com/p/news/business/jobs/the_worst_generation_ZHtlSjvJY3GglWGTlWa0gO

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GaBio Cancels Gubernatorial Forums As Most Candidates Decline To Discuss Life Sciences Issues

ATLANTA (May 18, 2010) – Georgia Bio late Monday decided to cancel Democratic and Republican...

Georgia (May 18, 2010) –

ATLANTA (May 18, 2010) - Georgia Bio late Monday decided to cancel Democratic and Republican gubernatorial forums at Kennesaw State University based on a lack of interest among most of the primary candidates to attend and discuss life sciences related issues.

“We sincerely thank Kennesaw State University officials for agreeing to host these events. However with so few candidates agreeing to participate from both the Democratic and Republican Parties, we felt the expense was too great to justify holding the events,” said Georgia Bio President Charles Craig.

“We commend Democratic primary candidates Attorney General Thurbert Baker, Mayor Carl Camon and General David Poythress, and Republican primary candidates former Congressman Nathan Deal and Otis Putnam for their willingness to attend the forums and discuss issues critical to Georgia’s future.” The Democratic forum was scheduled for May 20, and the Republican forum was scheduled for May 27. Mayor Camon was forced to withdraw from Thursday’s forum because of a car accident Monday afternoon.

The topics for discussion were the significance of life sciences economic development, importance of K-16 science education and the impact of federal health care reform in Georgia. The candidates were sent three questions in advance covering these topics. All 14 candidates who qualified for the Democratic and Republican gubernatorial primary elections were invited.

Georgia Bio has asked all the candidates to submit written answers to the questions by June 4, after which the questions and answers will be posted on Georgia Bio’s website (www.gabio.org) and distributed to the organizations nearly 300 member organizations and thousands of life sciences professionals.

The three questions are:

Life sciences economic development:

What is the role of state government in supporting life sciences economic development?

K-16 science education:

How can Georgia ensure that its students will be able to compete for 21st century advanced technology jobs and that our state will have the skilled work force to support life sciences industry growth?

Federal health care reform

What, if anything, is the most critical need for Georgians when it comes to health care reform?

Georgia Bio (www.gabio.org) is the non-profit association representing pharmaceutical, biotech, medical device and diagnostic companies, healthcare systems, universities, research institutes and other organizations involved in the research and development of life sciences products that improve the health and well-being of people, animals and the environment.

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KSU study: GenY workers want it all



Youngest generation of workers wants both pay and leisure, says management professor in...

Georgia (May 18, 2010) –

Youngest generation of workers wants both pay and leisure, says management professor in new study

Much has been written and reported on the altruistic aspirations of GenY -- those born between 1982 and 1999. The notion that they value interesting, fulfilling jobs that provide them with an opportunity to “give back” has influenced how corporate America recruits and retains the younger generation of workers.

But according to a new study co-authored by Stacy Campbell, assistant professor of management at Kennesaw State University’s Coles College of Business, forthcoming in the September 2010 issue of the *Journal of Management*, *GenY (also known as GenMe or Millennials) is actually a bit more focused on both pay and leisure.*

“Many times the media make it seem like GenY is the first generation to want a meaningful job, but according to our findings, that is not the case,” Campbell says in the study, titled “Generational Differences in Work Values: Leisure and Extrinsic Values Increasing, Social and Intrinsic Values Decreasing.” “Our study found that the most important thing to GenY workers is finding a job that pays well and gives them more free time to do what they want outside of work.”

Campbell, an expert in organizational management and human resources, has written extensively on leadership, employee attitudes and generational differences in the workplace. In this study, Campbell and her co-authors -- psychologists Jean Twenge of San Diego State University and Brian Hoffman and Charles Lance of the University of Georgia -- looked at the generational attitude differences toward five key work values: extrinsic rewards (compensation and status); intrinsic rewards (meaningful and interesting work); altruistic rewards (volunteerism and caring for social issues); leisure rewards (flexibility and time off); and social rewards (need to connect socially at work).

According to the comprehensive study -- the first to provide hard, empirical data to support how work values differ among GenMe, Generation X and Baby Boomers -- these surprising results have significant implications for companies as Baby Boomers continue to retire and the youngest generation of workers populates the work force.

What makes Campbell’s study unique is that the data were collected across time, allowing for the isolation of generational differences from age differences, unlike one-time studies. The study was done with a nationally representative random sample of 16,507 U.S. high school seniors in 1976, 1991 and 2006. The data were collected from a larger data collection effort, Monitoring the Future, which has surveyed a nationally representative sample of high school seniors every year since 1976.

“Up until now, the differences seen in the younger generation have been largely anecdotal, but now we have data to support the stories,” Campbell says. “We found that the younger generation places a much higher value on leisure time. Almost twice as many young people in 2006 rated having a job with more than two weeks of vacation as very important. But while Generation X valued money highly, they were willing to work hard for it. GenY has the high expectations of getting paid well and

having more leisure time.”

By Aixa M. Pascual, apascual@kennesaw.edu

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LeeAnn Lands



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Georgia (May 20, 2010) – LeeAnn Lands is associate professor of history and American studies. Her research focuses on U.S. urban history and geography; housing segregation and inequality; grassroots social justice movements; cultural landscapes and community formation. She has developed several research and interpretive projects in collaboration with local communities and organizations, including her current multi-year partnership investigating neighborhood organizing in Atlanta’s Peoplestown community; a radio documentary on the history and culture of South Rome, Ga.; and the extensive Summer Hill project, which, with a number of undergraduate researchers, documented and interpreted the history and culture of an historically African-American neighborhood that developed in Cartersville, Ga., in the late 1800s. In 2008, Lands launched a series of housing projects to facilitate and foster undergraduate research, analysis and interpretation of metropolitan housing and cultures. Her most recent book, “Housing Landscapes, Segregation, and the Culture of Property” was published in spring 2009 by University of Georgia Press. Lands holds a Ph.D. from the Georgia Institute of Technology’s School of History, Technology and Society.

[Link To Website](#)

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Elementary students to explore curriculum in virtual worlds



Project OWL is designed to increase student interest in science, technology, engineering and math...

Georgia (May 21, 2010) – Project OWL is designed to increase student interest in science, technology, engineering and math

At high tide, the base of the old lighthouse on Cockspur Island at the mouth of the Savannah River is approximately 3 - 5 feet underwater. When the beacon was built in 1849, it was well above sea level. So, what happened?

Some third-graders in Marietta and Polk County will soon be able to explore the island as it was in the 1800s, trying to determine what forces, both natural and man-made, led to the lighthouse eventually being abandoned. Entering this virtual world as an avatar - a digital representation of themselves - students will be able to take soil samples, and interview the lightkeeper, his family and soldiers from the island's Fort Pulaski.

"The simulation will be like a time machine for the students," Assistant Professor Doug Herrington said. "Applying earth science lessons, and some engineering principles, they will investigate the problem and recommend a solution."

Using a \$72,817 grant from the U.S. Department of Education that was awarded to the Bagwell College of Education, Herrington will begin implementing Project OWL in three Georgia classrooms, two in Polk County and one in Marietta, this summer. A fourth elementary school in China will also participate. Project OWL (Online World of Learning) is based on Herrington's research using multi-user virtual environment technology in the classroom.

"Today's students have grown up with ubiquitous access to various forms of technology," he said. "Bringing this technology into the classroom provides a familiar format that increases critical thinking

skills while making learning fun.”

Beginning this fall, the pilot year of the program, 13 Georgia teachers will begin immersion training with Lighthouse Island, the lesson simulation plan based on the Cockspur Island Lighthouse designed by Herrington.

“Now that we know what happens to the lighthouse - today’s conditions - how can we go back and keep it from happening,” Herrington said. “I believe the students will come up with some very creative ideas.”

Project OWL will also provide virtual space to enable students to develop their own simulations. Herrington and the Project OWL teachers are discussing a variety of potential classroom simulations, including economic models, a virtual aquarium, and a simulated version of each of Georgia’s habitats and the organisms living in each.

The collaboration with the Chinese elementary school fulfills the program’s global component by broadening students’ understanding of global environmental issues and cultures. The Georgia teachers will visit China this summer to meet with their partner teachers for workshops and planning.

Jennifer Hafer, jhafer@kennesaw.edu

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KSU's Cox Family Enterprise Center awards honor Georgia family businesses



Annual prizes given by the Cox Family Enterprise Center at the Coles College of Business...

Georgia (May 25, 2010) –

Annual prizes given by the Cox Family Enterprise Center at the Coles College of Business

Kennesaw, Ga. (May 24, 2010) -- The Cox Family Enterprise Center, housed at Kennesaw State University's Coles College of Business, will hold its 19th annual dinner for the "2010 Georgia Family Business of the Year Awards" on Wednesday, May 26 at 7 p.m. at the Renaissance Waverly Hotel in Atlanta. The 2010 awards dinner is co-hosted by Georgia Trend magazine and sponsored by J. Smith Lanier & Co.

The winners and finalists of the "2010 Georgia Family Business of the Year Awards" are:

Cox Century Award: *Glover Foods* (Americus) was founded in 1892 and grew to become one of the largest food distributing companies in Georgia. Today the firm has 200 employees, three of whom are members of the founding family

Large Business (250+ employees) Winner: *Butler Automotive Group* (Macon) started as a Chevrolet dealer in 1933 and evolved into an auto parts business. The firm now has 400 employees, including seven family members, and owns 10 auto dealerships

Finalists: Bennett International Group (McDonough) Ed Voyles Automotive Group (Marietta)

Medium Business (50 - 250 employees) Winner: *N.A. Williams Co.* (Atlanta) was launched in 1934 by the current chairman's father. Today, the automotive industry manufacturers' representative is chaired by the founder's son and has sales representatives covering all 50 states

Finalists: Benning Construction Company (Smyrna) Mercier Orchards (Blue Ridge) Repro Products (Smyrna)

Small Business (fewer than 50 employees) Winner: *Jones Wynn Funeral Home* (Douglasville) was founded in 1950 in Villa Rica by a husband and wife team. Today the funeral home has two locations and is led by the third generation

Finalists: CCA&B (Kennesaw) Stripling's General Store (Cordele)

Since 1991, the world renowned Cox Family Enterprise Center has honored the best Georgia-based family businesses. The center gives out the Cox Century Award to a family firm that has been in business for at least 100 years and selects winners and finalists in categories based on company size. Winners are chosen by a panel of independent judges and are critiqued on a number of criteria, including family involvement in the business, innovative business practices or strategies, contributions to the community and business success.

“The past year has been tough on all businesses,” said Joe Astrachan, executive director of the Cox Family Enterprise Center. “But family-owned firms have done better overall than most businesses. In this year’s awards, we honor companies that have withstood the test of time and have done exceptionally well in a difficult economy.”

To purchase tickets or tables for the dinner, or for more information, please call the Cox Family Enterprise Center at 770-423-6045.

About the Cox Family Enterprise Center

Since 1987, the Cox Family Enterprise Center has been dedicated to the education, recognition and research of family businesses. As one of the first university-based centers of its kind, the Cox Family Enterprise Center remains on the cutting edge of family business education and research and has played a critical role in serving family businesses and furthering economic development. For more information on the Cox Family Enterprise Center, please visit www.kennesaw.edu/fec

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KSU study finds dire consequences for companies that engage in financial fraud



KSU accounting professor Dana Hermanson is co-author of new study of 350 accounting fraud...

Georgia (May 25, 2010) –

KSU accounting professor Dana Hermanson is co-author of new study of 350 accounting fraud cases

KENNESAW, Ga. (May 25, 2010) – Public companies that engage in fraudulent financial reporting often end up bankrupt, being delisted from a stock exchange, or forced to sell their assets, according to a new study on financial fraud co-authored by Dana Hermanson, Dinos Eminent Scholar Chair and accounting professor at Kennesaw State University's Coles College of Business.

The study, "Fraudulent Financial Reporting: 1998 - 2007" (co-authored with Mark S. Beasley of North Carolina State University, Joseph V. Carcello of the University of Tennessee, and Terry L. Neal of the University of Tennessee), examines 347 alleged accounting fraud cases investigated by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) from 1998-2007. It was commissioned by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO), a private-sector initiative whose goal is to reduce corporate financial fraud.

The study found that news of alleged fraud resulted in a company's stock price declining on average by 17 percent, beyond normal market movement, within two days of the fraud announcement. Also, news of an SEC or Department of Justice investigation was accompanied by an average 7 percent abnormal stock price decline. In nine out of 10 fraud cases, the SEC named the chief executive officer and/or the chief financial officer for alleged involvement.

"The consequences of fraud are severe, but the results indicate that the accounting fraud problem is not going away," Hermanson said. "In fact, the problem has gotten larger and is even more likely to involve the CEO and/or CFO of the company."

The study also found few differences in the characteristics of boards of directors between fraud companies and similar no-fraud firms. "This points to the need for more research on what boards actually do, their processes, as opposed to simply how the boards look from the outside," Hermanson said.

The study updates a previous COSO study issued in 1999, "Fraudulent Financial Reporting: 1987-1997."

Some of the current study's findings include:

- There were 347 alleged cases of public company fraudulent financial reporting from 1998 to 2007. In the 1987-1997 period there were 294 cases.
- Consistent with the high-profile frauds at Enron and WorldCom, the dollar magnitude of fraudulent financial reporting soared in the last decade, with total cumulative misstatement or misappropriation of nearly \$120 billion across 300 fraud cases with available information (mean of nearly \$400 million per case). This compares to a mean of \$25 million per sample fraud in COSO's

1999 study.

- Financial fraud affects companies of all sizes, with the median company having assets and revenues of just under \$100 million.
- The SEC named the CEO and/or CFO for involvement in 89 percent of the fraud cases. Within two years of the completion of the SEC's investigation, about 20 percent of CEOs/CFOs had been indicted. More than 60 percent of those indicted were convicted.
- Revenue frauds accounted for more than 60 percent of fraud cases.
- Many of the commonly observed board of director and audit committee characteristics such as size, meeting frequency, composition, and experience do not differ meaningfully between fraud and no-fraud companies. Recent corporate governance regulatory efforts appear to have reduced variation in observable board-related governance characteristics.
- Twenty-six percent of the firms engaged in fraud changed auditors during the period examined, compared to a 12 percent rate for no-fraud firms.

“There is still much more to learn about fraudulent financial reporting,” said Hermanson. “This is largely a CEO and CFO phenomenon, so understanding what pushes key executives to commit fraud is critical. I expect COSO to continue to sponsor fraud research and to drive the development of guidance to assist boards and auditors in fraud prevention and detection.”

For a free copy of the study, please go to www.coso.org/documents/COSOFRAUDSTUDY2010.pdf

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KSU names Georgia family biz winners

The Cox Family Enterprise Center at the Coles College of Business at Kennesaw State University on...

Georgia (May 26, 2010) –

The Cox Family Enterprise Center at the Coles College of Business at Kennesaw State University on Monday named the winners of the “2010 Georgia Family Business of the Year Awards.”

Cox Century Award

Glover Foods of Americus began in 1892 and grew to become one of the largest food distributing companies in Georgia. The firm has 200 employees, three of whom are members of the founding family

Large Business (250+ employees)

The winner is Butler Automotive Group of Macon. It started as a Chevrolet dealer in 1933 and evolved into an auto parts business. The firm now has 400 employees, including seven family members, and owns 10 auto dealerships. Finalists were Bennett International Group of McDonough and Ed Voyles Automotive Group in Marietta.

Medium Business (50 - 250 employees)

Winner N.A. Williams Co. of Atlanta was started in 1934 by the current chairman’s father. Today, the automotive industry manufacturers’ representative is chaired by the founder’s son and has sales representatives covering all 50 states. Finalists were Benning Construction Co. of Smyrna, Mercier Orchards of Blue Ridge and Repro Products of Smyrna.

Small Business (fewer than 50 employees)

The winner is Jones Wynn Funeral Home of Douglasville. It was founded in 1950 in Villa Rica by a husband and wife team. The funeral home now has two locations and is led by the third generation. Finalists were CCA&B of Kennesaw and Stripling’s General Store of Cordele.

“The past year has been tough on all businesses,” said Joe Astrachan, executive director of the Cox Family Enterprise Center. “But family-owned firms have done better overall than most businesses. In this year’s awards, we honor companies that have withstood the test of time and have done exceptionally well in a difficult economy.”

Since 1991, the world renowned Cox Family Enterprise Center has honored the best Georgia-based family businesses. The awards are set for May 26 at 7 p.m. at the Renaissance Waverly Hotel in Atlanta.

Publication

Link To Article

<http://atlanta.bizjournals.com/atlanta/stories/2010/05/24/daily9.html>

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Georgia manufacturing index slips in May



Georgia PMI shows continued strength despite first dip in five months, says KSU economics...

Georgia (Jun 1, 2010) –

Georgia PMI shows continued strength despite first dip in five months, says KSU economics professor KENNESAW, Ga. (June 1, 2010) – Manufacturing activity in Georgia remained strong for May, even as it slipped by a fraction of 1 point, 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 May was 63.2, down just 0.1 of a point from April's reading of 63.3, marking the index's first slip in the last five months. The May PMI, 7.2 points above the index's six-month average, shows that the number of manufacturers experiencing improved market conditions remains high and sustainable. An encouraging sign: Employment, up 2.5 points to 62.5, is at its highest point since May 2006.

"It is very encouraging that employment continues to climb steadily," said Don Sabbarese, professor of economics and director of the Econometric Center at the Coles College of Business. "Swings in the PMI from month to month are to be expected. But the general trend is upward and very positive, with an increasing number of manufacturers experiencing improved market conditions."

Sabbarese says the rise in manufacturing's fortunes should spread soon to other areas of the economy. "If this upward trend continues," he explains, "we should see improvements in other sectors of the economy very soon."

Highlights of the May PMI include:

- New orders for May were down by 3.5 points, to 73.2, but remain strong. Some 53.6 percent of survey respondents reported higher new orders, down by 9.8 points from April, but only 7.1 percent of respondents reported a decline in orders
- Though production slipped 2.3 points, to 66.1, it remains at very high levels, at 7.5 points above its six-month average
- Hiring continued to improve in May, with 28.6 percent of survey respondents -- an increase of 8.6 points over April -- hiring. Employment has risen by almost 20 points -- from 43.4 to 62.5 -- since January
- Commodity prices fell significantly, by 6.5 points, to 76.8, the first substantive decline since

July 2009. Some 57.1 percent of respondents reported higher prices, compared to 66.7 percent for April

· Finished inventory declined 3.6 points, to 46.4. Inventories should turn around in the near future

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 national PMI for May was 59.7 points, down 0.7 from April.

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 May PMI, or to speak with professor Sabbarese, please call (770) 423-6094.

By Aixa M. Pascual

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Kennesaw State faculty visit Shanghai for cultural exchange



Visit could result in future international student programs KENNESAW, Ga.—Three...

Georgia (Jun 3, 2010) —

Visit could result in future international student programs

KENNESAW, Ga.—Three Kennesaw State University faculty members recently participated in a Faculty Arts and Cultural Exchange project with Shanghai Normal University. On May 4, Associate Professor of Dance [Ivan Pulinkala](#), Professor of Theatre [Ming Chen](#) and Professor of Voice [Oral Moses](#) departed for Shanghai. During the trip, the professors performed recitals, participated in master classes and explored Shanghai. In the fall, several Chinese professors will return the visit, bringing their insights and expertise to KSU students.

Co-sponsored by the KSU [Quality Enhancement Plan: Global Learning for Engaged Citizenship](#) and the KSU [Confucius Institute](#), the trip provided a unique cultural experience for both KSU faculty and students of SHNU. To complete the partnership, three faculty members of SHNU will visit KSU in September.

“It was a unique opportunity to get to work with students from China,” says Pulinkala, who taught master classes, participated in lecture demonstrations and set a piece of choreography for the students based on the interactions during the classes. Pulinkala adds, “The students were very receptive to my work. They are very eager to learn and grow. Learning took place on many different levels; the creative, artistic, technical and cultural.” The piece choreographed by Pulinkala is scheduled to be performed in Shanghai this summer.

Chen initiated the project, helped to contact and coordinate with SHNU in preparation for the trip and also served as translator for part of Pulinkala’s master classes and other activities. When Chen was not translating, the university provided a translator for the other activities. “The university was so hospitable. They did a lot of work to make sure that our China trip was productive and enjoyable,” Chen says. The trip, according to Chen, was a great success. The project enhanced and will continue to enhance global learning.”

On the night of arrival, Moses performed a recital at the university. Accompanied by a student musician who learned all the music beforehand, Moses performed songs from his repertoire. Moses says, “The recital was very well received, and I was very impressed with the accompanist. The experience was wonderful.”

The next day, while Pulinkala and Chen were teaching master classes to dance students, Moses taught master classes to the whole voice department at the university. During the classes, the students helped Moses learn a Chinese folk song, which he will practice during the summer and perform for the KSU community and the public in September.

Through the trip, KSU established connections that will continue to provide unique learning

experiences in the future. For instance, according to Chen, Shanghai Normal expressed interest in establishing a joint curricular program that would allow students from each university to take classes offered by the dance program at the other university and receive credit towards their degree.

###

A member of the 35-unit University System of Georgia, Kennesaw State University is a comprehensive, residential institution with a growing student population of more than 21,000 from 142 countries. The third-largest university in Georgia, Kennesaw State offers more than 65 graduate and undergraduate degrees, including new doctorates in education and business.

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

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Fraud doesn't pay, KSU professor's study finds

The risk that comes with gaming financial reporting requirements isn't worth the potential...

Georgia (Jun 7, 2010) —

Publication

Link To Article

<http://www.bizjournals.com/atlanta/stories/2010/06/07/newscolumn2.html>

The risk that comes with gaming financial reporting requirements isn't worth the potential fraudulent gain, according to a recent study with a metro Atlanta connection.

Public companies accused of cheating financial reporting laws typically end up severely punished by investors and/or regulators, and in some cases, are cast into bankruptcy, according to a recent study co-authored by a [Kennesaw State University](#) professor, Dana Hermanson.

In the study, titled "Fraudulent Financial Reporting: 1998-2007," Hermanson and three co-authors from two other Southern universities followed 347 alleged incidents of financial fraud.

Cases of financial fraud climbed during the study period by 18 percent compared with the previous 10 years. The study also found the amount of money involved in a fraud soared during the study period to nearly \$400 million per case.

News of an alleged fraud resulted in a 17 percent drop in stock price on average within the first two days. Involvement by the [Securities and Exchange Commission](#) or the Department of Justice caused shares to dip 7 percent on average.

In 90 percent of alleged frauds, regulators named a company's CEO or chief financial officer as parties.

The boards of directors for firms that were accused of fraud were largely the same in terms of size, meeting frequency, experience and composition, the study found, to the boards of companies that show no signs of fraud.

"The consequences of fraud are severe, but the results indicate that the accounting fraud problem is not going away," Hermanson said in a statement. "In fact, the problem has gotten larger and is even more likely to involve the CEO and/or CFO of the company."

Hermanson's co-authors included Mark S. Beasley of [North Carolina State University](#), and [University of Tennessee](#) professors Joseph V. Carcello and Terry L. Neal.

The board of [Habersham Bancorp](#) might be preparing for activity that could boost the trading of its shares.

The parent company of Clarkesville-based Habersham Bank received approval late last month from shareholders that would allow directors to dramatically increase the numbers of the company's shares or perform a reverse stock split.

Shareholders overwhelmingly approved a measure to amend the company's articles of incorporation to increase the number of common shares to 50 million from 10 million.

Investors also approved a proposal to allow the board of directors, in its discretion, to perform a reverse stock split that could swap as many as 50 shares for a single share.

The purpose of such a split would be to increase Habersham Bancorp's (Pink Sheets: HABC) share

price and potentially stimulate investor activity, according to the banking company's proxy filed April 16.

Habersham Bank has \$436 million in assets and eight branches in Georgia.

The fallout of the real estate market has shaken Habersham Bank, like many Georgia lenders. Like other Georgia Mountain banks, Habersham Bank lent heavily to builders of vacation homes.

As of first quarter, 35 percent of Habersham Bank's loan portfolio was either delinquent, in default or in foreclosure, according to [Federal Deposit Insurance Corp.](#) data.

Earnings improvement

When the news has been mostly bad, bankers will hang their hats on modest improvements anywhere. According to first quarter Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. data, net interest margin, a key profitability measure, improved for the fifth straight quarter.

The margin was 3.46 percent in the first quarter, up 50 basis points since March 2009. Atlanta Business Chronicle previously reported that nearly six out of 10 Georgia banks eked out a profit for the quarter, the best showing in a year.

Marketing shift

A Marietta wealth management firm is taking a unique approach to its Web presence.

Instead of simply introducing clients to its line of financial services, investment commentary and research (which it still does), Narwhal's principals have opted to let clients and prospects get a glimpse of their respective passions outside of work.

Narwhal's redesigned website features the photography and philanthropic work of firm co-founder and President Mark Burton, and a golf blog by Executive Vice President and co-founder MacArther "Mac" R. Plumart.

"When you're building relationships, you have to know your clients and they have to know you," Plumart said.

Plumart's golf blog includes commentary about courses he's played around the globe, as well as his take on the current state of the world of golf.

Burton's section features photography from his international travels.

That's not to say the site is lacking the customary performance data or investment commentary. The firm has also started a financial blog to quickly connect its clients with updated commentary on financial news of the day.

The redesigned site launched in May. The firm has not yet tracked usage to see if the changes are driving new traffic.

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Working in the Gulf

Other Georgia colleges have professors, researchers and students working on various aspects of the...

Georgia (Jun 7, 2010) –

Other Georgia colleges have professors, researchers and students working on various aspects of the oil spill disaster in the Gulf of Mexico.

- Kennesaw State University biology professor Troy Mutchler will return to the Gulf Islands National Seashore near Pensacola on Saturday to study how pollution affects sea grass communities. He described sea grass as a "nursery" for Gulf marine life, including shrimp, scallops and crabs. His project was planned before the disaster, but he said the research will provide baseline data to help assess the oil spill damage.
- University of Georgia professor Samantha Joye and a team of researchers from UGA and other universities are researching underwater oil plumes in the Gulf. She has reported that huge plumes of oil remain deep beneath the surface. Joye, a professor in the department of marine sciences, is blogging about her work and answering questions here: gulfblog.uga.edu.

Publication

Link To Article

<http://www.aic.com/news/atlanta/clark-atlanta-graduates-help-541951.html>

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Impact of oil spill just beginning, Kennesaw State researcher says

PENSACOLA, Fla. -- Three hundred yards of white, sparkling sand is all that separates oil...

Georgia (Jun 8, 2010) —

Publication

Link To Article

<http://www.ajc.com/news/impact-of-oil-spill-542651.html>

PENSACOLA, Fla. -- Three hundred yards of white, sparkling sand is all that separates oil from the Deepwater Horizon spill and a cradle of many forms of sea life along Florida's coast.

While tar balls -- gooey blobs of oil ranging in size from dimes to softballs -- began washing up on the seashores of Florida's slender barrier islands, Troy Mutchler, a marine biologist from Kennesaw State University, and two students spent Saturday snorkeling over sea grass beds behind one of the thinnest islands at Gulf Islands National Seashore.

□

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Isakson faces formidable challenge in labor chief

By: ERRIN HAINES Associated Press 06/05/10 9:50 AM PDT ATLANTA — Just a few months...

Georgia (Jun 8, 2010) —

Link To Article

<http://www.sfexaminer.com/breaking/isakson-faces-formidable-challenge-in-labor-chief-95686224.html>

By: ERRIN HAINES

Associated Press

06/05/10 9:50 AM PDT

ATLANTA — Just a few months ago, Johnny Isakson had a clear path to re-election and was coasting toward his second term as a U.S. senator.

That changed in April, when Labor Commissioner Michael Thurmond surprised political observers across the state and announced that he would leave the post he had held for more than a decade to challenge Isakson for his Senate seat.

Thurmond is seen as a formidable challenger, one of a few African-American candidates elected statewide and well-liked among many Georgians. To challenge Isakson, Thurmond will first have to win the Democratic primary on July 20.

If he wins the primary and defeats Isakson in November, Thurmond would be the first black senator elected in Georgia and the first elected in the South since Reconstruction. ...

Political observers say Isakson is the favorite to win in November and will be tough to beat. But if anyone can beat him, they say, it's Thurmond.

"Johnny Isakson is a pretty popular incumbent in a Republican state," said Kennesaw State University political science professor Kerwin Swint. "That's the position you'd want to be in. He did draw a pretty well-qualified opponent. But everything Isakson has going for him is an obstacle for Michael Thurmond."

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Brave New Worlds



KSU's Pulinkala bridges the worlds of academia and the arts Like a grand jeté, the dance...

Georgia (Jun 10, 2010) –

KSU's Pulinkala bridges the worlds of academia and the arts

Like a grand jeté, the dance program in the College of the Arts has made great leaps forward since its inception in 2005, but rather than a grand finale like in many ballets, the curtain on the dance program is still rising.

From its humble beginnings in a plus-size classroom with low ceilings at KSU Center, the dance program graduated to a studio in the Student Recreation Center, and this fall, the program will move into an 8,000-square-foot facility at Chastain Point that boasts one large instructional studio, one small practice studio, dance offices, showers and a student lounge.

“We had 20 dance minors in 2005, and in 2008, we had more than 140 dance minors,” said Ivan Pulinkala, founding director of the program. “Students were asking for a dance major, which we started in 2009. We have 62 dance majors; we stopped counting minors.”

Pulinkala came to KSU to build the dance program shortly after arriving in the United States 10 years ago from his native India with nothing more than two pieces of luggage and a love for dance.

“I moved to the U.S. leaving behind a performance career, my family and essentially my entire past life to further my education in dance,” he said. “I jumped on a plane and headed west to a country I knew very little about. Everything that did not fit in my luggage was left behind and I set out to make a life for myself in a whole new world where I knew absolutely no one.”

After earning an M.F.A. in dance from Mill’s College in Oakland, Calif., Pulinkala moved to New York City to study under nationally and internationally known teachers and choreographers before coming to KSU in 2005.

“At KSU, I saw a great opportunity to develop a dance program,” he said. “There are not many dance programs in Georgia, and the administration has a strong commitment to support dance. I believed the dance program was poised for success.”

Although still in its infancy, the dance program has already garnered regional and national recognition. In 2008, the KSU Dance Company won top honors at the regional American College Dance Festival held at the University of Florida. Their performance, “Incubus,” was one of 29 dances selected out of a national pool of 430 to be performed at the National American College Dance

Festival held at the Arthur Miller Theatre in New York City.

“A strong work ethic and high standards are the things we aspire toward and try to instill in our students,” Pulinkala said.

With its “scholar-artist focus,” the dance program seeks to bridge the worlds of academia and professional arts.

“Traditionally, professional dancers, especially ballet dancers, entered the professional arena at 18, which meant they didn’t go to college and that trend is changing nationally,” Pulinkala said. “The art form, even in ballet, has a more intellectual component, and a lot of dancers have realized a professional dance career is very short - like a professional athlete.”

Courses include dance composition, history, criticism, kinesiology and pedagogy, along with African, tap, musical theater and social dance. Concentrations in the program include ballet, modern and jazz.

“We want to develop dancers, choreographers, arts administrators and dance journalists,” Pulinkala said. “Graduates who can serve the field creatively and intellectually. This program is going to explode on this campus and into this community in a big way.”

- Jennifer Hafer

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Cream of the Crop



Global scholars program attracts top high school students to KSU International and...

Georgia (Jun 10, 2010) –

Global scholars program attracts top high school students to KSU

International and intercultural learning opportunities are hallmarks of a Kennesaw State University education. In 2007, a five-year Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) was launched to provide more visibility to the university's mission of preparing students to be leaders in an increasingly global society and creating a campus culture that assures appreciation of diversity. Since then, each new semester has presented KSU students greater opportunity to expand their global awareness and competencies: new degrees in international business and policy management; a Global Engagement Certification program; an invigorating 27th "Year of" country study focusing on Korea; the opening of a Confucius Institute that is already breaking new ground in teaching Chinese language and culture; and formal partnerships with more than 40 universities in 23 countries. Thousands of KSU students have traveled to nearly every part of the world, participating in study abroad programs. Expanding international internships and a new Presidential Emerging Global Scholars program are giving KSU's best and brightest a unique window on the world.

At the midway point, KSU Magazine continues its QEP update with a look at some of the initiatives preparing students for their roles as global citizens..

Last fall, not even two months into her freshman year of college, Marlee Cox traveled to Brazil with 20 of her classmates. The 10-day trip to the city of Salvador, part of a new learning community for high-achieving first-year students, gave Cox the chance to meet Brazilian college students, visit a community learning lab that provides educational and business instruction and visit a program that teaches effective farming methods in rural communities. Their travels, she says "changed the way we view the world."

"We partnered with students from the University of Unijorge in Salvador, Brazil," said Cox, who plans to major in art. "They view access to education as a privilege and a way to improve their community, no matter how impoverished. I came home with a renewed commitment to my education and my own community."

Cox and 41 freshmen are in the inaugural class of the President's Emerging Global Scholars program (PEGS), an initiative designed to attract local high school students from the top 5 percent of their graduating class to KSU. Many of these high performing students could have their choice of schools; they chose KSU because PEGS offers them something unique, something no other school in Georgia offers - tailored learning communities, extensive international travel, undergraduate research

opportunities and mentoring.

PEGS students are grouped in cohorts and follow one of two tracks - one for science and math majors and another for all other majors. Every student begins with a class that teaches students to think strategically about important global issues. The goal is to prepare the students to be globally competent citizens.

In addition, each cohort must participate in a learning community that includes a global leadership freshman seminar.

“This is the first step in providing mentors and trying to connect internships with long-term goals,” said Brian Wooten, director of the Center for Student Leadership. “We want to really push them to stretch themselves. If they have a dream of working for the United Nations, we want them to consider maybe working an internship at an overseas embassy.”

PEGS offers students the opportunity to study other cultures and consider concepts from a global perspective while participating in joint-service projects, said Nancy Prochaska, associate professor of management and entrepreneurship and a PEGS faculty fellow. “The purpose,” she said, “is to give students a global perspective so they develop with a heightened awareness of the differences in the world.”

The PEGS program arose from President Daniel S. Papp’s interest in providing opportunities for students to thrive at KSU and to prepare them to make them strong candidates for prestigious scholarships such as the Rhodes, Truman and Goldwater, Wooten explained.

After evaluating other universities whose students regularly win these scholarships, Wooten said they discovered distinct similarities among the candidates. Nearly all students recorded a grade-point average of 3.7 or higher; they took a leading role in conducting research; they had extensive international travel experience; and they developed leadership skills by working with mentors. The PEGS program was created to provide these opportunities.

When deciding where to go to college, Cox, the freshman, was wowed by the PEGS program.

“I grew up around Kennesaw, so I really was determined to get away from home for my college years,” she said. “I applied to several out-of-state schools, but after I received a letter describing the PEGS program, I decided KSU was the place for me.”

Study Abroad Options Include

Internships, Exchange Programs

KSU offers many other opportunities for students to take advantage of internships abroad. This semester, Emily Dolezal, education abroad adviser in the Institute for Global Leadership, has placed four KSU students in international internships.

“One student is working for a non profit in Uganda, helping with community development and promoting the local handicrafts they are selling,” she said. “Another student works in community development in Guatemala. We have an international business major working for Glock GmbH, a German firearms manufacturer, in its Uruguay office. And our intern in Germany is a foreign language intern.”

For students who wish to immerse themselves in other cultures, the International Student Exchange Program (ISEP) coordinates student exchanges for one semester or an entire academic year in a number of different countries.

“Students take courses in their major at 42 eligible overseas universities, participating in classes with the host institution’s students and faculty,” said KSU’s ISEP director Michele Miller.

During academic year 2008-09, ISEP placed students in 22 countries, including Brazil, United Kingdom, France, Trinidad and Tobago, Japan, China, India, Russia and Sweden. This semester, 10 students are participating in exchange programs in France, Thailand and Spain.

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East West Connection



Confucius Institute and Georgia Pre-K language instruction partnership expands *The familiar...*

Georgia (Jun 10, 2010) —

Confucius Institute and Georgia Pre-K language instruction partnership expands

The familiar childhood classics “Frère Jacques (Are You Sleeping)” and “Happy Birthday to You” may never have been sung with as much expression as when a group of 20 enthusiastic preschoolers at the West Cobb Prep Academy in Marietta, Ga. were heard singing them in Mandarin Chinese.

After just three months of Chinese language instruction made possible by a first-of-its-kind partnership between the Confucius Institute at Kennesaw State University and Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning, the four- and five-year olds exude confidence in their nascent skills. They recite numbers from 1-100, days of the week, months of the year, animals, genders, body parts, shapes and colors. With little prompting, they follow instructions given exclusively in Chinese by their teacher, Fangly “Fran” Tan, a master’s student at Yangzhou University in China who works under a two-year contract with KSU’s institute.

“It’s something many of them can’t do yet in English,” said Bose Imoukhuede, owner of the culturally diverse early learning center, which also offers instruction in Spanish and French. “They have picked up Chinese so fast, and the parents are very impressed; more of them are requesting that their children take Chinese.”

The two Chinese language classes at West Cobb Prep were among the first seven classes launched at three preschools in Cobb and Hall counties in October. By year’s end, the partnership will offer 17 classes serving 340 preschoolers in Cobb, Whitfield, Hall and Fulton counties.

The rapid expansion of classes offered under this new partnership reflects a national trend toward an increased interest in Chinese language instruction in schools even as foreign language at U.S. schools is diminishing.

No one is keeping an exact count, The *New York Times* recently reported, but calculations based on a federally funded survey by the Center for Applied Linguistics suggests that 1,600 public and private schools are teaching Chinese, up from 300 a decade or so ago. In addition, the College Board reports that Chinese has replaced German as the third most-tested advanced placement language, behind

Spanish and French.

One reason Chinese language instruction is flourishing is due to the efforts by China's Office of the Chinese Language Council International (Hanban), which funds 282 Confucius Institutes throughout the world, like the one at KSU, which are designed to promote Chinese language and culture. In addition, the organization has been responsible for sponsoring hundreds of American school administrators and educators on visits to schools in China.

The seed for the partnership between the Confucius Institute at Kennesaw State University and Georgia's Bright from the Start department was planted when Special Assistant to the President for External Affairs Arlethia Perry-Johnson introduced Ken Jin, the executive director of the institute at KSU, to Georgia's commissioner of early care and learning, Holly Robinson, in January 2009.

"Promotion and support of Chinese language education in Georgia is a top priority for the Confucius Institute at Kennesaw State," Jin said. "This collaboration with Bright from the Start is a very exciting initiative that will benefit Georgia's children for many years to come."

According to experts, another main impetus for the surge in Chinese language instruction are parents like Shamikia White, mother of West Cobb Prep student Elijah, who believe that fluency in Chinese can help open doors later in life.

"I was very intrigued by it," White said. "Elijah's very excited, and he's teaching it to my 7- and 2-year-olds. The rate at which he's learning is amazing. My 7-year-old has been studying Spanish for a while, but Elijah is much more advanced. I'd really like him to continue with Chinese after preschool."

- Sabbaye McGriff

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Miriam Boeri



For the last four years, KSU sociology professor Miriam Boeri has conducted a number of...

Georgia (Jun 10, 2010) — For the last four years, KSU sociology professor Miriam Boeri has conducted a number of studies on meth use and meth users. Some of her research is funded by the National Institute of Drug Abuse. Her first meth research grant was a two-year, \$181,000 grant, followed by a second, two-year grant totaling \$367,000. She recently received a stimulus grant to research older drug users. Read more about her research.

[Link To Website](#)

The Bigger Question

Study of suburban methamphetamine abuse results in few answers

The “after pictures” are generally the same.

Sad, haunted, empty eyes; open sores on their faces; tooth decay and eventual loss.

These are the images that come to mind when methamphetamine use is talked about by law enforcement or shown on television.

But the reality is very different, according to KSU sociology professor Miriam Boeri. There is the beautiful young girl who wants to stay skinny, alert and energetic; the struggling single mother balancing the demands of work and home; and the working-class man who earns his living doing hard labor. These are also the faces of meth.

“There’s no one type of meth user,” Boeri said. “The typical meth user looks like your next-door neighbor.”

For the last four years, Boeri has conducted a number of studies on meth use and meth users. She and her research assistants go out on the streets, and into bars and drug houses to interview users to learn their perspective on drug use. “We have been fighting a war on drugs for 40 years, and we are not winning,” she said. “If anything, it’s gotten worse and worse, especially with methamphetamine.”

Some of Boeri’s research is funded by the National Institute of Drug Abuse, a subsidiary of the National Institutes of Health. Her first meth research grant was a two-year, \$180,900 grant, followed by a second, two-year grant totaling \$367,000. She also recently received a \$201,000 stimulus grant to research older drug users.

“We as a society recognize drug abuse as a health problem as shown by the source of my funding – the National Institutes of Health,” Boeri said. “A lot of the money we use keeping drug users in prison could

be used for treatment. Treatment is cheaper than jail, where we have to give them health care anyway, so why not give them treatment – good treatment instead? A lot of these people aren't criminals, they're just drug addicts."

In her first study, Boeri sampled 35 women and 65 men, 18 and older, to study meth use in the suburbs. While drug abuse is typically associated with urban environments, meth is the drug of choice among suburbanites, Boeri said.

"Meth use is much more prevalent in the suburbs, than in the city," she said. "In this area, it's a white person's drug typically."

The difference between a suburban user and an urban drug user is a matter of community resources, Boeri added.

"There are different kinds of blighted areas in the suburbs," she said. "Users out here don't have access to the kind of resources available in the city, such as health clinics with staff who are trained in drug use issues. Suburban users need help, too. We shouldn't wait until they hit rock bottom and say, 'go to treatment for three months,' and think that's going to solve the problem. It's not."

As part of her grant requirements, Boeri posts her findings on an open source Web site, PubMed, so the information can be shared and used by other researchers. She also publishes her research findings in peer-reviewed articles and gives professional presentations. This spring she traveled to Liverpool, England to give a presentation on her findings.

As Boeri continues to compile and disseminate statistical data about meth users, there are larger questions that dog her: Why are there so many drug users; and what's wrong with society that addicts feel they have to use?

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Right Place Right Time



KSU's professors' comparative US/Brazil study of obesity in sync with national focus As...

Georgia (Jun 10, 2010) –

KSU's professors' comparative US/Brazil study of obesity in sync with national focus

As First Lady Michele Obama tackles the growing epidemic of childhood obesity in America, two KSU professors are leading a consortium of four U.S. and Brazilian universities to identify the environmental and cultural factors that make Americans more prone to obesity and Brazilians to be healthier and leaner.

Under a four-year, \$200,000 federal grant, Department of Health, Physical Education and Sport Science professors and consortium co-directors Mitchell Collins and Bernie Goldfine have created semester-long exchange programs to analyze lifestyle and environmental factors that may contribute to the disparity. The goal is to train future health professionals to more effectively address obesity.

Collins, the project's principal investigator, said it's not enough to know that Americans eat more and exercise less. "We must also understand why this is so – what's really going on in the environment that causes this? Students are making observations based on day-to-day living in the host country and they are discovering pretty substantial cultural differences."

For example, Brazilian students marvel that Americans sit in their car at a bank's drive-through window or grab a bite on the run – not the cultural norm in Brazil, but done routinely in the U.S. Brazilians view dining as a social occasion, taking their heaviest meal together at midday, compared to the American tendency to eat a large meal at the end of the day.

At the same time, American students in Brazil have had to acclimate to healthier practices, like walking everywhere. "Every one of the American students has lost weight," Collins said.

In the next phase of the project, Collins said students and faculty will examine public policies that affect obesity. For example Brazilian policy deems soda and snack machines in public places undesirable.

"The job the vending machine is doing means someone is out of work," Collins said. "If you eliminate the vending machine, you assure that someone has a job pouring a drink or serving food. At the same time, you reduce the chance for a person to grab quick snacks. That's good public policy."

- Jennifer Hafer

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Rising Star



Nick Ayers meteoric ascent in Republican political circles may not be over yet When the...

Georgia (Jun 10, 2010) –

Nick Ayers meteoric ascent in Republican political circles may not be over yet

When the Republican establishment told then-gubernatorial candidate Gov. Sonny Perdue he couldn't beat an incumbent Democrat in Georgia, a handful of college Republicans believed he could.

At the time, Kennesaw State University alum Nick Ayers was a 19-year-old freshman serving as chair of the College Republicans - a post that would serve as the beginning of Ayers' rapid rise in the world of Republican politics, culminating eight years later in his current position as executive director of the Republican Governors Association (RGA).

"I always felt somewhat responsible for interrupting Nick's academic career by calling him into political service," Perdue said. "But, as accomplished and respected as he has become nationally, Nick persevered and sacrificed to make his academic degree a priority. I am confident that KSU will be as proud as I am of this young alumnus in the years ahead."

Ayers was the second person Perdue hired during his first campaign for governor. He only had two semesters of classes under his belt when he resigned his position at a Mableton bank ironically owned by Roy Barnes, the incumbent governor and Perdue's opponent

"The campaign resembled the 'Bad News Bears' more than a group of professional consultants," Ayers recalled. "But, we won, so there you go."

Although he was always interested in politics, Ayers had never actively engaged in a political campaign before the Barnes - Perdue race.

"I had always followed politics," Ayers said. "From the time I was five, I would rather watch the news than cartoons."

In 2001, Ayers and his fellow College Republicans set out to boost their numbers on campuses across Georgia. That year, Ayers attended a Perdue campaign event in Athens where 600 supporters gathered, challenging the conventional wisdom of the time that a Republican couldn't win the governor's mansion.

"Back then, Democrats controlled almost everything in Georgia," Ayers said. "Georgia was the last state in the country to elect a Republican governor."

After the rally, Ayers met privately with Perdue in an empty hangar at a private airport where Perdue shared with him his vision for Georgia.

"For me, it was a no-brainer," Ayers said. "The next day, I withdrew from my classes, left my job at the bank and called Sonny. I told him I'm changing everything for you - a guy I just met yesterday!"

By the time Perdue's re-election campaign rolled around, Ayers was tapped as the campaign manager overseeing a \$30-million re-election apparatus.

"Nick seems to have been born with an ability to think strategically and manage details," Ayers' former political science professor Kerwin Swint said. "I knew he would do something special, probably in the world of politics and I fully expect him to manage a successful presidential campaign someday."

After Perdue's re-election, the governor became chairman of the Republican Governors Association, naming Ayers the association's executive director. Traditionally, the executive director's post was a one-year appointment, rotating in and out with the chairman.

During his first year as executive director of the RGA, Ayers authored a four-year plan for the organization, including a budget and fundraising goals. Wanting to see Ayers plan come to fruition and hoping to bring some continuity to the group, as well as win back the majority of governor's mansions, the next two chairmen asked Ayers to stay on as executive director.

"When I took over the RGA, it was not considered a serious political committee," Ayers said. "It was viewed more like a trade group. Today we have more cash on hand than the Republican National Committee, and I'm really proud of that."

After successfully orchestrating crucial GOP wins in gubernatorial contests in Virginia and New Jersey in 2009 - and spending more than \$13 million - the RGA ended the year with \$25 million in the bank.

"I did not believe we would win back control of Congress before regaining control of the governorships," Ayers said. "Last year we boosted the number of Republican governors from 22 to 24, so the four-year plan is already working."

As for whether Ayers himself would ever run for public office, the Austell native simply keeps his options open.

"It's not that I'm against running for public office, it's just that if it's meant to be, it's meant to be," he said. "The main thing for me right now is to do what I've been asked to do, which is win races, and what I've learned is, if you do the job you're asked to do, there will be plenty of opportunities on the horizon."

- Jennifer Hafer

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A field of pipe dreams?

by Wes Swift If you build it, they will come. That's the hope of Sugar Land officials, who...

Georgia (Jun 11, 2010) — by Wes Swift

Publication

Link To Article

http://www.hcnonline.com/articles/2010/06/10/river_oaks_examiner/opinion/ro_op_stadium.txt

If you build it, they will come.

That's the hope of Sugar Land officials, who last month OK'd a deal with Opening Day Partners to build a new stadium and bring an independent baseball team to Sugar Land.

For city officials, the park represents the first step in transforming Sugar Land into a destination center, a day-trip Shangri-La that will draw shoppers and their tax dollars into the city limits for sporting events, concerts and other entertainment.

But how realistic are those expectations? Can Sugar Land really expect to see millions of dollars of new spending, creating thousands more every year in sales taxes every year?

According to economists, probably not.

What the proposal says

City staff tout the agreement as an exemplar of that paragon of municipal governance, the “public-private partnership:” using public and private monies to build improvements that will not only benefit a for-profit entity, but also pad the municipal coffers with additional tax revenue and raise the quality of life.

The letter of intent signed with Opening Day Partners creates a framework to bring an independent baseball team to Sugar Land by 2012.

According to the city staff, ODP will own and operate a team that will play in the Atlantic League, one of the highest-level independent pro baseball leagues in the country.

Technically, the Atlantic League isn't a Minor-League Team. Minor-League Baseball is its own organization with ties to Major League Baseball and serves as a developmental league for the majors.

The Atlantic League is one of several independent leagues that has no affiliation with the majors. The league's eight teams are located in Maryland, New York, Connecticut and Pennsylvania.

Former major league players, such as pitcher Sidney Ponson, Dante Bichette, Jose Offerman and Ruben Sierra have all played in the league.

According to a presentation by city staff, ODP would spend \$5 million for team startup costs and another \$5 million for stadium construction.

The city of Sugar Land, meanwhile, would contribute up to \$25 million for stadium construction and an additional \$5 million for parking and on-site construction.

The city's share will be funded by an economic development sales tax, hotel occupancy taxes and venue taxes levied at the stadium . Funding for the stadium was approved by voters in 2008 referendum. The city will not spend any money from its operations and maintenance budget, according to city staff.

The letter of intent, however, only binds both parties to spend a total of \$500,000 for professional design fees. The agreement also requires ODP to open a marketing office in Sugar Land.

A look back

Building new stadiums, and the sometimes controversial issues surrounding them, isn't new.

Since 1990, at least 46 new stadiums have been constructed in cities that have Major League Baseball, National Football League or National Basketball Association franchises. Scores of smaller cities have built stadiums to lure professional or semi-pro teams.

At the core of the push for a sports franchise, from a high-profile NFL team to a Minor League Baseball team, are two desires: First, using the team as a calling card for the city, to highlight its success. Second, the influx of additional dollars such a team would bring.

Supporters of every stadium proposal frequently toss out estimates of millions of dollars of economic impact and new jobs a new stadium will create.

Proponents of a new baseball stadium in Washington, D.C., in 2004 estimated the economic impact at \$94 million annually and 360 new jobs.

In 2010, officials with the Richmond Flying Squirrels, the new minor-league baseball team for the Virginia city, estimated the team would generate \$40 million annually.

Sugar Land's projections are smaller, but still impressive.

A cost-benefit analysis released by the city states the new ballpark, funded by up to \$25 million in municipal funds, will generate \$7.7 million in new spending annually, and \$169 million over 30 years. The team is expected to create 120 new jobs just through the operation of the stadium alone.

But economists say that those projections don't always add up.

J.C. Bradbury, an economist and professor at Kennesaw State University who wrote "The Baseball Economist: The Real Game Exposed," said new stadiums rarely generate the expected returns.

"I will tell you that there is little evidence that these stadiums have much economic impact," said Bradbury, who also blogs about the economics of baseball at www.sabernomics.com.

"Economists have studied this for two decades and no credible academic study has found any significant positive benefits. The studies out there that tout benefits are from the same folks who brought us 'Where's the beef?' commercials. It's PR spin, nothing more."

Economic studies back up Bradbury. Economist Arthur Jones, a professor at the University of Maryland Baltimore County, concluded in his book "Minor League Baseball and Economic Development" that "minor league baseball has the economic impact equivalent of a large pet shop."

Another economist, Dennis Coates, also at the University of Maryland Baltimore County, wrote in the Journal of the American Enterprise Institute that research has shown that new stadiums can actually reduce local incomes.

Divergent views

So why do the economic studies not match up with the projections?

According to Coates and his colleague Brad Humphreys, most economic impact analyses focus on how much money would be generated by the stadium versus how much money would be generated had the stadium not been there.

The two economists argue in "Caught Stealing," a paper they wrote for the libertarian think tank the Cato Institute in 2004, that these studies don't take into account the "substitution" effect.

"Not all the spending generated around and in the stadium is new spending," the pair wrote. "As sport- and stadium -related activities increase, other spending declines because people substitute

spending on sports for other spending.”

A recent analysis by the Durham Convention & Visitors Bureau in Durham, N.C., backs up that claim. According to a statement from the agency, the state’s nine Minor League baseball teams generate \$47 million annually for the state economy, nearly \$27 million of which comes from direct spending by North Carolina residents.

However, at the bottom of the statement includes this note:

“Direct spending by North Carolina residents is included here to emphasize MiLB’s (Minor League Baseball) overall impact; however, if MiLB did not exist in North Carolina, residents likely would use their discretionary income on other entertainment in the state.”

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Congressional candidates get creative to boost coffers

WASHINGTON -- When country-pop phenom Taylor Swift's tour took her through Washington last week, ...

Georgia (Jun 11, 2010) —

WASHINGTON -- When country-pop phenom Taylor Swift's tour took her through Washington last week, she easily filled the Verizon Center here with young girls who sang and swooned to every note.

Also in the house: Fans of conservative U.S. Rep. Tom Price of Roswell, who contributed \$2,500 to Price's political action committee, called Voice for Freedom, in exchange for a seat with the Republican congressman at the sold-out show.

Earlier this year, Democratic U.S. Rep. Sanford Bishop of Albany held a fund-raiser with the National Rifle Association where guests forked over \$500 per head (\$1,000 per PAC) to experience the "latest in laser shooting technology," according to an invitation obtained by the nonpartisan watchdog group Sunlight Foundation. Bishop also has held fund-raisers at Beyonce, Alicia Keys and Jay-Z concerts in Washington.

With the political fund-raising season heating up -- summer is traditionally the busiest time for politicians seeking campaign contributions -- members of Georgia's congressional delegation are playing host at parties of every kind.

"We're having as many [fund-raisers] as often as we can," Bishop said.

Even so, the business of political fund-raising -- just like most businesses -- is down this year.

Through March, Democratic Rep. Jim Marshall of Macon had about \$850,000 in cash on hand for his re-election campaign, for instance. During the same time period two years ago, he had more than \$1 million in the bank.

"It has definitely been more difficult," said Doug Moore, Marshall's chief of staff.

The lousy economy has a lot to do with it. But so does the fact that there are an inordinate number of candidates running for office, all seeking money from donors.

Atlanta lobbyist John Thomas said his firm reduced its political contributions by about 30 percent this year.

"There's a limited amount of money in any economy for political contributions, and when corporate sales are down, investments are down, salaries are down. That means there's less money in the whole system," he said.

Instead of trying to attract big donors, Thomas said he advises politicians to aim low this year.

That's the approach Republican Rep. Jack Kingston of Savannah said he's taking.

"I'm taking small strokes, trying to make base hits -- luncheons and things like that," Kingston said. Others are still swinging for the fences.

Marietta Republican Rep. Phil Gingrey's Doc PAC, for instance, recently held a "Weekend of World Class Golf and Relaxation" at the Ritz-Carlton Lodge, Reynolds Plantation, near Lake Oconee for \$1,500 per person or \$2,500 per PAC.

Democratic Rep. John Barrow of Savannah hosted a St. Patrick's Day weekend party at the Westin Savannah Harbor resort in exchange for \$2,500 contributions, according to an invitation. Barrow also

has held private fund-raisers on a Savannah River boat and at a Bruce Springsteen concert.

Both incumbents and challengers need campaign funds. But because they're already in office, it's usually easier for incumbents to raise the biggest bucks.

Even if they don't need the money for their own campaigns, many of Georgia's politicians are still out raising funds for their own political action committees. Through those PACs -- such as Price's Voice of Freedom PAC or Gingrey's Doc PAC -- they can direct funds to other candidates they support, regardless of where they're running for office.

Oftentimes, campaign money comes from people who have no ties at all to Georgia. Sometimes, it goes to people with no ties to Georgia.

Democratic Rep. John Lewis of Atlanta is a draw enough just being himself. In March, the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee held a belated 70th birthday party for the civil rights icon that featured former President Bill Clinton, according to an invitation. That party, at a Washington museum, raised funds not for Lewis but for another congressman, Rep. John Larson of Connecticut. Later this month, Lewis is hosting a fund-raising reception in Washington for his own campaign open to anybody willing to pay \$1,000.

No member of Congress from Georgia has raised more money this election season than Republican Sen. Johnny Isakson. According to the Federal Election Commission, he had raised \$3.5 million through the end of March.

Last week, Isakson and supporters held a \$50-per-plate barbecue in Marietta. In July, he plans to attend a "corn boiling" party.

But Isakson and his supporters also recently held a big-ticket private dinner in Georgia featuring former Bush adviser Karl Rove. Isakson also has raised money at other exclusive dinners -- he took in \$70,000 at one recently -- and at high-priced golf tournaments.

"A lot of the ways we raise money now depends on what the person hosting it wants to do," Isakson said.

Receptions and dinner parties are standard fare.

Friends of Democratic Rep. Hank Johnson of Lithonia recently held a reception for him at their Atlanta home for \$250 a pop.

Back in Washington, Democratic Rep. David Scott held a \$500-per-person (\$1,000-per-PAC) luncheon at the trendy Sonoma Restaurant and Wine Bar.

"We're trying to raise as much money as we can," said Scott, who faces a crowded field this year to keep his seat. "It is a tough environment ... but I think people appreciate the work we're doing."

For average voters, the high-priced events can appear to be just another sign that big money drives Washington politicians. But politicians defend big-ticket fund-raisers as a necessary evil.

"You can ask ... 'Well, what's this congressman doing going out playing golf and trying to raise \$2,500 or \$1,000 or whatever ... when other people are out of work,'" Gingrey said. "But the point is, we want to help get those people back to work."

"And if this helps me [do that] by either helping myself in my own re-election or ... helping others in districts where I think we can win and get the Republican majority back, then that's what this is all about," he said.

Kennesaw State University political science professor Kerwin Swint said even in tough times, big donors will write big checks to politicians.

"There will always be contributors who can write a big check, but they are being more selective so far this year," Swint said.

As a result, politicians need a variety of events to appeal to potential donors, Price said. He is also

teeing up a golf tournament on St. Simons Island and a "Georgia Peach" party in Washington in coming weeks.

In today's economy, "it's not a seller's market," Price said. "It's important to be able to go meet people where people are."

Publication

Link To Article

<http://www.ajc.com/news/georgia-politics-elections/congressional-candidates-get-creative-546766.html>

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Does pay lift CEO's performance?

Executive pay: Maybe it's way out of line, maybe it's perfectly justified. And maybe...

Georgia (Jun 11, 2010) —

Executive pay: Maybe it's way out of line, maybe it's perfectly justified. And maybe it's not even doing what it's supposed to do.

Compensation for the top business leaders in Georgia and elsewhere is annual fodder for long-standing arguments: Are mega-salaries linked to past performance? Do huge incentives encourage chief executives to ever-greater brilliance? And how many zeroes are too many?

The best-paid CEO in Georgia in 2009 had a guaranteed paycheck worth \$1.2 million and incentive compensation including bonuses and stock options worth nearly \$13 million.

The amounts earned in that second category provoke critics who wonder whether executives are rewarded less because of their performance than by fortuitous timing, that they reap unearned windfalls when the stock market is soaring or the economy is surging.

While that critique has some truth, it is too simple, said Paul Lapedes, director of the Corporate Governance Center at Kennesaw State's Coles College of Business. He estimates that one-third of stock performance can be attributed to the executive team, while roughly one-third is industry trend and the rest is the economy.

Despite that, he thinks top executives have the impact, expertise and drive to deserve top pay.

"There are a lot of problems with compensation," Lapedes said. "The system is not perfect. But it is better than the others."

Ironically, the virtues that make executives valuable could be cited to argue for fewer incentives, Lapedes said. "If you are a senior executive, the odds are you don't need a whole lot of motivation. You couldn't get to be senior executive if you weren't driven."

Big bonuses, in that sense, might almost be seen as an insult to executives, as if money is all that matters to them, argues Dan Ariely, professor of behavioral economics at Duke University's Fuqua School of Business and author of the new book, "The Upside of Irrationality." And the impact of such large payouts may not be what the companies imagine, he said.

Studies suggest that small incentives have little effect on performance, while modest incentives generally get people to improve, Ariely said. But mega-bonuses are different. Most top executives are already working hard, he said. "A very high payment can actually backfire. If I pay you to be more thoughtful, creative, imaginative — what can you do? The brain is not a muscle."

It's virtually impossible to tell whether incentives may move a CEO to do better than he would have done anyway — just as it isn't clear that he might do worse. But that giant piñata of bonus cash dangling above a CEO's head can be a distraction, he said, and put the focus on the wrong thing.

Asked Ariely: "Do you want your surgeon during an operation thinking of his yacht as an incentive?"

Publication

Link To Article

<http://www.ajc.com/business/does-pay-lift-ceos-546880.html>

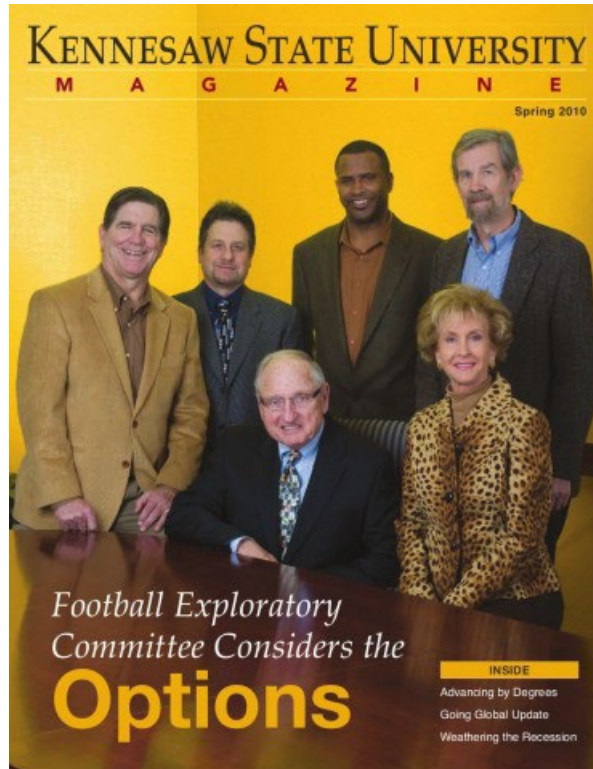
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Football Exploratory Committee Explores the Options

Football Exploratory Committee Explores the Options

Georgia (Jun 11, 2010) — Last December, KSU President Daniel S. Papp launched a 33-member committee to look into the viability of starting a football program. The Football Exploratory Committee is working, by way of several subcommittees, to produce a final report by early fall. If it does decide that football is a go, KSU could have its own team as early as 2013.

Kennesaw State University Magazine



[Click here to view the digital version.](#)

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Reading program brings elementary school students to campus



Summer reading academy hones reading skills in fun, camp-like setting At one point, the 30 kids...

Georgia (Jun 11, 2010) – *Summer reading academy hones reading skills in fun, camp-like setting*

At one point, the 30 kids gathered in the classroom are crafting the planets Mercury and Venus out of Styrofoam balls and painting them yellow and orange. Later, the 7- and 8-year-old students, sitting at six tables, take off their orange aprons and join a group reading session about a magic space bus. Soon after, they are out the door for exercises and a game of Red Rover on the Campus Green, under the summer sun.

The flurry of activity is all in a day's work for Cobb County students entering third and fourth grades who are participating in KSU's summer reading academy. Every summer for the past 10 years, kids from selected Cobb County schools have come to the KSU campus to participate in Fast Start Academy, a three-week program that reinforces reading skills in a fun setting. Some 300 students have participated in the Fast Start Academy since it was launched in 2000.

"It's not a remedial program, it's reinforcement," says Sylvia Inman, assistant director of Volunteer KSU and founder of the Fast Start Academy. "Remediation can't be done in three weeks. That takes longer."

Fast Start Academy is an extension of KSU's America Reads, part of a federally funded national program that sends about 25 KSU students to six elementary schools in Cobb County during the academic year to tutor kids in reading. In the summer, though, the children come to KSU.

"I want the children to feel like they're going to college," says Inman, a former elementary school reading teacher. "There is no other program like this one on a college campus."

Fast Start Academy is targeted to 30 students who have fallen behind in reading and need some individual attention to catch up. Students are nominated by their teachers at six Cobb County elementary schools (Kennesaw Elementary, Kennesaw Charter, Baker Elementary, Pitner Elementary, Chalker Elementary and Marietta Charter) and then screened before they are admitted to the program, Inman says. The daily, six-hour program features a variety of reading activities in small and large groups, arts and crafts, outdoor exercise, time to write in a journal and DEAR time (Drop Everything and Read). Participants also learn new vocabulary words and some math skills. The kids are divided in groups of five, based on their reading proficiency.

Every year the academy has a theme, and this year it is the solar system (previous themes have included the rain forest, around the world, and oceans and pirates). All activities revolve around the planets and the solar system. In the classroom, the planets hang from the ceiling. On the wall, there are shooting stars created by the students. Each shooting star has a child's name and five facts about him or her. Participants will be creating a solar system diorama, a sun catcher, constellation maps, star origami and astronaut helmets over the next few weeks.

The Fast Start Academy is staffed by KSU education majors -- two lead teachers and 17 tutors -- such as senior Deborah Allen, who has participated as a tutor since 2008. This year she is one of the program's two lead teachers.

"I love it," says Allen, who is graduating this year. "I like that it gives me real classroom experience. It gives me a lot of opportunity to implement ideas to help the students read at grade level."

Allen explains that the most effective tool for helping students who have fallen behind in reading is working in small groups, reading and reinforcing what they read. The children work for about 1 ½ hours a day in groups of five students with two tutors for individualized instruction. The tutors read with the kids one-on-one and follow up with questions.

Improving reading skills takes a lot of repetition and reinforcement, says America Reads coordinator Cheryl Betts. "It takes repetition not only at school but at home too," she explains.

While teaching elementary school in Buffalo, N.Y., Inman, the Fast Start Academy founder, says she took a special interest in kids who fell behind in reading.

"Some students can't succeed in a large classroom because they need individual attention," she says.

Fast Start Academy, she says, is a program that benefits many. "It's a win-win not only for the participants, their parents and the community but also for KSU students, who gain valuable experience. It's a very popular program with Cobb County schools."

--- Aixa M. Pascual

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Summer reading



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Miss Southern Heartland crowned Miss Georgia 2010

Miss Southern Heartland crowned Miss Georgia 2010 By Associated Press For the AJC...

Georgia (Jun 21, 2010) —

Link To Article

http://www.ajc.com/news/miss-southern-heartland-crowned-553596.html?cxntlid=thbz_hm

Miss Southern Heartland crowned Miss Georgia 2010

By Associated Press

For the AJC

4:10 p.m. Sunday, June 20, 2010

COLUMBUS — Christina McCauley has been named Miss Georgia 2010.

The Columbus Ledger-Enquirer reports that the 21-year-old, competing as Miss Southern Heartland, took the crown Saturday. She was one of 40 contestants in the 66th Miss Georgia Scholarship Pageant.

McCauley plans to use the \$15,000 scholarship prize to pay for part of her tuition at Kennesaw State University, where she is studying early childhood education. She already has a bachelor's degree in vocal performance from Birmingham Southern College.

McCauley sang "This Is My Beloved" from the operetta "Kismet" during the talent portion of the competition.

Finalists were 22-year-old Miss Capital City Jamie Kelton, 23-year-old Miss Atlanta Laura Stone, 21-year-old Miss Cobb County Casey Walker and 20 year-old Miss Cherokee Rose Michaela Lackey.

Information from: Columbus Ledger-Enquirer, <http://ledger-enquirer.com>

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National Endowment for the Arts awards grant to Kennesaw State



Grant will fund dance programs promoting diversity throughout Atlanta Contact: Cheryl Anderson...

Georgia (Jun 22, 2010) – *Grant will fund dance programs promoting diversity throughout Atlanta*

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

KENNESAW, Ga. – Kennesaw State University Associate Professor of Dance [Ivan Pulinkala](#) recently received a National Endowment for the Arts American Masterpiece Grant to help fund the upcoming KSU production of “D-Man in the Waters” and additional educational activities during the 2010-11 academic year. Originally choreographed by Tony award-winning artist Bill T. Jones, “D-Man in the Waters” examines issues of race, faith and politics.

The project will provide an opportunity for dialogue about diversity in dance in the Atlanta community through a series of performances, lectures, master classes and educational outreach activities. To begin the project, artists from the Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company will conduct a three-week residency at KSU in the fall. The residency will include lectures, workshops and master classes for university students, high school students and the local Atlanta community.

In November, the project will continue with a community lecture series titled “Diversity in Dance,” a project dialogue and presentation to KSU students through the Arts in Society courses, the KSU production of “D-Man in the Waters” in Howard Logan Stillwell Theater and outreach performances in Stillwell Theater for local at-risk school students.

Pulinkala, who directs the KSU Program in Dance, is pleased to receive the NEA grant. “This grant will provide us with the opportunity to commission the work of Bill T. Jones. The experience of performing this American choreographic treasure will provide our students with technical growth and help make them socially aware artists who are capable of questioning issues of sexuality, race, discrimination, physicality and socio-economics.”

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A member of the 35-unit University System of Georgia, Kennesaw State University is a comprehensive, residential institution with a growing student population of more than 21,000 from 142 countries. The third-largest university in Georgia, Kennesaw State offers more than 65 graduate and undergraduate degrees, including new doctorates in education and business. The KSU College of the Arts is one of only four Georgia institutions to have achieved full national accreditation for all of its arts programs.

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Handel's stance could mean skipping Georgia gubernatorial debates

4:37 p.m. Tuesday, June 22, 2010 Republican gubernatorial hopeful Karen Handel sought...

Georgia (Jun 23, 2010) —

Publication

Link To Article

<http://www.ajc.com/news/handels-stance-could-mean-555028.html>

4:37 p.m. Tuesday, June 22, 2010

Republican gubernatorial hopeful Karen Handel sought to grab the ethical high ground in April when she said she would no longer share the stage with Ray McBerry following allegations that he carried on an inappropriate relationship with a 16-year-old girl.

But now, as the primary campaign races into its final weeks, Handel's stance is putting her in a bind and could force the former secretary of state to sit out several high-profile debates that would guarantee her candidacy free exposure leading up to the July 20 primary.

"You don't want to pass up a chance for air time and that's what she could be doing," said Kerwin Swint, political science professor at Kennesaw State University.

At last week's Georgia Press Association debate, Handel was on the sidelines while her opponents sparred over issues from immigration to taxes. And McBerry, a longshot states' rights candidate for his party's nomination, has plans to attend televised debates sponsored by WSB-TV and the Atlanta Press Club in July.

McBerry has denied any wrongdoing and no criminal charges were ever filed.

Handel is sticking to her guns, insisting the issue shows her willingness to make the tough decisions no matter the political consequences.

By SHANNON McCAFFREY

Associated Press

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Kennesaw State professor among Georgia Author of the Year Award winners



Co-authors recognized for creatively capturing history of Tybee Island Kennesaw, Ga. (June...

Georgia (Jun 23, 2010) – Co-authors recognized for creatively capturing history of Tybee Island

Kennesaw, Ga. (June 23, 2010) - The Georgia Writers Association awarded one of its annual Georgia Writer of the Year Awards to a Kennesaw State University professor for a book she co-authored on the social history of coastal Georgia's Tybee Island.

Ellen Lyle Taber, assistant professor of English, and co-writer Polly Wylly Cooper garnered the award for the creative nonfiction - history genre at the annual awards ceremony June 19 at Kennesaw State. Their book, "Tybee Days: One Hundred Years on Georgia's Playground Island," presents stories, anecdotes and photographs collected during four years of research, including interviews with more than 400 families.

"Our purpose was to capture Tybee's important oral histories, before they are lost to time," the authors noted in the book's preface. "Due to progress and recent rapid growth, a new era has changed the face of the little island that played such an important role in American and Southern history."

Both authors spent their childhood summers on Tybee. During her acceptance speech Taber noted, "As authors we never believed that this book belonged to us but to the people of Tybee Island... finally their story has been told."

"Tybee Days" and a companion photo journal, "Sand Between Our Toes," were published in December 2009 by The Kennesaw State University Press. Both have received critical acclaim for their often witty and realistic portrayals of Tybee's people, places, events and customs over the past one hundred years. The books topped the Savannah Ga., bestseller list for the first three months following their release.

Pat Conroy, best-selling author of several novels about the South, said in his endorsement of "Tybee Days": "[Taber and Cooper] capture the essence of Tybee in this marvelous tour of one of the last places on the Southern Coast to retain its identity and integrity."

The Georgia Writers Association, which is housed at Kennesaw State, presented 13 GAYA awards in 12 categories from among 102 nominees whose works are reviewed by judges from across the

state. Taber's win represented the first for a KSU faculty member in four years.

###

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 22,300 students from 142 countries.

Contact: Sabbaye McGriff, 678-797-2550 or smcgrif1@kennesaw.edu

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A Journey of Wonder in China

By Ashok K. Roy (chinadaily.com.cn) My family association with China spans three generations....

Georgia (Jun 25, 2010) —

Publication

Link To Article

http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/opinion/2010-06/18/content_9990978.htm

By Ashok K. Roy (chinadaily.com.cn)

My family association with China spans three generations. My father, Dr. K.B. Roy, used to visit China before the Second World War when he worked for Jardine Henderson as a medical doctor. Then last year, my daughter, Priya, spent a study abroad semester at East China Normal University in Shanghai where she picked up conversational Chinese.

Then, last month, I had the privilege of visiting this ancient land with a 5,000 year old civilization. Although I knew much about China from my father and daughter, and also from my wide studies, nothing prepared me for the remarkable economic progress that I saw first-hand in Shanghai, Beijing, Yangzhou, and Xi'an. I saw a middle class that is meritocratic, and the lure of a consumer culture everywhere.

There can be no doubt that the center of gravity in financial and industrial power is shifting to China, in particular, and Asia in general. Witnessing this fascinating shift in economic power reinforced for me Paul Kennedy's argument about the cyclical nature of history and how military power rests on economic power.

We know that China already has the world's largest foreign exchange reserves (over \$2 trillion) and the third largest GDP. University of Chicago Nobel Laureate Robert Fogel projects that by 2040 China's share of global GDP will be 40%. Also, we are aware of the projections for China's growth by Goldman Sachs and Morgan Stanley. It is fascinating to see, first-hand, how China has compressed economic growth, growing at an average rate of 10% per year for the last 30 years, and literally lifted hundreds of millions of its citizens from poverty in one life time—a remarkable feat without parallel in human history. Economic development is a multivariate quantitative and qualitative change and may not be immediately measurable cardinally.

In this article, however, coming from the United States, I wish to share some of the more remarkable observations that I saw during my recent visit, from a more human perspective.

1. Every area along the expressways is manicured, is landscaped with flowers, and is very well maintained. The physical infrastructure that I saw is without parallel anywhere in the world.
2. The extent of westernization in terms of dress and other mores is obvious. The old notion of a nation in drab clothes was wrong.
3. Public transit is huge. The subways are most modern, extremely well maintained, and highly organized.
4. There is construction everywhere I looked. The scale and scope of construction across everywhere is simply astounding.
5. There are literally thousands of high rise apartments—most of them 40 stories and higher. Detached homes, common in the West, are few.
6. The number of personal cars has exploded. GM's Buick and Volkswagen models seem to be the most popular cars on the roads.
7. The quality of the roads and the standard of city infrastructure planning, are excellent and, I can say confidently, without parallel in the world.
8. There are lots of toll-booths along the roads.

9. Advertising via huge bill-boards can be seen everywhere.
10. Most restaurants I visited seem to have private dining rooms, with hot pots (a tradition handed-down from the Mongols). Honorific male and female lion statues in front of national buildings and restaurants are popular.
11. There is near-zero obesity based on a medical definition of obesity. This is indeed remarkable, especially when you come from the United States and observe such obesity on a regular basis.
12. Morning industrial exercises, across all ages and groups, can be seen.
13. There is efficient management of electricity in hotel rooms in that power turns off automatically if you do not have the room-key in the slot.
14. Every fast food chain is represented (KFC, McDonalds, Coke, Starbucks, Pizza Hut, Subways, etc.)
15. Smoking is acceptable everywhere and is very common. Obviously, this could have long term consequences on the country's health costs.
16. Full course meals are served on every domestic flight, unlike the peanuts/pretzels served on domestic flights in the US

Of course, nothing in life is perfect and there are many banana skins on China's trajectory of growth. Cases in point include gross personal income disparities, social stratification, regional economic disparities, environmental pollution, population pressures, and housing prices in Beijing and Shanghai (both Tier 1 cities, and municipalities) making city livability very difficult. In general, however, what I saw was sound public policy in action everywhere. I also noticed an enormous sense of self-confidence among the many people I met.

A famous Chinese philosopher rightly observed: "If you wish to plan for a year, sow seeds. If you wish to plan for 10 years, plant trees. If you wish to plan for a lifetime, develop men." Recognizing the wisdom of this saying, China plans to stockpile IQs via a plan for a "national outline for medium and long-term talent development" according to statements on May 26 by President Hu Jintao and Professor Hu Angang of Tsinghua University.

There can be no doubt that I have witnessed the defining economic and geopolitical change of this century. The success and stability of the state- capitalist China model (Beijing Consensus) will fuel debate about the role of the state in normative macroeconomics, monetary policy, finance, and economic innovation. In economics it is said that the questions remain the same but the answers go on changing.

The author is assistant vice-president for financial services & associate professor of Asian studies at Kennesaw State University of US.

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High-class new digs

New nursing facilities open at Georgia State, Kennesaw State By Laura Raines Pulse editor...

Georgia (Jun 28, 2010) – By Laura Raines

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New nursing facilities open at Georgia State, Kennesaw State

Pulse editor

The nursing faculty and students at Georgia State and Kennesaw State universities are smiling more than usual these days, and they have good cause. Despite cuts to education funding throughout the University System of Georgia, the two schools' nursing departments have new, long-awaited labs and classrooms. ...

The new 200,000-square-foot Health Sciences Building at Kennesaw State University will provide laboratory and classroom space for most of the WellStar College of Health and Human Services, which includes the departments of nursing, social work and human services, health physical education and sports science. The building, which was scheduled to be completed on July 1, will be dedicated on Aug. 5.

To help alleviate the nursing shortage, Kennesaw's nursing department has increased enrollment during the last few years and needed the new space to accommodate more students.

"Our old 1,700 square feet of lab space was crowded and operated from dawn until dusk," said David Bennett, Ph.D., RN, associate dean of the WellStar College of Health and Human Services. "Now we won't be fighting each other for scarce resources, and students will have more time in the lab."

There are nine high-tech classrooms that hold 60 to 120 students each. One is equipped for distance learning, and portable teleconferencing carts can transform almost any location into a virtual meeting space. There's a classroom with a one-way glass interview room inside, which allows social work students to observe interviewing techniques.

All the classrooms are wireless and have electrical connections for laptops.

"I believe this is one of the most wired buildings in the University System," said Bennett, who has overseen the building construction.

The Health Sciences Building houses 13,000 square feet of nursing laboratory space, including two graduate assessment labs, three general nursing skills labs, five student testing rooms and eight physical assessment rooms.

Simulated hospital rooms come equipped with IVs, feeding pumps and patient-controlled analgesia pumps. There are three human-simulator pods, each with two patient rooms separated by a control room, where teachers can observe how nursing students respond to emergency situations.

"When we first started using simulation, I thought it wasn't a good substitution for real clinical experience, but our students tell us that they feel so much more comfortable and prepared now for

the hospital,” Bennett said. “They’ll have had experience dealing with a number of complications before they ever get to a real unit.”

The building also has a wet lab for faculty research, and a study and data analysis room for the department’s doctoral students.

“One of the advantages of the new building is that nursing students now have a space where they can study and collaborate together on projects. There was no space for collegiality before,” Bennett said.

Lounges near the front of the building are comfortably furnished and wired for the Internet. There are eight group work rooms equipped with flat-screen monitors and presentation technology.

“We took some of the nursing student leaders through the building before we opened and their mouths were hanging open. One said, ‘Wow, we don’t have to sit under the stairwells anymore,’ ” he said.

The building will bring together departments now housed in seven buildings, and will allow nursing and other departments to continue growing.

Kennesaw State was fortunate with the timing of the building project, Bennett said. The funding was secured before the 2008-2009 economic crisis, and the recession has kept construction costs lower than expected. The University System sold \$45 million in bonds to construct the building, and Kennesaw State and private donors raised \$13 million to furnish it.

“We have used the money wisely,” Bennett said. “Dean [Richard] Sowell sent faculty all over the country to visit top nursing programs and came back with ideas on how to best use the space.”

At the first meeting with architects, faculty members came armed with specs, information and photos of what they wanted for the building.

“We were prepared,” Bennett said. “Almost everything in this building was faculty-driven, and we’re really proud of the result.”

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KSU launches music management program



Start-up funds provided by prominent Atlanta entertainment attorney Joel A. Katz KENNESAW, Ga...

Georgia (Jun 28, 2010) – *Start-up funds provided by prominent Atlanta entertainment attorney Joel A. Katz*

KENNESAW, Ga. (June 28, 2010) – President Daniel S. Papp announced today that Kennesaw State University will launch an Entertainment and Music Management Certificate Program in fall 2010, thanks to a generous private gift that will underwrite the program.

Prominent Atlanta entertainment attorney Joel A. Katz of Greenberg Traurig LLP has made a significant and undisclosed contribution to the KSU Foundation that provides initial funding for an innovative academic certificate program targeting business majors and music students who want to develop proficiency in the business side of the entertainment industry.

Katz is an internationally recognized entertainment industry attorney. The entertainment practice he started almost 40 years ago has grown into the world's largest global entertainment law practice, with dozens of international team members. The practice is based in the Atlanta office of Greenberg Traurig.

“We are pleased that Joel Katz is our friend and benefactor,” stated Papp. “This program will contribute tremendously to Kennesaw State’s increasing prominence in the arts, particularly considering the dynamic and robust status of the music industry in metro Atlanta. KSU is known for its entrepreneurial vision, and this new certificate program will help us groom high-quality graduates prepared to lead in the music industry.”

The program will be a joint effort between the College of the Arts and the Coles College of Business at Kennesaw State University. Students will be able to earn a certificate in entertainment and music management, while majoring in the arts or business.

KSU’s College of the Arts is one of the largest in the state, and it is one of only three fully-accredited arts colleges of its kind in Georgia. The Coles College of Business is the second-largest business school in Georgia. Its MBA and Executive MBA programs have received national recognition in recent years. Coles College is particularly well known for its programs in entrepreneurship, professional sales and the Cox Family Enterprise Center.

“We could not launch this program without the support of Joel Katz,” said Joseph Meeks, dean of

the KSU College of the Arts. “His gift, and the support and encouragement of his friend Dr. Bobbie Bailey, are truly making a difference for our students at KSU.”

Bailey is a longtime trustee and benefactor at KSU. The new state-of-the-art performance center at Kennesaw State is named in her honor.

“I am honored to provide the foundation for the Kennesaw State University entertainment and music management program, the result of my long history of collaboration and 40-year friendship with Dr. Bobbie Bailey,” said Katz. “Her dedication to KSU, her vast charitable interests, and her love for the entertainment and music business were key factors in the decision to contribute.

“The other key factors are timing and geography,” Katz added. “Georgia needs a first-class offering like the KSU entertainment and music management program, which will complement Atlanta’s strong heritage of great artistry and music history in the South.”

“This program is unique, and we expect it will grow dramatically over the next few years,” added Dr. Ken Harmon, Dean of Coles College of Business. “I have been a part-time musician for years, and I know there is much more to the music industry than just performing. What Joel Katz is doing for the music industry in Atlanta is phenomenal. We are excited to be a part of it.”

About Joel A. Katz

Joel A. Katz is considered a definitive leader in entertainment law. In 1971, he founded Katz, Smith & Cohen. In 1998, the firm merged with Greenberg Traurig, where Katz is chairman of the global entertainment, media and sports practice and co-managing shareholder emeritus. Katz’s first client was James Brown and his practice grew to include legendary entertainers such as Willie Nelson, Sheryl Crow, Alan Jackson, George Strait, Jimmy Buffett, James Taylor, Renee Fleming, Julio Iglesias, and Michael Jackson/the estate of Michael Jackson. Katz’ corporate client list includes The Coca-Cola Company, AEG, Dick Clark Productions, AFLAC and Nokia Corporation. Katz is general counsel for The Recording Academy, special counsel to the Country Music Association, and general counsel/board member for Farm Aid Inc. Katz also serves as a Music Industry Representative for the State of Georgia. For additional information, visit <http://www.gtlaw.com/People/JoelAKatz>.

About Greenberg Traurig LLP

Greenberg Traurig LLP is an international, full-service law firm with approximately 1,775 attorneys serving clients from more than 30 offices in the U.S., Europe and Asia. For additional information, visit www.gtlaw.com.

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New appointments announced at KSU as administrators make career moves



Provost takes position in Minnesota; science and math dean relinquishes role to return to academics...

Georgia (Jun 30, 2010) – Provost takes position in Minnesota; science and math dean relinquishes role to return to academics; dean of admissions retires

Kennesaw, Ga. (June 30, 2010) - Kennesaw State University has announced a series of administrative changes as its chief academic officer leaves to assume a chancellorship in Minnesota and the long-time dean of the College of Science and Mathematics steps down to resume his interests in teaching and research. In addition, the university's dean of admissions also has retired.

Provost Lendley C. Black announced in May his acceptance of the position of chancellor of the University of Minnesota Duluth. His last day at KSU is July 12.

Larry Peterson, dean of KSU's College of Science and Mathematics for 13 years, leaves his position June 30. Following a one-year professional development leave, he will return to KSU in fall 2011 as faculty in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry. He also will resume his scholarly work on curriculum development for introductory chemistry courses.

Joe Head, dean of admissions and assistant vice president for enrollment services retired last month after more than 25 years at Kennesaw State.

"Dr. Black leaves a legacy of significant contributions to Kennesaw State University, including the tremendous accomplishment of implementing our doctoral programs," said President Daniel S. Papp. "The University of Minnesota Duluth is truly fortunate to have attracted him and will be well-served by his leadership."

Black joined KSU in 2002 as vice president of academic affairs and was promoted to provost in 2006. He is credited with leading the university's transition to a doctoral-granting institution. During his tenure, 10 new undergraduate programs, 13 graduate programs and four doctoral programs were added.

Peterson leaves a similar legacy for the College of Science and Mathematics. "During his 13 years of service, Dean Peterson has made enormous contributions to the college and the university," Papp said. "The college has grown substantially in size and stature, adding eight new graduate and

undergraduate degree programs and new lab and classroom facilities.

Following a nomination process, President Papp appointed Ken Harmon, dean of the Coles College of Business, to serve as KSU's interim provost and vice president for academic affairs.

Prior to his appointment as Coles College dean, Harmon was the director of KSU's School of Accountancy. He joined the KSU faculty in 2006 after serving as dean of the Else School of Management at Milsaps College.

Coles College Associate Dean Kathy Schwaig will serve as interim dean, a position she held prior to Harmon's 2009 appointment as dean.

Ron Matson, chair of KSU's Department of Biology and Physics, will serve for two years as interim dean of the College of Science and Mathematics. Jerald Hendrix, biology professor, has accepted the position of interim chair of the Department of Biology and Physics.

Papp also appointed Kim West, former university registrar, to serve as dean of admissions and associate vice president of enrollment services.

In the meantime, the university will conduct national searches for a new provost and College of Science and Mathematics dean.

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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 22,300 students from 142 countries.

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