

NORTH GEORGIA LEADER

2011, Vol. 1

A global impact
North Georgia alumni celebrate
Peace Corps anniversary



The making of a leader
Three-star general concludes
long military career

An uncommon leader
President David Potter retires





Springtime on campus

Barnes Hall has served many purposes – including a residence hall, the dining hall, classroom space, and offices – for the university since it was constructed in 1935. It will soon undergo a renovation project to house administrative and faculty offices.

NORTH GEORGIA LEADER

FEATURES



14 The making of a leader

LTG Randy Mixon, a three-star general, concludes his long military career.



16 An uncommon leader

Dr. David Potter, known for his informal nature, retires as president, leaving a legacy at North Georgia.



20 A global impact

North Georgia alumni celebrate Peace Corps anniversary by sharing their experiences.

North Georgia Leader

Published semi-annually for alumni and friends of North Georgia College & State University.

Editorial Staff

Kate Maine, editor
Edie Rogers, writer
Debbie Martin '06, designer

Contact Information

E-mail: kmaine@northgeorgia.edu
Mail: University Relations
P.O. Box 1599
Dahlonega, GA 30533
Phone: 706-864-1950

3 North Georgia's new president

Meet Dr. Bonita Jacobs

4 Around Campus

University news and announcements

7 North Georgia People

8 Schools

News highlights from each of the university's four schools

12 Corps of Cadets

13 Saints Sports

23 Foundation News

27 Alumni Association News

28 Class Notes

33 Upcoming Events

Letter from the Editor



This publication allows us to celebrate and recognize the many forms of leadership demonstrated by North Georgia alumni and members of the campus community.

This is a bittersweet edition as we bid farewell to President David Potter, who has served the university since 2005. We wish him well!

As always, when one door closes, another opens, and we welcome Dr. Bonita Jacobs as the university's new president. A brief introduction is provided in this issue, and you can look forward to learning more about her in the coming months.

This issue highlights the work of alumni who have been making a global impact – LTG Randy Mixon, who has retired from a 30-year military career, most recently as commander of the U.S. Army Pacific, and others who have served as Peace Corps volunteers around the world.

One of the most heartening aspects of working at North Georgia College & State University is its sense of community – even if it's a world away. Take a moment to read comments (on this page) from Keyle Brown '09, who found herself alone in Germany at Christmas – until she met some other North Georgia alumni!

Warmest regards
from North Georgia,

Kate Maine
Director of University Relations
kmaine@northgeorgia.edu

Your letters...

A good Christmas story

Keyle Brown '09 had traveled to Germany to visit her husband, 2LT Dan Brown '09, for the holidays. However, Dan was called to duty in the Balkans, and she was unable to see him; then she became stranded at Ramstein Air Base when flights were cancelled due to weather and couldn't make it back to her family in the U.S. for Christmas. Through contact with the university and the Office of Alumni Relations, she received an invitation to spend Christmas in Germany with CPT Richard Hagner '02 and his family in Manheim.

"I cannot begin to describe how perfect this family that you connected me with was. I was just planning on spending Christmas with them and then heading back here to Ramstein, but they wanted me to stay longer so I didn't have to stay here alone for multiple days... On Christmas morning, I was watching their two boys open gifts and Rich walked over to me with a handful of bags and set them down in front of me... I was in shock! They were for me! The battalion commander is also a North Georgia alum and I had met his wife in the commissary on Christmas Eve... The kindness I felt there was incredible!"

Time to visit campus

Reading the *North Georgia Leader* sparked an awareness of the vast changes that have occurred at NGC (as I knew it) since I attended from 1965 to 1968. When I was a student, NGC was primarily a military college with the academic program playing a supporting role. I was one of a small minority of "token women" among the student body. In fact, when I read that the Corps of Cadets has grown to 750, I was reminded that in "in my day" the total enrollment was in the 750 range. Everyone was required to live on campus (with very few exceptions). Girls wore skirts or dresses, with pants only allowed on Saturdays. All of the men (with almost no exception) wore uniforms and were enrolled in the ROTC program.

We had Saturday morning classes (to make up for the ones we missed due to drill on Wednesday morning.)

There were no graduate programs offered at all, and the only career paths for women were education and business administration.

I read with interest the article featuring Jay Kemp, remembering art was an elective in the education department. It appears now that NGC has morphed into a first-class university with more and more advanced degrees that also

supports a top-notch military program in addition to lots of other robust programs.

I haven't attended an alumni gathering in several years, but plan to plug in to the next one that my schedule will accommodate.

Kay Richardson Wangen '68/'69

Kay, you are welcome back any time, and we hope to see you at a gathering soon!

How about Greek life?

I am continually impressed with this publication, but it would be a great addition to the *North Georgia Leader* to have a section highlighting the accomplishments of the Greek organizations on campus. Thanks for listening to an "old greek."

Roman Gaddis '97

Thanks, Roman! You're right. We'll try to include more information about Greek life and other student organizations in the future.

Correction

In the last issue of the *North Georgia Leader*, we ran an update about COL John Thompson '87 that was inaccurate. We apologize. Thompson's unit is 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment (Airborne). He and his wife, Lashelle Pruitt Thompson '86, live at Ft. Campbell, Ky.

Dr. Bonita Jacobs

University's new president begins July 1



The University System of Georgia (USG) Board of Regents has tapped Dr. Bonita Jacobs to be North Georgia College & State University's next president. She will be the university's 17th president and its first female president.

"Dr. Jacobs' wealth of experience as both an executive and professor is key to the development of students and leaders," said Chancellor Erroll B. Davis, Jr. "We are excited about the continued development of North Georgia under her guidance."

Though she doesn't officially begin until July, Jacobs began transitional work with campus administrators and constituents just after her appointment in May.

"The university has so many outstanding characteristics, including its senior military college status, that it's no surprise it's a state-designated leadership institution. I look forward to building on the university's extraordinarily rich heritage, and I am quite eager to transition to the beautiful North Georgia mountains," Jacobs said.

Jacobs has served as executive director of the National Institute for the Study of Transfer Students at the University of North Texas since 2009. Additionally, Jacobs is a tenured professor in counseling and higher education. From 1998 to 2009, she served as vice president for student development at the University of North Texas, which is located in Denton, Texas, and is the state's fourth-largest institution.

Regent Richard L. Tucker, chair of the Special Regents' Committee for the presidential search, added that, "Dr. Jacobs' focus on helping students adjust to the college experience and preparation for the future is a perfect fit for North Georgia, which specializes in leadership training and producing leaders."

Jacobs currently serves as an executive board member on the Commission on International Programs for the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities.

She previously served as interim vice chancel-

lor for student development and dean of students at Western Carolina University and in numerous positions at Stephen F. Austin State University in Texas.

Jacobs is the former editor of *The Journal of College Orientation and Transition* and has served on three other editorial boards. Her publications include *The College Transfer Student in America: The Forgotten Student* and *Starting From Scratch*, a first-year experience textbook, and numerous chapters, journal articles and reviews. She has received more than \$3 million in grant funding to support her work and has been a frequent keynote speaker and consultant on transfer student issues.

She has received numerous awards and citations, including the Ted K. Miller Achievement of Excellence in Assessment from the Council for the Advancement of Standards, the John Jones Award from the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA), and a NASPA "Best Practice Award" in 2010 for her study abroad work in Chile. The American College Personnel Association (ACPA) selected her as a "Diamond Honoree" recipient for 2010-2011.

Jacobs earned both a bachelor's degree in Spanish and history and a master's degree in counseling from Stephen F. Austin State University. She earned her doctorate in educational administration from Texas A&M University.

The institutional presidential search committee that nominated candidates to the Special Regents Committee included representatives from the alumni body, the community, students, faculty, and staff. The group began its work in the fall, after President David Potter announced his plans to retire at the end of the year, and conducted a national search for qualified candidates. Jacobs was one of four finalists who visited campus in late March. Jacobs' presidential inauguration will be planned for spring 2012.



Dr. Bonita Jacobs spoke with students and other members of the campus community during her visit to campus this spring.

Renovations and new buildings enhance campus

Construction on three new buildings – a dining hall, a bookstore and a cadet residence hall is wrapping up and will enhance the North Georgia College & State University campus.

The new dining hall, located where Sanford Hall was, will open fall semester. It will feature two student dining rooms with a total seating capacity of 1,000 and banquet space to seat 250. The building's design includes an outdoor terrace and a glass front with views of the William J. Livsey Drill Field and surrounding campus.

The current dining hall will be used temporarily for student support services and as the Canteen while renovations are ongoing in the Hoag Student Center. This summer, renovations on Young and Stewart halls also should be completed and the yearlong projects to renovate Barnes Hall and Hoag should begin. Young Hall will house classrooms and Stewart will be the new Student Success Center. Barnes will have staff and faculty offices. The Hoag renovations, to be completed in 2012, include a revamp for the Canteen and student meeting spaces.

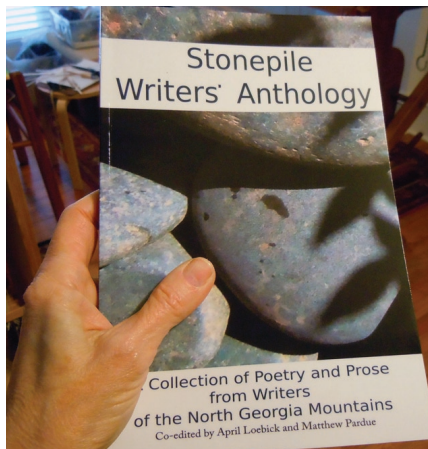
The new university bookstore under construction on South Chestatee Street also is expected to open this fall. In addition to the bookstore, which will be open seven days a week, the building will house the infirmary, a university information center and coffee shop.

The new cadet residence hall that is replacing Simons Hall will be ready for occupancy spring semester 2012. At that point, cadets currently living in Gaillard Hall will move into the new residence so that Gaillard can be renovated, work that is expected to take a year.



The university's new dining hall is on schedule for completion this summer.

University Press produces new anthology, digital textbook



"The Stonepile Writers Anthology," along with other books published by the University Press, are available for purchase online at www.upnorthgeorgia.org.

With two new books out, this has been a busy year for the University Press of North Georgia, a scholarly, peer-reviewed press and an extension of North Georgia College & State University.

One of the two new books, a digital textbook called "The Basics of American Government," was written and edited by faculty members in North Georgia's Department of Political Science & Criminal Justice.

The 150-page, peer-reviewed, edited book that combines traditional material with original scholarship will cost students approximately \$25, well below market standards.

In December, the University Press also published "The Stonepile Writers Anthology," a collection of poems, short stories, memoirs and prose by writers in the north Georgia community.

The University Press is run by two boards — a student editorial board and a faculty board. The student board is a service-learning project for students involved in the university's Introduction to Publishing class and the faculty board maintains the authority to approve manuscript acquisitions and projects.

For more information, visit the website at www.upnorthgeorgia.org.

Satellite campus planned for Cumming

North Georgia College & State University and Gainesville State College plan to jointly open an instructional site in Cumming, Ga., in 2012.

The facility, to be located near Ga. 400 at Pilgrim Mill Road, builds on the 27-year partnership between North Georgia and Gainesville State and the presence each has in the region.

The site will not be residential, but it is expected to alleviate some of the enrollment pressure at both schools. With more than 6,000 students, North Georgia is nearing capacity at its Dahlonega campus, and Gainesville State's capacity has exceeded 100 percent on its Oakwood campus since 2000.

"We are very pleased that we are able to move forward with this partnership to develop a satellite campus in Forsyth County to meet the region's growing needs for higher education opportunities," said President David Potter.

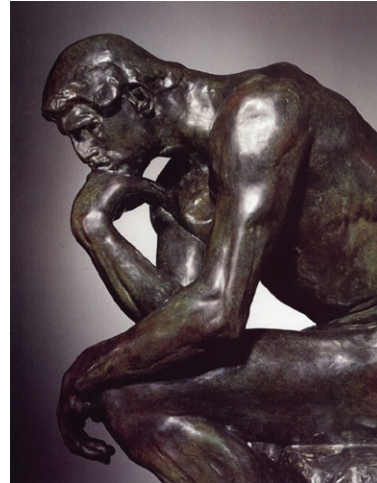
Administrators anticipate that Gainesville State will offer entry-level courses for students and that North Georgia will provide the courses for students completing their bachelor's degrees or pursuing graduate-level degrees. It has not yet been determined which degree programs will be offered at the Forsyth campus.

Rodin exhibit brings world-famous art to North Georgia

North Georgia College & State University and the Dahlonega Arts Council have joined forces to present "Rodin: The Figure in Bronze," a show of 24 posthumous original bronze sculptures by Auguste Rodin. The exhibit is in the university's Library Technology Center through July 10 and admission is free.

Auguste Rodin, a master sculptor in human forms and anatomy, was widely recognized as the greatest sculptor of his era, and was compared to Michelangelo. The exhibit showcases one of Rodin's most famous works, *The Kiss* (1885), along with several other notable bronzes such as *The Hand of The Great Thinker* (1903) and *The Age of Bronze* (1876).

"The Rodin exhibition brings to north Georgia sculpture of tremendous beauty by a world-famous artist," said Dr. Pam Sachant,



head of the Department of Visual Arts. "We are excited to have an exhibition of such importance at the university and to have the opportunity to share art of this caliber."

The French government claimed all of Rodin's works that were on his property at his death, and the 24 works now on exhibit at North Georgia are posthumous original bronzes

cast from authenticated molds and plasters that Rodin created and were discovered sometime later at a foundry that he used to produce his bronzes. The works are part of The Masters Edition Collection and are on loan from the Twenty 21 Collections/Gallery Rodin in Atlanta, Ga.

During the course of the exhibit, the university is hosting several cultural and educational events related to the sculptures and the artist. For info, call 706-864-1547 or visit www.northgeorgia.edu/rodin.

Festival celebrates Appalachian Trail Community designation

North Georgia College & State University was part of the celebration this spring as Dahlonega was designated an Appalachian Trail Community by the Appalachian Trail Conservancy.

The designation is a new program of the nonprofit managers of the trail and recognizes communities for their part in promoting awareness of the trail as a national asset. The designation was celebrated with the signing of a proclamation during Dahlonega's first trail fest, Spring on Springer, which drew hundreds of people and featured many events.

The festival was held March 18-20 to coincide with the first day of spring, traditionally right in the middle of the North Bounder kickoff season at nearby Springer Mountain, when those who plan to hike the Appalachian Trail start their more than 3,000-mile northward journey. Several hikers camped on the campus in the grassy area behind the university's Library Technology Center.





University goes green with new Bike Share Program

North Georgia's newly created Sustainability Task Force hosted its first GreenFest this spring to highlight green initiatives across campus, including a new Bike Share Program.

Dr. Nancy Dalman, an associate professor of biology in the School of Science & Health Professions and head of the Sustainability Task Force, unveiled the Bike Share Program and the "AfricaBike." By fall, 30 bikes will be available to

"check out" and ride across campus. The Kona bicycle company, which makes the three-speed bikes, donates a bicycle to an African village for every two sold.

The Sustainability Task Force became official spring semester after working informally for the past two years.

The task force includes North Georgia faculty, staff and students and Dahlonega community leaders.

North Georgia's new Bike Share Program will allow students to check-out bikes for easy transportation around campus.



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Become a fan of North Georgia College & State University at facebook.com/NorthGeorgia. From there, you will have access to special pages for alumni and other campus groups.



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NORTH GEORGIA NETCOMMUNITY

North Georgia's virtual community provides opportunities for alumni, parents and friends to search for others in their area, update their contact information and join the Alumni Association and Parents Association.

Visit today at northgeorgia.org.

North Georgia People

Brauer joins grants office

Judith Brauer joined the Grants & Contracts Office in fall 2010 as a proposal developer. Brauer, who has experience in government and private funding, will take on the duties of developing proposals for the university's growing grants operation. The amount of grants topped \$1 million in 2010.

Payne a finalist for telecom professional award



Dr. Bryson Payne, chief information officer and associate professor of computer science, was a finalist in the Atlanta Telecom Professional of the Year awards. Payne was peer

nominated for his efforts in modernizing North Georgia's IT infrastructure and for his role as a collaborator and co-writer in the \$43 million North Georgia Network fiber optic broadband grant project. Payne was selected as one of 12 Enterprise finalists and recognized at the ATPY awards gala event.

Calatayud to write scholarly text

Maria Calatayud recently signed a contract for a scholarly text with The Edwin Mellen Press to address theories of renowned author, Bell Hooks. The text, *A Scholarly Analysis of Pedagogical Theory of Bell Hooks*, analyzes Hook's trilogy of texts on topics ranging from feminism and sexism to exploitation and oppression.

Burns, Crowell recognized by Chamber, CVB

The Dahlonega-Lumpkin County Chamber of Commerce & CVB recognized two from North Georgia during the Annual Meeting & Awards Luncheon in January. Dr. Max Burns, 2010 Chamber Board Chairman, was recognized for his dedication and service to the Chamber, CVB and community. Also recognized was Mary Kay Crowell, audiovisual technical/paraprofessional

in the nursing department, who was awarded Community Volunteer of the Year for Outstanding Service to Dahlonega and Lumpkin County.

Scott's fiction to be published

A short story written by Dr. John L. Scott, associate professor of economics in the Mike Cottrell School of Business, will be published in "Writers of the Future," volume 27. Scott's story, "The Sundial," written under the pen name John Arkwright, is about an immortal Egyptian witch's difficult choices in America during the Civil War. Also, as a published finalist in the writing competition, Scott will get to fly to Hollywood for a weeklong writing workshop. Scott also is the director of the Center for Economic Education.

Students present at state conference

Dr. Victoria McCard and several North Georgia students participated in the University System of Georgia's Americas Council's 14th Annual Conference on the Americas. Spanish major Leah

Orlandella won \$100 for submitting the best undergraduate paper, "Freudian Aspects of Ernesto Sábato's 'El túnel.'" Also, Kayla Mehalcik presented "Ella no Penélope: The Narrator and his Unsuccessful Quest in Alejo Carpentier's 'Los pasos perdidos'" and Avery Bartlett presented "José Clemente Orozco: Mexico in Revolution."

Sinn, Hix published in mathematics journal

An article by mathematics professors Drs. Robb Sinn and Sherry Hix was published in the April issue of *Mathematics Teaching in the Middle School*. The article is called "Gauss's Idea: Take a Notion."

Bricker wins award for paper

Dr. Renee Bricker, Department of History & Philosophy, recently won the Agnes Strickland Prize for "The Queen in Pungent Times," presented in March in St. Louis at the South Central Renaissance Conference/Queen Elizabeth I Society.

Undergraduate students present research

This semester has been a busy, but rewarding, time for undergraduate students conducting research at North Georgia.

Two students, Corina Oltean (right) and Heather Ivester, who have been studying the effects of methamphetamine on mice, represented Georgia at the 2011 Posters on the Hill event, sponsored by the national Council on Undergraduate Research. Theirs was among the 74 projects chosen from some 700 submitted.

The students presented posters about their research to directors from the National Institutes of Health and the National Science Foundation. Both said the experience in Washington and their research opportunities at North Georgia had a profound effect on them.

"These students are doing graduate-level research, there's no doubt about it. Not only the type of research they're doing, but the way in which they're approaching the research that they are doing – the hours that they're putting into it, the techniques that they're learning, their ability to present it," said Dr. Steven Lloyd, assistant professor of psychology. "This is not the kind of experience that most people have the opportunity to get involved in at most colleges."



School of Arts & Letters

The **Second Annual North Georgia Outdoor Sculpture Exhibition**, featuring sculptures by Appalachian artists, is on display on campus through March 2012. A self-guided walking tour of the exhibition is available at the Information & Welcome Center or you can check it out at northgeorgia.edu/Outdoor_Sculpture.



More than 300 high school students came to campus this spring for the **39th annual Foreign Language Day** to compete in art, writing and performance events in several foreign languages.

North Georgia's **2011 Forensics Symposium** featured expert presenters on crime scene processing. The criminal justice department is now offering an online master's degree, too.

Grammy-winning singer Kathy Mattea performed at North Georgia at the Holly this spring. Proceeds from the event benefitted the Department of Performing Arts.



Dr. J.T. Kwon, assistant professor of political science, spoke about sanctions and nonproliferation in regards to North Korea as part of the Great Decisions series.

Global perspectives enrich campus

North Georgia is a leader when it comes to understanding and analysis of global issues, thanks to the talents of members of the faculty and staff who have researched, studied and lived in countries around the world.

Great Decisions, an annual lecture series presented by the university, offers community members the opportunity to explore global issues impacting our economy and world politics with the university's expert faculty members. This year's series included discussions on Haiti, national security, Africa, the global financial crisis, Germany, nuclear weapons in North Korea and Iran, the Caucasus region and global governance.

Dr. Chris Jespersen, dean of the School of Arts & Letters, has presented in the series for two years, and says the audience participation is the most rewarding part of the experience.

"I had audience members say, 'I remember that. I have some recollection of that.' That's very different than with our college students," he said.

Faculty presenters this year came from the Departments of History & Philosophy and Political Science & Criminal Justice and included several international faculty members, hailing from countries as diverse as Australia and South Korea.

North Georgia as a whole boasts many faculty members from around the world. Faculty members at North Georgia include Asians, Middle Easterners, Europeans and others. The new, searchable International Experience Directory, put together by the Center for Global Engagement, features a list of faculty and staff and their countries of expertise and languages. Though still in development, some 70 countries are already represented.

The university's study abroad programs, language programs and international students also give the university a unique global perspective. Some 61 international students attend North Georgia and another 130 students took part in study abroad programs last year. Hundreds more students are taking courses in one of seven foreign languages offered at the university – many taught by native speakers.

Exposing students to diverse cultures and languages and graduating students who are more globally aware and involved is one of North Georgia's strategic goals. Whether the world comes to North Georgia or students and faculty members explore the globe, the university, students and community stand to reap the rewards of developing international relationships and understanding.

Governor addresses technology at Economic Development Summit

More than 200 people attended the 2011 Economic Development Summit, sponsored by North Georgia's Mike Cottrell School of Business, the North Georgia Network and others.

The daylong event summit, "Technology for Business and Economic Growth," featured speakers who talked about how technology can be used to fuel business growth and economic development. Gov. Nathan Deal provided the keynote address at lunch and spoke about the economic impetus that broadband connectivity will bring to rural and underserved areas of northeast Georgia.



Gov. Nathan Deal with Dr. Max Burns, dean, on campus for the Economic Development Summit.

Act and \$9 million from the OneGeorgia Authority and other private and public entities. The university will be a hub on the network, a 260-mile regional fiber optic network connecting 12 counties.

The first phase of the network has been designed to connect hospitals, schools, government and public safety facilities, and universities like North Georgia to a broadband network that will be among the fastest in the world.

Nancy Cobb, executive director of the One Georgia Authority, urged the government officials, business owners, and economic development officials at the summit to support the endeavor on federal, state, and local levels.

Gov. Deal closed his speech with praise for North Georgia, "Let me thank those here at North Georgia College & State University for the great job they continue to do. This is one of the premiere institutions in our entire educational network. We're proud of what you do here, we're proud of the young men and women that you produce and we're proud of the fact that so many of them remain in our state."

"[Broadband] infrastructure of this sort certainly is one of those critical tools that we have to have, and I commend those who have been a part of this process from the beginning to have the inspiration, the idea to put it in place and those who have participated in making it work," Deal said.

Construction started in March on the \$42 million North Georgia Network project, which is funded with \$33 million from the American Recovery and Reinvestment



Larry Samuelson, former president and CEO of Napa Auto Parts, was the keynote speaker for this year's **Great Opportunities for Leadership Development (GOLD) Conference**, put on annually by students in the Leadership in Business course. The half-day conference, which is in its fourth year, featured break-out sessions with a wide range of business executives and experts, including several North Georgia alumni.

Students in the capstone management class in the Mike Cottrell School of Business conducted **research on social media and green practices in small business**. They found that while small businesses have interest in these topics, they are not yet fully using these opportunities. Dr. Geoff Dick, professor of information systems, and Dr. Max Burns, dean, co-authored papers on each topic using the data compiled by students.



Research by North Georgia business students was included in the 2011 Norton Native Intelligence economic forecast presented to an audience of more than 1,000 in Gainesville this year. The class reported that healthcare revenue for the North Georgia region increased from \$2.24 billion in 2002 to \$3.78 billion in 2007 – a rate of 11 percent annually.



Alyssa Barnes and Dr. Amy Williams recently taught classroom management to undergraduate and graduate students at Liaocheng University in China. They are the **first School of Education faculty to teach at Liaocheng University** in support of a partnership agreement between Liaocheng University and North Georgia.

North Georgia hosted a delegation from China's Liaocheng University this past fall. The group learned about American higher education administration during its two-week visit, looking at best practices, instructional settings, and the array of services North Georgia provides. Administrators from North Georgia also visited the Liaocheng campus to share information about U.S. higher education and North Georgia, in particular. "They want to study American higher education... what are its historical roots, how is it structured, how does it operate across the board – academically, fiscally, student affairs, governance – all pieces," said Dr. Bob Michael, dean of the School of Education.

TeachAmigas, a new partnership between North Georgia's School of Education and Piedmont College, will provide professional development opportunities for Nicaraguan teachers.

Dr. Thomas Temples received an Outstanding Advising Award presented by the National Academic Advising Association (NACADA) and will be recognized at the NACADA Convention in Denver in October.



A series of education roundtables held at North Georgia brought together educators from all levels of education in Georgia.

Education roundtables bring together state's educators

Though North Georgia has long reached out to elementary, middle and high schools across the region, last semester the School of Education started an education roundtable that facilitates discussions among educators from a variety of backgrounds.

The main goal in starting the discussions was networking, according to Barbara Dixon, coordinator of the university's Post-Baccalaureate Alternative Certification Program and facilitator for the sessions.

"It just started as a way to bring P-16, both public and private, together to look at education across the board," Dixon said. "What's good for students? What's good for college students? What's good for administrators and what's good for our teachers? So that we can make education across Georgia better for all of our students."

While topics varied at the three meetings held in the 2010-2011 academic year, a recent meeting featured discussions about what colleges and universities look for in enrolling new students, going beyond just the listed requirements for admission and talking about what types of students get accepted.

With a representative from the Georgia Department of Education at the roundtable session, discussion turned to recent and upcoming state-level changes, including Race to the Top and curriculum initiatives.

"With all the changes that are going on in education, we're trying to make sure we're all on the same page to understand what the expectations are from preschool all the way through our college level," Dixon said.

While the roundtables allow educators from different levels to network, it also benefits the future teachers studying at North Georgia, keeping them up to date on changes in the education field as well.

"We're preparing teachers here in the education program and we need to show them the real world application for what we're teaching them," Dixon said.

This summer, the School of Education plans to again partner with the university's Department of Modern Languages, the Georgia Department of Education and others for the Summer World Language Institute for foreign language teachers and administrators from across the state.

North Georgia grants first doctoral degrees to meet demand for physical therapists

In spring commencement exercises, North Georgia granted its first doctoral-level degrees – the Doctor of Physical Therapy. The program isn't exactly new; the doctoral program had been offered since 2006 through a consortium with the Medical College of Georgia as the degree-granting institution. What is new is graduates of the program now have North Georgia's seal on their degree.



The demand for physical therapists is projected to grow by 30 percent from 2008-18, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics – much faster than the average for all occupations. Physical therapists are health care professionals who diagnose and manage medical

problems or other health-related conditions that limit a person's ability to move and perform functional activities in their daily lives.

“Out of the top 10 jobs in the United States, we're rated number five – very highly needed. With baby boomers aging, we're going to have an increased need in health care,” Dr. Stefanie Palma, head of the Department of Physical Therapy, said.

Stevi Wheeler, a student from Conyers finishing up her first year in the program, came to North Georgia in May 2009 after earning a bachelor's degree in education with a concentration in exercise science and wellness. She said she feels right at home at North Georgia.

“The class sizes are small and there's a close relationship with the professors and I feel like it's a really good learning environment,” Wheeler said. “The program is everything I had hoped it would be and more.”

The curriculum for North Georgia's doctorate of physical therapy is problem-based, Palma said, the first in the United States to be accredited with this methodology. Students also must complete a total of 36 weeks of full-time clinical education, provided through agreements with more than 340 clinical sites in 30 states.

Each 30-student cohort begins classes in summer semester, and the program takes three years – nine consecutive semesters – to complete. Visit the department's website at northgeorgia.edu/pt for more information, including application deadlines and requirements.

A second doctoral degree, a Doctor of Nursing Practice that would build on the existing Master of Science/Family Nurse Practitioner degree, is in the planning stages, according to Dr. Sharon Chalmers, associate professor of nursing.

North Georgia's **Predator Beetle Lab** has purchased a four-wheel drive truck and other equipment thanks to more than \$10,000 in donations from the Georgia Native Plant Society and the Lumpkin Coalition. The lab raises beetles to combat the wooly adelgid, the tiny invader killing hemlock trees along the Eastern Seaboard from Georgia to Maine. The truck enables workers to access remote forest areas.

Dr. Dimitri Deheyn from the **Scripps Institution of Oceanography** at the University of California-San Diego spoke on campus this spring about bioluminescent organisms. His lab studies the intricate mechanisms by which these animals are able to produce light.



With a new transition program, the Department of Nursing is making a **master's degree more accessible for registered nurses** with a bachelor's degree in another field.



The university's **Appalachian Nurse Practitioner Clinic** has applied for a \$1.8 million grant to continue funding the clinic located on the first floor of the Health & Natural Sciences Building, expand the satellite clinic in Cleveland, Ga., and open a new location in Union County. Since it opened, the clinic has served more than 5,000 low-income patients who don't have insurance and can't afford health care, and it has provided hands-on training for students enrolled in the nursing programs.



On June 3, the U.S. Army celebrated the **25th anniversary of Cadet Command and the 95th anniversary of the establishment of the U.S. Army Reserves Officer Training Corps (ROTC)**. Since its creation by Congress, ROTC has produced more than half a million second lieutenants. North Georgia College & State University is one of 273 colleges and universities across the country with an ROTC program, but one of only six senior military colleges in the country.

As part of the **Eisenhower Series College Program**, a group of senior armed services officers held an open forum on campus in March to discuss national security and public policy issues. The event was sponsored by the U.S. Army War College.

North Georgia is a leader in Georgia's Soldiers 2 Scholars program launched in 2010, which provides help to those in military service making the transition to civilian life by means of a college degree. North Georgia's Veterans Success Center assists service members and their families by serving as a one-stop shop as they enroll, register or apply for GI Bill benefits. Through the U.S. Department of Defense Military Tuition Assistance program an active duty member can receive up to \$4,500 in tuition assistance. Veterans can receive up to 36 months of educational benefits which can be used for up to 15 years and are transferable to a spouse or dependent child.

Cadet continues family tradition working for legislature

For Jake Larios, a staff sergeant in the Boar's Head Brigade at North Georgia, working for the state legislature is becoming something of a family tradition.

Larios, a rising senior from Fayetteville studying marketing at North Georgia, spent spring semester working as a full-time intern for the education committee in the Georgia House of Representatives, a role that isn't entirely new to Larios. He worked in the office of the committee chairman, Rep. Brooks Coleman, for three sessions prior to coming to North Georgia.

Larios is the fourth member of his family to work as an intern or page in Georgia's General Assembly. Larios' older brother, Luke, a North Georgia alumnus and member of the U.S. Marine Corps, and older sister, Rachel, both also worked in Coleman's office. Oldest sister Sara started the tradition; she worked for now U.S. Rep. Lynn Westmoreland.

Though he served in the legislature before, Larios said he found this assignment quite a bit different – and a little more challenging.

"This time, as an intern I had a lot more responsibility, a lot more detailed work related to the committee," Larios said. "I did a lot of bill summaries, so I really got to pick apart the bills and pick out the key points. Basically, the summaries that I wrote are what they gave to the representatives for the meetings so they would have a basic understanding of the bill."

Though he isn't considering a drastic change in his academic focus, his more in-depth work this time at the capital is leading him toward some additional courses.

"I probably want to take a couple more political science classes because I feel like I have a more in-depth understanding of it now and it's possible I may want to take a minor in political science," Larios said.

Though the 40-day session ended April 14, Larios said he probably will return this summer to finish up a couple of projects.

While working 40 hours a week in Atlanta kept him busy, Larios also took a couple of classes online to keep the minimum class load. Larios serves as chaplain for the brigade's Foxtrot Company and also finds time to pursue interests in music and shooting sports. He and younger brothers Micah, Gideon and Jesse have a bluegrass band that performs in the Fayetteville area and he also is a member of the Fiddleheads, a bluegrass band featuring current North Georgia students and alumni.

How does he find time to balance all his interests and, of course, studying? Larios said he wouldn't have it any other way.

"Usually, I find the busier I am, the better I perform and the more I actually buckle down and study," Larios said. "I think I've gotten a lot better at multi-tasking since I started school. That's definitely something I learned at North Georgia."

Larios is the son of Robert and Carolyn Larios of Fayetteville and has six brothers and sisters. He's attending North Georgia on scholarships in music and shooting sports.



Cadet Jake Larios



From left: Athletic Director Lindsay Reeves; Brenda Hill-Gilmore; Anne-Marie Campbell, accepting for Jim Hyder; Bill Ensley; Bob Stein; and university President David Potter.

University inducts first members of Athletics Hall of Fame

North Georgia inducted four honorees into the newly created Athletics Hall of Fame in January. Former basketball players Brenda Hill-Gilmore and Jim Hyder, former coach and athletic director Bill Ensley, and coach and former baseball player Bob Stein were inducted by North Georgia Athletics Director Lindsay Reeves and university President David Potter.

“As a group, you have a unique place in the history of North Georgia College & State University. In the coming years, we will induct many other deserving members into the Athletics Hall of Fame, but you four always will be remembered as the first class,” Reeves said during the ceremony.

Hill-Gilmore coaches basketball at Gainesville High School. During her acceptance speech, Hill-Gilmore shared tales of hard work and camaraderie. She also thanked her family and especially daughter Tasha Humphrey, former Gainesville High and University of Georgia basketball standout, for her patience in “sharing her with the world.”

Hill-Gilmore led the women’s basketball team to the NAIA Division I National Championship game in the 1986-87 season after transferring from Auburn University. She still holds numerous school records.

Hyder was unable to attend the ceremony, but cousin Anne-Marie Campbell read a letter he had written thanking family and former coaches and fellow players for their role in his accomplishments. Several members of the Hyder family, who still reside in Lula, attended the ceremony.

Hyder, formerly of Lula, Ga., earned NAIA All-American honorable mention in back-to-back seasons and scored more than 1,800 points during his final three seasons. He still holds several school records.

After a stellar career as a high school basketball coach, Ensley established the men’s basketball program at North Georgia in 1971. He was head coach for 18 years and athletic director for 24. He led the team to district playoffs 11 times, winning district championship titles in 1983 and 1984. He also was recognized nationally by the NAIA with coach of the year and athletic director of the year honors.

Stein was instrumental in reviving the baseball program at North Georgia after a nearly 30-year absence. He commuted from Atlanta to Dahlonega every day to help coach the team. He still remains actively involved with the team.

In 2010, the university’s new baseball stadium was dedicated as “Bob Stein Stadium” in recognition of his efforts. In his remarks, Stein explained that coaching baseball was a dream come true for him, and thanked his family for allowing him the opportunity to make that dream a reality.

North Georgia’s athletes are excelling in the classroom as well as in competition, according to new data on Division II graduation rates released by the NCAA. North Georgia’s graduation rate, called the **Academic Success Rate**, for the 2003 entering class was 81 percent overall. That’s higher than the overall average for all Division II athletes – 73 percent – and marks a steady increase in the percentage of North Georgia student-athletes who are graduating.



Major League Baseball Hall of Famer Phil Niekro threw out first pitches to near-capacity crowds at two games this spring as part of the annual Parents-Alumni Weekend at North Georgia College & State University. He’s pictured above with Saints baseball Coach Tom Cantrell, left, and catcher/infielder Troy Snitker, center. The knuckleball legend, frequently called “Knucksie,” spent the day at the baseball and softball fields for a pair of Peach Belt Conference doubleheaders on Saturday, April 9. In addition to tossing out the first pitches, Niekro, a former member of the Atlanta Braves and five-time All-Star and Gold Glove winner, also signed autographs.

Keep up with all of the teams at saintssports.com.

THE MAKING OF A LEADER

Three-star general concludes long military career

By Edie Rogers

LTG Benjamin “Randy” Mixon had planned to pursue a career in law, but a chance glimpse at a brochure for then-North Georgia College and the resulting campus visit changed his life forever.

“As soon as we made the turn down onto the campus, it just struck me like a bolt of lightning, that this is the place I needed to be,” Mixon said. “When I returned to my high school, I applied only to North Georgia and decided that’s where I was going to go to school. I loved every minute of it, even FROG Week.”

Despite having a father who spent his life in military service, Mixon, who concluded his military career this year as a three-star general and Commanding General of the U.S. Army, Pacific, didn’t envision the same future for himself — until spending time at North Georgia.

“It was after my first year at North Georgia that I realized that was the type of environment I enjoyed and that I wanted to pursue,” Mixon said.

Mixon earned a degree in political science and minored in sociology at North Georgia and commissioned as a 2nd lieutenant in the U.S. Army upon his graduation in 1975. COL Tom Palmer, a 1973 graduate and current commandant of cadets at North Georgia, said he recognized leadership qualities in then-Cadet Randy Mixon and knew that



he would continue to attain key leadership positions in the Corps of Cadets and beyond.

“One of our most successful Brigade Commanders, Lieutenant General Randy Mixon excelled in every assignment he received, and he continuously praised North Georgia all the way from three diamonds to three stars,” Palmer said.

Classmate COL (R) G.T. Myers, who has remained friends with Mixon since their college days, credits the unique environment at North Georgia with helping to shape the careers of Mixon and others.

Mixon, who also holds master’s degrees in public administration and military art and science, commanded infantry soldiers at every level and around the world during his career. Mixon’s units often were called upon to provide humanitarian services to natives of the countries where they deployed, and he credits his North Georgia experience with preparing him to deal effectively with military and civilian groups.

“I call it the leadership laboratory of the Corps of Cadets, that taught me fundamental leadership skills and interacting and dealing with people and motivating people to achieve their upmost,” Mixon said. “That, coupled with the fact that we were interacting day-in and day-out with civilians on campus ... having to deal with all different types of people and exercise your skills as a leader, is what I think is unique to North Georgia.”



Photo courtesy of U.S. Army

LTG Benjamin Mixon lifts a young child as he commemorates the opening of a baby-care clinic in Bandung, Indonesia. The clinic was built with members of the 797th Engineering Company, 411th Engineering Battalion of Guam and the Indonesian army's 9th Combat Engineering Battalion as part of Operation Garuda Shield 2010.



Photo: SPC Emerson Marcus

Mixon also served in combat three times and was charged with establishing a new unit, the 3rd Ranger battalion, one of many challenges in his career he felt ready to tackle.

"I felt very comfortable when I left North Georgia and went into my first platoon in the 82nd Airborne Division. I had no doubt that the training and experience I had there would serve me well," Mixon said.

BG Steve Townsend, a 1982 North Georgia graduate, served under Mixon during the Iraq Surge in 2006-2007. Townsend commanded the 3d Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 2d Infantry Division, known as the Arrowhead Brigade.

At Mixon's direction, Townsend's unit took part in Operation Arrowhead Ripper, the historic deliberate assault and clearance of the Al Qaeda haven in Baqubah city in Diyala Province during the summer of 2007.

"Then-MG Mixon was a superb example of the quality officers North Georgia produces for our nation, and I learned a good deal about leadership and fighting wars from him, his deputy commanding generals and his staff," Townsend said via e-mail from Afghanistan, where he currently is serving as the Deputy Commanding General (Operations) of the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault). "I enjoyed my time serving as a subordinate brigade commander under then-MG Mixon and his Tropic Lightning Division. We were executing important operations in a very challenging and critically

important phase of the war in Iraq."

Mixon said watching the rising number of casualties being suffered by his troops during the Iraq Surge turned that period into one of the most challenging of his career.

"That's when you have to re-evaluate your strategy and focus on your units that are taking casualties. You have to keep their motivation high and assure them that they're on

the right course," Mixon said. "I went to those units that were experiencing casualties, sat down face-to-face with the leaders and talked to them — assessed how they were doing, how they were coping, because they're on the front lines. And I would go out on combat missions with those units to demonstrate that

as a senior officer, I was willing to go with them. It goes back to that fundamental of leading by example — to always do exactly what you expect your people to do, and I learned that at North Georgia."

In March, Mixon handed over command of the U.S. Army Pacific to LTG Francis J. Wiercinski in a ceremony held in Honolulu. Weeks later, Mixon visited North Georgia for Parents-Alumni Weekend. He held a discussion about his experiences with the U.S. Army of the Pacific and provided the keynote address during the weekend's annual Corps of Cadets Military Awards Review, where he shared his advice for the cadets about to start their military careers.

"First and foremost, concentrate on your academics and make every effort you can to learn a second language as a part of that. From there, take every opportunity to assume a role as a leader in the corps. If you have those two things put together, you're going to be well-prepared to be an officer in the military or assume a role as a mid-level manager in the business world," Mixon said.

As for the next phase in Mixon's career, he plans to pursue a second career in government or public service. And, of course, he'll be promoting his beloved alma mater.

"I'm very glad to learn about the evolving program that's going on now, international studies and some of the other things [the university] has started," Mixon said. "I think that's directly related to what the military is trying to do."





Whether enjoying a laugh with a colleague, running with the Boar's Head Brigade, or leading commencement, President David Potter served North Georgia with heart.



An ncommon Leader

*President David Potter retires,
leaves legacy at North Georgia*

By Kate Maine

Dr. David Potter's informal personality is not what most people expect from a university president upon first meeting him, but his easy demeanor is illustrative of his willingness to listen to varying perspectives and his desire to empower others.

Potter was asked about his legacy and said he hopes that his legacy is showing that "nice guys" can be higher education administrators, too.

"I would hope that I was able to accomplish things professionally and through leadership, while striving to be a genuine and caring person," Potter said. "That leadership doesn't require you to be an aggressive or authoritarian or a particular character but rather can be mixed well with a commitment to others."

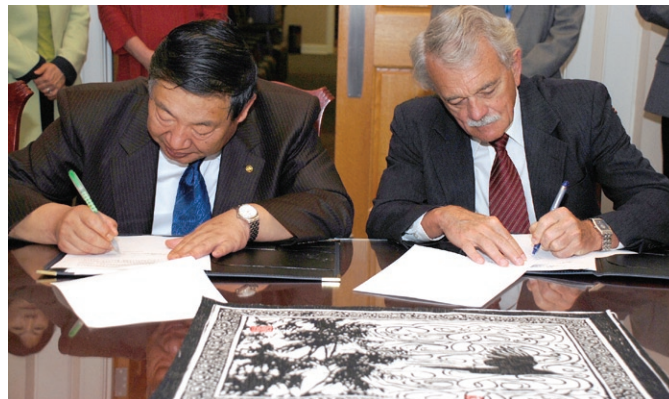
These traits helped him lead the university and the community through challenging times, including navigating decreased funding in an unprecedented state budget crisis, while remaining focused on the university's mission and student success.

"As a leadership group, we really had to work very hard to make sure the choices we made in cutting expenditures were those which were necessary





President Potter led the development of several international exchange programs to create new opportunities for students and faculty.



and that we protected the primary mission of the institution – instructional programs,” Potter said. “We really tried to use our strategic plan as a basis to make decisions about those cuts and what to protect.”

The university’s strategic plan, adopted in 2008, calls for the university to achieve national distinction in four dimensions of leadership: teaching and learning innovation, educating engaged citizens, contributing to regional development, and creating an organizational culture that is a living reflection of our mission and values. These are ambitious goals in ordinary times, and Potter has led the university

in advancing those goals while also balancing increasing enrollment demand with preserving North Georgia’s personalized educational experience, meeting the need for new and renovated facilities, and facing growing financial pressures.

Martin Erbele, who served as the Student Government Association president for the past two years and graduated this spring, met with Potter regularly to discuss student issues.

“I genuinely enjoyed getting to know Dr. Potter,” Erbele said. “I know he has a lot more important things to do than sit down with a fifth-year senior a few times a month, but he honestly cared

about what was going on around campus. In fact, our meetings were more of a conversation than an update because he took such an interest in students and already knew the issues.”

During Potter’s tenure, the university has constructed new residence halls and facilities to better serve students and a new satellite campus is planned in Forsyth County to ease the pressure on the Dahlonega campus.

“Because of the mutual respect and cooperation enjoyed between the university and foundation, I feel like we made significant improvements in the quality of life for North Georgia students,” said retired Col. Ed Nix, a



President Potter enjoyed meeting alumni like Jim Minter '51 and his wife Jane (left). He also savored opportunities to talk with students in informal settings.



1951 graduate and chairman of the NGCSU Foundation. “With all of the construction on campus, it took a lot of cooperation.”

Erbele noted that Potter brought a unique energy to the office and vision to North Georgia.

“He was beyond approachable and spoke frankly. He was a visionary thinker, too,” Erbele said. “He always had an eye to the future without ever sacrificing present issues.”

Potter’s presidential platform included a strong commitment to provide students with an educational experience that prepares them for life and leadership in today’s global

community, including opportunities to study abroad to learn about other cultures and strategic languages.

“He moved the university forward by incorporating an international focus while maintaining a regional aspect,” said Linda Sumpter, a 1961 graduate of North Georgia and past-president of the Alumni Association. “This enhanced a global aspect of leadership for all students, especially cadets, to better prepare them for life after they complete their studies.”

When Potter came to North Georgia in January 2005 as its 16th president, some alumni were concerned that his background did not include military experience, but Nix said that Potter has demonstrated great support for the ROTC program.

“He has been a great supporter of that mission of the university, and the Corps of Cadets is at its largest point in the school’s history,” Nix said.

Potter also showed a clear understanding of the traditions that alumni value, according to Sumpter.

“One of the biggest challenges that he faced was the change in the residency policy,” she said. “This was a hot topic for many alumni, but he took the time to listen, to inform, and to give consideration to all who had concerns.”

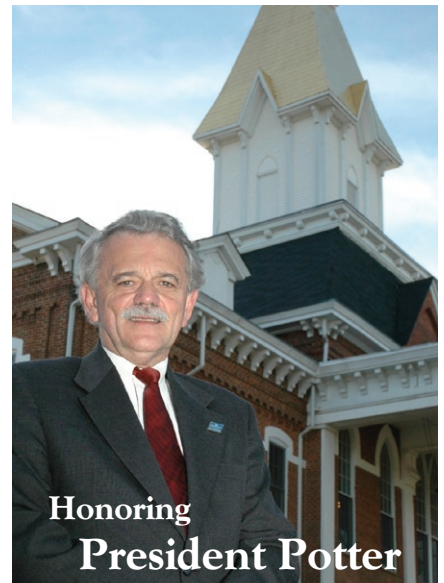
The contentious change in the university’s historic residence policy to allow male students to live on campus without requiring that they participate in the Corps of Cadets did not have the negative impact on the corps that some feared.

In tribute to Potter’s support of the Corps of Cadets, David Williams, an 1980 North Georgia graduate and chairman of the university’s Corps Advisory Council, presented him with a small “Iron Mike” infantryman statue during a retirement celebration this spring. Iron Mike is a name given to monuments commemorating United

States servicemen and often is used as a reference to people who demonstrate courage, tenacity and inspiration.

“For nearly 140 years, the heart of North Georgia has been its historic drill field,” Potter said. “This remains true today, and the people who live, study and work around it contribute to an educational experience that educates students for life and leadership.”

In addition to spending time with his family, Potter hopes to continue his academic work through the Fulbright Scholar Program, which sends U.S. faculty and professionals abroad each year to lecture and conduct academic and professional research.



In honor of Dr. David Potter’s presidency, the North Georgia College & State University Foundation has established the David Potter Scholarship Fund to support future generations of deserving students.

Please consider supporting this priority – endowed scholarship assistance – through a gift to the NGCSU Foundation. Your contributions will perpetuate a legacy that keeps on giving.

Contact Jeff Boggan at 706-864-1999 or visit northgeorgia.org/giving



Different lands, different times

*North Georgia celebrates global impact of Peace Corps
and beginning of new program at the university*

By Edie Rogers

They traveled to different lands at different times, some even in different decades, but one thread remains constant in the stories shared by those who have volunteered with Peace Corps — it is a life-changing experience.

“Peace Corps changed my life. Before I volunteered, I really did not understand community and how important it is in people’s lives. Fiji taught me about community,” said Dr. Donna Gessell, executive director for regional engagement and an English professor at North Georgia College & State University. She served Peace Corps in Fiji from 1979 to 1982.



Donna Gessell (left) serving Peace Corps in Fiji in the early 1980s.



North Georgia Alumna Lindsey Parramore Oliver volunteered in Peru from 2004 to 2006.

A new Peace Corps prep program at North Georgia will help students prepare for volunteer service in other countries.

The inspiration for Peace Corps began with a brief campaign speech then-Sen. John F. Kennedy made at the University of Michigan in 1960, challenging students to serve their country in peacetime by living and working in developing countries. The following year, newly elected President Kennedy created the federal agency. Since Peace Corps' beginning, more than 200,000 volunteers have served in more than 139 countries. Currently, Peace Corps has some 8,655 volunteers and trainees serving in 77 countries — including recent North Georgia graduate Katherine Owenby.

An experience like no other

Owenby is serving with Peace Corps in Tonga, an archipelago made up of nearly 180 islands scattered across 270,000 square miles of the South Pacific. She's been there for six months and serves many roles, from scheduling training for employees of established small- to mid-sized businesses to mentoring students interested in studying in the United States.

"The Tongans are very friendly and welcoming. They love to laugh and have fun. They are very religious and family is highly important. I'm lucky to be serving in such a beautiful place

with wonderful people," Owenby said via e-mail from Tonga. "Peace Corps has allowed me to see a part of the world I might otherwise not know about and to experience it in a way that few do."

University joins anniversary celebration of 50 years

To mark the 50th anniversary of Peace Corps, volunteers with the organization gathered at North Georgia this spring to share their stories. Among them were three North Georgia alumnae: Kat Kuebler Carman, who volunteered in Azerbaijan from 2006 to 2008; Lara Moore, who volunteered in Paraguay from 2008 to 2009; and Lindsey Parramore Oliver, who volunteered in Peru from 2004 to 2006. Gessell and Dora Ditchfield, North Georgia's director of career services, also spoke about their Peace Corps experiences. While they had to deal with the challenges of living in a foreign country, all said they loved the experience.

Oliver, who lives in Dahlonega and is pursuing a master's degree in social work, began her Peace Corps time in Peru in El Milagro, a dangerous urban city.

"My first site was a community liv-

ing in a dump, in a landfill, and they would recycle the trash there for their survival," Oliver said. "They lived surrounded by that all the time. That's all those kids knew, and they'd never seen trees or grass or flowers."

Oliver's experiences in El Milagro went beyond just poor living conditions; she was held up at gunpoint and another volunteer was attacked. The group was moved to a mountain town in a much safer area soon after.

"Had I started out in the mountain town, I think my experiences would have been very, very different. But I might not have learned as much about myself and about other people, about poverty," she said. "Even though those kids were living in trash, they were the happiest kids I've ever seen. ... They all had a spiritual life that grounded their community and they were all so giving."

Carman, who lives in Newnan, Ga., taught English while serving in Azerbaijan and said she was troubled by the level of corruption that extended even to the young children in her classes.

"Azerbaijan is a little Turkish and a little Iranian and a lot post-Soviet, and that was the pervading culture — this post-Soviet atmosphere and attitude," Carman said.

“ It was frustrating in a lot of ways because of the corruption, which was endemic in the culture, even down to the little grade school kids who would pay teachers for good grades. ”

— **Kat Carman**, *who volunteered in Azerbaijan*



“It was frustrating in a lot of ways because of the corruption, which was endemic in the culture, even down to the little grade school kids who would pay teachers for good grades. Literally, you bought your grades and then you bought your diploma then you bought your way into university. You bought your grades again and bought your diploma again and then you bought your job.”

Moore, who lives in Atlanta, went to Paraguay as part of the agriculture program, working as a beekeeper. She helped the people in her community learn how to keep bees and sell the honey for income.

“I joined Peace Corps because I was

looking for an adventure,” Moore said.

Ditchfield, who served in Guatemala from 1991 to 1993, said she joined Peace Corps to get away from the things usually on a new college graduate’s mind when they start a career — business attire, networking and the perfect place to live.

“I also thought it would be amazing to truly learn another language and experience a culture at a depth and breadth that rarely happens as a tourist or even a federal worker,” Ditchfield said. “My values, especially related to material things and what is or isn’t important, have been forever impacted by my time spent in Guatemala.”

universities in the country to adopt the program.

“It will show the agency that the student has been doing what it takes to gain an understanding of different topics that are applicable to the work done by Peace Corps,” she said. “While it won’t guarantee acceptance, it certainly will demonstrate initiative and intentionality about pursuing Peace Corps.”

Peace Corps provides some instruction prior to sending volunteers overseas, and much of it includes how to act in a foreign country. Volunteers say heeding that instruction is key for keeping safe overseas.

“When you go to another country, you really have to pay attention. You have to dress appropriately and you behave appropriately ... you just have to really abide by those cues and pay attention to the culture,” Oliver said, adding that she wouldn’t hesitate to volunteer again with Peace Corps.

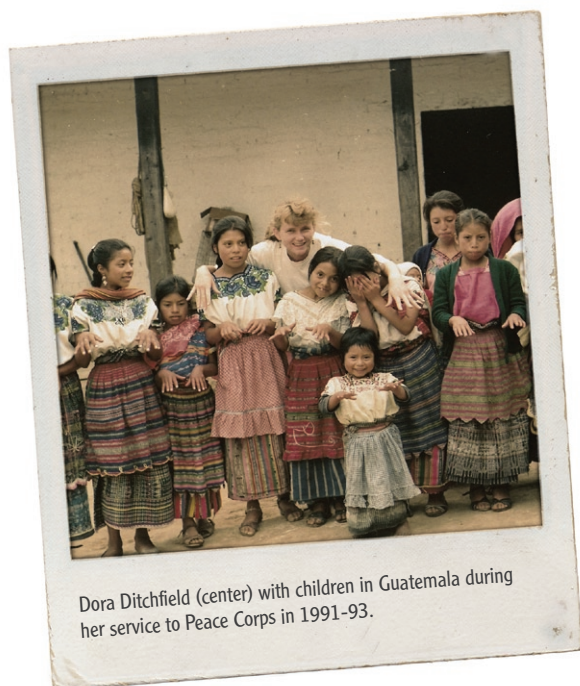
North Georgia’s new Peace Corps prep program is part of the university’s mission to expand students’ global understanding and outreach. Peace Corps can provide experiences for students to volunteer in foreign communities, not just study abroad.

“We’ve long provided opportunities for students to serve in the military,” Gessell said. “The Peace Corps prep program will provide clear advisement into knowledge, skills, and experiences that will open up opportunities for students to serve as civilians.”

New partnership with Peace Corps

While both Carman and Moore say they were interested in joining Peace Corps after taking a course with Gessell and hearing her stories about serving in Fiji, a new Peace Corps prep program at North Georgia will expose even more students to the opportunity and make them more marketable, Ditchfield said.

The program includes foreign language study and courses in a specific discipline chosen by the student. North Georgia is among the first uni-



Dora Ditchfield (center) with children in Guatemala during her service to Peace Corps in 1991-93.

A way to say thank you



Dr. Andrew J. Leavitt

Vice President for
Advancement &
Executive Director,
NGCSU Foundation, Inc.

North Georgia College & State University is tremendously grateful for the generosity and loyalty of its alumni and friends through the years whose support has helped produce generations of professional, military and civic leaders. To show its appreciation to those individuals, families and corporations that have demonstrated leadership through their giving, we will unveil The Gold Steeple Societies Donor Recognition Wall, located at the university's new Dining Hall, this August.

The Gold Steeple Societies are named for North Georgia's most recognizable symbol, located atop historic William Pierce Price Memorial Hall. Serving as a beacon of strength, leadership and academic excellence, the Gold Steeple calls out to all those who yearn to transform their lives through higher education.

Through their cumulative giving, the members of the Gold Steeple Societies have provided the extra measure of loyalty and support to ensure the growth and success of North Georgia and have demonstrated a commitment to the university's mission of educating exceptional leaders and engaged citizens.

The Gold Steeple Societies Donor Recognition Wall

lists donors with cumulative giving records of \$10,000 or more. The giving societies (in increasing monetary increments) are Silver, Gold, Etowah, Chestatee, Crown, Scholars, Leaders, and Founders. Additionally, leadership giving for the Corps of Cadets, Saints Club, and class giving are featured. The William Pierce Price Planned Giving Society is listed featuring all those who have included the university in their estate plans. Visitors will also find a list of presidents of the university, the recipient of the Presidential Leadership Award, and members of the President's Club. Finally, Loyalty Giving is featured and honors individuals who have given each year for the past 25 years.

This wall will be updated annually to allow us to add the names of more supporters that help provide a true margin of excellence that ensures North Georgia's success in serving the needs of its students and the region now and for generations to come. If you would like to add your name to the donor wall through a gift or five-year pledge, please contact our Office of Development.

On behalf of North Georgia College & State University and its students, thank you for the support you have shown for the exceptional academic experience that our students enjoy. This donor recognition wall stands to honor your commitment.



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The Office of Institutional Advancement is located at 60 West Main Street on the third floor of the university's Downtown Office Building.

Cannon support helps chemistry department achieve accreditation goal

While other kids were riding bicycles and playing hopscotch, Bill Cannon was experimenting with chemicals in his parents' basement.

As a young teen, Cannon saved up the money he made from mowing lawns and working weekends at the local A&P grocery to buy chemicals from a surgical supply store in Atlanta.

"I knew what I wanted to do – I was going to be a chemist," he said. "My lab was in the basement and it would make a laboratory here proud, some of the glassware and such. I set the house on fire twice making ether."

Cannon's studies at North Georgia were interrupted for two years while he served in the U.S. Army during World War II, but he returned to complete his degree. After graduating from North Georgia in 1949, Cannon worked as a chemist at the Redstone Arsenal in Alabama for two years before joining Eli Lilly and Co., from which he retired in 1985 after working for 33 years and producing 37 patents.

From his first gift in 1985, Cannon has supported the Department of Chemistry



Bill Cannon '49 (left) has supported the chemistry department for many years as it sought national accreditation.

for many years with donations of money and materials and tireless support as the department sought accreditation from the American Chemistry Society, which was granted last year.

ACS accreditation is a designation held by only nine other schools in the University System of Georgia. The designation means that graduates of the department now are eligible for admission as members of the society.

ACS, founded in 1876, is a society for those employed in all fields of chemistry and sciences that involve chemistry as

well as undergraduate and graduate students pursuing careers in chemistry fields.

To honor Cannon's support of the program, the chemistry department held a ceremony this spring to dedicate the William N. Cannon Organic Chemistry Laboratory and Stockroom.

"The process to secure accreditation is long and complex with significant financial resources needed. Mr. Cannon stepped in with a timely and significant gift each time an item was needed," said Dr. Mike McGinnis, head of the chemistry department. "It

has been noted that no other alumnus of this institution has shown this level of sustaining support for an academic discipline."

"I'm glad that I've done what I have done," Cannon said. "I just wanted to see this department elevated to the status that it is now, being accredited by the ACS. Now, future graduates of this department, if they satisfy all the requirements, they can put on their resume that they are a graduate of an ACS accredited department. It means something in the industry."

Nix honored for faithful service

Current and former trustees gathered in February to honor COL (Ret.) Ed Nix, who is retiring from his position as chairman of the Board of Trustees of the North Georgia College & State University Foundation, Inc. after eight years of service in that role.

University President David Potter thanked Nix, a 1951 North Georgia graduate, and his wife, Sue Sewell Nix, a 1953 graduate, for their long service to the university and the community.

"We have had the good fortune to benefit from this partnership as both have been dedicated volunteers and supporters of North Georgia," Potter said. "Faithful alumni, they have honored their memories of college life and their educational experience at North Georgia through their remarkable generosity and dedicated service to their alma mater."



Hansford Hall dedicated in honor of former president, first lady

Nathaniel and Frances Fincher Hansford, former president and first lady of North Georgia College & State University, were honored during Parents-Alumni Weekend in April, when the former West Main Hall was renamed as the Nathaniel and Frances Fincher Hansford Hall.

“Nat and Frances Hansford’s lives, together and separately, have been distinguished by their service to others and by their leadership talents,” President David Potter said during the dedication ceremony.

The Hansfords served at North Georgia from 1999 to 2005, a period marked by significant construction projects, including the Health & Natural Sciences Building, John H. Owen Residence Hall, and a new plant operations building. While the Library Technology Center was built in 2008 after Hansford left North Georgia, he helped secure state funding for the project. Under his leadership, North Georgia expanded the Corps of Cadets and solidified the university’s leadership initiative and its role as a state leadership institution.

“Thanks to Nat’s presidential leadership, North Georgia built a strong and stable foundation on which to grow and develop into the university of today. His steady hand guided the college through significant challenges, and his understanding of our core mission inspired a clear focus on our core mission,” Potter said. “Throughout Nat’s presidency, Frances was a vibrant and inspiring partner, building relationships within the university and with the broader community. Since their retirement, both Nat and Frances have remained faithful and active members of the North Georgia family. Their personal philanthropy has been exemplary and impactful.”

The historic Hansford Hall, also formerly known as the Education Building, was built in 1895 and renovated in 2008. It currently houses the Department of Visual Arts, the Department of Political Science and Criminal Justice, the Center for Global Engagement, and the Department of Information and Instructional Technology.



Frances Fincher Hansford and Nathaniel Hansford at the dedication of Hansford Hall.



Dr. John H. Owen with wife Margaret Owen

In memory of Dr. John Owen

University leader Dr. John H. Owen, a longtime former president of North Georgia College & State University who spent nearly half of his life serving the university and the Dahlonega community, passed away in February at the age of 88.

From long days spent hanging tobacco in the Florida heat at age 12, Owen became a noted researcher in the field of agriculture and a man whose vision shaped the future not only of North Georgia and Dahlonega, but agriculture in general.

Born in Savannah, Ga., in 1922, Owen moved to Florida with his family at age 6. He excelled academically and athletically in high school in the small north Florida town of Quincy. Owen continued to excel in college, graduating with highest honors from the University of Florida in only three years.

After a distinguished career as a researcher and administrator, 47-year-old John H. Owen became North Georgia’s 12th and youngest president in 1970. He also served the longest term – 22 years. During his tenure, and with wife Margaret at his side, he expanded the school both academically and physically, pushing to build new facilities and add programs of study.

During his term as president, North Georgia’s student body more than doubled in size, staff and faculty were added, the school’s labs were updated with new equipment, and the Army ROTC program was praised as one of the best in the nation. Through much hard work, he got the physical therapy program established at North Georgia and also helped re-establish the basketball programs. He and Margaret remained strong supporters of the basketball programs after leaving the university and also created basketball scholarships.

His hard work and dedication to the community extended well beyond the campus and Owen was called “the epitome of the concerned citizen.” The campus and the community are full of examples of the tireless efforts of John and Margaret Owen to promote and improve the university and community that they both came to love and call their home. Among Owen’s contributions to the community were helping to bring Chestatee Regional Hospital to Dahlonega, advocating for Georgia Highway 400 to be extended to Highway 60, and helping to revitalize Dahlonega’s square into the picturesque setting it is today.

Owen is survived by his wife and devoted partner, Margaret Wilson Owen, two daughters, Cathy and Karen, and several grandchildren. Gifts in Owen’s memory may be directed to the John and Margaret Owen Scholarship Fund.



At North Georgia, I learned respect.

Today, it's one of the most valuable things I can give my patients.

Kim Tyner-Meeks set her sights on a career in the medical field as a high school student in Gainesville. In fact, she began working at Northeast Georgia Medical Center's pharmacy at age 16, where she stayed all the way through graduation from North Georgia College & State University.

"North Georgia's nursing program was a perfect fit for me. It was close to home, the professors knew me by name, and most of all, it was highly respected for its intensive classroom and clinical training throughout the region's medical community. It is the premier place for pre-med, physical therapy and nursing students to get a great education," says Kim, a 2002 graduate.

Kim not only excelled, she thrived. Today, she is the charge nurse in Northeast Georgia Medical Center's outpatient infusion department, leading a staff of four and making her patients' lives a little better and brighter with each visit. The respect she shows her patients and co-workers is evident in her selection as Northeast Georgia Medical Center's 2010 Employee of the Year.

Share your story at
northgeorgia.edu/values



EDUCATION FOR LIFE AND LEADERSHIP

What a year!



Bob Babich '85
President, NGCSU Alumni Association

It has been a great year at North Georgia. Our campus continues to grow:

- structurally, with another new cadet residence hall, dining hall and bookstore;
- militarily, we have the top ROTC program in the nation;
- academically, with many new international programs;
- athletically, our softball team won its third straight Peach Belt Conference and region titles and competed in the College World Series.

Dr. David Potter is leaving us this summer after doing a tremendous amount for North Georgia during his presidency. As we are all saddened by his departure, we are also very excited to welcome Dr. Bonita Jacobs as she becomes the new president of our university. She comes to us from the University of North Texas and is highly regarded. We look forward to meeting and working with her.

This year has been busy and interesting for the Alumni Council, too. Eight members rotated off the Alumni Council. This is the most that have rotated off in any single year, and we have lost a tremendous amount of talent! These alumni did a great job in their respective areas, and we thank them for all their contributions. Seth Cole '03, Roger Nixon '95, Donna Martin Moss '82, Sue Nix '53, Bill Pope '72, Lori Stone '88, Linda Sumpter '61, and Karen Swann '77 – we will miss you.

We now welcome eight new members who are filled with energy and ready to start contributing to your Alumni Association. They are Brad Barton '94, Ben Clark '75, Nancy Clark '54, Amy Jarrard Coffee '97, Jason Cox '01, Matt McRee '89, Greg Smith '76, and William Waldrop '60.

We also want to take this opportunity to welcome a very large group of new Alumni Association members – the Class of 2011! We are excited to have you on board and look forward to your service as military, civilian, and civic leaders across the country and abroad. Good luck with the new challenges that are ahead of you.

This will be a busy year for your Alumni Council. Our primary goals will be to increase the value of your Alumni Association membership, increase the number of Alumni Association members, and publish a new Alumni Directory (Harris Connect will start gathering data very soon).

In closing, please be in contact with your Alumni Council representatives and let them know what you would like to see in the coming years. After all, we are here to serve you.

Alan Ware '77 presented the Young Alumna Award to Connie Cloer Swanson '92 at the Alumni Association's Award Banquet.



ALUMNI COUNCIL

Robert J. "Bob" Babich, II '85, president
Elizabeth Rhodes '66, vice president
Alan Ware '77, secretary
Chris Kemp '90, treasurer

Brad Barton '94
Ben Clark '75
Nancy Clark '54
Amy Jarrard Coffee '97
Jason Cox '01
Greg Smith '76
Matt McRee '89
William Waldrop '60
Bernex E. Richardson '08
Andrea Strickland '69
Tommy Thomas '82

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

Dr. David Potter
NGCSU President

Frank "Mac" McConnell '79
NGCSU VP Business & Finance

Dr. Andy Leavitt
NGCSU VP Institutional Advancement

Dr. John Clower '80
NGCSU VP Student Affairs

COL Tom Palmer '73
Commandant of Cadets

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Phil Collins '75
Director of Alumni Relations

Join the Alumni Association!

To join the Alumni Association, please visit www.northgeorgia.org.

Your membership provides you access to a searchable online alumni directory and supports alumni publications, events and activities.

CLASSNOTES

1940s

Dr. A. Cleon Johnson '49, a specialist in cardiology and internal medicine, still practices medicine at Northeast Georgia Medical Center's Lanier Park campus in Gainesville and still uses the same doctor's bag that he took to house calls more than 50 years ago.

1950s

Bobby Bray '56, author of *The Inside Man*, has published his second novel, *A Woman Possessed*. Available at Amazon.com, the work is published under his full name, Robert Dean Bray.

LTC John Jerry B. Dye '59 retired from his law practice in December 2010 after almost 40 years as the attorney for Richmond County Development Authority. Honored by the authority in October, he was presented with a resolution of the Georgia House of Representatives commending him for his service to the cause of industrial development in Georgia. He will serve as the authority's attorney emeritus for 2011, and will close his office at the end of 2011.

1960s



Linda Prince Williams '69 was named Adjunct Professor of the Year at the College of Coastal Georgia (CCG) recently. Linda earned her master's degree at Emory University in 1970, retired from Camden County High School in 2009 and began teaching

adjunct classes at the Kingsland campus of CCG. In the words of the student who nominated her: "Having been out of college since 1996 and having been through many changes over the few years prior to my returning, her kindness and ability to teach made the transition into my first semester as a non-traditional student an easy one."

1970s



Jim Crupi '70 (left) met with the King of Jordan, His Majesty King Abdullah, in March along with other Jordanians to discuss ways to increase business and investment opportunities in the country. King Abdullah also stressed cooperation with the Middle Eastern Leadership Academy, of which Crupi is the project director, to help the country's socio-economic development.

Don Liles '70 was recently promoted to development scientist, the highest level for technical professionals at Dow Corning, in recognition of his contributions to the science and technology of silicone emulsions. He has been with Dow Corning since 1974 and been associated with the commercialization of about a dozen products that have generated substantial revenue for the company. He has published 11 scientific articles, a book chapter, and numerous technical presentations and papers. He has 43 U.S. patents. Don has won two Dow Corning Technical Achievement Awards and he has also been recognized outside of Dow Corning by winning two best paper awards at the Waterborne Symposium.

Bob Mathews '71 was featured in the top tier of the Atlanta Commercial Board of Realtors rankings in the *Atlanta Business Chronicle*. He is listed in the category of \$15 million-plus in production, and his firm ranks No. 7 in the top 25 with revenues in Atlanta of \$558 million. He is the chairman of the North Georgia College & State University Real Estate Foundation.



LTG Benjamin (Randy) Mixon '75 relinquished command of the U.S. Army, Pacific in March during ceremonies at Fort Shafter, Hawaii. One week later, his retirement ceremony was held at Fort McPherson with North Georgia classmates and friends in attendance. During Parents-Alumni Weekend, he spoke to cadets, alumni, faculty and staff at an informal briefing. Then, as the guest speaker and reviewing officer at the Corps of Cadets Awards Review, he delivered his "last speech in uniform" on the same field where he began his career as a lieutenant almost 36 years ago.

Rep. David Ralston '76, Speaker of the Georgia House of Representatives, was presented an honorary Bachelor of Science in Business and Public Policy from Young Harris College during commencement exercises on May 8, 2010. Presented by Young Harris College President Cathy Cox, this degree was awarded for the first time at YHC in spring 2011.

John Pate '76, a former associate head coach with Georgia Southern University, has been named head football coach at Hamline University. Pate was on the sidelines for five NCAA Division I-AA national championship campaigns. He and his wife, Tammie, now reside in Minnesota.

Elaine Jordan '76 was named director of personnel and appointments for the Executive Office of Florida Gov. Rick Scott. She will oversee the appointments office and the recruiting and hiring of personnel for the EOG and agencies of the governor.

1980s

Joyce Cospser Fowler '80 was recognized as a 2011 Master Teacher by the Featherbone Community in Gainesville, Ga. She is a music and drama teacher at Lakeview Academy. She is the daughter of a North Georgia graduate, Carl E. Cospser '52, and mother of both a North Georgia graduate, Sarah Fowler Williams '07, and current student, Michael Fowler.



Wendy Bahnsen '82 was recently named the 2010-2011 Valdosta City School System Teacher of the Year. She is a kindergarten teacher at S.L. Mason Elementary School. Pictured left to right: Derrick, Lauren, husband Chris, Wendy, and John Bradley.

Howard Finch '82 has been named dean of the Sanford University's Brock School of Business as of July 1, 2011. Currently, he is associate dean and chair of the Economics and Finance

Stone inducted into Hall of Fame

Dale Stone '62, a nationally known organist, was inducted into the J.D. Massey Classic Horse Show Hall of Fame in April. The presentation, in Clemson, S.C., honored his 36-year tenure and musicianship as the event's official organist. Dale was the official organist for the Atlanta Hawks for 24 years and plays for about 30 horse shows each year from New York to Florida. Dale and his wife, Barbara, live in Buford, Ga. Their daughter, Lori, and son and daughter-in-law, Jeffrey and Deanna, all graduated from North Georgia. Dale, second from the right in tuxedo, receives a plaque from Bob Burnett, far right, president of the J.D. Massey Classic Horse Show. Also pictured, left to right, are friends Sam ('66) and Elaine Tanner and John E. Douglas ('64); daughter Lori Stone ('88 and '92); and Dale's wife, Barbara.



Department at Florida Gulf Coast University. He earned his Bachelor of Business Administration from North Georgia, an MBA from Mercer University, and master's and doctoral degrees in finance from the University of Alabama. He is married to Katherine (McCormick) Finch '82.

COL Jeffrey Dill '85, commander of USAG Wiesbaden, accepted the prestigious ACOE Gold Award for 2011, which honors the top Army, National Guard and Reserve installations. The ACOE Gold Award includes a \$1 million cash prize to be used to further enhance the garrison. The Wiesbaden garrison also earned a 2011 Commander-in-Chief's Annual Award for Installation Excellence — one of five recipients of the presidential award, which were presented during an awards ceremony at the Pentagon.

Doug Lundy '86 was awarded the Significant Sig Award, which is given to a brother of Sigma Chi Fraternity who has excelled greatly in their field

of study or occupation. Doug is the first North Georgia graduate to receive this award.



Joe Jarrard '88 (right) is currently working as a civilian contractor in Kabul, Afghanistan. Pictured are Joe and fellow alumni: Bob Chamberlin '85, Joe Brazell '84, Mike Childers '83, and Ray Alford '87, whose son is a junior in the Corps of Cadets at North Georgia. Jarrard's son is a sophomore.

1990s

LTC Michael D. Snyder '90 is the chair of the Military Science Department at the University of North Alabama and is responsible for the ROTC



North Georgia Day at the Gwinnett Braves

Many North Georgia alumni enjoyed gathering at the “North Georgia Day” at the Gwinnett Braves event in August 2010. Pictured are Kimberly Clark Pinson '94, Philip E. Smith '97, Dave Brust '98, Kim Smith Jenkins '00, Christy Queen '00, Rene Alvarez '06 and '09, and Mary Canon Williams '08.

program. For the past three years, he has been writing and testing future concepts for the Army that included exchanges with NATO, Israeli, Canadian and United Kingdom militaries to share operational lessons learned. LTC Snyder has been selected by the Army to lead 22 ROTC cadets from across the U.S. on a cultural immersion internship to Guatemala this summer. He lives in Florence, Ala., with his wife, Marianne, and their four children.

Roger Nixon '95 has taken the position of director of business development with SecureUSA, Inc. in Cumming, Ga. Please feel free to contact him via email at roger@secureusa.net or rrnixon@hotmail.com. He can also be reached at 678-634-6295.

MAJ Bruce Gannaway '98 participated in the 2011 Warrior Games at the U.S. Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, Co. The Warrior Games feature 200 wounded, ill, and injured service members from all branches of the U.S. armed forces. The athletes compete in several sports including shooting, swimming, archery, track and field, cycling, volleyball, and

wheelchair basketball.

Donna Huber '99 was recently named marketing director for the publishing house at The Writer's Coffee Shop, a small press that focuses on helping aspiring authors achieve their goal.

2000s

Diane T. Yeargin '03 received her doctorate in Leadership for Higher Education in December 2009.

While attending North Georgia, she had a name change and is now known as Diane Campbell. She was one of the first graduates of North Georgia's community counseling program. Since graduating in 2003, she has been employed by John Carroll University in Cleveland, Ohio, and is currently the assistant dean in the College of Arts and Sciences.

David Cannon '04 had his first book published. *Fly Fishing Georgia* can be found at Amazon.com, Barnes & Noble, Bass Pro Shops, and fly shops across Georgia. The book won Outdoor Book of the Year in April 2010 from the Georgia Outdoor Writers Association.

Tiffany Whitmire '05 has been promoted to the Rushton & Co. management team as director of business consulting. She has been with the firm since 2005. In her new role, she will assist clients in training their accounting staffs and developing efficient month-end closing procedures, in addition to her regular responsibilities. Tiffany will also advise clients in the selection of accounting software and assist in preparing forecasts and projections. She is an active member of the Junior League of Gainesville/Hall County.

Michael A. Case '05 was posthumously awarded a doctorate in mathematical science at Clemson University in May 2010. Michael passed away in April 2010 from a pulmonary embolism. His publications focused on computation of fluid dynamic models and on improvements to programs to significantly reduce resource time requirements for these calculations. He had been accepted for a research internship at Argonne National Labs two weeks prior to his death.

Casey Mote '06 was inducted into the Habersham Central High School Hall of Fame. He was a standout player during his final three seasons in high school, and the first HCHS player to earn an NCAA D-1 scholarship, signing with East Carolina. He transferred to North Georgia for his final two seasons and has been working as a junior varsity and assistant varsity coach in the HCHS program.

Formal military ball

COL Ed Lowe '89 attended the U.S. Army War College with some of his fellow North Georgia graduates at the college's recent formal ball. Pictured are: COL Marc Axelberg '87, Lowe, COL Chris Crate '88 and COL Mark Moser '87.



Michael Holbrooks '10 received his master's degree and was hired at North Georgia as an assistant professor in the undergraduate nursing program. He continues to work as a nurse in the emergency room at Gwinnett Medical Center in Lawrenceville. In addition, he is working on his post-master's certificate in nursing education at North Georgia while continuing to look for a part-time nurse practitioner position.

Ashley Mathis '10 is employed at Floyd Medical Center as the athletic trainer at Coosa High School, where she graduated in 2005. On April 16, she married Brian Whelchel, a 2009 graduate of Georgia Tech.

Submit your Class Notes

We invite you to share your news with North Georgia classmates through Class Notes. All photos need to be high resolution (300 dpi; original file from your digital camera that has not been resized) or you can send the original hardcopy photo so we can scan it.

Submit news by e-mail to alumni@northgeorgia.edu or by mail to: Alumni Relations, North Georgia College & State University, P.O. Box 1599, Dahlonega, GA 30533.

Also, visit www.northgeorgia.org to update your contact information and join or renew your membership in the NGCSU Alumni Association.

In Memoriam

North Georgia College & State University extends sympathy to the family and friends of the following alumni and friends. They are listed by class year with their date of death.

Mrs. June Jeffers Coleman '38	Jan. 29, 2011	Mr. Walter J. Byrd '60	Dec. 5, 2002
Mrs. Mildred Turner Chambers '38	Feb. 20, 2005	Mr. Albert B. McDougald, Jr. '60	Sept. 3, 2005
Mr. Cecil L. Strickland '42	Feb. 3, 2011	COL Carlton Rex Newman '65	March 22, 2011
Mr. Thurman B. Sanders '42	March 7, 2011	Mr. Jeffrey C. Howard, Jr. '66	Nov. 17, 2009
Mr. William N. Lindsey '43	Aug. 8, 2008	Mr. Warren Lee Kirbo '67	Nov. 12, 2010
Mr. Joseph B. Lambert '43	May 21, 2007	Mr. Arthur Mitchell Morgan '69	Jan. 30, 2011
Mr. Jim K. Kinkead, Jr. '43	Feb. 22, 2005	Mr. Dennis H. Watson '70	Dec. 20, 2009
Mr. James T. Duncan '43	Jan. 17, 2011	Mr. Kenneth L. Rouse '71	Nov. 7, 2009
Mr. Richard W. Newsome '44	March 8, 2011	Mrs. Martha Zink English '76	Aug. 7, 2008
Mr. George S. Cowan '44	June 21, 2005	Mr. Eddie I. Whitfield '78	April 22, 2008
Mr. James H. Harris, Jr. '44	June 21, 2010	Mr. Dennis P. Carpenter '78	April 18, 2009
Mr. Robert A. Thompson '45	Jan. 6, 2005	Mrs. Teresa Garrett Holland '79	Aug. 9, 2009
Mr. Lanier A. Hunnicutt '45	Dec. 12, 2009	Mrs. Vicki Broach Burrell '79	March 21, 2011
Mr. Bob Reinhardt '49	Feb. 20, 2011	Mr. Dean Calhoun Dickinson '80	Nov. 25, 2010
Mr. Harry Partridge '49	May 1, 2009	Mrs. Anna Garland Ramey '81	Nov. 6, 2002
Mr. Thomas N. Epps, Sr. '50	Feb. 4, 2011	Mrs. Valerie Hale Servis '85	Feb. 3, 2009
Mr. John G. Hall '50	May 13, 2010	Mrs. Gloria Strickland Maddox '86	Oct. 10, 2010
Mr. James M. Coleman, Jr. '50	May 11, 2010	Mrs. Jean McCrackin Ward '88	Dec. 31, 2009
Mr. Andrew Frank Eidson '50	Oct. 21, 2010	Mr. Lewis H. Williams, Jr. '99	March 14, 2010
Mr. Robert A. Caldwell '50	Jan. 18, 2009	Mrs. Kathy Lunsford Grizzle	
Mr. Mason R. Shelton '51	Feb. 22, 2011	<i>(Retired Staff)</i>	March 29, 2011
Mr. Walter C. Megahee, Jr. '51	Dec. 7, 2002	Dr. John H. Owen	
Mr. Electus C. Ryals, III '52	June 9, 2010	<i>(Former NGCSU President)</i>	Feb. 15, 2011
Mr. Donald S. Trammell '56	Oct. 17, 2008	Mr. Ludlow C. Porch <i>(Friend)</i>	Feb. 11, 2011
Mr. Charles R. Nichols '56	April 22, 2003	Ms. Sarah Lee Patram	
Mr. Sanders F. Hale '58	Feb. 15, 2011	<i>(Retired Faculty)</i>	Jan. 22, 2011
MAJ Michael D. Raley '59	March 2, 2011	Mrs. Isabel Lumsden Couch <i>(Friend)</i>	Nov. 29, 2010
Mrs. Barbara L. Crowe '59	Jan. 16, 2011	Dr. Charles M. Yager	
Mr. Robert W. Deariso '60	March 2, 2011	<i>(Honorary Alumnus, Retired Staff)</i>	Dec. 3, 2010
		Mr. Joseph Parrish <i>(Current Parent)</i>	Aug. 1, 2002



Parents-Alumni Weekend 2011



A group of people gathered outside for the dedication of Hansford Hall, formerly named West Main Hall.



Members of the Class of 1951 celebrated their 60th year reunion, with friends from the classes of 1948-1954.

Awards were presented to several alumni, faculty, staff, and students at the Alumni Association Awards Banquet.



During the Alumni Awards Banquet, the Ralph Colley Spirit of North Georgia award was presented by Colley (left) to Richard Ingram '08, who was injured while serving in Iraq in 2005. Despite amputation of his arm, Ingram returned to North Georgia, commissioned in 2008, and served another tour in Iraq.



Michael McGinnis (left), head of the chemistry department, recognized Bill Cannon '49 for his support.



Upcoming Events

For more information about community and cultural events, visit the online events guide at www.northgeorgia.edu/eventsguide.

For details about alumni events and activities, visit www.northgeorgia.org.

Exhibitions and performances



Art from Georgia Schools

May 7-July 10
Rodin Exhibit
The Figure in Bronze, featuring the work of Auguste Rodin

May 16-Aug. 5
Art From Georgia Schools
Annual exhibition of Georgia art educators and their students



Jason Vieaux

Sept. 13
Jason Vieaux
Performances by Jason Vieaux, one of the world's leading classical guitarists.

Nov. 13
Golden Eagle Band
North Georgia's military band reveals its 2011-12 touring show.



Golden Eagle Band

Nov. 21
North Georgia Jazz Orchestra
Award-winning college jazz ensemble performs a concert of 1940s favorites.

Alumni events

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| July 23 | Area gathering – Huntsville, Ala. |
| Aug. 6 | Celebrate North Georgia Day |
| Aug. 27 | Area gathering – North Atlanta/John's Creek |
| Sept. 17-18 | Class of 1966 reunion |
| Oct. 15 | Class of 1985 reunion |
| Oct. 15 | Alumni Association's Gold Rush Reception |

General campus events

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| June 13-July 15 | Continuing Education's daily and weekly Summer Camps for children |
| Aug. 9 | FROG Week begins |
| Aug. 17 | Fall classes begin |
| Sept. 24-25 | Family Weekend |
| Nov. 5 | Admissions Fall Open House |
| Nov. 11-13 | National Leadership Challenge Weekend |



Travel with North Georgia

Join North Georgia alumni and friends to travel the world!

Springtime Tulip River Cruise (Spring 2012)

Experience the glory of spring on this relaxing 7-night river cruise through Holland and Belgium. Enjoy viewing expansive fields of flowers and windmills. Winding waterways will lead you to well-known cities, such as Ghent and Antwerp, and the many canals of Amsterdam.

Discover Tuscany (Nov. 1-10, 2012)

Beginning in Rome, you will journey through Tuscany's low-lying hills and olive groves to Siena, San Gimignano, Florence and Montecatini. This 10-day trip includes 13 meals.

Contact Continuing Education at 706-864-1918 or visit www.northgeorgia.edu/ce.



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Office of Institutional Advancement
P.O. Box 1599
Dahlonega, GA 30533

Commencement

More than 700 students graduated from North Georgia College & State University this year. Dr. John Barge, state school superintendent, was the keynote speaker at the commencement ceremony for the School of Education this spring.

