

Access

A publication of KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY

Research Report

Kennesaw State faculty and staff received more than \$16 million last year to fund research projects. "Research Report" keeps you abreast of the university's increased research activity.

Construction begins on \$26 million University Place Garden-style apartments offers Wi-Fi, connectivity for upperclassmen

By Robert S. Godlewski
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Kennesaw State University broke ground in October on a \$26-million addition to on-campus student housing. The complex, scheduled to open in August 2012, will mark the 10-year anniversary of KSU becoming a residential campus.

The 207,500-square-foot apartment complex will add 451 beds to the adjacent University Place, a 700-bed development for upperclassmen, which opened in 2002.

"This latest addition to Kennesaw State's campus provides an extremely attractive housing option for upperclass students to live in a dedicated residential community," said Kennesaw State President Daniel S. Papp. "As enrollment continues to grow, more students are looking for the complete college experience, including the convenience of on-campus living."

Each 1,282-square-foot apartment will feature four bedrooms with private bathrooms, a shared kitchen and living room, washer and dryer, balcony and Wi-Fi



Each new Kennesaw State apartment features four bedrooms and a shared kitchen and living room.

connectivity. Each building will be equipped with elevators. The six-acre, garden-style complex will consist of three four-story residential buildings, a large multipurpose room and outdoor amphitheater. It also features ample parking and green space as well as a promenade connecting to Kennesaw State University Road.

Once the addition is complete, the university will offer almost 3,500 beds. With the additional beds, nearly 15 percent of KSU's 24,100 students will live on campus.

Coinciding with the groundbreaking, the Georgia Housing Officers (GHO) held its annual conference on campus and two

members of the Residence Life team were recognized. Director Jeff Cooper was the recipient of the GHO's 2011 Excellence in Housing Award and area coordinator Justin Koonz, who was voted the organization's Outstanding New Professional in 2009, is the president-elect of the GHO.

Chancellor gives Kennesaw State high marks during visit Henry M. Huckaby lauds academic progress at Georgia's third-largest university

By Robert S. Godlewski
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During his visit to Kennesaw State University in October University System of Georgia Chancellor, Henry M. "Hank" Huckaby, who was installed as chancellor earlier this year, said he was proud of the progress Kennesaw State has made during its nearly half century in existence. The chancellor complimented KSU President Daniel S. Papp and his administration on their leadership and said he was impressed with KSU's trajectory over the past four years.

"It is amazing to visit the campus today and see what has happened over all these years," Huckaby said. "Not only has it grown in terms of the number of faculty and students, it has grown dramatically in terms of academic credibility and ranking. This school is doing great things."

Huckaby spent several hours meeting with Kennesaw State administrators, faculty and staff. He also answered questions from KSU students while dining with them in The Commons Student Culinary Center, the university's state-of-the-art dining hall.

"Chancellor Huckaby brings a wealth of experience to his position, having served



Chancellor Huckaby met with KSU administrators, faculty and staff.

40 years in higher education," said Papp. "I have had the privilege of serving with him during my tenure with the Board of Regents and he is very well-positioned to understand the challenges facing higher education in the foreseeable future."

Huckaby was asked at a media conference for his opinion of Kennesaw State's effort to

add collegiate football to the roster of men's sports. Kennesaw State students voted last fall in favor of funding a football program as early as 2014.

He replied that Kennesaw State's plan is well thought out and follows a "logical, multi-step plan" that doesn't detract from its academic mission.

Adrian Epps, associate dean of the College of Science and Mathematics and director of the Advancing the Teaching of Mathematics and Science Center (ATOMS) and faculty from the Bagwell College — associate professors Joya Carter Hicks, Debra Coffey, Daphne Hubbard, Earl Holliday and Professor Mark Warner — were awarded a \$63,525 contract to conduct educational leadership/coach training sessions for Gwinnett County teachers.

The Burruss Institute was awarded a \$57,326 contract from the School of Social Work at the University of Arkansas to conduct a survey of 904 respondents in Arkansas and New Mexico.

Janice Long, associate professor of nursing, received a \$20,000 grant from Novo Nordisk to support Project IDEAL, a faith-based group partnering with the WellStar Health System to train community health workers for work in faith based settings in Cobb County. There are currently three settings in Cobb and the grant allows expansion to five more.

Brian Wills and the Center for the Study of the Civil War received \$19,002 under a cooperative agreement between the National Park Service and Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield and Kennesaw State to support the Center's annual symposium, focusing on 1862 as part of the Sesquicentennial. Funds will also support the KSU Emancipation Program, devoted to the 1862 battle of Antietam and the subsequent announcement of President Abraham Lincoln's preliminary emancipation proclamation.

Karim Ismaili, associate dean of Humanities and Social Sciences and professor of Criminal Justice, was awarded \$8,000 from the International Council for Canadian Studies, a program of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade of Canada, to help support a conference, "Ten Years After 9/11: Canadian and U.S. Perspectives on Terrorism, Criminal Enterprises, and Migration" on the KSU campus in spring 2012.

KSU Homecoming 2011: sports, parade, music and fun *“Owl Prowl” celebration culminates in concert on Campus Green by The Maine*

By Robert S. Godlewski
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Organizers had to stretch Homecoming Week to nine days to accommodate all the fun. The “week” began with Hoot-a-Palooza: KSU Night at Town Center and concluded with a free concert by The Maine on the Campus Green. In between, there were soccer games, a volleyball match, a big dance and a campus beautification project just to name a few.

Presiding over the festivities were Homecoming Queen Christina Smith and King Will Potts.

“We actually began planning this year’s homecoming almost immediately after Homecoming 2010,” said Michael Sanseviro, dean of student success and Homecoming 2011 committee chair. “This is a great campus with lots of energy and activities, and homecoming provides us with a way to showcase us at

our best to the surrounding Kennesaw community.”

Kennesaw State’s new athletic director Vaughn Williams served as grand marshal of the parade and got everyone at “Owl Prowl” into the homecoming spirit. Then KSU’s dance team and Harrison High School’s marching band whipped up the crowd gathered along the parade route.

The float competition was especially fierce. Teams from Alumni Affairs, sororities and fraternities, Auxiliary Services, KSU orientation, even Best Western-Kennesaw got into the act. So many groups were represented that judges had a hard time deciding.

When the owl feathers settled, Alpha Omicron Pi won in the fraternity and sorority category. Taking honors for Residence Life was the Residence Hall Association and the department category winner was the Department of Residence Life. Serving as the judges were: KSU Vice President for Student Success Jerome Ratchford,



Anthony Stalcup

Homecoming 2011 featured a parade through campus.

Interim Chief Diversity Officer Linda Lyons and Faculty Executive Assistant to the President Jorge Perez.

U.S. News recognizes first-year program for ninth consecutive year *Kennesaw State curriculum also lauded in national study*

by Aixa M. Pascual
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Kennesaw State’s first-year program was recognized this fall by *U.S. News & World Report* as one of the best in the country in its 2012 “Best Colleges” issue. This marks the ninth consecutive year that KSU’s first-year program has been recognized in the prestigious annual college rankings.

“It is an honor for Kennesaw State to be recognized once again for the excellence of our first-year program,” said KSU President Daniel S. Papp. “The latest *U.S. News* rankings are an affirmation that Kennesaw State is gaining national prominence in very significant ways.”

Kennesaw State was one of 18 colleges recognized for its work with first-year students, along with Stanford, Purdue, the University of South Carolina, the University of Notre Dame and others. The top schools were selected from nominations submitted by college presidents, chief academic officers, deans of students and deans of admissions from more than 1,500 schools.

Kennesaw State was also among a select group of 19 colleges and universities that scored an “A” for its high-quality core curriculum in a nationwide study on the state of general education released by the American Council of Trustees and Alumni.

KSU came in the top 2 percent among 1,007 major public and private four-year institutions surveyed, accord-

ing to the Washington, D.C.-based American Council of Trustees and Alumni. This is the second consecutive year that Kennesaw State has earned an “A” in the annual “What Will They Learn?” report.

Schools are assigned a letter grade ranging from “A” to “F” based on how many of seven core subjects they require: composition, U.S. government or history, economics, literature, math, science and foreign language at an intermediate level. “A” schools were those that require a course in at least six out of the seven academic subjects. Other universities earning the top grade included the United States Air Force Academy, Texas A&M University and Baylor University.

Homelessness Awareness Week motivates governments to act *Gov. Nathan Deal, Cobb Commission and Kennesaw mayor laud university’s leadership*

By Sabbaye McGriff
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Kennesaw State University’s recent 2011 Homelessness Awareness Week, a week of activities to increase awareness of the realities of homelessness, inspired state and local governments to join in creating more public awareness about the issue.

Leading up to the university’s fourth annual event, Georgia Gov. Nathan Deal, the Cobb County Commissioners and Kennesaw Mayor Mark Mathews all proclaimed October 10-15 “Homelessness Awareness Week.”

The public proclamations, orchestrated by Evelyn Campbell, a 2011 KSU alumna and sociology major, acknowledged the university’s leadership in promoting awareness of homelessness and underscored the urgency of addressing the needs of the growing population of the homeless. “There are an estimated 21,000 homeless men, women and children sleeping in their cars, on the streets and other locations not meant for human habitation,” the

city’s proclamation noted. “Ending homelessness is critical to the vitality of families, businesses and communities in the City of Kennesaw and the state of Georgia.

Nearly 250 students and faculty attended an all-day conference and participated in the sleep out, an annual Kennesaw State tradition that simulates the experience of living outside without permanent shelter. The experience was made even more realistic as members of the Criminal Justice Club, trained especially for the sleep out, fanned out among the crowd, issuing citations and making arrests for violations of event rules.

Lana Wachniak, KSU professor emeritus of criminal justice and event founder, expressed appreciation for the commitment of students, faculty and community partners to the ideals of Homelessness Awareness Week. “Homelessness awareness does not end in one week, though,” she cautioned. “I hope all the participants will carry forward the understanding and concerns about the needs of the growing ranks of those who are homeless and living in poverty.”



David Caselli

The annual KSU Homelessness Awareness Week sleep out simulates the experience of homelessness.

Campus Notes

Wicker steps down after 10 years in Advancement

Wesley K. Wicker stepped down Oct. 31 as Kennesaw State University’s vice president for advancement after 10 years of service. Wicker is credited with leading the university’s first-ever comprehensive capital campaign. Launched in October 2007, the five-year campaign, “The New Faces of Kennesaw State,” raised \$77 million, 15 months ahead of schedule.

“While we are sad to see Wes go, he leaves behind the legacy of a very successful capital campaign that will benefit Kennesaw State University students, faculty and staff for many years to come,” KSU President Daniel S. Papp said. “Campaign funds have enabled Kennesaw State to add numerous student scholarships, construct much-needed buildings and facilities, and fund research to record levels.”

KSU SIFE student wins Google competition

Kennesaw State University junior Travis Allen was selected by Google as one of 10 young people who are making a positive difference in the world. Allen, a management major at the Coles College of Business, was a winner of Young Minds, a competition sponsored by Google for 18- to 24-year-olds who are doing amazing things to make the world a better place. Winners were selected from the United States, Canada, Mexico, Brazil and Argentina. Allen was recognized for his efforts to revolutionize education in America through mobile learning.



“Year of Peru” offers a feast for the palate and the intellect

Annual country study features performances, exhibits and culinary offerings

By Sabbaye McGriff
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The “Year of Peru Day” celebration at Kennesaw State on Oct. 5 presented a feast for the senses, engaging hundreds gathered in the Student Center’s University Rooms with the sounds, tastes, aromas and visual images of Peru.

The formal kick-off for the 2011-2012 annual country study featured an elaborate spread of more than 10 national dishes from Peru; nearly an hour of lively Andean and Afro-Peruvian music; a display of original art, indigenous masks, textiles and artifacts; and photographic images of the country’s cities, coast and diverse landscapes that beamed continuously from two giant screens.

The event is one of dozens of activities — lectures, special academic courses, study- abroad opportunities for students and faculty, films, performances, exhibits and weekly culinary features at the KSU Commons —

being presented throughout the “Year of Peru.”

“I’ve been on many university campuses and I can assure you that this is unique,” said Interim Provost W. Ken Harmon. “[The scope of] this “Year of Peru” celebration reflects who we are at Kennesaw State. As a result of what we are doing today, a year from now, KSU and Peru will be closer neighbors and better friends.”

KSU’s Chef de Cuisine Gary Coltek and visiting Peruvian master chefs Roger Arakakki of Sushi Ito and Luis Herrera of Universidad San Ignacio de Loyola presented a tasting of the country’s highly acclaimed cuisine — a major focus during the “Year of Peru.” Visiting chefs from Peru and staff at the KSU Commons Student Culinary Center will prepare and serve Peruvian dishes on Fridays throughout the year.

The “Year of Peru,” represents Kennesaw State’s 28th annual country study. To view a complete list of “Year of Peru” activities, please visit <http://www.kennesaw.edu/yearofperu/>



Anthony Stalcup

The Peruvian dance troupe, Inca Sun, performed for “Year of Peru” Day at Kennesaw State.



Female candidate for Egyptian presidency speaks at Kennesaw State

Bothaina Kamel says “my agenda is Egypt”

By Guy Bailey
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Bothaina Kamel, the first female candidate for the presidency of the Arab Republic of Egypt, addressed staff and students at Kennesaw State University Oct. 26.

Kamel was welcomed by Thierry Leger, associate dean of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences and was introduced by Nuru Akinyemi, interim director of the Center for African and African Diaspora Studies.

“Ms. Bothaina Kamel’s visit to Kennesaw State offered a unique opportunity for our students to engage directly with someone who was on the frontline of the most dramatic political transformations of the 21st century — the so-called Arab spring revolutions,” Akinyemi said. “Ms. Kamel is shattering taboos and making history as the first woman presidential candidate in Egyptian history and as a fearless activist campaigner for social justice, human rights and democracy.”



Anthony Stalcup

Bothaina Kamel spoke to students and faculty.

Kamel’s long and interesting career, has sometimes placed her in confrontation with her government. She was a news anchor and presenter for Egypt’s national state broadcasting organization, where she hosted a controversial and ground-breaking late-night radio show called “Night

Confessions” where people sought anonymous advice for their personal problems.

In 2005, she co-founded the democratic advocacy group Shayfeen.com (We Are Watching You). When the Egyptian revolution started last January, Kamel was front and center in Tahir Square, interviewing protesters, helping them resist arrest and helping the crowds to liberate fellow protesters from police that were operating in the area.

When not campaigning at home, Kamel meets Egyptian exiles everywhere in the world to spread her message of tolerance, understanding and cooperation. She remains a critic of The Supreme Council of the Armed Forces, Egypt’s current interim government.

“I am standing as a female candidate to prove to the electorate that the Egyptian people are very moderate and will accept a female candidate,” she said. “I will continue to campaign, continue defending, continue working for the people of my country. Some opponents question what is my agenda - my agenda is Egypt.”



Kennesaw State professor earns Regents’ award

Pusateri is seventh KSU faculty member to be honored

By Neil B. McGahee
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Tom Pusateri, associate director of Kennesaw State’s Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL) and a professor of psychology, won the 2012 Board of Regents’ Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Award. Kennesaw State faculty and programs have won 13 of the 15 awards given since the recognition began in 1997.

The Regents Awards for Excellence in Teaching and Scholarship of Teaching and Learning, which honor the best teaching faculty at Georgia’s 35 public colleges and

universities, cited Pusateri’s distinguished record of scholarship on the teaching of psychology and measuring how well students learn.

“This award is a great honor for Kennesaw State,” said KSU President Daniel S. Papp. “Dr. Pusateri’s award is the latest in a long tradition of KSU being recognized by the Board of Regents for excellence in teaching and for the scholarship of teaching and learning.”

Pusateri follows in the footsteps of Sabine Smith, an associate professor of German who won the Excellence in Teaching Award in 2011. Previous KSU winners are theatre professor Karen Robinson in 2010, environmental science professor Matthew

Laposata in 2009, math professor Mary L. Garner in 2008 and former psychology professor Randolph Smith in 2007.

Pusateri, a psychology professor, teaches social psychology and theories of personality, and has served as CETL’s associate director for the scholarship of teaching and learning since 2006.

“I am truly honored to be one of a long list of colleagues at KSU who have won Regents’ awards,” Pusateri said. “I am particularly honored to receive this award for my role as associate director for the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, as it demonstrates how personnel in faculty development centers can be institutional leaders in assessment.”



file photo

Tom Pusateri



Kennesaw State enrollment tops 24,000 students

University among handful of state, regional and research institutions showing growth

By Sabbaye McGriff
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Enrollment at Kennesaw State University grew by 3.1 percent to a record 24,175 students in fall 2011, outpacing overall enrollment growth in the University System of Georgia (USG). USG enrollment grew by 2.1 percent to 318,027 students in fall 2011, according to the system’s recently released Semester Enrollment Report.

Among 21 USG institutions classified as research, regional and state universities and two-year colleges, only five institutions reported growth of 3 percent or higher.

“The continued enrollment growth at Kennesaw State reflect how students are responding to our positioning of the university as a destination campus with outstanding academic programs and an inviting, supportive environment,” said KSU President Daniel S. Papp. “We are not only attracting more students, we are

attracting a higher caliber of students from a broader geographic area.”

Increases in the academic qualifications of entering Kennesaw State freshmen are reflected in SAT scores for first-time freshmen, which rose from 1,064 in fall 2006 to 1,078 in fall 2011, higher than the state and national averages.

Kennesaw State officials credit the university’s continued growth to a number of factors, including the expansion of academic programs, on-campus housing

and targeted recruiting efforts.

“Despite economic uncertainty and new guidelines for the HOPE scholarship impacting students’ options, Kennesaw State’s reputation and name continue to be draws,” said Kim West, KSU’s associate vice president for enrollment services and registrar. “We have been very aggressive in recruiting and promoting the KSU name and quality, and that continues to pay off in enrollment growth.”



Simulated student-housing fire underscores dangers of candles

Demonstration teaches students fire-safety precautions and how quick reaction can save lives

By Robert S. Godlewski
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As a crowd of about 125 Kennesaw State students stood in steady drizzle, university security and safety officials set fire to a mock-up of a dorm bedroom in early October to demonstrate how little time it takes for a burning candle to spread flames across a room.

The demonstration, part of National Fire Prevention Week activities, drove home the point that in less than two minutes a single flame can grow into a raging inferno.

"If a lighted candle comes in contact with combustible materials such as bedspreads, curtains, books or notebook paper, you may only have a matter of seconds to react before fire engulfs your room," said Jeff Cooper, director of Residence



A Cobb County firefighter surrendered his hose to a KSU student.

Life. "That's why teaching fire prevention is so important."

Robert Lang, assistant vice president, strategic security and safety, enlisted the aid of Cobb County Fire & Emergency Services personnel to safely extinguish the blaze at the end of the exercise.

"Hat's off to all, not only those in the main roles, but to those crisis coordinators who were in their vests and on their radios and of course the Cobb County Fire Department's Station 26 for their support," Lang said. "This was a good team effort, and I'm sure what the students learned here today may one day help save their lives and those of their friends as well."

During the exercise, all students were instructed in the proper use of fire extinguishers like those located throughout the residence buildings.



Regents approve \$20 million Bagwell College addition

Projected enrollment increases, new degree programs require more space.

By Robert S. Godlewski
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Kennesaw State University will start construction next year on a more than \$20 million addition to the Bagwell College of Education, thanks to an \$18 million allocation in the state's budget.

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

The new facility will adjoin the existing classrooms in Kennesaw Hall. When construction is completed in 2013, it will feature 17 fully equipped classrooms and contain 82,900 square feet. The facility will include eight state-of-the-art model classrooms for specialization in



Artist's rendering of proposed Bagwell College addition.

high-need areas, such as science and math and the new Birth-Through-5 degree program.

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

"We are deeply appreciative of the strong support from the University System of Georgia's (USG) Board of Regents for this much-needed addition to the Bagwell College of Education and to Gov. Nathan Deal and the Georgia General Assembly for recognizing the important role Kennesaw State plays in the education of the state's teachers," said KSU President Daniel S. Papp.



Kennesaw State alumna helps expose human trafficking

Chinny Law joins MTV, Clinton Global Initiative effort to combat modern-day slavery

by Sabbaye McGriff
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At a Clinton Global Initiative press briefing launching a yearlong, international anti-human trafficking campaign, Kennesaw State University alumna Chinny Law was introduced by MTV President Stephen Friedman as one of the "inspirational student activists leading the charge."

Law (Political Science '06; M.S.

Conflict Management '08) joined national and international activists involved in combating human trafficking and modern-day slavery. She was selected to appear at the briefing after she was interviewed by MTV about her work with other KSU students and faculty to uncover a forced labor operation at a local restaurant.

Law said she began educating herself about the human trafficking issue after watching the movie "Taken," in which a

man rescues his daughter from a powerful, international sex trafficking ring.

"Much to my surprise," Law wrote in The Huffington Post, "I learned that trafficking was not only a global problem, but also a problem within the United States and even more so in my city of Atlanta."

As she continued her research, Law said she became motivated to get involved.

"After reading all of this, it was like the wind was knocked out of me," she wrote.

"I decided that it was time to take action. It was time to do something about this horrific reality."

She devoted part of a senior research project to participation in surveillance of a local restaurant and documented evidence of forced labor. The students turned their research over to local Immigration Customs Enforcement officials, who are conducting a wider investigation of area restaurants.



Kennesaw State seeks to increase minority STEM majors

University joins Peach State Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation

By Robert S. Godlewski
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Kennesaw State University joined the Peach State Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (LSAMP), a consortium of six Georgia colleges and universities working to increase the number of minority students studying the STEM

disciplines — science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

"This country desperately needs more talented young men and women pursuing the STEM disciplines if we are going to successfully compete in the new global trade arena," said Ron Matson, interim dean of the College of Science and Mathematics. "Membership in the

Peach State Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation helps us move closer toward accomplishing that goal."

Under the sponsorship of the National Science Foundation (NSF), LSAMP is undertaking a comprehensive program to assist students through key, sometimes difficult transition points all the way from undergraduate

recruitment through preparation for graduate school.

As a new LSAMP member, Kennesaw State recently conducted its first "Lab Coat Ceremony" for 25 undergraduate science and math students in the College of Science and Mathematics. The students, who ranged from freshmen to seniors, are pursuing science and math

degrees as part of the STEM. Matson and biology professor Army Lester III participated in the historic ceremony.

"We currently have more than two dozen students participating in LSAMP," said Lester. "That's a good start, and we look forward to tripling that number in the very near future."

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