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 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.

Coxing 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 Koome, 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. Hucaby 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” Hucaby, 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,” Hucaby 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.”

Hucaby 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 Hucaby brings a wealth of experience to his position, having served 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.”

Hucaby 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.
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 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 Rachford,

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, according 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 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 City Manager Mark Matthews 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.”

Homelessness Awareness Week

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

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.
The “Year of Peru” celebration at Kennesaw State on Oct. 5 presented a feast for the senses, engaging hundreds gathered in the Student Center’s Grand Ballroom 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 textiles and artifacts; and photographic images of the country’s cities, coast — and diverse landscapes that beamed continuously from two giant screens.

The Year of Peru Day included dozens of activities — lectures, special academic courses, study-abroad opportunities for students and faculty, films, performances, exhibits, weekly culinary features at the KSU Commons — 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.

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 female candidate for the Egyptian presidency. She is committed to working for the sake of the next generation and for a more equal society. She is a true and strong leader.”

By Guy Bailey gaballe12@kennesaw.edu

The Peruvian dance troupe, Inca Sun, performed for the 28th annual country study. To view a complete list of “Year of Peru” activities, please visit //www.kennesaw.edu/yearofperu/
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 room 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 lighter 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 Life.

ediator from the Office of University Relations at Kennesaw State University.

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

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

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 this past year on a more than $20 million addition to the Bagwell College of Education, thanks to an $18 million allocation this past year on a more than $20 million addition to the Bagwell College of Education, thanks to an $18 million allocation this past year on a more than $20 million addition to the Bagwell College of Education, thanks to an $18 million allocation this past year.

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 8,900 square feet. The facility will include eight state-of-the-art model classrooms for specialization in high-need areas, such as science and math and the new Birth-Through-5 degree program.

It will 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 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.

By Sabbaye McGriff
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At a Clinton Global Initiative press briefing last year, 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 on an episode of the MTV series “True Life” to discuss the issue.

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.

“A lot of what I saw in the movie ‘Taken’ I still see here in Atlanta, like I was 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 alumna helps expose human trafficking
Chinny Law joins MTV, Clinton Global Initiative effort to combat modern-day slavery

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