Kennesaw State breaks ground on Bagwell College of Education expansion

by Jennifer Hafer
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As the number of future teachers and educational leaders enrolling at Kennesaw State University continues to grow, so too does the need for a more expansive facility for the Bagwell College of Education. That dream came one step closer to reality at a groundbreaking ceremony in May celebrating the construciton of a new four-story addition to the college’s existing building.

The multi-million-dollar, state-funded expansion is slated for completion next summer. The Georgia state Legislature allocated $20.3 million for the project.

“The Bagwell College of Education is one of the leading producers of teachers in Georgia, and enrollment in our teacher education and leadership programs has more than doubled since mid-2000,” said Kennesaw State University President Daniel S. Papp. “Yet the lack of space has limited our ability to further increase our programs. This building will enable us to strengthen our programs and solidify Bagwell’s position as Georgia’s leader in the preparation of both teachers and educational leaders.”

The 78,756-square-foot addition initially will feature three floors housing nine general classrooms, eight model classrooms, one computer lab, two seminar rooms, student study areas, the Center for Literacy and Learning, three conference rooms, a department suite and the dean’s suite.

“Today’s event represents a long-awaited milestone for Bagwell — a time when all of the College’s academic departments and student-service units can be physically located at one site, to facilitate our collaborative approach to preparing teachers and educational leaders,” said Bagwell College of Education Dean Arlinda Eaton at the groundbreaking.

By Jennifer Hafer
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The Commons continues to rack up national awards

Recognizing a shift in college dining operations from “standard cafeteria-like settings, with lunch lines and trays full of nondescript and boring foods,” BestColleges.com has ranked Kennesaw State University’s The Commons Student Dining Hall among the nation’s best.

“Debunking the common perceptions of cafeterias in general, the colleges on this list are being recognized for going the extra mile to provide nutritious, rich and delicious food to all their students regardless of their diet,” according to the website of BestColleges.com, an online resource for prospective college students.

The ranking was the most recent in a long line of honors for Culinary and Hospitality Services, which was nationally recognized in May for working at the forefront of sustainability.

Kennesaw State won two national awards from the National Restaurant Association — the “Innovator of the Year” and Operator Innovations Award for Sustainability. Citing its “comprehensive, closed-loop waste management program” and “Farm to Campus to Farm” initiative, it was the first time an educational institution was selected to receive the prestigious Innovator of the Year award.

“Just as students look at academic offerings when choosing a college or university, they are also looking at dining hall operations in a way they didn’t before,” said Gary Cotek, director of Culinary and Hospitality Services. “Students care about where their food comes from and what happens to it once it gets here.”

In its ranking, BestColleges.com noted Kennesaw State grows its own hydroponic lettuce, herbs and shiitake mushrooms, and 20 percent of the produce used in The Commons is grown on campus. Vegan, vegetarian and gluten-free options are available, including favorites like pizza, pasta and desserts.

Kennesaw State’s previous culinary honors include rankings by Newweek beginning in 2011 for being among the top 25 for best food; top honors from the National Association of College and University Food Services (NACUFS) for sustainability outreach and education; a prestigious NACUFS Loyal E. Horton Award; and a top 10 ranking in 2012 by online publication The Daily Meal in its “52 Best Colleges for Food in America.”
New dean Patricia Poulter takes lead at College of the Arts

By Robert S. Godlewski
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Kennesaw State University has brought new leadership to the College of the Arts in naming Patricia “Patty” S. Poulter as dean. She took the post on July 1.

Poulter succeeded Interim Dean Ivan Pulinkala, who served since Feb. 1. Pulinkala replaced Joseph Meeks, who led the school for 14 years as dean and served 38 years on the faculty until his retirement in January. “I could tell when I stepped foot on this amazing campus that there was an energy and passion for the arts,” Poulter said.

Poulter served previously as associate dean for the College of Arts & Humanities at Eastern Illinois University. A professor of music education, Poulter held other administrative positions within the college, including department chair in the Department of Student Teaching and Clinical Experiences, as well as interim department chair in the Journalism Department.

As associate dean, she shared administrative responsibilities for the College of Arts & Humanities, overseeing a $12 million budget, 226 faculty; nine academic departments; seven interdisciplinary programs; 1,800 students; and the Performing Arts Center.

“Kennesaw State takes great pride in the selection of Patricia Poulter as dean,” said W. Ken Harmon, provost and vice president for academic affairs. “She has demonstrated remarkable leadership and scholarship during her two decades in higher education, which will stand her in good stead as she takes the reins of Kennesaw State’s highly successful College of the Arts.”

The College of the Arts is one of the largest schools of the arts in Georgia and is accredited by the National Association of Schools of Music, the National Association of Schools of Theater and the National Association of Schools of Art and Design.

Poulter holds a bachelor’s degree in music education, a master’s in music education, and a doctorate in education from The Ohio State University. She earned an Ed.D. in music from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Kennesaw State selects Clendenin Graduate Fellows for 2013

By Tiffany Capuano
tcapuano@kennesaw.edu

Kennesaw State University has awarded six master’s and doctoral students Clendenin Graduate Fellowships for the upcoming academic year. The Clendenin Graduate Fellows Program funds up to $20,000 annually for two years of master’s-level studies or three years of doctoral studies at any accredited educational institution.

This year’s recipients represent the fifth group of scholars to receive the prestigious award. Successful scholarship recipients demonstrated outstanding leadership potential, a capacity for accomplishment and the commitment to complete his or her academic program.

New fellows were honored during a reception on June 25. The fellowship program has provided scholarship funding for more than 30 graduate students, with nearly half of the recipients earning their advanced degrees at Kennesaw State.

Clendenin Graduate Fellows include, from left, 2013 recipients Laurie Ereddia, Senai Abraha, Abigail May, Katherine Barnett, Birthe Reimers, and Janora Ware; and 2012 recipients Roberta Jackson.

Clendenin Fellows graduated in the spring of 2013, including Kennesaw State’s first Ph.D. recipient in International Conflict Management, Rebecca K. LeFevre, and three Georgia State University doctoral graduates, Janeen S. Amason in Nursing Science and Maryan Rogers and Ghapinder Naidu, both in Teaching and Learning Mathematics Education.

Partnership puts KSU at forefront of Georgia’s film and TV industry

By Tiffany Capuano
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Senoa and Kennesaw may seem unlikely locations for those looking to get ahead in the entertainment industry, but a new partnership between Senoa Enterprises, Inc. and Kennesaw State University will soon change that.

Senoa Enterprises, Inc., the company responsible for redevelopment of the small town of Senoa, Ga., located south of Atlanta, is partnering with Kennesaw State University’s Joel A. Katz Music and Entertainment Business (MEBUS) program, a leading model for academic and applied studies in the music and entertainment industry, to provide a home base for executive education courses in entertainment business.

The program is housed in the Michael J. Coles College of Business. “This exciting partnership demonstrates the University’s dedication to preparing and educating students while working to develop programs that meet the demands of a growing and diverse marketplace,” said Kennesaw State Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Ken Harmon.

Senoa has served as a backdrop for more than two-dozen productions, many of them based at nearby Raleigh Studios Atlanta and Sony production facilities in Postimees City. The town of Senoa, touted for its Mayberry-esque feel, is where AMC’s top-rated television series, “The Walking Dead,” is filmed and over the years has served as the backdrop for several major motion pictures, including “Footloose,” “Fried Green Tomatoes” and “Driving Miss Daisy.”

Film and television studios and production facilities near Senoa will benefit from this partnership when the MEBUS program begins offering a full range of entertainment business courses in the spring.

“This unique partnership taps into our strength in educating students with relevant business skills so that they can succeed in the film and television industry,” said Keith Perri, director of the MEBUS program.

This partnership will also pair Kennesaw State students with one-of-a-kind direct industry connections, including ties to Senoa-area entertainment partners such as the Zac Brown Band, Camp Southern Ground, production companies, artists and post-production resources.
The General Assembly for this much-needed funding,” said the University System of Georgia’s Board of Regents and 104,000-square-foot facility area by 1,600 square feet.

Design and construction to expand the current from the state. The project will encompass architectural and improving functionality while reducing operating improvements to the library, expanding group study space

Square footage.

The position is a natural progression of what McMurray has been doing since he arrived on campus in fall 2006, following his postdoctoral work at Yale University.

McMurray, whose primary research interest is how bacteria move, has secured more than $1 million in grants from the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation and the Research Corporation for Science Advancement.

“Jonathan is an excellent addition to the leadership team of the college,” said Mark Anderson, dean of the College of Science and Mathematics. “He has a distinguished record of research, and he has established many collaborations within Kennesaw State and with colleagues at other USG institutions for his own research activities. His ability to build research teams will help to continue to expand the University’s research profile.”

McMurray has a Ph.D in biochemistry from the University of Connecticut. His master’s and bachelor’s in biology are from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

“Kennesaw State has active and growing research programs,” McMurray said. “My primary goal is to continue to build the research infrastructure in the College of Science and Mathematics by facilitating collaborations among colleagues and helping them obtain more research grants.”

The College, which offers master’s programs in statistics and computer science, launched a master’s program in integrative biology in fall 2012 and will welcome its inaugural class of chemistry graduate students in August.

By Robert S. Godlewski
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Kennesaw State University’s Horace W. Sturgis Library is getting a much-needed makeover, which will create meaningful learning and engagement spaces to enhance student success.

The $6 million project includes $4.4 million in funding specifically for use on an iPad, provides a multimedia play in an illusion.

The Muse Awards are presented to institutions that excel in using multimedia, education and outreach, online presence and augmented reality. The Honeyett & Din Student Award is granted to student works created for museums or other education institutions as well as class projects, prototypes or concepts. The National Portrait Gallery claimed second prize in the same category.

The Paper Moon e-catalogue was intended to function, the nature of their appeal and how they are intended to function, the nature of their appeal and what role authenticity and the ability to “make believe” play in an illusion.

The supporting Paper Moon e-catalogue, designed specifically for use on an iPad, provides a multimedia exploration of the exhibition including essays with voice-overs by the authors, documentaries, 360-degree rotation of exhibition pieces and Second-Life demonstrations.

The Georgia General Assembly approved the $4.4 million funding request for the $6 million renovation and expansion during the 152nd legislative session earlier this year.

Named after the University’s first president, Horace W. Sturgis, the library supports and advances the teaching and learning activities of the greater University community. Built in 1983 to meet the informational needs of a campus with a student population of only 5,000, the current facility serves nearly 25,000 students and houses more than 600,000 volumes of books and government publications. Despite its vast archives, however, the library ranks well behind its peer institutions throughout the University System when measured by student enrollment versus square footage.

The renovation project will provide essential improvements to the library, expanding group study space and improving functionality while reducing operating costs and enhancing energy efficiency. We will include repurposing space on floors, upgrading the mechanical/electrical infrastructure, and updating the library’s furnishings to create meaningful learning and engagement spaces to enhance student success.

By Yolanda Rodriguez
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Kennesaw State University’s Horace W. Sturgis Library received funding for renovation and expansion.

Of the nearly 8,800 full- and part-time jobs associated with Kennesaw State University – 2,476 of them on campus – 6,300 of those jobs are due to spending related to the institution, including 4,100 jobs that are due to student spending.

The remaining $359 million of the output impact was created by re-spending – the multiplier effect of the dollars that are spent again in the region. For every dollar of initial spending by a university system institution or its students, research found that, on average, an additional 45 cents was generated for the local economy.

The critical role the university serves, data provides important insight into the powerful engine in the economic growth of our regional economy,” said Kennesaw State’s $926 million economic impact on the 28-county Atlanta metropolitan region was up 8.5 percent from $854 million in FY 2011. The overall economic impact of the 31-unit university system on the state’s economy in FY 2012 was $54.1 billion.

Most of Kennesaw State’s $926 million economic impact — the largest among state universities in the USG — consists of initial spending by Kennesaw State for salaries and fringe benefits, operating supplies and expenses and other budgeted expenditures, as well as spending by students. Initial spending by Kennesaw State and its students equaled $567 million, or nearly 61 percent of the total output impact.

By Sabbaye McGriff
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Kennesaw State University’s economic impact region tops $926 million

“Take pride in the fact that Kennesaw State continues to be a powerful engine in the economic growth of our regional economy,” said KSU President Daniel S. Papp. “This data provides important insight into the critical role the university serves, and the economic implications of the jobs we create as well as the associated residual spending.”

According to the report released by the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia, Kennesaw State’s FY 2012 economic impact on the 28-county Atlanta metropolitan region was up 8.5 percent from $854 million in FY 2011. The overall economic impact of the 31-unit university system on the state’s economy in FY 2012 was $54.1 billion.

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Sturgis Library receives funding for renovation and expansion

By Yolanda Rodriguez
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Kennesaw State University’s Bernard A. Zuckerman Museum of Art emerged with the top Honeyett & Din Student Gold Award for the Paper Moon exhibit e-catalogue at the 2013 Alliance of Museum Media and Technology Muse Awards ceremony in Baltimore.

The Muse Awards are presented to institutions that excel in using multimedia, education and outreach, online presence and augmented reality. The Honeyett & Din Student Award is granted to student works created for museums or other education institutions as well as class projects, prototypes or concepts. The National Portrait Gallery claimed second prize in the same category.

The Paper Moon e-catalogue was produced in partnership with the Zuckerman Museum of Art and the College of Science and Mathematics names new associate dean

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Kennesaw State named a ‘Great College to Work For’

By Robert S. Godlewski
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Kennesaw State University recently named Lance Askildson to head the University’s Institute for Global Initiatives. Askildson, a scholar of applied linguistics and second language acquisition and founding director of Notre Dame’s Center for the Study of Languages & Cultures, joined Kennesaw State as the senior international officer on July 1. He replaced Barry Morris, vice provost for strategic initiatives, who served as interim IGI director since 2011.

“We are extremely fortunate to have someone of Lance Askildson’s stature and experience to provide strategic leadership for IGI,” said W. Ken Harmon, provost and vice president for academic affairs at Kennesaw State. “We have made considerable strides in developing global components across our curriculum and increasing study abroad opportunities for students, as well as research and other collaborative options abroad for faculty. Lance can help maintain our established global partnerships and develop new ones.”

In his role at Kennesaw State, he will oversee all IGI units, including the Education Abroad Office, Center for Latin American and Iberian Studies, Center for African and African Diaspora Studies, Global Engagement Programs and Global Admissions.

He also will work closely with each of the university’s eight colleges and a variety of campus units to achieve goals related to global learning and engagement.

Askildson, who holds a Ph.D. in second language acquisition from the University of Arizona, also has been appointed an associate professor of English at Kennesaw State and will begin teaching courses on English language and linguistics in the fall. Bilingual in English and French, he earned a master’s in multilingual/multicultural education and TESOL from Florida State University and a B.A. in history/French language and linguistics from the University of Minnesota.

New executive director of global initiatives joins Kennesaw State

By Sabbaye McGriff
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Kennesaw State University rising junior Katherine Street was selected by the Fulbright Commission to attend one of its Summer Institutes for U.S. Undergraduates. Street, a member of the President’s Emerging Global Scholars (PEGS) program, participated in the Fulbright Commission’s Wales Summer Institute. The theme of the six-week cultural and academic program is “Contemporary Wales: Industry, Politics, Culture and Change.” Street studied at Cardiff University, Bangor University and Aberystwyth University.

“I am so grateful for the opportunity to represent KSU here in Wales as an owl abroad,” Street wrote during the Institute.

Street, president of the Kennesaw State Student Government Association, wants to become a nurse and an educator. Calling nursing “the perfect marriage of science and compassion,” Street said the experience in Wales gave her an international perspective on the challenges, including health care, facing the world.

“One unexpected benefit from this trip has been a deepening appreciation for my own culture,” Street said.

“Our group is composed of eight U.S. students who come from universities across the nation, adding a rich texture to our conversations. The varied perspectives that each of us contributes has opened my eyes, not only to different facets of the Welsh identity, but also different facets of the American identity.”

The PEGS program — a partnership of the Center for Student Leadership (CSiL), University College and the Office of the President — is designed to promote sustained leadership development within a global context. The program requires a rigorous application process and selects just 30 students per year.

Karen Powers, the University’s national fellowships advisor, helped Street refine her Fulbright Commission application. “Fulbright looks for students who are leaders, excel academically, conduct research and are engaged with their campus and community,” she said.

This is the second time this year that a Kennesaw State student has received a high-profile award. Jiexi Liao, a biochemistry major, received a Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship, which will cover up to $7,500 of her college costs starting the fall 2013 semester.

Student selected for Fulbright Commission’s Summer Institute

By Yolanda Rodriguez
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