Access
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Administrative structure named for consolidated Kennesaw State University

Kennesaw State University (KSU) President Daniel S. Papp announced the senior administrative structure that will comprise the leadership team when KSU’s consolidation with Southern Polytechnic State University (SPSU) is finalized in January 2015.

The announcement follows deliberation of the 47-person Expanded Consolidation Implementation Committee (ECIC), conversations with presidents of several universities, and multiple discussions with senior staff in the University System of Georgia.

The senior administrative structure of the consolidated university will include six vice presidents and five additional cabinet-level positions.

The six vice presidents, all of whom will be members of the President’s Cabinet, will be Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs W. Ken Harmon; Vice President for Operations Randy Hinds; a vice president for Student Affairs, following the retirement of current Vice President for Student Affairs Jerome Ratchford; Vice President for Advancement and Development Michael Harders; Vice President for Strategic Communications and Marketing Arlethia Perry-Johnson; and a vice president for economic development and community engagement.

Five additional cabinet-level officials will include General Counsel Flora Devine; Chief Diversity Officer Erik Malewski; Director of Athletics Vaughn Williams; a chief audit, risk, and compliance officer; and Executive Administrator/Chief of Protocol Lynda Johnson.

In addition, consolidation will lead to a reduction in the number of Academic Affairs administrators. The consolidated university will combine 21 positions into one new vice provost for International Programs, for a reduction of seven positions.

As for deans at SPSU, deanship offers have been extended to Rich Cotle, College of Architecture and Construction Management; Han Reichelt, College of Computing and Software Engineering; and Tom Currin, Southern Polytechnic College of Engineering and Computing Technology.

From KSU, deanship offers have been extended to Patty Poulton, College of the Arts; Kathy Schwag, Coles College of Business; Barbara Calhoun, College of Continuing and Professional Education; Arlinda Eaton, Bagwell College of Education; Mark Rascati, Honors College; and Robin Dorff, College of Humanities and Social Sciences.

For more information on the consolidation, visit: http://kingsusspucconsolidation.com

Henssler Financial supports student athletes

By Tiffany Capuano
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The Kennesaw State University Department of Athletics and Henssler Financial announced a multi-year agreement that will provide significant financial support to KSU’s Department of Athletics and its student-athletes.

“Gene and Pat Henssler are valued friends of Kennesaw State University with a long history of helping students,” said Daniel S. Papp, president of Kennesaw State University. “Their gift today is another example of their dedication to the growth of the university.”

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Henssler Financial will contribute $525,000 over seven years and will support several leadership and academic initiatives within the Department of Athletics including the renaming of the OWLS Champions Initiative – “OWLS Champions Initiative presented by Henssler Financial.”

The OWLS Champions Initiative presented by Henssler Financial is an overarching program that reflects the university’s commitment to invest in the lives of Kennesaw State University student-athletes in such a way as to foster not only academically and athletic excellence, but to impact their development mentally, socially, vocationally and even spiritually. Kennesaw State student-athletes continue to excel in the classroom, in the community and in competition, and the mission of the Department of Athletics is to ensure that all student-athletes continue to develop as champions and become servant leaders.

“Educating our student-athletes and preparing them to graduate and acquire a vocation is the number one priority of the Department of Athletics,” Kennesaw State Director of Athletics Vaughn Williams said. “Having a partner in Henssler Financial who truly shares in this vision for all students at Kennesaw State could not have been a more perfect fit.”

The Expanded Consolidation Implementation Committee announced a proposed administrative structure for the January 2015 consolidation of Kennesaw State and Southern Polytechnic State.

Research and Grants

The Alphawood Foundation has funded associate professor of anthropology Terry Potts in the 2013-2014 academic year and recently awarded him funding of $29,075 for the next three summers of the Pakistan Regional Archaeological Project. It is a long-term research program focused on the Preclassic period (800 BC-AD 250) occupation of the ancient Maya site of Pakal.

Susan M.E. Smith, associate professor of biology, is the co-investigator with colleagues Thomas DeCoursey on a $252,518 grant from the National Institutes of Health through the Rush University Medical Center. Research is on the voltage-gated protein channel (hHV1) which plays crucial roles in many cells in the human body. The researchers hope to identify the crucial parts of the protein channel molecule in order to develop drugs to regulate its function. Modulating protein channels could help white blood cells kill bacteria, enable mole contraception, and prevent or treat neurodegenerative and fibrotic diseases, breast cancer, atherosclerosis, hypertension, and tissue rejection.

The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation funded the Resource Hub at the juvenile Justice Information Exchange (JJI) last year and agreed to fund it for $600,000 for two more years. JJI is run by KSU’s Center for Sustainable Journalism (CJS) and serves as a user-friendly, authoritative online hub for information and resources on critical juvenile justice issues.

Mike Whitman, professor of information security and assurance and director of the Center for Information Security Education and Assurance, run the Southeast Regional Collegiate Cyber Defense Competition, a hands-on information security defensive competition. The competition received $33,000 in sponsorships from the University of Texas at San Antonio/United States Air Force Research Laboratory, Raytheon, and INSCOM.

Assistant professor of biology Tony Golubski is working with colleagues at the University of Michigan on researching the effects of alternate adaptive behaviors on diversity and stability of large ecological communities. With a $157,764 grant from the National Science Foundation, the researchers will construct general models of adaptive behaviors, including diet choice and predator-specific defensive competition. The models will help develop algorithms that yield information about the adaptive behavior of each species on community stability.
Gov. Nathan Deal speaks at opening of Zuckerman Museum of Art

South Africa’s shift from the legalized system of apartheid to a democracy in which all citizens could participate largely resulted from a series of secret talks between leaders Nelson Mandela and P.W. Botha, according to Neil Barnard, Ph.D. and former head of South Africa’s National Intelligence Service, who spent February as a visiting scholar with Kennesaw State’s Ph.D. program in International Conflict Management.

During his visit, Barnard delivered five lectures covering the history of South Africa, the success of negotiations in the country’s evolution as a democracy, the role of intelligence, an examination of conflicts around the world and an overview of Africa. Barnard also discussed his involvement in talks with the recently deceased former South African President Nelson Mandela when Kennesaw State President Daniel S. Papp introduced him at a recent meeting of the President’s Cabinet.

“When anything good and large happens in the world, Neil Barnard is there,” Papp said. “We are honored to be in the presence of someone who has played such a pivotal role in the peaceful elimination of apartheid in South Africa and the country’s move to a more democratic society.”

Starting in 1982, when Mandela was still imprisoned, then South African President P.W. Botha initiated the secret talks that Barnard said built trust sufficient to ensure an eventual peaceful transition of power.

“South Africa was on the brink of a civil war, like Syria today, so we began these talks – more than 400 hours of one-on-one discussions in 48 meetings that occurred over almost two years,” said Barnard, who helped arranged the meetings and was present for the all of them.

Barnard, who continues to assist in peace negotiations around the world, said the process that ultimately led to Mandela’s release and his eventual election as president, as well as the dismantling of apartheid laws, can be useful in critical conflict situations today.

“The most important issue is trust,” Barnard said. “When you’re far apart, you must develop trust.”

Kennesaw State recognized as innovator for ‘Farm-to-Fit’ program

KSU wins continuing education awards

Kennesaw State’s College of Continuing and Professional Education won three awards at the 2014 Operator Innovation Awards in Health and Nutrition by the National Restaurant Association (NRA). The nomination comes one year after the University was named “2013 Innovator of the Year” by the organization.

“Last year, Kennesaw State received the Operator Innovation Award for Sustainability for its “Farm-to-Campus-to-Farm” program. The University went on to claim the top prize — Innovator of the Year — the sustainability program. Three finalists in five distinct categories – Marketing, Health and Nutrition, Menu Development, Sustainability and Technology – will be brought to Chicago for the 2014 National Restaurant Association’s annual meeting in May.”

By Catherine Bennett kbenne53@kennesaw.edu

KSU wins continuing education awards

Kennesaw State University’s College of Continuing and Professional Education won three awards at the Georgia Adult Education Association’s Annual Conference, held March 9-11 in Savannah. The college was recognized for the following:

- Innovative Marketing Award: Casino Night Scholarship Fundraiser
- Innovative Program Award: 2014 Winter Career Training Expo
- Exemplary Service Contribution Award: Casino Night Scholarship

Barbara Calhoun, dean of the College of Continuing and Professional Education, said, “This recognition is evidence of our team’s dedication to lifelong learning, quality work and service to our community. We strive to be the leaders in continuing education and are humbled to be honored by an organization as important as GAEA.”

Coles College supports new Atlanta show

Kennesaw State University’s Michael J. Coles College of Business will be the presenting sponsor of 11Alive’s new television show, Atlanta Business Chronicle BIZ. The weekly program, which debuted March 9, airs on Sundays at 11 a.m. on WXIA-TV 11Alive, and is a locally produced all-business TV show for metro Atlanta.

“We are very excited to be the presenting sponsor of Atlanta Business Chronicle BIZ,” said Kathy Schwaig, dean of the Coles College. “We are engaged with the Atlanta business community and understand how important it is for them to have access to local business news, top leaders, analysis and trends.”

Chronicle broadcast editor and award-winning journalist Crystal Edmonson serves as host, going behind the scenes with Atlanta CEOs, delivering relevant business data, and plugging in to the latest business happenings in and around metro Atlanta.

By Sabbaye McGriff sm McGriff@kennesaw.edu

Contemporary art makes its way to Kennesaw

Visiting scholar shares insights on historic talks in South Africa

By Robert S. Godlewski rgodlewski@kennesaw.edu

Last year, Kennesaw State received the Operator Innovation Award in Health and Nutrition by the National Restaurant Association (NRA). The nomination comes one year after the University was named “2013 Innovator of the Year” by the organization.

“We are honored to be nominated for the OI awards this year, and especially proud to receive the nomination two years in a row,” said Gary Colek, director of Culinary and Hospitality Services, which manages all food service operations at Kennesaw State. “The college and university food service sector is trending toward more traditional food choices.”

The Operator Innovation Award winners are selected by an independent panel of foodservice operator experts from across the industry. This is the third annual award program. Three finalists in five distinct categories – Marketing, Health and Nutrition, Menu Development, Sustainability and Technology – will be brought to Chicago for the 2014 National Restaurant Association’s annual meeting in May.

“The arts in Georgia encompass more than 17,000 businesses and 100,000 workers who provide artistic and cultural entertainment for Georgians and millions of tourists who visit each year,” Papp said. “The Zuckerman has just become the newest addition to this prestigious group of institutions.”

KSU supports Atlanta Business Chronicle BIZ

Gov. Nathan Deal speaks at opening of Zuckerman Museum of Art

By Sabbaye McGriff sm McGriff@kennesaw.edu

Gov. Nathan Deal speaks at opening of Zuckerman Museum of Art

Suzanne Siegel Zuckerman, from left, cuts the ribbon at the grand opening of the Bernard A. Zuckerman Museum of Art with President Daniel S. Papp, Georgia first lady Sandra Deal, Gov. Nathan Deal, Dean Emeritus Joseph Meeks and Executive Director of the Department of Museums, Archives and Rare Books Catherine Lewis.

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Kennesaw State University’s Bernard A. Zuckerman Museum of Art included a special appearance by Georgia Gov. Nathan Deal and First Lady Sandra Deal, who helped cut the ribbon on the newest addition to the university’s arts district.

“The governor noted that under current state budget constraints “it is very difficult to make buildings like this happen. That is why we are so appreciative of the Zuckerman’s generosity in making this happen.”

Kennesaw State University’s Museum of Art.

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The Bernard A. Zuckerman Museum of Art unites the university’s permanent collection and galleries program, founded in 1984 by Roberta Griffin, professor emerita at KSU.

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Part-time MBA ranked among top business schools in the nation

By Tiffany Capuano
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The part-time MBA program at Kennesaw State University’s Michael J. Coles College of Business was ranked 38th nationwide (25th among public universities) by U.S. News & World Report in its annual “Best Graduate Schools 2015.” This is the second time the College earned a top 50 ranking, moving up five spots from the 2014 list. Kennesaw State is one of only four Georgia universities to make the list.

“We are proud to be recognized among the nation’s leading business schools,” said Kathy Schwaig, dean of the Coles College. “Our placement in the top 50 is a true testament to the quality of our program and the success of our graduates.”

According to U.S. News, part-time business programs play a vital role for working professionals who are unable to attend business school full time. Coles College enrolls more than 350 part-time MBA students. The flexible, self-paced program offers courses in the evenings and on weekends, with minimesters in May, August and December.

“The Coles College offers rigorous and quality MBA programs that appeal to talented and motivated students seeking a balance between family needs, workplace commitments and educational demands on their time,” said Raj Veliyuth, associate dean for graduate business and executive programs at the Coles College. “The continuous improvement in our MBA program rankings reflects our commitment to providing quality business education that is highly relevant in today’s competitive global economy.”

The annual U.S. News ranking is based on five factors: average peer assessment score, average graduate exams (GMAT and GRE) scores of entering part-time MBA students, average undergraduate grade point average, work experience, and percentage of total MBA enrollment that is part time. This year, 212 graduate programs were ranked.

Coles College continues to be ranked for its MBA programs. In 2013, Coles College was ranked as the top public part-time MBA program in Georgia by Bloomberg Businessweek.

Kennesaw State celebrates diversity with awards

By Robert S. Godlewski
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Kennesaw State University Chief Diversity Officer Erik Malewski bestowed the 2013-2014 Presidential Diversity Awards on seven individuals in April. The second annual event, held at the Prillaman Auditorium in KSU’s Health and Human Services Building, highlighted the University’s continued growth in its diverse population and its efforts to create a campus climate of respect and inclusiveness.

Guest speaker Beverly Guy-Sheftall, the founding director of the Women’s Research and Resource Center at Spelman College and adjunct professor at Emory University’s Institute for Women’s Studies, praised Kennesaw State for its progress to date on race, ethnicity and inclusion.

However, she reminded the audience that there is much more work to be done, and she called on all institutions of higher learning to increase diversity among faculty and students.

“We must believe we can eliminate every fear or prejudice,” Guy-Sheftall said. “We have the power to change the world in which we live.”

Malewski said the winners of the Presidential Diversity Awards, which represent important campus initiatives, reflect the principles of diversity, equity, transparency and shared governance.

Award winners were:

- Jordan Cameron, IT client support representative in Sustainability Award.
- Jodie Sweat, R.C. Paul Excellence in Sustainability Award.
- Jonathan Dorson, Laura Davis, Flora Devine, Yen Rodriguez, Michael Sanserivo, and Erik Malewski awarded in the Disability Strategies and Resources Award for Distinction in the Disability Strategies and Resources.
- Laura Davis, coordinator of Gender and Women’s Studies and associate professor of English, Outstanding Contribution Award in Gender and Work Life Issues.
- Michael Sanserivo, dean of Student Success and part-time instructor of education, Teresa M. Joyce Award for Excellence in GLBTIQ Initiatives.
- Jodie Sweat, R.C. Paul Excellence in Sustainability Award.
- SGT. Jonathan Dorson, U.S.M.C., student-veteran, Excellence in Service and Leadership Award.

Awards bring Kennesaw State’s global focus full circle

By Sabbaye McGriff
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Everything about Kennesaw State’s first International Achievement Awards ceremony on April 8 exemplified the University’s evolution as an internationally focused institution.

“This evening is a very auspicious occasion that underscores the importance of internationalization and global education at Kennesaw State,” said President Daniel S. Papp. “The presence of all of our esteemed guests from the global community underscores the importance of internationalization and global education.”

In accepting the first Global Public Service Award on behalf of His Excellency John Dramani Mahama, president of the Republic of Ghana, Hannah Tetteh, Ghana’s minister of foreign affairs, praised Kennesaw State for its leadership in the area of global education.

“It is remarkable to see what an institution of higher learning can do in providing a foundation for giving back and creating a future for our country,” Mahama said. “Young people need to have this type of training and education that is highly relevant in today’s competitive global economy.”

Recipient Terry Bowie, associate professor of anthropology, the Madhuri and Jagdish N. Sheth Distinguished Faculty Award for International Achievement, Neil Dippolito, vice president of international and corporate relations for MedShare, the Distinguished International Community Partner Award, and Yusuf Saqat, cultural trainer and interpreter, the Madhuri and Jagdish N. Sheth Distinguished International Alumni Award. The International Achievement Awards are organized by Kennesaw State’s Institute for Global Initiatives with financial support from Madhuri and Jagdish N. Sheth Family Foundation, for whom the awards to faculty and alumni have been named.
**Kennesaw State student receives Fulbright fellowship**

By Katherine Bennett  
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A Kennesaw State University student has received a Fulbright U.S. Student Postgraduate Fellowship to the University of York in the U.K., a prestigious and competitive honor given to highly qualified students planning to pursue a master’s degree.

Zach Carter, a senior double majoring in mathematics and modern language and culture, received the award that covers tuition and a living stipend. In England, Carter will seek a master’s in fusion energy and intends to obtain a Ph.D. in nuclear engineering before he returns to the U.S. Carter resides in Woodstock, Ga., and graduated from Sequoyah High School in Cherokee County.

“Zach is a very accomplished student who has mastered a rigorous curriculum at Kennesaw,” said Mark Anderson, dean of the College of Science and Mathematics at Kennesaw State. “The highly competitive and prestigious Fulbright award is a tremendous accomplishment for Zach. This award reflects positively on Kennesaw State and the Department of Mathematics and Statistics, as well as the Department of Foreign Languages.”

Carter’s recognition by the Fulbright Scholarship Board, the Institute of International Education, and the U.S.-U.K. Fulbright Commission, was partly based on his academic achievement and his interest in fusion energy physics. This field of study has long offered hope and power. University of York is a leading institution for this research in the U.K., and Carter is well positioned for the program due to the education he received during his years at Kennesaw State.

“I am very excited about this award, and I can’t wait to begin my studies at York,” said Carter. “I’m interested in working as a researcher one day to help develop nuclear fusion, and this award is a vital step in my journey.”

Since its inception in 1946, the Fulbright program has been the flagship international exchange program sponsored by the U.S. government. Its goal is to promote and foster bilateral relationships in which citizens and governments of other countries work with the U.S. to set joint priorities and meet shared needs.

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**Coles College of Business opens executive education program**

By Tiffany Capuano  
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The Michael J. Coles College of Business and Atlanta-based Tenacity, Inc., launched a new educational center designed to counsel and teach executives, client-facing managers and other stakeholders the best practices, tools and techniques of client relationship management and retention.

“This is an exciting chance for us to partner with leaders in the client retention field,” said Kathy Schwag, dean of the Coles College of Business. “Client retention is key to business success, and success in business is what Coles is all about.”

The Center will be run by Coles Executive Education programs unit and will initially offer a certificate in Account Management and Client Retention, sessions for C-level executives, and other customized educational programs that can be tailored to fit a company’s individual needs. The center’s programming will be based on Tenacity, Inc.’s Clients for Life client retention process, and will strengthen the continuing education curriculum available to the business community through Coles College.

“The Clients for Life client retention process is at work today protecting over $20 billion in services contracts in 13 countries for some of the world’s leading services management and professional services firms,” said John Gamble, founder and principal of Tenacity.

The Tenancy Center will combine Tenancy’s 30 years of client-retention consulting experience with Coles’ top business faculty to deliver programming to a broader spectrum of companies and professional services firms. The center will train select managers, who will then be mentored and supported in implementing these proven processes in their own organizations.

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**Kennesaw State hosts “Year of Japan” conference on crisis response**

By Sabbaye McGriff  
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A message of hope in the face of disaster dominated events during the “Year of Japan” Humanitarian Responses to Crisis International Conference at Kennesaw State on March 21.

Conference speakers and presenters drew on Japan’s experience in dealing with some of the worst natural disasters in modern history — most recently the 2011 earthquake and tsunami — to share lessons learned about minimizing risk and loss, providing a humanitarian response and sustainable redevelopment after disaster strikes.

“Because of its own experience, wherever there is a disaster anywhere in the world, Japan has been a first responder, helping governments, civil society and victims, respond and rebuild,” said Dan Paracka, “Year of Japan” annual study and conference coordinator and director of academic initiatives for the Institute for Global Initiatives.

A special tribute during the conference also extended the message of a more hopeful world. One free of man-made crises like war. Three seedlings descended from a Ginkgo Biloba tree that survived the Aug. 6, 1945, bombing of Hiroshima were symbolically planted in decorative pots during a ceremony on the second floor balcony of Kennesaw State’s new Bernard A. Zackman Museum of Art. The University’s Institute for Global Initiatives and Museum of History and Holocaust Education will permanently plant the trees, which were provided by the UNITAR Green Legacy Hiroshima Project.

Representatives of Japan’s government, industry and civil society speaking at the conference demonstrated the nation’s commitment to sharing its experiences with the world, even as it manages response to natural disasters within its own borders. The 2011 disasters alone caused 15,000 deaths and $300 billion in property damage in Japan. Major risk-reduction initiatives and continuous investments Japan implemented since 1950 have significantly reduced the loss of lives and property resulting from floods.

Other conference presentations focused on humanitarian response to crises such as providing relief and delivering needed services compassionately. Highlights included discussions from representatives of multinational corporations about efforts to lend corporate resources like logistics, volunteers, food and water to assist the people and government following the 2011 disasters; discussions on the role of civil society in promoting sustainable, peaceful development and providing emergency relief through partnerships, collaborations and the pooling of resources; and first-hand accounts of relief in the aftermath of the 2011 disasters.

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**Access** is a publication of the Office of University Relations at Kennesaw State University.

A companion website, KSU News, is located online at http://news.kennesaw.edu. Additional information about Kennesaw State University is available at http://www.kennesaw.edu. Photography by Dallas Bentley and David Arnold.

Assistant Vice President for Strategic Communications and Marketing - David Arnold | Vice President for External Affairs - Arlethia Perry-Johnson

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