

Access

A publication of KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY

What's New...

New health sciences building opens Prillaman Hall seeking LEED gold certification

By Jennifer Hafer
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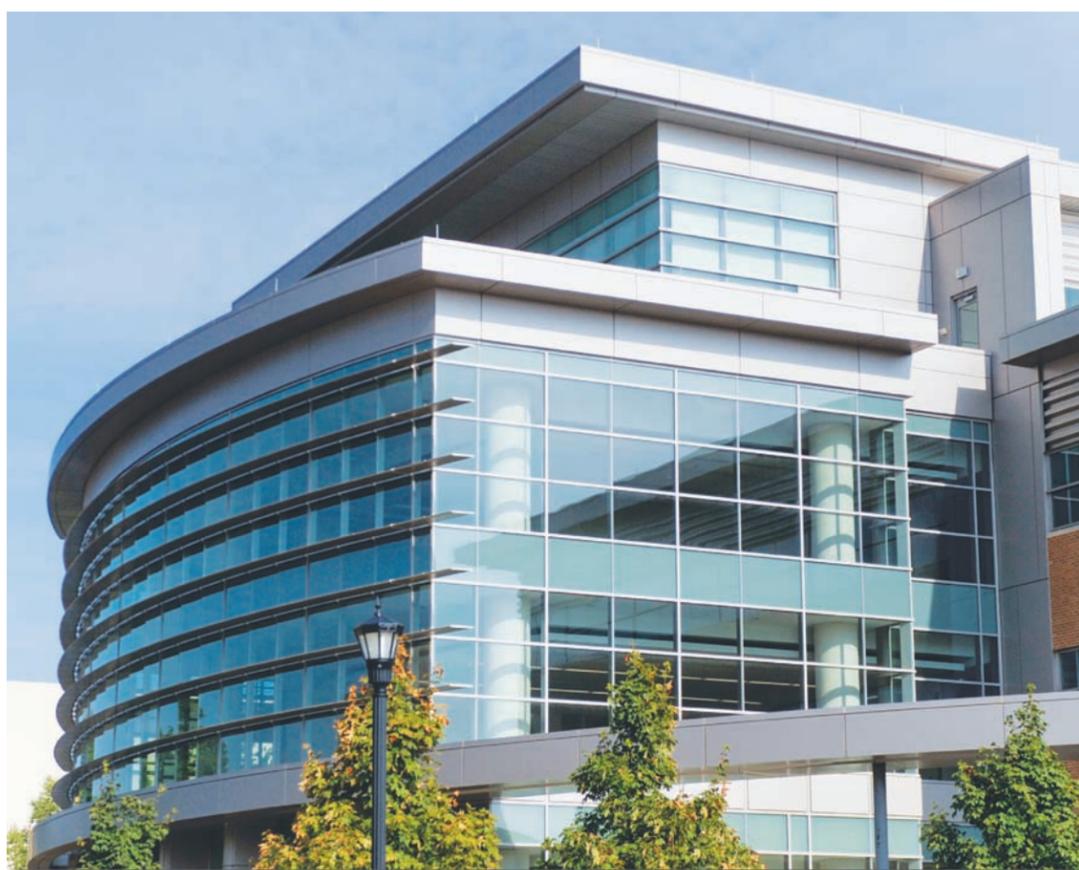
The ribbon has been cut, and KSU's new, \$60 million health sciences building is open for business.

The 200,000-square-foot building housing the WellStar College of Health and Human Services, comprised of the WellStar School of Nursing, the Department of Health, Physical Education and Sport Science, and the Department of Social Work and Human Services, looms large over the north end of campus, adjacent to the Central Parking Deck and The Commons. The new building will allow the nursing school to increase the number of graduates from about 185 a year to 250. Currently, only one in nine qualified applicants is accepted into KSU's undergraduate-nursing program due to space constraints.

In August, as classrooms are fitted with audio and video technology, classes will begin in the new building, which will house WellStar College faculty, with the exception of a few health, physical education and sport science faculty, who will remain in the Convocation Center.

"This building will allow us to be more effective and efficient in our teaching methods and will greatly enhance the learning experiences of our students," said WellStar College of Health and Human Services Dean Richard Sowell.

The building, named Prillaman



Prillaman Hall opened for fall semester.

Hall in honor of longtime KSU Foundation trustee Bob Prillaman and his wife, Lil, boasts 15 labs, two 150-seat classrooms, two 120-seat classrooms, five 80-seat classrooms, two 60-seat classrooms, seven seminar rooms, four computer labs, a 300-seat auditorium and faculty offices.

Though the results will not be known until sometime next year, KSU facilities officials hope to

garner the coveted Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) gold certification, which acknowledges the building's compliance to stringent standards developed by the United States Green Building Council for environmentally sustainable construction. The certification rates performance in five key areas: sustainable site development,

water efficiency, energy efficiency, materials and resources, and indoor environmental quality.

The green features in Prillaman Hall include low-flow toilets, motion-detected lighting, showers for faculty and staff who walk or ride a bike to work, and a system to recapture rainwater for irrigation. Additionally, recyclable wood and locally produced bricks were used.

David Caselli

KSU's first Ph.D. program draws big response

Twenty-one students have been admitted to the inaugural class of KSU's first Ph.D. program this fall.

The university received more than 200 inquiries for its newly approved Ph.D. program in International Conflict Management from as far away as Tanzania, Afghanistan and Nepal seeking information about the new interdisciplinary program, said Volker Franke, director of the new program and associate professor of conflict management. The 21 students admitted were selected from a field of 46 qualified applicants.

"We are truly pleased at the response," said Franke, who is working to market the new doctoral program. "We are striving to attract the best students who bring the most diverse experiences from which both faculty and students will learn."

Among the 46 applicants, 28 are international students and 18 are U.S. citizens or permanent residents. The majority have backgrounds in political science, international affairs and public administration, and others hold master's degrees in business, law, engineering, environmental science and education. Applicants have professional experience in fields as diverse as academia, international development, diplomacy, military service, business, politics and nonprofit. Some applicants are graduates of KSU's master's programs in conflict management or public administration while others had never heard of the university until they saw the Ph.D. program advertised.

In addition to pursuing a doctorate, the students in the program will share their experience and expertise with faculty, staff, undergraduate students and the community. As part of their training, candidates will have an opportunity to teach or assist in teaching classes.

"The program has been designed to help further the university's 'Get Global' mission," said College of Humanities and Social Sciences Dean Richard Vengroff.

KSU offers music and entertainment business certificate College of the Arts, Coles College of Business join efforts

Starting this fall, KSU students will be able to master the business side of the entertainment industry by earning a music and entertainment management certificate.

The new program is made possible by a gift from prominent Atlanta entertainment attorney Joel A. Katz of Greenberg Traurig LLP. Katz has made a significant and undisclosed contribution to the KSU Foundation to provide initial funding for this innovative academic program.

Katz is an internationally renowned entertainment industry attorney. The entertainment practice he started almost 40 years ago has grown into the world's largest global entertainment law practice.



Atlanta entertainment attorney Joel Katz funded a music and entertainment management program.

Greenberg Traurig

"We are pleased that Joel Katz is our friend and benefactor," said KSU President Daniel S. Papp. "This program will contribute tremendously to Kennesaw State's increasing prominence in the arts, particularly considering the dynamic and robust music industry in metro Atlanta. KSU is known for its entrepreneurial vision, and this new certificate program will help us groom high-quality graduates prepared to lead in the music and entertainment business."

The new program is a joint effort between the College of the Arts and the Coles College of Business.

"We could not launch this program without the support of Joel Katz," said Joseph Meeks, dean

of College of the Arts. "His gift and the support and encouragement of his friend Bobbie Bailey are truly making a difference for our students at KSU."

Katz said that Georgia needs a first-class offering like the KSU entertainment and music management certificate program, which will complement Atlanta's strong heritage of great artistry and music history in the South.

"This program is unique, and we expect it will grow dramatically over the next few years," added Ken Harmon, dean of the Coles College of Business. "What Joel Katz is doing for the music industry in Atlanta is phenomenal. We are excited to be a part of it."

KSU, Mumbai Business School announce partnership

Coles College of Business will help Indian school launch executive M.B.A. program

By Aixa Pascual
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The Coles College of Business entered into a partnership with one of India's up-and-coming business schools, launching one of that country's first executive M.B.A. programs offered in collaboration with an American university.

Under the agreement, the Coles College of Business will help Mumbai Business School launch its first executive M.B.A. program and teach the curriculum. Graduates of Mumbai Business School's Post-Graduate Program for Working Executives (PGPX) will receive certificates from the Coles College.

"We are very excited about our new educational partnership in Mumbai, India's financial center," said W. Ken Harmon, dean of the Coles College of Business, who traveled to India in March to seal the deal. "Our collaboration with Mumbai Business School will extend the



Sunil Rai, CEO of Mumbai Business School, and Ken Harmon, dean of KSU's Coles College of Business, met recently in Mumbai.

Coles College's brand into the heart of one of the most dynamic economies in the world. We are looking forward to a productive partnership that will yield

benefits for both schools."

The revenue-sharing agreement will provide Coles faculty an opportunity to teach at Mumbai Business School, whose

faculty includes Indian business leaders as well as professors from renowned U.S. business schools such as Northwestern's Kellogg School of Management

and Emory's Goizueta Business School. The partnership will also provide funding for research, travel and development opportunities for Coles faculty and will open the door for the college to help train U.S. executives whose companies want to do business in India.

Harmon and other Coles administrators visited several business schools in Mumbai, Delhi, Mysore and Bangalore in fall 2009 and they decided the Mumbai Business School, which started operations in 2008, was the right partner "because of its entrepreneurial spirit and flexible approaches to education," Harmon said.

"Most of the business schools we visited in India were very young, which reflects the dynamic nature of the burgeoning economy," he explained. "While there are a number of long-standing business schools, we liked the fresh approach Mumbai Business School takes to business education."

Mumbai Business School

Elementary school students explore virtual curriculum

Project OWL designed to raise interest in science and math

By Jennifer Hafer
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At high tide, the base of the Cockspur Island lighthouse at the mouth of the Savannah River is approximately 3 to 5 feet underwater. When the beacon was built in 1849, it was well above sea level. So, what happened?

Some third graders in Marietta and Polk County will soon be able to explore the island as it was in the 1800s, trying to determine what forces, both natural and man-made, led to the lighthouse eventually being abandoned. By entering this virtual world as avatars — digital representations

of themselves — students will be able to take soil samples and interview the lightkeeper, his family and soldiers from the island's Fort Pulaski.

"The simulation will be like a time machine for the students," said assistant professor of educational leadership Doug Herrington. "By applying earth-science lessons and some engineering principles they will investigate the problem and recommend a solution."

With a \$73,000 U.S. Department of Education grant awarded to the Bagwell College of Education, Herrington will begin implementing Project

OWL (Online World of Learning) in three Georgia classrooms this summer. An elementary school in China will also participate. Project OWL is based on Herrington's research using multiuser virtual environment technology in the classroom.

"Today's students have grown up with ubiquitous access to various forms of technology," he said. "Bringing this technology into the classroom provides a familiar format that enhances critical thinking skills while making learning fun."

Beginning this fall, 13 Georgia elementary school teachers will begin immersion training with



Cockspur Island lighthouse near Savannah.

Lighthouse Island, the lesson simulation plan designed by Herrington that is based on the Cockspur Island lighthouse.

"Now that we know what happens to the lighthouse, how can we go back and keep it from happening?" Herrington said. "I believe the students will come up with some very creative ideas."

Project OWL will also provide virtual space to enable students to develop their own simulations. Herrington and the Project OWL teachers are discussing a variety of potential classroom simulations, including economic models, a virtual aquarium and a simulated version of each of Georgia's habitats and the organisms living in each.

File Photo

Campus Notes

Ana-Maria Croicu, assistant professor of mathematics, was invited to participate this summer in an internship at NASA's Ames Research Center in California. Croicu, an expert in uncertainty quantification, has spent years using mathematical models to provide quantitative descriptions of real-life situations where there is incomplete information. During her internship, Croicu will research uncertainty quantification and optimization in aerodynamics with NASA and Stanford University researchers. The NASA Ames Research Center, one of 10 NASA field installations, develops the enabling technologies that make NASA missions possible.

Jin Wang, professor of coaching education in the department of health, physical education and sport science received the 2010 R. Tait McKenzie Award from the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance for making significant contributions that reflect prestige, honor and dignity on the Alliance. Wang is a registered sports psychology consultant for the United States Olympic Committee and a sports psychology consultant for the Chinese Olympic Committee and has organized sports psychology symposiums in Korea, Egypt, Taiwan, Hong Kong and Japan.

Brian M. Wooten, director of the Center for Student Leadership and assistant professor for university studies, was elected chair of the Board of Directors for the National Association for Campus Activities (NACA). An active NACA volunteer, Wooten previously served in leadership roles on the regional and national level, including chair of the NACA south regional conference and as vice chair for programs on the NACA board of directors.

KSU researchers study effects of oil spill

Results could set parameters for sea grass recovery

By Neil B. McGahee
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Kennesaw State University biology professor Troy Mutchler and students Rachel MacTavish and Viet Nguyen planned to spend most of the summer conducting research on sea grass in the Gulf of Mexico. But the April oil spill that sent millions of barrels of crude gushing into the Gulf may make their findings crucial to habitat recovery efforts.

"We are studying the effects of nutrient pollution on sea grasses around Perdido Key in the Gulf Islands National Seashore near Pensacola," Mutchler said. It is an ecosystem that is already stressed, but if oil enters these areas, the impact on birds, fish and the people whose livelihoods depend on them could be devastating."

Working in cooperation with the U.S. National Park Service, Mutchler planned a long-term pilot study to determine why sea grass numbers have been dwindling. Sea grass, he explained, acts as a nursery for most of the Gulf's marine life. In addition



KSU research assistants Rachel MacTavish (l) and Viet Nguyen bag sand samples from Perdido Key in the Gulf of Mexico.

to providing shelter, it provides abundant food sources for young fish, shrimp, scallops and crabs. If the sea grass is adversely affected, marine life would take a big hit, which in turn would have a huge economic impact on that area.

The outlook is troubling, Mutchler said. Thousands of gallons of oil a day have been billowing out of the broken well for more than seven weeks and no one knows how much longer the oil will continue to gush.

Although the team's research area on Perdido Key has not yet

been impacted by the oil — as of mid June, the leading edges of the spill are just 300 yards away from the pristine barrier island — they stepped up the schedule to acquire data as quickly as possible.

Mutchler said sea grasses were already declining because of other pollutants in the waters. With his research, he should be able to measure the long-term effects of the oil and the threat it poses to the ecosystem.

"Our data may provide a 'pre-oil snapshot' to serve as a benchmark for future restoration efforts," he said.

Troy Mutchler

Top KSU scholars honored for academic achievement

Annual awards ceremony salutes university's elite student scholars

By Sabbaye McGriff
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More than 60 KSU students from all seven colleges were recognized at the annual University Scholars ceremony for outstanding academic achievement.

The most outstanding graduating seniors and graduate students from all of KSU's degree programs, as well as the most outstanding students in the university's joint enrollment, undergraduate honors and general education programs, were honored. Faculty members designated by each student honoree were also recognized for their contribution to each student's success.

"The students we are honoring have demonstrated that they have the will to win academically and the will to prepare to win

academically," said President Daniel S. Papp, referring to Texas Tech coach Bobby Knight's famous quote.

The highest honor, the Regents' Award, was presented to David Curtland Ayers, who graduated summa cum laude in May with a bachelor's degree in middle grades education. He will begin his career this fall teaching language arts at Cobb County's Cooper Middle School.

Ayers was cited for his academic performance, including a 3.94 grade-point average, membership in the President's and Dean's lists, and a recipient of scholarships from the Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation, Optimist International, the Knights of Columbus and the Daughters of the American Revolution. He was praised for his dedication and for his love of teaching and helping others.

He volunteered as an after-school tutor and spearheaded a drive to collect clothing, food and school supplies for families that were affected when floods devastated the area surrounding Cooper Middle School.

Ayers attributes his academic success to lessons learned from his grandfather — the value of hard, honest work, the willingness to improve, and the opportunities that come with a good education.

"All As were to be expected, but there was always room for improvement: 97s could have been 99s and 99s could have been 100s," Ayers said of his grandfather's expectations. "As my mother and her four sisters were choosing their professions, he strongly encouraged them to give back to society and share their knowledge, calling education the noblest profession there is."



Regents' Scholar David Curtland Ayers addresses the audience during the University Scholars ceremony.

File Photo

New KSU collection showcases workplace integration

Archive offers glimpse into little known aspect of civil rights movement

By Aixa Pascual
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A new collection donated to KSU's Horace W. Sturgis Library offers insight into a little known aspect of the civil rights movement: how workplace integration came about in the 1950s, 1960s and 1970s. Thanks to one-of-a-kind documents that include letters, photographs, manuals, complaint affidavits and newspaper clippings donated by a

former Lockheed-Georgia Company executive, historians and scholars can now gain a clearer understanding of how workplace desegregation happened in the South as integration was taking place in other spheres.

The Gordon, Kruse, Wentzel Collection offers a rich chronicle of the impetus for workplace integration in the South. The materials were donated by Hugh Gordon, a human resources exec from 1959 to 1988 at Mari-

etta's Lockheed aircraft plant — a pioneer in private-sector integration.

"Surprisingly, scholars have devoted relatively little attention to the economic impact of the civil rights movement and how workplace integration came about," said KSU history professor Tom Scott, who has studied the collection. "The Gordon, Kruse, Wentzel Collection gives scholars an opportunity to study rare primary documents on how

the workplace was profoundly changed in the civil rights era."

Gordon is working with KSU history professors Scott and Randy Patton to develop a historical narrative. Next year, KSU is planning to host a conference for scholars to present papers. Those papers will be developed into chapters of an edited volume.

"Unlike massive civil rights demonstrations, workplace integration typically occurred one black person at a time, one new

occupation at a time, one lily-white workplace at a time," said Gordon, who was active in non-profits and public-private partnerships that worked for workplace integration. "It's a story that has never been told. Everything that I've amassed is related to telling this story."

The collection complements other historical records kept at the library's department of archives, special collections and records management.

Black named chancellor at University of Minnesota Duluth

Harmon to serve as interim provost while national search is conducted

By Aixa Pascual
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Provost Lendley (Lynn) Black has stepped down as KSU's chief academic officer this summer. Black, who was named provost in 2006 after serving as vice president for academic affairs for four years, is taking a new job as chancellor of the University of Minnesota Duluth.

Coles College of Business Dean W. Ken Harmon is serving as interim provost and vice president for academic affairs while a nationwide search goes on for Black's replacement.

Black, who has a Ph.D. in



KSU provost Lendley C. Black accepted the chancellor's post at the University of Minnesota Duluth.

theater, led the academic transition of KSU into a doctoral-grant-

ing university, now offering four doctoral programs, in education,

business and nursing. This spring, the Board of Regents approved KSU's first Ph.D. program, a significant academic milestone for the university. During Black's tenure, Kennesaw State added 10 new undergraduate and 13 new graduate programs.

"Dr. Black leaves a legacy of significant contributions toward Kennesaw State University becoming one of the nation's best learning-centered institutions," President Daniel S. Papp said. "Dr. Black also has a record of success leading comprehensive strategic-planning efforts with the full engagement of

the campus and surrounding communities."

At KSU, Black worked to establish strong relationships with faculty, staff and students, as well as with community civic and business leaders. He also led significant fundraising efforts for the university. Black was instrumental in leading curriculum innovation efforts and was a vocal advocate for campus needs and priorities.

As chancellor of the University of Minnesota Duluth effective August 1, Black will be responsible for the academic, executive and administrative leadership of the campus.

Marcus Foundation renews history and Holocaust museum grant

Funds continue Holocaust, World War II public education programs

By Sabbaye McGriff
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After making a five-year \$590,000 grant to KSU's Museum of History and Holocaust Education (MHHE), the Marcus Foundation has renewed its support for an additional three years, through 2013.

In the face of economic uncertainty, The Marcus Foundation gave a powerful nod to the MHHE's public programs and

exhibitions focused on World War II and the Holocaust.

"The Marcus Foundation is an incredible partner," says Catherine Lewis, MHHE director, associate professor of history and coordinator of Public History at KSU. "The Foundation is very serious about extending free public education and community outreach to assure that more people learn the important lessons of the Holocaust and World War II."

MHHE public programs, exhibits, educational outreach and teacher institutes annually attract more than 70,000 visitors to KSU. In the last year alone, the museum launched a new travelling exhibit about the World War II experiences of the renowned Tuskegee Airmen; hosted one of the foremost scholars on Holocaust denial in the 21st century; sponsored a special weekend family day with docent-led tours of its three

permanent exhibits, hosted an evening of dialogue and discussion about Muslim life in the South funded by a grant from the U.S. State Department and the American Association of Museums; hosted a film series; and conducted its annual summer institutes for K-12 teachers and high school students.

"We've managed to leverage the Marcus Foundation funds by establishing strong local, regional, national and inter-

national partnerships," Lewis said. "With the Marcus Foundation's continued support and KSU's strong commitment to the MHHE, we will be working hard to reach new and more diverse audiences including families, K-12 students, senior groups and our university community."

For information of MHHE programs and exhibits, visit <http://www.kennesaw.edu/historymuseum/archives.html>

KSU professor among Georgia Author of the Year winners

Co-authors recognized for creatively capturing history of Tybee Island

By Sabbaye McGriff
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The Georgia Writers Association awarded its Georgia Author of the Year Award for creative nonfiction—history genre to a Kennesaw State professor for a book on the social history of coastal Georgia's Tybee Island.

Ellen Lyle Taber, assistant professor of English, and co-writer Polly Wylly Cooper garnered the award at the annual awards ceremony at Kennesaw State. Their book, "Tybee Days: One Hundred Years on Georgia's Playground Island," presents stories, anecdotes and photographs collected during four years of research, including interviews with more than 400 families.

"Our purpose was to capture Tybee's important oral histories, before they are lost to time," the authors noted in the book's preface. "Due to progress and recent rapid growth, a new era has changed the face of the little island that played such an important role in



Georgia Writers Association

Ellen Lyle Taber's book won Georgia Author of the Year honors.

American and Southern history." Both authors spent their childhood summers on Tybee.

"Tybee Days" and a companion photographic album, "Sand Between Our Toes," both published in 2009 by KSU Press, have received critical acclaim for their often witty and realistic portrayals of Tybee's people, places, events and customs. "Tybee Days" topped the Savannah bestseller list last year.

Pat Conroy, best-selling author of several novels about the South, said in his endorsement of "Tybee Days": "[Taber and Cooper] capture the essence of Tybee in this marvelous tour of one of the last places on the Southern Coast to retain its identity and integrity."

The Georgia Writers Association, which is housed at Kennesaw State, presented 13 GAYA awards in 12 categories selected from 102 nominees whose works were reviewed by judges from across the state. Taber's win represented the first for a KSU faculty member in four years.

Kennesaw State research funding soars to record amounts

Nearly \$12 million in funding expected in fiscal 2010

By Neil B. McGahee
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KSU faculty members are garnering prestigious research grants and adding significant external funding to the university's bottom line. In fiscal year 2009, the university was awarded a record \$8.5 million in grants and contracts and is poised to receive nearly \$12 million in fiscal year 2010.

Research dollars in the College of Science and Math are funding equipment purchases that allow researchers like biochemistry professor Jonathan McMurry to use his \$500,000 NSF grant to study how infectious bacteria move around, knowledge that could shed light on how they cause disease.

Biochemist Carol Chrestensen's research on protein binding, funded by the Research Corporation for Science Advancement, could lead to the development of anti-inflammatory arthritis drugs. Biotechnology professor John

Salerno received \$330,000 from the NSF to study the role of nitric oxide in the body's regulation of blood pressure, insulin production and the growth of new capillary blood vessels.

Two NSF research projects involve teaching and assessment methodology.

Biology professors Paula Jackson and Jennifer Frisch and information systems professor Meg Murray received \$199,544 to develop instruction methods using Web applications to change the way science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) materials are used by students. Another biology professor, Scott Lewis was awarded \$159,000 to develop alternative assessments for general chemistry studies.

Research is being conducted in disciplines other than the sciences.

A \$9 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education is allowing Bagwell College of Education profes-

sors and the Cobb County School District to launch a new teacher education program and study teacher efficacy and student achievement.

In the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, sociologist Miriam Boeri received \$569,000 from the NIH to research methamphetamine use in the suburbs and archaeologist Terry Powis is investigating cave sites in the Maya Lowlands of Belize. Sports science professors Mitchell Collins and Bernie Goldfine of the WellStar College of Health and Human Services are studying lifestyle and environmental factors that make Americans more prone to obesity than Brazilians.

"I am hoping we can grow this (research funding) by 100 percent in the next five to six years," said Charles Amlaner, KSU's vice president for research and dean of the Graduate College. "Each year we hope to fund 15 to 30 new professors."

College of the Arts faculty visits Shanghai Normal University

KSU participates in arts and cultural exchange with Chinese school

By Scott Singleton
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Three KSU College of the Arts professors — Ivan Pulinkala, Ming Chen and Oral Moses — participated in an arts and cultural exchange with Shanghai Normal University (SHNU) in China in May.

Co-sponsored by the Institute for Global Initiatives and the KSU Confucius Institute, the trip provided a unique cultural experience for KSU faculty who taught master dance classes, participated in lecture demonstrations and set choreography for the SHNU students.

"It was a unique opportunity to get to work with students from China," said Pulinkala, director of KSU's dance program. "The students were very receptive to my work. They are very eager to learn and grow. Learning took place on many different levels — creative, artistic, technical and cultural."

Chen initiated the project, helped contact and coordinate with SHNU in preparation for the trip, and served as interpreter for Pulinkala's master classes and other activities. "The university was so hospitable. They did a lot of work to make sure that our China trip was productive and enjoyable," Chen said.

On the night of arrival, Moses, accompanied by a student musician from SHNU, performed songs from his repertoire.

"The recital was very well received, and I was very impressed with the accompanist," Moses said. "The



College of the Arts

Music professor Oral Moses taught a master class for Shanghai Normal University music students.

experience was wonderful."

The next day, while Pulinkala and Chen were teaching master classes to dance students, Moses taught master

classes in the university's voice department. The students helped Moses learn a Chinese folk song, which he will perform for the KSU community in the fall.

Access is a publication of the Office of University Relations at Kennesaw State University.
A companion Web site, KSU News, is located online at <http://news.kennesaw.edu>.

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