

Access

A publication of Kennesaw State University

Research Report

Kennesaw State faculty received nearly \$10 million last year to fund research projects. "Research Report" keeps you abreast of KSU's increased research activity.

• **Carol Chrestensen**, assistant professor of chemistry and biochemistry, received a \$381,664 grant from the National Science Foundation to investigate the regulation of cellular processes. Undergraduate students will gain hands-on training in the lab, learn to critically analyze papers, and gain experience in scientific writing and presentations.

• **David Rosengrant**, assistant professor of physics education, and Bongani Bantwini, assistant professor of elementary and early childhood education, were awarded \$442,072 by the Georgia Department of Education to continue a project aimed at improving content knowledge and instructional practices of northwest Georgia teachers to enhance science and math achievement.

• **Lara Pacifici**, assistant professor of biology education, and Mike Dias, associate professor of science education and biology education coordinator, received \$31,445 from the University of Georgia and the U.S. Department of Education to conduct a summer professional development workshop for high school biology teachers.

• **The School of Accountancy** received \$100,000 from the Internal Auditing Academic Advancement Fund to support the development of a graduate-level internal auditing curriculum and an internal auditing certificate for master's students. Richard Clune, associate professor of accounting, and Kathryn Epps, director of the School of Accountancy and associate professor of accounting, are coordinating the efforts.

• **Rich Engstrom**, interim executive director of the Burruss Institute and assistant professor of political science, received \$55,000 from the Council on Alcohol and Drugs to evaluate the council's Drugs Don't Work Project.

David Caselli

David Caselli

State of the University address maps KSU's future KSU to be known as "Georgia's engaged university"

By Robert S. Godlewski
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Continuing its quest to become a national university, Kennesaw State University soared to new heights this past year, President Daniel S. Papp told students, faculty and staff during his fifth annual State of the University address.

Papp's 40-minute talk, delivered twice to audiences at KSU's Prillaman Hall and the Dr. Bobbie Bailey & Family Performance Center, focused on three words: university, contrarian and academic. Papp took the opportunity to recognize the KSU community, calling it the best faculty and staff he has seen in the University System of Georgia.

Turning his attention to the many accomplishments of each of the university's colleges, he noted the hooding of the first doctoral graduate out of the Bagwell College of Education and the nationally recognized programs and centers in the Coles College of Business. He also praised the College of Humanities and Social Sciences for the diversity of educational, scholarship, research, creative activity and service opportunities it provides and highlighted several large grants awarded to faculty in the



KSU President Daniel S. Papp delivered one of two State of the University speeches at the Prillaman Hall auditorium. The other was held at the Dr. Bobbie Bailey & Family Performance Center.

WellStar College of Health and Human Services and the College of Science and Mathematics.

In addition, Papp talked about the university's internationalization efforts, which have elevated KSU's profile in the global community and garnered national awards.

As he delivered his first address in the auditorium of KSU's newest building —

Prillaman Hall — Papp spoke about the continued expansion of the university, noting the recent groundbreaking of the \$21 million Science Lab Addition.

He concluded by telling the group of faculty and staff that KSU needs to spend more time talking with people in the local community and stressing the importance of being engaged

locally as well as nationally and internationally.

"We will become nationally recognized, and we will be known in the local community, in Georgia, in the nation and in the world as Kennesaw State: Georgia's engaged university, and that is the kind of recognition about which we can all be proud," Papp concluded.

Sabine Smith wins Regents' Teaching Excellence Award KSU wins award for fifth consecutive year

By Jennifer Hafer
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Sabine Smith, associate professor of German at Kennesaw State University, was presented a Teaching Excellence Award by the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia — the fifth KSU faculty member to be so honored in as many years.

At its Seventh Annual Regents' Awards for Excellence in Education celebration this spring, the regents recognized five faculty, including Smith, and four alumni for their contributions to Georgia public higher education. Each year, all institutions are asked to nominate faculty and alumni to be honored. A panel of university system officials evaluates the faculty nominations. Each faculty recipient receives a \$5,000 award from the USG Foundation.

KSU President Daniel S. Papp made his approval known.

"How good are we?" he asked the audience at this year's State of the University address. "Last Saturday night at the University System of Georgia's annual gala, one of our faculty members — German studies professor Sabine Smith — won a university system award recognizing excellence in teaching. This is the fifth consecutive year that a KSU faculty member has been so honored."

Previous KSU winners of the Teaching Excellence Award are theatre professor Karen Robinson in 2010; environmental science professor Matthew Laposata in 2009; math professor Mary L. Garner in 2008; and former psychology professor Randolph Smith in 2007.



German studies professor Sabine Smith was presented a University System of Georgia excellence in teaching award, the fifth consecutive year a KSU faculty member has received the honor.

KSU breaks ground on Science Lab Addition

Five-story, 73,000-square-foot facility expected to be completed in 18 months

By Robert S. Godlewski
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Kennesaw State University broke ground in March on a new facility dedicated to scientific teaching and research. The \$21 million, state-of-the-art KSU Science Lab Addition will enable the university to expand course offerings and improve research opportunities for students and faculty.

"The KSU Science Lab Addition is vital to the success of our College of Science and Mathematics, which is quickly becoming one of Georgia's outstanding science institutions," said KSU President Daniel S. Papp. "The research and learning opportunities this will provide for our faculty and students will help catapult us into the national arena as a major contributor in biological, chemical and biotechnology research."

The five-story, 73,000-square-foot facility will connect with the existing science building and house high-tech biology and chemistry labs, faculty and administrative offices, and an atrium.

The addition will have ample space to accommodate specific teaching and research needs. For example, one floor will be dedicated to teaching labs, while another

two floors will be for labs designed especially for faculty and graduate research.

"The prospect of having the necessary laboratory space we need to expand research that will open new doors for our students and faculty has the entire College of Science and Mathematics buzzing," said Ronald H. Matson, interim dean of the College of Science and Mathematics. "Also, the reaction to the architectural renderings from our students, alumni, faculty and staff has been phenomenal."

It is projected that Georgia will add more than 18,600 new jobs over the next six years in the sciences and technology.

In the past, the lack of lab space has severely limited KSU's ability to offer specialized courses in areas to support the state's pharmaceutical and biomedical industries — a strong area of emphasis for KSU. In addition, the new lab will enable the college to expand its master's offerings with two anticipated degrees in integrative biology and chemical sciences.

"This new science lab facility will also enable us to provide an environment of effective collaboration and the academic components necessary for future flexibility within our programs," added Matson.



KSU President Daniel S. Papp, center, and a host of dignitaries broke ground for the new building.

The architectural firm of Perkins + Will designed the project, which is expected to achieve Gold LEED (Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design) certification. The building will be constructed by Choate Construction Company over 18 months.

Asia-U.S. partnership symposium attracts more than 300

Interest high as global business leaders and scholars discuss issues and strategies

By Sabbaye McGriff
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Senior executives of Asian companies with United States operations, investment experts and scholars discussed Asia's growing impact on the global economy before nearly 300 participants at KSU's Symposium on Asian-USA Partnership Opportunities (SAUPO) in April.

Several noted the expansion of global markets for U.S.-made products, the increase in U.S. manufacturing resulting from Asian firms that invest in production facilities here, the growing attractiveness of investments in the U.S. by small and medium Asian businesses, and the potential for Asian investments in the U.S. and Latin America.

"The world is truly flat," said Sandeep Dadlani, a vice president at Infosys Technologies, an Indian information technology

and consulting firm with more than 100 offices and development centers in 24 countries. "For years, the center of gravity has been shifting to Asia. Now there are signs it may be shifting back to the U.S."

For example, Dadlani explained, Infosys derives more of its revenue from the U.S. and most of its shareholders are from outside India. "You might wonder if it's an Indian company at all. I'd say we are an Indian company that has fast become global."

SAUPO attracted representatives from major corporations as well as from small- and medium-size businesses interested in doing business in Asia or attracting Asian investments, entrepreneurs and academics.

SAUPO, a joint project of KSU's College of Humanities and Social Sciences, the Coles College of Business, the Institute for Global Initiatives, the Bagwell College of Education,



May Gao moderates a discussion on Asian investments in the U.S. with, from left, Henry Yu, president, Shanghai Bosun Capital Advisors; Tae In Kim, president, Hyosung Motors America Inc.; Sandeep Dadlani, vice president, Infosys Technologies Ltd.; and Alex Gregory, president and CEO, YKK Corporation of America.

the University College and the Confucius Institute, was organized by a committee led by May Gao, coordinator of Asian studies and associate professor of communication, and supported by 10 corporate and

institutional partners.

"This was truly an important conference that demonstrated the high value-added of an interdisciplinary, applied approach to education," said Richard Vengroff, dean of humanities

and social sciences. "Numerous out-of-town guests and local business leaders commented on their surprise at how strong KSU is in this area."

Campus Notes

KSU language programs recognized

The National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education has designated all foreign language programs in the Department of Foreign Languages at KSU as "nationally recognized." The programs are French education, German education, Spanish education and all post-baccalaureate programs — offered through the Department of Foreign Language's Alternative Teacher Preparation program — in Chinese, French, German, Latin, Japanese and Spanish.

Dean of continuing education wins prestigious adult educator award

Barbara Calhoun, dean of continuing education at KSU, won the Outstanding Adult Educator in Georgia award at the Georgia Adult Education Association conference in Clayton, Ga. The award recognizes extraordinary long-term contributions to the field of continuing education and is the association's most prestigious recognition for professional accomplishment. Calhoun has worked in adult

education for more than 25 years and she is a past president of the association. Through her leadership at KSU, the College of Continuing and Professional Education has doubled the size of its student base since 1995. With 23,000 student registrations each year, the college is one of KSU's largest community outreach efforts.

UConn's Vaughn Williams named KSU athletic director

Pledges to build integrity in academics and athletics

By Robert S. Godlewski
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Former University of Connecticut Associate Athletic Director Vaughn Williams was named Kennesaw State University's new athletic director, bringing more than 17 years of NCAA Division I senior athletic administrative team experience to KSU.

"It was just a couple of years ago, in 2009, that Kennesaw State's athletic program made

the successful transition to NCAA Division I competition," KSU President Daniel S. Papp said at a press conference. "We are now ensuring that we will have state-of-the-art facilities and the essential resources to allow us to compete in the top tier of collegiate athletics.

"We are also embarking on a multimillion dollar fundraising initiative that will be critical to making football part of the KSU athletic program and the person who will lead these important

athletic initiatives is Kennesaw State's new athletic director, Vaughn Williams."

At UConn, Williams was responsible for strategic planning, facility master plans, and policy and procedure improvement. He also served as chair of the University of Connecticut Sportsmanship/Fan Environment Initiative Committee, which established the Husky Honor Program.

"I am very honored and excited to become part of the Kennesaw

State University family," Williams said. "Owl athletics has made incredible progress as it has transitioned from Division II to Division I. I look forward to continuing and growing our presence regionally and nationally. The vision we have is for us to be champions with integrity in academics, in the community and in athletics."



New athletic director Vaughn Williams

Anthony Stalcup

Concert featuring five Steinway pianos salutes Bobbie Bailey

Event included seven pianists, KSU Orchestra and KSU Jazz Ensemble

By Cheryl Anderson Brown
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KSU honored the generosity of Bobbie Bailey this spring with "440 Keys: A Reunion," a concert by the KSU Orchestra and the KSU Jazz Ensemble featuring faculty members playing five Steinway pianos — Bailey's gift to the School of Music.

In 2007, the university celebrated the opening of the Dr. Bobbie Bailey & Family Performance Center and her donation of a single Steinway D concert grand piano. At the opening concert, Bailey

announced plans to donate 26 more Steinways, earning Kennesaw State the designation as an All-Steinway School.

Four of the pianos were named in honor of Bailey's family and a friend: "Miss Mary" for her mother, "Mr. Elbert" for her father, "Miss Ann" for a family friend and "Mr. Henry" for her grandfather. A fifth Steinway, "Miss Audrey," honoring her sister Audrey Morgan, was donated to the Cobb Energy Performing Arts Centre, home of the Atlanta Opera and Atlanta Ballet. Each piano has 88 keys. Together, the five pianos have 440 keys, thus the concert's name.



Five KSU faculty members played Steinway pianos at the "440 Keys" concert.

Tim Harman

"The 440 Keys concert was the first time 'Miss Audrey' joined the other pianos in the family," said Michael Taormina, managing director of Cobb Energy Performing Arts Centre. "We are excited to have all the pianos together to honor Bobbie Bailey and her family."

The concert included the KSU Orchestra under the direction of Michael Alexander, the KSU Jazz Ensemble under the direction of Sam Skelton, and faculty pianists Joseph Meeks, Robert Henry, Judith Cole, Tyrone Jackson, David Watkins and Soohyun Yun.

Award-winning journalist endorses women's empowerment

Nicholas Kristof launches 'Pathways to Peace' lecture series

By Sabbaye McGriff
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New York Times columnist Nicholas Kristof described the oppression of women and girls throughout the world as one of the "central moral challenges facing the 21st century" during two lectures he delivered at KSU in March.

The Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and author honored his date with KSU after canceling a January appearance when he was detained in Egypt while covering the democracy movement there as it evolved. As a result, Kristof's engagement expanded to two formal presentations: an intimate meeting with students



Nicholas Kristof talks with KSU students participating in student leadership programs.

participating in Center for Student Leadership programs and a reception with university officials.

Borrowing from his latest book, "Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide," Kristof

discussed the plight of women who are undereducated, abused and devalued in human trafficking around the world and allowed to starve in countries where food is scarce. The book, which he wrote with his wife, former *New York Times* reporter Sheryl WuDunn, highlights the advantages of investing in girls' education and giving women microloans to start profitable small businesses.

Kristof likened the worldwide human sex trafficking of girls and women — an estimated 50-110 million of them are still missing — to the institution of slavery. "The only difference is the scale and value associated with it," he said. "Far more are lost in human

trafficking, and they are not as valuable to their captors as slaves were to their owners." In 2004, Kristof said he purchased two Cambodian girls — one for \$150 and another for \$200 — to free them from the brothels where they were forced to work. "I even got a receipt."

The issue of sex trafficking was very much on the minds of KSU students who met with Kristof, including 30 members of the President's Emerging Global Scholars and Leaders in Kennesaw who will travel to Argentina in May 2012 to investigate the issue there.

Anthony Stalcup

KSU reduces carbon footprint, cuts greenhouse gas emissions

Director of sustainability reports study findings to President's Cabinet

By Erica Rountree

Despite adding new buildings and nearly 1,800 students on campus, Kennesaw State University reduced its per-student greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions since 2008. Robert C. Paul, director of sustainability and professor of biology, reported trends from KSU's second environmental inventory to the President's Cabinet in March.

The environmental inventory

is collected biennially as part of KSU's membership in the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment. The inventory includes GHG emissions from the university's use of energy, natural gas, transportation, solid waste disposal, nitrogen-containing fertilizers and refrigerants.

"A large portion of KSU's overall emissions total comes from transportation, since about 87 percent of our students

commute to school," Paul said. "Idling in traffic when arriving or departing campus contributes heavily to GHG emissions."

While KSU's gross total GHG emissions rose by about 1 percent since 2008, emissions per student declined 9 percent. GHG emissions per 1,000 square feet of building space decreased by nearly two-thirds, despite a 183 percent increase in building space included in the inventory. According to Paul,

this dramatic decrease can be attributed to the addition of two new LEED-certified buildings on campus, Prillaman Hall and The Commons Student Culinary Center, as well as energy conservation efforts.

Since the last inventory, KSU has instituted conservation measures such as season-appropriate thermostat settings, turning off parking deck lights during breaks and weekends, and instituting a no-idle policy

for vendors and other visiting vehicles.

Paul said other energy-saving and waste-reduction measures, including installing reusable bottle fillers on water fountains and increasing shuttle service for commuters, are being considered and implemented now.

"Our biggest goals are to educate and to create a cultural shift of awareness of the environment at KSU," Paul said.



Lewis Preston named Owls basketball coach

Former Penn State assistant considered strong national recruiter

By Robert Godlewski
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In his first official move as athletic director, Vaughn Williams named Lewis Preston, widely regarded as one of the top assistant coaches in the country, as the Owls new head men's basketball coach. Preston, an assistant to Penn State's Ed DeChellis for the past three years, also served as an assistant to Florida's Billy Donovan when the Gators won the national

championship in 2007 and was a member of Coach Mike Brey's staff at Notre Dame.

"Lewis Preston's leadership and drive to win are unsurpassed," Williams said. "He has what it takes to both motivate and inspire our players and to fully leverage the top-notch basketball facilities he will have at his disposal. He is one of the best collegiate assistant basketball coaches around, and we are fortunate to have him on board."

Preston, who has served for

the past three years as assistant coach of the Nittany Lions, earned a reputation as a strong national recruiter and developer of post players. A former player himself, the 40-year-old Preston excels in such key areas as scouting, game preparation, recruiting and on-court teaching. He has coached in the collegiate ranks for more than 10 years.

"This is a tremendous opportunity, and I am thrilled and humbled to have been chosen by Kennesaw State," Preston said.

"My focus has always been on developing my student-athletes, both athletically and academically, to their fullest potential. I can't wait to get started on hiring our assistant coaches and recruiting the additional players that will complement our current team. I am happy to be coming to KSU as it kicks its athletics program into high gear."



Lewis Preston, head basketball coach

Anthony Stalcup

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KSU recognized as a top workplace by Atlanta Journal-Constitution

University gets high marks for professional development and work-life balance

By Aixa M. Pascual
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Kennesaw State University was recognized as one of Atlanta's best 100 workplaces by the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*. The state's third-largest university was named one of the top 20 large workplaces in the 15-county metro area, alongside companies such as Ernst & Young, Turner Broadcasting System and T-Mobile USA, in the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution's* debut edition of "Metro Atlanta's Top 100 Workplaces." It was the only the university included in the list.

"We are proud and honored to be recognized among

ajc The Atlanta Journal-Constitution



Atlanta's best employers," said KSU President Daniel S. Papp. "Kennesaw State not only offers students a great education, but its employees enjoy working here. We are committed to providing our 2,015 employees the best

working environment."

The top workplaces were selected based on feedback from employee surveys conducted earlier this year. More than 40,000 employees from 166 companies in the metro area participated in the survey, which was conducted by consulting firm Workplace Dynamics. KSU scored high in professional development, human resources, work-life balance and management support, among others.

"KSU values its employees, and we do that in so many ways, offering a variety of training initiatives, best-in-class benefits and employee-friendly programs," said Rod Bossert, Kennesaw State's assistant vice president for human resources.



Papp appointed to global engagement panel

Prestigious American Council on Education examines globalization's implications

By Robert S. Godlewski
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Kennesaw State University President Daniel S. Papp is among a group of 19 prominent education and international affairs leaders appointed to the American Council on Education's (ACE) blue ribbon panel on global engagement. The group, led by New York University President and ACE board chair John Sexton, is working to set a new global agenda for U.S. higher education.

"Globalization is an extremely complex and evolving phenomenon, and we must gain a deeper understanding of its implications for American higher education. ACE's

blue ribbon panel will convene some of the field's most internationally engaged leaders to examine this 21st century issue," said ACE president Molly Corbett Broad in announcing the group's formation. "We will develop a new agenda to expand the capacity of American higher education to both navigate and influence the new global environment."

Sexton said that American colleges and universities, so long accustomed to being the world's "gold standard" in higher education, are at a pivotal moment.

"The challenges and opportunities take many forms — transnational problems for which we need to prepare our students better; rapidly increasing investment by other nations, which have come to understand the connection

between scholarly excellence and national prosperity; and bold global experiments by some universities to reshape the architecture of the research university in the 21st century — but they drive one to a single conclusion: The need to gather our finest thinkers to provide insight and counsel to the higher education community has never been greater."

Before issuing its final report this fall, the panel will seek feedback from a broad group of stakeholders, including other ACE members and higher education leaders from other countries.

Papp also has a role in two other ACE initiatives: the Commission on International Initiatives, which he chairs, and the Leadership Network for International Education.



KSU student-athletes aid in tornado relief effort

Outpouring from Kennesaw State community called "overwhelming"

By Neil B. McGahee
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Kennesaw State student-athletes, coaches, administrators and staff joined relief efforts in the northwest Georgia town of Ringgold after a mile-wide tornado packing winds of 175 mph carved a path of destruction near downtown, killing eight and destroying about 100 homes.

"All of us who traveled to Ringgold were awed by the mass wreckage and destruction," said senior associate athletic director Scott Whitlock. "You see things like that on TV or read about them in the newspaper but you never expect to see it yourself."

Nearly 75 boxes of supplies — blankets, clothing, water, canned goods, toiletries, cleaning supplies and other nonperishable items — were collected at drop-off locations

throughout campus and transported to distribution centers in Ringgold.

"The outpouring from the Kennesaw State community has been overwhelming," said men's tennis coach T.J. Greggs, who headed the relief effort. "We're glad that we could lend a hand and help the people in Ringgold. To see first hand the damage that was caused has really inspired us to continue helping in any way possible to rebuild this community."

Markeith Cummings, a sophomore on the men's basketball team, and Emily Bean, a freshman on the volleyball team, represented the student-athletes.

"We just want to make a difference and help the people here," Bean said. "It is very sad to see all of the damage that was done, but we are glad to come out and do whatever we can to help Ringgold recover."



Senior assistant athletic director Scott Whitlock, left, and student-athlete Markeith Cummings deliver donations.

Mark Toma

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