

Access

A publication of KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY

Research Report

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

Assistant biology professor **Lisa Adams** received \$46,750 from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), to lead Kennesaw State's participation in the Southeast Coastal Ocean Observing Regional Association's projected five-year project to provide critical data and information about ocean and coastal areas from Florida to North Carolina. Adams will develop an aquatic observatory module for MAT students and promote awareness of the project.

• **Catherine Lewis**, executive director of Museums, Archives and Rare Books and associate professor of history and women's studies, was awarded a \$78,000 from the state department to continue *Identities: Understanding Islam in a Cross Cultural Context*, a joint project by Kennesaw State's Museum of History and Holocaust Education and the Ben M'sik Community Museum in Casablanca, Morocco.

• **Ardith Peters**, associate professor of human services, and **Rene McClatchey**, assistant professor of social work, received \$18,000 from the Halle Foundation to support *Communities and Crisis – Inclusive Development Through Sport*, an international seminar to be held in November in Rheinsberg, Germany.

Chemistry and biochemistry professor **Jonathan McMurry** was awarded a \$319,240 grant from the National Institutes of Health to continue his research project *Purification of a Modified Flagellar Export Apparatus*. McMurry's research should lead to a better understanding of bacterial pathogenesis and will involve students in basic research.

Kennesaw State and the Georgia Youth Science and Technology Center (GYSTC) received \$320,000 from Georgia Power Co. to educate elementary and middle school students about the science behind energy conservation. The project involves development of curriculum and educational tools to incorporate Georgia Power's energy conservation effort into two GYSTC methodologies, in-class field trips and family science nights.

“Perfect storm of opportunity” despite economic uncertainty Opening of School address sets course for new initiatives

By **Robert S. Godlewski**
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In his annual Opening of School address, Kennesaw State University President Daniel S. Papp told faculty and staff about the highlights and challenges facing the university. Papp said despite an uncertain economy, the new academic year holds promise of the “perfect storm of opportunity” to accomplish great things.

“Despite the budgetary constraints that we have faced and will continue to face, KSU over the last several years has done quite a bit,” Papp told a packed Convocation Center audience. “And almost as importantly, other folks around the nation have often noticed what we have done.”

Five years ago, he noted, Kennesaw State graduated only 28 percent of freshman in six years versus 41 percent today. Six years ago, there were zero doctoral programs. Today there are four, with more on the way. The university also hooded its first

doctoral graduate last summer.

Papp praised the results of Kennesaw State's first-ever Comprehensive Campaign, which achieved its \$75 million target a year ahead of schedule. He also noted that KSU for the first time in history surpassed \$10 million in external research funding including grants from the National Science Foundation, the National Institute for Health, the Department of Education, the Department of Defense and the World Bank.

“Again despite budgetary constraints, we are on the verge of undertaking several significant initiatives that will help chart the course for this university as it enters its second half-century,” Papp said.

Challenging KSU to become Georgia's engaged university, Papp pointed to two initiatives. One is KSU's Strategic Thinking and Planning Committee's effort to create a new KSU 2012-2017 Strategic Plan. The other is KSU's participation in the “Competitive



David Caselli

Kennesaw State President Daniel S. Papp shared a light moment during his Opening of School address.

Edge” project, which aims to accelerate economic development, improve the quality of life and highlight the role higher education plays in contributing to economic growth in Cobb and

surrounding counties.

“From my perspective, these three undertakings coincide to create a perfect storm of opportunity for this university this year,” he said.

Kennesaw State celebrates faculty, staff achievements Foundation awards more than \$200,000 in cash and stipends

By **Neil B. McGahee**
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Kennesaw State University faculty and staff were honored for excellence at Opening of School events.

As President Daniel S. Papp recognized “those who have truly excelled this year — providing excellent service through their commitment and dedication to the goals and objectives of Kennesaw State University,” he also expressed his deepest appreciation to the

Kennesaw State Foundation “whose tireless efforts support this university in countless ways.”

Karen Robinson, associate professor of theater in the College of the Arts, was the 2011 recipient of the Distinguished Professor Award — the foundation's highest faculty award. She received \$17,000 — \$8,500 in cash and an additional \$8,500 faculty development stipend.

Staff award-winners included Staff Employee of the Year Benjamin Huck, a College of Science and Mathematics laboratory safety officer and the Administrator of the Year Alicia Stignani, director of human resource services.

Additional 2011 faculty and staff award winners included:

Clendenin Graduate Fellows

- David Albert, Coles College of Business
- Brian Keith Brooks, Georgia State University
- Shannon Grabich, UNC Chapel Hill
- Diane Keen, WellStar College of Health & Human Services
- Rebecca LeFebvre, College of Humanities and Social Sciences
- Alyson Lischka, College of Science and Mathematics
- Catherine Odera, College of Humanities and Social Sciences

Tommy & Beth Holder Faculty Awards

- Barbara S. Gainey, College of Humanities and Social Sciences

- Jennifer Dickey, College of Humanities and Social Sciences
- Marina C. Koether, College of Science and Mathematics
- Yuliya Babenko, College of Science and Mathematics

Foundation prize for publications or creative activity

- Ivan Pulinkala, College of the Arts
- Divesh Sharma, Coles College of Business
- Jo Williamson and Traci Redish, Bagwell College of Education
- John C. Bradbury, WellStar College of Health & Human Services
- Jeffrey Stepakoff, College of Humanities and Social Sciences
- Daniela Tapu, College of Science and Mathematics

Distinguished Professional Service Award

- Lee Ann Lands, College of Humanities and Social Sciences

Distinguished Research & Creative Activity Award

- Dana Hermanson, Coles College of Business

Distinguished Teaching Award

- Kim Loomis, Bagwell College of Education

Academic Staff Support Award

- Jennifer Pate Costen

Administrative Staff Support Award

- Connie Lane

Campus Support Award

- Donna Adams



Anthony Stalcup

Kennesaw State University President Daniel S. Papp awarded the Distinguished Teaching award to Kim Loomis, left, and the Distinguished Professor Award to Karen Robinson, right.

Joint chiefs chairman praises KSU's veterans' assistance program

Office of Warrior and Family Support learn about university's student veterans program

By Neil B. McGahee
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At a town hall meeting in September on the Georgia Tech campus, Navy Adm. Mike Mullen, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, praised Kennesaw State University's commitment to the reintegration of returning servicemen to civilian society, an effort that has resulted in the university being designated a "Military Friendly School" by G.I. Jobs magazine.

In one of his final duties before retirement, Mullen listened as returning servicemen and women discussed their transition from combat to campus. The meeting, moderated by Frank



Army Col. David Sutherland, left, and Marine Lt. Col. Dennis Hart discussed Kennesaw State's Veterans' Resource Center with KSU President Daniel Papp.

Wills, director of Kennesaw State's Veteran's Resource Center, resulted from an August visit by several of Mullen's aides to get a first-hand look at the newly-opened center.

Wills, a veteran of the Iraq war, told the aides how the center sought to apply a "seamless approach" to transition from military life to civilian and academic life using outreach programs such as faculty development programs that help faculty and staff identify obstacles veteran students may encounter when transitioning from combat to the classroom.

Following the visit, Army Col. David W. Sutherland, special assistant to the chairman of the

Joint Chiefs of Staff, reported to Mullen that KSU's veterans resource programs — especially in faculty development — are setting a standard as a veteran-friendly institution.

During the panel discussion, Army veteran and current Kennesaw State student Richard Sisk told Mullen of the difficulties he encountered leaving comrades in harm's way in Iraq and Afghanistan as he returned to the relative safety of civilian life.

"I would get phone calls about friends getting wounded or friends getting killed," he said. "That was the toughest part, the guilt — wondering if I could have done something if I had stayed in the unit."

Kennesaw State dance program to surpass 100 majors this fall

Program's success supported by community partnerships

By Jennifer Hafer
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The Kennesaw State University dance program, which started in 2005 with 20 dance minors, is celebrating the new school year with a milestone 100 majors.

"When we started the dance program in 2005, the first thing I did was to connect with the dance community in the metro-Atlanta area and create a dance advisory

board," director Ivan Pulinkala said. "Our collaborations and partnerships with the region's premier dance companies and arts venues serve as a way of keeping our students engaged with the professional dance community in our region."

For example, a formal partnership with gloATL, a contemporary dance company that brings site-specific dance to urban public spaces, provides

students an opportunity to perform with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra at Woodruff Arts Center. Part choreography and part interactive art installation, gloATL performances regularly bridge the gap between artists and audience.

The dance program also has formal partnerships with the Atlanta Ballet and the Cobb Energy Performing Arts Center, as well as collaborations with

nearly a dozen professional dance community organizations.

"The Program in Dance is truly an example for what it takes to build a successful program: a motivated and dedicated faculty, talented and hardworking students, internal administrative support, external community supporters and collaborative partnerships with key organizations," said College of the Arts dean Joseph Meeks. "The significant

accomplishments of this program in such a short period of time demonstrate the value of and need for dance in our area."

In September, the Kennesaw State Dance Company partnered with gloATL, the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra and Sonic Generator from Georgia Tech, to present a unique performance at the Woodruff Center Symphony Hall choreographed by KSU artist-in-residence Lauri Stallings.

Kennesaw State University's farm-to-table program grows

Culinary and Hospitality Services expands acreage

By Jennifer Hafer
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Silver bells and cockle shells may have made Mary's garden grow, but an additional 30 tillable acres is feeding an expansion of Kennesaw State University's farm-to-campus dining program.

A Cherokee County family granted KSU's Culinary and Hospitality Services use of 40 acres in Ball Ground, Ga., including 10 acres of apple trees and two greenhouses.

"We are so proud of this addition to our program," said Gary Coltek, director of Culinary Services. "Our goal from the beginning was to grow things we could incorporate into the campus cuisine and this will allow us to expand those offerings significantly."

Produce grown on the property will be served in The Commons, KSU's dining hall. Additionally, a portion of the harvest

will be donated to the Georgia Chapter of the WIC Farmer's Market Nutrition Program (FMNP), associated with the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women Infants and Children (WIC).

Produce grown on the property include tomatoes, peppers, corn, cucumbers, pole beans, summer squash, watermelon, okra, eggplant, raspberries, blueberries and strawberries. The gardens will be operated year-round, with fall and winter crop planting, including lettuce, broccoli, beans and squash, beginning later this month.

Instituted in February 2010, KSU's farm-to-campus program has its roots in a land gift of 55 acres located in Bartow County, Ga. Gardens were established on two acres of the property and supplied The Commons with nearly 1,900 pounds of organically grown vegetables. An apiary consisting of 20 honeybee colonies produced more than 20 gallons of honey and attracted three hives of wild bees.



Kennesaw State students pick fresh produce for The Commons.

Campus Notes

Kennesaw State photographer wins Award of Excellence
Award will be presented in Phoenix

A dramatic photo of the Kennesaw State women's soccer team taken by Kennesaw State photographer Anthony Stalcup won an Award of Excellence at the 41st Annual University & College Designers Association (UCDA) Design Competition. Stalcup's photo, which was used in the team's 2011 season poster, was a standout in the prestigious international contest that drew nearly 1,100 entries this year.

Kennesaw State Featured on FOX 5

FOX 5's Road Warrior, Stacey Elgin, visited the Kennesaw State University campus on the first day of fall classes. Throughout the morning she talked with Ken Harmon, interim provost and vice president for academic affairs; Gary Coltek, director of culinary services; Lewis Preston, head basketball coach; and students.

Renovated Kennesaw State Bookstore open for business

Expanded, redesigned retail space features more variety, space

By Sabbaye McGriff
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Behind the fancy gold and black ribbon President Daniel S. Papp cut for the grand re-opening of the renovated Kennesaw State University Bookstore Aug. 15 sat a modern retail space reminiscent of the first floor of an upscale department store.

Bright lights, artsy fixtures and displays, a variety of colorful merchandise and wide aisles set off newly designed counters. Distinct retail sections offer an expanded range of KSU paraphernalia and textbooks, Clinique cosmetics, a customer service kiosk, a new-age technology store and central checkout stations with almost

twice the number of registers.

The bookstore renovation, which developed in stages over seven years and accompanied an overhaul of the second floor and food court areas in the Carmichael Student Center, increased the bookstore space from 13,000 square feet to nearly 20,000 square feet.

"We are pleased to finally have a first-rate bookstore for this first-rate university," Papp said.

The ribbon-cutting ceremony also highlighted the updated and streamlined Student Center food court, which added Delancey, a New York-style deli — complete with pastrami and corned-beef sandwiches and the city's famous cheesecake.

Joining Papp for the ceremony were Faye Silverman, executive director of Auxiliary Services and Programs; Pat Balsler, the bookstore's first manager; and Ronald Wilson, new Student Government Association president.

A crown jewel of the renovated bookstore is the "OwlTEC" technology center that merchandises Apple and Windows-based products and accessories, including Dell and HP computers. The center has the ambiance of an Apple computer store with a sleek, ultra-modern appearance, large screens and monitors and rows of uncluttered counters displaying the latest technology devices.



Kennesaw State President Daniel S. Papp and Faye Silverman, executive director of Auxiliary Services, enjoyed the bookstore opening.

Kennesaw State President, faculty welcome Class of 2015

First Year convocation connects new students to the university

By Jennifer Hafer
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Many factors are contributing to increasing retention and graduation rates of incoming freshmen at Kennesaw State University, including First Year Convocation.

The 10th annual convocation was held Aug. 28, when the class of 2015 was officially welcomed to campus.

"Today's convocation exercises represent a major milestone in the lives of the men and women who are being recognized for their academic achievements," said Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Ken Harmon. "Those of you who are about to be inducted at this afternoon's ceremony should be applauded for the courage and dedication to make your dreams a reality."

The convocation ceremony is a "bookend" to graduation, according to Kim Frazier, assistant professor of education and chair of the convocation committee.



Assistant Professor Debbie Smith from the University College carried the mace into First-Year Convocation.

"This is a way for them to feel connected to the campus," she said. "The aim is to get them to recognize

themselves as a cohort and progress together to graduation."

First Year Convocation, on-campus housing, more traditionally aged students, first-year programs, the common reader program and learning communities have all helped raise the six-year graduation rate, said Dean of University College Ralph Rascati. University College is where first-year programs are housed.

"From 2001 to 2005, the six-year graduation rate has gone from 28 percent to 41 percent for the 2005 cohort that graduated in fall 2010, spring 2011 and summer 2011," Rascati said. "It's an amazing increase."

This year's common reader — a book all first-year students read — is "Outcasts United," the inspirational story about Luma Mufleh and the soccer team of refugees she coaches in Clarkston, Ga. The Fugees, short for refugees, come from 28 war-torn countries, including Afghanistan, Iraq, Bosnia, Congo, Somalia and Sudan. Mufleh served as the convocation speaker.

Kennesaw State emerges as leader in faculty development field

Profile of Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning rises after hosting global conference

By Aixa Pascual
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In late June, some 85 representatives from universities as far away as Japan, Iraq and Australia convened at Kennesaw State to learn about how to enhance teaching and learning on their campuses. At the International Institute for New Faculty Developers, participants from 10 countries attended 10 plenary sessions, 24 concurrent meetings and one-on-one discussions, taking in the latest in faculty development from some of the big names in the field.

"The institute has established KSU as a definite leader on the faculty development scene nationally and internationally," says Michele DiPietro, executive director of

Kennesaw State's Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL). "The institute was incredibly successful, the most successful CETL event by leaps and bounds."

Since arriving at Kennesaw State from Carnegie Mellon University in fall 2010, DiPietro has been working hard to put KSU on the map as a national leader in faculty development. As president elect of the Professional and Organizational Development Network in Higher Education, the professional group that represents faculty development centers at colleges and universities throughout North America, DiPietro submitted a winning bid to host the biennial institute at KSU and organized the June conference. The success of the institute, he said, showcased Kennesaw State's

growing leadership in the field. "We have the expertise, and we have the ability and the capacity to put together a high-caliber global event like this one," DiPietro says.

DiPietro, who also teaches statistics at KSU, has long been a strong advocate of teaching faculty how to be better teachers. While university faculty, with Ph.D.s and rigorous training in grad school are experts in their subject fields, they usually do not have training in how to teach, he points out. That's where CETL comes in, offering formal training in faculty development and exposing professors to the latest in how teaching and learning work. "They know their subject, but they don't know about pedagogy," DiPietro explains. "We teach them how to teach. Teaching is a complex activity and it

deserves reflection. If you want to promote deep learning in the students, you just don't show up and teach."



Rabab Al-Darraj of the University of Baghdad was one of 85 participants at an international faculty developer's conference in June.

Board of Regents approves Kennesaw State Athletic Association

Action gives go-ahead for coaching contracts, student-athlete scholarships

By Robert S. Godlewski
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The Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia approved the creation of the Kennesaw State University Athletic Association, a decision that KSU President Daniel S. Papp hailed as a major step forward for all of the university's athletic programs.

"I am pleased by the positive step taken today by the Board of Regents, which reflects well on the strength and integrity of Kennesaw State's athletic program," he said. "Today's action will allow our athletic association to operate in an efficient, effective and transparent manner."

The creation of the new association enables Kennesaw State to have parity with other state institutions — such as the University of Georgia and Georgia

Tech — that have formed similar athletic associations, providing them with the business structure and flexibility needed to be competitive at the highest level of collegiate sports. Kennesaw State athletic director Vaughn Williams now will have the authority and infrastructure to deal competitively with vendors and enter into multiyear contracts with his coaching staff — necessary ingredients to maintain competitiveness at the Division I level.

"The Board of Regents' decision helps us level the playing field with respect to our fellow institutions, both within Georgia and out of state," Williams said. "As a full-fledged member of NCAA Division I, this allows us to compete from the same secure financial and regulatory operational platform as the big guys. One of our first priorities will be to raise money for scholarships for our student-athletes and to pay the salaries of our coaches and staff."



“Year of Peru” kicks off with panel discussion

Study abroad experiences in Peru leave indelible mark on students

By Sabbaye McGriff
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A panel of students who spent parts of spring and summer 2011 in three different study abroad and internship programs shared video, oral and photographic accounts of their experiences Sept. 1, officially launching the university’s “Year of Peru.”

The panel included students who traveled to Peru with the Leaders in Kennesaw (LINK) Leads program, an art history student and a former KSU student majoring in Spanish.

“It started with just [selecting] a topic



Kennesaw State students visited the ruins of Machu Picchu on a recent visit to Peru.

and a country and ended up being an experience none of us will ever forget,” the opening frame of a video presentation by LINK Leads participants declared.

Fifteen LINK Leads students spent 18 days of cultural immersion in Peru as part of their capstone third-year experiential learning and service experience in the leadership program. Accompanied by Rian Satterwhite and Karen Heilmann of KSU’s Center for Student Leadership, the students criss-crossed Peru, visiting Lima, Paracas, Ica, Nasca, Arequipa,

Chivay, Puno and Cusco. Along the way, they experienced Peru’s vast geographic and cultural diversity, visited its most revered monuments and ruins, met with legal experts regarding the effect of climate change on Peru’s glaciers and underwater aquifers and engaged with children at an orphanage.

“We learned so much,” said Brandon Krusac, a senior education major who also traveled abroad to Russia and Jamaica. “It also was the most fun I’ve ever had. The trip has given me the confidence to handle anything that comes my way. I’m certain I’ll be able to relate the experiences to the students I will be teaching soon.”

Kennesaw State a sea of black and gold on College Colors Day

School spirit on display across campus during annual celebration

By Robert S. Godlewski
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The Kennesaw State University campus was awash in black and gold Sept. 2, College Colors Day. The national event, now entering its sixth year, kicks off the fall intercollegiate athletics season and strives to advocate higher education through increased public awareness.

Crowds wearing T-shirts and hats sporting KSU colors and logos were conspicuous from the Campus Green to the KSU Soccer Stadium, as supporters showed their school spirit.

“As an up-and-coming nationally

recognized university, Kennesaw State is pleased to take part in this great example of school spirit across the country,” said Kennesaw State President Daniel S. Papp. “I’m glad to see so many of our supporters, students, faculty and staff sporting our black and gold colors.”

A week earlier Kennesaw State athletic director Vaughn Williams, Scrappy, the KSU mascot and representatives of the student government association, cheerleaders and dance squad watched as Papp signed the official proclamation designating Sept. 2 as College Colors Day.

After the signing, Scrappy gave Papp a new black and gold tie featuring embroidered

designs of the Kennesaw State Owl. Scrappy also presented Papp and Williams with T-shirts emblazoned with “Black and Gold, Proud and Bold” in honor of the day.

Scrappy later joined other college mascots at the state capitol for Gov. Nathan Deal’s declaration of College Colors Day throughout Georgia.

The City of Kennesaw also proclaimed College Colors Day, calling on citizens to show their Kennesaw State spirit by wearing black and gold.



Kennesaw State mascot Scrappy, center, Georgia Tech’s Buzz, left, Georgia State’s Pounce, Georgia Southern’s Gus the Eagle and UGA’s Hairy Dawg celebrated College Colors Day at the Georgia state capitol.

Kennesaw State joins online carpooling network

Zimride allows community to connect via Facebook to set up rides

By Aixa Pascual
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Kennesaw State students, faculty and staff are embracing carpooling thanks to an innovative ridesharing network that is integrated with Facebook.

As the 2011-2012 academic year kicked off in August, Kennesaw State joined Zimride, an online carpool-matching service that combines ridesharing with social networking. Two weeks after school started, KSU had nearly 1,000 users, said

Beth Tindel, Kennesaw State’s director of parking and transportation.

“Our initial sign-up numbers were much higher than for other universities, such as Harvard and the University of Alabama,” Tindel said. “We are a rapidly growing campus and any initiatives we can promote — shuttles with park-and-ride lots, carpooling incentives and bicycling — are, for the most part, well received.”

By finding other KSU students, faculty or staff through Zimride who have the same schedule and want to share rides, the number of vehicles coming to the campus

can be significantly reduced. Less vehicles means less congestion and more available parking on campus.

As enrollment at Kennesaw State continues to grow, there is a need for programs that manage transportation demand and relieve traffic congestion, Tindel said. This fall, KSU also added 1,000 off-campus parking spaces for commuter students at Town Center mall and launched a permanent shuttle service.

Anyone with an @kennesaw.edu e-mail address can sign up for KSU’s new ridesharing network. Zimride builds a

critical mass of users through online networks on university and corporate communities. Other universities that are using Zimride include Emory, Georgia Tech and more than a dozen university campuses in California. In its website, Zimride bills itself as “a simple way to find friends, classmates and coworkers going the same way you are. . . . Connect with friends, reduce your carbon footprint and save money.”

Tindel expects for Zimride to have nearly 3,000 users by the end of the school year.

Kennesaw State University launches mobile website

New, easy-to-use website tailored for cell phone and mobile device users

By Neil B. McGahee
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Kennesaw State University launched an easy-to-use version of the university’s website for users of cell phones and other mobile devices.

Users who visit the KSU home page from a mobile device will automatically be redirected to the new mobile site, m.kennesaw.edu. to find a list of categories such as news, events and maps. They can also access specific

listings designed for prospective students, current students, faculty, staff, alumni, friends and visitors.

“As a growing number of Kennesaw State constituents, especially students, access the Web through mobile devices, it was vital that we develop a mobile website,” said Wayne Dennison, director of KSU’s Enterprise Systems and Services. “In developing this site, we wanted to make sure that we provided a more welcoming experience for visitors who access the KSU website from their

mobile devices.”

According to Dennison, Kennesaw State’s development team interviewed students and researched the mobile websites of 20 to 30 colleges to ensure that the KSU site was user friendly and functional.

The new mobile site is easier to view and navigate from a mobile device than the full school website, www.kennesaw.edu. Visitors who go to the main Kennesaw State website using a mobile device will automatically be redirected

to the mobile site. In addition to the university’s most heavily visited pages, the site will also incorporate Google maps, which will allow mobile users with GPS-enabled devices to pinpoint their location and easily navigate around campus.

No special software or application needs to be downloaded or installed to access the new site. Users of BlackBerrys, Windows Mobile and other mobile devices may make use of the new mobile website.

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>.

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