

President Potter begins school year with convocations



MOTIVATED FOR A NEW YEAR: Corps of Cadets members demonstrated to faculty, staff and fellow students attending the Aug. 15 student convocation how to “sound off” with the traditional “hooah,” which is used as part of the vernacular among military students.

Starting his first full academic year as president of North Georgia College & State University, Dr. David L. Potter greeted the university workforce at an Aug. 10 convocation, sharing with the employees his vision for the coming year and beyond. Potter joined NGCSU as the institution’s 16th president on Jan. 1, 2005.

More than 400 faculty and staff members attended the event in the Memorial Hall Gym. Presentations that outlined new and continuing initiatives at the university focused on a Center for Teaching and Learning Excellence, educating influential citizens, leadership for regional development and modeling leadership principles within the university.

“I believe our goal should be to attain national standing as a university of academic excellence

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U.S. News names NGCSU to top colleges list in South



In America’s Best Colleges 2006, U.S. News & World Report has placed NGCSU No. 19 in the top Public Universities in the South of those institutions

providing a full range of undergraduate and master's programs but offering few, if any, doctoral programs.

The only other Georgia institutions in that listing are Georgia College & State University, No. 15, and Georgia Southern, No. 22.

Of combined top public and private universities in the South offering bachelor’s and master’s degrees,

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NGCSU graduates 219 at commencement



Dr. Mark Spraker

North Georgia conferred 219 graduate and undergraduate degrees during the summer commencement on Aug. 12. Ten students commissioned as second lieutenants in the U.S. Army that afternoon before receiving their degrees. Dr. Mark Spraker, the 2005 Alumni Association Distinguished Professor, spoke at commencement.

“From this day forward, it will be your responsibility to keep up with the changing world; to educate yourself about the ethical and political issues facing our society,” Spraker said. “It takes constant study, and you will have to determine what sources of information that you will trust.

“Demand of yourselves what your professors have previously demanded of you. Don’t believe it blindly. Read multiple sources from all sides of the issue. Study the underlying assumptions and read the fine print.”

(More graduation on page 4)

Time of Remembrance
9/11 anniversary event
Sept. 12, 4:30 p.m., Drill Field
[More information at ngcsu.edu/news](http://www.ngcsu.edu/news)



Campus in Action

The NGCSU Le Belle Voci women's choir, under the direction of **Dr. Jack Broman**, fine arts, has been selected to perform at the Georgia Music Educators Association's state conference in Savannah, Ga., Jan. 26, 2006. The group was only one of three college choirs chosen to perform out of 31 ensembles who applied.

Laurie Davis, bookstore manager, won the "President's Award" and **Jim Barnaby**, assistant bookstore manager, won the "Store Employee of the Year" award from the Georgia Association of College Stores. The association recognizes leadership and achievement in the college store industry and community.

Dr. David Morris, business administration, had his article, "Do Accounting Students Cheat? A Study Examining Undergraduate Accounting Students' Honesty and Perceptions of Dishonest Behavior" accepted for publication in

the Journal of Accounting, Ethics & Public Policy. The article was co-authored by Claire Kilian of the University of Wisconsin.



Kent Norsworthy has been named the new head men's and women's tennis coach for North Georgia's tennis program. Norsworthy graduated from NGCSU in 2001. He has been teaching tennis professionally in Alpharetta and Duluth to all ages and abilities. He achieved certification by the United States Professional Tennis Association in 2001.

Dr. Bob Orwig, business administration, presented a case to the Society for Case Research at a workshop held on July 15 at Idaho State University in Pocatello, Idaho. The case, "Moving a Giant: Strategy in a Mature and Regu-

lated Industry," was co-written with **Drs. Jim Kirley and Noel Campbell**, business administration. It tells the story of the Southern Company and how it successfully competed with Enron and others.

Karen Roop, advancement services coordinator, is now the advancement services director for Institutional Advancement. Roop will oversee the areas of donor gift policy, processing and reporting; donor relations and stewardship. She is currently working toward her bachelor's degree in English at North Georgia.

Dr. John Yeoman, business administration, has been appointed by the National Association of Securities Dealers to be the chairman of a securities arbitration panel in Atlanta. NASD arbitration panels rule on disputes between brokerage firms and their customers.

U.S. News ranking

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NGCSU is ranked No. 52 of listed southern institutions. Other public Georgia schools in this category include No. 44 Georgia College & State University, and No. 56 Georgia Southern.

"Our rankings reaffirm what we know to be true relative to the quality and excellence of our students and our institution," said Dr. Linda Roberts-Betsch, vice president for Academic Affairs. "We are pleased to be identified as one of the top public universities in the South."

On the public "National Universities" listing, Georgia Tech is listed at No. 9 and UGA is No. 19.

The "Top Public Universities - Master's (South)" listing online has The Citadel in South Carolina as No. 2. ▲

FALL SEMESTER HEADCOUNT:

The number of students enrolled fall semester shows a 4.7 percent increase over 2004. The undergraduate student population grew from 4,093 to 4,257, a 4 percent jump since last year, with 733 of those being new freshmen. The graduate student population had a 9.9 percent gain, welcoming 73 new grad students. North Georgia's total student enrollment is 4,855, including 565 military students, whose count has been affected by the deployments of students with military obligations in Iraq and Afghanistan and Hurricane Katrina humanitarian relief efforts. Undergraduate students who are enrolled averaged 12.88 credit hours. The traditional full-time student enrollment load is 12 credit hours. Graduate students averaged a 6.85 credit-hour enrollment, below the traditional full-time graduate load of nine hours. The universitywide number of credit hours, 54,868, was up 3.7 percent.





STUDENT SUPPORT:

Pictured are 1st Sgt. Dean Papka, National Guard soldier and former NGCSU student Richard Ingram, and Maj. Richard Neikirk. The two North Georgia staff members from the Office of the Commandant visited Ingram at Walter Reed Army

Medical Center in Washington D.C. in August. Ingram lost part of his arm while in Iraq. He was deployed overseas with the 48th Brigade Combat Team. Ingram is one of more than 70 students who have left school for mandatory active duty military service.

Upcoming Events

Yonah Brass, a brass chamber ensemble based in Cleveland, Ga., will perform classical as well as traditional and modern American music on Sept. 22 at 7:30 p.m. in the Gloria Shott Performance Hall. The free event is part of the Nix Fine Arts Cultural Series. For more information, call 864-1423.

The second annual **Academic Excellence Symposium** will be held on Sept. 27 at 12:30 p.m. in the auditorium of the Health & Natural Sciences Building. A variety of presentations at the symposium will give students an overview of the opportunities that North Georgia has to offer.

The annual **Faculty/Staff Golf Tournament** will take place Sept. 30 at the Skitts Mountain Golf Course in Cleveland, Ga. Lunch, donated by ARAMARK, will be served at noon, followed by a shotgun start at 1 p.m. The cost is \$25. Contact Bud Reiselt at breiselt@ngcsu.edu or 864-1757 for more information.

The **Fall Faculty Retreat** will be at the Unicoi State Park Lodge, Sept. 23-24. The guest speaker will be Martha Wicker, director of the Center of Instructional Development at Clayton State University. For more information, contact Dr. Irene Kukkala at ikukkala@ngcsu.edu or 864-1368.

Entries for the **“Constitution 2005: What Would You Change?” Essay Contest** should be submitted to Dr. Ross Alexander at rcalexander@ngcsu.edu by Sept. 16. The top three student essays will be posted on the NGCSU Web site and cash prizes will be awarded. Faculty and staff may submit essays in a separate category; a non-monetary prize will be awarded to the best one.

The film **“Born Into Brothels,”** which tells of the journey of a photographer and the children of prostitutes from Calcutta’s Red Light District, will be shown Sept. 12 at 7 p.m. The film is rated R and is in Bengali and English with English subtitles. **“The Motorcycle Diaries,”** a film recreating the motorcycle journey of a medical student and his best friend across South America, will be shown at 7 p.m. on Sept. 26. The film is in Spanish with English subtitles and is rated R. Both will be held in the Hoag Student Center Auditorium. Sponsored by the North Georgia Cultural Events Committee; free and open to the public. Contact: 864-1965.

See what’s new

at ngcsu.edu/news

- Hurricane Katrina resource page for relief efforts

As of press time, five undergraduate students from Hurricane Katrina-affected areas are enrolled at NGCSU. Some of the displaced students were set to attend the University of Southern Mississippi and the University of New Orleans, according to Michelle Burt, an admissions officer helping the students.

- Advisory Board named for NGCSU Appalachian Studies Center
- Complete list of Calendar Events

Digest Extra
at ngcsu.edu/digest

- Pictures from the annual Staff Council Watermelon Bust
- Listing of the new NGCSU staff members
- Dr. Mark Spraker’s full summer commencement speech
- Transcript of President David Potter’s Aug. 10 convocation speech

the
Digest
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The Digest is published monthly by University Relations. Submit material and current news to the e-mail address digest@ngcsu.edu. The next scheduled publication date of the Digest is Oct. 10. **Deadline for submissions is Oct. 3.**

North Georgia establishes nursing program at North Metro Tech

NGCSU enrolled a group of nursing students this semester at a new location in metro Atlanta. North Georgia administrators visited the North Metro Technical College Acworth campus on Aug. 24.

The new program allows the nurses-in-training to complete their North Georgia education on the Acworth campus.



EDUCATION PARTNERS: North Metro Technical College President Steve Dougherty (center) and NGCSU President David Potter (right) talk to North Georgia nursing students on the Acworth campus.

The 40 North Georgia students, seeking their associate's degrees in nursing, are part of the Department of Nursing's ongoing efforts to meet the state's demand for qualified healthcare professionals.

"The nursing arrangement is a good cross collaboration that we want to do more of to perpetuate our mission as an institution of higher education," said President David Potter. "Our nursing program is really community-centered, and they go where the need is." 🏠

New convocations held (Continued from page 1)

distinguished by our uniqueness," said Potter. "Achieving that goal will require understanding our strengths and limitations as well as a clear strategy to guide us.

"The quest for national leadership in teaching and learning is timely because higher education is on the cusp of a new era," said Potter. "Colleges and universities must change teaching and learning theories and practices if they are to sustain their primacy in the advancement of human knowledge."

Potter addressed another large audience in the gym, about 1,600 students, at a new student convocation held on Aug. 15, the day before classes started. Student Affairs Vice President Judi Bryant presided, and student leaders told attendees about student activities and organizations. An ice cream social for employees and a large picnic on the drill field for students followed the convocations. 🏠



Left: Carl McDonald, materials management, provided entertainment for the Aug. 10 convocation, playing bluegrass-flavored music on the dobro and acoustic guitar. **Below:** At the ice cream social, Aramark manager Lauren Weaver (l) serves Dr. Edward Green a Mayfield treat.



ADVANCING BY DEGREES: Four-year IIT technician Edward Joshua Boyd achieved a personal milestone on Aug. 12 when he received a master of public administration degree. He holds a bachelor's in criminal justice, 1998, and a bachelor's in computer information systems, 2001, from NGCSU. Boyd graduated with a 4.0 GPA.

Summer Graduation Stats

219 Graduates
 21 Education specialist degrees
 76 Master's degrees
 120 Bachelor's degrees
 2 Associate's degrees
 29 Honor graduates
 10 new Army lieutenants