

## North Georgia launches new Web site design

The university today introduced a new online image on the World Wide Web with a redesigned NGCSU home page and several second-level Web pages.

The new online image for North Georgia resulted from a year-long collaboration between faculty and staff on the Web Advisory Committee, a standing organization that will monitor the university's Web pages and policy processes.

With the redesign, online content management and navigation is expected to become more efficient.

"In order to give the university community a more effective communication tool, the whole NGCSU Web site is undergoing changes," said Vice President Bruce Howerton, who is a member of the WAC.

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### Shepard speaks on anti-violence

Judy Shepard, mother of Matthew Shepard, a gay teenager brutally beaten and killed in 1998, will speak at North Georgia on March 25 on anti-violence and how to make communities safer. The 7 p.m. event will take place in the Memorial Hall Gym, with a reception afterward in the Dining Hall, and it is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Dr. Donna Waddell at 864-1652.

## Fitness finds NGCSU on April 6

North Georgia will host an annual Wellness Expo on April 6 to increase awareness about personal health and well being, promote health-related services within the community and provide stress-relief activities.

The event will take place in the Memorial Hall gymnasium from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., with more than 45 exhibits.

Free health-related treatments will be available, including massage therapy, blood pressure checks, glucose testing, nutrition information and eye-vision screening. Nutritious refreshments, such as yogurt, fruit and snack bars, will be served free of charge. Door prizes will also be given out to those that participate in an evaluation survey.

Last year more 900 people attended the event. For more information, contact Shannon Baker at ext. 1623 or sabaker@ngcsu.edu.



## Campus in Action

**Dr. Noel Campbell**, business administration, and Kirk C. Heriot co-wrote "The Tentative Link Between Planning and Performance in Small Firms: An Explanatory Framework" that was published in the 18th annual United States Association for Small Business and Entrepreneurship National Conference Program and Abstracts, January 2004.

**Dr. Ahmad Ghafarian**, computer science, presented the poster "Integrating Ethical Issues into the Undergraduate Computer Science Curriculum Using Case-Based Instruction" at the 35th Technical Symposium in Computer Science Education held in Norfolk, Va., March 3-6. He produced the poster with Melissa Dark of Purdue University and Jesse Yu of the College of St. Elizabeth.

**Dr. Philip Luck**, psychology and sociology, completed his doctorate of philosophy in sociology at Georgia State University, successfully defending his dissertation on March 5. Luck's dissertation is titled "Consuming Representations of Food and Culture: Meat and The Construction of Food Narratives in American Advertising, 1940-2000." Luck received his bachelor's and master's degrees from Augusta State University. He will start the upcoming school year as an assistant professor of sociology.

### NGCSU Stewart Library Annual Book Sale

March 29-31, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

On the plaza in front of the library  
Customers may choose from  
an assortment of



hardcover and  
paperback books  
ranging in price  
from \$.50 to \$2.

# NGCSU Vice President Phil Buckhiester retiring

After 31 years in the University System of Georgia and 28 years at North Georgia, Dr. Phil Buckhiester, the NGCSU vice president for Academic Affairs, is retiring and leaving the state.

In July, Buckhiester will become the vice president for Academic Affairs at Tri-County Technical College, an institution of approximately 5,000 students in Pendleton, S.C.

"Phil has devoted his career to North Georgia and it is a much better university because of his outstanding service," said NGCSU President Nathaniel Hansford. "I cannot adequately express to him my sincere appreciation for his invaluable aid to me personally and his dedication to the University."

The president added, "Phil and Becky are dear friends to many people at NGCSU and in Dahlonega, and they will be greatly missed."

Buckhiester said that after so many years in Dahlonega, he and his wife Becky had a difficult time deciding whether to relocate.

"After several weeks of processing, searching, collecting information, and prayer, we finally concluded that this move is one we are supposed to make," he said. "The friendships at North Georgia and in the community are very special to us."

"We've been extremely fortunate and blessed to have had the opportunity to be a part of the North Georgia family and of such a caring community for so long. We're looking forward to the new professional and personal experiences that await us, and to living in an area where we spent the first five years of our married life."

He explained that the move will put them closer to some members of their families, including his parents, who live in Piedmont, S.C. 

*For complete story, see "News" at [www.ngcsu.edu](http://www.ngcsu.edu)*



Phil Buckhiester

**Andy David**, NGCSU band director, will perform as part of a jazz quartet with artists from four Southeastern states on March 23 at 7:30 in the Gloria Shott Auditorium. David will perform on the trumpet and piano. Music will include works by Miles Davis, John Coltrane, Thelonious Monk, Louis Armstrong, and Duke Ellington, as well as an original composition by David. Also featured are

Robert Orr, Auburn, Ala., on guitar, Tim Aucoin, New Orleans, La., on bass and John David, Miami, Fla., on drums.



Golden Eagle Band

Photo: Dr. Lee Barrow

The **Golden Eagle Band** of the NGCSU Corps of Cadets will perform a free concert on March 27 at 2 p.m. at the outdoor Gazebo next to the Dahlonega Square. For additional information, contact the Fine Arts Department at 864-1423.

## New NGCSU Web site design

(Continued from page 1)

One of the major changes to the home page is the addition of a set of 17 rotating images on [www.ngcsu.edu](http://www.ngcsu.edu).

The images are a dominant feature on the university's new home page and we wanted to be able to pictorially tell a story about NGCSU with them," said Ken Pisell in cadet recruiting.

Pisell, who played a large role in the redesign, said the Web site now focuses on communicating with external as well as internal audiences.

"We need to be able to market the institution with the Internet, be it to potential students, faculty members, alumni or others interested in higher education," Pisell said. "This puts us that much closer."

The next phase of the implementation will involve training and support for the unit web coordinators, those responsible for updating and managing specific NGCSU Web pages, under the direction of Judy McHan, the NGCSU Web manager.

"The products and processes that the committee has created will greatly improve our Web presence and Web services," said Jay Steed, chief information officer.

The goal is to complete the NGCSU Web site redesign prior to the start of classes in August. 🏠

## Upcoming Events

The **Annual Student Art Exhibition and Junior Show** will be on display in the Hoag Student Center Gallery, March 26 through April 29. The exhibits are free and open to the public.

The NGCSU Staff Council will host the annual **Chili Cook-off** on April 1 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the Student Center Patio. For a donation of \$3.50, you may sample chili from each contestant and cast your vote; the price includes a beverage. If you would like to be a contestant, contact Laura Mullins at ext. 1840 or by e-mail at [llmullins@ngcsu.edu](mailto:llmullins@ngcsu.edu) by March 26.

Rev. Frank G. Colladay Jr., NGCSU Presbyterian campus minister, will present a free lecture on "**Diversity of Religious Affiliation**" on April 1 at 6:15 p.m. in Newton Oakes Center, room 016.

Members of the NGCSU Students for Social Awareness, Ann H. Tallant, and Dr. Barry Friedman will give a presentation on "**Diversity of Race, Ethnicity and National Origin**" on April 6 at 12:30 p.m. in Newton Oakes Center, room 019.

The **NGCSU Jazz Ensemble**, Dr. Joe Chapman conducting, will perform in a spring concert on April 6 at 7:30 p.m. and April 8 at 12:30 p.m. in the Hoag Student Center Auditorium. For more information, call 706-864-1431.

The April 13 **Honors Day** at NGCSU will showcase students' academic achievements throughout the day. Students will present academic papers and participate in panel discussions. Special panels and activities will be sponsored by departments, honor societies, professional organizations and other campus organizations. The day is capped by the "Great Debate" at 3:30 p.m. For more information, visit [www.ngcsu.edu/Resource/honors/honday.htm](http://www.ngcsu.edu/Resource/honors/honday.htm)

## Spring Open House April 3

NGCSU will host Spring Open House on April 3, 12-5 p.m., in the Memorial Hall Gymnasium, with approximately 600 guests expected to attend.

Intended for prospective students and their families, Open House includes presentations on admissions, the military program, financial aid and student life, and an academic and student activities showcase, featuring faculty members and student representatives from their respective programs. A guided tour of campus will also take place.

For details or to register your academic department, please contact Mack Palmour in Undergraduate Admissions at ext. 2886 or at [mpalmour@ngcsu.edu](mailto:mpalmour@ngcsu.edu), no later than March 25.

**BUDGET CONSTRAINTS:** *The Digest, produced bi-weekly, will be printed monthly for the remainder of the fiscal year due to budget considerations. Future issues will be published on April 12, May 17 and June 21.*

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**Digest**  
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## Employees star in 'Driving Miss Daisy'

Alfred Uhry's 1988 Pulitzer Prize-winning play "Driving Miss Daisy" is the next production of the NGCSU Student Theatre Guild. Linda Orwig, fine arts, and Don Mays, physical plant, play leading parts.

The production opens March 31 in the the Hoag Student Center Auditorium. The free event runs March 31- April 3 at 7:30 p.m. and April 4 at 2 p.m.

Set in and around Atlanta during 1948-1973, "Driving Miss Daisy" examines attitudinal changes regarding racism and old age. The play focuses on Daisy Werthan, a difficult Southern Jewish widow and her relationship with Hoke, Miss Daisy's aging but dignified black chauffeur. Adding perspective and humor to their relationship is Boolie Werthan, her loving and patient son.

Dr. Kevin M. Mace, who has previously staged "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest" and "A Shot in the Dark" for NGCSU's Student Theatre Guild, says he could not be happier with his cast.

"Linda Orwig, who teaches speech communications, gives a sweet, yet fiery performance as Miss Daisy," Mace said. "Linda's understanding of Miss Daisy's pride as a respected Atlanta schoolteacher and her fear in growing older can be strongly felt in every scene of the play."

Mace added that Hoke, played by Don Mays, is "dignity personified," and Cumming native and sophomore Joe Kleid "hilariously captures Boolie's love and sometimes annoyance with an obstinate mother."

Student Theatre Guild's production of "Driving Miss Daisy," said Mace, "promises laughter and tears, with both combined more often than not."

For more information, contact Mace at ext. 2760 or [kmace@ngcsu.edu](mailto:kmace@ngcsu.edu). 🏠



Joe Kleid, Don Mays and Linda Orwig

## META Initiative Program educates Hispanics on college

NGCSU META Initiative Program administrators hosted more than 150 visitors on campus on the evening of March 4 – primarily Hispanic middle-school children and their parents and siblings – who learned about college life and the admission process.

Speakers emphasized the importance of good study habits, academic achievement and school involvement as indispensable ingredients for pursuing admission into college.

"We had volunteers from the NGCSU Spanish Honors Club who led the bus tours and translated some of the presentations throughout the evening," said Cindy Teston, NGCSU coordinator of the



**GOAL-SEEKING:** The META Initiative helps Hispanics to reach educational goals. Cindy Teston, standing, speaks with a Hispanic family on March 4.

META Initiative Program. "Their enthusiastic dialogue and keen ability really helped the children and parents have a meaningful experience."

The Hispanic families learned from Mack Palmour about admis-

sions requirements, the college prep curriculum and the University System of Georgia. META Co-director Carmen Mas and Gainesville College representative Margarita Muñoz discussed college-financing options, including the Goizueta Foundation scholarship program, which funds the META Initiative and provides scholarships for qualified college-age Hispanic students.

Education Dean Bob Michael and other school administrators also participated in the event.

Through META, the university has worked with Hispanic parents and children from three area schools in Hall County for more than a year in after-school programs. 🏠