

President's Corner

The University System of Georgia released the official enrollment report for 2012 this week. The report confirmed what we already knew: our enrollment was up by 1.1%.

However, the report digs much deeper into enrollment figures and trends. It breaks down enrollment by institution, class (freshman, sophomore, etc.), race and ethnicity, in-state, out-of-state, and foreign students, as well as gender and age.

Some of the details that stood out to me include the fact that all institutions experiencing an increase are in or fed by the Atlanta metro area. Clearly the biggest hits were felt at two-year and state colleges. Much of this decline can be attributed to changes in learning support requirements.

I would encourage you to review the full report at http://www.usg.edu/research/documents/enrollment_reports/Fall_2012_Report_complete.pdf

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GTA Mainstage season opens with *The Producers*



The Gainesville Theatre Alliance is presenting the Mel Brooks musical comedy "The Producers" at Brenau University's Hosch Theatre in the John S. Burd Center beginning November 6 at 7:30 PM. A free opening night reception will be catered by Luna's.

A down-on-his-luck Broadway producer and his mild-mannered accountant scheme to produce the most notorious flop in history and bilk their "little old lady" backers out of millions of dollars. Only one thing goes awry: the show is a smash hit!

Follow the antics of two very different men, Max Bialystock and Leo Bloom, as they maneuver their way fecklessly through finding and producing a show (the gloriously offensive "Springtime for Hitler"), and, through an insanely funny adventure, become friends.

The show, which runs through November 17, is rated PG-15. Free tickets are available for performances on November 7, 8, 13, and 14 for GSC faculty, staff, and students, and all other performances are \$5. Regular-priced tickets are \$16-18 for adults, \$14-16 for seniors, and \$10-12 for students. Pick up your tickets at the GTA Box Office in the Ed Cabell Theatre in the Continuing Education/Performing Arts Center on the Gainesville Campus.

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Discuss concerns confidentially with Ombudsmen

Do you have a workplace issue of concern that you'd like to discuss confidentially and informally?

An ombudsman provides faculty and staff with an informal and confidential means for discussing and addressing an issue without fear of reprisal. Melinda ("Doc") Hawley is the ombuds for the Gainesville and Oconee campuses.

An ombudsman assists individuals and groups in resolution of conflicts or concerns. An ombudsman is:

- trained to listen and to provide counsel in identifying options and clarifications of college policy or procedures.

"Smokin' Fish" is next independent film

The Arts Council, Inc. and Gainesville State College present the independent feature film "Smokin' Fish" with Director and Producer Luke Griswold-Tergis as part of the South Arts Southern Circuit Tour of Independent Filmmakers at the GSC Martha T. Nesbitt Academic Building on Thursday, November 8, 2012. Ticket price (\$7 adults, \$5 students/seniors) includes the movie and the Meet the Filmmaker Q&A session following the film screening.

In the documentary "Smokin' Fish," Cory Mann is a quirky Tlingit businessman hustling to make a dollar in Juneau, Alaska. He gets hungry for smoked salmon and nostalgic for his childhood and decides to spend a summer smoking fish at his family's traditional fish camp. The unusual story of his life and the untold history of his people interweave with the process of preparing traditional food as he struggles to pay his bills, keep the IRS off his back, and keep his business afloat. Through circumstances tragic, bizarre, and just plain ridiculous, "Smokin' Fish" tells the story of one man's attempts to navigate the messy zone of collision between the modern world and an ancient culture.

Producer/Director Luke Griswold-Tergis grew up at the end of a long dirt road

- analyzes issues, investigates processes, and makes referrals or recommendations to the President for changes in policy where appropriate.

- a neutral, confidential and informal resource for faculty, staff, and students, independent of any college administrative structure.

- works autonomously, impartially, and informally to seek resolution of problems — is not an "office of record" as HR and other offices can be.

- adheres to both the Standards of Practice and Code of Ethics of

the International Ombudsman Association.

If you'd like to meet on the Gainesville campus, please contact the ombudsman to set the time. The confidential email address is: ombudsman.gsc@gmail.com.

Although the ombuds will make every effort to connect when needed (Skype and phone are okay), in-person appointments on the Gainesville campus are scheduled for these upcoming dates: October 30, November 13, November 20, November 27, December 11, and December 18.

Oconee faculty and staff can choose dates/times per the online scheduler (Campus Life → Personal Counseling and Wellness → Make an Appointment → Oconee).

To read more about the ombudsman program, go to www.gsc.edu → About → Internal Operations → Ombudsman.

The confidential phone number for texting or messages is 770-519-4702

in Northern California. He studied anthropology at University of California, Santa Cruz and traveled to Alaska soon after graduating. Commercial fishing wasn't his cup of tea, so he hitched north on a sailboat. In Juneau he met Cory, who offered him a job selling trolley tickets to tourists and a floor to sleep on. Luke now lives part of the year on a sailboat in Alaska and part of the year in a renovated chicken coop in his uncle's back yard in San Francisco.

Tickets for the screening can be purchased online at <http://www.theartscouncil.net/buytickets.html>.



GAINESVILLE STATE COLLEGE
University System of Georgia

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TOWER TALK is the official communication vehicle for Gainesville State College faculty and staff members and is published biweekly by the Office of Public Relations and Marketing. Submissions for the next edition should be emailed to dkrewson@gsc.edu or sent to Debbie Krewson, Public Relations & Marketing Office, to be received by noon, **Wednesday, November 7, 2012**. Based on action by the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia and pending approval by the Southern Association of College and Schools Commission on Colleges, Gainesville State College and North Georgia College & State University will consolidate in January 2013 to become the University of North Georgia. For details and updates, please visit www.gscngcsu.org.

Gainesville State College
and The Gainesville State
College Foundation
Cordially Invite You to the
Fall 2012 Reception
Honoring the Retirement of



*Margaret Bailey • Bob Croft • Diane Ruberti
Wallace Scott • Peggy Strickland*

November 7, 2012
Reception 2:30 p.m. • Program 3:00 p.m.
Martha T. Nesbitt Building, Room 3110
Gainesville State College
Gainesville, GA

Please contact Tricia Bunker with questions
678-717-3948 • events@gsc.edu

GSC team successful at mediation tourney

Eight student members from the GSC Mediation Team won awards at the 2012 Peacemaking Mediation Tournament held at Georgia State University (GSU) on Friday, October 12, 2012.

The individual GSC Mediation Teams of Fernando Gonzalez, Kiran Singh, and Branden Shaw earned a second place win, and the GSC team of Penny Hollis, Kat Stallcup, and Amanda Seden earned a third place win in the Client Advocate Team Awards category.

In the award category for Mediators, four GSC students distinguished themselves as part of a five-way tie for second place, along with one student from Clayton State. Hollis, Gonzalez, Ariana Melendez, and Donna Jones from GSC all received second place Mediator award wins in the five-way tie.

To their credit, Jones and Shaw were attending their first mediation tournament and earned recognition with their awards. GSC students Bethany Waites and Concepcion Rodriguez also competed with their teams in the tournament in all three rounds of the event.

The 2012 Peacemaking Mediation Tournament was held in conjunction with the Conflict Resolution Symposium. This intercollegiate tournament included multiple teams from Brenau University, Clayton State University, Middle Georgia College, Georgia State University, and Gainesville State College, making a total of 11 teams in competition.

Ray-Lynn Snowden, JD, is Coach/Advisor for the GSC Mediation Team, and **Dr. C. Thomas Preston, Jr.** also serves as Advisor.

The GSU Peacemaking Tournament is seen as a vital training ground for members of the GSC Mediation team as they prepare for the November 1-3 National Mediation Tournament sponsored by the International Academy of Dispute Resolution.

GSC hosts first Spanish Speaking Debate

GSC hosted its first Spanish Speaking Debate Tournament on October 19, 2012. This tournament was made possible by a grant from the Open Society Institute of New York. Throughout September and October, 27 students had been preparing for the debate. Of those who finished the tournament, individual speaker awards were won by Andre Gonzales, Mynor Lopez, Nestor Campos, Maria Palacios, Wilver Yescas, Fernando Gonzalez, Ana Guerrero, Jairy Galvan, Concepcion Rodriguez, and Eduardo Valdez.

Juan Olvera and Eduardo Valdez; and Pedro Mandujano and Ana Jaramillo won team awards.

Semifinalist teams included Nestor Campos and Nallely Guerrero; and Fernando Gonzalez and Concepcion Rodriguez



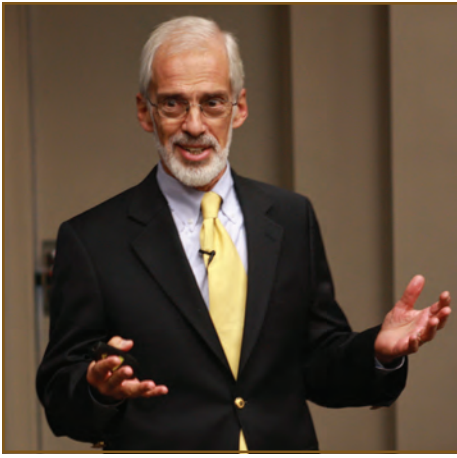
Champions Andre Gonzales and Maria Palacios; Tom Preston; Luis Santos-Rivas; and runners-up Jairy Galvan and Wilver Yescas

Wilver Yescas and Jairy Galvan were runners-up.

Andre Gonzales and Maria Palacios were Champions (1st Place Team).

The event was co-sponsored with the Open Society Institute by the Latino Student Association, Hispanic Outreach, Debate Club, Dept. of Foreign

Languages, and Dept. of Communication, Media Studies, and Journalism. **Luis Santos-Rivas, Tom Preston, Allison Ainsworth, and Amye Sukapdjo** were co-investigators on the grant, and Preston directed the tournament.



Tinto speaks on student success

Dr. Vincent Tinto, an internationally recognized award-winning researcher in the field of student success, spent the day on Thursday, October 11 sharing his insight into how academic and social systems of higher education increase or diminish student retention. He presented workshops and a lecture, participated in leadership conversations, and held a book signing.

Dr. Tinto's focus fits well with the Complete College Georgia initiative in which all University System of Georgia institutions are participating. With national statistics showing that nearly half of all college students do not complete their degree within six years, Dr. Tinto's research is of vital importance to all of us in higher education.

Dr. Tinto has a diverse list of accomplishments, including acting as chair of the national panel that awarded \$5 million to establish the first national center of research on teaching and learning. His book *Leaving College: Rethinking the Causes and Cures of Student Attrition* (University of Chicago Press, 1987 and 1993) has become a classic in the field of student retention studies. This year, he published *Completing College: Rethinking Institutional Action* (University of Chicago Press, 2012), a culminating work that synthesizes decades of research and offers clear vision of how institutions can support their students to attain their college goals.

Announcements



Gainesville State College School of Social Sciences presents A Domestic Violence Awareness Event—In Her Own Words: A Story of Survival “for those on the inside looking out, I want them to know there is hope.”

“Grace” will share her story with students, faculty and staff members on Wednesday, October 31 at 11 AM in the Martha T. Nesbitt Building Room 3110B.

GSC's third annual Clothesline Project, as well as student posters focusing on violence against women in the media, will be on display on the first floor of the Nesbitt Building.

For more information, please contact **Anjana Freeman** at afreeman@gsc.edu or ext. 3627.



Good news for swimmers! Beginning Tuesday, October 29, the pool will remain open an additional hour on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12:30 to 1:30 PM.



The Relay for Life for the American Cancer Society will be held at Road Atlanta Friday, May 31 through Saturday morning, June 1. Our GSC team invites membership campus-wide, and if you want to join our team, please contact co-captains **Ryan Boylan** (x3574) or **Dean Lieburn** (x3619).



Jody Cooley, the Democratic Party nominee for our ninth congressional district seat, spoke at GSC on October 22 as a guest of the Politically Incorrect Club. Mr. Cooley, a Gainesville business attorney, answered a wide variety of questions and afterward posed for pictures with students.



There will be a reception for the exhibit of work by Cindy Jerrell and Rosemary Mendicino in the Oconee Campus Gallery on Wednesday, October 31, at noon. Refreshments will be served, and the artists will be available to answer questions. The Oconee Campus Gallery is located in the Faculty Center/700 Building, between the bookstore and Bishop Wellness Hall. For more

information, call 678-717-3438 or email gallery@gsc.edu.

Ringling Our Bells

■ **Ben Wynne** recently contributed an entry on Varina Davis to *Women in American History: An Encyclopedia* (New York: Fact on File) and entries on John Marshall and Thomas Paine to *The George Washington Encyclopedia*, an online project funded by the Mount Vernon Ladies Association in Mount Vernon, Virginia.

■ **Brent Allison** served as a moderator for the panel “Curriculum Studies/ Instruction (Part II)” at the Georgia Educational Researchers Association conference at the Coastal Georgia Center in Savannah on October 19.

■ Political Science and History Professor **Douglas Young** was quoted in an October 25 Gainesville *Times* article on Gov. Nathan Deal's new funding proposal for state colleges and universities.

■ **Gloria Bennett** and **Mary Mason**, English faculty, participated in a Higher Education English Literature Focus Group sponsored by Pearson Publishers on October 19 in Atlanta. They joined other faculty participants from area colleges to discuss topics such as literature teaching challenges and assessing learning outcomes in literature.

■ **Gloria Bennett** presented an original short story, “Home,” at the Auburn Writers Conference at Auburn University on Friday, October 12. The theme of the conference was “The Winding Road: Travel, Identity and the Search for Voice.” Her piece was an excerpt from a longer work and tells the story of a young woman on a journey in search of her own identity.

■ **Terri Carroll**, Director of Academic Advising, presented “Opening Advising to Online Tools,” at the NACADA State Conference held in Macon on October 26.

✓ Mark your calendar:

- Sat., Oct. 27** **Gainesville Campus Open House.** 9 AM - Noon, Robinson Ballroom.
- Wed., Oct. 31** **"In Her Own Words: A Story of Survival."** 11 AM, Nesbitt Building, Room 3110B, GC. Domestic Violence Awareness Event. Clothesline Project on the first floor.
- Wed., Oct. 31** **Art Gallery Reception: Cindy Jerrell & Rosemary Mendicino.** Noon, Gallery, OC.
- Thurs., Nov. 1** **Imminent Overgrowth: an Installation by Heather Deyling.** Roy C. Moore Art Gallery, GC. Through Nov. 28.
- Tues., Nov. 6** **"The Producers."** 7:30 PM, Hosch Theatre, Brenau University. Through Nov. 17.
- Wed., Nov. 7** **Fall Retirement Reception.** 2:30 - 4 PM, Nesbitt Building Room 3110, GC.
- Wed., Nov. 7** **Oconee Student Art Exhibit.** Gallery, OC. Through Nov. 30.
- Thurs., Nov. 8** **"Smokin' Fish."** 7 PM, Nesbitt Building, GC. Southern Circuit Tour of Independent Filmmakers.

Debate team competes in two tournaments

The Gainesville State College Debate Team competed in two tournaments the weekend of October 12-13, 2012. The team of Tim Brown and Leroy Hoang competed in the open division of the Rambling Wreck Invitational at Georgia Tech. They ranked as the second best team eligible to debate novice (first year) and finished in quarterfinals overall. Only three schools had teams in elimination rounds—the University of Miami (FL), Morehouse College, and Gainesville State College. Brown ranked as fourth novice speaker, and 10th of 32 in the overall individual speaker race. All told, GSC won four awards at the Georgia Tech tournament. **Dr. Tom**

Preston, faculty advisor for the Debate Club, accompanied Brown and Hoang to Georgia Tech.

At a novice tournament held at Walters State College in Morristown, Tennessee, both of GSC's debate teams finished with winning records. Those teams were Fernando Gonzalez, who took both speaker positions on one team, and Kiran Singh and Destin Murphy, who teamed up for another winning record.

The highlight of the Walters State tournament was Gonzalez's first place finish in individual speakers. Although GSC has won numerous top three speaker awards since the current version of the Debate Club was re-established in Spring of 2007, this marked the first time a GSC student has won a first place speaker award at a debate tournament.

Amon Kirk, Lillian Otieno, and Sarah Robinson were the other GSC students to win second place speaker honors at debate tournaments over the past five years. GSC Alumnus Denzil Gelly accompanied the group to Walters State, where GSC has now won awards for five consecutive years.

Saving for a rainy day

As the Gainesville State College community, we partner together to support, challenge and educate our students. The work we do and the quality of the education we provide does change lives.

The Faculty/Staff Campaign is an opportunity for those of us employed here to demonstrate our support of the mission of GSC through our participation. Also, giving by faculty and staff demonstrates to potential donors that those closest to Gainesville State College choose to support it financially as well as professionally.

If you have already joined me in participating in this year's campaign, thank you for that support. If you have not yet contributed, I ask you to please give now and to be an advocate for the campaign within your department or school (a link to this year's form is below). We are in the final weeks of this year's campaign. Your help is needed to make it a success.

Believe in what we do—encourage others to participate in the Faculty/Staff Campaign and make an important investment in our students. Every contributor receives a Gainesville State College umbrella. Please make your gift today!

<http://www.gsc.edu/about/external/foundation/Pages/FoundationForms.aspx>



Our College Family

Brinn Mary McKenney, daughter of Brendan and Jennifer McKenney of Franklin, VT, was born on October 11, 2012. She weighed 6 lbs. 10 oz., and was 20 in. long. Congratulations to proud grandparents Charles and **Maryellen Cosgrove!** Brinn is their first grandchild.



Sincere condolences to **Paula Arkivy** and her family on the death of her father, Paul Dickman, on Friday, October 12.

**USG Faculty
Development Series:
*Accessibility Matters:
Section 508 Compliance in
Higher Education***

**Friday, Nov. 16
ITS-Athens, GA**



November

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 "IMMINENT OVER-GROWTH" ART EXHIBIT OPENS Vicki Kirkley—G	2 Veronica Walker—O	3 Annette Gilstrap—G
4  Wally Beck—G Mike Ryan—G Lee Weems—O	5 Haley Carter—G Larry Cook—G Holly Wilson—G	6  "THE PRODUCERS" OPENS Charles Bell—G Amanda Nash—G Shane Rayburn—G	7 FALL RETIREMENT RECEPTION OCONEE STUDENT ART EXHIBIT OPENS Jack Lundy—G	8 SOUTHERN CIRCUIT TOUR PRESENTS "SMOKIN' FISH" Diane Stephens—G Lisa Walker—G	9 SOAR—OC Nicola Dovey—G Sara Mason—G	10 BLACK & WHITE GALA Jim Konzelman—O Jeff Morehead—G Kirsten Raye—O
11  VETERANS DAY NATIONAL ROLL CALL BOOK FAIR OPENS Melanie Brown—O Betsy Cantrell—G Philip Kimsey—G Celeste Morris—G	12 VETERANS DAY NATIONAL ROLL CALL BOOK FAIR OPENS Melanie Brown—O Betsy Cantrell—G Philip Kimsey—G Celeste Morris—G	13 SOAR—GC Matthew Horton—O Paula Wulz—G	14 Byron Drew—G Julia Hewell—G Lance Murphy—G Karen Sichler—G	15 Glenn Aguilar—G Margi Flood—G	16 Glenn Aguilar—G Margi Flood—G	17 Rick Coker—G Amy Reeder—O
18 Jeanine Blachly—G Benjamin Schoening—G	19 Jeff Belflower—O Alex Olvido—O Cynthia Smith-Gregory—O	20 Laura Ng—O	21 STAFF ANNUAL LEAVE DAY	22 HAPPY THANKSGIVING! CAMPUSES CLOSED		24 Sam Bennett—O Donald Smith—G
25 Melissa Armstrong—G Imran Demir—G Rebecca Haney—O Ken Harrison—G Heather Moraru—O Jeff Turk—G	26 Kathleen Woodward—G	27 Benkam Bobga—G Jeff Marker—G	28 Leora Chitwood—O	29 Caywood Chapman—G Josette Ricker—O Clark Vines—G	30 Michael Clanton—G Gail Emmett—G Thomas Hartfield—G	