

Digest

► **Oct. 7, 2009**

A newsletter for North Georgia College & State University

GACHE awards grants to area high schools

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The University System of Georgia and North Georgia's IIT department are participating in Cyber Security Awareness Month this October to familiarize internet users with dangers and precautions of cyberspace. The current global cost of cyber-crime due to identity theft and data breaches is an estimated one trillion dollars, according to McAfee, a leading producer of antivirus software. North Georgia's IIT department is offering an online quiz to help raise campus awareness. Those who prove themselves to be cyber-wise will have a chance to win an 8 GB iPod Touch.

The Digest is published bi-weekly by the Office of University Relations for North Georgia's faculty, staff, students and community.

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Make submissions to digest@ngcsu.edu.
The next scheduled publication date is Oct. 21. The deadline for submissions is Oct. 16.

North Georgia prepares for Board of Regents meeting

Visit is rare opportunity to host group on campus

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"This is an exceptional opportunity to share information about our programs and activities with key decision makers in the University System of Georgia and have them experience first-hand what makes North Georgia such a special place," President David Potter said.



The newly landscaped promenade from the Library Technology Center to the drill field will greet visitors during the Board of Regents meeting on campus next week.

While the 18-member Board of Regents holds most of its meetings in Atlanta, the group schedules a couple of meetings each year on campuses of its member institutions. The University System of Georgia includes four research universities, two regional universities, 13 state universities, eight state colleges, and eight two-year colleges. Together, these institutions enroll more than 283,000 students and employ over 40,000 faculty and staff to provide instruction and related services to students and the communities in which they are located.

The entire campus community is invited and encouraged to attend the military review in honor of the Board of Regents on Tuesday, Oct. 13, at 5 p.m., at the drill field. In the case of inclement weather, the review will be conducted in Memorial Hall. Chairman Robert Hatcher will be the guest speaker for the review.

The business portion of the board's meeting will take place in the Library Technology Center, and meals are scheduled to be held in the Pennington Military Leadership Center, the Student Recreation Center and the dining hall.

Despite budget limitations, university administrators contend that the opportunity to have the regents visit campus is too important to pass up.

"The faculty and staff committee working on this event has worked hard to minimize expenses in this challenging budget year," Potter said. "In many cases, the cost involved in staging such an event would be more than \$50,000. Thanks to the generosity of corporate sponsors and the NGCSU Foundation, our team has produced a great event for a fraction of that at about \$15,000."

The Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia was created in 1931 as a part of a reorganization of Georgia's state government. With this act, public higher education in Georgia was unified for the first time under a single governing and management authority.

The governor appoints members to the board, who each serve seven years. Five members are appointed from the state-at-large, and one is appointed from each of the 13 congressional districts. Regent James Jolly, of Dalton, represents the Ninth Congressional District, which includes Dahlonega and North Georgia College & State University.

An event like this understandably disrupts some normal activities on campus. Some of the temporary adjustments include movement of some shelving and resources located on the third floor of the Library Technology Center to allow for adequate meeting space, closing the Student Recreation

Center to accommodate a dinner for the Board of Regents and other dignitaries, and closure of parking lot #48 (located on the hill above the Library Technology Center).

North Georgia aims to increase cyber security awareness

Test your knowledge to win an iPod

By Mike Marshall

The University System of Georgia and North Georgia's IIT department are participating in Cyber Security Awareness Month this October to familiarize Internet users with dangers and precautions of cyberspace.

"With more of the daily activities in our lives taking place on the Internet, criminal and hostile actors have discovered whole new ways to commit fraud, steal funds, and imperil critical information infrastructure," said Jim Webb, associate chief information officer at North Georgia. "While companies and universities have increasingly spent more to secure customer records and data resources, these defenses can often be undone by a simple mistake or bad decision."

The current global cost of cyber-crime due to identity theft and data breaches is an estimated one trillion dollars, according to McAfee, a leading producer of antivirus software.

"While hacking and computer security may have been trivialized in the past, in today's connected environment, a data breach occurring on a smart-phone, computer, or server can place confidential information, such as a credit card number, in the hands of cyber-criminals anywhere in the world," Webb said.

North Georgia's IIT department is offering an [online quiz](#) to help raise campus awareness. Those who prove themselves to be cyber-wise will have a chance to win an 8 GB iPod Touch.

The National Cyber Security Alliance launched month-long awareness programs in 2004, and this will be the first time the entire University System of Georgia has participated. Various resources will be made available to the entire system, including Georgia public libraries. The central theme this year is "building a culture of awareness and preparedness."

In 2006, the Department of Homeland Security and US House of Representatives began supporting the program, and currently more than 40 states have adopted resolutions in support or actively participate in the program. All major software producers and Internet vendors are involved as well.

Many programs and informational sessions will be held throughout the month and are available to North Georgia's faculty and staff through the [USG InfoSec Web site](#).

Georgia Appalachian Center for Higher Education awards \$150,000 to area high schools

The Georgia Appalachian Center for Higher Education (GACHE) at North Georgia College & State University awarded 25 competitive grants totaling \$150,000 to area high schools to help them increase their graduation and college-going rates.



GACHE officials presented a \$5,000 award to Lumpkin County High School administrators to support the school's efforts to increase the college-going rate of its students.

The grants, presented at a ceremony on Oct. 1 in Gainesville, Ga., were awarded to Banks County High School, Cedartown High School, Commerce High School, Dade County High School, Dalton High School, East Jackson High School, Elbert County High School, Fannin County High School, Franklin County High School, Gilmer High School, Gordon Lee High School, Jackson County High School, Johnson High School, LaFayette High School, Lumpkin County

High School, Madison

County High School, Murray County High School, North Murray High School, Ridgeland High School, Sonorville High School, Stephens County High School, White County High School, Winder-Barrow High School, Whitfield Career Academy, and Woody Gap High School.

"We are excited that so many school principals, graduation coaches, counselors, and superintendents are willing to step up to the challenge of ensuring that their students graduate ready for college with real postsecondary choices," Shirley Davis, GACHE director, said. "We know the economic consequences of leaving high school without a diploma are harsh and, in today's world, stopping short of postsecondary education is equally grim. We want every student to graduate from high school and have college as a viable option."

GACHE is housed on the North Georgia campus in the School of Education and is funded by the university and by the Appalachian Regional Commission. As part of the Appalachian Higher Education Network and one of 10 centers in the Appalachian states, GACHE provides resources to schools to increase student opportunities for pursuing postsecondary education.

Information about the schools' strategies may be found on the [GACHE Web site](#).

Third Eye Blind to appear at North Georgia

Third Eye Blind, a San Francisco-based alternative rock band, will perform at North Georgia College & State University on Thursday, Oct. 15, at 8 p.m. in Memorial Hall.

The concert, sponsored by the Student Activities Board, will feature music from the group's recently released album, *Ursa Major*.

Since 1997, Third Eye Blind has recorded three best-selling albums and assembled one career retrospective.

General admission tickets are now available for faculty, staff, and the general public for \$25 each. Tickets may be purchased in the Student Center Director's Office between 8 a.m. and 11 p.m. through Thursday of this week, Sunday from 3 to 11 p.m., and Monday through Wednesday of next week between 8 a.m. and 11 p.m.

On the day of the concert, Thursday, Oct. 15, any remaining tickets will be available in the Director's Office until 5 p.m. and at the door beginning at 6 p.m.

Tickets must be purchased with cash or checks. For more information, call 706-864-1643.



Celebrations engage students in Constitution and citizenship

By Maria Albo Carabelli

The American Democracy Project (ADP) marked Constitution & Citizenship Day on Sept. 17, involving several different student groups and activities on campus, to commemorate the signing of the Constitution and recognize those who have become U.S. citizens through naturalization.

The ADP held an essay contest prompting students to answer the thought-provoking question: "Does the promotion of general welfare imply that the government has an obligation ensure citizens' access to healthcare? Why or why not?"

The winners were announced at the Student Healthcare Forum, where the controversial issue was debated by members of the Political Science Student Association (PSSA). Audience participation was passionate and the student community was well served. Pocket-sized copies of the Constitution were provided to all attendees by the NGCSU Young Republicans.

Across campus in the Library Technology Center, the ADP further challenged students with a "Could you Pass the U.S. Citizenship Test?" contest in which all qualified entries were eligible to win a \$25 gift certificate raffle from the NGCSU bookstore. Drew Alexander won that event.

Additionally, the Library Technology Center featured a beautiful Constitution display in honor of the day our nation's greatest document was ratified.

The winners of the essay contest were: Matt Paff, first place; Brittany Shubert, second place; Lisa Kelly, third place. The students won gift certificates, ranging in value from \$25 to \$125, to the university bookstore.

The American Democracy Project for Civic Engagement is a national, multi-campus initiative that seeks to foster informed civic engagement in the United States. The project seeks to create a greater intellectual understanding and commitment to participate in the civic life of the United States.

Focused on undergraduates at public colleges and universities, the American Democracy Project has created a collaborative network of 166 public colleges and universities, representing more than 1.5 million students that are member institutions of the [American Association of State Colleges and Universities](#).

North Georgia's committee members are Professors Maria Albo Carabelli, political science and criminal justice; Joel Potter, business; and Michael Proulx, history and philosophy.

Campus spins web of Halloween activities

There is no shortage of Halloween-related activities on campus this month. Read on to find your favorite haunt.

Faculty and staff are invited to don costumes for the **North Georgia Costume Ball** on Saturday, Oct. 24, 7 to 11 p.m., at the Continuing Education Building. Prizes will be awarded for funniest costume, most historical costume, most beautiful costume, ugliest costume, and most creative costume. Party-goers should bring food to share, but drinks will be furnished. Tickets are \$10 in advance (call Continuing Education at ext. 1918 or Nancy Schwartz at ext. 1683) and \$15 at the door. All proceeds benefit the Staff Council Scholarship Fund.

The former Stewart Library will be turned into a **haunted library** on Thursday, Oct. 29, and Donovan Hall will be open for **trick-or-treating** the same night. Both events, sponsored by the Office of Residence Life, are scheduled from 6 to 9 p.m. and are open to the community at no cost. For details, contact Derrick Holmes by phone at 706-864-1902 or by e-mail at cdholmes@ngcsu.edu.

The Spectrum Art Club will host a **Halloween Party** on Friday, Oct. 30, starting at 7 p.m., with a costume contest and the debut of a student-led horror film, "Flash," at 7:30. Students from all over campus participated in the making of this film from every angle, start-to-finish. Both activities will take place in West Main Hall and are open to all.



Take note...

University closes for furlough day, Oct. 9

This Friday, Oct. 9, will be the second furlough day for employees at North Georgia, and the university will be closed for regular business. This furlough day does not affect classes, as Oct. 9 was previously scheduled as a class holiday. Earlier this fall, the University System of Georgia mandated that all state institutions take six furlough days to help meet state budget reductions. Future furlough dates are scheduled as follows:

- Friday, Nov. 27
- Friday, Jan. 1
- Friday, Mar. 19
- Monday, April 26 (faculty only)
- Monday, May 31 (staff only)

Showcase your department at Admissions Open House, Nov. 7

North Georgia College & State University will be holding its annual Fall Open House on Saturday, Nov. 7, from 8 a.m. to noon. All academic departments and student organizations are encouraged to sign up for the "Academic and Activities Showcase," which will be held in Memorial Hall Gymnasium from

10 a.m. to noon. Reserve your table by calling the Admissions Office at 706-867-2885 or e-mailing Megan Georgia at mgeorgia@ngcsu.edu.

Kudos to ASN faculty and staff

The faculty and staff supporting the Associate of Science in Nursing degree have done great work in raising the NCLEX pass rate for 2009 (May and December graduates) to 93.64 percent, as compared to 86.4 percent for the same timeframe in 2008. The pass rate for the May 2009 graduates is 96% and only 3 have not taken boards. Special thanks go to Dr. Elaine Taylor, ASN coordinator, for her leadership in this program.



In a partnership with Lumpkin County, the university has installed recycling bins on campus to encourage community recycling.

Campus establishes recycling center

In partnership with Lumpkin County, the university has established a recycling center on campus. The collection bins are located in the upper parking lot of the athletic complex just off Morrison Moore Pkwy. The bins will be managed by the county and are for the use and benefit of everyone in the community.

Support needed for Appalachian

Studies Conference

The [Appalachian Studies Conference](#) will be held on the North Georgia campus March 19-21. The ASA conference is unusual in that it invites community members, community organizers, social justice activists, students, and academics to participate in its activities and presentations. In addition to presentations, the conference will provide opportunities for attendees to listen to music, dance, buy art, share information, and break bread together.

Attendance is typically between 600-800 (depending on the weather and location of the conference). If you'd like to help, the conference planners have just the job for YOU!

Contact Dr. Donna Gessell, local conference arrangements chair, dgessell@ngcsu.edu) or Dr. Alice Sampson, president of ASA (avsampson@ngcsu.edu). If you choose to contact one of the chairs listed, be sure to copy both of them.

Help Wanted – We've filled several committees, but we still could use your help, as follows:

Registration – We are looking for volunteers with winning and welcoming smiles and who are knowledgeable about local resources to staff tables during registration. Sign-up for four-hour shifts. [Dr. Stuart Batchelder](#) is the registration chair.

Green Team – Join a team committed to producing a conference that is as environmentally friendly as possible. [Dr. Chuck Robertson](#), the green committee chair, will give you your assignment.

Set-up – We are looking for volunteers who love to troubleshoot and have a positive attitude. Sign-up for four-hour shifts. [Carol Meeks](#) is the set-up committee chair.

Prizes – Are you good at getting good stuff from people – goodies we can give away for door prizes throughout the weekend? Then we need you! Show us the prizes! Bring us one or bring us 50! [Dr. Suzy Gruenhagen](#) is our prizes committee chair.

Technology – We need tech support team to assist the IT with troubleshooting and setup. Presenters are nervous and we need IT hand holders and problem solvers. [Anita Roush](#) is the technology committee chair.

Exhibit Hall – Hang out where the action is! The exhibit hall is the heart of the conference. Book sellers, publishers, artists, filmmakers, universities, activists organizations, etc., set up tables and share, sell, and trade information and goods. Sign up for a four-hour shift. [Ross Burger](#) is the exhibit hall committee chair.

Collecting Bags – The conference planners are also collecting bags that you may have received from other conferences to reuse them for this event. If you've been wondering what to do with those bags, drop them by the Vickery House (back porch if office is closed). Drop-off deadlines: Fall semester, Nov. 13; Spring semester, Feb. 12. View the [flyer](#) for more information about bag donations and how you can participate in a contest.

Campus in Action

Dr. Timothy May, associate professor of Middle Eastern and Central Eurasian History, gave two talks on the Mongol Art of War on Sept. 23 at the Denver Museum of Nature & Science as part of the museum's training for their exhibition on Chinggis Khan and the Mongol Empire. May also published a chapter in *Genghis Khan & the Mongol Empire*, a book that accompanies the exhibition which is touring the country.

North Georgia faculty and staff are invited to submit news of professional accomplishments for the Campus in Action section to digest@ngcsu.edu.