

Gessell heads grad studies and external programs

Dr. Donna Gessell, associate professor of English, was named director of Graduate Studies and External Programs.

Gessell began her new position on Oct. 9, following the retirement of Graduate School Coordinator Steve Ross.



Dr. Donna Gessell

“Those of you who have had opportunities to work with Dr. Gessell know that she is committed to academic excellence, meaningful service and faculty development,” said Vice President for Academic Affairs Phil Buckhiester in announcing the appointment. “Her conscientiousness, her commitment to students, and her interpersonal skills will serve her well in this new position.”

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META Initiative program assists Hispanics

Three Hall County middle schools participate in programs for Hispanic students and parents

Hispanic middle school students at three area schools, along with their parents, are benefiting from a special program funded by a Goizueta Foundation grant, administered through the NGCSU Foundation, and coordinated by faculty and staff at North Georgia.

Chestatee Middle School and East Hall Middle School, both in Hall County, along with the Gainesville Middle School started after-school programs this fall to enhance Hispanic students’ academic skills. In addition, the students’ parents will receive literacy classes and orientation

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STUDENT OUTREACH: Cindy Teston, North Georgia’s coordinator of the META Initiative, helps a Hispanic East Hall Middle School student with his after-school studies.



A MUSICAL MARRIAGE: The Adams Duo will perform in concert at 12:30 and 7:30 p.m. on Nov. 7 in the Hoag Student Center Auditorium as part of the Nix Living Heritage Fine Arts Series. The Lawrenceville couple, Jonathan and Jennifer Adams, create their blend of music with the unique pairing of cello and guitar. The concert will include acoustic music of original compositions and varied styles, with influences from classical and ethnic music to jazz and popular styles.



Campus in Action

Dr. David Morris, business administration, had an ethics case titled "A Physician Caught Between a Rock and a Hard Place" published in the Annual Advances in Business Cases journal. Claire Killian of the University of Wisconsin-River Falls is the co-author of the article.

Julie Sibley, fine arts, displayed her work on Oct. 4 at the First Friday Event in the historic district of Augusta, Ga. Her prints, paintings and batiks on paper and fabric at the show have a nature theme.

Dr. Barry D. Friedman, political science and criminal justice, was installed as the chancellor of the Atlantic Region for Pi Gamma Mu, an honor society for the social sciences, during the Oct. 24-26 convention. Friedman also was installed as a member of the international board of trustees for a concurrent three-year term with the chancellor office he will hold. The NGCSU chapter of Pi Gamma Mu hosted the event in Atlanta and several faculty, along with President Nathaniel Hansford, attended.

NGCSU Trivia

Sandra Barfield, public safety, was the first to answer both Oct. 7 Digest questions correctly. The answer to the first question, "Can you name the oldest residence hall on campus still in use?," is Sanford Hall and second question's answer, "Do you know what administrative building was formerly a military barracks for cadets?," is Barnes Hall. **Joyce Garmon**, president's office, gets credit for being the first to correctly answer the second question.

University growth one of highest in state

North Georgia's enrollment grew more than 43 percent in 10 years, according to a recent national report.

The American Association of State Colleges and Universities and the National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges has published "Findings and Trends," a 1990-2000 enrollment report tracking enrollment data at public universities

Fall 1990-2000 enrollment data		
Institution	Enrollment Change	Percentage Change
Armstrong Atlantic	5,034	30.6
Kennesaw State	3,342	33.4
UGA	2,893	10.2
Georgia Tech	2,564	20.9
Georgia Southern	1,935	15.8
State U. of W. Georgia	1,891	26.8
Valdosta State	1,648	23.1
Albany State	1,120	46.6
NGCSU	1,104	43.8
Columbus State	1,033	24.9
Ft. Valley State	403	18.7
Ga. Southwestern	397	17.8
Clayton C. & State U.	315	7.6
Georgia State U.	289	1.2
Ga. C. & State U.	142	2.9
Macon State	-94	-2.2
Augusta State	-115	-2.2
Savannah State	-153	-6.6
Southern Poly State	-461	-11.5

Selected Georgia schools from AASCU/NASULGC Enrollment Report

from the past decade. The report includes statistics on enrollment according to sex, age, race, academic status and region. It also outlines issues affecting higher education enrollment around the country. A PDF version of the complete report may be found online at www.nasulgc.org.

META Initiative program (Continued from page 1)



COMMUNITY COLLABORATION: Dr. Carmen Mas (right), director of Academic Support Programs at North Georgia, speaks Spanish with two parents of Hispanic middle school children. Candice Wendt (left), an East Hall Middle School teacher fluent in Spanish and Portuguese, listens to the discussion.

programs that will encourage their involvement in their children's education.

The program is called the META Initiative. The word "meta" in Spanish means "goal." The acronym for the program stands for "Mejorate – improve yourself; Educate – educate yourself; Trabaja – work; and Alcanza tu sueño – reach your dream.

Several university student tutors from North Georgia, Gainesville College and Brenau are involved in the program, giving one-on-one

attention to middle school students.

"One part of the Goizueta Foundation grant provides for need-based scholarship assistance for Hispanic/Latino students whose families reside in the United States," explained Carmen Mas, administrator, along with Education Dean Bob Michael, of the META Initiative at North Georgia. "The other program the grant funds is the META Initiative."

For more information about the META Initiative or the scholarship program, contact Cindy Teston, (706) 867-2751.

Strategic Planning Committee revises Mission Statement and Core Values

At its Oct. 17 meeting, members of the Strategic Planning Committee, having received comments from faculty, staff and students regarding the proposed Mission Statement and Core Values, made minor changes in those documents following discussion of each suggested change.

President Nathaniel Hansford will submit this proposed mission statement to the Board of Regents for approval before it becomes official:

“The mission of North Georgia College & State University is to provide an environment of academic excellence that develops civilian and military leaders who are respectful of all people and are committed to high ethical standards, continuing intellectual and personal growth, and service to the state, the nation, and the world.”

Adding “loyalty” to the original proposed list, as a basis for strategically planning the university’s growth and direction over the next five years, the committee determined that the university considers its Core Values to be:

- Courage – demonstrating the individual and institutional character required to translate thought into action under adverse or challenging conditions

- Integrity – cultivating in ourselves and others the willingness and steadfastness to act honestly and ethically

- Loyalty – being faithful to the mission of the university

- Respect – acknowledging the dignity and worth of all beings and preserving the richness of our cultures and ecology

- Service – giving of oneself to enhance the life and richness of the university and all its members, as well as the larger community

- Truth – honoring and searching for truth as it relates to academics, individuals, self, and society

- Wisdom – making sound decisions in complex or ambiguous situations based on accumulated knowledge and experiences.

For further information about the Strategic Planning Committee, contact Dr. Charles Hawkins, director of Institutional Research & Planning, 864-1840.

Upcoming Events *All free and open to the public*

The Cultural Events Committee presents “**Amelie**” tonight, Nov. 4, at 7 p.m. in the Gloria Shott Auditorium as part of the 2002 Fall Film Festival. “**Moulin Rouge**” will be shown Nov. 11 at the same time and location.

Big Band Jazz at the Holly Theatre returns tonight, Nov. 4, at 7:30 p. m. as the North Georgia Jazz Band hits the stage for a night of big band swing. Dr. Joe Chapman, fine arts, will direct the standard 17-piece jazz ensemble. A repeat concert will be at 12:30 p.m. on Nov. 5.

The **All-American Piano Celebration** hits campus at 4 p.m. on Nov. 9 in the Gloria Shott Auditorium. Pianists from around the north Georgia area combine to present the 15th annual celebration of music written by American composers.

Event highlights for National French Week

In celebration of National French Week, North Georgia’s French department and the Cultural Events Committee will show “**The Dinner Game**” at 7:30 p.m. in the Gloria Shott Auditorium on Nov. 7. The French film has English subtitles.

“**Pique-nique en Campagne**,” a French play written by Fernando Arrabal, will be presented on Nov. 13 at 7 p.m. and Nov. 14 at 12:30 p.m. in the Gloria Shott Auditorium.

Participants in the short, one-act comedy are: Guy Oliver, a retired NGCSU French professor, and students Lebbeous Weekley, Julie Bell, Angela Oliver, Jan Hrabovsky and Aaron Glaze.

All events are free and open to the public.

the
Digest

digest@ngcsu.edu

NGCSU President:
Nathaniel Hansford
Director of University Relations:
Annette Hannon Lee
Editor/Writer:
Joshua Preston
Designer/Writer:
Debbie Martin

The Digest is published biweekly, except holidays, during fall and spring semesters and monthly during the summer semester by University Relations. Submit material to the above e-mail address. The next scheduled publication date of the Digest is November 18. **The deadline for submissions is November 11.**

Employees flock to Benefits Fair



FRINGE BENEFITS: Bonnie Rider, physical plant, gets a foot rub from a spa employee at the benefits fair on Oct. 22. Co-workers (L-R) Lois Pierce, Hazel Edge, Glenda Ingram, Kimberly Burnett and Glenda Palmer stand by.

NICE DUCKY: Lyndll Yawn, financial aid, looks after the AFLAC Insurance duck.



Gessell named new director

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“While remaining committed to teaching, scholarship and service, I wanted the opportunity to apply my leadership skills to greater effectiveness here at North Georgia,” said Gessell. “NGCSU has given me many experiences to develop these skills, and the position gives me the opportunity to give back to the university.”

Still teaching five courses this semester, Gessell will cut back on her course load beginning in spring 2003.

Her new responsibilities include the Office of Graduate Studies plus the Forsyth County and Gainesville College University Center programs.

“NGCSU must maintain the quality of our programs for our students here on this campus and in Gainesville and Forsyth, both at the graduate and the undergraduate level,” Gessell said. “I will coordinate the ongoing evaluation of the effectiveness of our graduate programs and help add programs where needed.”

Gessell explained that the university would continue to evaluate resources, especially faculty, and determine how best to meet the needs of North Georgia’s rapidly changing service area.

Dr. George Thompson

President of

The Center for Leadership in School Reform

“School Reform and Its Impact on the Roles of Educators”
Distinguished Leader Conversation

Nov. 6, 2002

Presentation: 6 p.m.

Hoag Student Center Auditorium

Presented by the Society for School-based Leadership and the NGCSU School of Education in partnership with the Principals’ Center at Georgia State University

SWINGIN’ GOOD

TIME: Dr. Philip Buckhiester, Vice President for Academic Affairs, dances with his wife Becky at the American Swing Orchestra concert on Oct. 17 in the Memorial Hall Gymnasium. The “Salute to Benny Goodman music” drew swing fans from around the community.

