

# Digest

► **Oct. 21, 2009**

*A newsletter for North Georgia College & State University*

## North Georgia faring well in fight against flu

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## Board of Regents meets at North Georgia

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opportunity for the Board of Regents to visit our campus as a group, and it gave us the 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.



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Dr. Zachary Karabell, a renowned author, economic analyst and political historian, will speak on myths and facts regarding linkage between the Chinese and American economies in a special campus presentation on Nov. 5, at 7 p.m., in the auditorium of the Health and Natural Sciences building. His presentation, entitled "Superfusion: How China and America Became One Economy and Why the World's Prosperity Depends on It", is part of this year's Leaders in Information Literacy (LIL) Grant Program.

*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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The next scheduled publication date is Nov. 4. The deadline for submissions is Oct. 30.

## Board of Regents meets at North Georgia

*Group approves plan for new doctoral degree*

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experience first-hand what makes North Georgia such a special place," President David Potter said.



This event marked the first time the Board of Regents had met at North Georgia in recent history, and for many board members, it was their first time to visit campus.

To kick-off the meeting, President Potter presented an [overview](#) of the university's mission, strategic plan and education initiatives. Billy Wells, executive assistant to the president and president of the Organization for Military Education in Georgia, also made a presentation to the Board of Regents' academic affairs committee on military education in Georgia.

While visiting campus, the regents served as honorary reviewing officers for a Corps of Cadets review, at which Chairman Robert Hatcher spoke to cadets about the responsibilities and rewards of leadership.

The business portion of the board's meeting took place in the Library Technology Center. Meals provided a special opportunity for students, faculty and staff, trustees, and community members to make an added impression.

USG Chancellor Erroll Davis, in commenting on the meeting, wrote, "I... enjoyed the atmosphere, the many amenities, the programs, and most of all, the warm hospitality provided by the truly impressive students, faculty and administration at North Georgia. I came away with a greater sense of pride and appreciation for the excellence within our System."

The 18-member Board of Regents holds most of its meetings at its offices in Atlanta, however, the group schedules two 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 Board of Regents 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.

During the meeting, the regents approved the university's plans to offer a Doctor of Physical Therapy degree.

"To this point, our PT students have been granted the DPT degree by Medical College of Georgia, because we were not authorized to grant this applied doctoral degree," said Dr. Linda Roberts-Betsch, vice president for academic affairs. "This will be the first applied doctoral degree authorized for North Georgia."

She added that the university is still awaiting final approval from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS), as the program requires a degree-level change, but that approval is anticipated at the Commission on Colleges/SACS Annual Meeting in mid-December.

## Expert to explore economy of "Chimerica"

By Mike Marshall

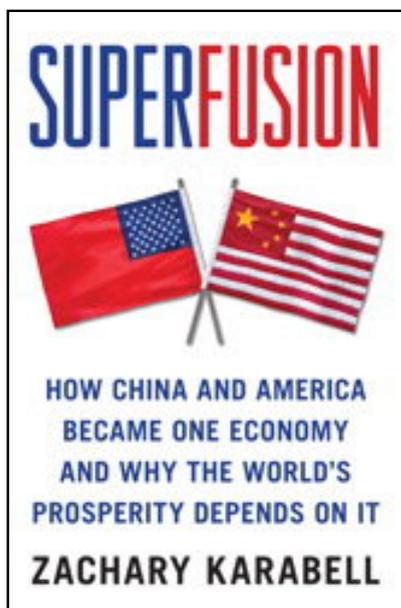
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*Dr. Zachary Karabell*

"Dr. Karabell is one of the foremost experts studying the political and economic relationship between the United States and China," said Dr. Ross Alexander, associate professor of political science. "We chose him due to his expertise and because he can dispel some of the myths about the future of U.S.-China relations. His talk will be especially relevant to students of political science, international affairs, business, economics, languages, and history."



Karabell is president of River Twice Research, where he analyzes political and economic trends and challenges many commonly held beliefs in fields ranging from environmental stability to the world economy. As the portfolio manager of the China-US growth fund, he identified deep implications of an entity now referred to as "Chimerica": the converging economies of China and the United States.

The university's Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP), a component of academic accreditation, sponsors the information literacy program, which began in fall 2007 to encourage information literacy integration in the classroom. Information literacy is the ability to know when information is needed and how to access, evaluate, and use information effectively and ethically. This year, the program offered 10 grants of \$1000 each to encourage and recognize instructors who incorporate information literacy into their lessons.

"Many innovative faculty members have utilized information literacy in a variety of ways in just about every academic discipline on campus," Alexander said.

Karabell's speech will reinforce these values as he speaks about the intricacies of the economic relationship between China and the United States.

To promote the importance of discerning quality information, President Barack Obama proclaimed October as National Information Literacy Month.

A portion of the proclamation states, "Though we may know how to find the information we need, we must also know how to evaluate it... We now live in a world where anyone can publish an opinion or perspective, whether true or not, and have that opinion amplified within the information marketplace. At the same time, Americans have unprecedented access to the diverse and independent sources of information, as well as institutions such as libraries and universities, that can help separate truth from fiction and signal from noise."

Karabell's Nov. 5 presentation is free and open to the public.

## North Georgia faring well in fight against flu

In contrast to many college campuses, where entire residence halls have become isolation facilities for students with flu symptoms, North Georgia College & State University has fared well so far in the fight against the flu and the H1N1 virus, in particular.

While not screening specifically for the H1N1 virus, at the instruction of the Georgia Department of Health, North Georgia's Student Health Services (SHS) has had 72 cases of students reporting with influenza-like symptoms so far this year and five active cases.

"We have been fortunate to be able to send the majority of the students home for self-isolation," Karen Tomlinson, SHS director, said. "The students that could not go home have been isolated in an apartment and that has worked well; we have not had more than two students in an apartment at a time."

According to Tomlinson, in most cases, the severity of the illnesses has been mild with the symptoms improving after four or five days and the student returning to campus sooner than with the typical seasonal influenza. She is optimistic that prevention efforts have helped control the spread of the virus.

"To my knowledge, we have not had any hospitalizations due to influenza," Karen Tomlinson, SHS director, said. "The number of cases has been decreasing over the past two to three weeks; we had more cases earlier in the semester."

To further prevent the spread of the flu, SHS has administered more than 700 seasonal influenza vaccines to students, faculty and staff and will administer the injectable H1N1 vaccine as soon as it is received. Students and employees will be notified by email once it becomes available on campus.

For more information about H1N1 virus at North Georgia and how you can help prevent its spread, see the [H1N1 information page](#).

## North Georgia receives grants from Appalachian Regional Commission

Two groups at North Georgia College & State University - the Georgia Appalachian Studies Center and the Georgia Appalachian Center for Higher Education (GACHE) – have received grants from the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) to continue their work to enhance educational opportunities and preservation efforts in Georgia's Appalachia region.

Governor Sonny Perdue announced the grant awards this past week and commended the ARC for helping local communities compete at the national and global level.

The Georgia Appalachian Studies Center received \$59,000 in funding, and GACHE was awarded \$365,000.

The ARC is a partnership of the governors of the 13 Appalachian States and a presidential appointee

representing the federal government. The program encourages grassroots participation, and supports projects relating to increased job opportunities and per capita income in the Appalachian region, strengthening the region's capacity to compete in the global economy, developing and improving infrastructure to make the region economically competitive, and building the Appalachian Development Highway System to reduce Appalachia's isolation.

For more information on the ARC, please visit [www.arc.gov](http://www.arc.gov).



## Tree-planting marks completion of Library Technology Center project

University administrators participated in a tree-planting ceremony on Oct. 21 to celebrate the completion of the Library Technology Center construction, including the newly landscaped promenade that connects the facility to the drill field and main body of campus.

The tree was donated by Whiting-Turner Contracting Company, which was the primary contractor for the Library Technology Center. The ceremony was part of the company's centennial anniversary, during which Whiting-Turner is planting 100 trees across the country, primarily at schools.

## Take note...

### Guest speaker discusses impact of undergraduate research

"Why Undergraduate Research is a High Impact Practice-a synopsis of the research" will be presented by Dr. Mary Crowe, director of the Office of Undergraduate Research at The University of North Carolina at Greensboro, on Monday, Oct. 26, 1-2 p.m., in room 163 of the Library Technology Center.

Crowe has extensive experience in mentoring undergraduate students and currently involves them in her research on dung beetles. She is a member of the Board of Governors for the National Conference of Undergraduate Research (NCUR), an F21 member of Project Kaleidoscope, and a councilor for the Council of Undergraduate Research (CUR).

### North Georgia rifle team sweeps NCAA competition

On Oct. 17, North Georgia's intercollegiate rifle team defeated all of its competitors, including the Citadel, Wofford College, and Mercer University, in NCAA competition. In Southeastern Rifle Conference competition, where team composition rules are slightly different from NCAA rules, the combined team from the Citadel pulled just ahead of North Georgia 2231 to 2223, with both teams finishing ahead of Clemson, Wofford, Mercer, and Georgia Military College.

In individual competition, North Georgia athletes took three of the top five places. Congratulations to Tori KostECKi, who posted the top individual score of the competition; Becca Bryan, who took fourth place overall, and Matt Branyon with fifth place overall.

The rifle team's next meets are on Oct. 31 in Anniston, Ala., and on Nov. 7-8 at North Georgia. Parents, faculty, staff, and friends are invited to the events. North Georgia's on-campus range is at the Pennington Military Leadership Center.



### Become a fan of North Georgia on Facebook

As part of the university's expanding efforts to communicate online, North Georgia College & State University now has an [official Facebook fan page](#). We look forward to seeing you on our fan page, as we participate in this highly-trafficked social network.

### Rec-Deck wins construction awards

Two firms involved in the construction of the Student Recreation Center and its accompanying parking deck have won awards for the project. Cooper Carry won an award from the Georgia Association of State Facility Administrators for the project's innovative design, and Winter Construction won a national commendation for Excellence in Construction.



### USG Annual Report available

The University System of Georgia's FY09 Annual Report is now available [online](#).

## Campus in Action

**Dr. Michelle Byrne**, professor of nursing, participated in the Nursing Certification and Competency Summit in Baltimore, Md., Oct. 7-9. The summit was a collaboration of nursing specialty organizations for defining and building an international research agenda.

**Dr. Richard M. Prior**, professor and head of physics, gave a talk on Oct. 17 at the joint meeting of the Nuclear Physics Divisions of the American Physical Society and the Physical Society of Japan in Waikoloa, Hawaii. The talk, "The  $^{10}\text{B}(p,\alpha)^8\text{Be}$  Reaction at Low Energies," was based on research done at the Triangle Universities Nuclear Laboratory at Duke University. At the same meeting, **Stephanie Amos**, a senior physics and math major at North Georgia, presented a poster on her research in a Research Experiences for Undergraduates program last summer at Michigan State University. Her poster was entitled, "Discovery of Cadmium, Indium and Tin Isotopes."

*North Georgia faculty and staff are invited to submit news of professional accomplishments for the Campus in Action section to [digest@ngcsu.edu](mailto:digest@ngcsu.edu).*