

Athletic Training at North Georgia receives accreditation



HANDS-ON TRAINING: Assistant Professor Derek Suranie (L) supervises two athletic training majors, Carrie Park and Tony Cipriani, while they administer an ultrasound treatment on a cheerleader. The ultrasound is used to increase temperature within her lumbar musculature, which aids in the reduction of muscle spasm.

The Athletic Training Education Program at NGCSU has been granted full accreditation status by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs.

North Georgia is now one of four accredited Athletic Training Education Programs in the state, along with the University of Georgia, Georgia Southern University and Valdosta State University.

“Accreditation is very important because only students graduating from CAAHEP accredited programs will be able to sit for the National Athletic Trainers' Association Board of Certification exam starting January 2004,” said Mary Ann Westerfield, coordinator and assistant professor of athletic training. “Passing this exam is required to be able to work as an athletic trainer.”

The AT Education Program started fall of 1999 at North Georgia and was accredited this semester after

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A ribbon cutting affair

The grand opening of the North Georgia's Health & Natural Sciences Building on Sunset Drive took place Nov. 1.

The ribbon cutting ceremony was performed by (left to right) Natural & Health Sciences Dean Thomas Fox, NGCSU senior Kate Lovelace, Alumni Council President Andy Holmes, Foundation Chairman Cliff Adams, NGCSU President Nathaniel Hansford, Dr. Allene H. Magill, ninth district member of the Board of Regents for the University System of Georgia, and Senior Vice Chancellor for External Activities & Facilities Tom Daniel.

The Health & Natural Sciences Building was built by Evergreen Construction in Atlanta. The project, totaling just under \$19.7 million, started in March 2000 and finished in May 2002. Groups toured the new facility after the Grand Opening ceremony.



Campus in Action

Dr. Andy Schaffer, business administration, presented a paper titled "Management Education During a Crisis: A Service Learning Response to 9-11-01" on Nov. 8 at the annual conference of the Southern Management Association held in Atlanta.

Dr. Ahmad Ghafarian, math and computer science, presented the paper "Integrating Ethical Issues into the Undergraduate Computer Science Curriculum" at the 16th annual CCSC South-eastern Conference held at Furman University in Greenville, S.C. on Nov. 8-9. A group of students accompanied him on the trip to participate in the Regional Programming Contest.

At the fall meeting of the Physical Therapy Association of Georgia, **Dr. Frank Fearon**, physical therapy, was elected vice president and **Dr. Sheri Williams**, physical therapy, was elected Chapter Delegate. Williams will be one of the delegates from Georgia who will attend the National Physical Therapy House of Delegates in Washington, D.C. in June 2003.

North Georgia's Physical Therapy department hosted a national course sponsored by the American Physical Therapy Association titled "Diagnosis by Physical Therapist: Screening for Medical Referral." **Dr. Scot Irwin** and **Dr. Frank Fearon** assisted in the course held Nov. 2-3 on campus.

Financial aid error free in HOPE review

The Georgia Student Finance Commission, conducting its annual review for the HOPE Scholarship Program at North Georgia for 2000-2001, found no errors during the review. Passing with flying colors isn't unexpected for North Georgia's Office of Student Financial Aid, which manages the HOPE Scholarship and is the primary office that provides information to the GSFC.

"We've only had one finding, or error, in the nine years that HOPE has been available," said Jill Rayner, assistant director of student financial aid.

The GSFC primarily looks for records of students who received the HOPE Scholarship, but are not eligible, said Deborah Barbone, director of student financial aid.

Barbone's office prepares for the visit after receiving a letter from GSFC approximately 30 days in advance, which outlines items to be reviewed. A student's residency, verified enrollment, GPA and other criteria are reviewed by a member of the GSFC or an outside contractor, Barbone said.

Twenty-four hours prior to the visit, financial aid receives a list of HOPE recipients, whose records are to be made available. This requires BANNER access, admission applications and all transcripts, enrollment records and business records.

"A successful HOPE Program Review or any federal or state audit relies on the teamwork of numerous offices," said Barbone. "The Office of Student Financial Aid cannot assist a single student without the cooperation, information and support received from the admissions, registrar's, and business office and other offices on campus."

North Georgia has awarded HOPE to approximately 7,000 students with awards totaling more than \$24 million since the Georgia scholarship's inception in 1993.

Continuing Education experiences growth

Kimberly Foster, director of Continuing Education and GADC, said that during fiscal year 2002, Continuing Education experienced a 19.8 percent increase in the number of programs offered (139 programs) with a 9 percent increase in participants (2,086). In addition, the number of participants in summer camps increased by 12.7 percent, resulting in a 20.3 percent increase in total camp revenues (\$477,037).

AAUP plans dinner meeting for Nov. 22

The NGCSU chapter of the American Association of University Professors will have a dinner meeting on Nov. 22 at 6 p.m. in Wylie's restaurant on Dahlonega's Public Square.

AAUP members and non members who are interested in issues and thought processes important to faculty members are welcome to attend this dinner meeting.

For more information, contact Dr. Vicki McCard at ext. 1964 or Dr. Barry Friedman at ext. 1916.

RSVP by Nov. 19 to Dr. Barry Friedman at bfriedman@ngcsu.edu. Include number of guests that will attend with you.



EDUCATION

LEADER: Education Dean Bob Michael talked with Dr. George Thompson, president of the Center for Leadership in School Reform, based in Louisville, Ky., prior to Thompson's campus presentation, "School

Reform and its Impact on the Roles of Educators," on Nov. 6. Sponsored by the Society for School-based Leadership and the NGCSU School of Education in partnership with the Principals' Center at Georgia State University, the event drew a large group of undergraduate and graduate education students and faculty, as well as area teachers, who participated in small group conversations before and after Thompson's speech. Recognizing that "Teaching is a leadership profession," Thompson said, "Unless school boards start representing students and not special interests, we will lose control of education in this country."

Athletic Training program *(Continued from page 1)*

an on-site visit from the Joint Review Committee on Athletic Training.

There are currently 12 students in the program at NGCSU.

"Accreditation is a grueling three-year process," Westerfield said. Two years are spent in candidacy giving reports and the last year is submission of a self-study and the site-visit.

"Last semester, the site-visitors stated that they have never seen a program come so far so fast," said Westerfield. "I credit this to the support of the faculty and administration working together to get our athletic training major recognized as an accredited allied health program."

Upcoming Events *All free and open to the public*

The **NGCSU Symphonic Band**, under the direction of Dr. Joe Chapman, presents its fall concert on Nov. 25 at 7:30 p.m. in the Hoag Student Center Auditorium.

Dr. Jack Broman conducts the NGCSU Singers, Patriot Choir and Le Belle Voci in the **Choral Ensembles Fall Concert** in the Hoag Student Center Auditorium on Dec. 2 at 7:30 p.m. and Dec. 3 at 12:30 p.m.

The **Academic Integrity Council** invites all students, faculty and staff to attend a panel discussion on plagiarism Nov. 26 at 12:30 p.m. in the Hoag Student Center Auditorium. Panelists include faculty and student presenters, and there will be an opportunity for questions.

Seeking food and toys for White Christmas

The fifth annual White Christmas breakfast will be presented by the NGCSU Staff Council on Dec. 5 from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. NGCSU faculty and staff may receive a free breakfast by bringing an unwrapped, new toy or 10 canned or dry foods. The event will be held at the Dining Hall in the Chestatee Room. The event is co-sponsored by Aramark and the NGCSU Foundation.

Canned or dry food items also may be dropped off at collection boxes placed in the hallway or lobby area of the main buildings on campus.

All collected food items and toys will benefit a local charity. Last year, 251 local families, including 434 children, were recipients of the White Christmas program. White Christmas is coordinated by the Community Helping Place (formerly the Ecumenical Community Ministries), which is a non-profit organization.

the
Digest

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CAPTURED IN TIME: The campus community, including former President John Owen, paused to honor American veterans at 11 a.m. on Nov. 11 at the firing of the cannon and the sounds of “Amazing Grace” and “Taps.”

Lewis Hall renovations beginning

Renovation of Lewis Hall, the freshman residence hall, began this month by Schoppman Freese Company from Marietta. No students were housed in Lewis this semester because of the anticipated start of the renovation, which will last until next summer. Students will re-occupy Lewis next fall.

All parking in front of Lewis Hall will be reserved for the contractor and subcontractors. The road between Lewis Hall and Sanford Hall, with the smoking area at the entrance, will be the main entrance for construction equipment, and it will be closed to student/faculty/staff parking. The small circle on the east end of Lewis, between Lewis and Gaillard, also will be for the contractor’s use.

The areas are dedicated to the renovation process 24 hours a day, seven days a week. If there is a reason to access the areas mentioned, please contact Public Safety at ext. 1500, for assistance.



FOR THE CAUSE: Shannon Baker (R), recreational sports, volunteers her time to sell water. The Staff Council raised \$446 selling bottled water during Gold Rush Weekend, Oct. 19-20, for its employee scholarship fund. Full-time employees and their children may apply for the scholarship. Staff Council awards up to \$500 in scholarships each semester.

Subcommittees soliciting input for university’s strategic plan

In developing the new five-year strategic plan for North Georgia, four subcommittees have been formed and are providing the campus community opportunities to provide input into their respective areas. Each subcommittee is holding meetings open to campus faculty, staff and students to make comments on strategic planning issues.

Listed below are the four subcommittees and details on how the campus community may provide input into the proposals the subcommittees are preparing for the Strategic Planning Committee in December.

Members of each subcommittee may be contacted individually and he or she will take the feedback and present it to the subcommittee. For a list of subcommittee members, contact Dr. Charles Hawkins, director of Institutional Research and Planning, at ext. 1842.

Subcommittee on Academic Affairs – public forum, Nov. 21 at 12:30 p.m. in Newton Oakes Center 010. Subcommittee chair, Dr. Linda Roberts-Betsch, lroberts@ngcsu.edu

Subcommittee on Campus Physical Environment and Fiscal Affairs – public forum, Nov. 21 at 3:30 pm. in Newton Oakes Center room 019. Subcommittee chair, Gerald Lord, glord@ngcsu.edu

Subcommittee on External and Community Affairs – public forums, Nov. 19, 7 p.m., HNS Building auditorium; Nov. 20, 3:30 p.m., Stewart Center for Continuing Education activity room. Subcommittee chair, Jeffrey Boggan, jboggan@ngcsu.edu

Subcommittee on Campus Community and Student Affairs – public forum has taken place. Subcommittee chair, Laura Whitaker-Lea, lwhitaker-lea@ngcsu.edu