

Faculty meeting highlights two institutional priorities

On Feb. 2, the spring faculty business meeting included presentations on the progress of two important university initiatives – the Quality Enhancement Plan and the Capital Campaign.

The Quality Enhancement Plan is designed to improve student learning at NGCSU and is a new requirement for SACS reaffirmation. Dr. Michelle Byrne, part of the QEP team, focused her presentation on information literacy, a topic that has been identified as an area of learning that is essential for students.

Byrne defined information literacy as a framework for finding, understanding, evaluating and using information.

“It is the basis of lifelong learning,” she said.



MAKING STUDENTS ‘IL’: Dr. Michelle Byrne talks about information literacy.

More than 65 percent of students, faculty, staff and community members agreed that information literacy needed improvement at the university according to Byrne.

Faculty members at the meeting

were introduced to the American Library Association’s five standards of information literacy in higher education, which QEP is utilizing.

“Other than being a focus on student learning and tied to our mission, [the QEP] must be supported by sufficient resources,” said Byrne. “We are going to be evaluated on our implementation. We have to have student and faculty outcomes and we must be able to assess and measure [the QEP’s] effectiveness.”

Byrne stressed that the plan needed to be a collaborative effort among faculty, staff and students.

“I see the QEP as a paradigm shift so I hope we get your input, direction and enthusiasm,” Byrne said.

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Black History events highlighted by national dance group

The Kuumba House Dance Theatre, a national performing arts group, will perform at NGCSU on Feb. 16 at 7 p.m. in the Hoag Student Center Auditorium. The theatre group performs a repertoire of South African, West and East African traditional and contemporary dances.

Kuumba House is a performing arts company that preserves, creates, teaches and presents the cultural experience of African art forms through dance, theatre, music and other creative expression. The group has been performing and bringing dance education to different parts of the United States for nearly two decades.

NGCSU is sponsoring several other Black History Month events throughout February. Event information on these events is at www.ngcsu.edu. They are sponsored by a consortium of campus event committees.



Kuumba House Dance Theatre

Campus in Action

The Cadet Recruitment Center has been separated from the Office of Undergraduate Admissions and redesignated the Office of Cadet Admissions. The **Office of Cadet Admissions** will be responsible for the complete process of recruiting and admitting students who will become members of the Corps of Cadets.

As part of the reorganization of the admissions function of NGCSU's enrollment management team, **Keith Antonia**, the assistant director of Admissions for Cadet Recruitment, is now the director of the Office of Cadet Admissions. **Jennifer Collins**, interim director of Undergraduate Admissions, and **Cindy Lowe**, interim associate director of Undergraduate Admissions, now fill these roles on a permanent basis.

Jim Barnaby has been named the new director of Materials Management. He received a BBA in business management in 2005 from North Georgia and was most recently the assistant manager of the NGCSU Bookstore, working there for eight years. The former career U.S. Army soldier served more than 20 years in the military.

Dr. Marc Jason Gilbert, history, presented the paper, "Facing Mt. Meru: The Challenge of World History for Geographers and Historians of Central Asia," as part of a panel devoted to Mapping the World with Geographic Information Systems at the 120th meeting of the American Historical Association in Philadelphia, Pa., Jan. 5-8. Gilbert also presented the paper, "Vietnam and World History," at the 45th annual meeting of the Association for Asian Studies Southeast Conference held Jan. 20-22, in Atlanta, Ga.

Timothy May, history, presented a paper, "To the Left of Chinggis Khan: Revolution in the Steppe," at the 45th Annual Southeast Conference Association for Asian Studies at Georgia State

University on Jan. 22. He was an invited speaker at "Teaching the Middle East II: A Workshop for Non-specialist University System of Georgia Faculty" at Emory University in October where he spoke on "The Mongol Empire and the Shaping of the Islamic World."

Dr. Grace Newsome, nursing, was one of the seven executive appointments Gov.

Sonny Perdue made this month to the state's Health Strategies Council. The council is responsible for developing Georgia's State Health Plan and addressing policy issues concerning access to health-care services. Newsome also was re-elected to the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission for the 2005-2008 term. This 15-member commission has nine nurse educators from across the nation. NLNAC accredits 1,400 nursing programs from the United States and sets Standards and Criteria for nursing accreditation.

Dr. M. Reza Nourbakhsh, physical therapy, presented "An Alternative Approach to Treating Lateral Epicondylitis" and "The Effects of Oscillating Energy Manual Techniques on Lateral Epicondylitis" at the American Physical Therapy Association's Combined Section Meeting in San Diego, Calif., Feb. 1-5.

Dr. Brent Paterline, criminal justice and political science, recently published a college workbook titled, "Research Methods for the Social Sciences: A Case Study Approach."



National survey finds NGCSU students enjoy quality relationships

Compared to students at colleges and universities around the nation, NGCSU students hold in high regard the quality of relationships they have with other students, as well as with faculty members, administrators and staff.

On the 2005 National Survey of Student Engagement, NGCSU seniors rated their entire educational experience at North Georgia better than did their peers at other institutions. Freshmen and seniors reported that, if given a chance to start over again, they would choose the same institution they now are attending significantly more than students at other universities.

"For students to indicate that they would choose NGCSU all over again is the best indication of their satisfaction," said Dr. Laura Whitaker-Lea, associate dean of students at NGCSU. "As we continue to carve out our special niche in Georgia and as a Senior Military College, it is the people, the relationships and the campus atmosphere that will continue to set North Georgia College & State University apart from other institutions."

North Georgia seniors reported considerably more good relationships with faculty members than did their peers on other campuses in the state. Freshmen reported better student-to-student relationships.

North Georgia excels as a "supportive campus environment" at a statistically significant level both among first year students as well as seniors compared to student responses at other state institutions in Georgia. (full story at ngcsu.edu/news)

Sweet-n-Greet Social

Tuesday, Feb. 14 at 3 p.m.
Adams Great Room

Meet the new NGCSU Staff Council members and give them input for the upcoming year.

Faculty meeting highlights (Continued from page 1)

A QEP report from North Georgia will be submitted in January 2007. For the complete Feb. 2 presentation, go to the Intranet (N network drive) and access the QEP folder. QEP chair Dr. Kathy Sisk may be contacted at ext. 1604 or ksisk@ngcsu.edu.

The university's Division of Institutional Advancement is developing North Georgia's first **Capital Campaign**, a major multi-year fundraising effort through the NGCSU Foundation. Vice President for Advancement Bruce Howerton presented to the faculty on Feb. 2 a status report on the developing capital campaign.

Fundraising-consulting firm Alexander Haas Martin & Partners Inc. is helping to develop an assessment of the upcoming campaign and the Foundation has secured a commercial service to analyze the alumni and donor databases to help identify those people who might have the resources to give, according to Howerton.

A feasibility study still has to be conducted and it will in part determine any formal recommendation to develop the capital campaign, including what monetary goal to set and identifying campaign components that resonate well with prospective donors.

The feasibility study is the next step in the process, Howerton said.

He presented potential areas within the university that a campaign might benefit, including faculty endowments, scholarships to recruit selective students, support for student research and capital projects.

"Major fundraising campaigns are complex and require very detailed planning and volunteer involvement," Howerton said. "The first campaign for a university is always the most difficult. The successful completion of our first campaign will help us build capacity for future fundraising efforts."

For more information contact Advancement at ext. 2873.



FACULTY AWARDS: From left to right: **Marina Slemmons**, Excellence in Teaching Award for Technology Utilization; **Dr. Thomas Austenfeld**, Excellence in Teaching Award for Developing Critical Thinking; **Martha Merritt**, Distinguished Professor of Teaching & Learning 2005-2006; **Kelly Cate**, Excellence in Teaching Award for Relating to Students; and **Dr. Sandee McGlaun**, Excellence in Teaching Award for Incorporating Oral Presentations

Upcoming Events More NGCSU events at www.ngcsu.edu/news



The film "A Farewell To Arms" will be shown on Feb. 23 at 7 p.m. in the Hoag Student Center Auditorium. Ernest Hemingway's 1930 semi-autobiographical novel becomes a tragic romance between ambulance driver Lt. Frederic Henry (Gary Cooper) and nurse Catherine Barkley (Helen Hayes) in Italy during WWI. The film also analyzes Henry's feelings on war. The 1970 film "MASH" will be shown on March 2 at 7 p.m. in the Gloria Shott Auditorium.

A **Faculty Cooperative Recital** will be held on Feb. 16 at 7:30 p.m. in the Gloria Shott Auditorium. In this annual music showcase, NGCSU instrumental and vocal faculty present a variety of solo and ensemble selections.

USG News Highlights

(Full text online at usg.edu/news)

- Davis Shares Immediate Priorities with Regents in First Formal Remarks as University System Chancellor on Feb. 8
- Regents Revise Principles Used to Evaluate, Prioritize Major USG Construction Projects
- University System Students Give High Marks to Educational Experience in National Surveys

Legislative Update

(No. 5, Feb. 6, www.usg.edu/pubs/lu)

The House has approved \$410,000 for North Georgia College & State University to offset the loss of scholarship revenue resulting from NGCSU cadets being deployed with the Georgia National Guard because of the Gulf War.

the **Digest**
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The Digest is published monthly by University Relations. Submit material and current news to the e-mail address digest@ngcsu.edu. The next scheduled publication date of the NGCSU Digest is March 13. **The deadline for submissions is March 6.**

Taskforce shapes university identity, innovation

In December the Institutional Identity Taskforce released the NGCSU Identity Statement, which is designed to communicate a clear picture of North Georgia's fundamental qualities and strengths and help the university community maintain consistent messages for North Georgia's various audiences.

The IITF was formed one year ago this month. During that time the IITF has worked with consultant Andy Fleming, who interviewed a broad cross-section of university community members, alumni and external community members in order to elicit from them an accurate picture of the institution's best qualities and aspirations.

"I believe a significant benefit of the new identity statement is that it will allow us to focus on who we are and what we stand for to help us reach our full potential," said Dr. Robert Fuller, the IITF chair.

The NGCSU Identity Statement has been the primary outcome from the IITF process. It is located online at www.ngcsu.edu/digest.

To spark involvement from the university community in developing NGCSU's image enhancement, Dr. David Potter created the President's Innovation Fund. The fund totals \$100,000 and 26 funding proposals were submitted by the Feb. 1 deadline.

The fund is designed to encourage collaboration among departments and disciplines to creatively address how to enhance learning and to redesign, reinforce, or connect existing programs; or create new programs in order to strengthen the university's competitive position or support institutional values as stated in NGCSU's strategic plan.

"We had many creative responses from the university community in the proposals," said Fuller. "We're going to benefit tremendously from these ideas that we might have otherwise never known were out there."

He said that based on the initial review of the proposals, the IITF anticipates allocating the full \$100,000. The funding requests totaled twice that amount. The funded projects will be announced March 1. 🏠

Award-winning novelist Vreeland speaking Feb. 17



Susan Vreeland

Author of "Girl in Hyacinth Blue," "The Passion of Artemisia" and "The Forest Lover," Susan Vreeland, who is reading excerpts from her novels on Feb. 17 at 1:30 p.m. in the HNS Auditorium, is best known for her historical novels surrounding art-based themes. The event

is free and open to the public.

Vreeland began her life as a fiction writer with the publication of her first novel, "What Love Sees," which was made into a CBS movie. Another novel, "Girl in Hyacinth Blue," was adapted for a Hallmark Hall of Fame movie. She received the 2002 San Diego Book Awards' Theodore Geisel Award and Best Novel of the Year.

Vreeland will also be the keynote speaker at the Dahlonega Literary Festival, Feb. 17-19; more information about her schedule may be found at www.literaryfestival.org.



North Georgia's Friends Are Forever, composed of primarily 1950s alumni, met at NGCSU for a semiannual luncheon on Feb. 9. Col. Bruce Georgia, the professor of military science, along with President David Potter, spoke to the group of more than 65 alumni. During the luncheon a saber was dedicated to the university in honor of the North Georgia alumni and students fighting in the War Against Terrorism. Senior cadet leaders will use the saber each year. Hoss Matthews, whose son Jeffrey Matthews is one of the deployed students in Iraq, gave a heartfelt tribute to friends and family who have served and are serving in the military. Pictured left to right are Col. Georgia; Col. Tom Palmer, commandant; Color Guard cadet Jeffrey Teplis; Ben Purcell, NG '50; Matthews, NG '51; and Armor Reece, '53. While on campus, the group toured the Pennington Military Leadership Center and shot high-powered rifles in the building's indoor firing range.