

# Digest

► **Nov. 4, 2009**

A newsletter for North Georgia College & State University

## Staff Council plans White Christmas Breakfast

The university's Staff Council and Community Helping Place need your help making Christmas brighter for families in need. The 11th annual White Christmas Breakfast is scheduled for Thursday, Dec. 3, 7-8:30 a.m., in the dining hall, where faculty and staff will bring donations for this worthy program.

## Take note...

Admissions Open House Nov. 7

The Fiddleheads perform Nov. 7

Web training available for departmental coordinators

Staff Council sponsors flu shots for cleaning staff

Choirs schedule fall concerts

Faculty Associate Coaches treat basketball players

University plans holiday luncheon

North Georgia places second in rifle competition

## Campus In Action

## Center for Global Engagement hosts International Education Week

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## University's Orchestra invites community to fall concert



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program features two time-honored classics along with a relatively unknown gem of the orchestral repertoire, according to Dr. Joe Chapman, music professor and the orchestra's conductor. The concert opens with Gioacchino Rossini's Overture to The Barber of Seville.

*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. 18. The deadline for submissions is Nov. 13.

# Center for Global Engagement hosts International Education Week

By Mike Marshall

North Georgia's campus will take on an international flavor Nov. 16-20, as the university's Center for Global Engagement sponsors activities to heighten awareness of the campus' diverse cultural community and study abroad opportunities.

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*Justin Beverly visited Morocco, where he took classes in Moroccan history, Islamic culture and Arabic.*

"This is an opportunity to celebrate the benefits of international education and exchange worldwide," said Dr. Dlynn Armstrong-Williams, the center's director. "We want to promote programs that prepare students to work a global environment and attract future leaders from abroad to study, learn, and exchange experiences in the United States."

North Georgia currently has 274 international students. This past academic year, 101 students from North Georgia participated in study abroad programs. The number of study abroad participants is expected to exceed that mark this year.

Activities planned for International Education Week include a performance by Tropical Breeze, a steel drum band from the University of Georgia; a brownbag lunch discussion allowing international students to share their experiences at North Georgia; a Staff Development seminar to enhance cross-cultural communication; an "Internationalizing the Campus" roundtable event to discuss the future international impact of North Georgia; the Korean Spirit and Culture Presentation; Marketing Your International Experience Presentation; and the International Student Association International Dinner fundraiser.

International education has provided many North Georgia students with experiences that contribute not only to their education, but to their lives in general. Justin Beverly visited Morocco, where he took classes in Moroccan history, Islamic culture and Arabic. He also had the opportunity to stargaze in the Sahara Desert

"Forgive my poetic indulgence, but there is no way to describe that amazing experience in ordinary terms," Beverly said. "I'm glad I had this one-of-a-kind experience."

Vicky Kaniaru visited Chile, where she practiced Spanish in the classroom and the environment. Kaniaru also became friends with native Chileans, as well as some other students who were also studying abroad as part of the University System of Georgia.

"Studying abroad in Chile is now something I believe every student should experience," Kaniaru said. "It provided me with an opportunity to study and immerse myself in a distinctly different culture. Chile has definitely left an impression on me and I plan to visit there again very soon."

For details, visit the [Center for Global Engagement's Web site](#).



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The program features two time-honored classics along with a relatively unknown gem of the orchestral repertoire, according to Dr. Joe Chapman, music professor and the orchestra's conductor. The concert opens with Gioacchino Rossini's Overture to *The Barber of Seville*.

"While this overture has enjoyed stellar performed by many famous conductors, it is probably best known from its interpretation by Bugs Bunny and Elmer Fudd in the Looney Tunes classic, *The Rabbit of Seville*," Chapman said.

Next on the program is the "Ancient Airs and Dances" by Ottorino Respighi. This suite is comprised of four movements that offer a retrospective on 16th-century dance music by one of the 20th century's leading composers.

The orchestra will conclude with Symphony no. 94 of Franz Josef Haydn, commonly known as the "Surprise" Symphony.

"It is called the Surprise Symphony, because of its unsuspected sudden fortissimo chord in the quietest portion of the second movement," Chapman said. "The final movement is a veritable tour-de-force, which explores the capability of the violin as a virtuosic instrument."

General admission for the concert is \$5 for adults and \$2 for students. North Georgia students and employees are admitted free with a university ID. For more information, please see the [Department of Performing Arts' Web site](#) or call 706-864-1423.

## Staff Council plans White Christmas Breakfast

### *Event helps Community Helping Place*

*By Tiffany Yeoman*

The university's Staff Council and Community Helping Place (CHP) need your help making Christmas brighter for families in need. The [11th annual White Christmas Breakfast](#) has been scheduled for Thursday, Dec. 3, 7-8:30 a.m., in the dining hall, where faculty and staff will bring donations for this worthy program. Last year, North Georgia helped make the CHP White Christmas program a success by collecting 3,647 pounds of food, 388 toys, and \$117 in monetary donations.

Departments on campus will receive paper bags with [shopping lists](#) for holiday feasts for needy families in Lumpkin County, and the Staff Council asks the bags be filled with the specific, non-perishable food items listed. The feast bags will be collected at the White Christmas breakfast, and Aramark and the NGCSU Foundation will sponsor a free breakfast for faculty and staff who bring at

least four canned goods or one unwrapped, new toy to the breakfast.

Also, decorated boxes will be placed around campus for the collection of [new, unwrapped toys](#). If you are unable to attend the breakfast, this is a great way to make a donation. Because CHP typically receives an abundance of stuffed animals that are bulky and very difficult to store, please consider alternatives to stuffed animals when selecting your gift donations.

## Take note...

### Admissions Open House Nov. 7

The Office of Undergraduate Admissions expects a record crowd of more than 1,600 people to attend the university's Open House event this Saturday, Nov. 7. This is an important semi-annual event for prospective students who are considering attending North Georgia.

### The Fiddleheads to perform Nov. 7

"The Fiddleheads", a quaint collaboration of four diversified musicians, are set to take stage for the first time, this Saturday, Nov. 7, at 8 p.m., in the university's Gloria Shott Performance Hall (Nix Center). Special guests include: Jamie Moss, the Larios Brothers, Kyle Jarrard and Mac McConnell. Join them for a night of eclectic bluegrass that's sure to please! Admission is free.

Members of The Fiddleheads are Zak McConnell, mandolin/guitar/vocals; Michael Wallace, guitar and vocals; Jake Larios on banjo and pop banjo; and Trygve Myers on bass.

### Web training available for departmental coordinators

North Georgia staff will have an opportunity to attend hands-on training from a Certified Ektron Trainer for the university's new content management system next week, Nov. 12 and 13. Web Services has been working with departmental web coordinators and content authors for several weeks to acclimate them to the new system and training them to maintain departmental sites. Next Thursday and Friday, campus users will have an opportunity to work with the Ektron trainer to further enhance their skills. The trainer will have sessions on basic skills, as well as more specific training for features like the content library. Training schedules are being finalized now with Ektron and registration information will be provided soon.

### Staff Council sponsors flu shots for cleaning staff

The Staff Council has donated enough funds to defray costs of flu shots for the university's housekeepers who maintain the dormitories. Todd Bermann, physical plant director, requested the support, as there are some housekeepers who must clean-up after students, including those who have been ill, and they are particularly susceptible to getting the flu themselves. At the October meeting, the Staff Council voted unanimously to donate enough funds to pay for flu shots for dormitory cleaning staff.

### Choirs schedule fall concerts

The NGCSU Singers and Le Belle Voci performed Oct. 24 the 4th movement of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony with the Lanier Chamber Singers and the Gainesville Symphony Orchestra at Brenau University. The student groups, under the direction of Dr. John Broman, were complemented by the participation of North Georgia faculty, staff and community supporters, who are pictured here.

*Pictured from left to right, front row, are Dr. Lee Barrow, Dennis Cooper, Sarah Haskett, and Mary Beth Hutcheson; middle row - Dr. Dan Thompson, Lisa Thompson, Ruth Purcell, and Dr. Dianna Spence; top row - Dr. Joe Chapman, Dr. Mark Spraker, and David Cornett. Not pictured: Cierra Winkler.*



The fall concerts of the NGCSU Singers, Le Belle Voci, and the Patriot Choir are Sunday, Nov. 22, at 8 p.m., at the Dahlonega Baptist Church, and Monday, Nov. 23, 8 p.m., at the Cleveland First Presbyterian Church.



### Faculty Associate Coaches treat basketball players

On Thursday, Oct. 29, Dr. Laurie Jossey and Dr. Robb Sinn, Faculty Associate Coaches for the Lady Saints basketball team, presented the players with Halloween bags full of goodies. Sinn's children, Jacob, Katie and Aaron, helped to bake cookies and decorated the bags filled with candy for the players. The Faculty Associate Coach idea is a new program where faculty members mentor various athletic teams, have the

opportunity to travel with them, and learn what it is like to be a student-athlete.

### University plans holiday luncheon

Dr. David Potter, university president, will host the annual holiday luncheon for faculty and staff on Friday, Dec. 18, at noon, in the dining hall. "This annual luncheon is possible through our partnership with Aramark Food Services, and it is a meaningful event that allows us to celebrate our sense of community," Potter said.

### North Georgia places second in rifle competition

Nearly taking first for the second year in a row, North Georgia's rifle team finished just four points behind the Citadel in the NCAA rifle competition held Oct. 31.

North Georgia rifle team captain Tori KostECKI won the individual title in Southeastern Rifle Conference and NCAA rifle competition. She posted a score near her average while holding off challengers from the Citadel and Wofford. This is her second individual win in a row.

"North Georgia shooters Thomas Pifer, Matt Parsons, and Becca Bryan combined with KostECKI to take second place in the team competition, only four points behind the Citadel Men's team in conference competition and 11 points behind the combined Citadel team in NCAA competition," said Coach JP O'Connor. "All four of the North Georgia shooters faced challenging range conditions and battled hard in an attempt to make it two in a row against Citadel. Finishing behind North Georgia were Wofford, Citadel Women, Georgia Military College, and Birmingham Southern."

The North Georgia Rifle Team returns to action at home Nov. 7, hosting the Southeastern Rifle Conference. Teams scheduled to compete include the Citadel, Clemson, and NC State.

## Campus in Action

North Georgia was well represented at the Association of American Colleges and Universities conference, "Integrative Learning: Addressing the Complexities," held Oct. 22-24, in Atlanta, Ga. President David Potter, Dr. Denise Y. Young, and Dr. Donna A. Gessell participated on the conference planning committee.

As part of the pre-conference "Georgia Public Forum on Higher Education," entitled "College Learning for Our Shared Future: The Return on Investment-for Students, for the Economy, and for our Communities," Dr. Dlynn Armstrong-Williams presented a poster in the session "High-Impact

Educational Practices at Georgia Colleges & Universities": "Developing Internationally Competent Global Leaders." **Potter** led a facilitated discussion, "Global Learning Outcomes for the 21st Century: From Aspiration to Reality on Campus."

Two posters were presented by North Georgia faculty during the Posters and Reception portion of the conference. **Dr. Nancy Dalman, Karrie Ann Fadoski, and Dr. Ralph Hitt** presented "The River Rendezvous: Using Community-Based Monitoring to Foster Integrative Learning." **Carolynn A. DeSandre and Dr. Toni O. Barnett** presented "Bridging the Gap: An Integrative Approach to Health Promotion in Underserved Families."

**Young and Gessell** presented a session "Transforming Campus Culture Through Integrative Learning."

*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).*