



## President's Corner

Special thanks and kudos go to everyone in Plant Operations for a wonderful barbecue last week. Those of you who couldn't make it missed great food and fun fellowship.

In particular, we need to recognize the committee who did the planning and the majority of work: **Eddie Morgan,**

**Thomas Burson, Donna Hooton, Chris Boring, and Teresa Leckie.** This has become a wonderful tradition that I hope will continue as a great way to celebrate the end of the academic year.

*The vision of a regional university is a bold one which will benefit our area of the state tremendously. Let's keep that in mind as we work through the issues.*

This has been a challenging year, especially this second semester, as many people have been given responsibilities for consolidation planning in addition to their regular duties. The vision of a regional university is a bold one which will benefit our area of the state tremendously. Let's keep that in mind as we work through the issues.

While I will be gone after June, I will be with you in spirit. GSC is a great institution which will continue to thrive if we stay true to our values, maintain our collaborative culture, and focus on our students.

*Martha*



Among those attending the GSC Alumni reception on April 13 were Board of Trustees members Vicki Davis, Robin Myers, and Jane Fleming.

## Alumni Association holds Reunion

Over 60 people attended the Gainesville State College Alumni reception at Academic IV on April 13 to mix and mingle and renew and reunite.

During the program, Chris Stenander, president of the GSC Alumni Council, welcomed and thanked the group for their participation in the reception.

The program highlighted a special video presentation to GSC President **Dr. Martha T. Nesbitt** that included past GSC presidents, faculty and staff members, and GSC Alumni expressing their gratitude and well wishes to Nesbitt on her upcoming retirement.

Rich White, chair of the Foundation Board of Trustees, introduced the video tribute and spoke of the many accomplishments and contributions Nesbitt made during her time as president of GSC, including the new state-of-the-art

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## USG switches to Desire2Learn for institutions

In January 2013, the University System of Georgia is switching to a new learning management system (LMS) for its institutions from the current Blackboard Vista platform to Desire2Learn (D2L). There are many people behind the scenes already working on this transition, but what it means to faculty and staff is this:

- **May 2012—USG ITS group will begin moving previous courses/content from eLearning to Desire2Learn**
  - Although this will begin in May, it will not affect anything we are currently doing or plan to do in eLearning summer and fall 2012.
- **Early June 2012—D2L released for faculty development, but NOT FOR TEACHING**
  - This will allow us to work in our new D2L eLearning site, but not utilize it for teaching or other purposes.
  - Spring 2011 and fall 2011 courses/sites will be available to us at this time to update. Later in the summer (2012) we'll have access to summer 2011 and spring 2012 courses/sites to update.
- **July 9 – 11, 2012—USG ITS will hold “train the trainer” sessions**
  - Kelly Manley, Leslie Worthington, & Nina Lamson will attend “train the trainer” sessions in order to facilitate training of faculty/staff fall 2012
- **January 2013—D2L open for teaching**
  - Blackboard Vista would still be accessible for the month, but not for teaching purposes.
- **February 2013—Blackboard Vista will be unavailable for faculty/staff**
  - Faculty/staff would no longer be able to log in to Blackboard Vista.
- **May 2013—Blackboard Vista will be unavailable for eLearning administrators**
  - After May 2013, Haley Carter and John Williams will no longer have access to Blackboard Vista.

What we suggest you do is:

- Make sure that all grades in eLearning are downloaded to an Excel file. You will not be able to have grades of past classes available to you in the new eLearning system. A tutorial will be designed to show you how to do this and made available over the summer.
- Be aware that some content may be identified as not transferable from Blackboard to D2L, for which you will need to backup for uploading to D2L.
- Starting in Fall 2012, attend training workshops.
- Know that information and updates about the new D2L eLearning system will be available at this link: <http://www.gsc.edu/academics/eLearning/faculty/Pages/D2L-Resource-Page.aspx>.

*Please note: The Distance Education Consolidation Workgroup has as one of its charges a deliverable of “policies & procedures regarding faculty development/mentoring, course approval, and evaluation of online teaching,” which may include a review of existing courses. It is possible that this process will coincide with our migration to D2L.*

Contacts: Technical: **John Williams** (Oconee) / **Haley Carter** (Gainesville)  
Training: **Jennifer Von Almen** (CETL)  
Other: **Nina Lamson**, Distance Education Committee, Chair

## Farewell Tea for Dr. Nesbitt



Please join the Gainesville State College Women's Organization for a farewell tea honoring Dr. Martha T. Nesbitt. The event is open to all faculty and staff.

Thursday, May 3, 2012,

2:00 - 4:00 PM

Academic IV Building, Room  
3110, GC

Questions? **Amy Lancaster**, X3409  
or [events@gsc.edu](mailto:events@gsc.edu)

## Alumni Reunion

—Continued from Page 1

building and the overall growth of the college. In the video, the college's past president, **Dr. Hugh Mills, Jr.**, said he was especially proud of the impact Nesbitt made on the college and in the community.

Several awards were also presented. The Alumni Association created a new award in Nesbitt's honor, called the Martha T. Nesbitt Leadership Award. Dr. Nesbitt was recognized as the 2012 inaugural recipient.

Others recognized included Lesley Congdon, who received the Distinguished Alumnus Award; Vicki Davis, recipient of the Distinguished Service Award; James Wright, who received the Young Alumni Achievement Award; and Rita Mandell, recognized with the Volunteer of the Year Award.

The Alumni Reunion weekend festivities concluded Saturday evening at the Georgia Force Football game at the Gwinnett Arena. Dr. Nesbitt kicked off the game with a successful coin toss, and the college's brass ensemble, led by GSC's trumpet instructor, **Greg Holland**, played the National Anthem.

## Mileage rate rises

A memo from the State Accounting Office raised the mileage rate for travel reimbursement to \$ 0.555 as of April 17, 2012. The change applies to the use of privately owned automobiles (POA), or POAs when government-owned automobiles are not available, for official travel.

The Travel Expense Form on the Business Affairs web page has been updated to reflect the mileage change. *Employees who have mileage prior to Tuesday, April 17 will need to change the mileage back to .51 by printing the form and manually calculating the total.*

The reimbursement rate for motorcycles is \$ 0.525 per mile.

## Roszel, Gonzalez take 1st at debate tourney

The Gainesville State College Debate Forensic Interpretation team closed out its 2011-2012 campaign at a post-season debate meet at East Tennessee State University's Kingsport campus on April 14.

Dr. Tom Preston, Professor of Communication, Media Studies, and Journalism, and Director of Forensics, accompanied a delegation of 14 who participated in the event.



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**TOWER TALK** is the official communication vehicle for Gainesville State College faculty and staff members and is published biweekly by the Office of Public Relations and Marketing. Submissions for the next edition should be emailed to [dkrewson@gsc.edu](mailto:dkrewson@gsc.edu) or sent to Debbie Krewson, Public Relations & Marketing, to be received by noon, Wednesday, May 9, 2012.

Gainesville State College Alumni & Friends



Friday, June 8 (Rain date June 9)

Join us for a night of fun!

Each year, thousands of Gainesville State College alumni, faculty, staff, students, community members, and their families come together for the annual **Starlight Concert & Fireworks** on the beautiful Gainesville Campus. This year, we will "Rock through the Decades" with the 80s band, "Brat Pak," and 60s/70s classic band, "Back in Time."

Starlight is a community favorite and the signature event of the Gainesville State College Alumni Association. There are many opportunities to support Starlight! Reserve your table for six, purchase an Alumni package, or be one of our corporate sponsors. Details can be found at [www.gsc.edu/alumni](http://www.gsc.edu/alumni). All proceeds benefit scholarships and student programming.

A.C.E. Catering is providing the opportunity to purchase a pre-packaged gourmet meal for \$13.95 per person! Menu selections include:

**Selection 1: Applewood Smoked Pulled Pork** served with Brunswick stew; redskin potato salad; creamy coleslaw; choice of fresh baked bread or buns; and choice of cookies or triple chocolate brownies.

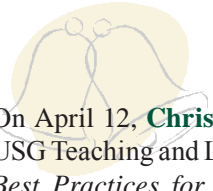
**Selection 2: Grand Summer Salad**, including micro greens with fresh garden vegetables; dried cranberries and blueberries; grated cheeses; and topped with your choice of grilled chicken, grilled shrimp, or smoked pork tenderloin; and your choice of honey-lime vinaigrette and balsamic vinaigrette dressing. Served with fresh baked bread and gourmet cookies or triple chocolate brownies.

The meals will be available for purchase on-site. To guarantee your meal selections, please **pre-order by Monday, June 4**. Pre-orders can be made via email at [downengsc@yahoo.com](mailto:downengsc@yahoo.com) or by calling 678-717-3626. Meals will be available for pickup from 5 to 7 PM.

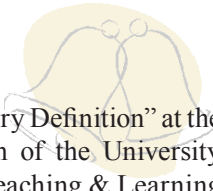
Walk-ins, pets, political signage, advertisements (without sponsorship), sparklers, open flames, and grills are not allowed at this event. The campus is tobacco-free.

For more information, call (678) 717-3648.





# Ringing Our Bells



On April 12, **Chris Jonick** attended the USG Teaching and Learning Conference, *Best Practices for Promoting Engaged Student Learning*, and gave a presentation entitled “Interactive Delivery Tools and Strategies for Online Learning.”

At the end of March, **Dr. Matías Perez-Miñambres** presented a paper entitled, “La pipa de kif de Vale-Inclán y la carnavalización del modernismo” at the Southeast Coastal Conference on Languages and Literatures (SECCL) hosted by Georgia Southern University.

In mid-April, **Dr. Amye R. Sukapdjo** gave a presentation entitled, “Literacy Links: Connecting Global Language Reading and Writing Practices with Identity” at the biennial Global Language Convention sponsored by the Center for the Advancement and Study of International Education (CASIE) in Atlanta.

**Brent Allison** accepted an invitation to join the Editorial Board for the *Journal of Fandom Studies*. The Journal “seeks to offer scholars a dedicated publication that promotes current scholarship into the fields of fan and audience studies across a variety of media.” The editor-in-chief specifically invited Dr. Allison to review essay submissions about education as well as the fandom for Japanese animation and comics.

The following BS education majors participated in the 21st Annual Spelling Bee: Kelly Webb, Caitlin Rodriguez, Emiley Missler, and Jennifer Daniell.

**Dr. Maryellen Cosgrove** served as a judge and timekeeper. The Spelling Bee is an annual event sponsored by the Gainesville – Hall County Alliance for Literacy, a community civic group committed to raising funds to offer free tutoring and GED tests to local adults.

**Ray-Lynn Snowden** presented “Vocabularious Innovations: Engaging Students Through Creative Research To Identify and Present New Words Not Yet

Codified By Dictionary Definition” at the Pecha Kucha session of the University System of Georgia Teaching & Learning Conference, *Best Practices for Engaged Student Learning*. The conference was held at Unicoi State Park near Helen, Georgia, April 12 and 13, 2012.

**Gina Reed** was an invited presenter for the Consortium for The Advancement of Undergraduate Statistics Education (CAUSE) Activity webinar series. Her webinar on service learning in statistics classes was conducted on March 27.

In celebration of Math Awareness Month, **Gina Reed** taught data stories and graphing to five K-1 classes at Oakwood Elementary School on Friday, April 13. She has created a data story competition for all K-1 students in Hall County.

## Announcements

GSC's Politically Incorrect Club hosted a Hall County Sheriff Candidates Debate on Monday, April 23 from 7 to 9 PM. P.I. Club officers and advisor **Douglas Young** worked hard to put together a smooth debate, where a panel of students as well as the audience asked questions of each candidate. U.S. Constitution booklets and voter registration forms were available to everyone.

The final Faculty Senate meeting of the semester is scheduled for Monday, April 30. It will be held in Academic IV, Room 5105, from noon to 1 PM. Dr. Bonita Jacobs, President of North Georgia College & State University, will attend.

Degree Sequence Maps have arrived! Degree Sequence Maps provide students with an overview of degree requirements and help them choose classes for specific programs of study. The information represents ideal, full-time student schedules and is intended to serve as a guide in addition to academic advisement. Degree sequence maps will be updated each academic year. The Map for any major can be accessed through

## Relay seeks support

The Gainesville State College *Relay for Life* team has raffle tickets for your chance to win a 2012 vehicle from Hayes Chrysler. The tickets are \$5 each. Please contact **Dean Lieburn** (ext. 3619) if you are interested.

This year's Hall County *Relay for Life* is scheduled for Road Atlanta June 1-2. Visit the GSC Relay for Life team web page at [http://main.acevents.org/site/TR?pg=team&fr\\_id=39721&team\\_id=996946](http://main.acevents.org/site/TR?pg=team&fr_id=39721&team_id=996946). Please help our team meet its goal of raising \$4,000 in support of the American Cancer Society. Contact any team member for more information: **Ryan Boylan** (Captain), **Stephanie Boylan**, **Gail Barksdale**, **Robin Bright**, **Sheree Gravenhorst**, **Cheryl Harris**, **Dean Lieburn**, **Jeanelle Morgan**, **Thomas Preston**, **Donald Smith**, **Susan Smith**, or **Leslie Worthington**.



the Academic Advisement website.

Please remember when completing work order requests to complete all details—building name and room numbers must be included. (Contractors are not familiar with our buildings, offices, or employee names.)

## Our College Family

**Andrew Santander** and his wife welcomed their new daughter, Elsa Claire, on Monday, April 16, at 8:47 AM. Elsa weighed 7 lbs. and was 19¼ in. long. Congratulations to Andrew and his family!

Congratulations, also, to **Clint Wingo** (Plant Operations) and his wife, Angie, on the birth of their first child, Kiera Quinn Wingo. She was born Friday, April 20, weighing 4 lbs. 14 oz., and measuring 18¼ in. long. Mother, daddy, and daughter are doing well.

Heartfelt condolences to **Peggy Strickland** on the recent death of her mother, Maggie Reed.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 John Mitchell—G Kenneth Mitchell—G	2 Randy Parish Jr.—O	3 Farewell Tea for Dr. Nesbitt Joel Aquino—G	4 Julie Lord—G Tony Phillips—G	5 Spring Commencement Stuart Beaman—G David Slutzky—O
6 Susan Anton—G Susan Brantley—O Kristin Kelly—G Richard Lane—O	7 Phillip Storey—G	8 Norman Leonard—G Jackie Mauldin—G Perry Roberts—G	9 Jessica Bohannon—G Pam Sezgin—O	10 Wes Guevara—G George Justice—G Katie Simmons—G	11 One O'Clock Fridays Begin 	12 Beth Bellamy—G Dawn Drumtra—G Sandra Garner—G
13  Terri Carroll—G	14 Stacy Turner—G	15	16 Laura Glenn—O	17 Lance Bardsley—O Chaudron Gille—G Carrie Wills—G	18 Amye Sukapdjo—G	19 Thomas Jenkins—O Melinda Ward—O Kim Waters—G
20 Phyllis Jackson—G Suzanne Willis—G	21 Robin Anyanwu—G Cara Ray—G	22 Cathy Borders—G Chris Davis—G Ray-Lynn Snowden—G	23 David Becker—G	24 Howington Business Suite Dedication Christine Olson—O	25	26 Tonya Butler-Collins—G Regina Meeler—G
27 Beth Kendall—G	28 NO CLASSES  Jaime Claymore—G Eddie Headrick—G Vicki Pinson—G Shannon Shockley—G	29 Rebar Amedi—G Brian Kline—G Nancy Leizear—G Johanna Rickman—O	30 Omarys Hernandez—G Sam Prestridge—O Connie Ringger—G	31 Kathy Harris—G		