

*Annual Report of
Institutional Progress
2007-08*



THE UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA



The University of Georgia

Annual Report of Institutional Progress 2007-2008

Prepared by the Office of Institutional Effectiveness
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[Cover photo shows 2008 Rhodes Scholars Kate Vyborny and Deep Shah. UGA was the only public university in the country with more than one recipient of this prestigious award.]

Annual Report of Institutional Progress, 2007-08

This annual report is intended to provide an overall summary of institutional accomplishments and initiatives during the 2007-08 academic and fiscal year. President Michael F. Adams marked his 10th anniversary at the helm of the university in September 2007. (For an overview of progress during this period, see <http://www.uga.edu/columns/070827/news-Adams.html>.)

Section 1 – Summary of Major Institutional Accomplishments

Student and Faculty Honors

In November 2007, UGA became the only public university in the country with two Rhodes Scholars with the selection of Deep Shah and Kate Vyborny. Both participated in UGA's prestigious Foundation Fellows Program, and Shah was also a recipient of a 2007 Truman Scholarship.

In spring 2008, UGA students garnered several more national honors: Christina Faust was named a Truman Scholar and Udall Scholar, while Vanessa del Valle was named a Goldwater Scholar. Only three other institutions – Columbia, Stanford and Yale – had at least one Rhodes, Truman, Udall and Goldwater Scholar. In addition, Edmond Fomunung, a native of Cameroon, received the Merage American Dream Fellowship for academically outstanding students who are immigrants to the United States. This is the third consecutive year a UGA student has won this award.

Also, Anjali Shroff was one of 60 national winners of a Phi Kappa Phi Graduate Fellowship and Yael Miller was awarded a National Security Education Program David L. Boren Undergraduate Scholarship to study in Jordan during fall semester. Six recent graduates were named Fulbright recipients for the 2007-2008 academic year, while doctoral student Jessie Fly received a Fulbright-Hays dissertation research award.

Faculty honors included the election of four researchers as fellows of the American Association for the Advancement of Science: Kelly Dawe, Daniel Promislow and Ying Xu from the Franklin College of Arts and Sciences and Sarah Covert from the Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources. Also, Georgia Research Alliance Eminent Scholar Jeff Bennetzen received a Guggenheim Fellowship, and Marguerite Brickman, associate professor of plant biology, was one of seven faculty selected by the University System of Georgia to receive an award for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning, which honors outstanding teaching that significantly improves student achievement. Numerous other faculty received national or international recognition within their academic disciplines.

New/Expanded Academic Programs

On the academic front, UGA opened the nation's first stand-alone School of Ecology, named for Eugene Odum, the late pioneering professor known as the "father of modern ecology." The National Research Council has ranked UGA among the top five institutions in ecological research, and a survey by the Ecological Society of America tabbed UGA as one of the country's top five universities in ecology. UGA also was one of the first universities to offer undergraduate degrees in ecology. The Odum School of Ecology is UGA's 16th academic school/college.

A national search began in the spring for a dean to oversee a partnership in which the Medical College of Georgia and UGA will jointly conduct medical education programs in Athens. The new four-year programs are aimed at addressing the shortage of physicians in Georgia. The Athens medical partnership campus is scheduled to enroll its first students by fall 2010.

In February, the UGA Real Estate Foundation purchased the historic Athens Factory, better known as the O'Malley's building, to be used as a medical teaching facility. UGAREF will renovate the 36,845-square-foot building and lease it to UGA to house the first class of medical students under the MCG/UGA medical education initiative. The renovation will include the creation of classrooms, laboratories, a medical library and faculty offices. It will be flexibly designed so that it will require little or no further modification to be used as teaching and laboratory space after the medical education program's expected eventual relocation to the Navy Supply Corps School property in Athens.

The U.S. Department of Education in March gave contingent approval to UGA's application to acquire the 58-acre Navy School property to create the UGA Health Sciences Center, a health-related academic campus that would become the home for a range of UGA programs, including the MCG/UGA medical education initiative. The Navy is expected to dispose of the property by September 2011.

Fifteen UGA students spent spring semester living and working in the nation's capital as part of a new Washington Semester Program that was launched in fall 2007 under the auspices of UGA's Office of the Vice President for Instruction. The group of juniors and seniors enrolled in 12 credit hours of courses and also served as interns in congressional offices, think tanks and nonprofit organizations in the D.C. area.

A new Interdisciplinary Writing Certificate Program for undergraduates was approved by University Council in the spring – the latest, and perhaps most significant, of several steps the university is taking to provide UGA students in all colleges and fields the opportunity to develop and demonstrate their written communication skills. Other initiatives have included establishing a Writing Center on South Campus and piloting a Writing Fellows Program. Faculty selected as fellows each receive a stipend of \$1,000 to subsidize projects aimed at constructing courses or initiatives to support student writing at UGA.

The University of Georgia Research Foundation reached an agreement in June 2008 to acquire WNEG-TV from Media General, Inc., subject to approval by the Federal Communications Commission. The station will be operated by UGA through its Grady College of Journalism and Mass Communication and will serve Northeast Georgia with high-quality, local interest programming, built primarily around local news and public affairs programming, and featuring UGA academic, cultural and athletic events. The acquisition of WNEG is the foundation for development of a Center for Advanced Media, through which the university plans to distribute content statewide through multiple platforms ranging from satellite to cable to Web. UGA joins a handful of flagship universities nationwide that own commercial licenses.

More UGA students can participate in the university's popular residential study-abroad program in Oxford, England now that the UGA Foundation has purchased a larger building to house the students. With the additional space, UGA will start a new summer MBA program and a Foundation Fellows program. The Oxford program is one of 100 study-abroad programs UGA

offers. Nearly 30 percent of UGA undergraduates are involved in some form of international education each year.

In May, faculty and staff at UGA's Gwinnett Campus relocated to the Intellicenter Building at 2530 Sever Road in Lawrenceville, just off I-85 at the Old Peachtree Road exit. UGA programs now occupy 60,000 square feet of the building, providing more space to accommodate growth. UGA has offered graduate degree programs at several different locations in Gwinnett since the mid-1980s, but increased the number and variety of programs in recent years. Current offerings include master's degrees from several UGA schools and colleges including the Terry College of Business, School of Public and International Affairs, School of Social Work, and College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences.

The College of Education offers both master's and specialist (Ed.S.) degrees and started a new doctoral program – the first to be offered in Gwinnett – in counseling and student personnel services. UGA's College of Pharmacy offers certificate and master's programs. The Small Business Development Center office in Gwinnett and the Educational Technology Training Center operated by UGA's College of Education in Gwinnett also moved to the new facility.

Three new undergraduate programs were offered for the first time in the fall at UGA's Griffin Campus: a major in general business offered by UGA's Terry College of Business, a major in microbiology offered by UGA's Franklin College of Arts and Sciences, and a major in special education offered by UGA's College of Education. These are upper-division programs for transfer students or those seeking a second bachelor's degree. UGA's College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences also added a master's degree program in agricultural leadership in the fall.

The Griffin campus, located 40 miles south of Atlanta, was founded in 1888 as an agricultural experiment station and today houses UGA faculty engaged in cutting-edge research in urban agriculture and food science and safety. Degree programs were offered there for the first time in fall 2005. With the approval of the new programs, UGA now offers seven undergraduate majors and two graduate degree programs in Griffin. Groundbreaking for a new student learning center on the Griffin Campus was held in August 2007.

Research and Outreach

A notable initiative of the Office of the Vice President for Research was the establishment of a new multidisciplinary Faculty of Infectious Diseases to address infectious disease threats to animals and human health worldwide. Research goals for the new faculty include increasing understanding of the basic biology of infectious agents, their interactions with human and animal hosts, their natural ecology and the epidemiology of the diseases they cause. Equally important, the new faculty will focus on the application of this knowledge to improving the detection, control and prevention of infectious diseases through countermeasures such as vaccines, therapeutics and diagnostics.

The Faculty of Infectious Diseases builds on a combination of historic strengths plus recent UGA investments in faculty and infrastructure that position the university to be a major player nationally in the area of infectious diseases, especially zoonotic emerging infectious diseases – including bird flu, West Nile Virus, tularemia and HIV.

To aid researchers in working together in collaborative, interdisciplinary teams, OVPR launched the Faculty Research Expertise Database (FRED), which brings data on all faculty research interests to one easily accessible search engine.

Among new commercial applications for research, UGA scientists developed an effective technology for reducing contamination of dangerous bacteria on food. The new antimicrobial wash rapidly kills Salmonella and E. coli O157:H7 on foods ranging from fragile lettuce to tomatoes, fruits, poultry products and meats. It is made from inexpensive and readily available ingredients that are recognized as safe by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

The new technology, which has commercial application for the produce, poultry, meat and egg processing industries, is available for licensing from the University of Georgia Research Foundation, which has filed a patent application on the new technology.

UGARF's success in technology commercialization placed it among the best in the nation in 2006, according to the latest survey by the Association of University Technology Managers released in January 2008. In the survey of approximately 150 universities, UGA ranked 19th, up from 24th the previous year, with \$16.8 million. UGA comes in at 10th among all public universities, ahead of Georgia's other public universities. UGA is among the 28 U.S. public and private universities reporting annual licensing income of over \$10 million in 2006. This is the sixth straight year that UGARF's licensing income has increased.

Major grants to UGA researchers announced in 2007-08 included:

- multiple grants totaling \$9 million from both federal and private sources to improve the quality of substance abuse treatment;
- a \$4.1 million grant from the Department of Agriculture to find solutions to the problem that is killing bees in 36 states;
- a \$3.4 million grant from the National Institute of Mental Health to translate a community-based program focused on harnessing the strengths of rural African-American families and communities into a computer-based model for in-home delivery.

The Office of the Vice President for Public Service and Outreach announced a new campus-wide award that will honor tenured faculty whose scholarship has made significant contributions toward identifying or addressing issues of public concern. The Scholarship of Engagement Award provides the honoree with a \$5,000 faculty development grant to support outreach projects. The first award was presented in February to William S. Kisaalita, who has merged his research interests in biological and agricultural engineering with his commitment to actively encourage students to apply what they learn in the classroom to real-world problems.

Major Events

Five former U.S. secretaries of state—Colin Powell, Henry Kissinger, James Baker III, Warren Christopher and Madeleine Albright—convened in Athens in March for a roundtable discussion of foreign policy issues. The two-hour event was sponsored by the Dean Rusk Center at UGA's School of Law and the Southern Center for International Studies. It was the 16th such event and drew a sold-out crowd of more than 2,000. The panel touched on issues ranging from the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan to global climate change to the rise of Russia, China and India as major players on the world stage.

The Office of Institutional Diversity unveiled portraits of Charlayne Hunter-Gault, Mary Frances Early and Hamilton Holmes, who integrated the university in 1961. The portraits hang on the wall in the Holmes-Hunter Academic Building and were also featured on the cover of the university's 2007 Fact Book.

Thirty-five recipients of the 67th Annual Peabody Awards were honored in June at a luncheon at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in New York City. The awards program is administered by UGA's Grady College of Journalism and Mass Communication. The winners, chosen by the Peabody board as the best in electronic media for 2007, were selected from more than 1,000 entries, which become a permanent part of the Peabody Archive in the University of Georgia Libraries. The collection is one of the nation's oldest, largest and most respected moving-image archives.

Other major events included presentation of the Delta Prize for Global Understanding to Martti Ahtisaari, former president of Finland, for his efforts to secure peace in Kosovo, Namibia, Aceh, and other troubled parts of the world. He was honored at a ceremony on campus in April. In March, UGA hosted the renowned Oxford Union Society for a formal debate against an elite UGA student team drawn from the membership of the Georgia Debate Union, the Demosthenian and Phi Kappa Literary Societies, the Law School and other organizations.

On the athletics front, UGA teams won three national championships and four SEC championships in 2008. The Gym Dogs won their ninth national title and fourth in a row, while the men's tennis team won their second in a row. The equestrian team won their third national title since the program's inception in 2002.

Construction Projects

Groundbreaking for Pharmacy South – the \$42.9 million, 93,288-square-foot addition to the College of Pharmacy – was held in November. The new facility will serve the state's pharmacy needs by accommodating expanded class sizes by 50 to 75 students and will provide much-needed research space. The expansion also includes a Student Learning Center and a Pharmacy Care Center. The Care Center will be a teaching area which will include a community pharmacy, a hospital pharmacy, a sterile products room, an intravenous prep room and multi-purpose skills alcoves used for compounding, patient examinations and patient counseling. Completion is expected in 2009.

Construction continued on the new Lamar Dodd School of Art building on the University of Georgia's East Campus, with a dedication ceremony planned for fall 2008. The Lamar Dodd School, one of the nation's largest university art programs with more than 1,000 majors, had long since outgrown the visual arts building on UGA's North Campus where it has been located since 1961. Construction on the \$40 million building began in 2006 and faculty were scheduled to begin moving in over the summer. The three-story, 172,000-square-foot building features many large windows and expansive interior spaces that maximize natural light. A two-story lobby atrium, with a media center mezzanine, is bisected by a central staircase that provides access to classrooms and studios. The building also includes two lecture auditoriums, faculty offices and studios and a spacious courtyard.

In keeping with UGA's commitment to environmental sustainability, the building includes many energy-and water-saving features; the roof of one of the auditoriums is a 3,400-square-foot "green roof" carpeted with plants.

Another major project under way is the expansion of the Tate Student Center. In the spring, students, faculty and staff were given the chance to sign a 22-foot steel beam that will support the roof of the new building before it was put in place in late May. The \$58-million Tate Student Center expansion and renovation project, expected to be completed in late spring 2009, is funded through a student activity fee increase approved by students in a 2005 referendum vote.

Ground was broken in the spring for the Health Center's expansion and renovation. The first phase of the \$17 million project will relocate the parking lot and increase patient and handicapped spaces. The 30,000-square-foot expansion phase will include a new service: a vision clinic to assist students with their eye care. Completion is expected in 2009.

Campus Security

UGA's Office of Security and Emergency Preparedness launched the UGAAlert emergency notification system. The system allows the university to send out messages via voice, text or email to registered users – up to 2 million 60-second voice messages per hour. Mandating participation of students and employees in the UGAAlert System was one of 38 recommendations from two committees that studied campus safety issues over a four-month period in the aftermath of the Virginia Tech shootings. Another recommendation involves the creation of a Behavioral Assessment and Response Council to rapidly assess and determine appropriate responses to serious behavioral problems exhibited by members of the university community.

Academic/Administrative Appointments

During 2007-08, several national searches were conducted for key academic and administrative positions. Tom Landrum was named senior vice president for external affairs after serving in that role on an interim basis. Daniel Nadenicek came to UGA from Clemson to become dean of the College of Environment and Design, and Arthur Horne was named dean of the College of Education after serving as interim dean. Other appointments included Bonnie Joerschke as director of Student Financial Aid, Denise Gardner as director of Institutional Research and William Crowe as director of the Georgia Center for Continuing Education.

Section 2 – Assessing Institutional Effectiveness

National Survey of Student Engagement

A UGA steering committee headed by Ann Crowther and Denise Gardner analyzed results from student participation in the 2007 National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) and made arrangements for randomly selected freshmen and seniors to participate in the 2008 survey, which is administered by the Center for Postsecondary Research at Indiana University. In addition, a sampling of faculty members was asked to respond to the related Faculty Survey of Student Engagement (FSSE) in the spring.

The national survey has been conducted annually since 2000. UGA has participated in NSSE in 2003, 2005 and 2007, and in a pilot test of FSSE in 2003. Since UGA first participated in the NSSE survey in 2003, a number of initiatives have been undertaken as a direct or indirect result of information received from the surveys, such as the creation of the Office of Service-Learning, a major on-going Writing Initiative, and the Task Force on General Education and Student Learning.

In the 2007 survey, as in past surveys, UGA students evaluated their overall educational experience more positively than students from selected peer institutions as well as all students who took part in the survey. But 2007 survey data also indicated that UGA must continue to focus on the goal of advancing the level of academic challenges in the classroom.

Preparation for SACS Reaccreditation

The Office of Institutional Effectiveness continued its preparations for the upcoming 2010-11 SACS review for reaffirmation of accreditation. In March, the office hosted a “kick off” event to explain the new review process and accreditation timeline to campus leaders. One important addition to the process is the Quality Enhancement Plan requirement, which calls for institutions to develop an initiative to improve undergraduate education in a measurable way. Three SACS teams were named—Leadership Team, Quality Enhancement Team, and Compliance Team. During the summer of 2008, the Compliance Team conducted an audit to identify particular areas of accreditation that would require special attention. Efforts in the area of documenting faculty credentials continued, with the goal of providing an electronic report that will match faculty degrees with the classes they teach.

Health Center Accreditation

UGA’s Health Center was awarded the highest recognition for health care organizations – accreditation for all services – by the Joint Commission, the most prestigious health care accrediting body in the country. The review found the Health Center in full compliance. The Health Center voluntarily goes through the rigorous accreditation process to insure that UGA students receive the highest quality health care. It is surveyed every three years and has been accredited since the mid-seventies. Only 28 out of 1,700 college health centers nationwide choose to go through the challenging Joint Commission accrediting process and UGA’s is the only college health center accredited by the Joint Commission in the state.

Section 3 – Measures of Overall Institutional Health

Freshmen set records for academic quality

The 4,700 new freshmen who entered UGA in 2007 – drawn from the largest applicant pool in UGA history – were the most academically talented in the institution’s history, as measured by several factors. The class had an average GPA of almost 3.8. The average SAT rose to 1242 for the critical reading and math combined, with a 604 on the new writing section. Of the students who took the ACT, the mean score was a 27. Some 90 percent of the incoming freshmen took College Board Advanced Placement classes and 10 percent took college courses while in high school. Approximately 500 of the students enrolled in UGA’s nationally recognized Honors Program. These academically superior students had grade point averages in the 3.99-4.18 range, and 50 percent of them had an SAT between 1410-1480.

About 20 percent of the new first-year students self-identified as being from an under-represented minority group. Almost 7 percent of the class is African American and over 2 percent Hispanic. The class is geographically diverse with 160 students representing 51 different countries and more than 230 students from homes where English is not the native language. In-state students – who account for 83 percent of the class – come from more than 400 Georgia high schools in 144 counties.

Archway to Excellence campaign exceeds goal

The University of Georgia received a total of \$653,647,368 in gifts and commitments during its seven-year Archway to Excellence fundraising campaign that ended June 30, 2008. The total surpassed the campaign goal by more than \$150 million and makes the campaign far and away the most successful fundraising effort in UGA's 223-year history.

More than 102,000 donors contributed to the campaign, which began in 2001 with a goal of \$500 million. That goal was surpassed in April 2007, but the campaign continued until its planned conclusion, resulting in a final tally 30 percent above the goal.

A highlight of the campaign came in 2006 when private giving for the fiscal year topped \$100 million for the first time. That benchmark was repeated in 2007 and 2008, as gifts and commitments for FY08 totaled \$103.9 million. Gift receipts in FY08 came from 50,697 contributors, with 20 gifts and new commitments for \$1 million or more. Giving through the Georgia Fund, UGA's annual giving program, set a new record of \$10.6 million.

UGA ranked in top 20 public universities in "Best Colleges" guide

UGA tied for 20th among public universities and tied for 59th out of 124 "national universities" in the 2008 edition of *U.S. News & World Report's* "Best Colleges" guide, published in August 2007. This marked the ninth consecutive year that UGA ranked 22nd or higher among the leading public universities in the nation. UGA also was listed in the guide among 25 national universities whose graduates have the least debt.

The undergraduate program in the Terry College of Business ranked 27th overall and 17th among public business schools. The ranking is the college's highest of the past five years. Terry's risk management and insurance program maintained its second place ranking nationally; its real estate program is ranked third.

U.S. News considers several factors in producing the annual ranking including academic reputation, student retention, graduation rates, class sizes, faculty resources, student quality and alumni giving rate.

UGA graduate programs continue to rank among the best in the nation

UGA graduate programs remained among the best in the nation, according to *U.S. News & World Report's* "America's Best Graduate Schools" guide, published in spring 2008. The College of Education moved up in the rankings to a 25th place tie. The School of Law rose four spots to tie for 32nd, while the Terry College of Business tied for 49th among more than 500 accredited business schools.

UGA's College of Education ranked 18th among the nation's public universities and among the top three education colleges in the South. Six of the college's specialty programs rank in the top 10 nationally: elementary education (tied for 3rd), vocational/technical education (3rd), secondary education (4th), higher education administration (7th), counseling/personnel services

(6th) and curriculum/instruction (8th). Three more COE specialty programs ranked in the top 20: educational psychology (18th), special education (15th) and administration/supervision (19th).

The School of Public and International Affairs' master of public administration (MPA) degree program shared a fourth place ranking with Princeton University. SPIA's public finance and budgeting specialization and the public management and administration specialization both held second place rankings in their respective top 10 categories.

The School of Social Work's master of social work program tied for 30th. The program ranked 4th in the Southeast and in the top 15 percent of MSW programs accredited by the Council on Social Work Education.