Georgia State University

Library modernizes space, reorganizes collection

By John Allen
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A handful of books donated 75 years ago became the foundation of the Georgia State University library system that now counts more than 1.4 million volumes in its permanent collection.

Today, in an effort to deal with decades of growing pains and better serve its more than 1.3 million annual visitors, the library is undergoing a $20 million transformation. The modernization, driven by a heavy dose of student design input and monetary support, will centralize service, upgrade technology, better organize the current collection and provide space for anticipated growth.

Senior William Moore, Student Government Association vice president, serves as student representative on the Library Transformation Task Force, which is comprised of students, faculty and administrators. The task force is charged with developing a comprehensive renovation plan from concept to completion.

“I’m here to share my classmates’ perspectives with the architects, to tell them what we want,” Moore said. “We’re helping to pay for this project and we’ve invested in it.”

Renovations are funded in part by a $35-per-semester student fee approved last September by the Student Government Association. The construction phase will begin in August and is scheduled for completion by the start of fall semester 2007. In preparation, library staff is moving about a million books, in half-floor increments, to clear space.

Library assistant Khyle Hannan is one of many staff members involved in moving a million books to make room for renovations to the library.

Booking a trip. Library assistant Kylee Hannon is one of many staff members involved in moving a million books to make room for renovations to the library.

“T he university wouldn’t be successful in moving the more into the same color on all sides when the reorganization is complete. “It’s a very daunting process. A lot of planning and forethought goes into it,” Houle said. “Nearly every staff and faculty member at some point in the process has either been actually schlepping books or tearing down old book shelves or moving furniture.”

Planned features include an information commons on the first floor of the north library building. The space will be designed for patrons on the go, with computers available to check e-mail, up-to-date periodicals to stay abreast of current events and a coffee shop. The first-floor ceiling will be opened up with a grand staircase leading to a second floor learning commons where reading, writing, research, instruction and technology resources will be available to students. It will be staffed mainly by librarians to help students with school projects. Floors three through five will house the general collection on upper-shelf shelving.

Other new amenities will include expanded bridges—a student request—connecting the north and south buildings. The additional 2,500 square feet will overlook the planned Main Street Plaza and will feature wireless networks and workspace for 90 students. The renovation also will include about 50 small and large group-study rooms featuring wireless network connections or network ports.

“Being part of this project makes students feel like we actually matter,” said undergraduate Erin Glynn. “It’s an opportunity to influence what our campus will be like years from now. Our students and our city need this project.”

2006 legislative session wraps up: science teaching lab funding approved

By LaSh Harris
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Georgia State University officials hope to break ground on the Parker H. Petit Science Teaching Laboratory this fall. The Georgia General Assembly approved the appropriation of $37.5 million needed to construct the building. The allocation for construction is over $35 million needed to construct the building. The allocation for construction is over $35 million needed to construct the building.

Sen. Bill Cagle, R-Toccoa, who sponsored the bill during the session, and we as a university are particularly grateful for their support,” said Rep. Stehele, Georgia State’s legislative vice president for external affairs. “This $37.5 million is over and above the support that the state provides to the university for day-to-day operations.”

Gov. Sonny Perdue has until May 9 to sign the budget. The science teaching lab to be built at the corner of Decatur Street and Piedmont Avenue will become part of a $250 million University Science Park complex, which will include a $65 million science research laboratory that will be built concurrently with the science teaching laboratory. Eventually the science park will include an economic development incubator and a center for advanced collaboration.

“The (Pritt Science Teaching Lab) will primarily serve our undergraduate science students and help us provide a learning environment that our students have deserved for a long time,” Sheheane said. “It’s also a catalyst for the good work that will be going on in the University Science Park.”

Although Stehele said the 40-day session was often a roller coaster ride, it also was a productive session for the University System of Georgia. Final budget numbers include: $60 million for major repairs and renovations (approximately $4 million to Georgia State); $53 million for enrollment growth formula funds; and $38,145 in additional funds for Georgia State’s Fiscal Research Center, which provides nonpartisan research, technical assistance and education in the evaluation and design of state and local fiscal and economic policy.

The budget also includes a 4 percent increase pool for merit raises for University System of Georgia faculty and staff, the largest in five years. The merit salary increases, effective Jan. 1, 2007, will enable the university to attract and retain the very best and brightest faculty and staff, Sheheane said. He also praised the AlumNet members, Georgia State’s legislative alumni network.

“The university wouldn’t be successful in these efforts without the work of the AlumNet team, which shares Georgia State’s legislative priorities with their respective lawmakers across the state,” President Carroll F. Paulson said.

“Twelve months of the year we are cultivating relationships and strengthening our bonds with our elected officials,” Sheheane said. “Right now, I would encourage all university faculty and staff to take a moment to thank their state representative and state senator for supporting higher education and Georgia State University. It’s imperative that we take the time to let them know what’s important to us.”

What’s the goal of this year’s campus campaign?

The goal is to raise at least $500,000 and meet or exceed the participation rate of last year. If the enthusiasm of the people heading it up has anything to do with it, it ought to be a very successful campaign.

As a substantial donor through your many years of service to Georgia State, why do you think it’s important for employees to invest in the university?

Well, I’m an alumnus, so I have some loyalty to the school and I think contributing to the campaign is a way for all employees to show loyalty. The school has made some great strides in the past several years, particularly in the last five or six years. I think it’s money well-invested and will be put to good use. It’s a chance for us to give something back.

In terms of investment, what do you see for the university going forward?

Oh, I see great strides, especially some of the changes in the works, like the Main Street Plaza project, the new student housing going up on Piedmont and at some point in time, building a new basketball arena. The possibilities are endless.

Let’s see, coach, any idea where you’d like to see a portion of campaign funds go?

There are still a lot of needs in the university, particularly in improving athletics facilities—I know there is a great need there.

Sound BITE

“None of the [other] big box stores are paying any attention to distressed areas.”

- Ken Bernhardt, marketing professor, in an Atlanta Journal-Constitution opinion column about Wal-Mart’s announcement to open 50 stores in inner-city neighborhoods with high crime or unemployment rates.
Georgia State awarded Governor’s Cup

By Leah Harris
lhb@gsu.edu

Georgia State University was awarded the Governor’s Cup in March for the first time in the history of the State Scholarships Program. Georgia State, which raised $141,200 during the program, was given the honor for collecting the most money per employee among schools with 1,000 to 9,000 employees.

Created in 1982 by the Georgia General Assembly, the program grants state employees the opportunity to give to more than 1,200 charitable organizations through a one-time gift of at least $1 or a year-long payroll deduction of as little as $5 per month. The campaign, which raised a total of $2,517,690, a $21,000 increase from 2005.

“The people of Georgia State University really set a high mark for giving and that’s says so much about who we are,” said Greg Jones, manager of marketing and public relations, who co-chaired the campaign. “It’s always nice to have our work acknowledged. This is a milestone for the university and this really was a massive team effort.”

Volunteers worked in designated units, collecting 100% of the campaign goal in more than four months to solicit contributions, Jones said. More than 1,450 employees contributed to the campaign, with retired faculty and staff being the highest per capita contributors.

“We knew right after hurricane Katrina that there was a huge push by many national and international service and debate training to middle school students in Atlanta’s public housing communities. These benefits have been striking. Students who participated in the program improved their grade averages and reported a 50 percent drop in disciplinary problems. Several students have said that joining the program kept them from joining a gang.

Last year, the program was named a signature school in Laura Bush’s White House Helping America’s Youth Program. It also has received the Atlanta Housing Authority President’s Award for Outstanding Service to Youth. Stuckey won the John StooTe Teaching Award, also from the Southern States Communication Outreach, for his innovative teaching and for his mentoring of other teachers. Stuckey, who has a joint appointment in the department of political science, teaches courses in media and politics, the presidency, the rhetoric of hatred, and political communication, among others.

She also teaches others how to teach. Recently, Georgia State’s Center for Teaching and Learning awarded him a two-year grant to develop a university-wide plan for mentoring graduate teaching assistants. Stuckey is working with the faculty quality assessment program at the College of Education on the project. The professors received their respective awards April 8 at the association’s annual conference in Dallas.

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Student teachers spend time in Chinese educational system

Ten College of Education students from the department of early childhood education are studying in Chengdu, China, April 1-30. The purpose of this study abroad program, which is directed by Yali Zhao, assistant professor in the department, is to prepare preschool teachers for multicultural educational environments by promoting hands-on experiential knowledge in international teacher education.

Through the college’s partnership with Sichuan Normal University, the students were divided into two groups and placed in two schools, Lab School of Sichuan Normal University and Chengdu Elido Primary School. By participating in the program, College of Education graduates will be equipped with the essential tools needed to adapt to diverse educational systems locally and internationally. Additionally, through exposure to the Chinese educational system, it is hoped that participants will be able to interact more effectively with students from diverse racial, cultural, ethnic and socioeconomic backgrounds. As preschool teachers learn to provide culturally competent programming and activities, it is expected that learning will be enhanced within comfortable settings. Furthermore, this program will expand the opportunities for students to develop global perspectives and comparative knowledge of educational systems in China.

COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SCIENCES

The Institute of Public Health to collaborate in May AIDS conference

Georgia State’s Institute of Public Health, along with the International Training Center for Local Authorities and Civil Society (Iillin Atlanta), is co-hosting the 2006 City AIDS America Conference May 21-25 on the Geor gia State campus.

The conference, the second annual training workshop of the Americas Leadership Initiative for AIDS Competence, is by invitation only and is expected to be attended by representa tives from more than 25 top urban areas across North, Central and South America. A growing number of city leaders are looking at the challenges HIV/AIDS presents to cities in an effort to better confront the growing threat of HIV/AIDS and make a difference in the reaction to this international pandemic. Although the conference is a closed event, the last day, May 25, will feature a public forum for mayors, business leaders and civil leaders to publicize the results of the conference. For more details on the conference, visit www.csuas.org.

COLLEGE OF LAW

Jacks hold court at College of Law

As a celebratory event during its centen nial year, a panel from the Georgia Court of Appeals heard oral arguments in three cases March 27 at Georgia State University College of Law. One of the three cases, which was opened to the public, was decided instead of having a campaign kick off earlier in the year to immediately integrate our university’s employees into those educational systems locally and internationally. In addition, through exposure to the Chinese educational system, it is hoped that participants will be able to interact more effectively with students from diverse racial, cultural, ethnic and socioeconomic backgrounds. As preschool teachers learn to provide culturally competent programming and activities, it is expected that learning will be enhanced within comfortable settings. Furthermore, this program will expand the opportunities for students to develop global perspectives and comparative knowledge of educational systems in China.

J. MACK ROBINSON COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Robinson honors 2006 Hall of Fame inductees

Atlanta Mayor Shirley Franklin, UPS chair man and CEO Michael Eskew, and retired BellSouth vice chairman Jere Drummond have been named as 2006 inductees into the J. Mack Robinson College of Business’s Hall of Fame. The Business Hall of Fame provides the highest recognition given by the college to business leaders for their efforts in advancing the principles of the free market system while serving Atlanta’s national and international business communities.

For the fourth consecutive year, Bank of America is serving as the presenting sponsor of the 22nd Annual Hall of Fame event dinner on May 11 at the Ritz Carlton Buckhead.

For more information, or to RSVP call Steve Strickland at 404/651-2707 or by e-mail at aluwhq@atlanta.gsu.edu. The deadline to register is April 28.
Georgia State’s Model Arab League wins regional conference award

Georgia State’s Model Arab League Team participated in the Southeastern Regional Model Arab League conference March 17-19. For the third year in a row, the Georgia State team, which represented Mauritania, won the Outstanding Delegation Award.

In addition to the team award, nine delegates won individual awards. Gary Whidby, Alma Lipja, Jenna Scott, Serene Khashan, Zaynab Abul-Razacq and Ashley Gholamhosseini won Outstanding Delegate awards. Brian Mealy and Cody Covington won Honorary Mention awards and Charles Keller, the team’s delegate to the Arab Court of Justice, won the Outstanding Justice Award.

New library databases support urban health, humanities research

The University Library recently extended its urban health and humanities resources to include two new online research databases – Global Health and the Humanities International Index.

The Global Health database contains citations and abstracts for nearly 900,000 health records dating from 1973 to the present, including more than 3,500 journals, books, research reports, patents and dissertations, from more than 125 countries. The database was purchased using special funds provided to support Georgia State’s urban health area of focus.

The Humanities International Index provides citations and abstracts for articles, essays, reviews and original creative works such as poems, fiction, photographs, paintings and illustrations. The index contains more than 1.6 million records and coverage of nearly 2,000 titles dating as far back as 1925. The index replaces the American Humanities Index, which has been discontinued by its publisher.

These and hundreds of other databases are available at www.library.gsu.edu/databases.
• **Tuesday, April 25**


**Villager**

404/651-1405 or aristvls@gsu.edu

7 p.m. The Core University Values Film and Discussion Series - Crush: The series focuses on some of the core values of Georgia State. The film will be followed by a discussion of the respective values. The series is sponsored by Georgia State University Division of Student Services. Student Center Speaker’s Auditorium. Free. 404/463-9025.

**Applause**

• **Wednesday, April 26**

10 a.m. Red Cross Blood Drive. Come out and help save a life! Register online at www.gsu.edu/service, click on blood drive and use sponsor code Georgiasu. 460/465 University Center. Free. Contact: Kimmuriphy@gsu.edu

3 p.m. College of Arts and Sciences Lecture Series Jeffrey Stout. Stout will speak on “The Spirit of Democracy in Dark Times.” Stout is a professor of religion, social criticism, political thought, modern theology and film. Troy Moore Library, 939 General Classroom Building. Free. Contact: www.cas.gsu.edu or 404/651-2294.

4 p.m. Biology Graduate Seminar: Susanna Greer. Assistant professor of biology, will give an overview of her research program. Room 200, General Classroom Building. Free. Candice Long at biosci@gsu.edu.

7:30 p.m. Neophonia. The spirited chamber ensemble presents “Composers Among Us.” This concert features music written by local composers. Nickias J. Demos, artistic director. Kopell Recital Hall. Free. 404/651-INFO.

• **Thursday, April 27**

2 p.m. Usery Lecture Series: “Whither the Social Safety Net?” The Andrew Young School of Policy Studies and The Usery Center host the second WJ. Usery Distinguished Lecture. The guest speaker for the lecture will be Alan B. Krueger, Bennett Professor of Economists and Public Affairs, director of the Survey Research Center, and director of the Industrial Relations Section at the Woods School at Princeton University. 7th Floor, Andrew Young School of Policy Studies Building. Free. http://apsys.gsu.edu/events/2006/userry2.htm. Avani Raval. 404/651-0953.

4 p.m. College of Education Honors Day Ceremony: Annual honors ceremony recognizing College of Education students, faculty, staff and alumni. Rialto Center for the Performing Arts. Invitation only. Contact Angela Tsivk at 404/651-4035 or atsv@gsu.edu.

5:30 p.m. Andrew Young School of Policy Studies Honors Day Awards Ceremony. Student Center Capitol Ballroom. Invitation only. Contact Avani Raval at 404/651-0953.

• **Friday, April 28**

9:30 a.m. Biology Graduate Seminar: Shougang Jin, Jin, of the department of molecular genetics and microbiology at the University of Florida, will speak on “Regulation of type III Secretion System in Pseudomonas aerugi- nosa.” Chuan-Die Lu will host. Room 500, General Classroom Building. Free. Contact: Candice Long at biosci@gsu.edu.


4 p.m. Biology Undergraduate Seminar: Suzanna Greer. Great, assistant professor of biology, will give an overview of her research program. Room 200, General Classroom Building. Free. Candice Long at biosci@gsu.edu.

7:30 p.m. Neophonia. The spirited chamber ensemble presents “Composers Among Us.” This concert features music written by local composers. Nickias J. Demos, artistic director. Kopell Recital Hall. Free. 404/651-INFO.

• **Saturday, April 29**

2 p.m. Softball. Lady Panthers vs. Towson (Doubleheader). Second game starts at 4:30 p.m. Panthereville. Free. 404/651-4629.

• **Sunday, April 30**


Perry Binder, professor of risk management and insurance, had an article accepted for publication in the *Health Economics Online*. The article is titled “Handing Employee Blog: HIC’s Seat at the Table?”

Myra Carmoon, associate professor of nursing, received the 2006 Grassroots Advocacy Award presented March 31st by the National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners’ 27th Annual Conference in Washington, D.C. The award recognizes a person who has demonstrated sustained advocacy in the area of child health policy or professional practice issues for pediatric nurse practitioners.

Jim Can, Noah Langdale Jr. Eminent Scholar Chair, recently presented two papers at an economics department seminar at Laval Uni- versity in Quebec City, Canada. He presented “On the Empirical Plausibility Theories of Risk Aversion” and “Small and Large-Stakes Risk Aversion: Implications of Complexity Calibration for Decision Theory,” which was co-authored with Vojtka Sadrak, visiting research assistant professor of economics.

Denise Davidson, assistant professor of his- tory, was a Fulbright Fellow for research in France. Her current research projects include a study of bourgeois social and familial networks in France from 1780 to 1830, with an emphasis on the importance of written cor- respondence in building these networks.

Tammy DelMel, associate director of external affairs for the J. Mack Robinson College of Business, led a discussion panel on “Best Media Practices” at the Association to Advance Col- lege Schools of Business (AACSBI) Branding and Development conference in New York.

Karen E. Gieckner, assistant professor in the Institute of Public Health, recently traveled to Tanzania to begin work on a two-year CDC/Georgia State funded research project, “An Assessment of Sustainability of Com- munity-Based Interventions in Northwestern Tanzania.” This collaboration will help direct future efforts in resource-short settings.

Maria P. Gindhart, assistant professor of art history, has been selected as the 2005-2006 Distinguished Honors Professor. She speci- alizes in American and European art of the 19th century. Gindhart was presented with a me- ditation and $1,800 for research at the College of Arts and Sciences on April 12 at the Rialto Center for the Performing Arts.

Charles Hopper, who leads the instrument shop for the department of physics and evokes the vibrant rhythms of her country’s long and cherished folk-music legacy but also her hip, contemporary instrumentation, evokes the vibrant rhythms of her country’s long and cherished folk-music legacy but also her hip, contemporary instrumentation. Lila Downs’s Mexican-American chanteuse Lila Downs was recognized as the 2005-2006 Distinguished Honors Professor. She specializes in American and European art of the 19th century. Gindhart was presented with a meditation and $1,800 for research at the College of Arts and Sciences on April 12 at the Rialto Center for the Performing Arts.

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**University CALENDAR**

**Applause**

**Outdoor Forecast - WARM and FUN**

**Water Skiing/Wake Boarding**

*May 14*

June 18

**Horseback Riding**

*April 29*

**Kaya School begins**

*May 4*

**Panther Creek Day Hike**

*April 29*

**Tandem Canoe - Day School**

*June 1-4*

*www.gsu.edu/recreation*

*for info call 404-463-1525*

**Clifford Poole,** academic advisor in the Student Advisement Center, presented “The Advisor’s Road Trip: Finding direction in your career path” at the Region 4 National Academic Advising Conference held at Georgia State.


Heather Russell, assistant to the directors of creative writing and undergraduate studies, won the Outstanding Junior Staff Award for employees with one to five years of service, announced as part of the College of Arts and Sciences first Annual Staff Awards.

John Thomas, professor of public admin- istration and urban studies, presented the paper “Creating a Citizen-Friendly City Hall” at the Conference on the Continuing Transformation of Public Administration at the City University of Hong Kong in Hong Kong, China, in March.

Colin Thornton, associate professor of mar- keting, authored a paper that will appear in the journal* Creating a Citizen-Friendly City Hall* at the Conference on the Continuing Transformation of Public Administration at the City University of Hong Kong in Hong Kong, China, in March.

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