A touch of greatness
Former NFL head coach Dan Reeves to steer football exploration

By William Inman • winman@gsu.edu

The tone of the conversation about a football program at Georgia State struck a very serious chord April 12 when it was announced that former NFL head coach Dan Reeves would be hired as a consultant for the university as it examines the addition of football.

Athletic Director Mary McElroy said she hopes to capitalize on the wide football knowledge and connections of the nine-time Super Bowl participant.

“We are turning to a real football expert to be our quarterback,” she said. “I hope to use the skepticism and show we’re very serious about this.”

Reeves, a former player for the Dallas Cowboys and head coach for the Atlanta Falcons, Denver Broncos and New York Giants, is a Georgia native and Atlanta resident with extensive ties to football circles in the state.

“When someone mentions starting a football program in the state of Georgia and asks Am I interested? You bet,” he said.

Reeves’ hiring comes on the heels of two April 10 Town Hall meetings at the Sports Arena where it was announced that if a team were added, it would most likely play in the Georgia Dome.

Georgia State would participate at the NCAA Football Championship Subdivision level – formerly Division I-AA – and would compete in the Colonial Athletic Association as the eighth football team in the conference.

McElroy said the addition of Reeves does not mean the school is starting a football program, but said “we are aggressively looking for the answers to see if the financial support will meet the emotional support in order to do that.”

She added that if the university did decide to add football, it would still be three to four years before a team would take the field.

Reeves noted that if football at Georgia State wasn’t likely, he probably wouldn’t have taken the job. “If I didn’t think there was a good chance this would move forward, I wouldn’t be as excited,” he said.

According to the football feasibility study conducted last fall, costs to maintain a football program would range around $6 million annually with an estimated startup cost of $7.8 million.

“This project is a gargantuan task,” McElroy said.

But Reeves, a former quarterback for the Americus, Ga., Panthers, is ready for the challenge.

“I started out as a Panther, and I’m going to end up a Panther, I guess,” he said.

Rod Barnes
Head Men’s Basketball Coach

How are things coming along? Are you close to assembling a staff?

With the Final Four here I was able to interview a lot of guys, and we’re close. We just hired Chad Dollar and Eugene Harris as assistants. Coach Dollar is an excellent recruiter, and we’re excited to bring him back to his hometown. It was important to me to find someone with strong Atlanta recruiting connections. Coach Harris is known as one of the best recruiters in the Southeast. I know he has recruited not only good college players, but players who have gone on to play extensively in the NBA.

Your Ole Miss teams were tough and defensive-minded. Are you going to bring that style of play to Georgia State?

We want to be a great defensive team. I think that’s something you can be on a consistent basis night-in and night-out. I’m one of those guys who thinks it’s a privilege to play this game and represent this university so you can expect our guys to be playing hard every night, especially on the defensive end. It’s going to be something that will be a trademark for us. On the offensive end, we’re going to try to play a little faster and get the ball down the floor.

What are your expectations?

I think this program is one that can get to another level, and I’ve come here with expectations of taking this program to another level. The reason I came here is because I want to build a program. I don’t want to win just this year or put together a winning season here and there; I want to win year-in and year-out. But it comes down to the most fundamental thing: you’ve got to recruit great players and coach them up.

Can we expect some big nonconference games on our schedule?

I want to play high-major teams. I want to play good teams. We’re not going to run from anyone. I think it’s a good gauge for us to play the high-majors if we can compete against Florida State, Georgia, Alabama, Georgia Tech then let us know we’re getting there.

Donor pledges $5 million for new auditorium

By Michael Wall • mtwall@gsu.edu

The entire Georgia State community was abuzz last November when President Carl Patton announced the proposed Georgia State University Professional Center. The center, located on a parcel of land the Georgia State University Foundation is in the process of purchasing from SunTrust Bank, will have new facilities for the College of Business and the College of Law, a classroom building and an auditorium.

Carl R. Zwerner, entrepreneur and graduate of Georgia State’s J. Mack Robinson College of Business, has pledged $5 million to be used for the construction of the auditorium.

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Summer reading list
By Chris Rosenbloom • drosenb@gsu.edu

Here are my top 8 books from 2006 that promote healthy eating:

• What to Eat by Marion Nestle (North Point Press, $39.95). Nestle is one of my favorite nutrition gurus. Her science-based approach coupled with sensitivity to the environment put her book at the to of my list. It is organized around grocery store aisles or departments, and she will help you make sense of the supermarket maze.

• 10 Habits That Mess Up a Woman’s Diet by Elizabeth Somer (McGraw-Hill, $16.95). The title says it all. We have some bad habits that mess us up. Somer covers issues like mindless eating, putting others’ needs ahead of your own and the all-or-nothing approach to dieting Sound familiar? If so, this is the book for you.

• The Healthy Lunchbox by Marie McClendon and Crissy Shauck (Small Steps Press, $12.95). This handy little book contains healthy nuggets of nutrition information to help parents prepare lunches that are good for your kids and that kids will eat. Recipes are included, and icons identify recipes that are gluten-free or dairy-free.

• California Squisine by Malcolm Rushner (Robert D. Reed Publishers, $11.95). This children’s cookbook contains recipes that are fun and healthy. The premise is that kids will eat healthy food if they can squeeze a sauce over vegetables or yogurt over cereal or fruit. It’s a clever book with easy recipes that kids will love.

• Diabetes Meal Planning Made Easy by Hope S. Warshaw (American Diabetes Association, $14.95). This book is a must for anyone who is newly diagnosed with diabetes or for those who need a refresher course. Lifestyle is the cornerstone of diabetes management, and this book will answer all your nutrition questions on how to manage it.

• Dr. Buynak’s 1-2-3 Diabetes Diet by Robert J. Buynak (American Diabetes Association, $14.95). This little no-nonsense book will help people with diabetes who need to lose weight. As the subtitle says, it’s “weight loss without gimmicks or risks.”

• Betty Crocker Win at Weight Loss Cookbook by James Hill and Susan J. Crockett (Wiley, $24.95). Yes, Betty Crocker has gotten into the weight-loss business with this cookbook. However, this is more than a cookbook; it is full of nutrition tips from experts and sprinkled with notes from nutritionists. If you buy only one healthy cookbook this year, consider this one.

• The Best Light Recipe by Cook’s Illustrated (America’s Test Kitchen, $35). I love the recipes in this cookbook; they are more complex than in most cookbooks, but they’re worth the extra effort. The book contains plenty of helpful cooking tips and guidance on selecting the best ingredients.

New graduation requirement for students
By Leah Harris • lhh@gsu.edu

A part of its Quality Enhancements Plan, the Georgia State University Senate approved a Critical Thinking through Writing (CTW) requirement April 19 for all students entering bachelor degree programs beginning in fall 2009. The goal of this new requirement is to use writing assignments and activities to improve discipline-appropriate critical thinking skills of undergraduate students.

“This requirement is an important step to help students acquire the skills they need to succeed both at Georgia State and after they graduate,” said George Rainbolt, chair of the Georgia State Senate Admissions and Standards Committee and chair of the philosophy department. Students will have to pass two CTW courses in their declared undergraduate major, which will contain writing assignments and activities that address critical thinking within the discipline. Academic departments will propose the three-credit CTW courses pursuant to the approval of the General Education Subcommittee of the Committee on Academic Programs.

Faculty, graduate students, and academic professionals who are teaching in CTW courses will be prepared through university-wide workshops or alternative means of preparation approved by the General Education Subcommittee.

“Preparing instructors to imbed assessment of students learning in the area of critical thinking will be an important component of the workshops,” said criminal justice professor Mary Pitt, who will become associate provost for institutional effectiveness later this month.

University to issue new Panther Cards
By Leah Harris • lhh@gsu.edu

New Panther cards will be issued this fall as part of a major overhaul of the university’s identification system. The redesigned cards will facilitate a university-wide plan to phase out the use of Social Security numbers, which are currently encoded in the cards’ magnetic strips.

We hear stories often in the news of personal information being compromised, so we wanted to move away from systems at the university that use Social Security numbers in order to reduce the risk of identity threats, said Russell Chiles, director of information systems and Panther Card.

Along with the new card, the university will provide a Panther card number to each student as well as faculty and staff members. In September, the Panther number will become the way campus members are identified in systems, applications and databases, such as Banner, GoSOLAR and the Human Resources system.

Each department on campus must comply with the new system by updating all departmental policies, procedures and forms by Sept. 1 to reflect the use of the Panther number instead of the SSN.

Faculty staff and students will be able to pick up their Panther cards in the fall in Auxiliary Services in the University Center. There will be no charge for the new card when the existing card is exchanged for the new card. Existing Panther cards will continue to be accepted on campus through spring semester 2008.

College of Health and Human Sciences
Friedmann named endowed public safety chair

The College of Health and Human Sciences has established the Distinguished Chair of Public Safety Partnerships in the Department of Criminal Justice. Robert R. Friedmann, professor of criminal justice, has been named the first faculty member to hold the position.

The Distinguished Chair of Public Safety Partnerships promotes efforts toward a better understanding of international terror threats and the challenges they pose. In addition, the chair will work to increase international cooperation in homeland security and promote shared experiences of best practices.

ANDREW YOUNG SCHOOL OF POLICY STUDIES
Nonprofit Studies receives UPS Foundation grant

The UPS Foundation recently presented a grant of $10,000 to the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies Nonprofit Studies Program. The UPS Foundation, under the direction of longtime AYSPS board member Evern Cooper Epps, has been a steadfast supporter of the mission of the Nonprofit Studies Program. The grant boosts the program’s ability to expand its knowledge development and service work on behalf of the nonprofit sector.

We are naturally thrilled to be the recipients of this support, said Dennis Young, director of the Nonprofit Studies Program and the Ramsey Professor of Private Enterprise, and we treasure our longstanding relationship with The UPS Foundation.

The mission of the Nonprofit Studies Program is to educate the next generation of nonprofit leaders, to foster research on nonprofit leadership and policy and to bridge theory and practice in the creation and dissemination of knowledge about nonprofit organizations.

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
Lawhorn, Edwards win staff awards

The College of Arts and Sciences recently recognized two of its staff members for their outstanding service to their departments and to the university community. April Lawhorn, academic specialist for the Honors Program, won the Senior Staff Leadership Award and Genevieve Edwards, program manager for the Bio-Bus program, won the Outstanding Junior Staff Award.

Lawhorn, who has worked in the Arts and Sciences Honors Program for more than seven years, interviews students before they even arrive on campus and advises them from the time they choose their first classes to graduation. Edwards works with students across the state of Georgia as she runs the day-to-day operations of the Bio-Bus program. The program sends a mobile science teaching lab to schools around the state for lessons that are designed to spark students’ interest in science.

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
Afterschool-All-Stars awarded $1 million grant

Georgia State’s Atlanta After-School All-Stars program, which is housed in the College of Health and Human Sciences has established the Distinguished Chair of Public Safety Partnerships in the Department of Criminal Justice. Robert R. Friedmann, professor of criminal justice, has been named the first faculty member to hold the position.

The Distinguished Chair of Public Safety Partnerships promotes efforts toward a better understanding of international terror threats and the challenges they pose. In addition, the chair will work to increase international cooperation in homeland security and promote shared experiences of best practices.

The chair was established to help
Commencement speakers announced

By Leah Harris • lvh@gsu.edu

L t. Gov. Casey Cagle, retired UPS executive William Balzer, and Andrew Young School of Policy Studies Dean Roy Bahl will be the keynote speakers at Georgia State University’s commencement ceremonies May 12.

Balzer, who will speak at the 10 a.m. ceremony for graduates of the College of Arts and Sciences, graduated from Georgia State in 1998 with a bachelor of interdisciplinary studies. He serves on the Georgia State University Foundation Board of Trustees and is board president of Theatrical Outfit, the former resident theater company of the Rialto Center for the Performing Arts.

Balzer’s leadership helped secure the Theatrical Outfit’s new space in the renovated Herren’s restaurant in downtown Atlanta.

Cagle will speak at the 2 p.m. ceremony for graduates of the J. Mack Robinson College of Business and master’s candidates from the College of Arts and Sciences.

Cagle, who was elected to the state’s second-highest office in November 2006, previously served in the state Senate for more than a decade. His most recent public service initiatives include creating a task force to resolve the funding crisis of the PeachCare program, which provides health insurance to uninsured low-income children in Georgia.

Bahl, who is retiring June 30, will speak at the 6 p.m. ceremony for graduates of the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies, College of Education, College of Law and College of Health and Human Sciences.

Under his 11-year tenure as dean, Bahl has pioneered the growth of the Andrew Young School, which is now ranked 26th among more than 250 schools of public affairs in the country. Bahl has consulted with more than 30 countries on issues of public finance and economic development, and he’s advised the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and the United Nations.

The honor is presented annually to a Georgia lawyer whose life and career reflect the tradition of selfless public service that the College of Law’s founding dean, Ben F. Johnson Jr., exemplified during his career.

Marshall serves as chairman of the College of Law’s Board of Visitors, helped launch the College of Law’s mentorship program for students and has taught litigation to Georgia State law students as an adjunct professor.

John has not only been an exemplary lawyer and litigator, but he has also been a role model, mentor and teacher to countless lawyers and students. That is the heart of his public service, said Dean Steve Kaminski. Marshall is the former chair of the litigation department at Powell Goldstein, served as special counsel to the Ethics Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives, and has appeared in the role of Presidential Counsel on the public television series The Advocates.

J. MACK ROBINSON COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Four to be inducted into Business Hall of Fame


The induction ceremony is at 6 p.m. May 9 at Atlanta’s Intercontinental Hotel in Buckhead. The Business Hall of Fame is 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.

This year, for the first time in the history of the Hall of Fame, we recognize four esteemed individuals including three Robinson alumni. Each has distinguished themselves not only for the successes they have achieved in business but also for their contributions to the communities they serve, said J. Mack Robinson College of Business Dean H. Fenwick Muss.

For more information, visit http://robinson.gsu.edu/corporate/hof/2007/index.html.

New partnership to strengthen ties among ethics experts

The J. Mack Robinson College of Business and the College of Law have formed a partnership with the Atlanta Compliance and Ethics Roundtable to increase its affiliation with members of the business community who are ethics and compliance professionals. ACE board members from Georgia State include Jane Mitchler, associate dean for academic planning and programs; Joan Gabel, associate professor and interim chair of the Institute for International Business; and Marjorie Knowles, professor of law.

Georgia State’s partnership with ACE will allow private and public professionals to share their best practices and address, among others, common issues and challenges. Robinson College is a particularly advantageous partner for ACE as it is home to the Southern Institute for Business and Professional Ethics.

Georgia State University Commencement

| When: | May 12 |
| Where: | Sports Arena, 125 Decatur St., 3rd floor |
| College Ceremonies: | |
| 10 a.m. | College of Arts and Sciences: Doctoral and Undergraduate Degree Candidates |
| | Speaker: William Balzer |
| 2 p.m. | College of Arts and Sciences: Master’s Degree Candidates |
| | J. Mack Robinson College of Business: Graduate and Undergraduate Degree Candidates |
| | Speaker: Lt. Gov. Casey Cagle |
| 6 p.m. | Andrew Young School of Policy Studies |
| | College of Education |
| | College of Health and Human Sciences |
| | College of Law |
| | Speaker: Roy Bahl |

Sports Arena doors will open 90 minutes before each ceremony and the student procession will begin 30 minutes before commencement.

FEELING OVERWHELMED AND NEED A VACATION?

Cruise along the Western Hemisphere with the Georgia State University Alumni Association.

September 29 - October 4, 2007

Enjoy five days aboard Carnival’s Imagination: as we cruise from Miami, Florida to Grand Cayman, Ocho Rios, Jamaica.

Yacht ‘Fun Ship’ cruise includes features such as:

- three meals daily, plus snacks and late night buffets;
- Nautica spa facilities; Broadway style entertainment;
- Captain’s cocktail and garlic dinner; duty free shopping;
- Georgia State University alumni activities!

RATES

$349 per person inside cabin* $419 per person ocean view cabin* *Plus based on double occupancy

Hurry, deposit due by May 15, 2007.

For more information contact Renee Bazzarettes at mbazzarettes@cruise@gsu.edu or ext. 1397.
Acclaimed film director gives screening at Rialto

New appointments for two faculty members

Parent’s Association elects first executive board

Two more info sessions for new phone system

Soused-up supercomputer

New College of Education dean announced

Two Governor’s Cups

University briefs

codas: Thirty Years Later

If you miss the first IP telephony information session, Georgia State’s new telephones will be on display again at two additional sessions at 10 a.m. May 17 and 1 p.m., June 7 in the Student Center Auditorium. The entire campus is encouraged to ask questions of telecommunications technical staff at the meeting and view a demonstration of the new system’s capabilities. Additional information can be found at www.gsu.edu/wipet.

The pride and joy of Georgia State’s advanced computing center, the IBM System p5 supercomputer, was among the first to use the supercomputer in January. Their calculations only take a little more than a day. Two more info sessions for new phone system

President-elect: Robin and Calvin Daniels

Secretary: Mary Finn

Treasurer: Shannon Hodges

Member-at-Large: Matthew K. Robison

Associate Adviser: Chris Fenn

New appointments for two faculty members

Dana Fox, associate professor of middle secondary and instructional technology, will succeed Mary Finn as the senior faculty associate for the Advancement of Women. Associate professor of African-American studies Cora Presley is succeeding John Peterson as the senior faculty associate for underrepresented faculty. Provost Ron Henry announced the appointments April 9. Both appointments will become effective May 14.

Acclaimed film director gives screening at Rialto

Francis Ford Coppola, the celebrated director of films such as Apocalypse Now and The Godfather trilogy, will screen a documentary that explores the inspirations and obstacles of his filmmaking career on campus. The documentary, titled CODA: Thirty Years Later, will be screened at 7:30 p.m. May 10 at the Rialto Center for the Arts. In addition to sharing Coppola’s thoughts about filmmaking and creativity, the hour-long documentary takes viewers behind the scenes of his latest film, Youth Without Youth, which will be released this fall.

Please arrive no later than 7:15 p.m. The screening will be followed by a Q&A session. Admission is free, but tickets are required and can be obtained at the Rialto box office or the Department of Communication (10th floor, One Park Place South).

Instructional effectiveness winners celebrate

The Georgia State University Center for Teaching and Learning and the Provost’s Office sponsored the annual Celebration of Learning April 4.

This event provided a forum for Georgia State faculty to present their teaching and its impact on students to the university community. The 2007 Instructional Effectiveness Award went to the team of Milind Shrikhande, associate professor in the Department of Finance, and Casey Long, business liaison librarian, who presented Improving Information Seeking Behavior among Business Majors. Chris Fenn, an instructor in the School of Accountancy, also was honored for his presentation on the Suzuki Method for Instruction Principles of Taxation.

Joe Kerr, a doctoral student in communications, was the first graduate student to receive the Excellence in Teaching in Higher Education designation at the event.

Learn to swim

Georgia State’s Recreation Center is offering mini-memberships in May for faculty, staff and students who want to learn to swim.

Registration for the Learn to Swim mini-membership ends May 14 and costs $35, which includes swim sessions and full use of the center’s facilities and services. Discounted registration is $15 for current members and $10 for students. Classes must have a minimum of four people to avoid cancellation. Notification of cancellation will be given by 5 p.m. May 16.

For more information, contact Nigel Harris at (404) 463-1529.

New online community launched for alumni

The Georgia State Alumni Association recently revamped its Web site and launched a new online community called Georgia State Circle. The online community is a secure social and networking community available only to Georgia State alumni. It is a place where alumni can update their personal information, and alumni clubs and groups can network and post events, resumes, jobs, photo albums and more. Visit the new site or sign up for the online community at www.gostatealumni.net. If you have feedback about the site or Georgia State Circle, please send an e-mail to alumni@gsu.edu.

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Sparks Award winners honored

By Leah Harris • lvh@gsu.edu

The 10 winners of this year’s George M. Sparks Awards, which recognize the unsung heroes among the university’s faculty, staff and students, are experts at going the extra mile.

The Sparks Awards is a special time to recognize staff, faculty and students that go above and beyond their day-to-day responsibilities to make the university a better place, and we want to congratulate all of the Sparks recipients, said Renee Bazemore, associate director of the Alumni Association.

The Alumni Association first presented the Sparks Awards, which are named after the university’s first president (1928-57), in 1985. The awards were designed to recognize those who exemplify a willingness to go the extra mile with the good humor and perseverance that were characteristic of Sparks.

The Alumni Association honored the Sparks Award winners May 1 in the Student Center Speakers Auditorium. The following are the 2007 recipients:

- Natasha Barrett, psychology graduate student
- Carolyn Codamo, Office of Undergraduate Studies
- Susan Coleman, Department of Applied Linguistics and ESL, College of Arts and Sciences
- Tonya Cook, Office of Student Life and Leadership, Intercultural Relations
- Peter Farina, Office of Research Integrity
- Elsa Gebremedhin, Department of Public Administration and Urban Studies, Andrew Young School of Policy Studies
- Ellen Posey, Office of Associate Provost, Institutional Effectiveness
- Susan Roman, Division of Nutrition, College of Health and Human Sciences
- Debbie Rupp, Department of Recreational Services, Division of Student Affairs
- Derrick Williams, Facilities Management Services Division

The 2007 Sparks Award recipients (from left): Elsa Gebremedhin, Tonya Cook, Peter Farina, Susan Coleman, Derrick Williams, Debbie Rupp, Susan Roman, Carolyn Codamo and Ellen Posey. (Not pictured: Natasha Barrett)
Center for Behavioral Neuroscience Director Elliott Albers was named Mentor of the Year by the Center for Biomedical and Behavioral Research at Spelman College.

Microbiology professor Deborah Baro recently published “Antipodal D2 Receptors Positively Couple with eAMP through the G10 Protein Family” in the journal Comparative Biochemistry and Physiology. The article examines the effects of drug abuse on the neurotransmitter dopamine.

Nurtition professor Dan Benardot was selected chair of the nutrition committee for the Performance Enhancement Years of USA Figure Skating.

Computer Science professor Raheem Beyah was named a demo co-chair for the third International Conference on Testbeds and Research Infrastructures for the Development of Networks and Communities Conference scheduled for later this month in Orlando, Fla.

Catharina Chang, associate professor in counseling and psychological services, received the American Counseling Association Counselor Educator Advocacy Award at the ACA annual conversion March 21-25 in Detroit. The award recognizes a counselor educator for work in fostering an awareness of and expertise in advocacy among counseling students.

Patrick K. Freer, assistant professor and head of the music education division, recently returned from representing Georgia State University with his second consecutive appearance on a national convention program of the American Choral Directors Association in Miami.

In a ceremony at the Georgia Capitol, the Georgia legislature commended the Georgia International Law Enforcement Exchange (GILEE), a program directed by Robert Friedmann, for its contributions to the law enforcement community in Georgia.

Oliver Greene Jr., assistant professor of world music/ethnomusicology, recently completed an educational documentary film titled Play Jankunu Play: Garifuna Christmas Rituals in Belize. The jankunu ritual, which is still practiced in several locations in the Caribbean, is a unique blend of African, European and Amerindian art traditions in which social and cultural identity are expressed through music, dance, and costume.

John Resner, associate professor in the Department of Early Childhood Education, recently had an article published titled “Self-Reports of Child Maltreatment in the U.S.: A Key Social Indicator” in the journal Social Indicators Research. He also represented the College of Education as an exchange coordinator at the European Teacher Education Network Conference in Porto, Portugal, last month.


Yi Pan, director of the computer sciences department, has received a $30,000 grant from the National Science Foundation for a project called “Transmembrane Protein Segment Prediction and Understanding Based on Machine Learning Methods.” Computer science professor Robert Harrison and biology department chair P.C. Tai are co-principal investigators on the grant, which runs through August.

Georgia State President Carl Patton and Vice President for External Affairs Tom Lewis were named to the list of the Most Influential Georgians of the Year in Education in a special issue of James Magazine. Patton was recognized for transforming the university into a major presence in downtown Atlanta, and Lewis was hailed for helping mold the university’s national image.

Christine Thomas, associate chair of the mathematics and science division in the Department of Middle-Secondary Education and Instructional Technology, was recently appointed to a three-year term on the editorial panel for The Mathematics Teacher, a monthly journal dedicated to teachers of high school mathematics around the world.

Robert S. Thompson, professor of computation and technology in the School of Music, and Jon Lukens, School of Art and Design assistant professor, were awarded a CENCIA (Center for Collaborative and Interdisciplinary Arts) grant from the College of Arts and Sciences for their project concerning sound and video synthesis.

Teresa Ward, research associate in institutional research, has been selected as a fellow for the 2007 National Summer Data Policy Institute for Education Statistics and the National Science Foundation databases. The Association for Institutional Research awards this international fellowship to institutional researchers, faculty and educators affiliated with post-secondary institutions or government agencies.

Sociology professor and Gerontology Institute Director Frank Whittington was elected president of the Southern Gerontological Society and appointed to the editorial board of The Gerontologist. Whittington and Leslie Taylor, associate professor and director of physical therapy, recently co-authored a paper with other academicians and scholars about psychotropic drug prescribing in a nursing home in the Journal of Aging and Pharmacotherapy.