The University of Georgia

Annual Report of Institutional Progress
2009-2010

This report was prepared by UGA’s Office of Academic Planning.

[Cover photo shows the expanded Dean William Tate Student Center that opened on June 1, 2009 after more than four years of construction and planning, adding 100,000 square feet to the original Tate Center, which first opened in 1983.]
Annual Report of Institutional Progress, 2009-10

This annual report is intended to provide an overall summary of institutional accomplishments and initiatives during the 2009-10 academic and fiscal year.

Section 1 – Summary of Major Institutional Accomplishments

Student and Faculty Honors
In spring 2010, UGA students garnered several prestigious national scholarships: Tracy Yang and Yasmin Yonis won Truman Scholarships; Christine Akoh and Meagan Cauble were named Goldwater Scholars; Muktha Natraj won a Udall Scholarship, and Stephen Pettigrew received a Udall honorable mention. Stephen Dorner became the second UGA student to receive a Mitchell Postgraduate Scholarship. Lindel Krige received the Merage American Dream Fellowship for academically outstanding students who are immigrants to the United States, marking the fifth consecutive year a UGA student has won this award. Krige came to the United States at age 10 from Johannesburg, South Africa.

Amar Mirza and Akanksha Rajeurs, sophomore biochemistry and molecular biology majors, were selected to participate in the Howard Hughes Medical Institute’s Exceptional Research Opportunities Program, created in 2003 to encourage and support outstanding undergraduates who want to pursue a career in scientific research.

Winn Davis and Logan Krusac won National Security Education Program Boren Undergraduate Scholarships for language study abroad. Krusac also was awarded a Critical Language Scholarship along with Erin Barrentine. A record number of UGA students—10—were selected to receive scholarships from the Fulbright U.S. Student Program for research, study, or teaching abroad. Five public relations students won first place in the national Bateman Case Study Competition, sponsored by the Public Relations Student Society of America. Thirteen students were awarded National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowships, and seven received NSF honorable mentions.

Faculty honors included the election of a record nine researchers as fellows of the American Association for the Advancement of Science: Harry Dailey, Dorothy Fragaszy, James Hollibaugh, Duncan Krause, Robert Maier; and Mary Ann Moran from the Franklin College of Arts and Sciences; J. Whitfield Gibbons and Catherine Pringle from the Odum School of Ecology; and Peggy Ozias-Akins from the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences. Jeremy Kilpatrick, Regents Professor of Mathematics Education, became the first UGA faculty member to be elected to the National Academy of Education. Harry Dailey, Robert Maier, and Roberto Docampo, all from the Franklin College of Arts and Sciences, were elected as Fellows of the American Academy of Microbiology. Todd Harrop, an assistant professor of chemistry, and Jason Locklin and Zhongwei Pan, assistant professors who hold joint appointments with the Faculty of Engineering and the Franklin College of Arts and Sciences, each received the National Science Foundation CAREER Award, one of the most prestigious honors awarded to outstanding young scientists.
Three College of Education faculty were appointed to serve on national task forces or initiatives: Jerome Morris was invited to participate in the Ford Foundation’s Secondary Education and Racial Justice Collaborative; James Marshall was named to a group that will help develop national K-12 standards for English-language arts and mathematics; and Patricia Wilson was selected to serve as a program officer for the National Science Foundation in Washington, D.C. Numerous other faculty received national or international recognition within their academic disciplines.

On the athletics front, the equestrian team won its third consecutive overall national title, bringing the total to five overall in eight years. Sophomores Michelle Morris and Emma Lipman won individual national equestrian titles. Other individual 2010 national titles went to Torrin Lawrence, indoor track and field, and swimmers Wendy Trott and Allison Schmitt.

Manual Diaz, UGA’s head men’s tennis coach, was named National Coach of the Year for Tennis by the U.S. Olympic Committee. The 2009-10 season was Diaz’s 22nd year as UGA’s head tennis coach. His teams have won four NCAA Championships and reached the finals 11 times.

New/Expanded Academic Programs
The initiative to launch a medical campus in Athens as a partnership between the Medical College of Georgia School of Medicine and the University of Georgia continued to move forward. By the end of the 2009-10 academic year, UGA notified the Navy Supply Corps School Local Redevelopment Authority that it had obtained all the necessary funding and approval to meet the Medical School Program requirement, a key checkpoint in the process of transferring the Navy Supply Corps School property to UGA for repurposing as the UGA Health Sciences Campus. The admissions process was nearing completion with 32 of the inaugural class of 40 students, expected to matriculate in August 2010, already identified. UGA’s renovation of the Interim Medical Partnership Building, which sits on the banks of the North Oconee River in Athens, is finished, and recruitment of faculty and staff continues. The MCG/UGA Medical Partnership aims to address the critical need for more physicians in Georgia.

The College of Family and Consumer Sciences was recognized by its national accrediting agency, the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences, for its innovative faculty, the community service learning opportunities offered to undergraduates, and the support of alumni. The college will begin offering a new learning community in fall 2010 called Freshman FAC(T)S in which participants will learn to manage their finances and develop other skills for success in college and life.

The Office of Undergraduate Admissions took advantage of available technology to expand their reach and visibility. In the fall, staff began coordinating “virtual high school visits” with prospective students. With a web camera and high-speed broadband connection, they visited with students as close as Atlanta and as far away as Pennsylvania. The office also unveiled a new iPhone application that can be downloaded for free from iTunes, allowing prospective students and visitors access to a variety of information about the admissions process, as well as campus news, maps, and a directory.
The move from Web CT to the new online learning tool eLearning Commons was completed in January, bringing UGA on par with other institutions of higher learning in Georgia. Migrating to an application that is being adopted through most of the university system allows for better development and collaboration and could defray costs to the university through a system site license.

UGA continues to participate in iTunes U, a free service from Apple. Students, faculty, and staff can download podcasts that include talks by guest lecturers and class presentations by faculty. Any faculty or staff member can open an account to upload a podcast.

The university contracted with SunGard Higher Education to utilize its DegreeWorks program, which was phased in throughout the year. DegreeWorks is a web-based tool to help students and advisors monitor a student’s progress toward degree completion. DegreeWorks should be available to all undergraduate programs by mid-fall of 2010.

Research and Outreach
For the second consecutive year, UGA set a record for research funding. Research awards received from external – mostly federal – sources totaled almost $176 million. Last year’s peak, $174.6 million, represented a significant jump from the previous high of $150.6 million in fiscal year 2005. UGA continues to rank among the top 100 public and private research universities for federal research and development expenditures, placing 97th in the most recent National Science Foundation rankings, which are based on figures from fiscal year 2008. Sponsored research funding stems from contracts and grants awarded to the university primarily by federal, state or local government agencies; state, national, or international private foundations; or individual donors from Georgia and elsewhere.

The majority of federal research awards to top U.S. universities continued to come from the National Institutes of Health. At UGA, more than 50 percent of the 2010 federal research awards were from the NIH – the highest percentage ever. Slightly more than one-third of all research funding came from private foundations. State sources accounted for nearly 6 percent.

Almost $24 million of the research total was federal stimulus funding competitively awarded to UGA researchers, offsetting declines in awards from foundations, international organizations and state agencies. Stimulus awards received in the areas of biomedical research, as well as environmental and physical sciences, were made for new research projects, new scientific equipment, extensions to existing projects, and funding for summer research experiences for high school students, college students and teachers. UGA has received over $48 million in stimulus funding since the law was enacted in February 2009.

UGA’s total external funding—which includes research, instruction, public service and outreach—also rose again, ending the year at $251 million. Declines in cooperative extension awards were offset by increases in research, instruction, and public service awards.

FY10 research awards included:

-$700,000 from the National Science Foundation to the Biomedical Health Sciences Institute to
create a new professional science master’s program in biomanufacturing and bioprocessing that will help meet the workforce needs of Georgia’s growing biotechnology industry.

- $2.4 million from the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation to an international team led by researchers in UGA’s department of marine sciences, Franklin College of Arts and Sciences, to investigate organic matter and nutrients flowing from the Amazon River into the adjacent Atlantic Ocean and help show how climate-influenced phenomena, including natural disasters such as floods and drought, might affect climate change.

- $720,000 from the American Cancer Society to the department of biochemistry and molecular biology, Franklin College of Arts and Sciences, for research to distinguish harmful cancer-causing mutations from more frequently occurring – but harmless – mutations.

- $170,000 from the National Endowment for the Humanities to the department of Romance languages, Franklin College of Arts and Sciences, to translate into English and annotate four medieval Portuguese chronicles by Lopes, a 15th Century royal chronicler, who recorded momentous events affecting Portugal and other countries in Western Europe.

- $14.6 million contract, shared with the University of Pennsylvania, from the National Institutes of Health, to the Center for Tropical and Emerging Global Diseases for expansion of a genomic database of disease pathogens that will expedite worldwide research on effective diagnostics and therapeutics.

- $2 million federal stimulus grant from the National Institutes of Health to the department of genetics, Franklin College of Arts and Sciences, for studies on the thymus, the organ in humans that produces disease-fighting T-cells. The studies may lead to new ways for the body to fight disease more effectively as it ages.

- $5.9 million from the National Institute on Drug Abuse to the Institute for Behavioral Research to address the ways genetic predispositions combine with family and community environments to forecast drug use, drug abuse, and risky sexual behavior among children, adolescents, and young adults.

- $2.2 million federal stimulus award from the National Institutes of Health to the College of Family and Consumer Sciences to explore the role vitamin D plays in children’s health. The studies will help determine the appropriate dose children should take as daily supplements in order to maintain healthy levels of vitamin D in their bloodstreams.

- $90,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to the departments of Romance languages, classics, and comparative literature, Franklin College of Arts and Sciences, for a translation and annotation of important Latin poetry that chronicles the historic naval battle, Battle of Lepanto, which was an inspiration for many artists.

UGA continued to rank among the best colleges and universities in the country in the licensing survey published by the Association of University Technology Managers in February 2010 (based on figures from fiscal year 2008). UGA’s technology commercialization program ranked third for licenses and options executed. For licensing revenues, it ranked ninth among U.S. public universities and moved up from 20th to 17th among all institutions, public and private. The UGA Research Foundation signed 130 license and option agreements in technology areas ranging from agricultural sciences, biofuels, food safety, and specialty chemicals to life sciences.

The tenth annual National Outreach Scholarship Conference was held at UGA in September. UGA is a member of the National Outreach Scholarship Partnership, a consortium of 12 universities that take turns hosting the annual conference, which includes a pre-conference
workshop specifically for graduate students and early-career faculty. The conference theme, “Pathways of Engagement: Connecting Civic Purpose to Learning and Research–Locally and Globally,” served as a focus for discussing the state of public service and civic engagement in higher education.

UGA and 11 other Southeastern Conference institutions joined to launch the SEC Academic Network, a web site designed to promote academic endeavors. The site, http://www.secacademicnetwork.com, was established by the SEC in partnership with ESPN and the member universities. The Academic Network features content from each institution ranging from research, innovation and economic development to community partnerships, civic engagement and service.

**Major Events**

In a demonstration of their commitment to working together on a variety of assistance programs, Liberian Minister of Planning and Economics Affairs Amara Konneh and UGA President Michael F. Adams signed a memorandum of understanding during a September ceremony in Athens. The agreement outlines a long-term plan to expand assistance programs in governance reform through a continued partnership between Liberia and the university. It also calls for new cooperation in agricultural assistance. The memorandum formalizes the strong ties that have developed between UGA and Liberia in recent years.

The Office of Institutional Diversity hosted the University System of Georgia’s inaugural Diversity Summit in October. The two-day event brought together the leadership of the 35 system institutions for discussions on “Valuing Diversity and Committing to Inclusion in Dialogue and Practice.” Among the featured speakers were Chancellor Erroll B. Davis and UGA President Michael F. Adams, with keynote addresses by Walter Allen and Sylvia Hurtado of the Higher Education Research Institute at UCLA. Sessions focused on the role of leadership in achieving campus diversity and equity, cultivating a climate of inclusiveness, and institutionalizing diversity through models, structures, and strategies.

In November, UGA hosted a national conference on water, drought and environmental justice, bringing together ecological and social scientists and students to explore the development of scientifically and socially sound solutions to water allocation in times of drought. Conference sponsors included the Ecological Society of America Millennium Fund, the National Science Foundation, the U.S. Geological Survey, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and units of the USDA.

Also in November, UGA’s Center for Latino Achievement and Success in Education co-hosted a Community Conversation with Atlanta’s Latin American Association and the White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanic Americans addressing how to improve education for Latino immigrants. The Community Conversation, one of dozens held around the country, was an open dialogue between Juan Sepulveda, executive director of the White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanic Americans, his staff, and members of the Atlanta metro area community.
Standard & Poor’s chief economist David Wyss and Terry College of Business dean Robert Sumichrast offered assessments of the national and state economy at the college’s 27th annual Economic Outlook luncheon in December at the Georgia World Congress Center in Atlanta. The luncheon also included opening remarks by Governor Sonny Perdue and UGA President Michael F. Adams.

UGA’s Graduate School began its 100th anniversary celebration with a Centennial Kickoff in late January. Debra Stewart, president of the Council of Graduate Schools, delivered the keynote address about the future of graduate education in a global world, calling for a renewed focus on graduate education to ensure that the American economy stays competitive with other nations, which are increasingly bolstering their own master’s and doctoral programs. The event also included remarks by President Michael F. Adams and Graduate School dean Maureen Grasso and the presentation of the inaugural Innovation in Graduate Education Award to the Interdisciplinary Life Sciences Program. The $1,000 award honors the development and implementation of new practices that enhance UGA’s graduate education.

UGA faculty across multiple disciplines, including associate provosts, associate deans, and directors, discussed their efforts related to globalizing the curriculum during the 2010 UGA Global Education Forum on Culture, Research and Teaching held in April on campus. The forum also provided students with an opportunity to communicate their dissertation studies, theses, or independent studies that focus on global research as well as study abroad service and outreach activities.

Leaders from public research universities throughout the Southeast gathered at UGA in April to discuss the future ability of public research universities to serve as the foundation of the nation’s innovation and research capacity. This was the second in a series of five regional meetings organized by the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities. Other regional meeting hosts were the University of Texas System, the University of Washington, the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and Rutgers. Through discussion of key questions at the regional meetings, APLU hopes to develop a framework for what public research universities require—and what federal agencies, states, and universities must do—if they are to maintain or increase their ability to perform the research needed to maintain our nation’s global competitiveness.

Thirty-six recipients of the 69th annual Peabody Awards were honored in May at a luncheon hosted by Diane Sawyer 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 2009, 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.

UGA’s Graduate Students and Postdocs in Science organization held its second annual Scientific Research Day in June at the Paul D. Coverdell Center for Biomedical and Health Sciences on campus. The event featured oral presentations and poster sessions. In addition, the George H. Boyd Keynote Lecture was given by Athens native and UGA alumna Cornelia Bargmann, head of Laboratory of Neural Circuits and Behavior at Rockefeller University in New York. Bargmann, who received a bachelor’s degree in biochemistry from UGA in 1981, has been a
Howard Hughes Medical Institute investigator since 1995. She is also a member of the National Academy of Sciences and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Construction Projects
Dedication ceremonies for the expansion of the Tate Student Center, a new Greek Park, and the Griffin Campus student learning center were held in late August. The $58 million Tate expansion opened on June 1 after more than four years of planning and construction. The 96,000 square-foot facility includes enhanced dining options for students, faculty, and staff, plus meeting and conference rooms for student organizations and a 12,000 square-foot Grand Hall that can be used for special events.

Construction began on the Greek Park in fall 2008. Four fraternities have moved into new houses in the complex located off River Road. UGA’s 33,000 square-foot student learning center at the Griffin Campus opened in time for fall classes. The building, which was funded in large part through a $10 million special purpose local option sales tax, includes tiered classrooms—one of which can accommodate up to 132 students—as well as classrooms where seating can be configured in different ways.

September dedication ceremonies included the College of Pharmacy’s Pharmacy South addition and the expansion of the University Health Center, both located on South Campus. Pharmacy faculty and staff moved into the $44 million, 93,288 square-foot facility in July and the first classes were held in August. Powered by biodiesel generators, Pharmacy South features state-of-the-art classrooms and teaching labs, the Kroger Learning Center with wireless Internet computer stations, small-group seating areas and technology support center, plus a complete Community Pharmacy Care Center and Skills Lab as well as a Hospital Pharmacy Care Center.

The University Health Center’s $17 million expansion, which added 30,000 square feet of new clinic and office space, opened in March 2009. A second phase of renovation, completed in July, involved the existing building. The Women’s Clinic and the Dental Clinic were expanded, the Allergy/Travel Medicine Clinic was relocated to the first floor to improve patient access, and the pharmacy and waiting area were enlarged.

In January, UGA held a groundbreaking ceremony for the Richard B. Russell Building, which will be the new home of the Special Collections Library. Construction of the 115,000 square-foot building is projected to take two years and cost close to $46 million, with approximately one-third of that amount coming from private sources. The facility, to be located at the corner of Hull Street and Florida Avenue, will provide state-of-the-art storage and climate control for valuable collections, such as the Hargrett Rare Book and Manuscript Library, the Walter J. Brown Media Archive and Peabody Awards Collection, and the Richard B. Russell Library for Political Research and Studies.

After a one-year, $4.25 million renovation, the Fine Arts Theatre on Baldwin Street was re-dedicated in late April. The building was aesthetically restored and at the same time transformed into a modern theater facility with improved sight lines from every one of its 675 seats. Built in the late 1930s, the building is considered an architectural treasure. Future phases of the renovation involve restoring the massive domed ceiling.
Work continued on the $20 million renovation and expansion of the Georgia Museum of Art, which began in March 2009. The project, slated to be completed in January 2011, will triple GMOA’s existing gallery space and add enlarged collection storage, a sculpture garden, and study centers for research in the humanities. The new gallery wing will display works from the museum’s permanent collection, which currently includes more than 8,000 objects.

In March 2010, the Tate Student Center expansion became the first UGA building to receive LEED Certification, the national benchmark for design, construction, and operation of high-performance green buildings. The addition received gold certification for meeting standards for energy savings, water efficiency, carbon dioxide emissions reduction, indoor environmental quality, and the stewardship of resources with sensitivity to their impacts. Four other UGA projects are LEED-registered and tracking certification at the silver or gold level: the College of Pharmacy’s Pharmacy South addition, a new residence hall on East Campus scheduled to open in fall 2010, the Georgia Museum of Art addition, and the Richard B. Russell Building for the Special Collections Libraries.

**Campus Security**
The Office of Security and Emergency Preparedness coordinated and submitted a campus-wide grant proposal, entitled Prepare UGA, for $600,000 through the U.S. Department of Education Emergency Management in Higher Education grant program. Another 41 faculty, staff, and students completed the Campus Emergency Response Team training program, which prepares non-emergency personnel to respond to emergencies on campus. Administered by the Office of Security and Emergency Preparedness in conjunction with the Athens-Clarke County Fire Department, the training program now has more than 80 graduates since it began last year. The office also developed two new training classes: Planning for Emergencies in the Classroom and Conflict De-escalation Techniques.

**Academic/Administrative Appointments**
In September, Jere Morehead, vice president for instruction and the Meigs Professor of Legal Studies at UGA, was named senior vice president for academic affairs and provost after a national search. He succeeds Arnett C. Mace, Jr., who retired January 1 after 18 years of service to UGA, with seven of those as provost. Mace continues his leadership role in the MCG/UGA Medical Partnership under the title special assistant to the president.

In October, Carol Couch, director of the Environmental Protection Division of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, joined UGA as a senior public service associate. Her new role includes teaching courses in UGA’s College of Environment and Design and helping shape its new master’s degree program in environmental planning. She also leads efforts that help communities across the state manage their growth sustainability and make the best use of their water resources.

In November, Kavita Pandit, an administrator and professor at the State University System of New York, returned to UGA as associate provost for international education. She previously served as associate dean of UGA’s Franklin College of Arts and Sciences and head of UGA’s department of geography. She was a member of the UGA geography faculty from 1987 to 2007.
When Provost Morehead took office in January, he made some administrative changes which included naming Laura Jolly, dean of the College of Family and Consumer Sciences, as interim vice president for instruction and Libby Morris, director of the Institute of Higher Education, vice provost for academic affairs. Bob Boehmer, who has served as associate provost for institutional effectiveness and extended campuses, was named associate provost for academic planning.

George C. Foreman, a musicologist and conductor with more than 30 years experience managing performing arts centers, was named director of UGA’s Performing Arts Center in October and assumed the position in January. He previously served as managing director of the Norton Center for the Arts at Centre College in Danville, Kentucky.

In April, Steve Wrigley, who serves as director of the Carl Vinson Institute of Government and vice president for government relations at UGA, was named interim vice president for public service and outreach. He succeeds Art Dunning, who retired from UGA March 31 to become vice chancellor for international programs and outreach at the University of Alabama System. Dunning had held the UGA post since 2000.

Two faculty joined the College of Veterinary Medicine as Georgia Research Alliance Distinguished Investigators as part of a GRA initiative to recruit research scientists who are well-regarded in next-generation vaccines and therapeutics research. Distinguished immunobiologist Donald Harn was formerly a professor of immunology and infectious diseases at the Harvard School of Public Health. Molecular virologist Biao He came to UGA from the department of veterinary and biochemical sciences at Penn State University.

Section 2 – Assessing Institutional Effectiveness

Beginning College Survey of Student Engagement (BCSSE)
The BCSSE was administered to all incoming first-year University students in summer 2010 to establish baselines for the Quality Enhancement Plan known as “First-Year Odyssey Seminars” (FYOS). Beginning in fall 2011, these seminars will be required for all first-year students. This FYOS Program was adopted as part of the university’s current process for reaffirmation of accreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC).

The BCSSE will be administered on a regular cycle over the next five years in conjunction with the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) to help gauge FYOS effectiveness. BCSSE results will be compared with the NSSE results from the same population of students after they finish their seminar course to gain pre- and post-measures of changes in student perceptions related to established FYOS outcomes.

Collegiate Learning Assessment (CLA)
During 2009-2010, the university completed its second administration of the CLA to samples of non-transfer first-year students in fall 2009 and non-transfer seniors in spring 2010. The CLA assesses student learning across the university curriculum, measuring critical thinking, analytical
reasoning, and writing. The university made significant improvements in terms of its CLA value-added scores, moving from “below expected” the first year to “near expected” in the 2009-2010 administration. In both years, first-year and senior cohorts performed well compared to peers at other universities, consistently at or above the 95th percentile. However, after adjusting CLA scores for entering academic ability, the “valued added” improvement from freshman to senior year in the analytic writing tasks was higher than only 43 percent of the university’s comparator institutions for that assessment. This finding suggested the need to include writing early in students’ academic careers, and, as a result, written assignments aimed at supporting academic dialogue are included in the FYOS Program.

**College Basic Academic Subjects Examination (College BASE)**

In spring 2010, the university also continued its cyclical administration of the College BASE test to a sample of over 600 junior-level students as a measure of student attainment across the General Education Core Curriculum. College BASE is a criterion-referenced achievement test that measures general academic knowledge, assessing students’ knowledge and skills in the subject areas of English, social studies, science, and mathematics, as well as their performance in certain higher order, critical thinking skills. The 2010 administration follows similar samples in 2003 and 2007. In the 2010 administration, UGA students continued to perform very well on the College BASE in relation both to the competency-based criteria and to the performance of comparative student groups at similar institutions.

**SACSCOC Reaffirmation of Accreditation**

Throughout 2009-2010, UGA’s SACS Quality Enhancement Plan Team refined the university’s plan for a first-year seminar program to meet SACSCOC requirements for an institution-wide project to enhance undergraduate student learning. The team established goals for the program that included engaging first-year students in the academic culture of the university, providing first-year students an opportunity for meaningful dialogue with a faculty member, and introducing first-year students to the full instruction, research, public service, and international missions of the university. The team also developed specific student learning outcomes and a set of measures to assess the success of the program. By the end of the spring semester, the team forwarded a detailed plan to the SACS Leadership Team, which subsequently approved the plan and charged the Office of the Vice President for Instruction to begin the steps necessary to implement the program for incoming students in fall 2011.

In addition, the SACS Compliance Team completed its primary work on the SACS Compliance Certification during spring 2010, documenting the university’s compliance with all 100 Principles of Accreditation. The Compliance Team forwarded its work to the Office of Academic Planning to finalize the university’s documentation for submission to SACS in early fall 2010.

**UGA 2010-2020 Strategic Plan**

*Building on Excellence*, the University of Georgia 2020 Strategic Plan, was approved by the University Council in March, 2010. Implementation plans and measurable benchmarks for new strategic directions are currently being developed. A successor to the UGA strategic plan of the past decade, the new plan has seven strategic directions:

- Building on Excellence in Undergraduate Education;
- Enhancing Graduate and Professional Programs;
• Investing in Proven and Emerging Areas of Research Excellence;
• Serving the Citizens of the State of Georgia and Beyond;
• Improving Faculty Recognition, Retention, and Development;
• Improving and Maintaining Facilities and Infrastructure; and
• Improving Stewardship of Natural Resources and Advancing Campus Sustainability.

Specialized Accreditations of UGA
UGA’s College of Family and Consumer Sciences was re-affirmed in 2009 in its accreditation by the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences. The mission of the College of Family and Consumer Sciences is to advance the well-being of individuals and families over their life span and strengthen communities through the generation and dissemination of knowledge, education of professionals, and provision of research-based programs. It offers degrees in child and family development, foods and nutrition, housing and consumer economics, and textiles, merchandising, and interiors. In addition, the college finalized work on its application for continued accreditation of its undergraduate and graduate programs in dietetics by the Council on Accreditation for Dietetics Education. Full re-affirmation was expected in late 2010.

Section 3—Measures of Overall Institutional Health

Freshmen continue to set records for academic quality
Just over 4,800 new freshmen entered UGA in 2009, drawn from more than 17,900 applicants, the largest pool in UGA history. The entering class is both diverse and academically talented, according to statistics compiled by the Office of Undergraduate Admissions. The class had an average high school GPA of 3.83 and an average SAT of 1263, with an average SAT writing score of 613. The rigor of students’ high school curricula continues to be a key factor in admissions decisions, with some 95 percent enrolled in College Board Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate classes while in high school.

Twenty-two percent of the entering freshmen self-identified as other than Caucasian. The number of African-American freshmen was 362 (7.6 percent). A total of 144 Hispanic students (3 percent of the class) enrolled. The class is geographically diverse with 190 students from 58 different countries and almost seven percent come from homes where English is not the native language. The students come from more than 400 Georgia high schools in 136 counties. Just under 13 percent of the new class is from out of state, although more than 48 percent have social security numbers initially issued in other states, indicating continued in-migration to Georgia from other parts of the country.

In addition to the freshmen enrolled in the summer and fall, UGA for the second time offered an opportunity for 200 additional first-year students to enroll for the spring 2010 term. They began their UGA studies in January.

UGA’s nationally recognized Honors Program again enrolled just over 500 freshmen. Those students had a GPA average of 4.09 and SAT average of 1463, according to data from the Honors Program.
New records set for overall enrollment
Spurred by growth in several colleges and schools, UGA had its largest student body in history in fall 2009 with an enrollment of 34,885. The fall semester enrollment was up 705 students (two percent) above fall 2008 when the enrollment topped 34,000 for the first time, with several newer colleges, schools, and programs recording enrollment growth of 12 percent or more. The university set another semester record in spring 2010 with a total of 33,620 students attending classes in Athens and at the university’s four extended campuses. The total was two percent, or 652 students, over spring 2009’s record-setting enrollment of 32,968.

Private giving remains strong
Fiscal year 2010 marks the fifth consecutive year that private giving to the university topped $100 million. The $101.9 million total includes gifts and commitments from a record 59,650 contributors, an increase of 11 percent over the fiscal year 2009 total of 53,907 contributors.

UGA again ranked in top 25 public universities in “Best Colleges” guide
The University of Georgia ranked 21st among public universities and tied for 58th overall in the 2010 edition of U.S. News & World Report’s “Best Colleges” guide, published in August 2009. UGA has been ranked among the top 20 leading public universities in the nation nine of the last eleven years. UGA also was listed among 25 national universities for graduates with the least debt.

The undergraduate program in the Terry College of Business ranked 25th overall—up from 30th last year—and 18th among public business schools. Of the more than 2,000 U.S. business schools, fewer than 500 have achieved full accreditation and are eligible to be ranked by U.S. News. This year’s ranking marks the 11th consecutive year Terry has been ranked in the top 30. Terry’s risk management and insurance program maintained its second place ranking nationally, as did the real estate program, which is ranked third in the country.

U.S. News considers several factors in producing the annual ranking, including graduation and retention rates, faculty resources, student selectivity, financial resources, alumni giving, and peer assessment.

For the seventh consecutive year, UGA was rated among the top 10 best values among public colleges and universities by Kiplinger’s Personal Finance magazine. Kiplinger’s ranks schools on “a combination of outstanding academic quality and an affordable price tag.” More than 500 colleges and universities were surveyed for the ranking and the top 100 were chosen based on academic quality, cost, and financial aid. The university has been in the top 20 every year since the magazine began publishing its best value rankings in 1998.

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 2010 edition of “America’s Best Graduate Schools.” The School of Law tied for 28th and the College of Education tied for 39th.
The School of Law ranked among the top 10 public universities and tied for second among public universities in the Southeast (tied with William and Mary and the University of North Carolina).

The College of Education ranked 39th overall in a tie with William and Mary, but was ranked 27th among public universities in the nation. The college was ranked fourth among public universities in the South and had the fourth largest graduate enrollment in the nation with 2,413 students. Among the ten specialty rankings, six of the college’s specialty programs continue to rank in the top ten nationally: elementary education (third), secondary education (third), vocational/technical education (third), counseling/personnel services (fourth), higher education administration (sixth), and curriculum/instruction (eighth).

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

In other rankings, the Terry College of Business has one of the nation’s best undergraduate programs in business based on the 2010 ranking by Bloomberg BusinessWeek magazine. The college is ranked 49th overall and 18th among public business schools, scoring especially well on the survey’s measures of student satisfaction. Terry ranked 18th overall in the student survey, which included 50 questions on “everything from the quality of teaching to recreational facilities,” according to the magazine. Terry’s year-to-year improvement on the student survey bucked the magazine’s overall trend, which saw student satisfaction decline 14 percent from 2009.

Conclusion

The above report clearly demonstrates extraordinary efforts and results by the entire University of Georgia community as it continues to serve the state of Georgia in an exemplary manner during an extremely difficult budgetary period.