

UNIVERSITY OF
NORTH GEORGIA
FALL/WINTER 2019

MAGAZINE



WOMEN
IN
STEM



Celebrating 40 years in action

Meet UNG's freshmen



Good
as *gold*



The gold steeple atop Price Memorial Hall on the Duhon Campus now shines brighter thanks to a new covering of gold leaf that was applied this summer. The process, funded with private funds, included stripping off the old gold, priming the copper and installing new gold leaf.

The Gilders' Studio, based in Maryland, did the regilding.

Photo by Peggy Cozart

Fall/Winter 2019

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EDITORIAL STAFF

Sylvia Carson, APR, editor
Edie Rogers, writer
J.K. Devine, writer
Clark Leonard, writer
Jill Johnson, contributor
David Jones, designer
Peggy Cozart, photographer
Garrett Davis, intern

CONTACT

Division of University Relations
82 College Circle
Dahlonega, GA 30597
706-864-1950
universityrelations@ung.edu



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will
you
*lead?***



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UNG – a place for opportunity, success, and excellence

As I write this, fall's crisp air and colorful leaves are creating a beautiful tapestry across our five campuses that is surpassed only by the impressive activity at UNG this semester.

We welcomed about 20,000 students this fall, including more than 4,000 new freshmen from 46 states and 87 countries. The high caliber of these students is exemplified by academic excellence and leadership potential – hallmarks of UNG.

I am proud that our Corps of Cadets has earned three prestigious honors that position UNG as the top senior military college in the nation:

- the 2018-2019 MacArthur Award for the U.S. Army Cadet Command's 1st Brigade;
- the Most Active Company Award from the Association of the United States Army; and
- first and second place in the 2019 Spartan Ranger Challenge, which means we will return to the international Sandhurst competition this year with two teams.

Important academic facility projects are taking shape at our campuses in Blue Ridge, Cumming, Dahlonega, and Gainesville.

- Construction of our new standalone campus in Blue Ridge has begun, and it is scheduled to open next fall.
- An addition to the existing building at our Cumming Campus is in the planning stage, and, if approved in the state budget, it will nearly double the size of that facility.
- The Cottrell Center for Business, Technology & Innovation planned for the Dahlonega Campus took another step forward with a \$10 million gift from Mike and Lynn Cottrell. The Cottrells' support of UNG is unparalleled and has had a transformative impact on our institution and our students, and we are very grateful to them. We anticipate construction will begin next year.
- Renovations are underway at the former Lanier Tech campus, which will increase academic space at our Gainesville Campus.

Events, like Oconeefest at our Oconee Campus and the Tomato Sandwich Supper at our Blue Ridge Campus, where we awarded scholarships to 21 outstanding students, highlight our efforts to increase impactful scholarship opportunities for students in those communities.

Achievements like these are just a few of the many reasons that UNG climbed four spots to No. 16 among Top Public Regional Universities in the South in this year's U.S. News rankings. Our momentum is a tribute to our excellent students, to the innovative work of our faculty and staff, and to the support we receive from individuals and organizations that are generous with their time and financial resources. Thank you for your continued support!

Sincerely,

Bonita C. Jacobs
President

UNG has embarked on a strategic planning process to guide our future, and we invite you to participate in that process through our website at ung.edu/strategicplan.



National rankings laud innovation, affordability

UNG jumped up four spots on the U.S. News and World Report 2020 Best Colleges list released Sept. 9, ranking 16th among all public regional universities in the South.

In U.S. News' annual ranking of universities and colleges, UNG was also noted for its undergrad teaching among regional universities and for the second time, ranked on the magazine's Most Innovative Schools list – earning the 17th spot among regional universities in the South. UNG also has placed well in other recent national rankings. In August, Forbes magazine named UNG one of the nation's top higher education institutions in its annual "America's Top Colleges" ranking. UNG was one of only six public universities in Georgia to be included on the 2019 list and ranked fourth among all public universities in the state. Money magazine included UNG in its list of Best Colleges released in August. UNG also landed on Kiplinger's Best College Values list released in July.

Region gets \$667 million boost from university

UNG made an economic impact of more than \$667 million on northeast Georgia during fiscal year 2018, an increase of some \$47 million over the previous year, according to data released Aug. 20. An additional \$1.77 million impact is attributed to capital construction projects in fiscal year 2018.

"This annual study once again shows the strong impact that UNG has on the economic strength of northeast Georgia," President Bonita Jacobs said. "In addition to increasing educational attainment through access to an affordable, high-quality education, we continue to work with partners in education, industry and the community to facilitate economic development across the region and beyond."

UNG, which has campuses in Blue Ridge, Cumming, Dahlonega, Gainesville, and Oconee County, also had a regional employment impact of 7,004 jobs in the same period, an increase of 235 jobs from the previous study. The employment impact includes on-campus positions and off-campus jobs that exist due to the institution.

The annual study of the University System of Georgia's economic impact measures direct and indirect spending that contributes to the university's service region.

Former governor joins UNG

Former Georgia Gov. Nathan Deal has joined UNG as a Regents faculty member. The former governor is a guest lecturer in several political science courses and a criminal justice course at UNG this fall and will teach a special topics course in political science at the university in the spring.

As governor, Deal led Georgia to being named the No. 1 state for business in the nation for six consecutive years by Site Selection, a first in Georgia history. During his tenure, he helped create 800,000 private-sector jobs, leading to the state's job growth outpacing the national average.



WWI Centennial Commission pays tribute to Eugene Bullard

In 1959, French President Charles De Gaulle presented Georgia native Eugene Bullard with the French Legion of Honor, the highest national military award given by the French government, for his service as an aviator. Sixty years later, the Georgia World War I Commission recognized Bullard for being the first black fighter pilot to ever fly in combat.

“His story is both heroic and somewhat tragic, especially with regard to his own country,” said Dr. Billy Wells, the senior vice president for Leadership and Global Engagement at UNG. “This man was a real American hero.”

Bullard served with the French Air Service in the French Flying Corps and set an example for others to follow. When the U.S. joined the war in 1917, however, he was unable to join the U.S. Army Air Corps because of his race. In a culmination of its work, the Commission unveiled a statue of Bullard in October at the Museum of Aviation in Warner Robins, Georgia.

UNG has been an active partner in the Georgia WWI Centennial Commission, and one of its initiatives has been to update the state’s record of soldiers killed during World War I to include black soldiers who were not listed in the Georgia State Memorial Book. Now, 1,228 black soldiers are listed.



U.S. Air Force photo by Tammie Horton

A statue of 2nd Lt. Eugene Bullard was unveiled during a ceremony Oct. 9 at the Museum of Aviation in Warner Robins, Georgia. The Georgia World War I Commission recognized Bullard as the first black fighter pilot to fly in combat.



Haley Shea Barfield was one of only 24 students in Georgia to be selected as a Goldwater Scholar.

Barfield becomes UNG’s first Barry Goldwater Scholar

On the last day of classes of the spring 2019 semester at UNG, Haley Shea Barfield cried tears of joy after reading an email telling her she had won the Barry Goldwater Scholarship.

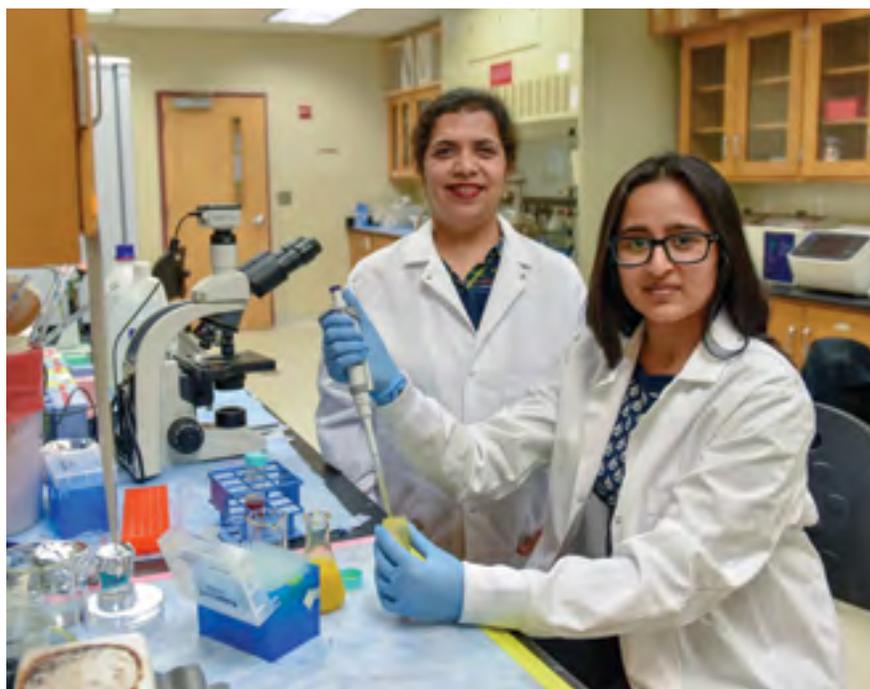
The scholarship recognizes the most promising young scientists and future researchers in the U.S. With this victory, she became UNG’s first Barry Goldwater Scholar.

“This just shows that you can achieve beyond what you

think you are capable,” said the senior pursuing degrees in English and interdisciplinary studies with concentrations in math/technology, social science and humanities.

Barfield was one of 496 college students from across the United States — and only 24 in Georgia — to earn the scholarship for the 2019-20 academic year. More than 5,000 college sophomores and juniors were nominated by 443 academic institutions.

Lecturer, student publish breast cancer research



Dr. Ramneet Kaur, left, and Sidhika Sharma investigated treatments for triple negative breast cancer.

Dr. Ramneet Kaur and her UNG research student Sidhika Sharma, a May 2019 graduate who earned a degree in biology with a minor in chemistry, published a manuscript about breast cancer research in the journal *Organic and Biomolecular Chemistry*.

Titled “One-Pot Mild and Efficient Synthesis of [1,3] Thiazino [3,2-a] Indol-4-ones and their Anti-Proliferative Activity,” the published article discusses the testing of 14 synthetic compounds as possible treatments for triple negative breast cancer, a very aggressive form of breast cancer.

“There is no targeted treatment available for this type of breast cancer in clinic currently,” Kaur said. “My research focuses on using natural products for the treatment.”

Sharma, a 21-year-old from Buford, Georgia, is excited her research is published, which will help advance the science and treatment of breast cancer.

Presidential funds support geology research at Elachee

Dr. Katayoun Mobasher, a professor in the Lewis F. Rogers Institute for Environmental and Spatial Analysis at UNG, and Dr. Jerry Allison, professor of chemistry in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, were awarded a summer Presidential Incentive Award to investigate the geology of Elachee Nature Science Center through geochemical and petrographic analyses of rock outcrops.

“My main goal is to figure out how the rocks were formed and how they occurred in order to contribute to the better understanding of the complex nature of Georgia’s geology,” Mobasher said.

Elachee’s natural resources manager and UNG alumnus Lee Irminger helped Mobasher and Allison locate the outcrops for their investigation.

Allison and Mobasher plan to use their research findings to pique future students’ interest in geology.



Dr. Jerry Allison and UNG alumna Ana Ferreira work on a research project at Elachee Nature Science Center.

New groundwater well benefits hydrology classes

Every year, Ron Wallace heads to UNG to award a scholarship to a member of the American Institute of Professional Geologists (AIPG) student chapter. But last year he had a unique question for UNG faculty members.

Wallace, who is AIPG president, asked if the Lewis F. Rogers Institute for Environmental and Spatial Analysis wanted a groundwater well on campus. The answer was an enthusiastic “yes.”

UNG students enrolled in geological classes, specifically hydrogeology, will benefit from the new groundwater well. Dr. Christopher Seminack explained students will learn firsthand how to record depth of groundwater and monitor the water table as it fluctuates during the seasons. They also will learn to collect groundwater samples from the well.

Seminack said the hands-on experience will aid students and graduates as they apply for jobs in the field.

“Our students will stand out since they will have the experience of monitoring a groundwater well,” he said. “These are lessons they usually would not learn until they get into the industry.”



The American Institute of Professional Geologists helped arrange the installation of a groundwater well on UNG’s Gainesville Campus.



Dr. JB Sharma, left, and UNG alumnus Payton Duran worked on drone mapping.

Sharma sets pace for drone mapping industry

For his final project before retirement as assistant head of the physics department, professor emeritus Dr. JB Sharma assembled a team of UNG faculty, staff and students to aid his cutting-edge research on drone mapping.

The products are twofold: a detailed digital elevation model and multispectral image mosaic of UNG’s Gainesville Campus and the first book on mapping applications of small drones that is relevant to academia, industry and government. The book is set to release this fall.

Sharma noted the images of the Gainesville Campus show different types of trees and represent a historical record that can be used as a reference if a pest infestation or storm changes the landscape. The images are so detailed they were used in UNG’s Digital Fabrication Laboratory to print a 3D model of the Martha T. Nesbitt Academic Building.

Sharma hopes to expand his detailed maps to include the Dahlonega Campus.

Heather Callahan-Williams receives national Children's Miracle Network leadership award



Heather Callahan-Williams helped Miracle UNG donate \$95,000 to CHOA in two years. She is one of only 20 national honorees.

UNG senior Heather Callahan-Williams is one of 20 honorees selected nationally for the 2019 Children's Miracle Network Dance Marathon Distinguished Leadership Award.

Callahan-Williams, who is pursuing a kinesiology degree with an exercise science concentration, was chosen from thousands of graduating seniors from 300 colleges across the United States and Canada who participated in Miracle Network Dance Marathon.

The Kennesaw, Georgia, native was executive director for UNG's first Dance Marathon in 2017-18, when Miracle UNG shattered its goal of \$20,000 by raising more than \$42,000 for Children's Healthcare of Atlanta (CHOA). That led to UNG earning the Best New Dance Marathon award at the Miracle Network Dance Marathon Leadership Conference in 2018.

Callahan, who is also pursuing a Spanish minor, personally raised more than \$1,800 for CHOA during the 2017-18 and 2018-19 school years. UNG's Dance Marathon has donated more than \$95,000 to CHOA in that time span.

Mason Goad selected as UNG Fellow to Center for Study of Presidency and Congress

UNG President Bonita Jacobs selected Mason Goad as the 2019-20 UNG Fellow to the Center for the Study of the Presidency and Congress (CSPC).

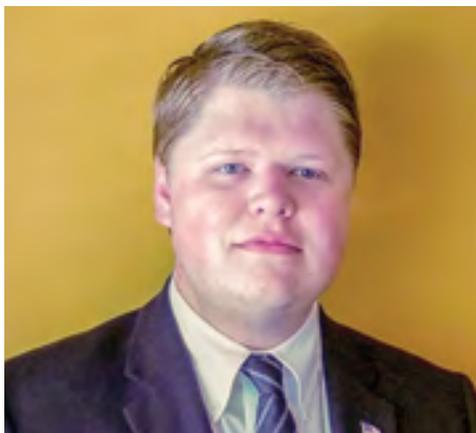
Founded in 1965 as a nonprofit organization, CSPC's mission is to "provide historical perspective about our nation's highest offices for citizens and policymakers," according to its website.

Goad is a senior from Watkinsville, Georgia, pursuing a degree in strategic and security studies.

Each year, fellows travel to the nation's capital to study the public policymaking process and the president's relationship with Congress, allies, the media, and the public. A pair of three-day leadership conferences in Washington, D.C., are part of the program.

Goad is eager to learn more about the presidency and Congress.

"They're important because they have the power to influence so many lives," Goad said. "As such, they deserve to be studied and understood, not just fought about politically."



Mason Goad will take part in multiple conferences in the nation's capital as part of his role.

Research grants fund summer projects by faculty, students

For the first time, four faculty members in the Department of Psychological Science received American Psychological Association's (APA) Summer Undergraduate Psychology Research Experience (SUPRE) grants. The projects range from an investigation of the relationship between eye movements and learning to the exploration of the relationship between mindful eating and various eating attitudes.

SUPRE and Faculty Undergraduate Summer Engagement (FUSE) grants allocate funds for UNG faculty to conduct research with undergraduate students who have little to no research experience.

"Receiving these grants means that the APA has recognized the high quality of our institution and our faculty, and they have entrusted us to make a difference in students' lives through this program," said Dr. Susann Doyle-Portillo, interim department head and professor of psychological science at UNG.

For more information about FUSE and other research opportunities, visit the Center for Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities website.



Georgia filmmakers show off their talents at annual student-run festival

Hosted by UNG's Department of Communications, Media, and Journalism (CMJ), the Georgia Film Festival was held Sept. 20-21 in the Continuing Education and Performing Arts building on UNG's Gainesville Campus.

More than 60 films from independent filmmakers and college students were accepted into the festival. All of them were from Georgia and its surrounding states.

"We are celebrating the many different kinds of movies made throughout Georgia and the Southeast, and we are promoting diverse voices in the Georgia filming community. We want to promote homegrown talent," said Dr. Jeff Marker, professor and head of the CMJ department.

Hosting the Georgia Film Festival on the Gainesville Campus provided students with opportunities for networking and hands-on experience.



Team-teaching takes multidisciplinary approach for richer learning experience

As a way to teach UNG students about the history and politics of wars and how those interpretations have evolved over time in films, Dr. Lance Bardsley and Dan Cabaniss are collaborating to present the topic through an interdisciplinary learning community.

This team-teaching approach with students has proven successful for Bardsley, associate professor of political science, and Cabaniss, associate professor of English and journalism. The duo taught the Cold War and the Vietnam War last academic year through incorporation of lectures, films, question-and-answer sessions, and discussions.

Lindsay Bailey, director of student involvement, Dr. Laura Ng, associate professor of English and assistant dean of College of Arts and Letters, and Shane Toepfer, assistant professor of communication, media and journalism, are using the same technique for their "Active Citizenship Learning Community."

"I hope the students will follow our lead and see how friendly the faculty and staff work together," Toepfer said. "I want them to realize they can collaborate."



Dan Cabaniss, left, and Dr. Lance Bardsley are part of a team-teaching duo on UNG's Oconee Campus.



Gille named new provost

Dr. Chaudron Gille has been named provost and senior vice president for Academic Affairs at UNG, President Bonita Jacobs announced Aug. 7.

“With 25 years of distinguished service as one of UNG’s most respected faculty members and a strong track record of success as an administrative leader, I am confident that Chaudron is the right person for this position,” Jacobs said. “Chaudron has a deep appreciation of our existing

academic strengths, a clear vision of how we serve our region and beyond, and the administrative acumen to ensure UNG continues to excel.”

Gille has a doctoral degree in French literature from Emory University, a master’s degree in applied linguistics and teaching English as a second language from Georgia State University, and a bachelor’s degree in French and economics from the University of North Carolina.

Morris named associate VP for enrollment management

Dr. Brett E. Morris was hired as the associate vice president for enrollment management at UNG.

Morris, who retired from the U.S. Army in 2005 as a lieutenant colonel, worked at Eastern Kentucky University, where he was responsible for domestic and international undergraduate recruitment operations and admissions, student financial aid and transfer student transition.

Morris said UNG’s reputation for excellence in leadership

development and academics and its status as one of six senior military colleges in the country drew him to the university.

“Dr. Morris has proven success in taking a student-centered approach to managing enrollment and has worked collaboratively to improve retention and graduation through data-driven recruiting efforts,” said Dr. James Conneely, vice president of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management at UNG.



FinTech Academy partnership provides opportunities for business students



UNG will collaborate with the Georgia FinTech Academy to train workers for the financial technology or “fintech” industry. Payment processing firms in Georgia handle 70% of all U.S. credit, debit and gift card transactions.

“We are in a prime location to be a provider of talent for the fintech industry,” said Dr. Mary Gowan, dean of UNG’s Mike Cottrell College of Business.

UNG students started taking courses such as “Foundations of FinTech,” “Financial Technologies” and “Commercial Banking and Fintech” in fall 2019. UNG will incorporate online classes from the academy into its computer science and information systems and economics and finance curriculums as electives.

Washell named to state Board of Early Care and Learning



Dr. Cristina Washell, associate professor and coordinator of the elementary and special education program at UNG, was appointed by Gov. Brian Kemp to the state Board of Early Care and Learning.

This role is personal for Washell, whose family immigrated to the United States from Cuba when she was 3 years old. As a child in Chicago, she was involved in Head Start, a federal

program for early childhood education, health and nutrition for low-income children and their families.

“This is really close to my heart,” Washell said. “I know firsthand the way those programs helped my development.”

Outside of her job, Washell takes part in community outreach to develop literacy in Latinx children.

Three students earn cyber scholarships from DOD

Three UNG students will have their education paid for plus an internship and a guaranteed job upon graduation thanks to the U.S. Department of Defense Cyber Scholarship program.

“UNG received three, which speaks highly of our program,” said Dr. Bryson Payne, professor of computer science in the Mike Cottrell College of Business and director of the Center for Cyber Operations Education at UNG.

Because of the National Security Agency’s security requirements, the recipients’ names are not released. Payne was allowed to release general facts about the scholars. They are:

- A junior pursuing a cybersecurity degree with a minor in business administration.
- A junior pursuing a computer science degree with a minor in cybersecurity.
- A senior pursuing a computer science degree with a minor in cybersecurity.

“The two juniors are new scholars and one of them is our first Latina recipient,” Payne said. “One returning senior received the scholarship last year, which was renewed for this year.”



Program to recruit minority teachers grows and expands to Gainesville

In 2017, seven UNG students signed up for a new program in the College of Education to become teachers in Hall County Schools. Nearly two years later, the Realizing Inspiring and Successful Educators (RISE) program is considered a success. It has grown to 24 students and expanded into a parallel program with Gainesville City School System, said Dr. Sheri Hardee, dean of the College of Education.

“We are going to have to put a limit on the applicants because students in high schools are already

asking about it,” Hardee said.

Through the RISE undergraduate program, the school district funds the tuition of its heritage Spanish-speaking graduates who enroll in UNG’s teacher education program. UNG then supplements any additional needs such as books and other supplies.

The students work as paraprofessionals with English learners in Hall County elementary schools. Upon graduation, they will receive a job offer from Hall County Schools.



Yadira Hernandez is a paraprofessional at Myers Elementary School through UNG’s RISE program.

Gainesville Campus welcomes Latin fraternity, Lambda Theta Phi

Students Roel Aguilar, Carlos Garcia and Juan Velasquez have established a chapter of Lambda Theta Phi Latin Fraternity Inc., at UNG's Gainesville Campus.

The organization is the first fraternity at the Gainesville Campus, where 22% of the student population identifies as Hispanic. It is also the first Latin organization in UNG's fraternity and sorority community.

Dr. James Conneely, vice president for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management, is looking forward to the partnership.

"The University of North Georgia's vision to 'be a regional and national leader for academic excellence, engagement, educational opportunity, and leadership development' aligns seamlessly with Lambda Theta Phi's vision 'to be the acknowledged leader and ultimate Latino fraternity in helping our members succeed ... and to lead by example,'" he said. "We are confident that this historical partnership to bring the first Latin fraternity and Greek-lettered organization to the Gainesville Campus will be monumental."



Students make return trips abroad through Freeman-Asia scholarships

Three students received a national scholarship aimed at providing students with first-hand exposure to and understanding of Asia and its people and cultures.

UNG seniors Elias Keif from Cumming, Georgia; JaMia Lawrence from Dacula, Georgia; and junior Megan Shockley from Wilmington, Delaware, recently received the Freeman-Asia scholarship, which helps U.S.-based undergraduates to study abroad in East or Southeast Asia. Its goal is to increase the number of U.S. citizens and permanent residents with firsthand exposure to and understanding of Asia and its peoples and cultures.

It isn't the first scholarship for this trio, all of whom studied in Taiwan this summer. All three received the Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship earlier this

year. Sponsored by the U.S. Department of State and implemented by the Institute of International Education, the Gilman program offers scholarships of up to \$5,000.

"Because of this scholarship I am able to enjoy my time abroad and focus on learning," Lawrence said. "I don't have to worry about finances, which is rare for me."



From left, JaMia Lawrence, Elias Keif and Megan Shockley previously have been named Gilman Scholars by the U.S. Department of State.

UNG named Military Spouse Friendly School

UNG was named one of 196 schools on the 2019-2020 Military Spouse Friendly Schools list. This marks the university's first appearance on the list.

Senior Heather Callahan-Williams was not surprised that UNG received the recognition. She said the university has been helpful to military spouses such as herself, whose husband deployed with the U.S. Army Reserve while she was enrolled at UNG.

"I knew I could reach out to people if I needed to and they would accommodate me," she said.

Since 2009, the Military Spouse Friendly Schools list has been used as a resource for military spouses and is

based on a set of standards for higher education institutions.

Data sources from federal agencies and proprietary survey information from participating organizations are used to create a comprehensive guide for military spouses looking to further their education.



Blue Ridge Scholars program seeks service-oriented students

When last year's cohort of Blue Ridge Scholars learned that a majority of local third graders were not reading at grade level, they wanted to help kids improve on this essential skill.

The cohort devised a lesson plan around specific books and executed it by reading to Fannin County second graders. Although some of the Scholars started outside their comfort zone, they soon began to flourish in their level of self-confidence, preparation and leadership.

The project had such an impact on both the school children and the Scholars that Dr. Nathan Price, Blue Ridge Scholars program coordinator and assistant professor of political science and international affairs, implemented a new interview process to identify students who are enthusiastic about service projects and determine if the program is the right fit for the student.

"The mission is the same," Price said. "It is a leadership program designed to build scholars through engagement." The cohort approach helps ease students' transition to college.

Nighthawks SOAR helps students during summer

More than 30 students from the Athens-Clarke County, Oconee County and Commerce City school systems took part in the inaugural Nighthawks Student Opportunities for Accelerated Readiness (SOAR) program on UNG's Oconee Campus in June.

The program targets economically disadvantaged and English as a Second Language youth who are prospective first-generation college students. It is designed to bridge the education gap for rising sixth- through eighth-grade students in the summer.

Students in Nighthawks SOAR showed 24.3% improvement in science, 8.8% in research and study skills, 6.7% in mathematics, and 5% in English/language arts in tests after the program.



Nursing program earns two new accolades

UNG's Department of Nursing has been recognized nationally by two organizations for its highly successful Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program.

NurseJournal.org and RNcareers.org ranked UNG's BSN as one of the top programs among public and private higher education institutions in Georgia. NurseJournal.org ranked the program as No. 3 while RNcareers.org put it at No. 13.

NurseJournal.org is a social community website exclusively for nurses and health care professionals with the mission to provide comprehensive educational resources for those interested in entry-level or advanced-practice nursing careers.

RNcareers.org offers information such as RN program rankings, nurse's salary expectations, scholarships, NCLEX practice exams, career guides, financial aid, and expert advice.



Spring 2019 nursing graduates had a 100% pass rate on the national license exam that tests students' application and analysis using the nursing knowledge learned in the program.

Students in new Doctor of Nursing Practice seek to fill a critical healthcare gap



The fall 2019 Doctor of Nursing Practice cohort prepares to fill healthcare gaps in rural north Georgia.

Students in the first Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) cohort at UNG aim to combat a shortage of primary care physicians and tackle the growing complexity of health care with further training as they begin their coursework this fall.

"Our DNP program will prepare students to meet the currently unmet health care needs of north Georgia's rural counties and populations," said Dr. Sharon Chalmers, department head of nursing at UNG.

Dr. Vanessa Jones, director of the DNP program and assistant professor at UNG, said the National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculty's goal is for entry level into the nurse practitioner role to be at the doctoral level by 2025.

The DNP degree is offered to graduates who have earned a master's degree in nurse practitioner. The 38-hour post-master's program will be offered online with two required face-to-face sessions and the completion of 500 hours of clinical practice.



Record 31 cadets honored as Distinguished Military Students

UNG's Boar's Head Brigade honored a record 31 members of the Corps of Cadets at the 2019 Distinguished Military Students (DMS) Review held Sept. 29, breaking the previous mark of 25 during the 2016-17 school year.

The annual review recognizes senior ROTC cadets who have excelled academically and as leaders.

To be selected, a cadet must be in the upper half of the academic class, the upper third of the ROTC class, and the upper third of UNG's Order of Merit List, established by the professor of military science. Additionally, cadets are chosen on the basis of interest and aptitude for military service and outstanding qualities of leadership and high

moral character as demonstrated by participation and achievement in campus, civic and military activities.

This year's DMS honorees were: John Henry Belser, Khalil Benjamin Watkins, Brandon Brooks, Eric Carbone, Nina Carter, Alexander Chastain, Alejandro Davila, Jacob Drobney, Isaiah Fleck, Holden Gossett, Nathan Hicks, Jarrett Hutchens, Cody Kendrix, Marc Lacroix, Dylan Lanting, Gabriel Liranzo, Slade McMichael, Benjamin Middleton, Jacob Mizell, Tristan Moran, Bryan Morton, Joshua Nixon, William Norman, John Perry, Megan Reis, William Scaggs, Jericho Searcy, Brandon Thurmond, Micaela Tierce, James Warren, and Parrish West.



UNG wins MacArthur Award for 2018-2019

The Corps of Cadets at UNG has been selected as the 2018-19 recipient of the MacArthur Award for U.S. Army Cadet Command's 1st Brigade. The Spartan Brigade encompasses the nation's six senior military colleges — UNG, Norwich University, Texas A&M University, Citadel, Virginia Military Institute, and Virginia Tech.

“This national recognition as the number-one ROTC program among senior military colleges underscores

the long-standing reputation for excellence that UNG's Corps of Cadets has earned,” said UNG President Bonita Jacobs. “As UNG continues to set records for the number of second lieutenants that we commission, the quality of our cadets remains among the best in the nation.”

UNG previously won the brigade-level MacArthur Award for the 2016-17 academic year as well as in 2010, 1995 and 1991.



Scott named commander of Boar's Head Brigade

Cadet Col. Logan Scott is the Boar's Head Brigade commander for the Corps of Cadets for the 2019-20 school year. She is only the second woman ever to be named to the role at UNG.

Scott, a junior from Pembroke, Georgia, hopes to inspire other young women in the Corps.

"I really try to encourage those female cadets to go out and try those things," Scott said. "Their name gets out there, and it shows how strong their will is to get out there and try it."

Scott's leadership role harkens back to a statement she made to her father upon receiving her acceptance into the Corps as a high school senior. A brochure from Cadet Admissions had a picture with the brigade commander leading cadets in an exercise.

"That's going to be me," she told her father.

Three years later, she has made good on that prediction.

Corps of Cadets wins AUSA Most Active Company Award for third year

For the third straight year, UNG's Boar's Head Brigade received the Most Active Company Award from the Association of the United States Army (AUSA). UNG was selected based on the most cadet company-sponsored activities, including meetings, public service programs, military

instruction meetings and exercises, and membership recruiting efforts.

The award was presented to UNG President Bonita Jacobs and Cadet Brigade Commander Logan Scott at the 2019 AUSA Army Cadet Luncheon in October. Each year at the event, the AUSA presents awards to Reserve

Officer Training Corps (ROTC) units and individual cadets.

AUSA is the U.S. Army's professional association and advocacy organization. The group's values of excellence, innovation, and integrity align with UNG's academic and leadership development mission.

Cadets complete summer training programs

Some 124 members of UNG's Corps of Cadets took part in Advanced Camp at Fort Knox, Kentucky, held every summer for 6,500 cadets from around the nation.

Advanced Camp is a program cadets must complete to be commissioned in the military. Cadets in their third year are tested on rifle marksmanship, buddy-team live fire, hand grenades, first aid, Army physical fitness, land navigation, and much more.

The training program allows the U.S. Army Cadet Command to assess the cadets' proficiency as future officers. This evaluation helps determine the cadets' rank in the Order of Merit List (OML).

Other summer training opportunities for UNG cadets included Cadet Advanced Individual Training, Cultural Understanding and Leadership Program, Cadet Troop Leader Training, and Nurse Summer Training Program.



After their junior year, commissioning cadets are required to attend Advanced Camp.

Cadets hear from Pentagon official during Boar's Head Weekend

UNG cadets heard from Retired Col. Mark Mitchell, a high-level Pentagon leader, who shared valuable advice for their future careers during the fourth annual Boar's Head Brigade-Corps Alumni Weekend held on the Dahlonega Campus Sept. 27-29.

The North Georgia Corps of Cadets Association (NGCCA) organizes the weekend as an opportunity for alumni and other prominent businesspeople to share their expertise with cadets.



1. Retired Col. Joseph Matthews, commandant of cadets, was the DMS Review keynote speaker.
2. Former and current cadets networked throughout the weekend.
3. Former Commandant Retired Col. Tom Palmer '73 received an Honorary Life Membership in the NGCCA from Chairman Jeff Dill '85, Chairmen Emeriti John Douglas '64 and Alan Ware '77.
4. UNG Corps of Cadets brigade commander Logan Scott (center) received the 'Keeper of the Corps' saber.
5. Distinguished Military Students were recognized.
6. Boar's Head Brigade at the DMS Review.
7. Retired Col. Wayne Dill and wife Mimi at the DMS dinner.
8. The DMS Review honors high-achieving senior cadets.
9. The entire Corps of Cadets attended Friday's First Call.
10. DMS cadets and their families enjoyed a reception and dinner in their honor.
11. The Golden Eagle Band performed during the DMS Review.







VanHorn nominated for NCAA Woman of the Year

Recent graduate Renee VanHorn reached the second round of the 2019 NCAA Woman of the Year Award nomination process. Advancing from the initial list of 585 nominees to a current list of 148 contenders, she was the Peach Belt Conference's (PBC) lone

remaining student-athlete.

"It is the cherry on top of my college career," VanHorn said. "I am thankful for the nomination, and I am humbled to receive it."

This is the fourth time a UNG graduate has been nominated.

The NCAA Woman of the Year award honors graduating female college athletes who have completed their eligibility and distinguished themselves in academics, athletics, service, and leadership throughout their collegiate careers.



Sierra Campbell named head coach of women's golf

Sierra Campbell has been named the second head women's golf coach in program history at UNG.

Campbell came to UNG following a highly successful stint as the men's and women's golf assistant at NCAA Division II Dallas Baptist University (DBU).

"We are extremely excited to welcome Sierra Campbell as the newest member of the Nighthawk Athletics family," UNG Director

of Athletics Lindsay Reeves said. "She fits our culture here at UNG and, as an assistant at DBU, has helped build highly respected NCAA Division II teams. I am looking forward to working with her as our new leader as we continue to build a women's golf program that is nationally successful both on and off the course."

Campbell graduated from Midwestern State University in 2017 with a bachelor's degree in marketing. She is working on her master's degree in sports management at DBU.

Meredith Family Student-Athlete Success Center opens

UNG student-athletes have a new place to hit the books with the completion of the Meredith Family Student-Athlete Success Center on the main floor of UNG's Memorial Hall on the Dahlonega Campus.

The center is named after John Meredith, a former men's tennis player who graduated in 1984 with a degree in economics. Meredith and his family reside in Houston, Texas.

The new center houses three docked computers, individual study space desks, a group study space, and flexible seating. The Meredith Family Student-Athlete Success Center will have Nighthawk card swipe access so student-athletes can access the center at any time while on campus.

"We are so grateful to the Meredith family for their generous gift to UNG Athletics," said Brynn Seidenstricker, assistant athletic director for student services.

Athletics Department wins top PBC awards

For the 10th consecutive year, UNG won the LeeAnn Noble Peach Belt Conference (PBC) Make-A-Wish Award for most funds raised. The award was presented at the conference's annual awards dinner.

UNG has finished in the top five in NCAA Division II Make-A-Wish giving for eight years in a row and led the country on six occasions, including 2017-18. The Nighthawks have hit the five-digit mark in giving for nine straight years and remain the only PBC school to do so.

UNG also won the 2018-19 Peach Belt Conference Sports Information Staff of the Year Award, which is a first for the school. It is voted on by league's sports information directors.

UNG Athletic Communications Coordinator Walker McCrary accepted the award. He completed his second year as the coordinator, guiding the publicity and media initiatives for the athletic department.



UNG won its 10th consecutive LeeAnn Noble PBC Make-A-Wish Award for most funds raised in the Peach Belt Conference.



Athletic Communications Coordinator Walker McCrary, left, received the 2018-19 Peach Belt Conference Sports Information Staff of the Year Award.

Women's tennis team caps historic run with NCAA Elite Eight appearance

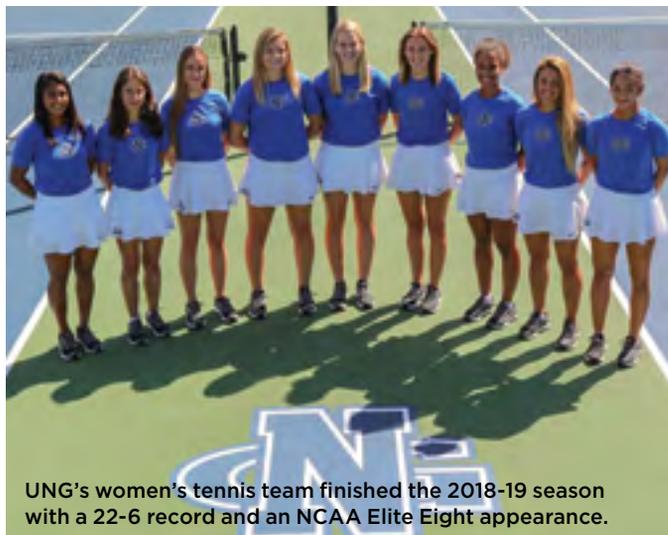
Student-athlete Lexa Loden was part of UNG sports history as a member of the first UNG women's tennis team to reach the Elite Eight.

"That was the best way I could have thought of ending my tennis career at UNG," Loden said. "It was just an incredible experience to be a part of."

The team finished the season with a 22-6 record, breaking the previous record of 20 wins set in 2017. The Nighthawks were in their third straight NCAA tournament, which accounts for the first three postseason trips in program history.

This was the second straight season the team reached the Sweet 16, but this year it went one step further. It also marks the sixth straight winning record for the program led by head coach Kent Norsworthy, who capped his 14th season.

"The seniors definitely led the way and set the standard," Norsworthy said. "We're going to miss that experience a ton."



UNG's women's tennis team finished the 2018-19 season with a 22-6 record and an NCAA Elite Eight appearance.

Q

INFO

UNG'S CORPS OF CADETS' CHAPLAIN CORPS offers guidance and encouragement for cadets and civilian students who are struggling with personal issues. The unit started in 2000 with one chaplain and expanded, eventually becoming a specialty unit in 2008 with 11 cadets — a brigade chaplain, two battalion chaplains and eight company chaplains.

Adam Stumpf, a junior from Clarkesville, Georgia, pursuing a degree in strategic and security studies, is the brigade chaplain. He and Heaven Ford, a junior from Marietta, Georgia, pursuing a degree in kinesiology with a concentration in health and fitness, provide insight on their roles in the Chaplain Corps.

Slade McMichael

Evan Overton

Terrance Dorsey

JaMia Lawrence

Ana Arce

Where We Lead: In the Chaplain Corps



Wyatt Lastinger

Connor Hamilton

Adam Stumpf

Heaven Ford

What makes someone an effective member of the Chaplain Corps?

Stumpf: I always try to put in the extra work. People tend to notice that. I try to encourage other people to work hard, as well. Things just come up as life happens, and it's usually not at a convenient time. You just have to be ready for it. Once you do that for a while, students know they can trust you.

Ford: I feel what makes someone an effective member of the Chaplain Corps is really having a heart to serve others. It can be very hard being in this position, being the light in front of your company and peers at all times. We are all human beings. We all have our good days and our bad days, and, regardless, you have to go and uplift others.

What is the most important skill you need?

Stumpf: Listening is the most important asset in this role. As cadets, we're problem-solvers, and that's always a good skill to have. But sometimes when people are talking to you, they don't always need the problem to be solved. Sometimes they don't even want it to be solved. It might not even be possible. What they really want is to be able to talk and for you to listen.

How can working in the Chaplain Corps help you with your career goals?

Ford: My ultimate goal in life is to help others in the medical field after graduation and be an equipped leader. As a chaplain, I have had the privilege of experiencing events that have pushed me out of my comfort zone and have met some incredible people along the way who have helped make me into who I am today. The leadership traits and other beneficial lessons gained will definitely help me in my future careers.

Stumpf: I want to be an infantry officer. These skills can carry on for me because you're dealing with people's lives and helping people wherever you go. That's part of leadership. You take care of your people.

Can students outside the Corps receive help from the Chaplain Corps?

Ford: A lot of civilian students think that we are just here for cadets, but we are here for the whole UNG community. One of our main goals for the Chaplain Corps this year is to connect better with students and bring them and the Corps together. If there is any way that we can help the civilian population out with the skills we learn in the Corps, we are more than willing to be an aid to them.

MEET UNG'S FRESHMEN

By Clark Leonard
Photos by Peggy Cozart

This fall, UNG welcomed a class of more than 4,000 first-year students to its five campuses and online. Commonly referred to as Generation Z, this year's freshmen are part of the most diverse generation in American history. They were either infants or not yet born at the time of the 9/11 terrorist attacks. With much of their life shaped by the Great Recession, they are more risk averse than previous generations. And they are more likely to get their news on a telephone than in a newspaper or on television.

UNG Magazine selected six freshmen who are representative of UNG students.

Fun Fact

190 OF THIS YEAR'S FRESHMEN JOINED THE CORPS OF CADETS.

KATELYN AQUINO

Campus:
Dahlonega

Hometown:
Cumming, Georgia

Pursuing:
A bachelor's degree in elementary and special education

Why UNG:
"I knew they had a great education program here. They have great leadership opportunities, which I am very interested in. As a smaller school, they make it a priority to make it community-based. It really felt like home."

Fun fact:
"I am a first-generation college student."

Favorite movie:
"Sixteen Candles"

Favorite book:
Bible



STEPHANIE BROPLEH

Campus:
Gainesville

Hometown:
Lawrenceville, Georgia

Pursuing:
An associate degree in biology with plans to pursue a bachelor's degree in biology

Why UNG:
"I was looking for something small and close together. I'm used to smaller classrooms. I thought a culture of family would be good for me."

Fun fact:
"I like ice skating, but I have trouble doing it."

Favorite movies:
"Bring It On" series

Favorite book:
"To Kill a Mockingbird" by Harper Lee

CARLOS CORBO

Campus:
Ocnee

Hometown:
Athens, Georgia; originally from Havana, Cuba

Pursuing:
A bachelor's degree in psychological science

Why UNG:
"I heard a lot of good things about UNG. At my high school, Clarke Central, people talk positively about it. I thought it would be a good idea."

Fun Fact:
"I enjoy scuba diving."

Favorite Movie:
"Unbreakable"

Favorite Book:
"Sniper" by Theodore Taylor





JESSICA FRANCIS

Campus:
Cumming

Hometown:
Cumming, Georgia

Pursuing:
An associate degree in political science, then a bachelor's degree in international affairs

Why UNG:
"It was high in the college rankings. I've heard the international affairs program is really good."

Fun fact:
"I have two bearded dragons."

Favorite movie:
"Homeward Bound"

Favorite book:
"The President is Missing" by James Patterson

TAYLOR GRIZZARD

Campus:
Dahlonega

Hometown:
Canton, Georgia

Pursuing:
A bachelor's degree in nursing

Why UNG:
"I loved the campus, and it seemed like it was small enough for me to get everywhere and I could also spread my wings. Then I found out about the cadet program, and that really sealed the deal for me."

Fun fact:
"I have a passion for softball."

Favorite movie:
"Top Gun"

Favorite book:
"Divergent" by Veronica Roth



JOSH PROFFITT

Campus:
Blue Ridge

Hometown:
Turtletown, Tennessee

Pursuing:
A bachelor's degree in business administration

Why UNG:
"It's close, and I get this home feeling. I feel really in touch with my professors, as well as my fellow students. I had 50 people in my graduating class, and it's a similar feel on the Blue Ridge Campus. It helps you to hone in and connect better and focus more."

Fun fact:
"I am the music worship leader for Faithline Ministries at First Baptist Church of McCaysville."

Favorite movie:
"Nacho Libre"

Favorite book:
King James Version of the Bible

FRESHMAN FACTS FOR FALL 2019

4,110
students

1091.7
average SAT score*

3.57
average high school GPA*

46
states

87
countries

975
College of Arts & Letters

963
Mike Cottrell College of Business

843
College of Science & Mathematics

809
University College

298
College of Education

212
College of Health Sciences & Professions

10
Lewis F. Rogers Institute for Environmental and Spatial Analysis

*Among first-time bachelor's degree-seeking freshmen

BEATING

PAIN

RESEARCH BY
PHYSICAL THERAPY
AND MUSIC
DEPARTMENTS
SHOWS THAT
DRUMMING MAY EASE
CHRONIC PAIN

By Clark Leonard
Photos by Peggy Cozart



Music faculty member Steven Walker led drum circles for 10 weeks as part of research on a link between drumming and managing chronic pain.

For Keith Rider, a study on drums and chronic pain at UNG provided a welcome distraction from the pain he has carried for years. For 10 weeks, the Lumpkin County resident participated in a weekly 45-minute drum circle aimed at decreasing chronic pain.

“It just gets your mind off everything because you’re concentrating on that moment,” Rider said.

That was part of the goal for Dr. Don Walsh, associate professor of physical therapy and principal investigator on a \$2,850 Move Together Pro Bono Incubator grant used to purchase the drums. He and Dr. Susan Klappa, interim head of the Department of Physical Therapy at UNG, hatched the idea when Klappa served as a visiting professor at UNG before joining the university full time in spring 2019.

Steven Walker, limited-term faculty and adjunct professor of percussion at UNG, enjoyed facilitating the weekly drum circles to teach participants rhythms from different parts of the world.

“It is a lot of fun because you get to see them discover things about themselves by playing music,” Walker said. “There’s a sense of wonder again because they’re out of their comfort zones.”

The study found that four of the seven participants decreased their pain medicine to zero, four reported an increased ability to do activities they previously felt limited in due to pain, and six of seven reported decreased depression scores.

Two of Walsh’s Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) students, Grace Goodfellow and Abby Young, recorded information about participants each week. The information included perceived exertion and heart rate; pain location and intensity; assessment of mood; identification of functional limitations and current medications due to pain;



and sound qualities, like frequency and decibel levels, produced by the actual drumming.

Walsh, who oversees UNG's pro bono Student-led Therapy and Rehab (STAR) Clinic, was partially inspired by the STAR Clinic's patients, including Rider.

"We can often get patients' pain lowered after or during a session," Walsh said. "How do you maintain that relief?"

One of the stories Walsh and Klappa most enjoy is of a woman who took part in the study and could only walk a block before the drum circles. Now she can walk a mile.

Klappa said the communal aspect was important in the research.

"You create something that's bigger than yourself," Klappa said. "And you begin to look outside of your pain into more of an empowerment."

The DPT students thrived on their

role in the research.

"The participants have been great to get to know and learn their story," Young said, adding the weekly check-ins were crucial. "That's what physical therapy is: treating patients long term."

Goodfellow, a second-year DPT student, said the research made her feel more connected to the community. She is curious about the research's implications.

"I'm excited to see where it goes," Goodfellow said.

One of the biggest findings was how people's avoidance of activities for fear of being hurt was reduced.

"Fear avoidance was dismantled, not because we told people it should be, but because they discovered it themselves," Walsh said.

He and Klappa are hopeful they can use the drums to expand on their chronic pain research and perhaps look at drumming's effect on mental health.

The research was a collaboration between the physical therapy and music departments.



WOMEN IN STEM

SCIENCE

TECHNOLOGY

ENGINEERING

MATHEMATICS



Inspiring
leaders in
science,
technology,
engineering &
mathematics

By Edie Rogers
Photos by Peggy Cozart

Do you know a UNG woman who is inspiring others in STEM? Let us know and she may be considered for a future profile.
Email universityrelations@ung.edu

According to statistics from the National Science Foundation (NSF), women remain underrepresented in the workforce in the areas of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). Though half of the college-educated workforce in the U.S. is female, women only account for 28% of the workforce employed in science and engineering.

In higher education, the number of women taking STEM courses and pursuing degrees in scientific fields is increasing, but overall in the U.S. programs like computer sciences and engineering are overwhelmingly male-dominated, according to the NSF.

At UNG, a number of faculty, staff, alumnae, and students who are successful in the field are actively mentoring and encouraging students and other women in STEM. As the beginning of an occasional series to be shared through UNG's Where I Lead website, UNG Magazine profiles eight inspiring Women in STEM.

Dr. Allison Bailey

Associate professor of environmental studies and geography in the Lewis F. Rogers Institute for Environmental and Spatial Analysis (IESA)

Accomplishments

Instrumental in UNG's Tree Campus USA designations; \$100,000 EPA grant to manage native and invasive vegetation for healthy forests and waterways for a two-year timeframe

Areas of Expertise

Environmental communication, geospatial technologies, nature education, community engagement, collaboration with environmental nonprofit organizations

Education:

Ed.D. in higher education administrative leadership, Argosy University; graduate certificate in geographic information systems, University of West Georgia; M.A. in speech communication, University of Louisiana at Monroe; B.A. in English education with a minor in history, University of Louisiana at Monroe

Dr. Allison Bailey knows the struggles of succeeding as a professional in the male-dominated industry, and she has become a member of an organization geared toward helping similar faculty improve and succeed as a TRELIS fellow, an NSF-funded professional development program for women in the geospatial sciences in higher education.

TRELIS awarded her a grant to conduct a professional development workshop for women in the geosciences in Georgia, and she collaborated with professors from the University of Georgia and Valdosta State University to facilitate the one-day workshop during the fall 2018 semester.

"I was really honored to receive this," Bailey said, explaining she attended a three-day conference in Madison, Wisconsin, that helped her evaluate her professional life and choices. "I figured out what I wanted for my career and how to make decisions to lead me in the direction I want to go."

Bailey chairs the Georgia Geospatial Technical Advisory Committee, which provides guidance on standards for geospatial data used by government agencies and industries statewide. She chairs the Education Committee for Georgia URISA, the state professional association for geospatial sciences, and coordinates the Georgia K-12 geospatial competition.



Accomplishments

S-STEM Scholar; recipient of German Academic Exchange Service Research Internships in Science and Engineering (RISE) scholarship to intern at the Max Planck Institute for Solar System Research in Germany

Jessica Hamilton

Undergraduate student pursuing a degree in physics

For some, “staring into space” is a figure of speech, but for 31-year-old **Jessica Hamilton**, it has a literal meaning. She is studying starspots, which are caused by magnetic fields. Her research on the topic with a fellow physics major led to a presentation at the 20th Cambridge Workshop on Cool Stars, Stellar Systems and the Sun in Boston.

That experience helped Hamilton stand out among applicants to earn an internship at a prestigious German research institute. She was one of 300 international students selected for the RISE scholarship from more than 1,900 who

applied. Hamilton interned at the Max Planck Institute for Solar System Research in Göttingen, Germany.

“The internship at the Max Planck Institute expanded my cultural horizons, my international contacts, and my base knowledge in the realm of astrophysics,” said Hamilton, who lives in Dahlonega, Georgia, with her 5-year-old daughter. “I returned from the experience with a greater knowledge of what sub-field I want to focus on for my career path and what it will entail.”

Katayoun Mobasher

Professor of geology in the Lewis F. Rogers Institute for Environmental and Spatial Analysis (IESA) and geosciences coordinator



Accomplishments
Multiple publications and presentations of research in her areas of specialty and in education; several grants, including Innovative Teaching Program Project Grant and Presidential Incentive Awards; active in mentoring student projects in programs such as UNG's Inaugural Student Start-Up FUSE program

Areas of expertise:
Petrology, structural geology, GIS, remote sensing

Education:
Ph.D. in chemistry with concentration in structural geology, Georgia State University; M.S. in petrology, Azad University; B.S. in geology, Shahid Beheshti University

Dr. Katayoun Mobasher, who began her academic career in 2001 as a teaching assistant at Georgia State University, has been with UNG for more than 11 years. She believes geology is a key part of life and works to provide an innovative learning experience for her students.

“Every day we hear about some aspect of geology in the news – such as earthquake activities, volcanic eruptions, oil supplies, threats from landslides, and water supply contaminations,” she said. “I hope my students gain an appreciation of geology around them and learn how earth processes and materials affect our lives and the ways humans affect the Earth. I want them to understand that we must be responsible for the Earth and its continuous growth and sustainability.”

Mobasher, who is interested in interdisciplinary studies that combine her various areas of expertise, enjoys both the challenges and rewards of finding new ways to teach. She's developed new methods and activities to keep her students engaged, including through use of technology in the classroom and the field. She also figured out how to teach a very visual concept – topographical maps – to a visually impaired student by working with colleagues to create tactile maps.

Mobasher is also very active in the community often providing presentations and speaking engagements to local organizations such as the Elachee Nature Science Center, the Atlanta Geological Society, U.S. Geological Survey, and the Gainesville Newcomers Group.

Dr. Linda Purvis

Assistant professor of biology/poultry science, alumna

Accomplishments
Ann Matthews Purdy
Outstanding UNG
Faculty Award 2016;
Teaching Excellence
Award 2016;
restarted poultry
program from which
she had graduated;
Young Alumni
Achievement Award
from UGA's College
of Agricultural and
Environmental
Sciences 2018



Areas of Expertise

Poultry science, infectious diseases, virology, immunology

Education

Ph.D. in science education, University of Georgia; M.S. in infectious disease, University of Georgia; B.S. in poultry science, University of Georgia; A.S. in poultry science, UNG

Dr. Linda Purvis, '00, who grew up on a poultry farm, decided in eighth or ninth grade she wanted to study poultry science. After earning three degrees in the field, she returned in 2011 to then-Gainesville State College where she earned her associate degree years prior. She had a specific task in mind: to rebuild from scratch a poultry science program that had not been taught in more than a decade.

“I had a chicken skeleton. That was about it. No resources, no textbooks, nothing,” she said. “I wanted to build that program back up, and the biology department here was very encouraging and wanted that to happen.”

Through her connections with the University of Georgia's poultry program and relationships she formed with the

poultry industry, Purvis acquired funding, including grants and scholarships, to make the poultry science program a reality. UNG offers an Associate of Science in Core Curriculum with pathway courses related to agriculture-poultry science that is a perfect fit for students who seek to go into the industry or business-related careers in agriculture. Classes in the program include accounting, economics, microbiology, and multiple courses related to poultry production and evaluation.

“I'm really passionate about helping students figure out what they're really good at and helping them find a job and a career that will fit that,” Purvis said.

Dr. Miriam Segura-Totten

Professor of biology, Harry B. Forester Eminent Scholars Chair

As a high school student in Puerto Rico, **Miriam Segura-Totten** thought she would attend a college on the island after graduation. Her mother, however, had different ideas and encouraged her to apply to schools located on the U.S. mainland.

“I got into Princeton University. I chose to attend there because it had a good community of Puerto Ricans. It was beautiful and looked like nowhere that I had been before,” she said.

While many post-graduates go into research fields, Segura-Totten veered into academe. She wanted to mentor and inspire students, just like she was.

“Mentoring students is having those conversations ... about finding their passions and pursuing them,” she said.

Segura-Totten has succeeded there. In 2017, she won an Inspiring Leaders in STEM award from INSIGHT Into Diversity magazine. The award is based on a professor’s efforts to inspire and encourage a new generation of young people to consider careers in STEM through mentoring, teaching, research, and successful programs and initiatives.



Areas of Expertise
Cell biology, molecular biology, scholarship of teaching and learning

Education
Ph.D. in biochemistry, cell and molecular biology, Johns Hopkins School of Medicine;
B.A. in molecular biology, Princeton University

Accomplishments

“Inspiring Leader in STEM,” INSIGHT Into Diversity magazine; Regents’ Award for Excellence in Teaching; UNG Distinguished Teaching Award; research funding from National Institutes of Health, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and others

Dr. Dianna Spence

Head of Department of Mathematics, professor of mathematics



Dianna Spence turned a weakness in the area of mathematics into a strength and then a passion through the support of her mother and a number of mentors. Spence's learning specialist mother discovered through a series of tests that young Dianna was not strong in math and set out to increase her skills through drills and games. Spence later found high school math came easy and she was asked to tutor her fellow students.

Always interested in becoming a teacher, Spence initially taught computer science after college and then spent some time working in the computer industry as a software engineer at a time when few were women and customers weren't used to that.

While Spence said respect for women in STEM has progressed, she seeks to support her fellow female faculty and female students by sharing her experiences and the advice of her mentors.

"I told my grad school professor, whose main field of research was self-efficacy, that I had a little bit of that 'impostor syndrome' because I was in the class with all of these really smart people and I wasn't sure I was one of them," Spence said. "He told me, 'Everybody feels that way. That's how everyone who gets to that level of success feels.' He was very clear to me about how I needed to ignore that and just push through."

Areas of Expertise

Statistics education; data science; statistical programming; discrete mathematics; graph theory

Education

Ph.D. in mathematics education, Emory University; M.S. in computer science, Georgia State University; B.A. in mathematics, William & Mary University

Accomplishments

Co-primary investigator and primary investigator for two multiyear NSF grants on statistics education; co-inventor on two software patents; 19 peer-reviewed publications and more than 60 conference presentations during UNG career

Accomplishments

S-STEM Scholar;
recipient of
National Science
Foundation
(NSF) Research
Experience for
Undergraduates
(REU) at Florida
State University



Emily Storck

Undergraduate student pursuing a chemistry degree

As **Emily Storck** transitioned from dual enrollment, a program that allows eligible high school students to take college courses tuition-free and earn high school and college credit, to attending UNG as a regular student she knew she needed a way to cover the costs. The S-STEM Scholars program provided the answer.

“It has allowed me to work fewer jobs outside of school and focus more on getting the grades needed to get into graduate school, and different experiences that also help such as working as a teaching assistant for the chemistry

department and doing research for multiple semesters,” Storck said.

Funded at UNG through the NSF, the program aims to increase the STEM workforce. The competitive scholarship provides annual \$4,362 stipends to each student in the program, plus additional funds to support their research.

Storck said the program has opened doors for research, conferences and graduate school. The senior from Buford, Georgia, pursuing a degree in chemistry got an earlier start on her research than most students thanks to S-STEM. Her research seeks to improve chemistry labs for UNG students.

Storck also was selected for an NSF Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) to research light and matter with a Florida State University faculty member for 10 weeks.



New Blue Ridge Campus opening fall 2020

By Clark Leonard

In the mountains of Fannin County, UNG's new standalone Blue Ridge Campus is taking shape.

The roads have been paved, utilities have been installed, and site grading and construction began this fall. The campus is scheduled to be completed in time for fall 2020 classes.

The new campus is located off Ga. Hwy. 515, about three miles from the current Blue Ridge Campus.

Georgia Speaker of the House of Representatives David Ralston helped

secure \$5.5 million in state funds for the new Blue Ridge Campus in the 2019 fiscal year budget. A UNG alumnus, Ralston represents Georgia District 7, including Fannin County, in the General Assembly.

"I'm excited to see this important project move forward. The new Blue Ridge Campus will make permanent the availability of a world-class college education in our community," Ralston said. "As one of the region's top public universities — and consistently ranked

as one of the best values in higher education — UNG will afford students better job prospects and attract new businesses to our north Georgia mountains for generations to come."

Sandy Ott, director of UNG's Blue Ridge Campus, said science lab space, a computer lab and spaces for students to gather and study outside of classrooms are important elements in the new campus' design. Access to science labs will expand course offerings to allow students to finish



specific degree paths in Blue Ridge.

“From the beginning of the planning process for the new campus, the focus has been on our students,” Ott said. “This new campus aligns with the university’s access mission and allows UNG to provide outstanding quality and an affordable higher education opportunity for this region; it is truly a game-changer.”

The Blue Ridge Campus opened with 20 students in 2015, and enrollment this fall is 199 students,

Ott said. The design leaves the opportunity for future growth, including another building, more parking and sidewalks.

Ott is grateful for the support of students, faculty, staff, and the community for the Blue Ridge Campus.

“This community is invested in this campus and our students,” Ott said. “The future is very bright for the UNG’s Blue Ridge Campus.”

UNG established the campus in response to a need for access to

An artist’s rendering of the Blue Ridge Campus depicts the campus entrance, building and ample greenspace.

higher education that was identified through UNG’s Regional Education and Economic Development Task Force, a group of more than 100 business, education, government, and community leaders from northeast Georgia. The new location will further cement UNG’s efforts to advance educational attainment in the region.

Where I Lead: Diversity in Education

BIO

DR. LAUREN JOHNSON, department head for the Department of Culture, Language and Leadership in the College of Education and associate professor of teacher education at UNG, has worked alongside her colleagues in the College of Education on UNG's partnership with Gainesville and Hall County schools to train the next generation of diverse teachers.

Johnson, coordinator of diversity and recruitment initiatives for the College of Education, was a 2019 Diversity Champion Award winner for these efforts.



What inspired you to become an educator?

I first told my mother I wanted to be a teacher sometime around eighth grade. I have always loved to learn and did my best to excel in school. I think I have always thought teaching to be a noble profession and decided that I could make the greatest impact as an educator. Now, I am inspired by my amazing students who have the same professional goals. They teach me just as much as I teach them.

What did you gain from the Fulbright-Hays Seminar Abroad Program and the Governor's Teaching Fellows program in 2017?

The Fulbright-Hays summer program provided me the opportunity to work with other educators from around the country in learning more about Chile, including its culture, sociopolitical issues, and education system. It was an honor to have been selected for the opportunity and a delight to explore Chile with new friends and colleagues. The Governor's Teaching Fellows program was a brief yet impactful experience to learn more high-impact teaching practices, technological tools, and assessment strategies for use in the university classroom.

How have partnerships with area schools helped UNG prepare more students of color to be teachers?

Through our efforts to recruit and train successful graduates of Hall County high schools and current Gainesville City paraprofessionals, we have hopefully provided necessary support for students who might otherwise be unable to achieve their goals of becoming teachers. This partnership provides financial assistance in addition to mentorship, advisement, and social activities that we plan to help the cohort bond and offer support. Through these programs, we are encouraging more students of color to become teachers with the eventual goal of producing highly effective educators who will go on to make positive contributions in their local communities. Our graduates will have jobs waiting for them when they complete their degrees.

Why is it important to have teachers who are people of color?

Representation matters. Research shows that students respond well to teachers who share their cultural, linguistic and religious backgrounds. Students of color are no longer a minority in this country and, therefore, their teachers should be more representative of their communities. This is clear when we consider the educational experiences of non-native English speakers in U.S. schools; our increasingly diverse population necessitates that teachers effectively communicate with students and parents in their own languages. The best way to present the range of educational opportunities and career paths available to young people of color is to provide them examples in their schools of all that they can achieve.

Celebrating 40 Years in action

By J.K. Devine and
Photos by Peggy Cozart

Gay Hammond, left in purple, and Jim Hammond, opposite page in grey, both alumni of Gainesville Theatre Alliance, now lead the program's efforts.



For 40 years, the nationally acclaimed Gainesville Theatre Alliance (GTA) has entertained audiences from across northeast Georgia with its construction-savvy and technically gifted crews, professional directors and choreographers, innovative costume designers, and talented casts of students

from UNG and Brenau University.

What started out as a theatrical experiment with a community theater group, a private university and a then-two-year public college grew into a magical collaboration that has yet to be replicated anywhere.

“We have presented the GTA model

at several conferences across the nation,” said Jim Hammond, head of the UNG Department of Theatre and GTA’s artistic and managing director. “Some universities have tried collaborating as we do with Brenau, but they haven’t been successful. I think egos may get in the way and one school or another



Act One

The creation of GTA in 1979 required innovation to solve a couple of problems. Fortunately, two individuals and their institutions, Ed Cabell at UNG and Mary Jean Simmons at Brenau, were willing to collaborate and lead faculty and their colleges in the development of an ingenious plan.

UNG students could complete their associate degree at the Gainesville Campus (at the time, the campus did not offer bachelor's degree programs) and transfer to the bachelor's program at Brenau in one seamless motion. Brenau would receive an influx of students to bolster its program, and both institutions increased their faculty, staff and course offerings.

"When Gainesville and Hall County built the Georgia Mountains Center and its theater was offered to us as our primary venue, it all began to take shape," Cabell said.

Gay Hammond, who was a Brenau student pursuing a degree in theater, applauded the partnership.

"I was thrilled, because Brenau's program was small and at a women's college. So we were dependent on the community for men," she said. "Once we merged, we took our work to the next level."

Gay and Jim were in both of GTA's first two shows, and had no idea they would help bolster the programs at their alma maters years later.

wants to be in charge, and the collaboration fails."

The teamwork between the two universities has produced an ever-increasing number of GTA alumni with many returning to Hall County to offer their expertise in productions and master classes. In 1990, 27 theater majors were enrolled at UNG. This fall, the number was 225.

"Our graduates have created an impressive professional network, communicating opportunities to each other in cities from New York to L.A.," said Gay Hammond, associate professor of theater at Brenau.

"We have a cadre of graduates like Harvard and Stanford does with law school graduates. GTA on your resume opens doors."

Jim Hammond is the artistic and managing director of GTA. Gay Hammond is the director of WonderQuest, GTA's Theatre for Young Audiences.



Act Three

In 2000, the spotlight shone once again on GTA. The American Council on Education (ACE) recognized the program for its academic excellence and cost management. Only five programs in the country received the ACE award.

Jim Hammond explained the partnership allows UNG and Brenau to split the production and classroom expenses. The work of GTA is also supported by the community with \$250,000 annually in ticket revenue and a \$500,000 endowment.

In 2002, GTA experienced another influx followed by a praiseworthy accomplishment. The Gainesville Children's Theatre, now called WonderQuest, officially became a part of collaboration. Six years later, WonderQuest won the Sara Spencer Award for Excellence in Child Drama, a regional award given by the Southeastern Theatre Conference.

In 2003, when GTA produced the Broadway musical "Ragtime," the stars were aligned in the program's favor. The national tour of "Ragtime" had completed its run and planned to take a six-month hiatus. GTA negotiated a deal through its graduates who were working on the national tour to use and store its sets and 350 Broadway costumes for a reduced price, while producing the show to open the new Hosch Theatre at Brenau.

The choreographer and actors who played Coalhouse Walker Jr. and Father from the national tour were also hired to play the same parts in GTA's production.

In 2004, GTA received another award for its excellence from the Georgia Council of the Arts.

"We received the highest score of any theater in Georgia, and the highest ranking of any arts organization," Jim said. "And that was right on the heels of 'Ragtime.'"

Act Two

After 10 successful years, GTA took another step when it entered the American College Theater Festival, the pinnacle of collegiate theatre. GTA competed against 695 universities over three rounds. GTA's production of "The Scarlet Pimpernel" was one of the top five picked to perform in the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C.

After the win Cabell retired and more than 130 applied for the job. Jim Hammond, who studied with Cabell during his senior year at Brenau, threw his name in the ring. After building theater programs at Gordon College and Georgia College and State University, Jim accepted the director position to succeed his inspiring mentor in 1990.

"I watched Ed Cabell and how he found such joy in the work," Jim said, noting he had an epiphany at that moment. "It was that magnetic moment when all of the elements of one's life snap together and you think, 'Oh, my God. I want to do that.'"

Jim took the reins of the program and founded the GTA Touring Repertory Company, expanded the season to five productions and continued to build on the successful formula Cabell had created.

Three years later, Gay Hammond became the leader of the Gainesville Children's Theatre, which also was founded by Cabell. As a mother of two at the time, she was the ideal candidate.

Cabell said he couldn't have chosen anyone better than Jim and Gay.

"Looking back I think I always knew that if GTA was to survive, it would have to be led after me by individuals who understood and valued what it provided for the students and the community. And who better than products of the program?" he said.



In 2003, GTA produced the Broadway musical "Ragtime," with two actors from the national tour hired to perform with students.

photo courtesy of GTA

Act Four

In 2007, GTA reached new heights on the technical side with a production of "Metamorphoses" utilizing an 8,000-gallon pool with underwater tunnels constructed in the Ed Cabell Theatre. That same year, a switch to online ticket sales and discounted ticket packages was a game-changer.

"We had about 1,200 ticket package holders then," said Joslyn Hilliard, GTA's director of business and audience services. "This year, we have already sold 6,048 season tickets. Approximately 25,000 people see the work of our theater each year."

In 2010, GTA added the Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in technical theater and design at UNG to increase offerings for students.

At the same time, faculty and staff realized GTA was struggling with a space to create their wonderful productions. They needed design laboratories for lights and sound, and a new scene shop. So they sought the community's help.

"We turned to the community and raised \$2.5 million to build a new wing onto the Continuing Education and Performing Arts Building," Jim said.

GTA reached new heights on the technical side with a production of "Metamorphoses" utilizing an 8,000-gallon pool with underwater tunnels constructed in the Ed Cabell Theatre in Oakwood, Georgia.

photo courtesy of GTA



photo courtesy of GTA

AS GTA continues to produce professional shows, plays and musicals such as "Cabaret" sell out in advance.

Act Five

Each time GTA has lifted its game, the community has reciprocated. In the past 10 years, most performances have sold out. In November 2018, "The Wizard of Oz" had sold out shows with a waiting list of people in the lobby hoping to get in. Five months later, the entire run of the spring musical "Cabaret" was sold out two months in advance. GTA added performances, and tickets were bought immediately.

Because of the high demand, more community members are purchasing ticket packages to ensure they have reserved seats for the plays and musicals for GTA's 40th season.

"They are going to two or more shows," Hilliard said.

Of course, each year GTA aims to produce shows that appeal to the tastes of all its audience members. This year is no different. Two coming-of-age musicals, the reinterpretation of two classic tales and the premiere of a new play are part of the 40th season.

The children's tale "The Ugly Duckling" launched the season this fall. Gay penned the new script based on Hans Christian Andersen's classic to last for 55 minutes to cater to the WonderQuest audience of young children.

The first mainstage production set for early November will be "Legally Blonde: The Musical," which is based on the 2001 hit movie.

"It is one of the hottest properties from Broadway and a real crowd favorite," Jim Hammond said.

For GTA's February Festival of Theater, GTA will present two shows. Jim's favorite musical "Pippin" will run in Hosch Theatre at Brenau while Gay's original play "The Bra and Panty Club" will be shown in the Ed Cabell Theater at UNG's Gainesville Campus.

Wrapping up the season will be "The Arabian Nights" by Mary Zimmerman, who is known in GTA circles for "Metamorphoses" and "The Secret in the Wings." Keri McClain, GTA marketing manager, said tickets are selling faster than any other show this season.

"It's in the Cabell Theatre on the Gainesville Campus, which is a smaller venue. So people should buy these tickets sooner," she said.

CONNECTING STUDENTS WITH BUSINESS LEADERS

By J.K. Devine
Photos by Peggy Cozart

Georgia Lt. Gov. Geoff Duncan was the keynote speaker at the REED Summit held Sept. 10 on UNG's Dahlonega Campus.



Lt. Gov. Geoff Duncan highlighted opportunities for Georgia to become the technology capital of the East Coast at UNG's 2019 Regional Education and Economic Development (REED) Summit. Duncan was the keynote speaker for the second annual summit, where he spoke about the future of business in Georgia.

With the theme of "North Georgia Means Business," the unique one-day event in September focused on logistics and supply chain management, cybersecurity, financial technology (FinTech), and how emerging technologies drive business in today's global marketplace. The event brought together industry experts, community leaders, and students to feature career and educational pathways for students to consider.

Additionally, participants benefited from networking and an economic outlook presentation by David Tanner, associate

director of the State Services and Decision Support division within the University of Georgia's Carl Vinson Institute of Government.

Sara Carmichael of Gainesville Mechanical Inc., one of the event sponsors, was surprised to learn about the predicted population explosion of Hall and Forsyth counties.

"The population growth estimates in 2050 were astounding," Carmichael said. "This tells us Gainesville Mechanical is in the right area and we can know where to expand and push for those workers."

Likewise, Johnson High School junior Jesus Vazquez and his classmates in the Upward Bound Program didn't know Gainesville Mechanical Inc. offers its employees hands-on training.

Sarah Wahn and Ryann Gibson, both 2018 UNG alumnae,

spread the word about their employer, The Lab Depot, and the work it does. They also reiterated the lab equipment distribution company is based in Dawsonville, Georgia.

“There is a lot of opportunity for us to connect with people here,” Gibson said. “And they didn’t realize we are local.”

Gibson and Wahn also illustrated the variety of employees needed at companies like The Lab Depot. Gibson has a degree in marketing while Wahn has a degree in biology.

Coleman James, a 16 year old from Ellijay, Georgia, was glad he attended the summit. With aspirations to study culinary arts and business, it proved beneficial for him to hear from Rob Hathy, plant manager for King’s Hawaiian in Hall County, and Shannen Oyster, owner of Oyster Bamboo Fly Rods in Blue Ridge.

“She told us to be persistent and connect now with people who are doing what I want to do in the future,” James said.

Based on the feedback, Bobbi Larson, UNG’s director of economic development and community engagement, is already looking ahead to next year’s summit.

“The attendees said our presenters were great and provided usable content for their purposes,” she said. “And we will be able to build upon this one for next year.”



Students from UNG and area high schools learned about a variety of career fields during the 2019 REED Summit.



“
There is a lot of
opportunity for us
to connect with
people here.

— Ryann Gibson

”

- Special Thanks to our
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Where I Lead: In the Classroom and Overseas

BIO

MELISSA SILVA, '19, graduated from UNG with a degree in modern languages with a concentration in Spanish language and literature in August and is spending an academic year as an English Teaching Assistant in the Kyrgyz Republic. The Gainesville, Georgia, resident earned that job by winning a scholarship from the Fulbright U.S. Student Program. It was the second prestigious nationally competitive scholarship Silva won. Earlier, she received a Benjamin A. Gilman Scholarship, which funded her study abroad to Spain in the summer.





What did you learn while teaching in Spain?

Since I am from Mexico, I was able to learn about our cultural similarities and differences. Spain is known for its flamenco dancing and bull fighting. Mexico has a lot of bull fighting rings and we love to dance. One of the differences can be seen in the cathedrals in each country. In Mexico, the cathedrals have vibrant colors. The Spanish cathedrals were influenced by the Roman architectural and Baroque style.

What are you looking forward to most about teaching in the Kyrgyz Republic?

I'm looking forward interacting with the students. I want to do more than teach them the nouns and verbs and the grammar of English. I want to talk to them and ask them, "What is your life like here and what do you do?"

How has winning two nationally competitive scholarships affected your future?

It was a huge accomplishment! I was taking six classes and working three jobs: as a paraprofessional at South Hall Middle School, as a foreign language lab consultant for Spanish, and as a cashier at Office Max. I worked 40-plus hours a week and still had to attend class, study, complete assignments, and meet with Dr. Anastasia Lin (assistant vice president of research and engagement and assistant dean of student research and scholarship at UNG) about my essays. Given all of that, it was truly a blessing that I was able to win not only one but two nationally competitive scholarships.

What made you decide to apply for the scholarships?

I was sitting in one of my Spanish classes and my professor told us that a degree alone could not secure us a job. And I thought, "What?" He said we needed to do undergraduate research or study abroad—something that makes us stand out from the crowd. That is when it hit me that I needed to try.

What is your plan after you return?

I was enrolled in the joint UNG, Hall County Realizing Inspiring and Successful Educators program. Through it, Hall County Schools paid for my tuition while I worked as a paraprofessional in a middle school. Now that I've graduated, I have been offered a position at a middle school. I plan to come back and teach there once I earn my teaching certification.

What made you want to be a middle school teacher?

Teaching is the profession that runs on my mom's side of the family. My mom was a kindergarten teaching assistant in Mexico, and my cousin is a middle school teacher. I remember going into his class when I was little and watching him with awe, and I thought, "This is what I want to do."



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THE 1873 CIRCLE COMPRISES UNG'S MOST GENEROUS LEADERS. With annual philanthropic contributions of \$1,000 and greater, 1873 Circle members put their passion for UNG to work, playing a critical role in the advancement and success of the university and its future graduates.

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*For graduates of the last decade (G.O.L.D.), the following exemption is allowed to join the Dean's Circle:

- \$250 donation for graduates of the last five years
- \$500 donation for graduates of the last six to ten years

Visit unggive.org/1873circle to learn more and to join UNG's new leadership giving circle for the 2019-2020 year.



"The scholarships I received allowed me to hold leadership positions and to choose the major of my dreams. Without them, I wouldn't have been able to study as much, have as good of grades or take on as many leadership responsibilities. They revolutionized my time at UNG. I want to say thank you to the donors. You have impacted my time here beyond anybody."

Stephanie Meierotto, '19,
SGA President, Chemistry
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Commit to an annual gift

You can also participate in our annual crowdfunding campaigns - #ONEUNG in October and RISE Scholarship Crowdfund in April.

unggive.org

2

Join the Alumni Association (UNGAA)

Activate your membership and reconnect with former classmates.

ungalumni.org

3

Attend UNG events

From alumni gatherings to sports and theater performances to signature fundraising events, we have many opportunities for you to reconnect with other alumni and to cheer and support UNG students.

ungalumni.org/upcomingevents

4

Make a major gift

Schedule a call with one of our Development Officers who can guide you through the many ways you can make a major impact at UNG.

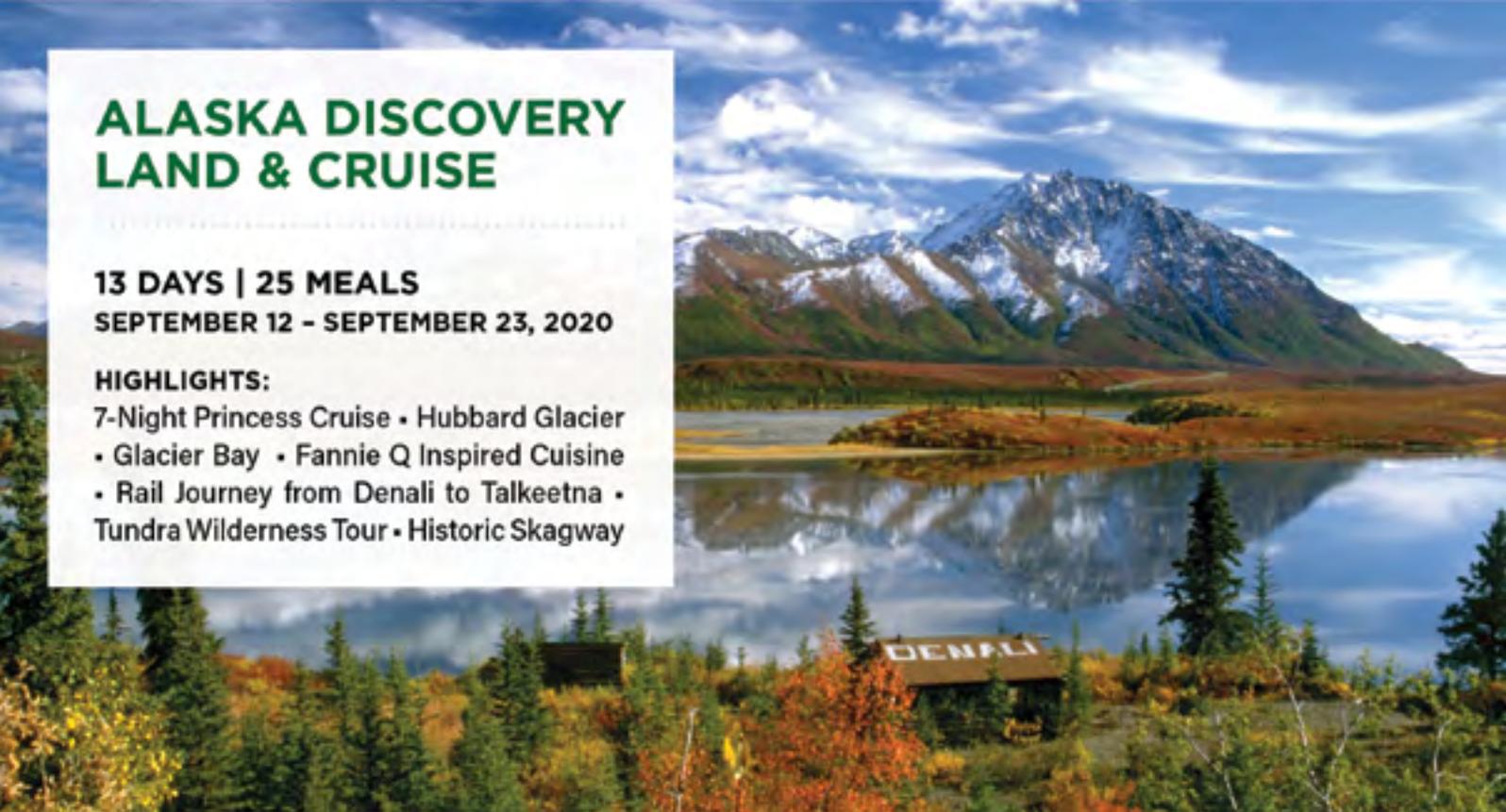
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5

Leave a legacy gift

Discover how you can make a transformative gift to UNG and leave a legacy for generations to come.

unglegacy.org

A scenic landscape of Alaska featuring a large, snow-capped mountain peak in the background, a calm lake in the middle ground reflecting the sky and mountains, and a forest of evergreen trees in the foreground. A small building with the word "DENALI" on its roof is visible among the trees.

ALASKA DISCOVERY LAND & CRUISE

13 DAYS | 25 MEALS

SEPTEMBER 12 - SEPTEMBER 23, 2020

HIGHLIGHTS:

7-Night Princess Cruise • Hubbard Glacier
• Glacier Bay • Fannie Q Inspired Cuisine
• Rail Journey from Denali to Talkeetna •
Tundra Wilderness Tour • Historic Skagway

A picturesque view of the Tuscan countryside at sunset. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a warm glow over rolling hills. A winding road lined with tall, thin cypress trees leads towards a cluster of traditional stone buildings. Yellow wildflowers are in the foreground.

SPOTLIGHT ON TUSCANY

9 DAYS | 10 MEALS

OCTOBER 15 - OCTOBER 23, 2020

HIGHLIGHTS:

Montecatini Terme • Florence • Lucca •
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**For more information contact UNG Alumni Relations:
(706) 864-1547 alumni@ung.edu**

GOLD RUSH



Gold Rush, held the third weekend in October, celebrates Dahlonega's 1828 discovery of gold. UNG hosted alumni events on the Dahlonega Campus to celebrate and was one of the hundreds of booths set up around the Downtown Square in support.

1. UNG Athletics raised money for Make-A-Wish **2.** Despite the rain, thousands of people filled West Main Street and the Historic District of Dahlonega. **3.** UNG Corps of Cadets run in the Saturday morning 5K **4.** This littlest runner, got a lift. **5.** UNG colors were plentiful at the festival. **6.** UNG's Physical Therapy program booth. **7.** Runners leave the starting line. **8.** The Corps of Cadets lined up for inspection. **9.** Alumni and their families enjoyed the Saturday 5K.

Photos by: c/CPT Robert Young

CLASSNOTES

1980s

Emily Dunn, '83, was named secretary of the State Transportation Board in August. She was elected to the board and served as the first female chair in 2011. Dunn has been named an Engineering Magazine 100 Influential Women to Know for two years in a row. She earned a UNG degree in nursing.

1990s

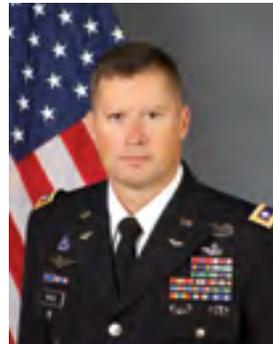
Joshua Teteak, '94, was selected to serve on the UNG Foundation Board of Trustees. The UNG Foundation receives and manages all



charitable gifts and grants on behalf of and for the benefit of UNG. Teteak is currently the vice president of operations of the Electrical Products Group at Eaton Corporation. He has a strong background in supply chain and new product industrialization. He graduated with his Bachelor of Business Administration in accounting and was a member of the Corps of Cadets and Sigma Chi fraternity. He and his wife Heather live in Sharpsburg, Georgia.



Bruce Gannaway, '98, has accepted a position as East Tennessee State University Bill Gatton College of Pharmacy's Assistant Dean of Finance. He commissioned from UNG into the Army and served for nearly 21 years and was awarded the Ralph Colley Spirit of North Georgia Award at the 2017 UNGAA Alumni Awards Banquet.



Jeffery J. Bragg, '98, was promoted to Army colonel on Oct. 11. Bragg was a Distinguished Military Graduate of UNG, where he earned a degree in physical education. Bragg is the senior active adviser to the Georgia National Guard and the state's adjutant general at Dobbins Air Reserve Base in Marietta, Georgia.

Greta A. Railsback, '99, was promoted to Army colonel on Oct. 10, as she became the highest-ranking female officer to have been commissioned at UNG. Railsback earned a degree in criminal justice at UNG. Railsback is director of the Center for the Army Profession and Leadership at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.



2000s

Jason Lewis, '04, of Cartersville, Georgia, serves as the commander of the Marietta, Georgia-based 4th Civil Support Team, Weapons of Mass Destruction, and was promoted to lieutenant colonel earlier this year. He graduated with a degree in psychology.

Anthony E. Stewart, '09, an attorney in Atlanta, has earned the designation of Fellow of Information Privacy from the International Association of Privacy Professionals. He is the first (and currently only) private-practice attorney in Atlanta who has earned the designation. He earned a degree in criminal justice.



2010s



Mike Sloop, '12, is the new principal of Silver City Elementary in north Forsyth County. He has worked in the Forsyth County school system since 2002. Sloop began at Otwell Middle School, where he served as science teacher for nine years and was named Forsyth County Teacher of the Year. He earned a degree in education from UNG.

Kristen Redmon, '15, is taking a position with Gainesville Georgia Water Resources as a water conservation specialist. Previously, she was the manager of the downtown development program, Main Street Gainesville. Redmon graduated with a degree in biology.



Jennifer Lopez, '17, accepted a new position at Fintrust as the client service administrator. She will focus on maintaining client relationships and assist advisers with service requests. Lopez graduated with a Bachelor of Business Administration in accounting.

Marina Esteves Monteiro, '17, works for The Weather Channel as an associate producer. Her program, Tech it Out, broadcasts on Local Now, which is The Weather Channel's digital platform that has more than one million monthly viewers. Monteiro received an associate degree in journalism from UNG.

Former UNG baseball player **Chase Sudduth** continued his baseball career by signing on with the Washington Wild Things of the Independent Professional Baseball Federation. The second baseman from Powder Springs, Georgia, signed with the team in June and collected his first professional hit June 26, with a single in the bottom of the third against Lake Erie. Founded in 2001, the Washington Wild Things are a professional baseball team in the Frontier League that plays in Washington, Pennsylvania.



To submit a class note or update your contact information, email the Office of Alumni Relations at alumni@ung.edu.

UNG alumni at Jalalabad Airfield, Afghanistan



Pictured left to right:
CPT Jordan Gomolak '10,
CPT Teale Marchette '12,
CPT Nathan Turk '10,
1LT Nathan Patterson '16,
1LT Jackson Henry '14,
CPT Samuel White '11,
1LT Travis Burnett '17,
1LT Jordan Chisley '16,
1LT William Ferris '17,
1LT Nelson Moraga '16,
CPT Madison Bips '10,
2LT Ivey Walters '17,
LTC John Casiano '98,
1LT Robert Battles '15,
SGT Richard Lively '14,
SSG Andrew Franklin '14,
SSG Paul McInnis '14,
1LT Thomas Case '02,
MAJ Dustin Shoupe '07,
2LT Zachary Hunt '17,
1LT Derrick Caudell '10,
SGT Jacob Tornow '14



Maj. Gen. James Adrian Guest, '60

Two alumni inducted into Georgia Military Veterans Hall of Fame

Two UNG alumni and retired U.S. Army generals joined the ranks of the Georgia Military Veterans Hall of Fame.

Maj. Gen. James Adrian Guest, '60, from Toccoa, Georgia, and Maj. Gen. Jack Cox Wheeler, '61, from Fayetteville, Georgia, were inducted into the Hall of Fame on Nov. 2. Both were presented with the Georgia

Military Veterans Hall of Fame medallion, certificate and coin. Both men served in the Vietnam War.

The two men were among 15 veterans from the branches of the Army, Navy and Marine Corps to be nominated for the Class of 2019. UNG alumni account for 13 of the 115 inductees since the Hall of Fame was established in 2013.



Maj. Gen. Jack Cox Wheeler, '61

IN MEMORIAM

Alumni

Mary Nabeha Arp '82
September 16, 2019

Brian James Austin '72
July 17, 2019

Maxine Tallie Barnes '44
June 9, 2019

Charles Frederick Benson '61
August 30, 2019

Charlotte Melinda Benson '79
May 19, 2019

Janis Kathleen Black '61
July 6, 2019

Spencer Stroud Boyd '60
August 11, 2019

Douglas Jerrold Brown '60
August 30, 2019

Roxanne Anita Buchanan '86
May 29, 2019

Edward Allen Buckner '67
July 1, 2019

Larry Kent Butler '69
May 30, 2019

James Henry Capps '66
October 1, 2019

Jack Frank Chapman '50
June 23, 2019

Thomas Lowe Clary '50
May 25, 2019

Jay Shell Cochran '79
July 26, 2019

Aligene Sara Costello '49
August 4, 2019

Jessica Lynn Eilene '14
April 12, 2019

Carol V. Fleet '98
June 17, 2019

Tony Alan Fountain '92
May 18, 2019

Louise Tigner Garrett '67
August 27, 2019

Raymond Roger Gilleland '58
June 12, 2019

Connie Diane Gurley '73
August 30, 2019

Charles Joseph Hamrick '59
September 6, 2019

Jane Lee Hanley '76
May 6, 2019

Bernice Jeanette Harben '52
April 18, 2019

Barnard Yates Holwell '51
May 26, 2019

E. Margurite Jacobs '44
April 27, 2019

David Lamar Maddox '69
July 1, 2019

Charles E. Maxwell '61
May 29, 2019

Robert Wallace Mayhue '71
September 30, 2019

George Brooks Mayo '59
September 10, 2019

Rita Ann McFarland '74
September 18, 2019

Jessica Brooke Meadow '09
August 22, 2019

Robert Edwards Moorhead '46
July 24, 2019

Carvin C. Moreland '55
May 21, 2019

Betty H. Morris '64
September 2, 2019

Jo D. Mosley '81
June 21, 2019

Lillian Odette Reece '58
September 2, 2019

Norma Joyce Rhodes England '51
September 7, 2019

Melvin Eugene Rice '74
June 19, 2019

Robert Vaughn Robbins '81
July 17, 2019

William Isaac Robertson '62
July 15, 2019

Thomas Noel Saffold '49
July 18, 2019

Robert Lawson Scruggs '40
September 28, 2019

Murray Hillman Segraves '70
April 11, 2019

Joan Kathleen Sewell '62
July 30, 2019

Francis M. Sibley '53
June 14, 2019

Mary Frances Smith '41
July 21, 2019

William Otto Stubblefield '58
July 25, 2019

Robert Wiggins Turner '61
April 14, 2019

Gayle Ann Weatherford '78
May 1, 2019

Millard N. Williams '41
October 1, 2019

William Roger Williams '55
September 4, 2019

Jack Lawshe Zuker '51
May 15, 2019

Faculty, Staff and Friends

Frank W. Armstrong
May 16, 2019

Rodrigo Casas
April 20, 2019

Lena Mae Gaddis
September 26, 2019

Thomas Phillip Goodell
July 7, 2019

John Acklin Gram
August 25, 2019

Adam Jon Hain
April 25, 2019

J. W. Harkins
June 19, 2019

Deborah A. Krewson
July 17, 2019

James C. Parker
October 5, 2019

Donald Hoyt Ravan
April 23, 2019

Henry Albert Schotter
May 1, 2019

Michael Sonen
June 4, 2019

Joe T. Wood
April 27, 2019

To honor a former classmate or mentor, consider making a gift in their memory to the UNG Foundation at unggive.org.

Upcoming Events

For event times and other details, as well as more event opportunities, please visit calendar.ung.edu.

DECEMBER

December 2

Alumni Concert Series: Variations on Hallelujah featuring UNG Music Faculty Ed Cabell Theatre
Gainesville Campus

December 2

Artist Talk & Reception: Wes Beeler
Hoag Student Center
Dahlonega Campus

December 4

UNG Chamber Orchestra
Continuing Education and Performing Arts Center
Gainesville Campus

December 6

Hawkapella's Concert
Health & Natural Sciences Building
Dahlonega Campus

December 6

Annual Holiday Choral Festival featuring UNG Singers, Le Belle Voci, Patriot Choir, UNG Chorale, and members of the UNG Brass Ensemble
Grace Episcopal Church in Gainesville

December 14

Fall 2019 Commencement and Commissioning Ceremonies
Convocation Center
Dahlonega Campus

December 20-31

Winter Break
No Classes

JANUARY

January 20

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
No Classes

FEBRUARY

February 3

A Little Night(hawk) Music Concert Series
Continuing Education and Performing Arts Center
Gainesville Campus

February 11-22

Gainesville Theatre Alliance presents Pippin
Brenau's Hosch Theatre
Gainesville, Georgia

February 14-22

Gainesville Theatre Alliance presents The Bra and Panty Club
Ed Cabell Theatre
Gainesville Campus

February 14

Corps of Cadets Sweetheart Review
Dahlonega Campus

February 15

Homecoming
Convocation Center
Dahlonega Campus

MARCH

March 2

A Little Night(hawk) Music Concert Series
Continuing Education and Performing Arts Center
Gainesville Campus

March 7

Big Band Show
Ed Cabell Theatre
Gainesville Campus

March 10

19th Amendment in Historical Perspective Lecture Series presents Dr. Marjorie Spruill
Martha T. Nesbitt
Gainesville Campus

March 13

Annual Research Conference
Martha T. Nesbitt
Academic Building
Gainesville Campus

March 18

Golden Brass Series – Spring Euphoria #3 presents Lance LaDuke and the UNG Low Brass Collective
Continuing Education and Performing Arts Center
Gainesville Campus

March 23-27

Spring Break
No classes

March 30

Corps of Cadets Military Awards Night
Memorial Hall Gymnasium
Dahlonega Campus

APRIL

April 7-18

Gainesville Theatre Alliance presents The Arabian Nights
Ed Cabell Theatre
Gainesville Campus

April 10-11

Theatre Performance
Oconee Campus

April 17

45th Annual Nighthawks Athletic Club Scholarship Golf Tournament
Achasta Country Club
Dahlonega, Georgia

April 17-19

Alumni Weekend
Class of '60 60th Reunion
Class of '75 45th Reunion
Dahlonega Campus

April 18

Corps of Cadets Memorial Retreat
Dahlonega Campus

April 18

2019 Annual UNG Alumni Association Awards Banquet
Dining Hall and Banquet Room
Dahlonega Campus

April 19

Corps of Cadets Military Awards Review
Dahlonega Campus

MAY

May 8-9

Spring 2020 Commencement and Commissioning Ceremonies
Convocation Center
Dahlonega Campus



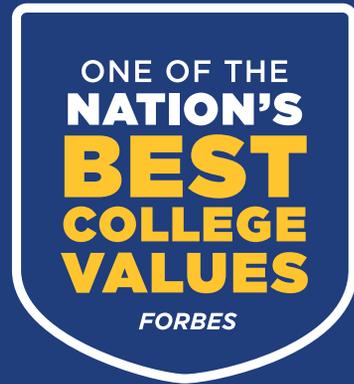
Students and faculty in UNG's Department of Music showcase their talents during a number of performances throughout the academic year.

They Agree:

ONE OF THE NATION'S TOP COLLEGE VALUES

go.ung.edu/valueFM19

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www.ung.edu/news



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