

Diversity at UGA

News from the Office of Institutional Diversity at the University of Georgia

A message from Michelle Garfield Cook



Fall is an exciting time at the University of Georgia. There is always an energy to the start of the academic year. There is also the palatable sense of possibility in each fall that encourages us all to contribute our best.

We began this year with a celebration of the 50th anniversary of Mary Frances Early's graduation from the University of Georgia. As the first African-American graduate of the university, Ms. Early represents the potential of an individual and an institution. We are humbled by her sacrifice and courage, as we are indebted to her for her persistence and vision. The celebration of Ms. Early's graduation reminds us of the diversity that is the University of Georgia.

U.S. News & World Report's 2013 "Best Colleges" edition ranks UGA 21st among public universities. *Kiplinger's* magazine ranks UGA 6th in its 2012 list of the "100 Best Values in Public Colleges." The University of Georgia expects to rank well nationally according to a variety of academic and collegiate indices. We are proud of how our institution stacks up against others. It is important to note that we also have become more diverse as an institution in every area of diversity across our student, faculty and staff populations. More voices, disparate voices, more perspectives, differing perspectives are increasing at the University of Georgia. We are truly an example of inclusive excellence. And as we increase our inclusiveness, we also are growing in our excellence.

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President Michael F. Adams presents Mary Frances Early with a copy of the proclamation honoring the 50th anniversary of her graduation from UGA.

UGA honors Mary Frances Early, its first black alumna

There was very little fanfare at the Fine Arts Auditorium in August 1962 when **Mary Frances Early** became the first African American to earn a degree at the university.

"Though it was understated and no one spoke to me at the time, it was big," said Early, at an Aug. 15 ceremony marking the 50th anniversary of the occasion. "I don't mean for me. It was a time when UGA changed forever. UGA would never be the same as before."

The moment was at last properly marked when the university hosted a celebration of Early's graduation in the same auditorium where she turned her graduation tassel 50 years ago. Among those in attendance was **Louise Hollowell**, the widow of civil rights attorney **Donald Hollowell**, who served as lead counsel in the landmark legal case that led to the desegregation of UGA.

Early came to the university as a music education graduate student in 1961. At the time she applied, she was already taking graduate-level classes at the University of Michigan.

She enrolled at UGA after **Hamilton Holmes** and **Charlayne Hunter** became the first African Americans to register for classes at UGA. Early said she switched schools to provide moral support for Holmes and Hunter. In doing so, Early also faced racially charged intimidation tactics during the application process and once she arrived on campus. Despite all that, Early earned her master's degree in music education and went on to a notable career in teaching. In 1967, she received a specialist degree from UGA, also in music education.

At the ceremony, Early deflected the notion that her graduation and the anniversary celebration of it were some grand personal achievement. "This occasion is not just for me, but it's for all of those African-American students who have come, who have applied and studied, who have received degrees," she said. "It's for those who are studying now for a degree and for those yet to come. That graduation is about all of us." For a video of Early recalling her graduation, see <http://t.uga.edu/9t>.

Student News

Student one of six awarded pharmacy internship nationwide

Desola Kalejaiye, a second-year student in the College of Pharmacy, was one of six students nationwide awarded a summer internship through a partnership between the Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy, the Foundation of Managed Care Pharmacy and Pfizer Inc.



Kalejaiye participated in a rotation at PerformRx in Philadelphia for 10 weeks, working with a pharmacist preceptor on a research project. In addition, she spent a week in Alexandria, Va., at the AMCP/FMCP offices learning about the inner workings of the organization and career options available to a managed care pharmacist.

In October, she presented the results of her internship project at the AMCP Educational Conference in Cincinnati.

Doctoral student named 2012 Educator of the Year



Yvette Dupree, a fourth-year doctoral student majoring in workforce education, was selected as Educator of the Year by the Georgia Marketing Education Association.

An educator for more than seven years, Dupree earned a master of arts for teachers in occupational studies in 2007 and a bachelor of business administration with a major in marketing in 2003, both from UGA. She co-founded the Clayton Leaders Environmental Action Network, a nonprofit organization created as a beautification initiative for the community. She currently serves as the organization's vice president.

International coffee hour brews friendships

Piyush Parate always looks forward to Fridays because that means going to the university's International Coffee Hour program.

Held weekly during fall and spring semesters from 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. in the ballroom of Memorial Hall, International Coffee Hour showcases different cultures, music and food while giving faculty, staff, students and the community a chance to get together.

Parate, an application programmer at UGA, has been going to the event for six years. Because it's not often that he can take the 24-hour flight back to his family in India, coffee hour is his "home away from home," where he feels comfortable around people who share experiences with him.

Approximately 300 people show up for the event, which celebrated its 40th anniversary in December and, in addition to free coffee, offers international food and activities. Students chat on the staircase, mingle with administrators, look at diversity displays, get a lunchtime snack and practice language skills with students from around the world. The line for the event can spill out into the hall, and the crowd can be heard from the front of the building.

"International Coffee Hour is one of the longest-running programs of its kind in the country," said **Leigh Poole**, associate director of student life. "It's a great way to check in with students, see how they're doing, how classes are going, see what issues or concerns they have."



International Coffee Hour regularly attracts 300 students, faculty, staff and community members.



Seniors LaBeach and Toney named Homecoming King and Queen

UGA President Michael F. Adams (center) congratulates Darien LaBeach, a senior from Senoia, and Collette Toney, a senior from Snellville, after they were named UGA's 2012 Homecoming King and Queen during the Nov. 3 football game against Ole Miss.

Student News

Playwright Rita Dove visits UGA production of *Darker Face of the Earth*

When the cast of the University Theatre production of **Rita Dove's** *The Darker Face of the Earth* took the stage on opening night, they had an extra reason to be nervous. Among those in the audience was the playwright herself—a former United States Poet Laureate and Pulitzer Prize winner.

Dove came at the invitation of **Stephen Corey**, editor of *The Georgia Review*, UGA's acclaimed literary journal. Dove's work has appeared in the *Review* through the years.

The Darker Face of the Earth is set on a pre-Civil War plantation in South Carolina. Dove loosely based the plot on the Greek myth of King Oedipus, an abandoned son who unwittingly returns to his birthplace, kills his father and marries his mother. The play grapples with the historical reality of American slavery to confront questions about freedom, reconciliation and prejudice.



Rita Dove (right) greets cast members including Dane Alexander, a senior theater major from Atlanta, who played the lead role of Augustus.

After the performance, Dove enthusiastically greeted and congratulated each of the 19 cast members as they made their way to the lobby for a post-show reception.

The play, which was part of the university's Spotlight on the Arts festival, was directed by **Freda Scott Giles**, associate professor in the department of theatre and film studies and associate director of the Institute of African American Studies. Graduate student **Kristyl Tift** was assistant director.

Disability Resource Center honors students who excel

Sixteen students received scholarships and awards at the Disability Resource Center's Nov. 5 reception. The honorees succeed academically with a variety of disabilities including brain injuries, learning and psychological disabilities, and physical, visual and hearing impairments.

The honorees are:

Braydon Anderson and Andres Giraldo, *John and Frances Mangan Family Scholarship*
 Mindy Bartleson, *Joe Coile Memorial Award*
 Megan Cannon, *Matthew Peddicord Memorial Scholarship*
 Carly Dean and Laura Tucker, *Weldon H. Johnson Access Abroad Award*
 Daniel Dunnam, *Michael E. Merriman Memorial Scholarship*
 Hilary Hamby, Josh Norton and Alex Reed, *Gregory Charles Johnson Scholarship*
 Mackenzie Johnson and Catrina Rushing, *Choate Family Scholarship*
 Alexander Lunn, *Lauren Melissa Kelly Award*
 Adam Malyala, *Margaret Towson Scholarship*
 Katie Penland, *Carey Louis Davis Scholarship*
 Katherine Osborne, *Hamilton Family Scholarship*

Partee founds UGA chapter of National Society of Black Engineers

ValaRae Marie Partee, an environmental engineering major from Lithonia, has had a number of highlights during her time at UGA, but she said she's most proud of founding the UGA chapter of the National Society of Black Engineers. The organization works to stimulate and develop interest in engineering among students, increase the number of students who choose to major in technical fields and to create a support system among black engineering students at UGA.



Partee has been involved in research since her freshman year and is interested in using living organisms to reduce air pollution. She also has participated in the 2012 Miss Black UGA Pageant and a documentary about breaking stereotypes.

To read more about Partee, see <http://t.uga.edu/9u>.

"Amazing Student" receives scholarship

Steven Yi, an environmental health science and biology double major from Acworth, received the Irving Bell Scholarship from the Georgia Environmental Health Association. The award is based on academic achievement and letters of recommendation.

Yi, who lost both parents to cancer, aims to pursue a career in medical oncology. He has interned at UGA's Environmental Safety Division, volunteers at Athens Regional Medical Center and mentors elementary school children.

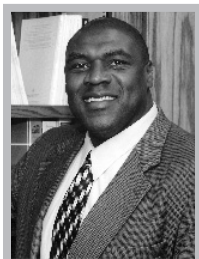


To read more about Yi, see <http://t.uga.edu/9v>.

Faculty & Staff News

Robinson receives American Chemical Society Award

Gregory H. Robinson, Franklin Professor and Distinguished Research Professor of Chemistry, has been honored with the F. Albert Cotton Award in Synthetic Inorganic Chemistry. The award recognizes lifetime achievements and distinguished work, with a particular emphasis on creativity and imagination.



Singh wins American Psychological Association Award

College of Education associate professor **Anneliese Singh** won an American Psychological Association (APA) divisional award for her work in the area of ethnic minority lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender psychology. Singh co-founded the Georgia Safe Schools Coalition, in which she and several colleagues and students have developed workshops for schools on LGBTQ youth and how to implement anti-bullying policies.



Hawkins elected to NCAA Forum

College of Education professor **Billy Hawkins** has been elected to the board of directors of the National Collegiate Athletic Association Forum for the Scholarly Study of Intercollegiate Athletics in Higher Education. The forum's purpose is to stimulate, encourage and promote study, research and writing related to intercollegiate athletics, to support core values of higher education in relationship to intercollegiate sport, and to conduct an annual colloquium.



The first Diversity and Inclusion Certificate graduates (front row from left) Toni Devane, Megan Robertson, Marilyn Huff-Waller, Angela Cote, Ricky Roberts, Marian Arnold, Elizabeth Sproston, Randolph Carter and (back row from left) Myron Tucker, Rosa Driggers, Shirley Reyes and Paige Jackson were recognized by UGA's chief diversity officer, Michelle Garfield Cook (back row, far right). Not pictured are Kristin Drapela, Kimberly Fowler, Steve Gibson, Aimee Ginn, Martha Denise Matlock and Pattie Strickland.

Inaugural Diversity and Inclusion Certificate recipients help keep the University of Georgia inclusive

Eighteen faculty and staff members were recognized at the Office of Institutional Diversity's Embracing Diversity program on Sept. 17. They are the first recipients of the university's certificate aimed at encouraging employees to explore areas of diversity and learn how to keep UGA an inclusive community.

"The Diversity and Inclusion Certificate allows faculty and staff an opportunity to find out more about what diversity at UGA truly means," said **Michelle Garfield Cook**, associate provost and chief diversity officer.

To earn the certificate, recipients took six courses in diversity-related subjects such as disability access, the university's Non-Discrimination and Anti-Harassment policy, LGBT awareness, and communication among diverse groups. Certificate program graduates will act as diversity advocates in their workplace.

The certificate program is the result of a partnership between OID, human resource's training and development unit and other university diversity-related offices and programs. Future courses will explore age as well as veteran and military issues.

At the Embracing Diversity event, scholarships also were awarded to students based on their commitment to diversity, academic excellence and service. **LeJoi Lane**, a freshman pre-journalism major, received the Black Alumni Scholarship from the UGA Alumni Association. The Athletic Association presented scholarships to **Lawrence Williams**, a math and music major, and **Shaunteri Skinner**, a political science major.

Faculty & Staff News



Public service associate helps bridge gap between UGA & Latino community

As a public service associate at the Fanning Institute, a unit of the Office of the Vice President Public Service and Outreach, **Maritza Soto Keen** focuses primarily on conducting training for nonprofit organizations and reaching under-served audiences, especially the Latino community. But when asked what she loves most about her job, she couldn't limit her response to just one thing.

"I especially enjoy that at Fanning, we have the opportunity to create. Because we work with many organizations and communities with such distinctive needs, what we do every day is always changing," she said. "I am able to work across Georgia in the areas of leadership training, especially in nonprofits, strategic planning, diversity training and much more. But I think the best part of my job is having the opportunity to work with both students on campus and prospective students."

Soto Keen joined the Fanning Institute in 2002 after serving as the executive director of the Latin American Association in Atlanta for 17 years.

"When I left the association, I knew I wanted to work at a major university and began looking for an environment where I could combine education with the kind of work I did at the association," she said. "I spoke with **Art Dunning**, who at the time was UGA's vice president for public service and outreach, and he connected me with Fanning. He had just created an initiative to reach Latino communities, so it was a perfect fit."

Until 2009, Soto Keen served as the lead faculty in UGA's Latino Pipeline Initiative, a program aimed at increasing the number of Latino youth in higher education. Today, working with prospective Latino students is still one of her main focuses.

"It is my goal to help these students understand not only that they can get an excellent education at UGA but that it is also a place where they can feel welcome and get a very well-rounded experience," said Soto Keen.

Harris receives International Diversity Award

Tina Harris, Meigs professor in the department of communication studies in the Franklin College of Arts and Sciences, received the inaugural International Diversity Award, which is jointly conferred by the Office of International Education and the Office of Institutional Diversity.

The award recognizes faculty or staff who have shown dedication to promoting diversity as part of UGA's internationalization. This includes recruiting students from underrepresented populations for study abroad;



educating international students about U.S. cultural, ethnic, religious or other forms of diversity; increasing the inclusion of students with disabilities in a variety of international activities; and bringing attention to international and comparative aspects of courses or co-curricular activities devoted to diversity.

Harris designed and directed a program titled "International Perspectives on Interracial Communication" in 2008 at UGA Costa Rica. The program, which is still being taught, involves non-traditional approaches that challenge students to critically engage with the racial and ethnic diversity in Costa Rica. These include service-learning projects, round table discussions and guest lectures, all of which provide students with the opportunity to engage with Costa Ricans of various backgrounds.

A UGA faculty member since 1998, Harris received the university's Sandy Beaver Excellence in Teaching Award in 2009. As a 2009-2010 Service-Learning Fellow, she created a workshop for the Office of Service-Learning on leading constructive classroom discussions on diversity issues.

Alumni News



Alumna Natasha Trethewey shares thoughts about writing, her biracial identity

U.S. Poet laureate and UGA alumna **Natasha Trethewey** (BA '89, English) delivered the Charter Lecture to a standing-room audience in the Chapel on Nov. 8.

Through her readings sprinkled with commentary, the 2007 Pulitzer Prize poetry winner shared some deeply personal thoughts about her biracial identity and journey as a writer.

Provost **Jere Morehead** noted in his introduction to the lecture that while many poet laureates serve in the role at the twilight of their careers, Trethewey was named to the position while still in her prime. She has written several poetry books including *Thrall*, which was released in 2012 and was the source of her Charter Lecture readings.

As Morehead alluded to in his introduction, the Charter Lectures feature speakers who can reach out to the university community with ideas that are important to a free society. Trethewey's lecture also was part of the university's Spotlight on the Arts festival.

Describing her objectives in writing *Thrall*, Trethewey said, "I try to make sense of our shared history, what we've all learned from the past as well as my personal history from my black mother and white father—a story that is quintessentially American."

Along with her UGA alumna status, Trethewey has several other UGA connections. The UGA Press published her 2010 memoir *Beyond Katrina: A Meditation on the Mississippi Gulf Coast*, a personal profile of the devastation of hurricane Katrina in her home region. Trethewey also is a contributor to *The Georgia Review*, UGA's internationally recognized quarterly journal of arts and letters.

Jackson receives Pacesetter Award

Caree Jackson

(MS '04, PhD '08, Foods and Nutrition) recently was honored with the College of Family and Consumer Sciences' Pacesetter Award



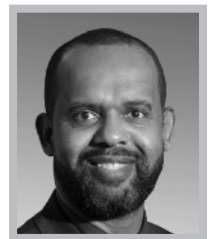
and named to the UGA Alumni Association's 40 Under 40 list. She currently works at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, where she helped develop and implement First Lady **Michelle Obama's** "Let's Move!" obesity initiative.

Katrina McClain (AB '89) inducted into Basketball Hall of Fame

Katrina McClain, Georgia basketball's first National Player of the Year, was a 2012 inductee into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame. McClain's collegiate career provided the winningest four-year span in Lady Bulldog history. She was the leading scorer for the 1988 U.S. Olympic team, which won the gold medal in Seoul, South Korea and a bronze medal at the 1992 Barcelona Games. McClain earned a gold medal at the 1996 Centennial Games in Atlanta.

Johnson first to win all four Georgia Gwinnett faculty excellence awards

C. Douglas Johnson (MS, '99, Ph.D., 2001, Industrial/Organizational Psychology), associate professor of management at Georgia Gwinnett College,



was honored as the institution's first faculty member to receive all four faculty excellence awards, selected by a committee comprised of faculty, staff and students. Since 2009, he has received the awards for Excellence in Scholarship and Creative Activities; Student Engagement; Service; and Teaching.

Campus News

Cook, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

One can only believe that there is a correlation there.

We celebrated the 25th anniversary of African studies at UGA with a host of events in November. Interdisciplinary academic programs such as the African Studies Institute flourish at the university because of the hard work and dedication of distinguished faculty and the interest and intellectual curiosity of our students. The anniversary celebration included a range of activities and allowed the campus community to engage with dignitaries who traveled to Athens for an international conference on the African diaspora. As an institution, we were fortunate to have such an exciting program on our campus. The ASI represents the academic diversity that feeds the intellectual enthusiasm of our community.

This year the Office of Institutional Diversity partnered with the Office of the Vice President for Research to offer Research in Diversity Seed Grants to faculty who are engaged in research around difference and inclusion. Grants were awarded to faculty in four different colleges on campus. These areas of inquiry demonstrate the way in which diversity impacts and enriches the research mission of our institution.

The diversity of the University of Georgia is an incredible strength for our community and an excellent reason to be a part of this dynamic and exciting institution. We are a microcosm of a larger society that is enriched by the contributions of each of its members. Therefore we continue to strive toward reaching the potential of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s beloved community. He recognized the challenge implicit in this aspiration, but he was optimistic that our society would be successful. We join him in stating, "Our goal is to create a beloved community, and this will require a qualitative change in our souls as well as a quantitative change in our lives."

African Studies Institute celebrates 25th anniversary

Two weeks of campus-wide events in November helped mark the 25th anniversary of the African Studies Institute at UGA. Like the continent itself, the events covered broad and diverse African-related topics in a variety of formats—including theater, poetry readings, conferences and food tastings.

The African Studies Institute got its start when faculty members pushed for increased and coordinated Africa-area studies in 1987. The institute offers classes relating to Africa and supports study-abroad programs.

Akinloye Ojo, director of the institute, said the events were well attended by the UGA and Athens communities. "We have had more response than we originally anticipated," he said.

Students were an especially big presence at some of these events. As a class assignment, students in African language courses led a cultural awareness event on Nov. 15 where



Children decorate drums at Africa Family Day at the State Botanical Garden. The event was part of the 25th anniversary celebration of African studies at UGA.

drew academics and dignitaries from across Africa and the U.S. as well as from Europe and the Middle East. They discussed the richness of Africa's culture—particularly how to study and utilize knowledge passed down in African communities through oral tradition, music and art.

they served traditional African dishes, such as fried plantains, curried (or jollof) rice and kachumbari (tomato and onion salad) and presented skits and videos in Swahili and Yoruba languages.

One of the highlights of the celebration was the international conference "Africa and Its Diaspora: Expressions of Indigenous and Local Knowledge." The two-day meeting

UGA purchases institutional membership for DiverseJobs postings

With the support of the Provost's Office, the Office of Institutional Diversity has purchased an institutional membership package with DiverseJobs, the online job posting site for *Diverse Issues in Higher Education*.

UGA's institutional subscription to DiverseJobs allows academic and administrative units to advertise unlimited job postings. Units have the ability to independently manage their postings and can set up login access by completing the online form at <http://tiny.cc/Jobpostingform>. If you have any questions, contact the Office of Institutional Diversity at 706-583-8195 or diverse@uga.edu.

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Giving to the Office of Institutional Diversity

A contribution to the Office of Institutional Diversity (OID) will help support a wide variety of initiatives that foster diversity at UGA.

OID provides and supports programming, such as recruitment and retention efforts, diversity scholarship funding, pre-collegiate learning opportunities, and faculty and student mentoring events. If you would like to discuss ways to give, please contact our office at 706-583-8195. We will work with you to ensure your charitable giving needs are met. To find out more about OID, visit our website at www.diversity.uga.edu.

Checks should be made payable to the UGA Foundation and designated for OID on the "for" or "memo" line. Please mail checks to:

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