

# Diversity at UGA

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

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## A message from Cheryl Dozier

As I reflect on my six months as the Associate Provost for Institutional Diversity at the University of Georgia I must share my appreciation for the campus-wide efforts to address issues of diversity and equity facing faculty, staff, and students. This semester has seen many campus-wide diversity events that deserve a brief mention. **Mrs. Evelyn Lowery** started the year as the Freedom Breakfast speaker, then in February, many student- and faculty-led events commemorated Black History Month. Highlights included talks by **Andrew Young** and **Charlayne Hunter-Gault**, and the College of Education's 2nd annual Black Issues in Higher Education conference.



Among the special events and programs in March marking Women's History Month was a keynote address by **Wilma Mankiller**, the first woman principal chief of the Cherokee Nation. Also this spring, UGA's Institute of Native American Studies is sponsoring a series of events, and the School of Social Work is hosting its 9th annual African American Family Conference March 30th. The next week, Atlanta Mayor **Shirley Franklin** will give the annual Holmes-Hunter Lecture.

I had the opportunity to join UGA Honors students and alumni for a special viewing of an exhibit showcasing the personal papers from the Morehouse College Martin Luther King Jr. Collection at the Atlanta History Center. It was breathtaking—viewing the handwritten version of many of Dr.

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## Shirley Franklin to deliver Holmes-Hunter Lecture

Atlanta Mayor **Shirley Franklin** will deliver the 18th annual Holmes-Hunter Lecture at the UGA Chapel April 3. The 2 p.m. lecture is free and open to the public.

The Holmes-Hunter Lecture was established in 1985 to honor **Hamilton Holmes** and **Charlayne Hunter-Gault**, who in 1961 became the first African Americans to enroll at UGA. Lecture speakers focus on race relations, black history, or aspects of higher education with implications for race relations.

Franklin was elected Atlanta's 58th mayor in 2001 in her first bid for public office, and was re-elected last year. She is the first woman to serve as mayor of Atlanta and first African-American woman to serve as mayor of a major Southern city.

Among her numerous accomplishments as mayor, Franklin has spearheaded a campaign to raise \$32 million in gifts and pledges to keep a large collection of Martin Luther King's papers in Atlanta.

*Time* magazine named Franklin one of the country's top five mayors in 2005, and *U.S. News & World Report* chose her as one of "America's Best Leaders." She also has received the John F. Kennedy Profiles in Courage Award.

Before becoming mayor, Franklin was Atlanta's commissioner of cultural affairs. She was chief administrative officer when Andrew Young was mayor of Atlanta and was executive officer of operations when Maynard Jackson was mayor.

Previous speakers for the Holmes-Hunter Lecture have included Andrew Young, Jesse Jackson, Vernon Jordan, Nikki Giovanni and Deborah Roberts.



## Andrew Young speaks at campus NAACP event

Former Atlanta mayor **Andrew Young** was the guest speaker for the first Image Awards ceremony presented by the UGA chapter of the NAACP.

Young urged the students in the audience of 200 to focus on getting an education and then becoming financially successful, saying that the biggest problem facing the world is the growing disparity between rich and poor.



"We integrated the schools. We tried to integrate the politics," said Young, who served three terms in Congress in the 1970s. "Now we've got to integrate the money."

Young was appointed ambassador to the United Nations by President Jimmy Carter in 1977, and was twice elected mayor of Atlanta in the 1980s. He is currently chairman of Goodworks International, a consulting group based in Atlanta.

Once a top aide to Martin Luther King Jr., Young said King would have been astonished to learn of his success, not expecting such strides to be made in their lifetimes. More success awaits the younger generation, Young said, if they listen to God and build communities.

Winners of the Image Awards presented at the banquet included the Black Theatrical Ensemble, of which Young's granddaughter is a member. In addition to several group awards, the NAACP recognized students **Tiffany Aholou** for social justice research, **Claudia Caycho** for social justice advocacy, **Erin Mahone** for campus leadership, and **Desiree Dawson** for academics.

# Student News

## First Alumni Scholarship given

The UGA Alumni Association recently awarded its first \$5,000 Alumni Scholarship to UGA freshman **Vihn Duong**, who was valedictorian of his graduating class at Morrow High School. The scholarship is renewable for up to four years as long as the recipient maintains a 3.0 GPA, with a new recipient added each year for the next four years. Born in Vietnam, Duong has spent most of his life in the U.S. He hopes to enter the pre-med or pre-pharmacy program at UGA and then attend graduate school.



## Study abroad fellowship awarded

**Shannon Banks**, a junior Spanish and international business major from Cartersville, studied in Argentina last fall as the first recipient of a \$3,000 Study Abroad Fellowship now being offered by the UGA Alumni Association. While on his trip, he sent monthly updates to the Alumni Association that can be viewed online at [www.alumni.uga.edu/alumni/alumniabroad.html](http://www.alumni.uga.edu/alumni/alumniabroad.html).



## News from Intercultural Affairs

UGA's Department of Intercultural Affairs—which houses the African American Cultural Center, Multicultural Services and Programs, and International Student Life—has implemented new approaches to disseminating information about student organizations, departments and campus events to the UGA community. A weekly e-mail digest consists of announcements about programs and services, while an online newsletter called *The Mirror* features student profiles, ongoing activities and upcoming events. For more information about Intercultural Affairs, visit [www.uga.edu/ica](http://www.uga.edu/ica).

## UGA Foundation Fellow wins a 2007 Marshall Scholarship

UGA Foundation Fellow **Jayanthi Narain** was selected as one of 43 recipients of a 2007 Marshall Scholarship to study in the United Kingdom. A senior with majors in international affairs and economics, Narain is the first female and fourth UGA student since 2003 to earn this prestigious award.

After graduating in May, she will pursue a one-year master of science program in development studies at the London School of Economics and then a master's degree in Near and Middle Eastern studies at the School of Oriental and African Studies in London the following year. Narain would like to work in economic development, particularly on sustainable community-based solutions to poverty and giving special attention to women in the Middle East or South Asia.

"This is really one of the most incredible opportunities I could imagine—to live in the UK and study at some of the world's best institutions, while becoming a part of this legacy of scholarship represented by the Marshall," she says.

Narain has already traveled to New Zealand, South Korea and the Galapagos Islands through her Foundation Fellowship, UGA's premier undergraduate scholarship. She also has been involved in an HIV/AIDS education program set up in primary and secondary schools in Malawi and visited Cambodia as an intern for Heritage Watch, a non-profit organization devoted to preserving Cambodia's cultural legacy.

In addition to being an international scholar and volunteer, Narain is founder and current president of STOP (Sexual violence Targeted Outreach and Prevention), a student group focused on sexual violence awareness.



## Undergraduate researcher forms stem cell advocacy group

UGA undergraduate researcher **Kurinji Pandiyan** created a UGA chapter of the international Student Society for Stem Cell Research last fall with the hope that public education and outreach will help sustain and further advance regenerative medicine.

A senior genetics and cellular biology major, Pandiyan knows the medical potential of stem cell research since she has worked in the laboratory of **Steven Stice**, director of UGA's Regenerative Bioscience Center, for two years.

"Since stem cell research is fraught with controversy and politics, gaining popular support is crucial," she says.

Growing up with doctors as parents, Pandiyan has always been fascinated with biomedical research and hopes to pursue a doctorate in biomedical sciences, staying involved with stem cell research. She followed in her brother's footsteps when she left her family in India to attend UGA after hearing of his experiences here. "Choosing to attend UGA has definitely been one of the biggest and best decisions I have ever made," she says. "It has been a challenging, exhilarating and rewarding journey."

Pandiyan's academic record has included studying indigenous South and East Asian systems of medicine in Sri Lanka through the Honors Program's Courts International Scholars program and participating in a highly competitive summer internship program at New York University's Medical Institute.

Pandiyan has been featured as an "Amazing Student" on UGA's web site. To read more about her and other outstanding UGA students, visit [www.uga.edu/amazing](http://www.uga.edu/amazing).



# Student News

## Honors student participates in Carter Conference panel

**Yannick Morgan**, a senior in international affairs, was one of six students from UGA's Honors Program who presented policy recommendations on international and domestic issues during a recent three-day conference at UGA, marking the 30th anniversary of former President Jimmy Carter's inauguration.

The chosen presenters, along with 20 other student researchers, analyzed policy decisions from Carter's administration under the guidance of faculty mentors in preparation for a student panel: "Lessons Learned: Policy Advice for the 21st Century." Morgan gave a speech on Carter's nuclear nonproliferation policy.

The Carter Conference experience fits in with Morgan's future goals. He would like to apply to the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace in Washington, D.C. or teach English in France and then pursue graduate studies or a law degree.

In addition to his international studies, Morgan is a citizen of the world, having been born in England and living in Saudi Arabia for eight years before immigrating to the U.S. He also is a citizen of Sierra Leone because of his parents' family roots.

As a UGA Foundation Fellow, he has traveled to the Galapagos Islands and participated in a service-learning project in Ghana.

On campus, Morgan has stayed busy with three jobs and still finds the time to lead the UGA Accidentals, a male *a cappella* singing group.

"My collegiate career thus far has been absolutely amazing," he says, "but if I had to pick a few highlights, the first and foremost would be being a member and director of the UGA Accidentals." Read more of Morgan's story online in the "Amazing Students" section of the UGA web site: [www.uga.edu/amazing/morgan.html](http://www.uga.edu/amazing/morgan.html).



**Morgan (far right) with Jimmy Carter and UGA Honors students Balaji Narain and Benjamin Cobb**

## Study abroad rate grows

Nearly 29 percent of UGA undergraduates participate in an international study experience before graduating, according to 2005-06 institutional data. That figure is up considerably from 11 percent in 2000 and exceeds the university's goal of 25 percent participation by the year 2010.



UGA ranks 9th of all U.S. colleges and universities in the number of students participating in study abroad programs, according to the most recent "Open Doors" report, covering 2004-2005. UGA students can choose from more than 150 study abroad and exchange programs in 61 countries and the diversity of destinations has expanded to include more countries outside of western Europe, such as Vietnam and China. Asia and Africa are the fastest-growing regions for student participation. For more information about UGA's study abroad programs, visit [www.uga.edu/oie/studyabroad.htm](http://www.uga.edu/oie/studyabroad.htm).

## International students host coffee hours

The Office of International Student Life arranges weekly campus coffee hours held Fridays from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Memorial Hall Ballroom. Students and other members of the UGA community can meet and mingle over free coffee and samplings of international foods. Depending upon the sponsor of the weekly event, cultural performances and displays are also sometimes offered. Upcoming dates and sponsors include:

March 30: Indian Cultural Exchange

April 6: Asian American Student Association

April 13: Global Friends

April 20: Turkish Student Association

The ISL office also organizes a popular International Street Festival, held every spring in downtown Athens, across from the Arch on College Avenue. The 2007 festival will be April 14.

## HSA president named Outstanding Student Leader by UGA yearbook

UGA Hispanic Student Association (HSA) president **Melina Baetti** was recently named one of 13 Outstanding Student Leaders by UGA's *Pandora Yearbook* and will be featured in the 2007 edition.

"Our organization has really grown," says Baetti, a senior originally from Rosario, Argentina. "It has been so great to see how many more Hispanic/Latino students have come to this university and I think in the future the campus will just keep getting more diverse."

Under Baetti's leadership, HSA has worked more closely with other campus organizations and become increasingly politically active and aware of immigrant issues in Georgia and the U.S.

During Hispanic Heritage Month last fall, HSA introduced new events such as "Orgullo Hispano," where Hispanic professors and alumni spoke about their backgrounds and their time at UGA. The event included an address by **Frank Ros**, director of Latin American affairs at Coca-Cola, who was captain of UGA's 1980 national football championship team.

After receiving bachelor's degrees in French and public relations in May, Baetti will complete a six-month public relations internship at a large international company in Paris on her way to a career in international public relations focusing on sports.



# Faculty & Staff News

## Carmichael is associate dean

**Paige Carmichael** has been named associate dean for academic affairs in UGA's College of Veterinary Medicine, where she has taught since 1993. Last year, she was one of five UGA faculty selected to receive the Meigs Teaching Professorship, an institutional award recognizing excellence in teaching. She holds a doctor of veterinary medicine degree from Tuskegee University and a Ph.D. in pathology from UGA.



## Alridge examines history texts

**Derrick Alridge**, associate professor in UGA's College of Education, analyzed representations of Martin Luther King, Jr. in high school history textbooks, finding that they present prescribed, oversimplified and uncontroversial narratives of King that obscure important elements in his life and thought. Alridge's study was the lead article in a recent issue of the *TC Record*, a journal of educational research, analysis and commentary published by Columbia University's Teachers College.



## McWillie awarded prize for book

A book co-authored by **Judith McWillie**, a professor in UGA's Lamar Dodd School of Art, has been awarded the James Mooney Prize by the Southern Anthropological Association. She and co-author Grey Gundaker, from the College of William and Mary, were recognized for their work



*No Space Hidden: The Spirit of African American Yard Work*, which combines text and photographs to explore African-American devotional arts centered in homes and domestic landscapes.

## Director of UGA's African Studies Institute named University Professor

**Lioba Moshi**, a professor of comparative literature and director of the African Studies Institute in UGA's Franklin College of Arts and Sciences, has been named a University Professor.

The title of University Professor is given to faculty at UGA who have had a significant impact on the university in addition to fulfilling their normal academic responsibilities. No more than one University Professor may be named in any given year. The professor receives a permanent salary increase of \$10,000 added to the merit raise in the year of appointment, plus a yearly academic support account of \$5,000 as long as she or he holds the position.

"I am indeed thrilled for this honor," says Moshi. "I am equally thrilled that my colleagues and I had the opportunity to build African Studies at the University of Georgia."

A native of Tanzania, Moshi has several degrees in linguistics, including a Ph.D. from UCLA. She began her academic career at Stanford University and came to UGA in 1988.

Moshi established UGA's program in African languages, which currently includes Swahili, Yoruba and Zulu, and also established a studies abroad program in Africa in 1997, which now includes programs in Tanzania, Kenya and Ghana. She was instrumental in establishing the Institute for African Studies at UGA in 2001 and oversaw the new minor in African Studies, which was instituted in 2004.

"We are so delighted that Dr. Moshi has received a University Professorship," said **Garnett Stokes**, dean of the Franklin College. "She has for years been a leader in global education, and this honor recognizes her remarkable work."

Moshi has authored or co-authored five books and is currently working on a new book, *Democracy and Culture: An African Perspective*. She has received grant support for numerous projects, including a U.S. Department of Education Fulbright-Hayes Groups Project Study Abroad grant to support intensive language and culture instruction in Tanzania.

Moshi has taught many courses in linguistics and Swahili at UGA and has developed a number of multimedia works, including a series of videos intended to help students acquire the Swahili language and culture.



## Black Issues in Higher Education Conference grows

A diverse group of graduate students and faculty gathered at the Georgia Center for Continuing Education in February for the second annual Black Issues in Higher Education Conference, sponsored by UGA's College of Education.

The conference was created last year by professors **Juanita Johnson-Bailey** and **Bettye P. Smith** to provide a place for open discussion on a variety of issues and concerns. "We want to improve and grow this conference in years to come," said Johnson-Bailey, a professor in lifelong education, administration, and policy.

Low numbers of black faculty in higher education make it difficult to create a legacy for future scholars, said **Cheryl Dozier**, UGA's associate provost for institutional diversity, noting that some universities are falling short on replacing retiring black faculty.

However, progress in increasing diversity at UGA is apparent in the numbers, she said. In fall 2006, blacks made up 5.4 percent of UGA faculty, and UGA ranked eighth in the nation for black faculty employment. In the College of Education, 12 percent of the faculty are black, and nearly half of those are associate or full professors with tenure.

Dozier encouraged black graduate students to return to the classroom as mentors and teachers, and challenged academic search committees to continue reaching out to qualified minority job candidates.

# Faculty & Staff News

## CAES diversity relations director named national role model

**Don McClellan**, director of diversity relations for UGA's College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, was one of 18 administrators and faculty members across the country named a 2006 National Role Model by Minority Access Inc.

The role model program is a cooperative initiative between the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and Minority Access Inc. to identify institutional and individual role models who support minority researchers, particularly in the biomedical sciences. UGA students **Denise Brinson** and **Michelle Brooks** helped recommend McClellan for the honor.

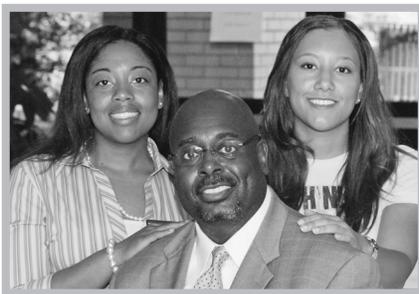
"He has been a major contributor to my success thus far," says Brinson, an animal health and biological sciences major who is continuing her education at UGA by seeking a doctorate in veterinary medicine. "He's more than a mentor and advisor. He's a friend and a father figure at times."

"Being a role model is nothing you set out to do," McClellan says. "You simply have to try to do the right thing and be mindful of the fact that everything you say or do to another person has consequences. You can either choose to inspire or discourage. I choose to inspire. It's a joy to be able to have a positive impact on students."

McClellan makes sure each student he works with is the center of his focus, even if it's just for five minutes. "I think that at the end of the day, most students just want to know that they matter," he says.

McClellan is also director of human resources for CAES and serves as the advisor for MANRRS—Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources and Related Sciences. He holds bachelor's and master's degrees in agribusiness from South Carolina State University. He obtained his doctorate in human and community resource development from The Ohio State University, where he worked in student affairs for about seven years before making the move to UGA.

"Without Dr. McClellan, I would have never discovered my interest in research and traveling," says Brooks, who after earning her UGA degree began a doctoral program in biological sciences last fall at Ohio State. "I hope in the future I will be able to help students just as he has helped me."



McClellan with Brinson (left) and Brooks

## Archive reveals first African American faculty

A recent search of UGA's faculty records archive revealed a list of the first African American faculty employed by the university. Surprisingly, although the first two African American students were not admitted to UGA until 1961, two instructors were employed with the Cooperative Extension Service starting in 1955.

According to the records, **Carrie B. Powell** was employed from 1955 to 1972 in the department of agricultural and natural resources. **Morris Clifford Little** worked with 4-H and youth from 1955 until his retirement in 1974.

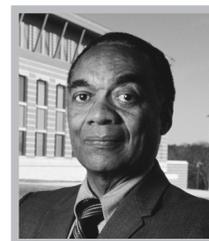
Two temporary, part-time instructors worked in the College of Education starting in the fall of 1967. **Charles S. Johnson** served in that role through June 1968, while **John Benjamin Clemmons** served through January 1969.

The first African American to become an assistant professor at UGA was **Mae Armster Kendall**, who passed away recently. A Thomasville native, she was salutatorian of Douglass High School then earned a bachelor of science degree at New York University and a master's degree at Bank Street College. Kendall received a doctorate of education from UGA.

Hired as a temporary instructor in the College of Education in June 1968 and then as an instructor that September, she became an assistant professor in elementary education in July 1980.

The first fulltime, tenured African-American professor at UGA was **Richard Martin Graham**, who came to the School of Music as a visiting professor in fall 1968, then joined the faculty the next year. He became director of the school in 1994 and was named professor emeritus in 2001.

*(Information provided by the Faculty Affairs Office.)*



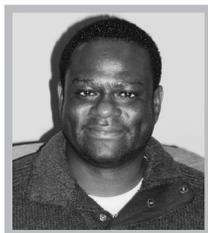
## Gourdine runs new Office for Violence Prevention

**Larry Gourdine** is on a mission to involve men much more in the fight against rape, sexual abuse and stalking. As the relationship and sexual violence prevention coordinator in UGA's new Office for Violence Prevention ([www.uga.edu/ovp](http://www.uga.edu/ovp)), he is taking a fresh perspective to what is often viewed as a pre-dominantly women's issue.

"Violence against women affects everyone, including men," says Gourdine, who came to UGA in October 2006 after working at North Carolina State University in a related position. "We all have women in our lives who we care about. Violence against women will not end until men actively become part of the solution."

UGA's Office for Violence Prevention in Memorial Hall is under Student Support Services, along with the Office of Judicial Programs and the LGBT Resource Center.

"The establishment of this office is a significant step forward in the university's continuing efforts to promote a safe, secure learning environment for all members of the campus community," says **Alan Campbell**, senior associate dean for student support.



Larry Gourdine

# Alumni News

## Hunter-Gault returns to 'my place' to accept honors

Award-winning journalist and UGA alumna **Charlayne Hunter-Gault** (ABJ '63) returned to campus in February to receive a pair of honors from her alma mater.

Hunter-Gault, whose wide-ranging career has included extensive work with CNN and National Public Radio in the United States and Africa, received the Distinguished Achievement in Broadcasting Award from DiGamma Kappa, the nation's oldest professional broadcasting society for students, which was founded at the Grady College of Journalism and Mass Communication in 1939. She is the 34th recipient of the award and joins a roster that includes Ed Bradley, Barbara Walters, Charles Kuralt, Ted Turner and Linda Ellerbee.

The Grady College also announced and formally introduced its first Charlayne Hunter-Gault Distinguished Writer-in-Residence—journalist **Valerie Boyd**, author of *Wrapped in Rainbows*, an acclaimed biography of writer Zora Neale Hurston.

In a public ceremony on campus, Hunter-Gault spoke of her two years as a student at UGA, remembering the difficulties she encountered as one of the first two students—along with classmate



**Charlayne Hunter-Gault (left) with Valerie Boyd**

**Hamilton Holmes**—to integrate the university. Despite taunts and snubs from those who opposed her presence, Hunter-Gault said she also remembered “the wonderfulness of those first few days,” when some students and faculty reached out to offer her support.

Hunter-Gault said she came to UGA because of the journalism school, where she wanted to receive the training she needed to pursue her dream of becoming a reporter. Over the 40 years since her graduation, her career has spanned all media—including stints as a reporter for the *New York Times*, national correspondent for the *NewsHour with Jim Lehrer*, and Johannesburg bureau chief for CNN.

She has also written two books: *In My Place*, a memoir of her experience at UGA, published in 1992, and the recently released *New News Out of Africa: Uncovering Africa's Renaissance*.

Her numerous honors include two Emmy awards and two Peabody awards, one for her work on “Apartheid's People,” a *NewsHour* series about South African life during apartheid, and the other for general coverage of Africa in 1998.

Despite “the relentless flow of negative stories out of Africa” by Western media, Hunter-Gault said she senses a “second wind of change” on the continent since the end of colonialism. She called on students in the audience to practice what she called the “core values” of journalism—fairness and balance, coupled with empathy. “A good journalist can still relate to people,” she said.

The standing-room-only crowd included two former classmates of Hunter-Gault: **Mary Frances Early**, the first African American to earn a UGA degree (a master's in music education in 1962), and **Tom Johnson** (ABJ '63), former editor of *The Red & Black* student newspaper and later chairman/CEO of CNN News Group.

Boyd said she grew up knowing that “I could someday walk onto the campus of UGA and be accepted because Charlayne Hunter-Gault had blazed the trail.”

## Burgess lands new Broadway role

**Tituss Burgess** (BA '01), an Athens native who studied music at UGA before heading to New York City and the Broadway stage, continues to add to his list of credits. After making his debut in the Beach Boys musical *Good Vibrations*, Burgess landed a featured part in *Jersey Boys*, which won a Tony Award for Best Musical. He left the cast last fall to appear as the Lion in a revival of *The Wiz* at the La Jolla Playhouse in California, earning rave reviews. Next up: a major part in the new Disney musical *The Little Mermaid*, based on the Academy Award-winning animated film. The show is scheduled to premier in Denver this summer before moving to Broadway.



## Ward leads diversity initiative

**Christopher Ward** (MBA '89) currently leads a diversity initiative for Accenture's Financial Services Group focused on developing minority senior executives. An executive partner with Accenture, a leading management consulting, technology and outsourcing company, Ward was recently named to *Black MBA* magazine's 2006 “Top 50 Under 50 Executives” list.



## Aguilar named 'most influential'

**Luis Aguilar** (JD '79), a law partner with McKenna Long & Aldridge was recognized among the 100 most influential Hispanics in America by *Hispanic Business Magazine* in 2006. A current UGA Alumni Association board member, Aguilar also received the Justice **Robert Benham** Award for Community Service in January 2007.



# Campus News

## Dozier

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King's famous speeches was a very moving experience, and I highly recommend seeing this exhibit before it closes in May.

This office is busy planning, implementing and co-sponsoring programs to support students, faculty, and staff development. We have initiated a faculty mentoring program where faculty members mentor freshmen students from under-represented groups to help them adjust to university life. We also plan to touch base with diverse faculty, staff and students who are in their 1st year at UGA to gain insight into things we can improve to make sure UGA is a "welcoming" environment.

On April 19, OID is hosting an Authors Reception for faculty authors who write about diversity issues. Some campus authors to be invited include **Jace Weaver, Valerie Boyd, Bob Hill, Ron Cervero** and others. The event is from 4:30-6 p.m. at the Georgia Museum of Art. Call the office for more details.

We are planning our annual pre-collegiate summer institute for eighth grade students with Project GRAD in Atlanta, and we also have several elementary and middle school groups visiting campus.

I am pleased to announce that this office is a charter member of the National Association for Diversity of Higher Education, an affiliate association of the American Council on Education (ACE). The group's goal is to establish a network in the U.S. and globally that links senior and chief diversity officers, multicultural experts and others interested in policy-oriented issues.

As we celebrate diversity here at UGA, we must still be mindful of negative reactions to diversity at campuses across the nation. We must be vigilant about speaking out against and challenging those who perpetuate hatred, prejudice and discrimination, and work together to ensure that all persons are treated fairly and justly. One of the goals of this office remains to ensure that UGA will be an inclusive environment where all of our students, faculty and staff, and external partners will feel safe and view our campus as a positive and nurturing academic environment.

## Freedom Breakfast draws capacity crowd to campus

Georgia Hall of the Tate Student Center was filled to capacity as Athens-Clarke County citizens and UGA faculty, staff and students came together for the fourth annual Freedom Breakfast and President's Fulfilling the Dream Awards Ceremony in January.

More than 350 people heard keynote speaker and community activist **Evelyn Gibson Lowery's** words of challenge as UGA and the community began a week-long Martin Luther King Jr. holiday celebration.

Lowery, founder and chair of Southern Christian Leadership Conference Women's Organizational Movement for Equality Now, Inc. (SCLC/W.O.M.E.N.), applauded the coming together of town and gown and challenged the audience to be more like King, who she said, "disturbed the comforted and comforted the disturbed."

Recipients of the 2007 President's Fulfilling the Dream Award were **Maurice Daniels, Steve Jones, Maria Navarro, Karl Scott** and **Harry Sims**, recognized for their significant efforts to build bridges of unity and understanding among residents of Athens-Clarke County.

Daniels, dean of UGA's School of Social Work, is also co-founder and director of the Foot Soldier Project for Civil Rights Studies, which chronicles the civil rights movement in Georgia. Jones, a UGA alumnus, is a Superior Court judge and also chairs Partners for a Prosperous Athens, a major town-gown initiative to alleviate poverty.

Navarro, assistant professor in the department of agricultural leadership, education and communication at UGA, teaches courses that address hunger, poverty, gender and equity issues. Scott, a teacher at Clarke Middle School, started the Bethlehem Cemetery Restoration Project, which has brought together scores of volunteers to clean up the historic property that is the final resting place for hundreds of African-American citizens. Sims, also a UGA alumnus, taught at Barrow Elementary School for 29 years and currently serves on the Athens-Clarke County Commission.

The annual Freedom Breakfast is sponsored by UGA and the Athens-Clarke County government and school district.



Evelyn Gibson Lowery with UGA President Michael F. Adams

## UGA collaborates with Peach State LSAMP in summer program

This summer, the Peach State Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (LSAMP) program will once again collaborate with UGA's Graduate School and the Summer Undergraduate Research Program (SURP).

Peach State LSAMP scholars and students from across the country will be selected to participate in a 10-week summer research project under a UGA faculty mentor. At the conclusion of the program, students will write a research paper and produce poster and oral presentations.



**Erroll Davis, Mary Frances Early to speak at UGA commencements**

**Erroll B. Davis Jr.**, chancellor of the University System of Georgia, will speak at UGA's undergraduate spring commencement May 12. That afternoon, **Mary Frances Early**, who became the university's first African-American alumnus when she received a master's degree in music education in 1962, will speak at graduate commencement.



"Erroll Davis is an experienced and accomplished leader who is guiding the university system with vision, innovation and a commitment to excellence," says UGA President **Michael F. Adams**. "Mary Frances Early courageously overcame adversity to earn degrees that enabled her to enjoy a highly successful career in education and become one of our most esteemed alumni. Our graduating students are very fortunate to benefit from the wisdom and inspiration of these exceptional speakers."

Davis, who became chancellor in February 2006, oversees the state's 35 public colleges and universities. The University of Georgia is the oldest and largest institution in the system.

Early transferred to UGA in the summer of 1961, several months after **Charlayne Hunter** and **Hamilton Holmes** enrolled as UGA's first African-American students. In addition to her master's, she earned a specialist in education degree in music from UGA in 1967. After graduating, Early was a music teacher, supervisor and coordinator in Atlanta public schools for 37 years, then became chairman of the music department at Clark Atlanta University. She is now retired.

UGA's College of Education has created an endowed professorship named for her and the university presents the annual Mary Frances Early Lecture that brings noted speakers to campus.

**Rite of Sankofa set for May 11**

Rite of Sankofa affords the African American Cultural Center the opportunity to honor students' accomplishments. The program is a celebration and an African rites of passage ceremony open to all UGA graduates. The ceremony is traditionally held at the end of fall and spring semesters. For more information, see [www.uga.edu/aacc](http://www.uga.edu/aacc).

**Upcoming Events**

**Holmes-Hunter Lecture.** Shirley Franklin, Atlanta mayor. 4/3, 2 p.m., UGA Chapel.

**University Theatre: Joe Turner's Come and Gone.** Late American playwright August Wilson's second play in 10-play cycle depicting African-American experiences from each decade of the 20th century. 4/12-4/14, 4/18-4/21, 8 p.m., 4/22, 2:30 p.m. Fine Arts Theatre. Details: [www.drama.uga.edu](http://www.drama.uga.edu).

**Andrea Carson Coley Lecture.** Chris Cuomo, director of UGA's Institute for Women's Studies. 4/13, 12:30 p.m., M. Smith Griffith auditorium, Georgia Museum of Art. Details: [www.uga.edu/iws](http://www.uga.edu/iws).

**Mary Frances Early Lecture.** Elaine Brown, civil rights activist. 4/18, 7 p.m., UGA Chapel.

**APER0 Africana Brown Bag Speaker Series.** Collaboration of UGA's Institute for African American Studies, UGA's African Studies Institute and UGA's African American Cultural Center, the series highlights multicultural issues. Weekly through 4/18, 12:20-1:10 p.m., Adinkra Hall (Room 407 Memorial Hall).

**Spring Diversity Seminars.** Dean's Council on Diversity (part of UGA's College of Education) and UGA's Center for Latino Achievement and Success in Education co-sponsor seminars on educational and cultural issues from K-12 to college level. Details: [www.coe.uga.edu/diversity](http://www.coe.uga.edu/diversity).

*For more events, see [www.uga.edu/mastercalendar](http://www.uga.edu/mastercalendar).*

*To join the Office of Institutional Diversity listserv, go to [www.listserv.uga.edu](http://www.listserv.uga.edu), click on browse, and type in UGA-DIVERSE-L to find list and subscribe.*



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