

Message from Dean Walker



The work is underway, the consolidation has begun. Board of Regents Chancellor Hank Huckaby and his staff have charged the implementation committee, which is chaired by President Becker and in coordination with President Watts from Georgia Perimeter College. The committee, consisting of faculty and staff from both institutions, will provide input and oversight to the operational working groups, which will tackle specific areas where changes will occur. I, along with Social Work Professor and Associate Provost Peter Lyons, will serve on the implementation committee.

Our first meeting was last week, where we considered a draft of the new mission statement for the combined university. We also looked at a draft version of a possible organization structure. The structure showed that the President and Provost preside over a number of colleges, schools, and institutes. In this proposal, the Perimeter College, along with all its academic areas, is represented as one of these entities. Their faculty show a 'dotted line' separation from faculty at the downtown campus, to better reflect that the policies and procedures that govern their evaluations, promotions, and tenure are not the same as those that govern faculty on the downtown campus. The proposal met with approval from members of the committee, with most of the questions from the GPC members focused on locating specific units or departments.

A possible timeline has also been shared with us. Our first goal is to provide a prospectus to our regional accrediting body, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS). The prospectus is due to SACS in September, 2015. In January of 2016, if SACS approves our prospectus, the University System's Board of Regents will give the final approval to the consolidation. We then undertake the implementation and the full consolidation will be in place by September of 2016.

Please let me know your questions and concerns regarding this mega-event; I will be happy to try to answer or find out the answer for you.

Grants, Awards & Honors



Paula Stephan, professor (Economics), was recently elected to a three-year term as the Delegate from the Section for the Social, Economic and Political Sciences to the Council of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS).



William Alex Pridemore, Distinguished University Professor (Criminal Justice & Criminology), served as co-principal investigator on a \$1.8 million grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to Indiana University to fund a research project on “Modeling the Social Environmental Influences and Mechanisms of Suicide.” Pridemore, who served on the faculty at Indiana University prior to coming to the Andrew Young School last year, was able to secure and bring to Georgia State University a sub-award from the grant in the amount of \$140,000.



Cathy Yang Liu, associate professor (Public Management and Policy), was awarded a Lincoln Institute of Land Policy China Program International Fellowship 2015-16 for her project titled “The Segmentation of Urban Housing and Labor Markets in China: The Case of Shanghai,” collaboratively with Huiping Li and Jie Chen of Shanghai University of Finance and Economics in China. The award is in the amount of \$30,000.

The **Georgia Health Policy Center** has received a five-year, \$2,669,903 award from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) that will allow the GHPC and partnering organizations to look at transfusion-related complications in patients with hemoglobin disorders such as sickle cell disease and thalassemia and improve their outcomes. <http://goo.gl/KzCX7P>

Publications



Brooks; Robin Hartinger-Saunders (pictured), assistant professor (Social Work); & Rorie Scurlock (United Way of Greater Atlanta). (2014). Helping Homeless Veterans Find Employment and Pay Child Support: A Program Evaluation of a Pilot Collaboration. *Journal of Sociology and Social Work*. 2(2): 233-51. <http://goo.gl/EX7gVA>



Karen Minyard, director (Georgia Health Policy Center). (2015). Leading Through Health System Change: A Public Health Opportunity. *The Journal of Public Health Management and Practice* 21(1): 3-5. <http://goo.gl/8elpe6>



Bruce Kaufman, professor (Economics). (2015). Divergent Fates: Company Unions and Employee Involvement Committees under the Railway Labor and National Labor Relations Acts. *Labor History*, forthcoming.

Center for State and Local Finance Reports/Briefs



Fred Brooks, associate professor and affiliated faculty (Center for State and Local Finance and Social Work). (2015). Student Loan Debt: Comparing Trends in Georgia to a National Sample. *The Center for State and Local Finance Report* #8. <http://goo.gl/So9NqI>



Nicholas Warner, research associate (Center for State and Local Finance and Fiscal Research Center). (2015). The Great Recession and School District Property Tax Revenues in Georgia. *The Center for State and Local Finance Brief*. <http://goo.gl/BhLfHo>

Elton Davis, graduate student (Economics). (2015). An Overview and Comparison of 529 College Savings Plans. *Fiscal Research Center Policy Memorandum*. <http://goo.gl/4LYglo>

Presentations



Carolyn Bourdeaux, director and associate professor (Center for State and Local Finance and Public Management and Policy), presented an invited talk, “Legislative Fiscal Councils and Offices for Budget Making and Evaluation,” to the Georgia State Global Training Program for Auditors in China through an Honors College program in Atlanta on February 5, 2015.



Sally Wallace, director, professor and chair (Fiscal Research Center and Economics), presented a talk, “Evaluating the Economic and Fiscal Landscape of Georgia,” to the Board of Directors of the Georgia Department of Economic Development in Atlanta on February 5, 2015.

William Alex Pridemore, Distinguished University Professor (Criminal Justice & Criminology), is the American Society of Criminology’s liaison to the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). In that role, he organizes and chairs one of the few social sciences panels at the AAAS’s annual meetings. This year’s panel, “Creating and Using New Information to Promote Innovations in Crime and Justice Policy” was held in San Jose, Calif. on February 13, 2015.

Karen Minyard, director (Georgia Health Policy Center), presented at the AcademyHealth National Health Policy Conference’s State Interest Group Breakfast on February 10, 2015, in Washington, D.C. Her presentation focused on the coalition work of the Atlanta Regional Collaborative for Health Improvement (ARCHI) and ReThink Health.



(Left to right) **Elizabeth Fuller**, associate project director; **James Dills**, research associate; and **Michelle Rushing**, research associate (Georgia Health Policy Center), presented a webinar, “Examples from the Field: Health Impact Assessment of Georgia’s Qualified Allocation Plan for Low Income Housing Tax Credits,” for the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials’ (ASTHO) monthly practitioner call on February 11, 2015.

Karen Minyard presented “The Shifting Health Care Landscape: Where are We Now with the Affordable Care Act” to a senior-level undergraduate nursing class at Emory University in Atlanta on February 13, 2015.



Chris Parker (left), associate project director, and **Debra Kibbe** (right), senior research associate (Georgia Health Policy Center), hosted the Georgia SHAPE workshop, “Evaluation Sense-making” on February 6, 2015, in Atlanta. The session included participants from throughout Georgia to evaluate and discuss the influential factors of youth fitness within the state.

Media



Richard Wright, chair (Criminal Justice & Criminology) was quoted in a Washington Post article, “5 Countries Where Police Officers Do Not Carry Firearms — and it Works Well,” on February 18, 2015.

<http://goo.gl/akkQIT>



Debra Kibbe, senior research associate (Georgia Health Policy Center), discussed Georgia SHAPE—an initiative of the Governor’s office and the Georgia Department of Public Health (DPH) on the Business RadioX radio show on February 12, 2015. The discussion focused on SHAPE’s aim to improve student health, nutrition and physical activity over the next decade in many settings through public-private partnerships.

<http://goo.gl/CTBkaO>

Debra Kibbe was also cited as a reference in the Active Living Research brief, “Active Education: Growing Evidence on Physical Activity and Academic Performance,” in the *January 2015* issue. <http://goo.gl/26WYDN>

A fiscal note produced by the **Fiscal Research Center** regarding a proposal to increase Georgia's cigarette tax received considerable attention in the following media:

- "Analysis Questions Georgia Transportation Plan's Impact on Revenue," Atlanta Journal-Constitution, February 17, 2015. <http://goo.gl/OKFAVK>
- "Study Predicts Big Gains from Boosting Georgia's Tobacco Tax," Athens Banner-Herald, February 15, 2015. <http://goo.gl/9rNC8Z>
- "Transportation Committee Approves Revised Georgia Transportation Bill," Chattanooga Times Free Press. <http://goo.gl/q7Wkp2>
- "Hike Taxes on Tobacco and Strike Blow for Transportation and Health," Marietta Daily Journal, February 19, 2015. <http://goo.gl/L9vggX>

Fred Brooks, associate professor and affiliated faculty (Center for State and Local Finance and Social Work) generated buzz about student loan debt in Georgia in Peach Pundit, on February 11, 2015. <http://goo.gl/PkdNtA>

A report, "[The Great Recession and School District Property Tax Revenues](#)," produced by **Nicholas Warner**, research associate (Center for State and Local Finance) was the focus of the Atlanta Journal-Constitution article, "Recession Hit Students in Metro Atlanta hardest on February 19, 2015. The report detailing the affects the recession had on property tax revenues and school budgets. <http://goo.gl/4HBcxO>

Community Outreach and Events

The **Georgia Health Policy Center** partnered with the National MCH Workforce Development Center to develop a maternal and child health module for the "Leading through Health System Change" Planning Tool. To learn more or to access this free online resource please visit: <http://goo.gl/OzM2su>

Researchers at the **Georgia Health Policy Center** are partnering with the [National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities](#) at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to identify and describe the key barriers associated with low utilization of behavioral therapy for the treatment of ADHD among preschool-aged children (2-5 years of age). <http://goo.gl/5XQ49B>

The **Center for State and Local Finance** opened registration for its fourth executive education class entitled "Government Financial Management – Accounting, Risk, Procurement, Long-Term Liabilities." This course gives participants executive-level skills and describes best practices for accounting rules, financial statements, auditing, procurement practices, risk analysis and employee benefits. Participants will also learn how to assess their organization's financial condition. Classes start April 16. Download more information: <http://goo.gl/Tv55eb>.

Seven Georgia State University undergraduate students joined Clinical Instructor **Michael B. Shapiro**, J.D. (Criminal Justice and Criminology) in observing oral arguments before the Supreme Court of Georgia on Wednesday, January 21, 2015. The students are all currently enrolled in CRJU 3700 - American Criminal Courts. They saw Senior Assistant Attorney General Paula K. Smith argue on behalf of the State, and John H. Rains, IV argue for the Appellee in the case of *Danforth, Warden v. Chapman*.



Pictured (from left to right in front of the State Law Building) are students Danyell Little, Philip Poole, Katie Busey, Latabetha Fears, Samantha Donovan, Victoria Whitfield and Callie Boyd

Alumni News



Congratulations to **Tonya Cook** (M.S., Human Resource Development '05 and program specialist for Georgia State University's Multicultural Center) on being selected to receive the 2015 Carl V. Patton President's Award for Community Service and Social Justice: Outstanding Faculty or Staff. The Service Recognition ceremony for all award winners will be held on May 4, 2015, in the Student Center Ballroom at Georgia State University.



Andrea Young (center) with alumni Maria Saporta (right) (M.S., Urban Studies '80) and Saba Long (GSU Alum) at the Atlanta Bicycle Coalition's Annual Members Award Event on February 13, 2015.

The *Dean's E-News* is a feature published by the AYSPS Dean's Office. For publication in the next issue, please submit your news items by Thursday at 5:15 p.m. to Marcia Jones Cross at mcross7@gsu.edu.