FACS Magazine



New Initiative
Supersizes
Obesity
Research



An ounce of prevention

ouldn't it be better to wish that people "stay well" rather than "get well?" While challenging issues surround proposed changes to the U.S. health-care system, some of the most promising solutions focus on prevention education, outreach and research—all highly effective aspects of land-grant institutions, including the University of Georgia.



The University of Georgia College of Family and Consumer Sciences has, for generations, provided the information and education necessary for healthy living. Today, as showcased in this issue of FACS Magazine, the research is relevant, targeted, strategic, and promises to be effective in addressing the most critical issues facing Georgia and our nation. This issue includes a spectrum of programs that range from engaging school-aged children and 4-H youth in making healthy choices and mobilizing communities to promote physical activity, to helping low-income families make the most of their limited and decreasing food dollars. Researchers are unraveling keys to healthy expectant and nursing mothers, to building stronger bones and reducing respiratory infections, and to preventing and managing diabetes. FACS educators are teaming up with the College of Public Health to keep third-graders active and fit through empowering children and changing the community in support of healthy and strong kids and their families.

So, does the college "walk the talk?" Yes! We promote increased physical activity of our employees through the Dean's Cup award for the Walk Georgia program, www.walkgeorgia.org, and by sponsoring the Chilly Dawg 5K each January! The actions of the college highlighted in this issue are just a sample of the health and prevention-oriented programming we offer. We consider our role in health programing critical to our mission of engaging people, organizations, and communities to advance the economic well-being and quality of life by connecting them to the knowledge base of the college and the university.

Go Dawgs!

Linda Kirk Fox

Dean

SMagazine

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EDITOR

Denise H. Horton

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William Reeves UNIVERSITY PRINTING

PHOTOGRAPHY

Chip Chockley

Wingate Downs

Paul Efland

Peter Frey

Michael Holahan

Kristine Jahnke

Blane Marable

Robert Newcomb

EDITORIAL OFFICES

Denise Horton Office of Communications College of Family and Consumer Sciences University of Georgia Athens, Georgia 30602

(706) 542-8014

(706) 542-4862

E-MAIL dhorton@uga.edu

COVER

William Reeves

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Letter from the Dean opposite FACS is Making a Difference...Worldwide! inside back cover

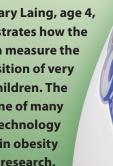
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In Memoriam 22

Mary Laing, age 4, demonstrates how the **BodPod can measure the** body composition of very young children. The **BodPod** is one of many types of technology being used in obesity





K

B



New Associate Deans named

FACS Dean Linda K. Fox has appointed new associate deans for Extension and outreach and academic programs.

Deborah Murray began her tenure as associate dean for Extension and outreach on May 7. Murray formerly served at the University of Kentucky as associate director of the Health Education through Extension Leadership program. As administrator of the \$5.7 million special grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Murray spent the past eight years



developing and implementing the HEEL program, which focuses on statewide programs between the UK School of Human Environmental Sciences and other colleges and departments.

Murray also spent 15 years with the UK Cooperative Extension service in varying positions that included supervising and directing family and consumer sciences and 4-H county agents. She holds a bachelor of science degree in vocational home economics from Morehead State University in Morehead, Ky., a master of arts in home economics education from Eastern Kentucky University in Richmond, and a doctor of education in educational administration and leadership from UK.

Silvia Giraudo, who is currently a FACS associate professor of foods and nutrition, has accepted the position of associate dean of academic programs effective June 15.

A native of Argentina, Girarudo earned her bachelor's degree in agriculture at the Universidad Nacional de Cordoba-Argentina prior to moving to



Georgia where she earned a master's degree in animal science and a PhD in animal nutrition from the University of Georgia.

Giraudo joined the FACS faculty in 2002 where her research has centered on brain regulation of food intake and energy metabolism, as well as the use of educational materials to teach healthy eating habits to young children and preventing early obesity through education.

In addition to her teaching and research duties, Giraudo is director of the school nutrition certification program, which is regulated by the Georgia Department of Education and has served as the program director of the FACS study abroad program in Xalapa, Mexico, for several years. She serves on the University Council and is a member of the University Executive Council, as well as serving as a member of the FACS Faculty Advisory Committee. She has previously served as a member of the University Educational Affairs Committee and as an advisory board member of the UGA Learning Communities.

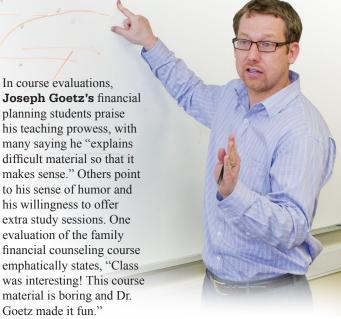
NOVUM NOMEN

The Department of Child and Family Development has changed its name to the Department of Human Development and Family Science. In addition, the undergraduate, master's and PhD programs also will reflect the change, according to Jay Mancini, who heads the department.

"A primary and unique feature of our department is the scientific study of individual development within the context of family systems and dynamics," says Mancini, who added that human development and family science has become the more common name for such programs.

While the departmental name change became official in April, it won't begin appearing on transcripts and diplomas until August.

Top Teacher



But the 2012 recipient of UGA's Richard B. Russell Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching takes instruction far beyond the classroom, developing multiple opportunities for students to engage in experiential learning by working with clients throughout the community. In the program's capstone course, Goetz brings clients into the classroom and students go through the process of meeting with actual clients, building rapport with them and, ultimately, presenting them completed financial plans. Students also have provided financial literacy workshops to clients at community agencies such as Project Safe and the Athens Area Homeless Shelter.

Goetz also teamed with faculty in other departments to establish the ASPIRE Clinic and has established the country's first clinical practicum course that allows students direct-client experience, including teaming with students in other fields, such as family therapy, to resolve client issues that go beyond financial planning.

"A core principle of my teaching philosophy is that students typically have greater potential than they realize and to be most effective as a teacher I must remain committed to helping students realize this potential through respect, encouragement and mentoring," Goetz says.



Lewis Named To Professorship

Richard D. Lewis (Professor, Foods and Nutrition) has been named to the University of Georgia Foundation Professorship in Family and Consumer Sciences.

"His research on topics related to bone strength have been on the cutting edge and he has incorporated the newest research findings into the courses he regularly teaches, as well as seeking opportunities for students to engage in service learning projects," according to FACS Dean Linda K. Fox

Lewis began his career in 1986 as a nutrition and health specialist with UGA Cooperative Extension. In 1992, his focus shifted to teaching and research and he began exploring the impact of gymnastics on bone strength. Contrary to popular wisdom that excessive exercise and food restriction would have a negative impact, Lewis' research demonstrated that college gymnasts had very dense bones.

Lewis' research was one of only two projects published nationally in 1995, putting him at the forefront of the field. Among the unique aspects of the project was the use of non-gymnast controls. "Every gymnast was matched to ensure that we could relate the difference in bone strength to gymnastics," he says. Lewis has continued this research by measuring bone strength in retired competitive gymnasts, as well as looking at children as young as four to determine when differences begin.

Lewis also has pioneered federally funded research into the role of vitamin D in developing bone strength in children, and the use of soy isoflavones to counteract menopause-related bone loss in women. He also has projects related to the university-wide obesity initiative.

"I've been fortunate throughout my career to have the support of my family, colleagues, administrators and graduate students," Lewis says. "I'm very humbled to receive this professorship and look forward to the opportunities it provides to further the teaching, research and outreach missions of the university."



Winning The Masters With Bubbagolf

With a 40-yard hook through a gap in the trees, **Bubba Watson** (BSFCS '08, Housing) became the 2012 Masters Champion after winning a second playoff hole against Louis Oosthuizen. Watson, whose dad taught him the basics of golf as a 6-year-old, has never taken a golf lesson and says he prefers to hit the "incredible shot" rather than shoot for the center of the greens, a tendency that fans have begun to refer to as "Bubbagolf." Watson's wife, Angie (BSED '01), wasn't on hand to see Bubba win the tournament. She was at home in Florida with their newly adopted son, Caleb.

Paid About U. Ties and scarves featuring the new University of Georgia tartan are now available at the UGA Bookstore and online at www.collegiatetartan.com. The tartan was designed by UGA alumnus Walter Estes, who donated it to the College of Family and Consumer Sciences, and is registered with the Scottish Register of Tartans, an executive agency of the Scottish Government and the national repository of all tartan designs. Students in the Department of Textiles, Merchandising and Interiors are responsible for developing products featuring the tartan design. Tartans, originally a woolen plaid, have a long history in the Scottish highlands. Originally worn as a kilt or shawl the distinctive tartan designs represented a Scottish clan. The College of Family and Consumer Sciences receives the royalties on all products using the tartan and will use those funds to support scholarships and other programs to benefit students.

By Denise Horton

Supersizing Obesity Research

n the past 15 years, the rate of obesity in Georgia has doubled, creating a state where one-third of adults and 14 percent of youth are considered obese. While these dismal numbers have raised warning flags, with government officials and the media heralding the crisis, for faculty members in the College of Family and Consumer Sciences the obesity problem isn't new. For decades they have not only been studying obesity's causes but also developing educational programs—for children and adults alike—focused on improved diets and increased levels of exercise. Unfortunately, the ready availability of inexpensive, tasty, high-calorie, low-nutrition food, combined with a steep decline in physical activity, has meant that researchers and educators have been fighting a losing battle.

Now, as part of a new effort, more than two dozen FACS faculty members are joining with colleagues from across the University of Georgia to establish a university-wide initiative to find new ways to fight obesity. The initiative, led by Clifton Baile, a D.W. Brooks Distinguished Professor and Georgia Research Alliance Eminent Scholar who holds a joint appointment in the FACS foods and nutrition department and the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, is allowing researchers to develop collaborations that expand their work and take it in new directions.

Genuine motherhood issues

For example, **Alex Anderson** (Associate Professor, Foods and Nutrition) is collaborating with colleagues in the Colleges of Veterinary Medicine and Public Health to complement and enhance his research on maternal and infant obesity. Using technology that can safely measure the body composition of babies and children, as well as of expectant and new mothers, Anderson's research has already demonstrated that mothers who breastfeed their babies lose more weight and body fat than moms who use baby formula. In addition, the breastfed babies have more of the metabolically active "brown fat" that is likelier to transition into lean body mass.

In his research as part of the new initiative, Anderson is looking more closely at the type of weight that expectant mothers gain, its impact on a newborn's body composition, and how that composition changes over the course of infancy and early childhood. The work will assess, for example, "whether the nature of the mother's weight gain—lean muscle or fat—affects the newborn's weight or the mother's ability to lose weight post-pregnancy," he says. The new project will also determine the concentration of "adiposity-induced inflammation markers" found in the blood and breast milk of new and expectant mothers. "Obese individuals tend to have higher concentrations of these markers than do non-obese individuals, but we haven't examined how the markers react to the different types of weight gained during pregnancy and to the infant's body composition," Anderson says.

> Anderson also is beginning to reassess the body composition of children who were in his earlier studies. "Some of those



babies are now 6 years old. We want to see if we can relate infant-feeding practices to what occurs as the baby grows into a young child."

Obesity and bone health

For more than 20 years, Rick **Lewis** (UGA Foundation Professor in Family and Consumer Sciences, Foods and Nutrition) has explored connections between bone health and weight, including amassing a vast collection of blood serum, bone scans and in-depth interviews with young people ranging in age from 4 to 18 about their diets and activity levels. "Historically, body fat was viewed as protective of bone health, but we see that children who are overweight have less bone strength than those who are of normal

weight," he says. Reduced bone strength not only puts the child at greater risk of fractures, it may also play a role in adult osteoporosis.

As part of the new obesity initiative, Lewis and university colleagues are exploring a relationship between obesity and bone strength that involves a common virus—adenovirus-36 (AD-36)—also known for causing upperrespiratory infections. Previous research had correlated obesity with AD-36. Now, Lewis wants to explore whether that link involves bone strength as well. In preliminary research, he found that obese university students who tested positive for AD-36 had weaker bones. However, there was no correlation between normal-weight students' bone strength and AD-36 exposure.

Lewis and his colleagues are now planning a more extensive study using blood samples gathered from tests of more than 80 children, beginning when they were four years old and continuing at intervals of every few years until they were 18. The researchers will test the samples for AD-36 antibodies and then examine the accompanying data on the children's height, weight and bone strength before and

after exposure to the virus. "A strong correlation between AD-36 infections, obesity and bone strength could lead to the development of vaccines or other treatments" for the conditions involved, according to Lewis.



Master's students Cristina Whitworth and Christian Whitworth practice using the BodPod, which measures body composition through a sophisticated system of air displacement that is safe for use with expectant mothers, babies and young children.



Rick Lewis prepares to conduct a bone scan. New research will search for correlations between a common virus, bone density and obesity.

Obesity and older adults

For close to 15 years, **Mary Ann Johnson** (Flatt Professor of Foods and Nutrition) has received funding from the Georgia Division of Aging Services and the federal Administration on Aging to provide nutrition education and physical-activity programs to adults who attend senior centers in the 13-county Northeast Georgia region. As a result, she and a number of colleagues from across campus have gathered a wealth of information about these older adults, including data regarding obesity, chronic diseases (such as diabetes), physical disabilities and eating habits.

"A number of our studies looked at individuals who eat most of their lunches at a senior center or who receive lunches through the Meals on Wheels program and we know that these meals provide a third of the recommended daily allowance for calories and nutrition," Johnson says. "But more than half of the people we studied are obese—not just overweight, but obese. That's significantly higher than the national average for people who are over 60, which is around 40 percent."

From her research, Johnson has learned that eating habits don't necessarily improve with age; older adults frequently skip their vegetables and milk just like kids do. Efforts to provide healthy meals at the senior centers also get undermined by the sodas and snacks that are frequently available, not to mention day-old breads and pastries that are donated by local businesses. In addition, many older adults enjoy fast-food meals, despite understanding the risks such

food poses to their health. Because obesity can lead to or exacerbate illnesses (including high blood pressure and diabetes), as well as limit the mobility of older adults, Johnson says it's now seen as a major contributor to increased medical costs.

Johnson's research on those who attend senior centers will continue and expand as a part

Master's students and dietetics interns Susannah Gordon, Amy Krauss and Christina Whitworth worked with Mary Ann Johnson (2nd from right) in providing nutrition and cooking classes to older adults at the Athens Community Council on Aging.

of the obesity initiative, but she's also developing new collaborations such as one at the Shepherd Spinal Center in Atlanta. In that study, Johnson will assess the nutrition and eating habits of those who have experienced spinal injuries. That information will be combined with data on physical activity gathered by colleagues as part of an effort to address obesity in this population. Johnson also is collaborating with colleagues on a project that focuses on exercise, nutrition and obesity in older women.

Combining research and practice

A key aspect of UGA's new obesity initiative is developing programs that can be implemented in communities throughout the state—a goal that dovetails with the long history of FACS Cooperative Extension programs. "In the case of basic research it may be years before work moves out of the lab, but in other instances the outreach and research components are working hand in glove," says initiative-leader Baile.

A new five-year childhood-obesity project for Colquitt County provides an example of community-based activities that the UGA obesity initiative will encourage. It was Colquitt citizens who identified childhood obesity as a problem in their county and reached out to UGA for support. The project is led by Marsha Davis (an associate professor in the College of Public Health) and **Rebecca Mullis** (Professor, Foods and Nutrition), who have worked together for more than 20 years on research designed to



Photo by Paul Efland

improve the diets and physical activities of lower-income urban families. Also playing key roles in the project are **Gail Hanula** (Coordinator, Expanded Foods and Nutrition Education Program) and **Connie Crawley** (Senior Public Service Associate, Cooperative Extension Health and Nutrition), who have years of experience in "training the trainers"—that is, teaching FACS Cooperative Extension agents the best ways to present information to participants.

"The goal of this [Colquitt County] project is to focus on 600 third-graders to see if we can create an obesity-reduction program that includes their families, their teachers, school administrators, the employees who work in the cafeteria, and the community at-large," says Mullis. "Much of our success will be measured at the beginning and end of each school year, when we assess the waist circumference and body mass index of these children—to determine whether they are overweight or obese—as they progress through fourth and fifth grades."

It's not only the health of the children themselves that is at stake. "Our previous research has shown that we can empower children to encourage better eating habits and improve physical activity in their families," Mullis says. "In this project, we also hope these children will become enlightened voices in their larger communities—through the encouragement of healthy options in vending machines or through the creation of walking trails in the county, for example. And if children adopt that sort of focus now it will be far more likely to continue into adulthood." Should the Colquitt County project prove successful, the researchers hope that because it uses a delivery system that already exists throughout Georgia— Cooperative Extension county agents—it can quickly be expanded statewide.

A widening initiative

To assess their interest in a university-wide obesity initiative, Baile began interviewing department heads and faculty in June 2011. At that time, he expected that the focus would be on research projects, especially because a review of 750 grant proposals submitted in 2010 showed that 125 addressed some aspect of obesity. By December, he had held more than 130 meetings and identified some 80 faculty who were interested in joining the initiative.

"This initiative is now about four times the size of what I thought it would be," Baile says. FACS researchers make up roughly one-fourth of the participating faculty members, each of whom has joined one of 11 interest groups that meet monthly to discuss ways to further their research on obesity. The subjects of the groups range from the new field of



Karen Slough: Star Teacher

Recent FACS grad has brought, competence, commitment, energy, and even love to her Teach for America assignment.

By Richard J. Alley



Photos by Chip Chockley

n 2010, when **Karen Slough** (BSFCS '10, Child and Family Development) stepped off the Sanford Stadium stage at the University of Georgia graduation, she also stepped away from her academic studies of child and family development for a hands-on teaching job, under the auspices of Teach for America, at Kingsbury Middle School in Memphis—about as far from her hometown of Lawrenceville, Ga., as one can get and still be in the South.

Slough had never before considered a career in teaching. She'd never been to Memphis, either. Yet when Teach for America came calling, she considered what a couple of years spent helping underprivileged children at an inner-city school might mean to her career, and strength of character, down the road. Slough set her sights, and GPS, for that city perched atop the Mississippi River's grassy bluffs.

Along with the geographic move, Slough stepped out of her comfort zone, having attended schools that had only the best to offer. "But just knowing that these kids come from families that often can't provide basic needs made me want to give back," she says. Kingsbury, whose students are predominately African American and Hispanic, has made the state of Tennessee's list of low-performing schools.

The key to such a move is having a certain flexibility, and Slough credits her time at UGA—where she switched from an early plan as an animal-health major to the child and family development track—for helping her through her transition to teaching as well. "With the help of the wonderful faculty and staff at UGA, I was able to persevere when I doubted myself," she says. "These lessons in perseverance have come in handy during my time in Memphis because, with no background in education, I started teaching with very little knowledge of the practice. There were times when I was ready to give up—throw in the towel, pack my bags, and head home—except I remembered my lessons from UGA and realized that just because I might not be successful right away doesn't mean I can't be."

But one of her CFD professors, David Wright, also notes the "strength and stature" that Slough herself brings to the table. "She is not afraid to face challenges and fears and move

forward," he says. "I find her to be inspiring. She gives me hope for the future."

This is just the sort of person that Teach for America tries to recruit for fulfilling its mission to expand educational opportunities in low-performing areas. Slough filled out a basic application to begin a round of interviews. After surviving that first round she completed a second application and was then able to request specific locations

New grad taught science, coached soccer and basketball, and provided transportation as part of Teach for America assignment

at which to teach. Hawaii, of course, was her first choice, but as she brings her second year in Memphis to a close Slough says she has been happy there.

Kingsbury needed a science teacher, a subject she had very little background in. Here again, Slough's flexibility served her, and it benefited her students as well. As she's fond of telling them, "Every time we answer a question, we're one step closer to becoming a scientist and to learning how our world works."

Aside from the subject area, Slough also goes above and beyond when it comes to mentoring children, regularly shuttling them back and forth from school to home—essentially a taxi service through some of the city's most downtrodden streets. In addition, she has given her phone number to the kids and makes herself available after school hours to answer questions about homework. She has also created a Facebook fan page to post reminders about upcoming quizzes and field trips.

And even after they've moved on, Slough wants her students to know she'll still be with them. "I love them so much. I want them to do well and I'm going to do whatever it takes, even if that means they're still calling me next year."

As much as she has enjoyed the time with her students, her plan, once the commitment is up at Kingsbury, is to return to the Atlanta area. She'll take with her the knowledge that "what I really enjoy about teaching, more than the subject content, is the mentoring side of it—having the opportunity to teach kids how to make the really tough choices they face."

Slough's colleagues think that she will carefully make her own tough choices and go on to numerous other achievements. "She is an example of the kind of person who will do an excellent job no matter what profession she chooses," says Ronald Mackin, Kingsbury's principal. "She is focused, energetic, and passionate about her work. She strives to be a very effective and influential teacher and invests in the lives of her students."

Richard J. Alley is a freelance writer in Memphis, Tenn.





Louise Hyers

Farm Girl Makes Good

Despite early discouragement, FACS alumna has excelled in college, graduate school, and multiple careers.

ou're just a farm girl. You won't make it in college."

Even as she recalls those words, first uttered by a high-school advisor several decades ago, anger flashes in **Louise James Hyers**' eyes, followed quickly by a look of satisfaction for having proven that the advisor herself was, well, ill-advised.

Hyers (BSHE '59, Home Economics Education; MHE '69, Housing and Management) was indeed a farm girl—the oldest of six children born to Lillie and Walstein James. Though they met while attending Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College in Tifton, a lack of income led the young couple back to Blackshear where an uncle helped them to buy enough land to establish their own farm and home.

Despite their lack of post-secondary education, Hyers recalls her parents as intelligent and creative mentors who emphasized ethics, right conduct, and the benefits of hard work. "For a long time, tobacco was our main crop, but my dad reconfigured the farm multiple times to adapt to changing economies," she says. "We also had vegetable crops, beef and swine. Later, Dad moved into egg production." Hyers' mother was an excellent cook and seamstress who also was known for her singing—she was the performer of choice for most of the community's weddings and funerals.

Although the advisor was dismissive of Hyers' college dreams, high-school teachers Georgia Jordan and Mary Lee Childs encouraged her. With the help of a scholarship funded by the local bank, Hyers earned an associate's degree at ABAC. But a four-year degree at the University of Georgia would require additional financial support.

Blackshear's "crotchety, stereotypical, cigar-smoking" bank president agreed to loan Hyers the money she needed, and to continue the bank scholarship as well, if her father

would co-sign the loan. "The hardest thing was telling my dad what I had done," she recalls. "He was stunned, but then he said, 'Do you know the costs?' He taught me my first lesson in interest, explaining that I should only borrow what I needed for each quarter. I repaid that loan two years after graduation."

Hyers' determination to succeed never wavered as she embarked on a more than 30-year career with UGA Cooperative Extension, and she effectively dealt with the difficulties that faced female professionals in the 1950s and '60s. These obstacles included concerns about her traveling

the state alone and employment laws that mandated her being laid off when she became pregnant with her son, John. "I tried being a stay-at-home mom, but after just a few months my husband, Johnny, and I agreed it was best for all of us if I went back to work," she says, laughing.

Hyers' former Extension colleagues praise her successes, particularly her development of leadership courses. "Louise was an early innovator in recognizing the need for developing communities by enhancing the skills of local leaders," says Don Bower, professor emeritus of child and family development. "She recognized the untapped potential in many women and minority groups, as well as in traditional leaders, and

she facilitated experiences that helped them blossom into passionate and skilled change agents."

Hyers was the second woman to serve as a district director of Cooperative Extension when she was named in 1989 to head the 18-county North Central District, with responsibility for overseeing agents in community development, agriculture and 4-H, in addition to those in family and consumer sciences. During that time, she and her Extension colleagues faced the most severe budget cuts in the organization's history, resulting in more than three dozen of Hyers' employees losing their jobs. Throughout those difficult times, she not only helped the individuals who were laid off find new positions but also successfully managed the expansion of her district from 18 counties to 40.

After retiring from Cooperative Extension in 1993, Hyers packed her bags and headed to London with close friends for some fun and relaxation, and upon her return to Athens she dove into volunteer work. But it wasn't long before she began to yearn for something more.

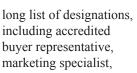
"I didn't know how to use a computer and I realized I never would unless I needed it for some reason," Hyers says. "My neighbor, Realtor Brenda Blanton, kept telling me I should get a real estate license. I wasn't sure if I could pass the test, so I took the course and only told people about it after I got my license!"

Since earning that license in 1997, Hyers has pursued her second career with distinction in Athens, first at Prudential Blanton Realty and currently with Coldwell Banker Upchurch Realty. Her successes include being awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award for production. She also has amassed a









relocation specialist and certified residential specialist.

Although her second career has given Hyers plenty of reasons to learn to use new technology, to stay current on mortgage markets, and to develop new sales techniques, she mostly views it all as a way to make new friends. "I love to spend time with people, especially first-time home

buyers," she says, "because I have the opportunity to teach them the things you need to know when you're buying a home."

Hyers' interest in people and her passion for her work, in both of her careers and at UGA, have resulted in the achievement of excellence and a coterie of admirers. Says Tom Rodgers, professor emeritus of housing and consumer economics: "During all of the 30 years I've known Louise, I have observed her great love for her chosen field of family and consumer sciences. Her work has always been a credit to our college and she continues in her support of FACS today."



2012 FACS Alumni Award Winners



Distinguished Alumni Award

Deborah Jackson Thomason's involvement with Cooperative Extension dates back to when she was one of the University of Georgia's "youngest students" a member of her county 4-H program. That involvement continued into college and grad school at UGA and has never stopped, though it did move a few miles east to South Carolina when Thomason (BSHE '77, Family Development; MEd '79, EdS '86, Home Economics Education) accepted a position as a Clemson University Cooperative Extension county agent and, in 1994, was named to Clemson's faculty as an Extension specialist and professor.

In these positions she has thrived, much to her colleagues' appreciation. "As a fellow Extension state specialist, I have had a front row seat to watch and admire Deborah's assumption of increasing responsibilities and achievement of national prominence among Extension faculty," says Don Bower, FACS professor emeritus of child and family development. "Her curricula have been used not only statewide in South Carolina but adopted in many other states as well."

In developing her curricula, Thomason has drawn on both quantitative and qualitative research methods. For example, following Hurricane Hugo, she administered surveys and conducted interviews that led to her determination of 10 common strengths that families exhibit during times of stress.

Thomason's work has garnered a number of awards, including the Distinguished Service Award from Epsilon Sigma Phi (the national Extension professionals organization); the Clemson University Trustees Award for Faculty Excellence; and the National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences National Excellence in Research Award.

"I know of no one more qualified or deserving of this award than Deborah Thomason," says Diane Smathers, Clemson University associate vice provost. "She is a credit to the profession of family and consumer sciences, the college, the university, and the state of Georgia."



Creswell Award

While earning her master's degree, **Emily Blalock** (MS '06, Textiles, Merchandising and Interiors) reached out to her fellow graduate students, especially those from other countries, to ensure that they felt comfortable in their new surroundings. Today, as a lecturer in the Department of Textiles, Merchandising and Interiors, Blalock continues to reach out by introducing new fashion merchandising courses, incorporating new teaching methods into her classes, inviting industry professionals to share their visions, and supervising the department's internship program.

Since joining the faculty in 2007, Blalock has developed innovative programs such as "Couture a la Carte," a kiosk that serves as a hub for her Entrepreneurial Merchandising course. Students in the course identify items (clothing, jewelry, scarves and other apparel) to sell on consignment from the kiosk; establish prices for those products; determine how best to display them; and staff the kiosk for several weeks each spring.

For her Retail Analysis in Ghana course, Blalock's students teamed with Athens-based retailers. While in Ghana, each student was given \$250 to buy products that he or she later displayed and sold at the retailer's store. The project was so successful that the family of one of the students has pledged \$100,000 for Blalock to expand the program.

It's not surprising that award nomination letters reference Blalock's knowledge and organizational skills. And it's noteworthy that these letters rarely fail to mention her upbeat attitude. For example, says Katalin Medvedev (a TMI assistant professor), "she has a captivating personality and is remarkably wise and compassionate for her age." Medvedev continues: "Learning is not a one-way street for Ms. Blalock. She is curious and sensitive about cultures she is unfamiliar with. That kind of thirst for knowledge and continuous investment in professional development, along with her extraordinary dedication to teaching and her students' well-being, make her a phenomenon."

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Emily Quinn Pou Professional Achievement Award

When **Katrina Little Bowers** (BSHE '84, Consumer Economics and Home Management) first interviewed for the development director position at the College of Family and Consumer Sciences, she wasn't completely sure what the job entailed. "I thought I would be helping students get internships," she recalls with a chuckle. "But after Dean Sharon Nickols explained to me what the job really was about, I said, 'Sure, I can do that.""

And do it she has. During Bowers' 14 years in the college she raised several million dollars, including surpassing the college's goal in the Archway to Excellence campaign by more than 300 percent. Bowers' creativity also led to an innovative planned-giving campaign that garnered the college's inclusion in the long-term estate planning of more than 100 of its alumni and friends.

In 2011, Bowers was recruited by UGA's Terry College of Business to head the leadership and major-gift component of its \$90-million Building Terry campaign. "Her experience at FACS, combined with her leadership style and proven communication and negotiation skills, made her an excellent candidate," says Martee Horne, senior director of Terry's development and alumni relations office.

Bowers spent her first years at the university educating alumni about the importance of private giving. As donors began to give, however, Bowers says she was educated in return. "I have learned that there are so many different ways to give," she says. "Whether it's an individual retirement account rollover or selling stock, it's a fun challenge to learn how to incorporate those funds into an endowment. And I also have learned patience. Many people want to give, but they want to identify an area they're passionate about. In those instances, it's a matter of continuing the conversations, getting to know them, and then looking at what's going on in the college. Over time, you find the right match."



Pacesetter Award

As a master's student, **Caree Jackson**, (MS '04, PhD '08, Foods and Nutrition) crafted an interactive play, *Lil' Red Ridin' Thru Da Hood*, as part of an obesity-prevention program targeting low-income African-American children. Her play was so innovative that the Atlanta Falcons Youth Foundation sponsored its presentation throughout Atlanta and Athens.

As a doctoral student, Jackson focused her research on adolescents, working with middle-school students as they wrote and performed their own health-oriented plays. In each instance, Jackson gathered data that demonstrated the benefits of theater, dance and music to teach the importance of nutrition and exercise.

Since earning her Ph.D., Jackson has continued to concentrate on obesity-prevention programs for children. As a Kellogg Health Scholar at Morgan State University in Baltimore from 2008 to 2010, she developed and led the Healthy Bodies Healthy Minds program at the Union Baptist Head Start Center, establishing a nutrition and exercise curriculum for children, teachers and parents. This program also inspired the center to renovate its recreational spaces and create new and healthier menus.

Currently, Jackson is an Oak Ridge Institute for Science Education Fellow at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta, where she is an integral part of the team charged with implementing First Lady Michelle Obama's "Let's Move!" child-care initiative. Jackson also co-leads a federal interagency workgroup focused on healthy weight in early childhood and oversees the CDC's technical-assistance activities to states and communities that are pursuing obesity-prevention efforts in early-child-care and educational settings.

"Dr. Jackson has excelled in her performance and truly has been indispensable," says Meredith Reynolds, a leader within the CDC's Division of Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Obesity. "The quality and quantity of her work have been exceptional in making a difference in improving policies and practices at the federal, state and local levels."



Outstanding Service Award

As chief superior court judge for the Middle Judicial Circuit of Georgia, **Kathy Stephens Palmer** (BSHE '76, Family Development; JD '79) spends long hours on the bench ruling on a broad range of criminal and civil matters. Outside of court, she is just as busy, judging high school mock trial events, serving as a mentor to college students, giving talks to civic and professional organizations, and helping to prepare suppers at her church.

Among her many commitments, Palmer is extensively involved in university-related activities, including her current service on the executive committee of the University of Georgia Alumni Association and as chair of the Georgia 4-H Foundation's Board of Trustees. She also has worked with the FACS Alumni Association since its founding in the late 1970s, as well as with the advisory councils of the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences and of the UGA Cooperative Extension Service.

Bill Woodson, senior pastor for Swainsboro First United Methodist Church, says that Palmer's involvement with the church includes arranging social events and ministry opportunities. For example, she helps to prepare and serve more than 100 meals each Wednesday, many to underprivileged children and their family members.

"She has served as an advocate for the underserved and is the person I call upon when questions in her field of expertise arise," Woodson says. But her service transcends her field of expertise, he adds. "[Judge Palmer] devotes countless hours to serving beyond her vocation and enriching the lives of many in her church and community."

Palmer credits her parents for this full and benevolent life. "My father taught me to enjoy meeting people and trying new activities, and my mother never went anywhere without carrying food to share," she says. "We learned at an early age to be thankful for what others did to help us and to give back."

FACS Appreciation Award

The partnership between **Georgia United Credit Union** and FACS faculty began in 2006 when Tom Cochran, a Georgia United board member, approached Housing and Consumer Economics department head Anne Sweaney about conducting financial-literacy programs on campus. What began with student-led lunch-and-learn presentations to UGA employees has grown to include multiple graduate-student assistantships in financial planning and students helping low-income Georgians prepare their tax returns through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program. Georgia United Credit Union, with the leadership and support of **Doug Foote (right)**, chief operating officer, and **Bill Bland**, Athens district director, also provided matching funds that helped the faculty land a \$280,000 challenge grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture to expand family financial planning education across Georgia.

A recent boost to the collaboration has been the addition of two other motivated entities—the FACS ASPIRE clinic (which provides counseling on a range of issues, including relationships and finances) and The Ark (a nonprofit organization in Clarke County that provides emergency

financial assistance to families). The new program allows students working in the ASPIRE clinic to provide financial counseling to individuals who are seeking no-interest loans from The Ark, according to Joe Goetz, assistant professor of housing and consumer economics. "The loan payments are paid to Georgia United, which provides the clients a way of improving their credit history," says Goetz. "Georgia United is also giving these clients the opportunity to open savings accounts, which is another step toward becoming more financially secure."

Lance Palmer, associate professor of housing and consumer economics, describes the match this way: "Not only have we been able to grow our graduate program, but we've expanded the research and service opportunities for our undergraduates, all while providing a substantial economic benefit to the community."



Alumni News and Notes FACS



1950s

Jonell Kirby Cash (BSHE '52, Home Economics Education; MEd '57, Home Economics Education; EdD '65, Counseling Education) recently published a novel titled, "A Ring, A Dance, A Second Chance."

Donna Parry Curles (BSHE '75, Clothing and Textiles) is a preschool teacher at Chamblee First United Methodist Church in Atlanta. Her daughter, Lori Curles, is a junior majoring in family and consumer sciences education and is a FACS Ambassador.

Becky Reynolds (BSHE '77, Furnishings and Interiors) is the house director for Zeta Tau Alpha at the University of Georgia.

1980s

Amy Taylor Cunningham (BSHE '89, Consumer Economics and Home Management) is a consumer scientist with Bosch and Siemens Home Appliances Corp. in New Bern, N.C., responsible for product development and product testing.

Kelly McGill Dean (BSHE '89, Fashion Merchandising; MS '91, Clothing, Textiles and Furnishings) is the marketing director at Stanley Dean and Associates, a certified public accounting firm in Dunwoody.

Melissa Hunecke Knorr (BSHE '82, Dietetics and Institutional Management) is a principal scientist with Kraft Foods Research, Development and Quality. She has recently been recognized for developing new ways of measuring consumers' emotional responses to products that discern differences between "liking" and "preferring" a product or brand. She recently presented her research at the Institute on Food Technology meeting.

Erin Suzanne Gilbert Bounds (BSFCS '98. Consumer Economics) is president of the ESB Group, Inc., which offers design and integration of all types of audio, video, lighting, conferencing, and security systems. She lives in Springville, Ala., with her husband, Larry.

Christine Crouch Browarski (BSFCS '92, Clothing and Textiles; MS '99, Textiles, Merchandising and Interiors) is the owner of CCB Designs, which provides eco home interiors and real estate staging. She lives with her husband, Jim, in Austin, Texas.

Cindy Kanarek Culver (BSFCS '95, Dietetics) is director of school nutrition for Marietta City Schools.

David Carr Flanagan (BSFCS '95, Consumer Economics) is a product manager for GranQuartz, a distributor of tools and equipment for fabricators of stone countertops. He and his wife, Jenny, live in Decatur with their 9-year-old son, Ryan, and 5-yearold daughter, Reagan.

Dawn Veronica Fowler (BSFCS '92, Fashion Merchandising; MEd '99, Health Promotion and Behavior) married Jim Hamilton April 2, 2011. They live in Athens.

Anne Elizabeth Welborne Mathews (MS '97, Foods and Nutrition) is an assistant professor of food science and human nutrition at the University of Florida in Gainesville.

Jason Jay Milburn (BSFCS '99, Consumer Foods) owns Outback Steakhouse in Athens. He lives in Jefferson with his wife, Helen, and two daughters, Emily, age 8, and Victoria, age 3.

Yoko Mimura (MS '94, Housing, Home Management and Consumer Economics; PhD '01, Housing and Consumer Economics) has joined the faculty in the family and consumer sciences department at California State University, Northridge.

James Willis Paul II (BSHE '92, Hotel and Restaurant Administration) is the resident district manager at the University of Nebraska at Kearney for Chartwells Higher Education, which provides college campuses with food services. He was recently recognized by the Board of Regents for his contributions.

> **◀ Kyle Warner Shadix** (BSFCS '94, Consumer Foods) is a corporate executive research chef for PepsiCo Global R&D Beverages. In August 2011, the Research Chef's Association recognized Shadix as being among the most knowledgeable in the field of culinary arts and food product research and development by awarding him the Certified Research Chef designation, making him the only RCA-certified chef.







(Top) Theresa Glasheen (BSFCS '06, MS '08) checks out items at Couture ala Carte. (Middle) Barbara Chambers Braziel (BSHE '57, MHE '64) discusses cocktail and evening dresses from the 1950s and '60s with Jose Blanco, assistant professor of textiles, merchandising and interiors. (Bottom) Rick Lewis, professor of foods and nutrition, discusses the work in his lab with (L-R) Anne Haltiwanger (BSHE '67, MS '69), Betty Lane Yates (BSHE '60) and Anna Shackleford (BSHE '60).

Dear FACS Alumni and Friends,

aturday mornings are so precious to me, usually a time for reflection when I am at home in Marietta with my family. But on Saturday, Feb. 18, I awakened in Athens knowing I would be spending the day with my FACS family. It was the 35th Annual FACS Alumni Awards Luncheon! Being part of the alumni board allowed me to have a little insight for what was in store for the day. We were kicking off the luncheon with "Re-Discover Dawson" tours.

The minute I walked through Pou's Pillars and opened the front doors there was

this electricity of excitement in the air. Ambassadors were getting their assignments to help our guests throughout the tour. I love the new Student Services location and office. What an inviting area for our students to come with questions or just hang out...too cool! Next was the Couture ala Cart with Lecturer—and FACS alumna—Emily Blalock and her students busily stocking it with all of the fabulous designs that our students both designed and created...some of the best pieces were inspirations from their latest trip to Ghana. We also had a chance to give feedback on what type of items that our new UGA tartan could be made in....from notecards to golf club covers to apparel...and it all benefits OUR college!

Then I set off to my station at Barrow Hall where I loved welcoming our alumni and their guests to this part of the tour of Assistant Professor Jose Blanco's glam collection from the 1950s and '60s. There was also

the opportunity to show off the designs by furnishings and interiors students that are simply amazing...the talent level is off the charts good! It was so fun to see everyone show off their special little part of FACS to our guests!

Then I was off to the Georgia Center to welcome everyone to the luncheon. As president-elect I wanted to be close to the registration table to greet everyone as they picked up their name badges.... It was wonderful watching "mini reunions" take place as long-time friends, former classmates and faculty got reaquainted! Hugs were endless. This energy carried into the Magnolia Ballroom where the luncheon was held. We haven't had it on campus in many years and there seemed to be something extra special being back on South Campus! As always, the luncheon went off without a hitch, but only because so many people put in tireless hours of preparations to ensure success.

I have to admit, being inducted as president of the FACS Alumni Association board was a personal highlight for me. There is nothing like standing in front of a room with a group of your peers and mentors and next to some of the many past presidents who have paved a road for success. I look forward to continuing on the path of setting new standards and higher goals for our college!

Othering Stockman

Catherine HubeStockman, BSFCS '91 President, FACS Alumni Association

2000s

Ellen Laura Clements (BSFCS '06, Fashion Merchandising) is an assortment planner with JCPenney in Frisco, Texas.

Erik Harald Compton (Matriculate, Consumer Economics) earned a PGA tour card in October 2011 when he finished 13th on the Nationwide Tour money list. A two-time heart transplant recipient, he won his first Nationwide title in June 2011 at the Mexico Open.

Juliana Dearing (BSFCS '08, Family Financial Planning) is a personal banker in Marietta with Chase financial services firm.

Scott Bradley Edwards (BSFCS '02, Consumer Economics) is a managing partner and recruiter for Adaptive Medical Partners in Grapevine, Texas.

Katherine Fitch McKinnon (BSFCS '04, Child and Family Development) is a contract analyst for National Industries for the Severely Handicapped in Alexandria, Va.

Erika Escoe-Nelson (BSFCS '00, Consumer Journalism) is the founder and owners of Dixie Peaches Couture in Athens, which includes cotton products for "Southern Belles, Southern Gents and Little Peaches," as well as totes and other items. The website is www. dixiepeachescouture.com.

Evariste Anthony "Trey" Faucher III (BSFCS '05, Consumer Economics) is a
Certified Financial Planner with TCM Group at
Morgan Stanley Smith Barney in Athens.

Anna Marie Haynes (BSFCS '03, Furnishings and Interiors) is a resource librarian for the interior design firm Hirsch Bedner Associates in Atlanta.

Jason Kemmerer (BSFCS '09, Consumer Economics) is a marketing specialist for APEX Tool Group in Garland, Texas.

Michelle Lee Lewis (BSFCS '08, Family Financial Planning) is a planning and operations assistant with Redwood Wealth Management in Alpharetta. Ga.

Sara Marcketti (MS '02, Textiles, Merchandising and Interiors) and her husband, Michael, are the parents of twins Clark Anthony

Bulldog 100 Celebration



Jody Rosen Atkins (R) is welcomed into the Bulldog 100 by Deborah Dietzler, executive director of UGA alumni relations.

Jody Rosen Atkins (BSHE '89, Home Economics and Journalism; MS '91, Housing, Home Management and Consumer Economics), president of The Association Source, is the newest FACS graduate to join the Bulldog 100: Fastest Growing Bulldog Businesses. The Association Source, located in Boca Raton, Fla., provides administrative support to not-for-profit organizations. Among Atkins' clients is the National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences, which just signed on in February.

Other FACS alumni whose businesses are a part of Bulldog 100 are **Justin Niefer** (BSFCS '05, Consumer Economics), a founder of EvoShield protective gear in Athens; **Melissa Minton Pilgrim** (BSFCS '92, Clothing and Textiles), co-owner of Vista Photonics of Santa Fe, N.M.; and **Ginger Howard** (BSHE '87, Fashion Merchandising), owner of Ginger Howard Selections in Atlanta.

To nominate a company for the Bulldog 100 go to www.alumni. uga.edu/alumni/bulldog100/nominations.

and Cooper Emile, born Feb. 25. They also have an older son, Drake Michael.

Warren Henley Odom (BSFCS '05, Housing) is an account development manager with Coca-Cola Refreshments in Atlanta.

Carmen Tarbush Pedersen (BSFCS '09, Family and Consumer Sciences Education) is a teacher in the Clarke County School District.

Meredith Barrs Potter (BSFCS '04, Consumer Foods) and her husband, Philip, are the parents of, Madlyn Elizabeth, born Feb. 29.

Megan Pritchett Presley (BSFCS '07, Family and Consumer Sciences Education; MS '09, Workforce Education) married Zach Presley, Dec. 18, 2010. They live in Savannah, where she teaches family and consumer sciences at South Effingham High School.

Katie Lynn Reeves (BSFCS '09, Family Financial Planning) and **Martin Craig Seay** (PhD '12, Housing and Consumer Economics; BSFCS '07, Family Financial Planning) were married Oct. 15, 2011, at the University of Georgia Chapel. Katie is a financial planner with AYCO in Atlanta. Martin has accepted an assistant professor position at Kansas State University.

GATFACS/GAFCS

The UGA Alumni Association and FACS Alumni Association teamed up to host a reception in Savannah for those attending the January joint meeting of the Georgia Association of Teachers of Family and Consumer Sciences and the Georgia Association of Family and Consumer Sciences.





FACS Breaks

uring recent months FACS alumni have gathered in Conyers, Athens and Atlanta to catch up on the news of the college with FACS Dean Linda Kirk Fox and other faculty and administrators.

Email Susan Byus, director of alumni relations, at **sbyus@uga.edu** to learn more about hosting a FACS Break in your area. Because most of our event invitations are sent by email, we hope you'll update all of your information by going to **www.fcs.uga.edu/alumni/update_info.html**.

FACS Facts continued

Darby Thompson Sewell (BSFCS '00, Family and Consumer Sciences Education; MEd '01, Family and Consumer Sciences Education) and her husband, Jeff, are the parents of Parks Gentry, born May 31, 2011. They also have an older son, John Wesley.

Kristin Wade Schupp (BSFCS '08, Fashion Merchandising) is a family and consumer sciences teacher at White County Ninth Grade Academy in Cleveland.

Erinney Brookerd Smeltzer (BSFCS '09, Child and Family Development) is the public policy chairman for the Leon County division of the National Association for the Education of Young Children in Tallahassee, Fla. She also mentors undergraduate students at Florida State University in the family and child science department and is enrolled in the master's program at FSU.

Laura Ellen Waldrep (BSFCS '09, Consumer Economics) is a senior client manager at Integratec, which provides alternative investment management software and services, located in Atlanta.

Alice Barron Way (BSFCS '05, Consumer Economics) is a showroom consultant with Ferguson Bath, Kitchen & Lighting Gallery in Jackson, Miss.

2010s

Gwen Beckham (BSFCS '11, Fashion Merchandising) is the assistant manager for the Chanel boutique on Fifth Avenue in New York City.

Ed Bodenhamer (BSFCS '10, Consumer Economics) is an office representative with State Farm Insurance in Martinez.

Lauren Elizabeth Braucher (BSFCS '11, Child and Family Development) is the lead teacher at the McPhaul Child Development Laboratory in the University of Georgia College of Family and Consumer Sciences.

Traci Jarrett Bryant (BSFCS '10, Family and Consumer Sciences Education) is a family and consumer sciences teacher with the Barrow County School District. She is married to Sean Bryant.

Scott Emerson Hirons (BSFCS '11, Consumer Foods) is a management trainee at the Grove Park Inn in Asheville, N.C.

Mallory Kate Roman (BSFCS '11, Fashion Merchandising; BS '11 Psychology) is a lab manager in the marketing department at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Sloan School of Management.

Christopher Michael Sweat (BSFCS '11, Consumer Journalism) is a marketing director for Exodus Payment Systems LLC in Patterson. ■



Rather than having her students divide into discussion groups inside the classroom, Lecturer Nancy Hollett-Wright (pointing) took advantage of the comfortable temperatures and extra space found outside of Dawson Hall.



Nominate 2013 Award Winners Online

2013 Alumni Awards Nominations Due October 1, 2012

Categories include:

- Pacesetter Award (alumni fewer than 10 years out of school)
- Outstanding Service Award
- Emily Quinn Pou Professional Achievement Award
- · Distinguished Alumni Award
- Creswell Award
- Friend of FACS

Help us recognize the outstanding contributions by the graduates of our college! Nominations are accepted online at www.fcs. uga.edu/alumni/nomination_form.html.



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in memoriam

Onie Hixson Adams (BSHE '28) August 6, 2005

Emma Ruth Alden (BSHE '41) January 7, 2012

Virginia Peede Alexander (BSHE '48) August 14, 2005

Juanita Demott Arnold (MEd '73) February 21, 2010

Vera Ashworth Barter (BSHE '42) August 9, 2011

Mary Daniel Baynes (BSHE '41) August 14, 2011

Logan Upshaw Bentley (Junior) March 23, 2012

> Jerry Joe Bigner (MS '68) July 30, 2011

Carolyn Norton Bowen (BSHE '39) August 13, 2011

Nancy Berry Dean Bowman (BSHE '51) December 18, 2011

Edna Griffin Buckelew (BSHE '42) July 22, 1999

Grace Benton Callaway (BSHE '50) December 26, 2011

> Helen Brock Camp (BSHE '40) December 25, 2011

Janet Joyce Campbell (BSHE '57) November 25, 2011 Anne Gamble Carswell (BSHE '41) August 18, 2009

Marjorie Malcom Cobb (BSHE '49) September 11, 2011

Louida Hendrix Cody (BSHE '41) August 15, 1998

Sue McVay Collins (BSHE '50) August 22, 2008

Dorothy Ayers Compton (BSHE '45) February 28, 2012

> Betty Rawlins Cox (BSHE '53) October 6, 2011

Mardre Ann Davis Cox (BSHE '46) January 17, 2012

Evelyn McDuffie Cronic (BSHE '47) October 9, 2011

Marie Ingram Crow (BSHE '63) January 6, 2012

Ray Trapnell Dekle (BSHE '50) August 21, 2010

Phyllis Macmullin Dobbins (BSHE '53) August 27, 2011

Dale Yarbrough Dorman (Cooperative Extension) January 10, 2012

Frankie Greene Dyer (BSHE '44) January 18, 2012

Eloise Wellborn Edmondson (BSHE '39) October 14, 2011 Charles Raymond Eiford (MEd '80) June 23, 2011

Dorothy Howard Franklin (BSHE '41) August 17, 2010

Antoinette Jackson Garrison (BSHE '36) December 17, 2011

Lindsay Virginia Graham (BSFCS '05) March 10, 2011

Minnie Frances Hatcher (BSHE '38) December 3, 1999

Ethel Byrd Heath (BSHE '37) February 19, 2006

Geraldine Swint Hebert (BSHE '46) September 4, 2007

Harriet Perry Hendrix (BSHE '59) May 29, 2011

Carolyn Blackburn Hogan (BSHE '57) January 31, 2012

Ruth Alligood Holliday (BSHE '41) January 12, 2010

Pauline Huie Holloway (BSHE '48) February 9, 1996

Ellen Spooner Hoover (BSHE '38) March 11, 2012

Irma Arrendale Howell (BSHE '41) March 29, 2010

Constance Wilma Ivie (BSHE '37) August 27, 2003

Dorothy Owens Jackson Nancy Sutton Peters Marie Hall Stewart (BSHE '47) (BSHE '77) (BSHE '44) October 10, 2011 December 28, 2010 October 12, 2011 Marcia Sparks Jennings Bernadene Voorhees Pope Mabel Foy Stinson (BSHE '36) (MEd '83) (BSHE '50) January 29, 2012 January 4, 2012 April 10, 2010 Katherine Anne Kindrick Selma Epps Pryor Virginia Pinson Stolz (BSHE '74) (BSHE '40) (BSHE '58) May 22, 2011 December 22, 2010 March 12, 2010 Elizabeth Biles Logan Roger McMillan Reeb Mary Bower Stone (MEd '86) (BSHE '44) (BSHE '40) February 4, 2011 December 14, 2011 October 23, 2011 Perry Smith Marshall Clare Bartee Riley Cleo Gwendolyn Surles (BSFCS '93) (BSHE '67) (MEd '67) April 2, 2012 May 30, 2010 March 8, 2012 Martha Newsome Tanner Toni Summers Matthews Thelma Nix Russell (BSHE '40) (BSHE '45) (BSHE '44) March 3, 2010 April 16, 2010 January 30, 2012 Frances George McLanahan Reba Westbrook Schindel Yvonne M. Thompson (BSHE '36) (BSHE '39) (BSHE '52) February 16, 2006 October 30, 2011 March 31, 2011 Peggy Lancaster McMahan Joy Haynes Schomberg Mary Hatcher Tracy (BSHE '43) (BSHE '82) (BSHE '40) August 12, 2011 March 3, 2012 February 9, 2005 Kimberly Silliman McMurray Barbara Ann Schuman Idelle Pennington Tucker (BSFCS '93) (BSHE '72) (BSHE '42) September 23, 2010 April 24, 2011 June 18, 2010 Bertie Belle Miles Jean Bolton Slaughter Frances Carter Upchurch (BSHE '48) (BSHE '45) (BSHE '52) February 8, 2010 January 16, 2012 September 12, 2011 Dorothy Aiken Millender Lucy W. Slocumb Donna Lanham Wagner (BSHE '35) (BSHE '35) (BSHE '64) January 10, 1964 February 28, 2008 December 18, 2011 Cynthia Welch Moore Charlotte Davis Smith **Doris Futral Watts** (BSHE '77) (MS '57) (BSHE '40) September 26, 2010 February 16, 2006 August 28, 2011 Barbara Burton Parks Dorothy Emma Smith Edwina Cox Wildes (BSHE '51) (BSHE '41) (BSHE '41)

December 4, 2011

Shirley Akins Smith

(BSHE '58)

December 12, 2011

January 30, 2012

Laura McClain Perkins

(BSHE '44)

September 24, 2011

Editor's Note: In some cases, the College of Family and Consumer Sciences has only recently been notified of the names of graduates who died several years ago.

January 22, 2012

IN THE

FACULTY & STAFF

Elizabeth L. Andress (Professor, Foods and Nutrition) has been awarded the Continued Excellence Award by the National Extension Association for Family and Consumer Sciences. She was recognized for her years of programming in consumer food safety education, home food preservation and foodservice sanitation. She also has been awarded the FACS Outreach Faculty Award. In addition, Andress is the author of "Seeking Food Security: Environmental Factors Influencing Home Food Preservation and Wellness, Part II: 1960-2010," which was selected as the Best Paper in Foods and Nutrition published by the Family and Consumer Sciences Research Journal in 2011. Co-authors of the paper included **Sharon** Y. Nickols (Janette Barber Distinguished Professor of Housing and Consumer Economics), Gina G. Peek, (PhD '09, Housing and Consumer Economics; MHP '04, Historic Preservation) and Sharon M. Nickols-Richardson (PhD '98, Foods and Nutrition; MS '94, Foods and Nutrition).

Sophia Anong (Assistant Professor, Housing and Consumer Economics) was awarded the 2012-2013 Sarah H. Moss Fellowship through the University of Georgia's Center for Teaching and Learning. She will be traveling to Africa University in Mature, Zimbabwe, for six weeks this summer to work with faculty and student researchers to study the impact of mobile finance in rural and urban Zimbabwe.

Vibha Barghava (Assistant Professor, Housing and Consumer Economics), her husband, Chetan, and daughter, Eva, welcome a second daughter, Ria Saraf, born Feb. 17.

Christa Campbell (FACS Cooperative Extension Agent, Elbert County) has been awarded the Thomas F. Rodgers Outreach Agent Award. This award recognizes exceptional creativity and scholarship in the development, application and evaluation of outreach and public service programs.

Swarn Chatterjee (Assistant Professor, Housing and Consumer Economics) is the editor of "Employer-Provided Health Insurance Coverage: A Comparison of Employed

Hathcote appointed UGA registrar

Following a national search **Jan Hathcote** (BSHE '74, Home Economics Education), who served as FACS associate dean for academic affairs and research from 1997-2011, has been named registrar for the University of Georgia. Hathcote had served as interim registrar following the retirement in 2011 of Rebecca Macon.

"Dr. Hathcote has a proven record of leadership and administration in higher education," says Laura Jolly, vice president for instruction, in announcing the appointment. "Her wealth of knowledge regarding student academic support services, experience with university governance and strong organizational and management skills make her an ideal choice for this position."

Hathcote came to UGA in 1990. She earned her doctorate in human ecology from the University of Tennessee in 1989.

The Office of the Registrar provides a range of academic support services for the university that includes maintaining student academic records, registering students, publishing class schedules and helping plan commencement. The registrar serves as secretary to the University Council and reports to the vice president for instruction.

"Since joining the registrar's office on an interim basis, I've had the opportunity to work with the very competent staff to initiate an electronic transcript system, expand the DegreeWorks advising system and resurrect the Registrar's Advisory Council," Hathcote says. "Being named to the permanent position allows me to continue these projects and look forward to others such as assisting with the implementation of the new student information and financial aid system."



Native-born and Immigrant Americans," which was chosen as the best paper in personal finance and consumer economics in 2011 by the Family and Consumer Sciences Research Journal. The article was co-authored by **Robert Nielsen** (Assistant Professor, Housing and Consumer Economics).

Brenda Cude (Professor, Housing and Consumer Economics) has been selected for the Life Settlement Advisory Group, an advisory board established to develop ethical standards that validate life settlement industry practices. She also has served as a board member with the Insurance Marketplace Standards Association for the past five years, and frequently represents consumer interests before the National Association of Insurance Commissioners.

The **Family Financial Planning** major in the College of Family and Consumer Sciences has been named one of 10 standout programs nationally by *Financial Planning* magazine. Editors for the magazine made their selections after talking with veteran planners and industry leaders.

Judy Harrison (Professor, Foods and Nutrition) and a team of colleagues were winners of the food safety award at the regional and national levels for the "Wash Your Paws, Georgia!" project. The team included FACS and 4-H Cooperative Extension county agents and program assistants, among others. The team also placed first in the regional contest for the curriculum package award. Other members of the team included: Ramona Adams, Sonia Leverett, Shanda Ashley, Sylvia Davis, Carrie Hall, Kisha Faulk, Alva Heidel, Jeri Gilleland, Lisa Jordan, Wanda DeLyons, Carmen Martinez, Dana Lynch, Abbie Bunn, Zona Medley, Melinda Miller, Tammie Glasscock, Lynn Hall, Jan Baggarly, April Sorrow, William Reeves and Max Harrell.

Marilyn Huff-Waller (Administrative Associate, FACS Cooperative Extension) has been awarded the Nettie Marie Nickols Outstanding Staff Award.

Rick Lewis (Professor, Foods and Nutrition) has been awarded the Bill and June Flatt Outstanding Faculty Research Award.

Lynsee Miller (Administrative Associate, Dean's Office) and her husband, **Justin**, (BSFCS '12, Housing and Consumer Economics) are the parents of a daughter, Elynore Dorothy, born Oct. 24, 2011.



ashion designer Greg Pellegrini (above) provided students in the fundamentals of fashion merchandising course a glimpse into the realities of fashion marketing, consumer demand and the economy's impact on the luxury market during his visit to Dawson Hall in January. Pellegrini, who launched the women's clothing line Lotusgrace three years ago, was in Athens for a trunk show at Sonia Says Boutique. As a part of an ongoing partnership that has developed between Sonia Says owner Sonia Steffes and FACS, an evening fashion show was held at the store featuring FACS Dean Linda Kirk Fox, Fashion Merchandising Lecturer Emily Blalock, Development Director Victoria Wood and Development Officer Suzanne Griffeth modeling styles by Pellegrini and other designers. Purchases made during the trunk show benefited the Sonia Steffes Fashion Merchandising

Award Fund in the Department of Textiles, Merchandising and Interiors.
Shown with Steffes (center) are students
Margaret
Siddons (left) and Larissa

Guimaraes.



CLASSROOM



Roger Clements (right), professor emeritus of art, presents CFD Department Head Jay Mancini a cast bronze sculpture he created in memory of the late James Walters. Walters served on the CFD faculty from 1974-1989 and was chair of the department from 1981-1989. "Jim and I met for years," Clements recalls. "He did so much with his writings about the family that I felt this sculpture of a couple on a house was appropriate to be in his honor."

Diann Moorman (Assistant Professor, Housing and Consumer Economics) was named the 2011-2012 FACS Teacher of the Year. Departmental Teachers of the Year were: **Denise Lewis**, (Assistant Professor, Child and Family Development); **James Hargrove**, (Associate Professor, Foods and Nutrition); and **Suraj Sharma**, (Assistant Professor, Textiles, Merchandising and Interiors).

Sharon Y. Nickols (Janette Barber Distinguished Professor of Housing and Consumer Economics) will be awarded the Distinguished Service Award by the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences at the national conference in June. In addition to serving as dean of the UGA College of Family and Consumer Sciences from 1991-2006, Nickols has served in a number of leadership positions, including president, with AAFCS.

Judy Phillips (EFNEP Program Assistant, Washington County) has been awarded the Outreach Paraprofessional Award. The award recognizes outstanding achievement of paraprofessionals in FACS Cooperative Extension and outreach programs.

Michael Rupured (Financial Management Specialist, FACS Cooperative Extension) was awarded the 2011 Mary Ellen Edmondson Educator of the Year Award by the Association for Financial Counseling and Planning Education. Rupured was recognized for his work mentoring students, Cooperative Extension county educators and young professionals in financial literacy and for establishing financial education as a major program area for UGA Cooperative Extension.



AM SURVIVAL KITS

Two FACS students eagerly show off their Exam Survival Kits. Each semester, FACS alumni and Ambassadors prepare close to 400 of the kits, for distribution to stressed out students prior to finals. The kits include a range of salty and sweet snacks that are guaranteed to calm nerves while giving the extra burst of energy needed for all-night study sessions.



Rodgers Named To National 4-H Hall of Fame



who raised more than \$2 million to renovate the University of Georgia Rock Eagle 4-H Center as well as working with colleagues to establish environmental education programs that are used nationwide, has been inducted into the National 4-H Hall of Fame in Chevy Chase, Md.

"Most of the good things that have happened to me

started with 4-H, including my choice of colleges and majors, and most of my best friends came to me through 4-H," he says. "I obtained my first job with the Cooperative Extension Service through 4-H contacts and friends. As a matter of fact, I met my wife during 4-H camp."

Rodgers began his career with UGA Cooperative Extension in 1977 as a district agent for community and rural development. In 1978, he was named director of the Georgia 4-H program, a position he held until 1993, when he was named UGA Cooperative Extension Service director of county operations.

In 1979, Rodgers and retired Georgia 4-H specialist Diana Davies created an environmental education program at the Rock Eagle 4-H Center in Eatonton. In that first year, the program served 2,000 students. Today, it has expanded to all five Georgia 4-H centers, serving nearly 900,000 students in Georgia and across the southeastern United States and producing \$50 million in revenue, according to Arch Smith, state 4-H director who nominated Rodgers for the award.

In the early 1980s, Rodgers and retired Cooperative Extension Director Tal Duvall worked together to acquire the former Dolphin Hotel on Jekyll Island, converting it into a coastal facility that annually serves more than 12,000 school students and 2,000 4-H members.

In 1984, Rodgers embarked on an even bigger venture—renovating the Rock Eagle 4-H Center, which had such serious renovation and repair needs that it was in danger of being closed. Rodgers solicited private gifts and legislative appropriations totaling more than \$2.2 million for renovations at both Rock Eagle and the other 4-H centers. Included in that amount was a gift of \$200,000 from the Cecil B. Day Foundation to construct a museum of natural history.

Rodgers also increased the 4-H scholarship program by more than 200 percent and was responsible for establishing the Dawson 4-H Loan Program that assists Georgia 4-H members in their pursuit of higher education. In 1990, he worked with Cooperative Extension staff and received a \$247,000 Kellogg grant to implement the Global Food Web program, which brings youth together to discuss world hunger and food supply issues.

Although Rodgers officially retired in 2004, he has continued to work with the Georgia Initiative on Community Housing, a collaborative of the FACS Housing and Demographics Research Center, the Georgia Department of Community Affairs and the Georgia Municipal Association. Communities participating in GICH spend three years receiving facilitation, instruction and technical assistance as they design and implement a housing program to improve both the quality of life of their citizens and the communities' economic conditions.

Rodgers also gives a great deal of time to the Athens Area Habitat for Humanity, as well as other civic and community organizations.

"Tom Rodgers is one of only four Georgia Lifetime Achievement recipients," according to Smith. "He charted a course for Georgia 4-H to continue its legacy of providing excellent youth development opportunities for young people and has kept Georgia at the forefront of 4-H programming in the U.S."

Rodgers is married to Janie O'Neal Rodgers. They are the parents of Scott and Jim and have six grandchildren.



Michael McGough
joined the college
in January as grants
coordinator. He
previously served as
executive director of
The Stable Foundation
in Athens, a nonprofit
organization serving
homeless families

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and individuals. In addition to developing and implementing programs for nonprofit organizations, McGough has experience identifying potential funding sources, writing and submitting proposals, grant accounting, program evaluation, and reporting for public and private funding sources. He has a bachelor of arts degree in music from the Baptist College of Florida and a master of arts degree in nonprofit management from UGA.

FACS.SPRING.2012

Kim Skobba (Assistant Professor, Housing and Consumer Economics) has been selected as one of eight 2012-13 service-learning fellows by the University of Georgia. The Service-Learning Fellows Program is a year-long faculty development program that provides an opportunity for selected faculty members to integrate service-learning into their teaching, research, and public service work.

Anne Sweaney (Department Head, Housing and Consumer Economics) has been awarded the 2011 Distinguished Service Award from the Housing Education and Research Association. The award recognizes those who have demonstrated excellence in their field of work and a significant contribution to their organization.

Janet Valente (Program Development Specialist, FACS Cooperative Extension) has been selected for the UGA Public Service and Outreach Leadership Academy, which is designed to provide participants with an understanding of university and statewide issues, improve their managerial skills, and help them discover their leadership potential.

Velma Zahirovic-Herbert, (Assistant Professor, Housing and Consumer Economics and Diane Costyn, (Academic Advisor, Housing and Consumer Economics) were named the FACS 2011-2012 Outstanding Undergraduate Advisors of the Year. Departmental advisors of the year were: Julie Patterson, (Academic Advisor, Child and Family Development); Charlotte Wallinga, (Associate Professor, Child and Family Development); Bev Hull, (Academic Advisor, Foods and Nutrition); Ruthann Swanson, (Associate Professor, Foods and Nutrition); and Anne Allen, (Academic Advisor, Textiles, Merchandising and Interiors).

PROMOTION NEWS

Faculty members promoted to associate professor with tenure are: Alex Kojo Anderson, Foods and Nutrition; Jose F. Blanco, Textiles, Merchandising and Interiors; Joseph William Goetz, Housing and Consumer Economics; Jung Sun Lee, Foods and Nutrition; Denise Clark Lewis, Child and Family Development; Katalin Medvedev, Textiles, Merchandising and Interiors; and Robert B. Nielsen, Housing and Consumer Economics.

Gail Hanula, who directs the Expanded Foods and Nutrition Education Program, has been promoted to senior public service associate; **Dorothy Hausman** has been promoted to senior research scientist; and **Karen Tinsley** has been promoted to public service associate. All of the promotions go into effect on July 1.

STUDENTS

Allen Barton (Ph.D. Student, Child and Family Development) and **Colette Miller** (Ph.D., Foods and Nutrition) have each been awarded an Endsley-Peifer Student Research Award.

Renuka Dhandapani (Ph.D, Student, Textiles, Merchandising and Interiors) has been awarded an Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award from the University of Georgia.

Rachel Hagues (Ph.D. Student, Child and Family Development) was named Volunteer of the Year for 2011 for Mercy Health Center in Athens out of more than 500 volunteers. Mercy Health Center is a faith-based non-profit

UGA Alumni Present Flatt With Faculty Service Award

Bill Flatt, D.W. Brooks Professor Emeritus of Foods and Nutrition, was among those recognized for their outstanding service to the University of Georgia at the 2012 awards ceremony sponsored by the UGA Alumni Association. At a luncheon in the Tate Center Grand Ballroom attended by 450 alumni and friends of the university, Flatt was presented the Faculty Service Award.

Flatt joined UGA in 1969 when he was recruited to head the animal sciences department. In less than a year, he was named director of the Georgia Agricultural Experiment Stations and in 1981 he was selected as dean of the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences. In 1994, after retiring from his position as dean, Flatt accepted a teaching and research appointment in the FACS foods and nutrition department. He also has been a major support of the college and the university having endowed multiple undergraduate and graduate scholarships, awards for



Photo by Wingate [

outstanding seniors and the Bill and June Flatt Professorship of Foods and Nutrition.

Also recognized during the luncheon was former state Rep. Robert E. Argo, who received the UGA Alumni Merit Award, and the Sonny Seiler family, which has been responsible for raising eight generations of Ugas, which was named the Alumni Family of the Year.

organization that provides physical, emotional and spiritual care for low-income and uninsured families in the Athens area.

Lauren Koncerak (Junior, Furnishings and Interiors) won first place in "Blog Like A Pro!" a competition sponsored by the National Kitchen and Bath Association competition.

Calli McRae (Junior, Child and Family Development) has been selected to serve as a 2012 summer orientation leader by the UGA admissions office.

Martin Seay (Ph.D. Student, Housing and Consumer Economics) won the outstanding graduate student paper at the annual meeting of the Academy of Financial Services. His paper reported on trends in rental property ownership and its role as a household investment. ■



Emily Blalock (center) works with villagers in Burkina Faso.

FACS Lecturer Teaches Business Skills in Burkina Faso

FACS Lecturer Emily Blalock (MS '06, Textiles, Merchandising and Interiors) was part of a 10-person team sponsored by Athensbased Women to the World to travel to Burkina Faso in late November to organize women's groups and teach in the Lycee Vocational School in the rural area of Ouahigouya. Blalock taught a 16-hour workshop for 50 college-age students at the Lycee Technical Training School where she helped the students hone their business ideas and write business plans using the Georgia REAL curriculum. In the afternoons, she helped women's groups form micro-businesses, including training them to make beaded jewelry and fabric flower accessories. Teaching quality control, how to create bead color stories, and pricing were essential steps for making the project sustainable, but difficult because the villagers' language is unwritten and communication was limited to the skills of one translator and much nonverbal communication. Blalock also helped the women brainstorm marketing options and the viability of their local market. Since returning, Blalock has overseen sales of more than \$2,500 in jewelry made by the women's groups; all of which has been returned to the groups for future investment.

Home Food Preservation Center Receives \$500,000 Grant

three-year, \$500,000 grant to the National Center for Home Food Preservation will allow researchers to study a variety of safety issues as well as developing food preservation lesson plans for students in elementary and middle school.



Elizabeth Andress, (Professor,

Foods and Nutrition) has headed the NCHFP since its founding in 2000. Among the many activities of the center is the updating of U.S. Department of Agriculture home canning recommendations and operation of the NCHFP website, which had 1.42 million visits—or an average of 3,887 daily visits—during the past year.

"This grant will allow us to continue to maintain and expand the website for use by professionals, educators, the media and consumers," according to Andress. "In addition, we will also continue offering quarterly webinars on specific topics."

The food preservation lesson plans build on the school and community gardens that have flourished in recent years. "Both educators and students have been excited about the teaching and learning opportunities that are presented by school gardens," Andress said. "Students already have learned lessons about horticulture and nutrition from growing and eating fresh produce. This project will add a new twist by teaching students the science behind home food preservation, as well as providing them skills to enjoy their garden bounty year-round."

The two research projects focus on the safety of steam canners and explore whether reusable plastic lids create the appropriate vacuum levels to keep canned foods safe.

"These steam canners are particularly popular at higher altitudes where it takes longer to boil water, which adds time and expense to the canning process," said Andress, who will be working with researchers at the University of Wisconsin on the project. "However, we need to ensure that the steam stays at a constant temperature. Otherwise, there's a risk that food will be underprocessed and spoil."

In the study on canning lids, Andress will compare several characteristics of home canning lid options. "We'll be looking at vacuum levels obtained during sealing, and the success rates of sealing for each type of lid to ensure that food and money aren't lost because jars either don't seal or don't maintain high quality vacuum seals during storage periods," she said.

2012 Chilly Dawg 5K

A record \$8,100 was raised during the Fourth Annual Chilly Dawg 5K and more than 575 runners participated in the Jan. 28 race at Sandy Creek Park in Athens, making the race one of the largest in the Athens area. Funds support student scholarships, alumni programming and activities in the College of Family and Consumer Sciences.

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(L-R) Kiersten Roberson, a College of Public Health undergraduate helps Oconee County 4-H'ers Charlotte Hudson and Natalie Branand prepare a meal for a local family as part of "4-H and FACS: Cooking with Care." The program introduces students to locally grown foods, while also teaching nutrition and food preparation lessons. The finished meal is delivered to a needy family in the community.

Obesity

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

epigenetics, which explores how environmental factors such as diet or prenatal nutrition can turn genes on or off, to public health policies. In-between are groups that, for example, address obesity in the workplace, obesity and exercise, and even communications strategies and obesity. Participants include faculty members in journalism, education, public health, environmental design, public service and outreach, kinesiology, genetics, veterinary medicine, animal science, biochemistry, molecular biology, and psychology, in addition to the FACS-related fields of foods and nutrition, consumer economics, child development, and gerontology. At least 15 grant submissions have grown out of the groups' work; these are in addition to obesity-related grants that individual faculty members already had in progress.

The initiative also has expanded beyond the University of Georgia, with Baile meeting with representatives of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Georgia Department of Health, and Georgia Gov. Nathan Deal, among others. Moreover, Baile has found great interest among chief research officers at universities throughout the Southeastern football conference. A presentation to this group has already led to plans for a workshop this year and for obesity to be the topic of the 2014 SEC Academic Conference. Because all of the southeastern states have high rates of obesity, Baile says, expanding the initiative into a regional effort could finally turn the tide toward establishing proven ways of reducing obesity.



Victoria Wood
is Director of
Development for the
College of Family and
Consumer Sciences. For
more information on
how to give a current
or deferred gift,
please contact Victoria
at 706-542-4946,
by email at
vpwood@fcs.uga.edu,
or write to her at FACS,
224 Dawson Hall, UGA,

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"I could never have given to the people in Ghana without the donors who first gave to me."

—TaMara Myles (Ghana, 2011)



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