

# FACS *Magazine*

FALL 2014

TMI professor  
Suraj Sharma is  
transforming algae  
into sustainable  
biomaterials

## FACSMagazine

FALL 2014

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# Leadership Message

*We*

were under a canopy of pines in the steamy Oconee National Forest.

It was late August outside Eatonton at the Rock Eagle 4-H Center at our annual FACS Leadership retreat.

I was a part of a group of about 10 FACS students and administrators who teamed up for a challenge course guided by a bright-eyed, 20-something instructor.

Our task seemed simple: we each had to step from one stump to the next without touching the ground before completing the circuit.

As with a lot of things in life, it proved more difficult than it looked.

But a funny thing happened: within seconds, we were holding hands as we gingerly leaped from one stump to the next; we were plotting, encouraging, laughing and, yes, even singing.

In the end, we accomplished our task, and as we all sat around discussing it, covered in sweat but with big smiles on our faces, we agreed on what it took to get there: teamwork.

I've thought a lot about that small goal we attained together in the middle of the woods on one of the hottest days of the year.

It took all of us working together as one seamless unit to achieve it; when one of us fell – and it happened a few times – the others were there to lend a hand and a reassuring word.

I like to think we all grew a little closer during this exercise. I know I walked away feeling deeply encouraged about the future of our college, thanks mostly to the leadership and the passion our students demonstrated in the woods and conference rooms of Rock Eagle that weekend.

I also think the team-building exercises, and the ingenuity and vision they required, mirrored the work we're doing in the College of Family and Consumer Sciences.

I hope you'll enjoy this issue of FACS Magazine and notice the theme of teamwork throughout these pages.

There's the cover story on TMI professor Suraj Sharma and his exciting, innovative work involving algae and bioplastics, formed out of an early collaboration with College of Engineering professor K.C. Das.

Our college also received three new faculty positions as part of UGA President Jere Morehead's interdisciplinary hiring initiative (see faculty profiles on Lilian Sattler and Heidi Ewen on pages 20-21). A third hire involving the TMI department will be announced later.

While we were deeply saddened at the death of Dr. Clifton Baile (page 39), we know his legacy will live on in the work of the campus-wide Obesity Initiative, itself a model of interdisciplinary collaboration involving FACS faculty in an effort to address this growing crisis.

These are but a few examples of the amazing efforts our faculty and students are putting forth in the spirit of teamwork and discovery.

Only we're not merely jumping from one stump to the next. We're collectively trying to solve some of the world's most pressing problems, and giving the next generation of leaders the tools and knowledge they will need to address these challenges in the years ahead.

I am so proud to be a part of this impressive team and hope you agree with me that being a member of the FACS family is truly an honor.



*Linda Kirk Fox*

Linda Kirk Fox  
Dean

*Silvia Q. Giraudo*

Silvia Q. Giraudo  
Associate Dean  
Academic Programs

*Deborah Murray*

Deborah Murray  
Associate Dean  
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# Turning the humble algae into gold

Story and Photos by Cal Powell

## It began with an introduction in 2009.

Two professors, one a biological engineer, the other whose research focuses on bioplastics, met in a lab hidden by pine trees and scrub oaks miles from the center of the University of Georgia campus.

A few days after that initial meeting, a package arrived at Dr. Suraj Sharma's office in the College of Family and Consumer Sciences, a sort of "welcome to Athens" gift from Dr. K.C. Das, his colleague in the College of Engineering and a noted scholar in the field of biofuels.

Inside the package was granulated algae, extracted from wastewater and full of the building block for bioplastic: protein.

When Sharma (pictured) subjected the fine green powder to thermomechanical processing – heat and pressure applied at a steady rate – the resulting bioplastic gave the experienced scientist a rush.

"It was a very exciting moment," Sharma said. "It opened new areas of opportunity."

The bioplastic was brittle, and was a few tweaks away from the recipe that he and others would come to perfect, but for a scientific community looking for a sustainable bioplastic, Sharma's creation was a breakthrough.

"These proteins had low value because they were grown on wastewater, so being able to make a product out of it was definitely a positive outcome," said Das, whose interest in algae was rooted in its uses as a biofuel.

That initial meeting served as the foundation for an interdisciplinary partnership that continues today, and injected enthusiasm into a field in the early stages of expansion.

Ultimately, that meeting in a nondescript lab in south Athens even led to the founding of an Athens-









**A “master batch” of pellets made from compounded algae-based resin can have all sorts of product applications**

based company, Algix, by a Das protégé, that continues to push the science ahead.

From a satellite, the images show up a bright, radiant green. Even a novice would notice the wispy, fluorescent blooms scattered about the Mississippi Delta.

To Ryan Hunt, the sight of all that algae growing practically uncontrolled in catfish farms throughout

Alabama and Mississippi represented one thing: opportunity.

Hunt, who studied under Das before graduating with a master's degree in biological and agricultural engineering in 2010, was intrigued with the potential inherent in Sharma's bioplastic creation.

Operating with a grant from the Georgia Research Alliance and in collaboration with Sharma's lab, Hunt

“Nobody had anything, and we showed up with algae and a bunch of dog bones and people's heads were exploding.”



spun off the technology and created Algix with a local packaging expert and entrepreneur, Mike Van Drunen.

"By using algae, we have a non-food based crop that can treat wastewater, it can be incorporated into sustainable energy production and we can actually produce a material we can use to produce consumer goods," Hunt said.

Initially, Algix started out doing a lot of compression molding: creating various bioplastic products like flower pots to demonstrate the potential of the science.

Eventually, the company found its way into its current status as a "master batcher," which involves blending algae with a synthetic or biodegradable polymer such as polyethylene and PLA to create small pellets.

These pellets then are sold to a converter to create a bioplastic product: flower pots, for example, or packaging.

Algix's current formulations are about 40-50 percent algae. The algae, harvested at either a wastewater facility or catfish farms, can be mixed with a specific polymer depending on the needs of the buyer.

Hunt recalls a convention of algae industry executives and scientists a couple years ago. He showed up with pots and injection-molded boxes and little dog bone prototypes of their product.

"Nobody had anything," Hunt said, laughing, "and we showed up with algae and a bunch of dog bones and people's heads were exploding."

Suddenly, it seemed, business was looking good.

Algae is not exactly hard to find. It's practically everywhere, in fact: livestock farms, wastewater plants, aquaculture facilities.

Harvesting it into something useful for lab purposes, however, can be tedious – and expensive.

Algix's first major foray into the algae acquisition business involved a wastewater facility in California.

The 37-acre facility now supplies Algix with about 500,000 pounds of dry weight algae per year for a small fee, where previously the algae was simply given away to area farmers as fertilizer.

Algix also purchases about 10,000 pounds a year from Aurora Algae, a supplier in California, and some from the effluence off of carpet mills in Dalton.

It was not enough.

"We wanted to control the supply chain dynamics," Hunt said.

Shortly after startup, a contact at Auburn University introduced Hunt and his partners to some catfish farmers in Alabama and Mississippi.

The College of Family and Consumer Sciences has acquired additional lab space at Riverbend North to conduct research involving nanostructured materials.

The 20,000 square foot lab is home to the NanoStructured Materials Lab ([www.nsmlab.com](http://www.nsmlab.com)) headed up by FACS professor Dr. Sergiy Minko, the Georgia Power Professor of Fiber and Polymer Science.

The lab houses an interdisciplinary research group that focuses on the study and fabrication of synthetic "smart" materials and biomaterials on a nanoscale.

Minko, a professor in the FACS department of textiles, merchandising and interiors, arrived at UGA in January from Clarkson University in New York.

His research focuses on nanostructured materials, responsive materials, biomaterials, fibers and polymers, among other subjects.

He also has an appointment in the department of chemistry.

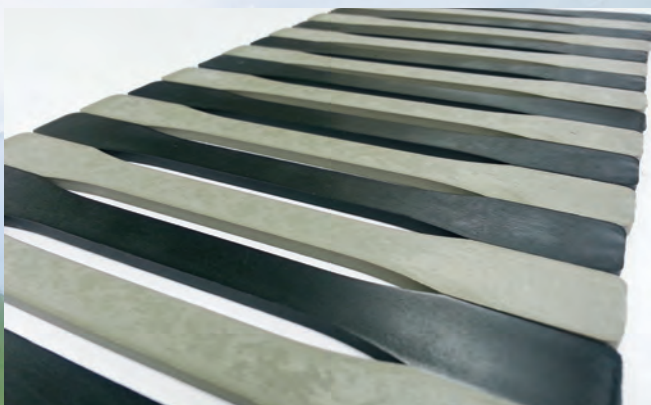


Minko and his team will collaborate with TMI professor Dr. Suraj Sharma, whose research focuses on biomaterials and textiles, along with FACS' Georgia Power Professor of Textile Science Emeritus, Dr. Ian Hardin.

"The lab at Riverbend North is in close proximity to other labs such as the Nanoscale Science and Engineering Center and will advance the work we've historically done in textiles into new areas, including 'smart' fibers," FACS dean Linda Kirk Fox said.

– Cal Powell





Algae has plagued catfish farmers for years. As a photosynthetic bloom, algae releases oxygen during the day. At night, it respires, releasing carbon dioxide into the water. Too much, and it causes fish kills.

"It grows so fast, you can't get rid of it completely," Hunt said, "but you can manage it."

Working quickly, Hunt and his partners lined up agreements with catfish farmers in the area. Using a mobile harvesting unit that includes what is essentially "a 2,500-gallon Wet-Vac," the algae is pumped out, hauled to a storage unit, de-watered and dried.

The process takes the algae from about 5 percent solid to roughly 95 percent solid, and can produce 900 pounds of dry weight algae per hour.

Expensive equipment aside, it's actually a pretty simple concept.

"You've got companies borrowing \$150 million to create algae production systems when there's a huge algae production system in Mississippi," said Ashton Zeller, Algix director of research and development and former technician in Sharma's lab. "They're growing more algae per pound (of fish food) than catfish."

Algix's extensive efforts to lock down the supply seems to be paying off.

"Right now, I think we're pretty much the biggest algae holder in the country, easily," Hunt said.

Via the Algix-run website, [www.buyalgae.com](http://www.buyalgae.com), buyers can order everything from "green algae consortia" to "Haematococcus pluvialis" by the pound, most of it in bright green or red powder form.

A full chemical analysis of the algae, performed by the UGA feed analysis lab, is also provided.

Algix regularly receives orders for its product, from

**Pictured from top-left:**  
**A mobile harvester;**  
**Master batch pellets made from algae resin;**  
**An algae farming facility;**  
**"Dog bones" made from algae**



plastic industry executives to moms of middle school kids working on science projects.

While Algix continues to expand – the company employs 30 people in several states, owns a fish farm in Jamaica and is looking to reach into China – Sharma also is advancing the science in his labs.

While algae harvested from farms or wastewater facilities can't be used for medical or food applications, the protein-rich algae grown under very controlled conditions does have that potential.

Sharma is primarily interested in extracting protein isolates, or purified protein, from the algae biomass that can potentially have medical applications or other high-end value products.

"It takes time and the yield may be low because it's not like the protein is just freely found in the algae cells," Sharma said. "These are multi-cellular structures. You have to be harsh during your extraction."

For Sharma, who teaches classes in the College of Family and Consumer Sciences in product development that often emphasize innovation, the potential of this new research is intriguing.

"It's exciting because we worked on this technology which has direct implications to improve human wellbeing by reducing our dependence on fossil fuels," he said. "We are showing these students that there are alternative materials that are sustainable, and that there are ways we can be green."



When Lauren Tolbert was a senior at North Oconee High School, she spent half her school days in a lab at Dawson Hall.

As part of the Young Dawgs internship program, designed to give area high

school students an in-depth, hands-on look at academic areas that interest them, Tolbert was paired with Dr. Suraj Sharma from the FACS textiles, merchandising and interiors department.

As part of the program, Tolbert researched various topics, wrote proposals and conducted experiments involving microencapsulation under Sharma's guidance.

"It's probably the best thing that ever happened to me in high school," Tolbert said.

Today, Tolbert is a senior fashion merchandising major and FACS Ambassador who is on track to graduate a semester early in December.

She then plans to pursue a doctorate in polymer, fiber and textile sciences under the tutelage of Sharma and fellow TMI faculty member Dr. Sergiy Minko.

She said she someday hopes to work in a university setting, teaching and conducting research. She credits Sharma's influence for much of her early success.

"I would not be here today if not for him," Tolbert said. "He's always believed in me and pushed me, and never in an overbearing way. He's just been so helpful and I'm so grateful for that."



# Caree Cotwright uses arts to educate inner city youth about nutrition

In a hospital room in Atlanta, CAREE Cotwright discovered her passion. Her father, Ernest C. Jackson, Sr., lay dying with cancer, and Cotwright, just a few months after earning an undergraduate degree in biology, witnessed first-hand the frustrating “disconnect” between medical staff and patient.

Cotwright, then 23 years old, was convinced there was a better way to help people, one that involved both prevention and a holistic approach to treatment.

As she sat staring at a computer wondering what career path she should take, her mother walked by.

“You always liked nutrition,” she told her daughter.

“It was like a bell went off,” Cotwright said. “I was like ‘I did! I do!’”

Not long after, Cotwright visited UGA and met graduate coordinator Mary Ann Johnson and then-faculty member Becky Mullis, who had just received a multi-million dollar grant to teach African-American elementary students in Atlanta about nutrition.

Cotwright, a product of the Atlanta public schools whose mother was a lifelong educator in the system, had found her home.

“We always called it divine intervention,” she said of her partnership with Mullis.

Cotwright threw herself into her role, and, harkening back to her roots in church plays, puppet shows, dance and theater, she soon found the niche that would define her early career: using the arts to teach inner city kids about nutrition.

For her master’s thesis, Cotwright wrote a play called “Lil’ Red Ridin’ Thru ‘da Hood,” which also featured an original rap called “What’s Best 4 Me” about fruits and vegetables. Here’s a sample lyric:

“Gotta cut the fat so I can do my body good/so I keep eatin’ fruits and veggies like I know I should ...

“I was using rap and dance and all kinds of things to get them excited about nutrition,” Cotwright said. “It was a natural fit. I loved what I was doing because I felt like I was doing prevention.”

The play later went on tour in Boston, Philadelphia and Atlanta, where it was funded by the Atlanta Falcons Youth Foundation.

Cotwright’s rap is now the theme song for a mobile produce market in Chicago that provides fresh food for people living in so-called “food deserts” that don’t have

ready access to fresh fruits and vegetables.

During the program, Cotwright also learned about different research techniques, how to manage focus groups and build partnerships and how to write grants, all skills that would prove essential to her later in her career.

Cotwright went on to receive her Ph.D. from UGA and took a two-year post-doc W.K. Kellogg Health Scholar Fellowship at Morgan State University in Baltimore, where she introduced a new fictional character, a dog named Li’l Lexie, to teach preschoolers about nutrition and physical activity.

A three-year stint at the Center for Disease Control in Atlanta followed. While there, Cotwright communicated obesity prevention guidelines as part of First Lady Michelle Obama’s Let’s Move! Campaign.

She was hired as an assistant professor of foods and nutrition at FACS in August 2013.

“I was probably her first point of contact at UGA and I could tell there was something very special about CAREE,” said Mary Ann Johnson, the Bill and June Flatt Professor in foods and nutrition. “I knew she was a real communicator and very passionate about everything she did, so it really didn’t surprise me that she’s turned into a remarkably creative researcher. She has this very good instinct of what will engage young people.”

Cotwright’s latest vision is to use puppet shows and a storybook curriculum for area childcare centers to reinforce the need for fresh fruits and vegetables.

She has already created a main character, “Freggie,” and is working on securing a real-life van she’ll call “Freggie’s Green Machine” that would deliver fresh fruits and vegetables to local childcare centers.

Her long-term goal is to see the project go national with a comprehensive farm-to-preschool component that includes developing preschool gardens.

Cotwright acknowledges that addressing the nation’s obesity crisis is a daunting one, but she is not discouraged. She looks into the eyes of her own little daughter, Camara, and she sees hope.

“Every little person counts,” she said. “That’s how you’ve got to look at it. It’s a big ocean, but every drop of rain counts.”

- Cal Powell



A woman with dark curly hair, wearing a red ruffled dress and a multi-strand necklace, is sitting on a blue blanket on a grassy lawn. She is smiling at the camera. In front of her, on the blanket, is a large collection of colorful hand puppets designed to look like various fruits and vegetables, including apples, bananas, carrots, and leafy greens. Some of the puppets have small tags attached to them.

Caree Cotwright uses  
hand puppets, among  
other artistic outlets,  
to communicate the  
importance of healthy  
eating to kids



# Dream of the Red Dragon

By **Emily Blalock**

Senior lecturer in TMI

**W**hat have you heard about the magnificent, yet secretive, Red Dragon we call China?

I have heard of many tales of fiction, numerous whispered secrets, read the historical legends and learned the facts.

**Fact or Fiction?** There are over 200 incidents of unrest a day in rural China; cosmetics must be tested on animals to be considered for sale in China; the Chinese consume more luxury goods than any developed nation; the new Chinese President, Xi Jinping, is considered a modern day Mao, "the poor man's president." **All true.**

China has a way of mixing what Westerners consider fantasy into reality. Though I read all that my eyes could devour, I was not prepared for the sight of magnificent cities, dazzling lights, the luxury retail spilling into the city streets, a kind, hospitable culture and the most delicious exotic food.

I have many co-workers who consider themselves China aficionados (Textiles, Merchandising and Interiors faculty members Ian Hardin, Kati Medvedev, Charlie Gilbert, just to name a few) and recommended novels that unfold the mysteries of this great nation.

I believe in the power of books and the knowledge gained from scholarly research, however, nothing can compare to primary research, the first-hand knowledge gained from being immersed in a culture, the people, and being a part of history in the making.

The primary goal of our study abroad group's tour was to examine the holistic approach of American fashion companies facilitating the apparel production process from fiber and yarn production to finished apparel within the developing nation of the People's Republic of China.

In addition, we took an in-depth look



**Emily Blalock with a native**

into the history, culture and politics, as well as studying diverse retailing channels from government-owned department stores to international luxury retailers.

The itinerary stated five cities in 11 days, including Hong Kong, Shen Zhen, Xian, Shanghai and Beijing. It doesn't seem possible to travel 19,529 miles in 11 days, but TMI, under the direction of Professor Charlie Gilbert, made it happen.

With one giant rolling bag in tow and enough room to purchase a new wardrobe (which I did), Charlie and I embarked with 15 students, wide-eyed and with the curiosity of dry sponges, waiting to soak up new experiences that would ferment into colorful memories.

The theme of our trip was watching the impossible become possible.

For example, it was once impossible to believe that China would have the largest economy in the world, but the World Bank just reported it so.

Another fantasy turned non-fiction is Hong Kong. Here, ancient China meets Western attitudes with a transnational

flavor. Our tour guide said, "You know of only New York City with about 35 skyscrapers, but Hong Kong has over 800!"

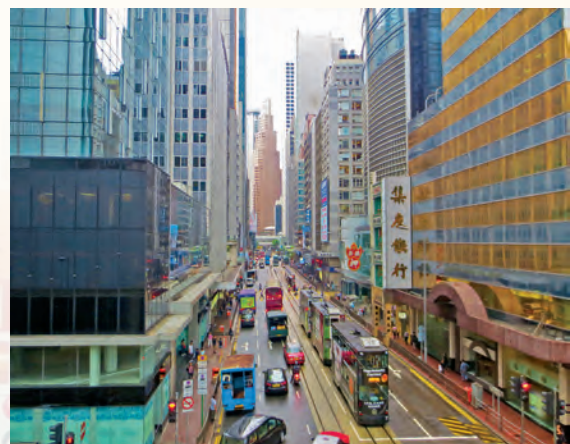
Hong Kong, the financial capital of the East, is where we began the trip and were first introduced to fashion companies developing apparel in mainland China.

Li & Fung and Carter's Inc., graciously engaged our students in hour-long tours and discussions with apparel executives. We received first-hand knowledge of breakthrough technology like RFID tagging solutions connected to LED screens, Fast Fit 360, 3D models, apparel sourcing trends and secrets of the world's leading cosmetic packaging designers.

Next, we were bused to Shenzhen by Carter's Inc., executives to get an in-depth tour of two factories. In Dawson Hall, we lecture on the vertical integration process, textile technology, fashion, safety and ethical concerns with apparel manufacturing, but seeing it up close and in person is the best teaching tool.

None of the students will forget what they learned that day. It is said that for every person who views a factory as a sweat-shop, another sees it as hope for China's economic future.

The next impossible made possible



**A view of Hong Kong**



was the ancient architecture: buildings, cities, walls, all 300-600 years in existence and constructed with sticky rice (no mortar).

Xian maintains the reputation as the oldest city in China, boasting 5,000+ years of history and the origin of the Silk Road. We rented bicycles and rode nine miles along the top of the ancient city wall and later got mobbed by the natives wanting to take our picture.

One of the highlights of the travel-study experience was learning from fashion designer and entrepreneur, Guo Pei. She is China's most popular fashion designer with a 20+ year career working for Chinese celebrities and politicians.

She generously took time to talk with our students about working hard to achieve goals, practicing your craft tirelessly and with integrity.

She brought many students to tears with her motivational speech and the beauty of her handmade garments. Her reputation is silk and she delivers exquisite embroidered dresses ranging from \$10,000 to \$100,000.

We were amazed to find out that Paris invited her to Haute Couture Fashion Week in fall 2014. This is the most luxurious sector of handmade fashion (no sewing machines) regulated by Paris courts, is invitation only and with strict regulations. Again, the impossible became possible.

There has been talk of change since Mao and the Cultural Revolution in 1966. Now it is happening with President Xi Jinping.

There was a particular advertisement that I saw in all five cities. The advertisement featured a plump Chinese girl adorned in traditional dress against a clean, white background.

Beside her were black Chinese characters comprised of delicate lines. I was instantly intrigued by this advertisement because it seemed out of place with the other sophisticated ads displaying modern Western fashions like Nike, Burberry, Louis Vuitton and even Wal-Mart.

Each city we visited, I would spot it when I least expected: sometimes

inside a luxury mall as a banner, other times erected as a huge billboard in a downtown metropolis.

Alas, our tour guide explained that this was the propaganda of President Xi Jinping. It encourages all Chinese to dare to have a dream and work tirelessly towards that goal to better the nation.

Not a unified dream for a unified communist country, but a unique dream, one that is special for you, a dream one can work towards and hope for. I instantly related this concept to capitalism, entrepreneurship and the American Dream. But is this possible in Communist Red China?

The notion of being an entrepreneur is at odds with the government philosophy of communism, or is it?

private business is flourishing on every illuminated city block, in every high-rise hotel, at the busy corner bakery and in every outdoor wet market.

Yes, the government still owns many businesses and retail stores, but free enterprise is a social contagion that is airborne. What is left is capitalism in its truest form.

Business thrives, money exchanges, wallets are bloated with Yuans, houses taller and wider, but at what cost? I have heard of the unspoken deal Communist Party leaders made with the Chinese: "Stay out of politics, and you can do anything you want."

I have ridden the world's fastest train, speeding along at up to 300 miles per hour in Shanghai.



**TMI students tour a silk factory in Shanghai, where they learned about silk production from worm to fabric**

It is a familiar story of Mao coming to power in 1949, confiscating all companies and enterprises, wiping out Western businesses, businessmen, and ideas and thus ushering in the strong hold of communism.

During this time, all people were equal. Regardless if they were rich or poor, professor or custodian, man or woman; the sartorial dress was the neutral long-sleeved Mao suit and the profession was a laborious life.

Fast-forward to present day 2014, and

I have laboriously climbed the Great Wall of China, built on the ridge of a mountain chain in Beijing.

I have ridden a bike on a 600-year-old city wall in Xian and have experienced a Chinese city that remains untouched by communism in Hong Kong.

I have toured the manufacturing arteries that are the life-blood of the U.S. fashion industry in Shenzhen.

I've done all of this, and I now believe that anything is possible in the People's Republic of China.



# SHOUTOUTS



HDFS professor **K.A.S. Wickrama**, whose research focuses on the social determinants of health, has been appointed to the UGA Athletic Association Professorship.

FDN assistant professor **Caree Cotwright** has been selected as a UGA Service-Learning Fellow for 2014-15, along with a \$2,500 award to be used to develop a proposed project.

UGA Extension's food safety team led by **Judy Harrison** won a first place award for "Enhancing The Safety of Locally Grown Produce" by the National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences.

TMI's **Brianna Martinez** was selected as an Outstanding Teaching Assistant by UGA Graduate School.

FDN students **Andrea Lobene** and **Deanna Shade** were named Outstanding Students by the Georgia Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics.

FDN professor **Jung Sun Lee's** project, Senior Hunger Coalition, has been selected as the UGA nominee for the 2014 C. Peter Magrath Community Engagement Award and Outreach Scholarship W.K. Kellogg Foundation Engagement Award.



FDN department head **Lynn Bailey** has been named a Fellow of the American Society for Nutrition, the organization's highest honor.

**Pamela Turner** and **Sharon Gibson's** project "UGA GreenWay: Connecting FACS

Extension with Online Communities" has been selected a first place national winner and first place Southern Region Winner in the NEAFCS Annual Awards Program, Social Networking Award category. Team members also include Diane Bales and Kasey Christian, and UGA Extension Agents Edda Cotto-Rivera, Ines Beltran and Lisa Jordan.

TMI assistant professor **Lilia Gomez-Lanier** and FHCE assistant professor **Ann Woodyard** have been selected for participation in the 2014-2015 Teaching Academy Fellows

Program, an early career mentoring program at UGA. FHCE assistant professor **Sophia Anong** was awarded a Sarah H. Moss Fellowship by the University of Buea.

FHCE assistant professor **Kim Skobba** was selected to be a part of the Lilly Teaching Fellows for 2014-15.

FACS grad **Lindsey Coral Harper**, a 1999 graduate in Furnishings and Interiors, has been named to the University of Georgia Alumni Association's 40 under 40 for 2014.

UGA Extension's **Keishon Thomas** and team won a first place award in the GEAFCS contest in the Early Childhood Child Care Training, and **Susan Howington** won a first place national award in Communications.

TMI professor **Sarah Zenti** was awarded one of 17 innovative instruction grants from the Office of the Vice President for Instruction.

FHCE professor **John Grable**, CFP®, was appointed as chairman for the Council on Education for the Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards, Inc.

UGA Extension's **Don Bower**, a former HDFS department head, received the Eugene Sander Lifetime Achievement Award from his alma mater, the University of Arizona.

Two financial planning students, **Joseph Stallings** and **Peter Geckeler**, were recipients of the inaugural CFP® Exam Scholarship Award given by New Planner Recruiting, LLC.

HDFS student **Jay Clark** has been named a Dalai Lama Fellow for his project proposal to promote emotional, social and physical well-being for middle school and high school students in the Athens area.

IHDD's **Gillian Grable** has published a book "Keeping Promises - Georgia Stories" that highlights the triumphs of people with developmental disabilities as well as their families.







## Tricked-out mobile retailer “pops up” all over campus

**Couture a la Cart**, a mobile boutique that “pops up” on campus in the form of a tricked-out golf cart, offers TMI students a chance to learn the ins and outs of a retail venture.

TMI lecturer **Emily Blalock** launched CALC four years ago; this year, a golf cart was purchased with funds from the James Family Foundation, allowing students to offer their designs all over campus throughout the spring.

Students in TMI assistant professor **Sarah Zenti’s** class helped create the design and concept for the custom-built cart.

“The goal of the pop-up boutique is students get to practice retail startup from the origin of the idea to implementation, pricing, selling and marketing,” Blalock said. “The students enjoy it. They get to practice taking risks within the confines of UGA, and they learn from their mistakes before their own money is affected.”

Students in Blalock’s retail entrepreneurship class also heard guest speakers from 10 area entrepreneurs as part of the classroom curriculum.

## FHCE launches online master’s course in financial planning

Addressing the growing demand for financial advisors, the Financial Planning, Housing and Consumer Economics department (FHCE) began offering an online master’s degree program in financial planning in fall 2014.

The non-thesis degree program will prepare graduates to sit for the Certified Financial Planner™ examination.

According to the U.S. Department of Labor, the projected growth rate of the financial advisors occupation is 27 percent between 2012 and 2022, well above average.

“There’s a great demand out there for a program like this,” said **Ann Woodyard**, an assistant professor in FHCE. “It’s tremendously exciting.”

The program, which Woodyard said is the only one of its kind in the Southeast, is led by tenure-track UGA professors and research faculty and will offer courses in financial analysis, practice

management and financial counseling.

The FHCE department within FACS is the only UGA department to offer degree programs in financial planning.

A couple of demographic groups who might be interested in the program are people currently employed in the financial industry who want to advance their careers, as well as people exiting the military.

“A key factor in launching the program is to bring the university’s unique approach to financial planning to the worldwide community,” said **John Grable**, the athletic association endowed professor in the FHCE department within FACS. “There are literally thousands of people from around the world who want to study at UGA but can’t do it because of time, location and resource limitations. (With this program) we’re able to reach out to these people and bring them into our community of scholars.”

The two-year program will be offered in eight-week blocks, beginning with courses on financial planning and analysis and wealth management this fall.

“We have some of the best and brightest minds working on interesting research,” Grable said. “Our thought is to be as inclusive as possible in helping shape the direction of financial planning globally.”

For additional information, visit [www.financialplanning.uga.edu](http://www.financialplanning.uga.edu)

## FDN professor awarded Junior Faculty Research Grant

FDN assistant professor **Claire de La Serre** was awarded one of 35 Junior Faculty Research Grants by the UGA Research Foundation.



De La Serre’s work focuses on the role of diet, gut microflora and inflammation in modulating obesity. There is evidence showing that gut bacterial populations can induce or improve pathologies associated with obesity.

“We have more bacterial cells than human cells in our body,”

de La Serre said. "When you eat certain types of food, that changes the composition of the bacteria, and that can influence how your body responds to diet and how prone you are to obesity."

De La Serre's latest research involves looking at the specific pathways that lead to insulin resistance, or pre-diabetes.

In particular, de La Serre will study the implication of the body's endocannabinoid system, a collection of lipids and receptors in the brain that play a role in appetite and mood, among other processes, in insulin resistance.

Diabetes, a major obesity-related disease, affects more than 25 million people in the U.S. De La Serre's work aims to help identify a possible intervention in the pre-diabetic state by analyzing the relationship between gut microflora and the endocannabinoid system.

"You can change the bacteria in people's guts fairly easily without any surgical procedure," de La Serre said. "Now, to support this type of intervention you need the research to show that yes, if I change the bacteria, then I can help with this."

"This pathway has not been explored before and her work could lead to significant advances in the field," FDN department head **Lynn Bailey** said of the endocannabinoid study. "Identifying the key steps in a signaling pathway offers several points for potential intervention."

De La Serre also is teaming with FDN professor **Joan Fischer** on a USDA-funded study involving blueberries and their effect on microflora and gut permeability.

## Researchers experiment with new uses for peanut skins

The United States produces about 3 million metric tons of peanuts per year.

Nearly 60 percent of that production, according to FDN associate professor **Ruthann Swanson**, goes into peanut butter, which means there's about 1.2 billion pounds of peanut butter available for consumption per year.



But what happens to all the peanut skins?

They're discarded as waste, which is a shame, Swanson said, because peanut skins actually are high in antioxidants, specifically phenolics, and dietary fiber.

Swanson and a team of UGA scientists, including

faculty members from UGA's Department of Food Science and Technology and FDN professor emeritus James Hargrove, published a paper recently that suggests peanut skins can be incorporated into traditional peanut butter with potentially surprising results.

"We found we can do this and people found it to be acceptable," Swanson said.

The objective of the project was to assess the effects of peanut skin incorporation on consumer acceptability, with measurements

of appearance, flavor, texture, ease of spreadability and overall satisfaction. The study also looked at skins that had been heated to different extents during processing: blanched (the mildest heat treatment), light roasted and medium roasted.

Swanson's team tried various levels of peanut skin incorporation, going up as high as 5 percent, with no difference from the control on acceptability on the blanched skins.

Swanson said the findings suggest a food company could attempt to diversify its product line by incorporating peanut skins into production, even in the use of other food products such as cookies.

Swanson noted that historically, consumers have found the presence of particulates in peanut butter to be objectionable. Also, most peanut butter consumers tend to be very "brand loyal," making new products difficult to market.

"But what has happened in recent years is a movement toward healthier products in general, including nut butters, and an increased emphasis on natural (products), and the peanut butters than contain some skin particles are perceived to be more natural by the consumer," Swanson said. "This generation does not seem to be as brand loyal and they want products that are closer to their original state."

## 100 years of UGA Extension

The men and women of UGA Extension improve lives, build economies and help protect the state's precious natural resources by providing practical solutions to an ever-changing, modern society.

In 2014, UGA Extension celebrated its rich 100-year history in Georgia and looks forward to what lies ahead.

University of Georgia Cooperative Extension was founded in 1914 through the Smith-Lever Act, a federal law that established and funded a state-by-state national network of educators who bring university-based research and practical knowledge to the public.

One hundred years later, UGA Extension remains committed to



**FDN professor and Extension Specialist Elizabeth Andress leads a foods workshop in a Dawson Hall lab this summer**





Photo credit: "Andrew Davis Tucker/The Augusta Chronicle/Augusta.com"

**FACS graduate Bubba Watson is presented with the green jacket by Adam Scott after the final round of the Masters Tournament at Augusta National Golf Club, Sunday, April 13, 2014, in Augusta, Ga.**

providing unbiased, research-based information to Georgians in the areas of agriculture, the environment, families, food, lawn and garden and youth.

On May 15, UGA Extension officially celebrated its 100th anniversary with the opening of a multimedia museum exhibit in the Richard B. Russell Building Special Collections Libraries highlighting the impacts the organization has had over the past century.

"For millions of Georgia's citizens, Extension is their connection to the University of Georgia," said UGA President **Jere Morehead**. "For a century, Extension has carried out a simple but important mission: to connect the people of Georgia with the vast resources of the university in ways that improve their lives and livelihoods. We are proud of the impact we have across the state and pledge to continue to find ways to serve Georgians."

Part of the original exhibit will be on display in the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences during the Sunbelt Ag Expo in October.

An expanded version of the exhibit is available online at [100years.extension.uga.edu](http://100years.extension.uga.edu).

The dynamic website shares the history of UGA Extension through articles, pictures, videos, timelines and personal stories. The public can join in the celebration by visiting the site and sharing how Extension has touched their lives.

– Merritt Melancon

## Longtime Extension specialist announces retirement

**Sharon Gibson** says she got her introduction to Extension while sitting under her grandmother's quilting frame during a home

demonstration club meeting in Pearl River County, Mississippi.

They talked of new fabrics, of keeping a house, of relationships.

"I learned a lot of other things sitting under that quilting frame, too, but we probably don't need to talk about those," she says, laughing.

Gibson, who was hired as a FACS Educator in 1998, retired in July after a lengthy career that saw her excel in forming new and lasting alliances that strengthened Extension's reach.

"Sharon has a passion for empowering people by doing what she can to get the information they need to make the best decisions for their lives," said **Don Bower**, HDFS professor emeritus and UGA Extension specialist. "It's been an ideal fit for the mission of Extension."

Gibson, who was originally based out of southwest Georgia before moving to the Athens campus, credited a county agent with inspiring her love for all things Extension.

"He asked me when I graduate from high school, where did I want to go to college," Gibson says. "Not 'if' I graduate and not 'would' I go to college, but when and where. As I look back, I think that question was the one that put college on my mind and made me think about where I was going to go."

Gibson notes several projects that were dear to her during her time in Extension, including a few CYFAR (Children, Youth and Families at Risk) programs and the Teens as Planners program that stressed community engagement and sustainability, among other things.

Gibson jokes that her retirement is in name only. She plans to stay active in various projects and will continue to work as an advocate for children, rural communities, Extension, 4-H, the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences and FACS.



"When you work in Extension, it's really about getting to know the communities, the county you're working in and listening to the people," she says. "If you really listen to what they're saying, you will find out what the issues are, what the things they're saying they need help with. And I've got a little bit of a desire to help improve the world and to me that's what the mission of Extension has always been."

– Cal Powell

# Successes of Strong African-American Families Project celebrated

By **Cal Powell**  
**FACS Director of Communications**

**S**ome outcomes can be measured in bar graphs and charts. Kimberly McKennon of Tifton measures her progress by every little conversation with her young daughter.

"We communicate better," McKennon said. "Before, we couldn't talk. Now, we talk about everything."

McKennon, a single mother of two girls, was one of hundreds of parents who participated in the Strong African-American Families project, launched in South Georgia in 2008 by the University of Georgia's Center for Family Research and UGA Extension.

The program, which recently concluded, strengthened families and helped promote positive health outcomes, according to CFR director Dr. Gene Brody.

"Positive parenting not only has a protective effect on risky behaviors, but it also appears to be promoting health among a population that is at risk for diabetes, cancer and stroke," Brody said, addressing a small gathering of agents and facilitators at an impact meeting in April.

The SAAF project, a joint partnership between the CFR and UGA Extension, was launched five years ago in eight rural Georgia counties with a \$3.4 million grant from the National Institute of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism.

Nearly 500 families from Coffee, Colquitt, Crisp, Mitchell, Sumter, Turner, Tift and Ware counties were recruited to participate in the project, a seven-week, family-centered intervention that has proven to enhance family relationships and help prevent substance abuse among African-American adolescents.



Greg White, a SAAF Extension facilitator and research assistant with the Center for Family Research, greets SAAF participant Sabrina Morris at the Strong African-American Families project impact meeting





**A group of agents and facilitators met with FACS representatives and community members at the SAAF impact meeting in April**

At the April meeting, three mothers who participated in the program with their children addressed project leaders and organizers. All of them credited their participation in the project with strengthening their families.

"Everything I learned (in the SAAF project) is going to take us further into our future," said Sabrina Morris, a Tifton resident and single mother who participated in the program with her son.

Of the almost 500 families recruited, more than 300 youth, ages 11-13, participated in the program.

After enrolling in the project, each participating family member was asked to fill out a pre-test survey. After completing the pre-test survey, families were randomly assigned to receive SAAF immediately or wait one year before receiving SAAF.

Approximately two months after the program group received SAAF, all the families were asked to complete a post-test survey.

Analysis of this information revealed that between the five months that elapsed between pre-test and post-test, SAAF was effective in enhancing youth and family-related protective processes known to reduce youths' risk for substance use and other problem behaviors.

Compared to the waitlist parents, SAAF parents evidenced fewer symptoms of depression; increased levels of effective parenting practices; and engaged their youth in conversations about how to avoid substance use and other risk behaviors.

Youth experienced direct benefits as well.

Compared to youth in the wait-list group, SAAF youth evidenced higher levels of self-control and goal-setting behavior; held less favorable attitudes towards substance use and peers who engage in substance

use; and felt more confident that they could resist peer pressure to engage in risky behavior.

The SAAF project team, which included CFR staffers and faculty members from FACS' Human Development and Family Science department Steve Kogan, Ted Futris and Don Bower, partnered with FACS and 4-H Extension faculty to refine protocols for outreach to African-American families.

Together, they trained community professionals, called SAAF Extension Educators, and reached out to schools, faith-based organizations and other community stakeholders to engage African-American families.

"The program started by engaging schools and faith-based groups," Futris said. "All this was done so we could develop trust. Ultimately it's that trust that builds support for a program to be sustainable."

Greg White, a Tifton native and research assistant with the CFR, was one of the SAAF Extension Facilitators.

He taught courses with parents and their children on topics such as "Handling Peer Pressure," "Dealing with Temptations for Early Sex," "Goals for the Future" and "Dealing with Unfair Situations."

"You ought to see how they interact," White said. "They're hugging, they're laughing, they're loving. That's all the feedback I need."

The meeting was a huge encouragement for project leaders.

"We're exploring ways to continue to sustain the program in these communities as well as exploring ways to offer programs similar to SAAF to a broader audience that are tailored to the unique needs of other families in these communities," Futris said.

# NEW FACULTY & STAFF

## Human Development and Family Science (HDFS)

**Emilie Smith** has been hired as the Janette McGarity Barber Distinguished Professor and department head in



Human Development and Family Science.

Smith most recently served as a faculty member of the Pennsylvania State University department of Human Development and Family Studies.

She received her undergraduate degree from Smith College in Northampton, Mass, as well as a master's and doctorate in ecological/community

psychology from Michigan State University.

Smith joined the Penn State faculty in 2003. She also has served as director of the Center for Diverse Families and Communities and as a member of the University of South Carolina faculty.

**Laura McKee** joins the HDFS department in January as an assistant professor.

She received her Ph.D. in clinical psychology from the University of Vermont and her master's in development psychology from Columbia University.

She also holds a bachelor's in English from Duke University. McKee has served as a faculty member at Clark University in Worcester, Mass., since 2010.



**Jennifer George** has been hired as a lecturer. She received her Ph.D. with a concentration in human development from the University of Rochester, a master's in community services from Alfred University and a B.S. in health education from Pennsylvania State University.

**Desiree Seponski** has joined the HDFS Marital and Family Therapy program as an assistant professor.

She received her bachelor's degree in psychology and women's studies and minor in mathematics from St. Mary's College in Indiana in 2004.

Seponski received her master's and Ph.D. in child and family development, along with certificates in qualitative research and interdisciplinary marriage and family therapy, from UGA in 2008 and 2011, respectively.



## Foods and Nutrition (FDN)



**Lilian Sattler** has been named assistant professor in the new joint, interdisciplinary position in FDN and the College of Pharmacy's Department of Clinical and Administrative Pharmacy.

Sattler holds a degree from University of Bonn,

Bonn, Germany and licensure to practice pharmacy in Germany, and recently completed her Ph.D. in the UGA FDN department. Her research and teaching interests revolve around nutrition, pharmacy and gerontology/geriatrics.

## Financial Planning, Housing and Consumer Economics (FHCE)

**Heidi Ewen** has been hired as assistant professor in the joint interdisciplinary position between FHCE and the College of Public Health's department of Health Promotion and Behavior.



Ewen holds a Ph.D. in gerontology from the University of Kentucky, as well as a M.A. in experimental psychology from the University of Tennessee. She received her bachelor's in psychology from Eastern Illinois University.

She most recently served as a faculty member at Miami University in Ohio.



Education Group. She also built a corporate education department for Documentum (formerly eRoom Technology) in Cambridge, Mass.

In addition to her bachelor's degree from FACS, Vicky holds a master's in instructional design and adult learning theory from the University of Massachusetts-Boston.

Dorsey also served as a dean's aide for former FACS dean Emily Pou during her time as an undergraduate.

#### **Cara Winston Simmons**

has been hired as the Director of the FACS Student Success and Advising Center, previously called the Office of Student Services.

Simmons comes to FACS from the UGA College of Veterinary Medicine office of Graduate Affairs, where she was responsible for the coordination of four interdisciplinary graduate programs including admissions, advising, registration, interview days and orientation.

Simmons has a bachelor's degree in history and a master's in education, both from UGA. She is currently pursuing a doctorate in the UGA College of Education.



### **Textiles, Merchandising and Interiors (TMI)**



**Linda Lyons** has been hired as a lecturer in the TMI department.

She received her M.F.A. in interior design from Florida State University as well as a bachelor's in interior design and environmental structures from the University of Alabama.

### **Dean's Unit Staff**

**Victoria Dorsey** (BSHE '85) has been hired as Director of Alumni and Corporate Engagement.

Dorsey has served as Director of Alumni Relations at her alma mater, St. Pius X Catholic School in Atlanta, since 2008.

Previously, she operated an international training and development consultancy, Dimensions



**Jennifer Eberhart** has been hired as an academic advisor to increase advising services and assist us in launching counseling about career options.

Eberhart has both a bachelor's in history and a master's in education from UGA. She has 21 years of experience as a master teacher in both public and private schools and has served as a faculty advisor for various grade levels and campus organizations.

Eberhart most recently served as a social studies teacher in the nearby Morgan County School System.





# FACS AMBASSADORS

For 36 years, FACS has selected a group of outstanding student leaders to represent the college at official functions.

The FACS Ambassadors grew out of Dean Emily Quinn Pou's Dean's Aide program during the 1979-80 school year. Six students were chosen that year.

Today, the group boasts 23 students representing all four departments. This year, under the direction of Andy Davis from the FACS Student Success and Advising Center, the group is piloting a mentorship program for freshmen and transfer students.

Each Ambassador will mentor four to five students to help in the transition process.

In addition to attending regular meetings and representing the college at various events, FACS

Ambassadors also attend the annual FACS Leadership retreat.

This year's retreat was held in late August at the Rock Eagle 4-H Camp near Eatonton and featured team-building scenarios and challenge courses intended to hone leadership and communications skills.

"The FACS leadership retreat has been a highlight of my Ambassador experience every year for the last three years," FACS senior Ivy Odom said. "I keep thinking I'm going to get tired of it, but each time I return I fall in love with the experience all over again. We spend a weekend getting to know other student leaders and faculty on a level that most students never get to see. If you get the chance to go, do it. It's an experience you won't easily forget."

For more information on the Ambassadors, including bios and photos, visit here: [www.fcs.uga.edu/ssac/ambassadors](http://www.fcs.uga.edu/ssac/ambassadors).





# TMI graduate student tailor-made for cataloging

## Charity Everett was not a typical little girl.

Sure, she had Barbie dolls, but you wouldn't find them dressed in any hot pink tops or glittery bodysuits.

"My Barbie dolls never wore modern clothes," she says, smiling. "They were always wearing ball gowns."

In high school, Everett got interested in Civil War reenacting and began sewing her own dresses, even opening up a modest side business making clothing for her friends.

Her interests always trended vintage.

"I started collecting vintage patterns before vintage patterns became a collectible," she says, laughing.

Today, Everett is a graduate student in the FACS textiles, merchandising and interiors department, and her latest project seems, well, tailor-made for her.

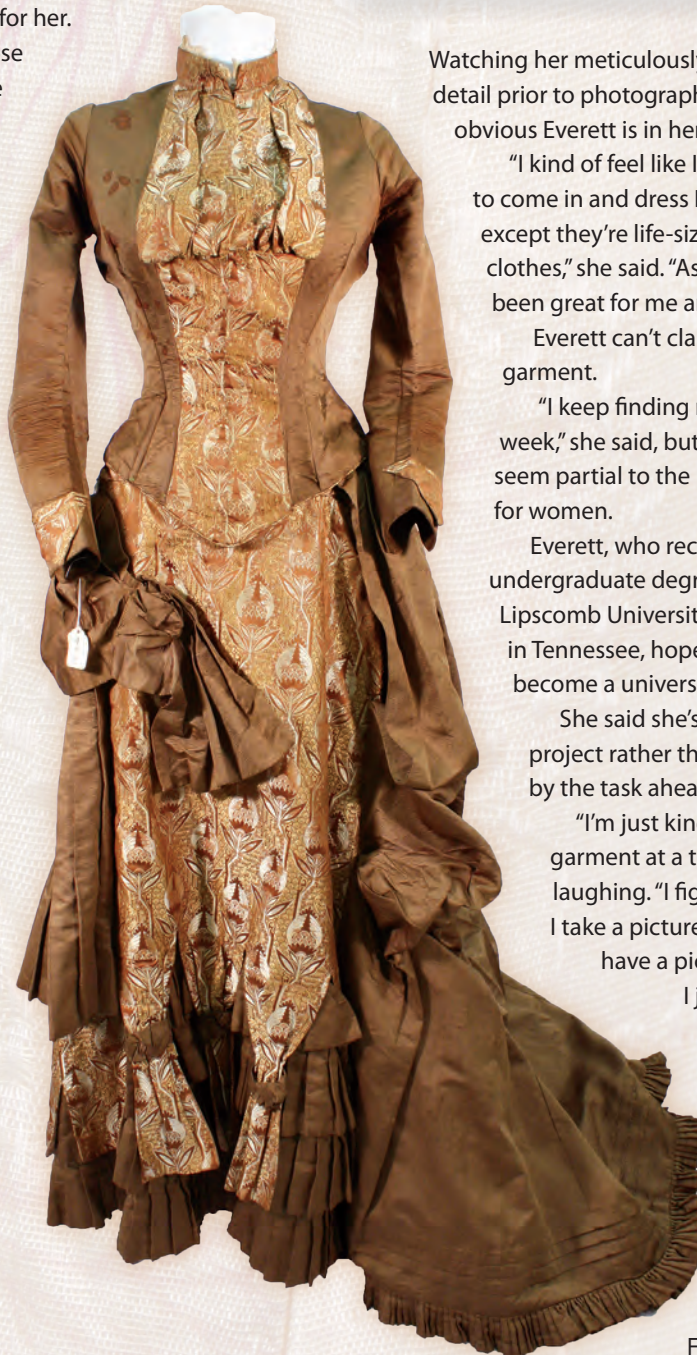
Everett is assisting TMI professor Jose Blanco as the two prepare to move the massive Historic Clothing and Textile Collection from Dawson Hall to the UGA Special Collections Library.

The collection features more than 3,000 garments dating back to the 1800s, many of them as intricate as they are delicate.

Everett is tasked with documenting and photographing the collection, a painstaking process for anyone, made even more tedious by Everett's perfectionist tendencies.

"The photography is not what takes the longest," she said. "It's actually getting (the garment) on the mannequin and getting it to look right, because you don't want to put a picture out there that gives an incorrect view of how it was worn. It takes some time to get them done."

Everett soon learned that a lot of garments from the 1800s did not fit modern mannequins – most were designed to fit over a corseted figure – so she fashioned her own mannequin with a 20 ½ inch waist based on one mimicking actress Winona Ryder's figure.



Watching her meticulously craft every little detail prior to photographing the dress, it's obvious Everett is in her element.

"I kind of feel like I'm an adult who gets to come in and dress Barbies every day, except they're life-sized Barbies with real clothes," she said. "As a dressmaker, it's been great for me and really educational."

Everett can't claim a favorite garment.

"I keep finding new favorites every week," she said, but noted she does seem partial to the 1950s-era garments for women.

Everett, who received her undergraduate degree from Nashville's Lipscomb University near her hometown in Tennessee, hopes to someday become a university professor herself.

She said she's trying to savor the project rather than be overwhelmed by the task ahead.

"I'm just kind of doing one garment at a time," she said, laughing. "I figure every garment I take a picture of is one we didn't have a picture of before, and I just want to try and make sure I do each of them right."

- Cal Powell



# Brody inducted into FACS Honor Hall of Recognition



**A**s a young grad student at the University of Arizona, Gene Brody was sent to the Papago Indian reservation west of Tucson on a research project funded by the Children's Television Workshop, makers of Sesame Street.

For three years, Brody, who grew up in a working class family in the shadow of Hollywood, studied these American Indian children, whose realities differed greatly from his own. The experience had a profound

impact on the young researcher.

"It made me appreciate how different children's environments really shape how they think and what they believe," Brody said. "And I carried all that, all those experiences working with all those children, with me to the University of Georgia."

Brody showed up at UGA in 1976, and the salesman's son who grew up washing dishes, waiting tables and working in drugstores in California learned quickly he had to be self-reliant if he wanted to pursue the type of research that interested him.

The story, now famous, goes like this: Brody needed a tape recorder to record parent-child interactions for his research. He approached his department head, Dr. Betty Sheerer, who loaned Brody a broken one from her collection.

"She needed the others for her class, so I said, 'OK, this means I have to go get some money to support my research,'" Brody recalled, smiling.

Since then, Brody has become one of the most prolific, grant-productive researchers in UGA history, having obtained more than \$81 million worth of grants to conduct high-impact research in the area of child and family development.

In 1994, Brody became director of the Center for Family Research, which receives more than \$30 million in external funding to conduct various programs such as the Strong African American Families program.

This program and others are now used in cities around the country.

"He used to say 'Think about where the field will be in 5-10 years and write that now,'" said Anita Brown, associate director of the CFR. "His grant proposals are always so forward thinking, just a step ahead of where everybody else is with behavioral science. He's so visionary."

The "visionary" tag is one that is most often applied to Brody.

"He is a man of ideas," said Dr. Jay Mancini, outgoing HDFS department head. "And not just ideas – he makes things happen, for sure. But he's excellent at conceptualizing what the key issues are related to children, youth and families and I think he's one of those guys who makes other people better, whether they're students or other faculty members."

Brody attributed much of this well-earned reputation as a forward thinker in the field to his passion for learning. He reads widely on the subject, both scientific and popular press items, and simply interacts with people "from different walks of life" to get a





## 2015 FACS Alumni Awards

To nominate someone for the 2015 awards, go to:

[www.fcs.uga.edu/alumni/nominate-facs-awards](http://www.fcs.uga.edu/alumni/nominate-facs-awards)

*Help us recognize the outstanding contributions by the graduates of our college!*

Nominations Due Oct. 1

better feel for where the science might be heading.

"From all of this, I get an intuition about the challenges people face and that helps me project where the science is going to be in five years and I try to propose it now," Brody said. "We have a basic philosophy that we want to lead the field. We pride ourselves on being innovators in human development and family science, and we want to move the field forward because if we can do that, it'll trickle down and benefit children and families."

Brody also has drawn praise for his gifts as a teacher. In 1983, he began teaching a class called Development Within the Family to 30 students. Twenty years later, he was teaching the same class three times a year to more than 300 students each session. Eventually, more than 10,000 UGA undergraduates took the course from Brody.

"I always felt like when I walked into a classroom, I owed these people the best I could give," Brody said.

While Brody's research and professional success is widely noted, equally regarded is his reputation as a kind, compassionate colleague, boss and mentor.

Olive Conyers, a recruitment and retention specialist at the CFR since 2003, called him "a great humanitarian and friend" who helped give her unique insights into her own experience as an African American parent.

"As the single mother of a teenage boy, I can't tell you the number of times he has stayed after work to listen to my struggles and triumphs," Conyers said. "He has helped me through some major issues in my son's life and has given me valuable advice on how I can be the best parent I can be. I value his presence in my life and will always be grateful for his help."

Brody now serves as co-director of the CFR, which has 25 full-time and 60 part-time employees.

Retirement is many years in the future. He is a husband, a father and grandfather, and still is energized by the thought of continued research.

He said he is incredibly humbled to be inducted into the FACS Honor Hall of Recognition.

"When Dean Fox told me, I was flabbergasted," he said, smiling. "I went around the table and gave her a big hug. There are several people on that wall (of recognition) that I have such great respect for and to think that I could be a part of that tradition means a lot to me."

*Along with Brody's induction, several FACS alumni were recognized for their career achievements. They are listed here:*

### **Dr. Anne Corinne Huggins, Pacesetter**

Award: The 2004 FACS graduate now serves as an assistant professor at the University of Florida. The Pacesetter Award recognizes a recent FACS graduate who actively promotes the beliefs and values of the college.



### **Dr. Mary Ann Johnson, Creswell Award:**

Named for the first dean of the college, the Creswell Award is given to a faculty member who has provided leadership in motivating and guiding students. Johnson has served as a faculty member in Foods and Nutrition since 1983.

**Olga Jimenez/American Cancer Society, FACS Appreciation Award:** Jimenez has been a major supporter of the FACS and American Cancer Society's programs to promote screenings for breast and cervical cancer.



**Camille Kesler, Outstanding Service Award:** Kesler, a 1994 FACS graduate, is heavily involved in volunteer efforts in Atlanta and has served as president of the Atlanta Junior League.

**Jody Rosen Atkins, Emily Quinn Pou Professional Achievement Award:** Atkins founded The Association Source, a company that provides executive management and administrative support to volunteer-driven organizations. She has twice been named to the Bulldog 100 list.



**Tommie Mullis, Distinguished Alumni Award:** Mullis, who received her degree from FACS in 1956, enjoyed a successful career as a UGA Extension agent and is still actively involved in service efforts in the Athens area.



# MILESTONES



Eight years after “Pou’s Pillars” were erected as the new entrance of Dawson Hall, **Connie Rash** began her job at the College of Family and Consumer Sciences.

For anyone who has walked under these pillars and through the front doors of Dawson in the last 25 years, there is no doubt Rash was there to greet them on the inside.

Rash has been the number one cheerleader for every FACS student during her time at the college, and after two-and-a-half decades of dedicated work, the beloved Director of Student Services retired July 31.

A lot comes with the title, but starting on August 13, 1990, Rash took the position and made it her own.

“I learned that a little patience, listening and understanding is the best way to help students discover a major that would one day lead to their career,” Rash

said. “My favorite part of the job was clearing students for graduation. Looking at their names brought back so many memories. While I knew they would be missed, I was always so excited to press ‘clear’ because I knew the degree they earned from the College of Family and Consumer Sciences would let them conquer the world.”

Rash has earned the title of Undergraduate Advisor of the Year three times and twice received the National Student Club Advisor Award from the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences.

She is widely recognized around the University of Georgia for her involvement in numerous committees and outreach efforts and has served as advisor for the Student Association of Family and Consumer Sciences at the college for the last 18 years.

Rash said this part of her job was such an honor because SAFCS is one of the oldest registered clubs on campus, and seeing students foster their professional development at the annual national conference was always exciting.

Upon retirement, Rash plans to continue her dedication to students by becoming a substitute teacher.

There are endless numbers of past students and faculty who could say many great things about Connie Rash, and it is impossible to include them all here.

If one thing is to be said about her time in Dawson, it would be this: Connie is and always will be loved and missed by everyone at the College of Family and Consumer Sciences.

Anytime she wants to come back for a visit, she need only walk under the pillars and through the front doors and we’ll be there to greet her on the inside.

- Ivy Odom, FACS Ambassador



**Dr. Anne Sweaney**, professor emerita, former FACS department head and interim dean, was honored with the Faculty Service Award at the UGA Alumni Awards luncheon in April.

Sweaney, who served as head of what

is now the financial planning, housing and consumer economics department, began her career at UGA in 1981.

She was named a full professor in 1995 and served a number of significant roles during her 31-year career.

Sweaney spearheaded the effort to create a family financial planning major and helped develop an instructional emphasis on residential property management. She also coordinated the college’s legislative aide program.

During her time as interim dean in 2010 and 2011, she is credited with reinvigorating the college’s obesity initiative and helped garner university-wide support for the cause. She also served as faculty representative on the athletic board for 17 years.

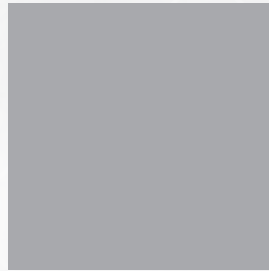
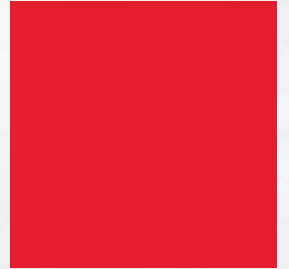
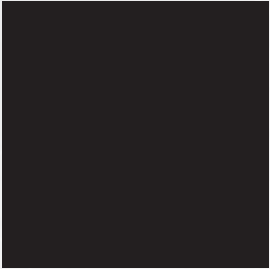
Among the many awards Sweaney has won during her career are the Josiah Meigs Award for Excellence in Teaching in 1999 and the FACS Teacher of the Year Award in 1994-95 and 2000-01.

Upon her retirement in 2012, FACS established the Sweaney Innovation Fund ([www.fcs.uga.edu/alumni/giving-back](http://www.fcs.uga.edu/alumni/giving-back)) to ensure that her commitment to creativity, diversity, leadership and service will inspire and benefit students for years to come.

“Students love her, colleagues adore her and college presidents have always relied on her for advice,” UGA president Jere Morehead said. “Anne is one of those individuals who embodies the true spirit of this institution. She has tremendous insight, she always thinks about the big picture and she has always been interested in advancing this institution forward.”

▼ FACS also bid farewell this year to retiring HDFS faculty members Charlotte Wallinga and David Wright, along with Laurie Cantrell, a senior public service associate and program development specialist with UGA Extension.





FACS

2013-2014 Annual Report



# Bill Flatt invaluable to FACS, UGA

By Cal Powell

Bill Flatt keeps several manila folders, all jammed full of letters and photos, within arm's reach of his desk on the second floor of Dawson Hall.

They are thank-you notes, some typed, some handwritten on colorful stationery, all addressed to "Dr. Flatt."

It's hard to imagine the ebullient Flatt, who answers every "How ya' doing?" with a robust "Better n' ever!" as anything but cheery, but if he ever did have a down moment, a glance through the folders will cure it.

Flatt's lifetime of philanthropy, including two endowed professorships within FACS along with numerous student scholarships, is chronicled inside the manila folders, cursive statements of gratitude for a man whose joy is giving to others.

"I get thank you letters every year from the students that get scholarships and they're always very touching," Flatt said. "They're impressive. I could name practically all of them."

Flatt joined the FACS department of foods and nutrition in 1994 after stepping down as dean of the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences. It marked the beginning of a relationship that would change both Flatt and the college forever.

"When I came here, I realized there were so few scholarships available to students," he said.

So Flatt set out to change it, establishing the Nesbitt-Flatt Scholarship Fund in honor of his late mother-in-law.

Not long after, Flatt said he realized



FACS had very few endowed professorships. So Flatt, who was the D.W. Brooks Distinguished Professor during his time at the College of Ag, set up the Bill and June Flatt Professorship in Foods and Nutrition in honor of his wife, who died in 2009.

When Flatt set about his well-known journey to lose weight, he enlisted the help of veteran FACS faculty members Rick Lewis, Barbara Grossman and former FDN department head Roy Martin.

Flatt's guest lectures about his weight loss, complete with unflattering images of himself contrasted with shots of him sweating on a leg press machine or working out to a Richard Simmons video, are legend among FACS undergrads.

Partly out of gratitude to his colleagues and partly out of his own desire to see a dent made in the obesity epidemic, Flatt endowed another professorship within FACS last year.

To date, Flatt's contributions have exceeded \$1 million – earning him membership in the 1785 Society at UGA – the first and only individual donor in the history of FACS to reach this milestone.

"Bill Flatt is someone deeply admired and beloved by our campus community," UGA President Jere W. Morehead said. "He

has been a vital part of the University of Georgia for more than 40 years, constantly giving of himself as a faculty member, administrator and philanthropist. He embodies commitment to UGA, and we are deeply grateful for all that he has done."

Flatt was raised by his paternal grandparents in Depression-era west Tennessee.

His grandfather lost the general store he owned following the Depression and turned to farming, and by the time he was a young boy, Flatt earned his keep as a



► Bill Flatt shares a laugh with Jimmy Carter; Flatt and new bride Marihope Troutman, herself a FACS grad, at an event behind Dawson Hall in honor of their June wedding; Flatt gets some work in on the leg press machine



▲ FACS dean Linda Kirk Fox, UGA president Jere Morehead, Marihope Troutman and Bill Flatt enjoyed a dinner at the president's house in honor of Flatt's generous contributions to UGA

sharecropper on his uncle's land.

It was there, picking cotton and strawberries and plowing a mule in the Tennessee heat, that Flatt learned about time and money management: pick more cotton, make more money.

"It gave me an appreciation for the value of money, right from the very beginning," he said.

Even then, Flatt was taught to set aside money for others, a lesson passed down by his grandmother, Cattie Flatt.

"She stressed from the very beginning that the first 10 percent is not yours. You have to tithe," Flatt said. "The first 10 percent, you give it to Sunday school. The other you can keep and save it for college, because there would not be any money from the family. The money just wasn't there."

Flatt would go on to become valedictorian of his high school, thus earning a \$50 scholarship to Bethel College. Even then, he recognized the sacrifice others had made for his benefit, thus inspiring him to give to others.

"I found it very easy to do," Flatt said of setting aside money not just for his future, but for anonymous others who might need it. "I realized how important it was to save for the future, to save for that rainy day that I kept being told about the

whole time I was growing up."

Today, Flatt is just as enthusiastic about his job – and life in general – as he was when he was a young scientist running the UGA Experiment Station more than 40 years ago.

He talks fluently and excitedly about the work of the UGA Obesity Initiative and of helping address "food deserts" and the success of the Expanded Foods and Nutrition Education Program.

"I think it's within our reach to solve a lot of these problems," he said, "but just solving the problem is not enough. You've got to get that information to the people who are going to use it."

As state and federal funds for research continue to decline, Flatt said now it's even more critical to support college programs with private dollars.

And that's what most motivates Flatt and why, even at age 83, he's still known as one of FACS' greatest cheerleaders.

"It is difficult to put into words the impact Bill Flatt has had on FACS," dean Linda Kirk Fox said. "He is a tireless advocate for FACS faculty, students and staff, and serves as an inspiration to all who encounter him. We are fortunate to have him as a member of the FACS family and are so grateful for his countless contributions to our college."

*Bill Flatt has seven endowed funds within the College of Family and Consumer Sciences, including two professorships. This year alone, those endowments will provide more than \$40,000 to students, faculty and staff.*

The funds are listed here:

**Bill and June Flatt Professorship in Foods and Nutrition (Dr. Mary Ann Johnson)**

**William P. Flatt Professorship (Dr. Leann Birch)**

**Bill and June Flatt Student Achievement Fund**

**Bill and June Flatt Outstanding Faculty Research Award**

**Bill and June Flatt Nutrition Excellence Graduate Scholarship**

**Melynda Flatt Dietetics Scholarship**

**Gladys F. Nesbitt/Flatt Education Fund**



# HONOR ROLL

We proudly present to you the College of Family and Consumer Sciences Honor Roll of Donors. Here we honor donations of \$1,000 and up made between July 1, 2013 and June 30, 2014. All donations of \$50 and above during the same period are honored on the FACS website at [fcs.uga.edu/alumni/donor-recognition](http://fcs.uga.edu/alumni/donor-recognition). Gifts of all sizes are important to us and we remain dedicated to using them wisely as we invest in our students, faculty and alumni. If you prefer anonymity or an alternative name format in future publications, we welcome your requests.

*Thank you!*



## 1785 Society

*The 1785 Society, recognizing cumulative gifts of \$1 million and above, is named for the year that the University of Georgia was chartered by the Georgia General Assembly, pays homage to our impressive history and tradition of achievement as the first state-chartered university in the nation.*

The Coca-Cola Foundation  
Dr. William P. Flatt

## \$10,000 and Up

### *President's Club Benefactors*

Martha N. Allman  
Gene R. Atkins  
Mrs. Angela Bentley and Mr. Mason Bentley  
Zena (Costa) Brown  
Financial Planning Association  
Georgia Power Company  
Georgia Soft Goods Education Foundation  
Georgia United Credit Union  
Gregory F. and Jennifer F. Holcomb  
Dr. Sharon Y. and Rev. Samuel Nickols  
Jamie (Godfrey) and Warren D. Stribling IV

## \$5,000 to \$9,999

### *President's Club Fellows*

Clif Bar Family Foundation  
Drs. Carolyn D. and C. Reese Berdanier  
Mrs. Jessica D. Betzel and Mr. Robert C. Betzel  
William Brian Betzel and Hannah Lowe-Betzel  
Dean Linda Kirk Fox and Wayne A. Fox  
Jean (Morton) and George F. Head  
Louise (James) and Johnny E. Hyers  
Dr. Jay A. and Deborah C. Mancini  
Donald T. McNeill, Jr.  
National Society of Daughters of Colonial Wars  
Mr. Matthew A. Nickols and Ms. Julie M. Nickols  
Doreen (Stiles) and Alec L. Poitevint  
Lee and Sandy Sanford  
Mrs. Tommie E. Shattuck and Dr. Gary L. Shattuck  
Gerald T. Willis  
Kitty (Trussell) and H. Grady Wilson Jr.



## \$2,500 and Up

### FACS Dean's Circle

*The Dean's Circle recognizes those who have made a minimum \$2,500 investment in the College of Family and Consumer Sciences between July 1, 2013 and June 30, 2014. Dean's Circle society members enjoy special recognition for their level of support, including invitations to college events and special communications from Dean Linda Kirk Fox.*

*To our Dean's Circle members – Thank you!*

Dr. Renita (Jones) and Rob D. Anderson  
Drs. Lynn B. Bailey and Gary E. Rodrick  
Georgia Apartment Industry Education Foundation  
Drs. Silvia Q. and Luis J. Giraudo  
Dr. Joseph W. Goetz and Lindsay Elwood  
Cheryl (Miller) and James C. Guynn  
Robert Paul Hein  
Dr. Laura D. and David Jolly  
Dr. Jane Marie Lamb  
Dr. Betty Lane  
Dr. Deborah and L. D. Murray  
Betty (Sewell) Ragland  
David Alan Reynolds  
Lynda (Coward) Talmadge  
Mr. Jeffery S. Tucker and Mrs. Catherine Tucker  
Dr. Charles Q. Yang

## \$1,000 to \$2,499

### President's Club Associates

Dr. Donald W. and Julie W. Bower  
Katrina (Little) Bowers  
Dr. Carla Abshire and Michael W. Giles  
Dr. Carolyn (Kiebler) Balkwell  
Ms. Carol Barnhart  
Wanda (Taylor) and Earl D. Barrs  
Jean (Griffeth) Bauerband  
Mrs. Ramona L. Betzel and Mr. Robert D. Betzel  
Franklin D. Cancel



Michael J. Costa  
Dr. Richard L. Cotton and Mrs. Rose Cotton  
Dr. Joan (Guilford) Fischer  
GenSpring Family Offices  
Georgia Real Estate Fraud Prevention & Awareness Coalition  
Dr. Paul J. Giles Jr. and Mrs. Elaine Giles  
Jayne (Causey) and Michael H. Godwin  
Dr. Wanda J. Grogan  
Anne (Montgomery) Haltiwanger  
Dr. Jan (Montgomery) and Jim Hathcote  
Dr. Ian Hardin and Carol C. McKay  
Homrich Berg, Inc.  
Dr. Patricia Hunt-Hurst and Thomas E. Hurst  
James P. and Stella W. King  
Dr. Josephine Martin  
Dr. Michael J. Martin  
Janet R. and J. Frank McGill  
Mr. Michael Meredith and Mrs. Kimberly Meredith  
Wilma L. Minix  
The Honorable Kathy (Stephens) Palmer  
Dr. Lance Palmer and Leann T. Palmer  
Vivion (Young) and Dwight W. Palmer  
Mr. Thomas H. Paris III and Mrs. Sandra H. Paris  
Dr. Deborah S. Lee and John W. Peifer  
Bonnie (Stephens) and Clark E. Petersen  
John T. and Wanda Robertson  
Mr. Cloviece T. Sanders III and Ms. Whitney N. Sanders  
Dr. Harry H. Schomberg  
Elizabeth (Maddox) Schuler  
United Capital  
Dr. Sheri L. Worthy

# FACS Facts

## FACS has...

# 98

Endowed Funds  
valued at  
\$10 million  
(as of July 30, 2014)

Endowed funds are for the following purposes:



12 international study awards

13 professorships



6 research support funds

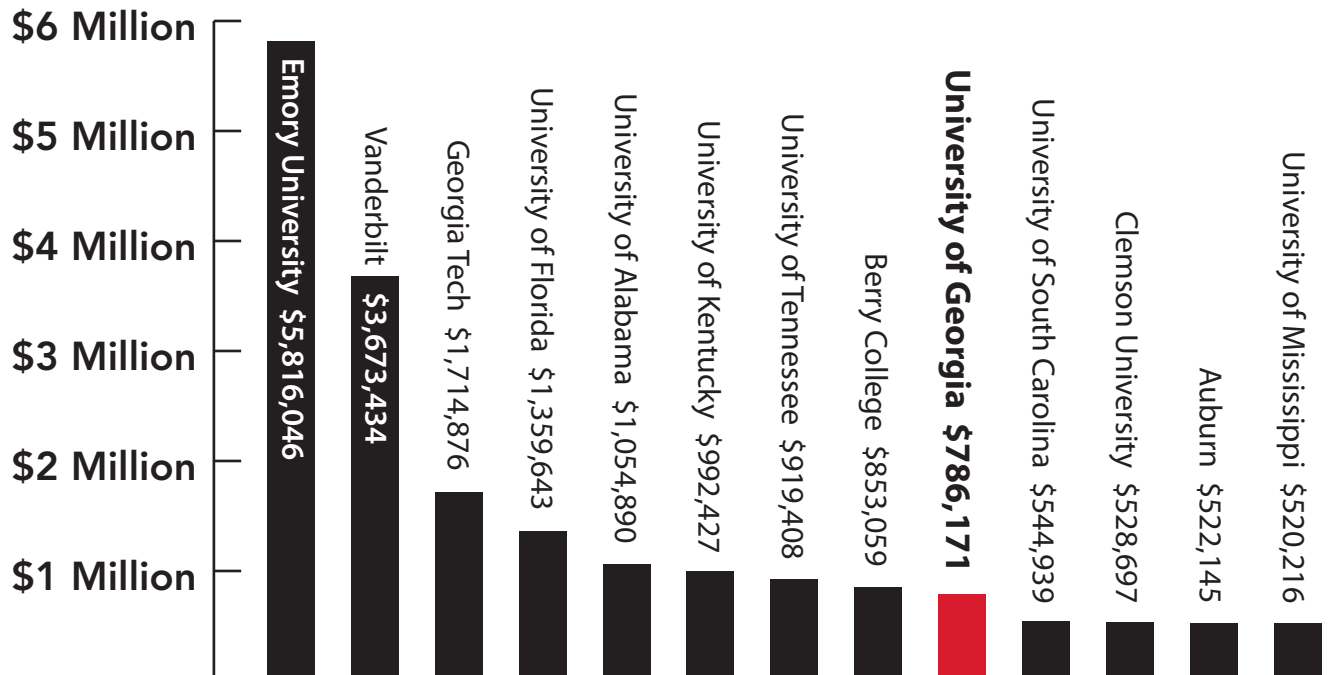
40 scholarships



28 academic support funds

## Where do we stand?

UGA Foundation's Endowment compared to others (National Association of College and University Business Officers and Commonfund Institute, 2013 Report)





## FACS five-year giving history



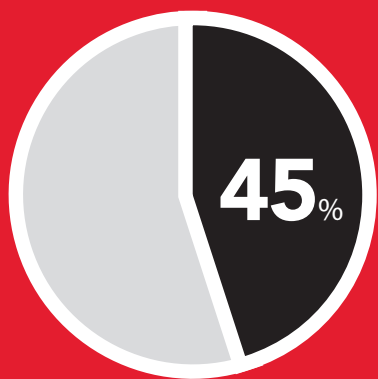
## FACS Scholarship and Award breakdown for 2014-2015

**72** Scholarships given to **68** recipients totaling **\$109,950**

**12** International study awards to **22** students totaling **\$19,900**

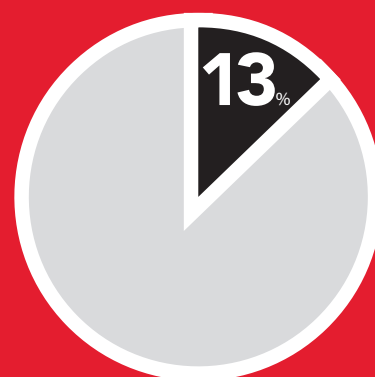
## Did you know?

➤ Approximately 45 percent of UGA students graduate with \$16,000 in student loan debt



➤ Most incoming freshmen receiving scholarships will receive only \$1,000-\$2,000, representing less than 10 percent of the cost of attending UGA

➤ Estimated cost of attendance for an average undergraduate students for fiscal year 2014-15 is \$23,062

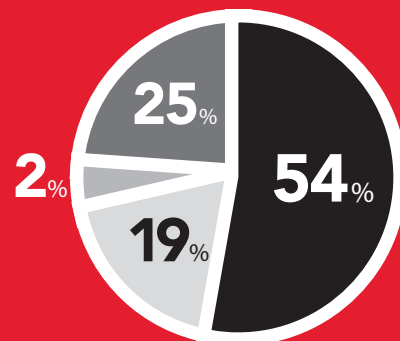
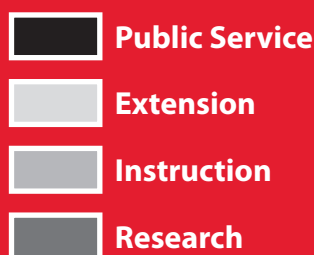


➤ Only about 13 percent of the new first-year students enrolling receive an academic scholarship from UGA

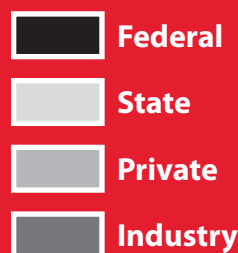
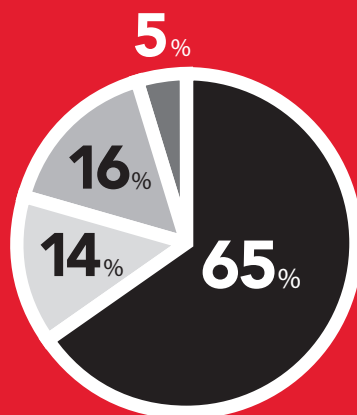
# Extramural Funding in Support of FACS

Through extramural funding, FACS has enhanced communities' efforts to support military and African-American families, educated Georgians about driver and passenger safety, provided Americans with research-based recommendations for home food preservation, assisted low-income families in preparing their income tax returns and saving for the future, protected Georgians from environmental toxins such as radon, supported individuals with developmental disabilities, trained those responsible for the nutrition and care of Georgia's children and older adults, and supported the service-learning and global experiences of our students.

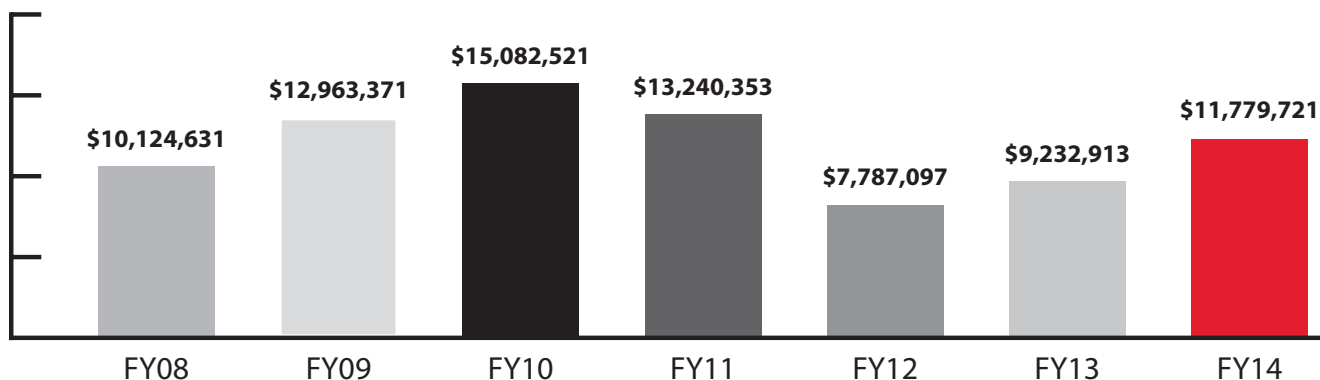
## FY14 Sponsored Projects by Project Type



## FY14 Sponsored Projects by Sponsor Type



## Total Awards (Academic Credit)





## Extramural Supporters

Our thanks go out to the following organizations that provided funds in 2013 to support our research, public service, outreach, instruction, faculty, staff and students.

AgGeorgia Farm Credit  
AgSouth Farm Credit, ACA  
Alltech Biotechnology Center  
American Cancer Society  
Ashley's Interiors  
Athens Paint and Body, Inc.  
Chiang Ching-Kuo Foundation  
AT&T Foundation  
Aztec Imports & Manufacturing, Inc.  
Elizabeth & Avola W. Callaway Foundation, Inc.  
Chastain & Associates Insurance  
Classic Groundcovers, Inc.  
Clemson University  
Clif Bar Family Foundation  
The Coca-Cola Foundation  
The Coweta Community Foundation, Inc.  
Family Connection Partnership, Inc.  
Fannie Mae Foundation  
Financial Planning Association  
First United Methodist Church  
Flirt Fashion, LLC  
Florida State University  
General Electric Foundation  
General Motors Holdings, LLC  
GenSpring Family Offices  
Georgia Agribusiness Council Foundation  
Georgia Apartment Industry Education Foundation  
Georgia Department of Agriculture  
Georgia Department of Community Affairs  
Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning  
Georgia Department of Education  
Georgia Department of Human Resources  
Georgia Department of Human Services  
Georgia Development Authority  
Georgia Electric Membership Corporation  
Georgia Farm Bureau  
Georgia Fruit & Vegetable Growers Association  
Georgia Poultry Federation  
Georgia Power Company  
Georgia Real Estate Fraud Prevention & Awareness Coalition  
Georgia Soft Goods Education Foundation  
Georgia United Credit Union  
Governor's Office of Children and Families  
Governor's Office of Highway Safety  
Hardeman-Hobson Waste Services, LLC  
Heather McElroy Real Estate, LLC  
Herndon Properties, LLC  
Homrich Berg, Inc.  
IBM Corporation  
ICF Consulting Group, Inc.  
Jackson EMC  
JC Nash Truck Parts Inc.

KingsMark Private Financial Advisors  
Los Pollito's Inc.  
Mack McClung Insurance, Inc.  
Minnesota Homeownership Center  
National Science Foundation  
National Society of Daughters of Colonial Wars  
Northeast Georgia Area Agency on Aging  
Pennsylvania State University  
Pfizer, Inc.  
Powell Home Builders, Inc.  
Proctor and Gamble Company  
Prudential Financial  
Quadrillion, LLC  
Ronald Blue & Co., LLC  
Shuman Produce  
Sobro, LLC  
Southeastern Turf Grass Supply, Inc.  
Southern Company Services, Inc.  
State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company  
Sunbelt Agricultural Exposition, Inc.  
United Capital  
University of Maryland - College Park  
University of Nebraska - Lincoln  
University of Missouri  
U.S. Department of Agriculture  
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
Virginia Polytechnic Institute  
Walton EMC  
Watson-Hunt Funeral Home, Inc.  
Wells Fargo & Company  
William B. Mulherin Foundation for Health and Wellness  
The Worthing Companies



▲ The Chilly Dawg 5K in January raised more than \$6,500 for student scholarships and alumni programming

# FACS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD



## What do you think of when you hear *Homecoming*?

As autumn approaches, the idea of Homecoming is a thread that ties everyone together.

Whether denoting a football game or class reunion, Homecoming traditionally serves as a reminder of a special time in one's past. For me, the idea of

Homecoming in Athens always includes an element of Family and Consumer Sciences.

I'm sure every alum of the College can appreciate coming back to campus and feeling the excitement of once more walking through the halls of Dawson, bumping into an old professor, or perhaps re-living memories of taking classes.

The FACS Alumni Association encourages you to think about every activity you are invited to as an opportunity to experience "coming home."

The upcoming year will prove to offer a wide variety of events that every alum is invited to and encouraged to attend!

This year's South Campus Tailgate will take place on September 20 at Legion Field. Please stop by for some great entertainment prior to kickoff!

In October, The Donor-Scholar Reception is a wonderful opportunity to see our students highlighted for scholarship and mingle with fellow supporters of the College.

Then, for those who are brave enough to face the cold, come out in January for the Chilly Dawg 5K race!

This year's board members also represent an impressive array of education and careers, and they are a wonderful starting point for your professional networking.

With small business owners, university professionals, extension agents, teachers, interior

designers, and much more, there is no shortage for rich conversation. We are proud to have such an impressive FACS Alumni Board, and you are encouraged to make a connection with its members.

Lastly, what better way to re-connect to one's school days than by submitting an update for Class Notes? This perennial favorite of the FACS Magazine is a highlight of every issue. Take a moment to let us know what you're up to.

As someone who recalls entering UGA as an out-of-state freshman, the College of Family and Consumer Sciences was a major contributor to helping make Georgia become my home.

I'm sure many of you reading this now can share in that sentiment.

This year, we hope your participation with the FACS Alumni Association will help foster that same sense of homecoming.

— Theresa Glasheen,  
FACS Alumni Board president

## Executive Committee

**Theresa Glasheen, President:** Program Coordinator, National SafeCare Training & Research Center, Georgia State University School of Public Health. *BSFCS Family & Consumer Sciences, 2006; M.S. Child & Family Development, 2008*

**Mitch Hardeman, Past President:** President, Hardeman Hobson Waste Services, LLC. *BSFCS Housing, 1993*

**Lauren Coheley, President-Elect:** Clinical Dietitian, Emory Healthcare, NutriFit LLC. *BSFCS Dietetics, 2012*

**Jason Payne, Vice President Development:** Financial Advisor, Wells Fargo Advisors. *BSFCS Consumer Economics, 2001*

## Board Members

**Alison Clune Berg:** Ph.D. Candidate, Foods & Nutrition. *BSFCS Dietetics, 2007; M.S. Foods and Nutrition, 2009*

**Camille Blair:** Family & Consumer Sciences Teacher, Commerce High School. *BSFCS Family & Consumer Sciences, 2012*

**Megan Bodie:** Clinical Dietitian, WellStar Health System. *BSFCS Dietetics, 2010; M.S. Foods and Nutrition, 2012*

**Tracey Brigman:** Clinical Assistant Professor, Registered Dietitian, University of Georgia. *M.S. Foods & Nutrition, 1992*

**Don Bower, Ph.D.:** Professor Emeritus and Extension Human Development Specialist, University of Georgia; *Ph.D. Public Administration, 1989*

**Erika Escoe:** Creator and Co-Owner, Dixie Peaches Couture. *BSFCS Consumer Journalism, 2000*

**Lori Fields:** Development Data Manager, University of Georgia. *BSFCS Child & Family Development, 2010*

**Holly Hill Floyd:** Designer, Inspirations Kitchen & Bath Design Studio. *BSFCS Furnishings & Interiors, 2009*

**Tom Greene:** Executive Vice President, Alliant Employee Benefits. *BSFCS Hotel & Restaurant Management, 1991*

**Patti Hunt-Hurst:** Department Head, Professor, Textiles, Merchandising and Interiors, University of Georgia. *BSHE Home Economics Education, 1977; M.S. Clothing Textiles Interiors & Furnishings, 1983*

**Joan Koonce, PhD:** Professor and Extension Financial Planning Specialist, University of Georgia

**Josie Kwon:** Ph.D. Candidate, Human Development & Family Science. *M.S. Human Development & Family Science, 2012*

**Michele Melton:** Forsyth County FACS Extension Agent, UGA Cooperative Extension. *BSFCS Child & Family Development, 2005*

**Kelly T. Preston:** President, Preston Farm and Garden. *BSFCS Housing, 2008*

**Savannah Smith Dunson:** Interior Design/Project Manager, Blondheim & Mixon Architects. *BSFCS Furnishings and Interiors, 2011*

**Danny Stevens:** Program Coordinator, Family Dependency Treatment Court, Athens-Clarke County Juvenile Court, Instructor, University of Georgia. *M.S. Child & Family Development, 1995*

**Kristi-Warren Scott:** Ph.D. Candidate, Financial Planning, Housing and Consumer Economics

## 2014-15 FACS Alumni Association Board





# CLASS NOTES

## ALUMNI

### 1950s

**Nancy Evelyn Smith Jones** (BSHE '59 Home Economics) is the county extension director emerita, Clemson University.

### 1970s

**Ann Stowe Wilburn** (BSHE '71 Home Economics, MED '77) is retired from her job as Family and Consumer Science teacher at Barrow County schools and is now Nana to her grandchildren.

### 1980s

**Katherine Gregorcyk** (BSHE '80 Interior Design) is president at KHG, Inc.

**Janice Coleman** (BSHE '85 Fashion Merchandising) is the Customer Business Development Manager of Mars Caribbean & Central America.

**Victoria Dorsey** (BSHE '85, Fashion Merchandising) is the Director of Alumni and Corporate Engagement for the University of Georgia College of Family and Consumer Sciences.

### 1990s

**Donna Harpe Powers** (BSHE '72 Home Ec. Ed, MS '73 Home Economics, EDS '93 Education Specialist in Education) is a retired high school principal.

**Marianne Gouge** (BSFCS '94 Consumer Journalism) is the captioned media production coordinator for the University of Georgia Disability Resource Center.

**Todd Looper** (BSFCS '94 Consumer Economics) is the regional business development manager at QUESTAR.

**Matthew Robinson** (BSFCS '92 Nutrition Science, MS '95 Foods and Nutrition) is the author of "Knickerbocker Glory - A Chef's Guide to Innovation in the Kitchen and Beyond," The Culinary Exchange, LLC.

**Wendy Jones** (BSFCS '96 Consumer Journalism) is the executive assistant for the vice-president for public affairs at the University of Georgia.

**Rebecca Nichols** (BSFCS '97 Child and Family Development) is the children's ministry assistant at First Baptist Church of Spartanburg.

**Amanda Story** (BSFCS '97 Child and Family Development) is a teacher in the Walton County school system.

**Sheryl Parks** (BSFCS '96 Consumer Foods, MS '99 Food Science) is a Family and Consumer Science teacher for the Dodge County school system.

**Nancye Mohney Peel** (BSFCS '99 Fashion Merchandising) is a Family and Consumer Sciences teacher for Richmond County schools.

### 2000s

**Ryan Posner** (BSFCS '00 Child and Family Development) is an ERP technology consultant with McGladrey.

**Brooke Henley** (BSFCS '02 Dietetics) is a registered dietitian for Central Georgia Rehabilitation Hospital.

**Helen Harris Hawver** (BSFCS '03 FACS Ed) is a Newton County teacher.

**Kendra Nau** (BSFCS '03 Furnishing and Interiors) is a showroom manager for Moattar, Ltd.

**Stephanie Brock Nunnery** (BSFCS '03 FACS Dietetics) is a registered dietitian and nutritional services director for Memorial Hospital & Manor.

**Jessica Tripp** (BSFCS '04 Consumer Economics) is a business systems analyst for Post Properties.

**Adam Kemmerick** (BSFCS '05 Consumer Journalism) is the lead attorney for Lister & Holt, LLC.

**Sarah Vondenkamp** (BSFCS '05 Dietetics/Consumer Foods) is the nutrition manager for Clarke County schools and coach with Ocone Gymnastics.

**Jennifer Conley** (BSFCS '01 Child and Family Development, MS '07 Child and Family Development) is the owner and founder of Handmade by Gigi, Custom Bow Ties and Accessories.

**Burl Johnson** (BSFCS '07 Consumer Economics) is the software product owner for GE Transportation.

**Stephanie Sweat** (BSFCS '07 Fashion Merchandising) is an executive team manager for Target Corporation.

**Joshua Zaffos** (BSFCS '07 Nutrition Science) is an ophthalmologist for Sinai Hospital of Baltimore/Krieger Eye Institute.

**Elizabeth Asher** (BSFCS '09 Fashion Merchandising) is a buyer for K&G Superstore.

**Lori Maggioni** (BSFCS '09 Nutrition Science and Dietetics) is a registered dietitian for the United States Army.

### 2010s

**Justin Foster** (BSFCS '10 Consumer Journalism) is a platforms solutions consultant in Digital Marketing for Google.

**Daniel London** (BSFCS '10 Housing and Consumer Economics) is a portfolio maintenance director for Avalon Bay Communities, Inc.

**Rasaan Qyzard** (BSFCS '10 Fashion Merchandising) is a fashion marketing editor for Natasha Royt.

**Alison Tucker** (BSFCS '10 Fashion Merchandising) is a visual merchandiser for Brighton Collectibles.

**Britni Alexander** (BSFCS '11 Child and Family Development) is an intern at Studiocom.

**Holly Allen** (BSFCS '12 FACS Education) is a literacy teacher at Clarke Middle School.

**Mary Parker Davis** (BSFCS '12 Dietetics and Consumer Foods) is a student at Georgia State University Coordinated Program.

**Kelsey Queen** (BSFCS '10 Housing, BSFCS '12 Housing and Consumer Economics) is a real estate services coordinator with CBRE commercial real estate brokerage.

**Melissa Wilmarth** (MS '08 Consumer Economics, Ph.D. '12 Consumer Economics Assistant) is a professor of consumer sciences for the University of Alabama.

**Shayla Appleby** (BSFCS '13 Human Development and Family Sciences) is a police officer with the University of Georgia Police Department.

**Genna Cullens** (BSFCS '13 Human Development and Family Science) is a children's activities hostess for The Walt Disney Company at Walt Disney World.

**Lori Curles** (BSFCS '13 FACS Education) is a Family and Consumer Science teacher with Glynn County schools.

**Sara Lawrence** (BSFCS '13 Human Development and Family Science) is a wish coordinator with Make-A-Wish Georgia.

**Isham Whittington** (BSFCS '13 Housing) is a leasing agent with Fairfield Residential.

# IN MEMORIAM

## 1930s

**Zena E. Brown**  
BSHE '38  
December 11, 2013

**Elizabeth Coleman**  
BSHE '39  
June 20, 2014

**Vivian T. Edwards**  
BSHE '39  
March 7, 2014

**Margaret Latzak**  
BSHE '39  
April 18, 2014

**Kathryn E. Lovett**  
BSHE '37  
June 8, 2014

**M.E. Powell**  
BSHE '36  
September 24, 2013

**Clarice Turk**  
BSHE '37  
November 10, 2013

## 1940s

**Martha N. Allman**  
BSHE '45  
December 7, 2013

**Dorothy Carlan**  
BSHE '44  
August 22, 2013

**Mary G. Cobb**  
BSHE '42  
April 14, 2014

**Francis M. Davis**  
BSHE '42  
July 25, 2013

**Dorothy F. Duncan**  
BSHE '44  
November 17, 2013

**Jean L. Flemister**  
BSHE '42  
June 4, 2014

**Rosalyn Hawkins**  
BSHE '46  
August 10, 2013

**Sylbra E. Joiner**  
BSHE '47  
July 11, 2013

**Manta M. Lester**  
BSHE '40  
December 13, 2013

**Mary C. Lines**  
BSHE '45  
February 24, 2014

**Nell R. Loughridge**  
BSHE '46  
December 18, 2013

**Helen F. Means**  
BSHE '49  
March 31, 2014

**Mildred Merritt**  
BSHE '44  
January 6, 2014

**LaVerne B. Newsom**  
BSHE '41  
November 1, 2013

**Juanita Pierce**  
BSHE '46  
February 18, 2014

**Ann C. Pregnall**  
BSHE '41  
June 7, 2014

**Harriet S. Richardson**  
BSHE '48  
May 29, 2014

**Dorothy Savedge**  
BSHE '43  
January 15, 2014

**Claudia J. Sikes**  
BSHE '44  
January 2, 2014

**Ida E. Surrency**  
BSHE '45  
October 4, 2013

**Betty A. Tebo**  
BSHE '48  
August 8, 2013

**Martha G. Warren**  
BSHE '46  
June 13, 2014

**Ruth H. White**  
BSHE '47  
November 27, 2013

**Wilma E. Williams**  
BSHE '42  
May 28, 2014

**Dorothy L. Wilson**  
BSHE '49  
November 17, 2013

**Rose F. Wischkaemper**  
BSHE '44  
October 13, 2013

## 1950s

**Sara A. Barnes**  
BSHE '50  
October 15, 2013

**Sarah N. Barnes**  
BSHE '50  
April 21, 2014

**Mary R. Benton**  
BSHE '53  
September 11, 2013

**Lillian I. Cantrell**  
MHE '56  
August 5, 2013

**Julia E. Carson**  
BSHE '55  
July 26, 2013

**Gloria E. Cobb**  
BSHE '52  
January 21, 2014

**Shirley A. Dillon**  
BSHE '55  
September 28, 2013

**Mirtie F. Dockery**  
BSHE '51  
March 26, 2014

**Judith W. Hardy**  
BSHE '50  
March 17, 2014

**Florence Hill**  
BSHE '51  
July 7, 2013

**Nora A. Langford**  
BSHE '59  
August 12, 2013

**Martha Payne**  
BSHE '50  
December 7, 2013

**Catherine M. Pember**  
BSHE '52  
September 26, 2013

**Janie Taylor**  
BSHE '52  
June 14, 2014

**Carolyn J. Van Winkle**  
BSHE '52  
October 18, 2013

## 1960s

**Brenda L. Cloud**  
BSHE '68  
December 2, 2013

**Barbara J. Cogburn**  
BSHE '60  
May 21, 2014

**Lillie I. DuBose**  
MHE '65  
April 8, 2014

**Dorothy Ham**  
BSHE '62  
October 25, 2013

**Erma E. Morse**  
**BSHE '61**  
February 14, 2014

**Barbara L. Neel**  
BSHE '61  
June 14, 2014

**Doris M. Oglesby**  
MSHE '63  
February 9, 2014

**Hilda J. Phillips**  
BSHE '63  
March 14, 2014

## 1970s

**Cynthia Daugherty**  
MS '73  
March 1, 2014

**Dorothy M. Edwards**  
MHE '73  
February 7, 2014

**Christine Falco**  
MHE '77  
November 26, 2013

**Donita Hawkins**  
MS '78  
June 13, 2014

## 1980s

**Susan P. Nessmith**  
BSHE '83  
November 9, 2013

## 1990s

**Stacey T. Wheeler**  
BSFCS '94  
June 9, 2014

**Sheila L. Wilder**  
MS '90  
June 12, 2014

**Jonathan D. Wilson**  
BSFCS '96  
February 11, 2014

## 2000s

**Leanne M. Bearden**  
BSFCS '03  
January 17, 2014



*“With Cliff, tomorrow always was too late and yesterday would have been better. Idle time was not in his register. He had an incredible talent for always staying focused on the big picture.”*

*Diane Hartzell*



## FACS Mourns Professor Cliff Baile

### **Cliff Baile never tired of telling the story of how he grew up on a farm in Missouri and ended up at Harvard.**

His niece joked that he lived life at a rate 1.5 times faster than everybody else, rising at 5 a.m. seven days a week, answering emails, arranging meetings and always, always planning and plotting.

A colleague recalled the uneasy sight of Baile driving down the highway after yet another conference, checking the stock market on his cell phone, having a conversation via an earpiece, giving orders to a passenger and driving with his knees – all at the same time.

That was Cliff Baile: relentless, hard-charging and determined.

Baile, considered one of the most influential scientists at the University of Georgia and head of the UGA Obesity Initiative, died May 19 following a cerebral aneurysm.

He was 74.

“With Cliff, tomorrow always was too late and yesterday would have been better,” said Diane Hartzell, a researcher who worked alongside Baile for the last 34 years. “Idle time was not in his register. He had an incredible talent for always staying focused on the big picture.”

Baile, the D.W. Brooks Distinguished Professor and GRA Eminent Scholar in Biotechnology at UGA who was housed in both the FACS department of food and nutrition along with the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, had a long and distinguished career in both academia and industry.

Baile began his professional career in 1964 as a National Institutes of Health Research Fellow at the Harvard University School of

Public Health’s department of nutrition.

Later, he became director of research and development for Monsanto’s animal sciences division. He arrived at UGA in 1995.

As head of the campus-wide Obesity Initiative, Baile led more than 130 UGA faculty members in 14 collaborative teams focused on everything from basic research to obesity, genetics, prevention and treatment.

“In a few short years, Cliff Baile’s vision for the UGA Obesity Initiative has become a reality,” said FDN department head Lynn Bailey. “He recently confided in me that he was having the time of his life and was so very proud of all of the accomplishments that were linked to the Obesity Initiative. Our mission now at UGA is to honor the legacy of Cliff Baile by working collectively to ensure that we maintain the momentum to accomplish the goals of the Obesity Initiative.”

Baile is survived by his wife, Beth, children Christopher and Mari-sa, and five grandchildren.

“One lesson he taught us is to always take the time to get to know people on a personal level,” Hartzell said. “It was only because he valued people so much that he was able to create something that many people who had tried before could not.”

The family requests that any donations in memory of Dr. Clifton A. Baile be directed to the *University of Georgia Foundation to benefit the Obesity Initiative* and mailed to the University of Georgia Foundation, 394 S. Milledge Avenue, Athens, GA 30602-5582.

- Cal Powell



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