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**FLOYD COLLEGE PROPOSAL  
FOR A PERMANENT SITE IN BARTOW COUNTY**

November 5, 1997

**Introduction**

Floyd College proposes that the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia authorize the development of a permanent campus of Floyd College in Bartow County. Such a campus would serve to consolidate two leased facilities which the College now operates in the county. One is located in downtown Cartersville and the other at North Metro Technical Institute in Acworth. Each of these sites has grown to capacity enrollment; they are not able now to serve the needs of students they attract because of space constraints, and are clearly not projected to be able to serve the needs of the growing area. The College Master Planners, contracted by the Chancellor's staff, have reviewed the need for the facility and have recommended its development.

The College has been offering educational programming in Bartow County for ten years and currently has full-time faculty and staff assigned to these campuses. In addition to programs of Floyd College, the campus is projected to provide space for other University System partners to offer courses or continuing education opportunities. Kennesaw State University and Georgia Institute of Technology have both shown a keen interest in collaborating with Floyd College at the proposed site. Areas of interest include business, education, and engineering courses, at the upper division and graduate levels. Other University System partners will also be sought; cooperation with North Metro Technical Institute is expected to continue.

**Demographics Patterns**

Bartow County and the contiguous counties of Cherokee, Paulding and Cobb constitute one of the fastest population growth areas in Georgia. The rank in percent of population growth in these counties ranges from 3 to 29 percent with an average of 16 percent. According to the United States Census Bureau, the total population for the four counties in 1996 was 790,693. Population projections for these counties for the year 2000 is 870,548, representing more than a 10 percent growth. For the year 2010, the projection is for 1,025,989, representing a 17.8 percent growth for the decade.

At present, Bartow, Cherokee, Cobb, and Paulding Counties have twenty-two public high schools. Additional ones are in planning and construction stages. The total student enrollment for these high schools is 36,335. By 2010, the enrollment is projected to have grown to more than 48,000, representing nearly a 33 percent increase in school enrollments. The fact that only 19 percent of the population is over the age of 49 suggests that the citizenry of these counties are largely still bearing children who will need educational services and they are quite likely themselves to seek higher education.

The Cartersville Center (11,000 square feet) houses six classrooms and a small office area. Two of the six rooms are specialized classrooms spaces, one being a biology laboratory and one a small GSAMS classroom. The facility averaged 65 percent space utilization for classes in Fall Quarter 1997, with near 100 percent in the morning and early evening hours. Activities of continuing education, the Small Business Development Center, entrance and exit testing, and community usage accounted for the facilities' "full capacity." At North Metro Tech, the College utilizes five classrooms and sometimes negotiates for one or two more. The College also has an administrative office and five faculty offices. Space utilization for Fall Quarter 1997 was 78 percent. When classes are not in session, the rooms are used for entrance and exit testing. North Metro Tech is, itself, growing and is less and less able to provide the College with access to more than the five classrooms identified in the lease arrangement, nor to facilities such as computer laboratories and GSAMS rooms.

### **Economic Dynamics**

The four-county area boasts a robust economy that is heavily influenced by both the economic engine of metropolitan Atlanta and the unique industries of northwest Georgia. Anheuser Busch, Shaw Carpets, Lever Brothers, Clark Chemicals, First Brands Corporation, and The Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company all have significant manufacturing operations in Bartow County. According to the Georgia Department of Industry, Trade and Tourism, Bartow County alone had more than 120 manufacturing industries. According to the 1997 *Georgia County Guide*, Bartow had a diversified economy with slightly more than 10 percent of business establishment in contract construction, just less than 10 percent in manufacturing, nearly 25 percent in retail trade, and more than 30% in service.

Bartow County had 1094 business establishments in 1989; that number expanded to 1245 by 1994, representing a steady rate of growth (13.8 percent). The number of employees also expanded, from 17,476 to 21,082 (20.6%). Further, housing growth showed significant gains from 1980 to 1990—the dates of the last census. Housing grew from 14,567 to 21,757. This growth in housing and population expansion continues as is evidenced by the rush to complete construction of the new school, Woodlands High School, in order to meet enrollment demand.

### **Academic Programs**

Floyd College offers the Core Curriculum at both the downtown Cartersville and North Metro sites and supports an array of Area IV coursework for many majors. It offers careers programs in law enforcement, child development, and general business. Furthermore, it provides thirty quarter hours of general education coursework to complement the technical block offered in many programs at North Metro Tech. Taken together, this block credit and general education coursework constitute the program of study for the associate of applied science degree. Floyd College proposes to continue to offer these degrees. The course offerings in support of these degrees can be expanded if additional facilities are provided.

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1. The Commission has received information from the Government of the United States of America that the United States has a large stockpile of nuclear weapons. The Commission is concerned that this stockpile may be used for purposes other than those for which it was intended. The Commission is therefore recommending that the United States should reduce its stockpile of nuclear weapons to a level consistent with the purposes for which it was intended.

During the period from 1951 to 1954, the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) was involved in a series of operations aimed at the collection and analysis of information regarding the activities of the Soviet Union in the United States. This period was characterized by a high level of secrecy and a focus on intelligence gathering. The CIA's efforts were primarily directed towards identifying and monitoring individuals and groups suspected of being involved in espionage or subversive activities. The agency's operations were often conducted in a covert manner, with a significant emphasis on the use of informants and undercover agents. The information gathered during this period was used to inform the government's policies and actions regarding the Cold War. The CIA's role in this period was crucial in providing the government with the intelligence it needed to make informed decisions about the national security of the United States.

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In addition to degree programs, the College plans to offer more continuing education and economic development programming at the expanded site. The College's Small Business Development Center would be able to expand its already busy operation in Cartersville.

The College would also be able to provide more student development activities and leadership opportunities in a consolidated site. Currently more than one third of Floyd College students attend at the two sites. Yet, programming for student life and development are severely limited by space. Inadequate office space compromises the availability of such services as registrar, financial aid, guidance, career development, tutoring, computer help desk on these campuses.

### **Community Financial Participation**

Both county government officials and chamber of commerce leadership have indicated that they support the consolidation. The county has offered to buy land and provide basic infrastructure for the campus: sewer, roads, utilities. They have identified several sites for the campus, and each time have indicated their willingness to provide financial support for the endeavor.

### **Summary**

Floyd College proposes that the Board of Regents develop a permanent campus in Bartow County to serve the four county area including Bartow, Cherokee, Cobb and Paulding Counties:

- To meet population growth;
- To support an expanding economy;
- To replace two leased facilities that have now reached capacity;
- To leverage University System resources in Northwest Georgia;
- To support student services and academic programming for students.