



Folks & Features

FACULTY/STAFF NEWSLETTER

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It's Official!

Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony Celebrates Opening of New Campus



From left to right, Row 1: Joe Frank Harris, former governor and current Board of Regents member; state Senator Preston Smith; Clarence Brown, Bartow County commissioner; state Representative Bill Cummings; Representative Jeff Lewis
Row 2: Regent Joel Wooten, Board of Regents; Representative Bill Heath; Representative Barry Lauder milk; Chancellor Thomas Meredith, Board of Regents; Mike Fields, mayor of Cartersville
Row 3: GHC President Randy Pierce; Jerry Norman, co-chair of the Georgia Highlands College Foundation; Sam Smith, former mayor of Cartersville; and Danny Gibbs, co-chair of the GHC Foundation.

Georgia Highlands College faculty, staff and students rejoiced with members of the community as dignitaries cut the ribbon on the new Cartersville campus Aug. 26. Classes began at the facility Aug. 20.

"This is not only a great day for the Georgia Highlands College family and other supporters who have worked diligently and whole-heartedly to bring this project to fruition," said College President Randy Pierce. "This is a day of great celebration for the entire Bartow County community."

The 100,000 square-foot, \$20 million facility houses more than 20 multimedia classrooms, two science labs, several computer labs, a state-of-the-art testing center and the building's architectural focus, a spacious

library. Carpenters are still installing millwork in the library, but when finished, it will open with about 3,000 books. Ultimately, however, the library has a book capacity of up to 20,000.

"With the advanced technology available to our faculty and staff in this New facility, Georgia Highlands will be able to better serve our students and our community," Pierce said.

Georgia Highlands is equipped to serve as many as 1,500 students at this new location. Fall enrollment for the Cartersville campus is 1,200, an increase of more than 400 students from 2004. Total enrollment for the college is up as well, with 3,800 students versus last year's 3,400. Future plans call for several more buildings on the 50-acre site as the school continues to grow.

Speakers included Pierce, former Gov. Joe Frank Harris of the University System of Georgia Board of Regents, Bartow County Commissioner Clarence Brown, Cartersville Mayor Mike Fields, State Senator Preston Smith, Chancellor Thomas Meredith of the University System of Georgia, State Representative Jeff Lewis and Co-Chairmen Danny Gibbs and Jerry Norman of the Georgia Highlands College Foundation.

After the ceremony, the nearly 200 attendees enjoyed a reception and facility tours led by members of the Employee Ambassadors program.



Georgia Highlands College Folks & Features is published monthly by the College Relations Office.
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Information for inclusion can be e-mailed to: ddavis@highlands.edu

College Relations - 3175 Cedartown Highway, S.E. - Rome, Georgia 30161 - 706-295-6366

New Faculty Welcomed to College Team

As the Georgia Highlands College facilities grow, so does the faculty. The college added 16 new faculty members this summer in preparation for its first full semester under a new name and the opening of the new Cartersville campus.

Jennifer Ballantine joined Georgia Highlands as temporary instructor in nursing education. She earned a Master of Nursing from Emory University.

Steven Blankenship, who most recently taught history at Georgia State University, accepted a position as instructor in history at Georgia Highlands. He earned a Bachelor of Arts in history from the University of North Florida as well as a Master of Arts in history from Georgia State. He is currently a doctoral student at Georgia State.

Christopher Brinkley joined the college as temporary instructor in biology. Brinkley received a Bachelor of Arts in biology and music from the University of North Carolina and a Master of Science in biology from East Carolina University.

Cynthia Byrd was hired as temporary instructor in mathematics. She earned a Bachelor of Science in physics and a Master of Science in mathematics from Sam Houston State University.

Sakinah Dantzler was named instructor in reading. She earned her Bachelor of Arts in education from Florida Atlantic University and her Master of Science in reading from Nova Southeastern University. She is currently pursuing a doctorate in organizational leadership from Nova Southeastern.

Andrew Dawson was hired as instructor in biology. Dawson earned a Bachelor of Science in history from Shorter College as well as a Master of Education and a Master of Arts in biology from Georgia State University. Dawson most recently taught high school science at the International School of Beijing.

Murat Doral, who was named instructor in economics, received a Bachelor of Science from the University of Istanbul. He also earned a Master of Arts in economics and a Master of Business Administration from West Virginia University.

Kathryn Garcia will assume a full-time position as instructor in Spanish. She received a Bachelor of Arts in economics from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and a Master of Arts in Romance languages from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She previously taught part-time at Georgia Highlands.

Meredith Ginn will serve as instructor in communication. She received both a Bachelor of Arts in public relations and a Master of Arts in communication from Auburn University.

James Graham, temporary instructor in mathematics, earned his Bachelor of Science in mathematics from the University of Southern Mississippi. He received a Master of Education and Specialist in Education from the University of West Georgia, where he was also a math instructor.

Teresa Hutchins joined the faculty as instructor in political science. She earned a Bachelor of Arts and a Master of Arts in political science from Ohio University. She also received a Master of Arts in public policy from West Virginia University, where she is currently completing her doctorate.

Lucinda Megginson was hired as temporary instructor in nursing education. She received a Bachelor of Science in nursing from Medical University of South Carolina and a Master of Science in nursing from the University of West Georgia.

Tatyana Pavluscenco became full-time instructor in mathematics. She earned a Bachelor of Science in mathematics and translation and a Master of Science in mathematics from Moldova State University. Pavluscenco previously taught mathematics part-time.

Mary Ellen Pethel, who earned a Bachelor of Arts in history from the University of Tennessee and a Master of Education from Berry College, will assume duties as full-time instructor of history. Previously she taught part-time at Georgia Highlands. Pethel is also pursuing a doctorate in history from Georgia State University.

William Vinson joined Georgia Highlands as assistant librarian for public services. He received a Bachelor of Science in zoology from Mississippi State University. Vinson also earned a Master of Science in zoology from Auburn University and a Master of Library and Information Sciences from Louisiana State University.

Cindy Wheeler, instructor in English, received both a Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts in English from Jacksonville State University. She taught previously as a temporary instructor of English at Georgia Highlands.