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Emerities Newsletter, Fall 2024

Georgia State University Emeriti Association

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EMERITIES

Events & Activities

HIKE ALONG THE EASTSIDE BELTLINE TRAIL

The hike took place along the Eastside Beltline Trail from the Historic Fourth Ward Skate Park to Piedmont Park on May 29.



Wendy Venet, Charles Jaret, Katie Jaret, John DeCastro, Harry Dangel, Julie Dangel, Don Ratajczak, Ted Wadley, John Steward, and Ron Barden. Carolyn Cash took the picture and is missing.

REQUEST FOR JIT FUND DONORS . . .

Donations to Just-In-Time Fund – 021096 – support GSU Honors College students in their research efforts. Gifts can be made online at <https://emeriti.gsu.edu/giving-2/> or by check payable to **Georgia State University Foundation**. On the memo line, write *Emeriti Just-In-Time Fund* and mail to **Georgia State University Foundation • P.O. Box 2668 • Atlanta, GA 30302-3963.**

We want to hear from You!

We are planning future programs and activities for emeriti and need everyone's response. Please take our brief survey at <https://emeriti.gsu.edu/>. While you're on the website, look around for the latest information and updates!

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

SEND ARTICLES

100-300 words long
to the editor at
emeriti@gsu.edu

❄️
EMERITI

Holiday Gala and Concert



Sunday
December 8, 2024
1:00 p.m.
Rialto Center for the Arts

EMERITIES

Events & News

IN MEMORIAM

Dr. Ahmed Abdelal, formerly dean of the GSU College of Arts and Sciences, who died on April 11, 2024 was a constant friend and mentor to faculty. He supported enterprising ideas, among them the creation of a Center for International Media Education (*CIME*). Dr. Carolyn Codamo was grateful for his being both friend and mentor, providing support and recognition of her service as Associate Chair of the Department of Communication and leadership in CIME. “Those opportunities and experiences,” she recalled, “were life changing for me and my career. They never would have happened without his caring and forward-thinking leadership.” CIME director Dr. Leonard Ray Teel underscored Dean Abdelal’s support for CIME, which hosted more than 70 World Media Forums for students to meet international journalists and which the U.S. State Department funded to extend journalism education to Arab countries from Morocco to Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon and the Palestinian National Authority. Dr. Abdelal’s support led in 1996 to the establishment of the Arab-U.S. Association for Communication Educators (*AUSACE.org*), which this year will hold its 28th annual conference, engaging Arab and U.S. students and faculty in communication research. As friend and mentor, Dean Abdelal’s forward thinking advanced numerous careers in teaching, research and service.

Sherman Day, Professor Emeritus of Education, died on Wednesday, March 20, 2024. He joined the Georgia State faculty in 1969 after earning his Ph.D. in education at the University of Georgia. He was later named associate dean of the College of Education, and from 1977 to 1983 served as its dean. In 1991, with the departure of Georgia State President John Palms, Day was named interim president of Georgia State University. In 1996, he was named president of the University of North Georgia after filling the post on an interim basis. Day also later served as interim president of Bainbridge College and Gordon College in Barnesville, Ga. In addition to roles with the University System of Georgia, Day’s career also included stints as director of the National Institutes of Correction and assistant director of the U.S. Bureau of Prisons, which took him to Washington, D.C. He also was managing director of Legacy and Olympic Programs for the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games in the run-up to the 1996 games.

Note from Emeriti Association

Please inform us if you learn of any emeriti deaths, for we receive no formal notification from the university: emeriti@gsu.edu or 404-413-3400.



Emeriti ASSOCIATION

EMERITIES

Intellectual, Creative and Social Engagement

FALL • 2024

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Christine Gallant retires
as Editor of *EmeriTies*

2024 EMERITI SPRING LUNCHEON

Ruth Saxton • Clinical Associate Professor Emerita of Early Childhood and Elementary Education • rsaxton@gsu.edu

THE MARCH 20TH EMERITI LUNCHEON WAS A GREAT success, with nearly 60 attendees! Sixteen new emeriti were registered, representing seven colleges. The purpose of the annual luncheon is to formally welcome new emeriti and to showcase the Emeriti Association Just-In-Time Fund, a scholarship program to support GSU's Honor's College students. *[Previously, the Emeriti Association hosted its annual luncheon on Valentine's Day, but chose a later date this year.]*

The guests were welcomed by Ted Wadley, Chair of the Emeriti Association Coordinating Board, and Harry Dangel, long time member of the Board. President M. Brian Blake and Provost Nicolle Parsons-Pollard also offered remarks. The featured speakers of the luncheon were three impressive recipients of the Just-In-Time Fund: Makayla Johnson, Nneka Otuonye, and Chinedu Odedo. Each student described how the funds were used to support their travel and participation in academic conferences in their respective fields of study (*Pre-Medicine and Information Systems*).

The luncheon in Centennial Hall was beautiful and the day's program showcased the strong contribution of the Emeriti Association towards the good work of GSU! Many new emeriti commented on how much they enjoyed their engagement with former colleagues and look forward to ongoing involvement. The Emeriti Association Board is very appreciative of the ongoing support of the University Advancement Office to host events like this and other emeriti activities. See photos, videos and more at emeriti.gsu.edu.



PHOTOS

TOP: Provost speaking to a packed room

MIDDLE: New Emeriti with President Blake and Provost Parsons-Pollard

BOTTOM: Emeriti Professors Mary Radford and Michael Landau from the College of Law with Cassandra Joseph, Director of Development.

CHAIR'S COLUMN

SANDRA L. OWEN

Clinical Instructor Emerita of Education and Human Development • sowen2@gsu.edu



IT'S A GREAT SHOW OF STRENGTH FOR the GSU Emeriti Association that we have members willing to step up into leadership roles. Phang Tai and Wendy Venet have joined the Coordinating Board. Cheers for our new officers: Chair Sandra Owen, Chair-Elect John O'Kane, Secretary Anne Page Mosby, and Treasurer Ron Barden. Special recognition was given to new Emeriti members in attendance at the Spring luncheon.

Christine Gallant has edited *EmeriTies* for six years, 2019-2024, a total of 18 issues. We are extremely grateful for her service, which included the pandemic years. Our members always appreciate a printed newsletter, and during the years we couldn't meet in person, that was the essential means of communication. Christine always produced pointed, germane, and interesting content to keep us connected. We thank her and wish her well.

We also thank our ever-active past chairs: Dave Ewert, Rankin Cooter, Missy Cody, Harry Dangel, Don Ratajczak, and Bill Feldhaus. They have contributed enormously to the Emeriti

Association's success, and we look forward to their continuing support. As immediate past chair, I've now joined their ranks. I'm grateful for the opportunities GSU provides emeriti.

— **Ted Wadley**

As incoming GSU Emeriti Association Board Chair (July 1, 2024-July 1, 2025), I extend my appreciation to Ted Wadley for his exemplary leadership as the Association welcomed Perimeter College into the GSU family, maintained connection with Emeriti during the COVID pandemic, and celebrated the Association's 20th Anniversary.

I look forward to meeting each of you and invite both new and existing members to join me as we connect through virtual and in-person activities, communicate through the Association website and newsletter, and contribute to the professional and personal enrichment of GSU Honor students and fellow GSU Emeriti. — **Sandra L. Owen**

JUST IN TIME FUND RECIPIENTS

Marc Reyes • Assistant Director • Office of National Scholarships and Fellowships • mreyes@gsu.edu

This spring's thirteen Just-in-Time grantees are some of the most impressive students found at GSU. They range from freshmen to recent alumni.

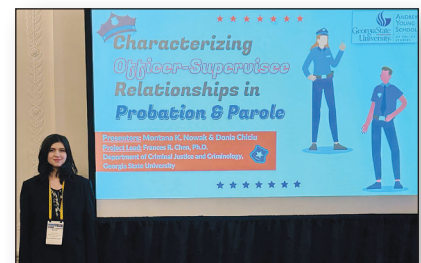
Grace Ford, **Daniel Khosravinezhad**, and **Vishrut Thaker** presented at conferences in Georgia. Ford, a Petit Scholar, presented at seven conferences in 2023. **Lauren Adams** and **Chelsea Koduru** travelled to conferences in Washington State and California. Adams, a recent GSU graduate, and incoming Woodruff, Whitehead and Evans Foundations Fellow, said she received, "constructive feedback, which will help me refine my work and understand new perspectives as I continue my research." Koduru, in her first year of college, made her conference debut at the National Conference of Undergraduate Research. **Wesley Grace**, **Eshan Shah**, and **Harita Yepuri** will be attending the American Society for Nutrition's annual meeting in Chicago. **Donia Chiciu**, a rising senior, also visited Chicago, to present her research at the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences.

JIT grantees also conducted research and gained career skills in the U.S. and around the world. Beckman Scholar **Chinedu Odedo** and Presidential Scholar **Puja Raol's** grants helped support international travel. Odedo completed a medical mission in Nigeria and Raol conducted public health research in Ghana. **Lihee Freeman's** award aided her research of Spanish history and culture. Stamps Scholar **Tylin Dyer** traveled to New York where he met with publishers, editors, and literary agents. Dyer gained insights into the publishing field and believes what he learned will shape, "the remainder of my college experience to hone key aspects of the field that will breathe life into both me and my stories."

Because of the generosity of the Emeriti Association, thirteen students showed the country and world what GSU students can do. For more information on the grant, please visit the Emeriti Association or contact the Honors College.



Lauren Adams delivering, "A Comparative Analysis of Discriminatory Presidential and Public Rhetoric as Methods of Perpetuating Black Inferiority" at the Conference on College Composition and Communication (CCCC) in Spokane, WA.



Donia Chiciu presenting, "Characterizing Officer-supervisee Relationships in Probation and Parole" at the 61st Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences (ACJS) Annual Meeting in Chicago, IL.

UNIVERSITY NEWS

- **Dr. Marion Ross Fedrick**, former President of Albany State University, has been appointed Executive Vice President for Administration and Chief of Staff. She also serves as a Senior Advisor to University System of Georgia Chancellor Sonny Perdue on Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Initiatives.
- **Georgia State President M. Brian Blake** was recognized Thursday, March 14, 2024, by the Georgia Senate for his leadership at the university. Senator Tonya Anderson (D-43) introduced Senate Resolution 672 to honor President Blake. Blake said that the acknowledgement is a testament to the administrators, faculty and staff at Georgia State.

- **The CHARA Michelson Array Pathfinder Project**

Funding from the National Science Foundation and Georgia State University through the College of Arts and Sciences and the Office of the Vice President for Research and Development supported the installation of a mobile telescope at Georgia State's Center for High Angular Resolution Astronomy (CHARA). The telescope is mounted on a trailer that can be moved between locations near the other six telescopes with fixed locations. The mobile telescope will work with existing CHARA telescopes by relaying star light through fiber optic cables.

The mobile telescope will move between a location close to existing fixed telescopes for images of big stars and a far southern location for measurements of small stars. The CHARA Array is one of the most potent instruments in the world for studying stars and stellar systems at resolutions never before possible. Scientists from around the world have the opportunity to use the facilities at the CHARA Array, positioned on Mount Wilson, California, to conduct astronomy and physics research through an application system.

Abridged from article by Noelle Toumey Reetz • Communications Manager • Office, Vice President for Research and Economic Development

- **New Lecture Series Honors Health Law Legacy**

Twenty years after founding the Center for Law, Health & Society at Georgia State University College of Law and co-founding the Health Law Partnership, the legacy of the late **Professor Emerita Charity Scott** lives on through her countless contributions and the newly minted Charity Scott Lecture Series. Scott's husband, Evans Harrell, accompanied by their adult children Peter Harrell and Constance Harrell Shreckengost and other family members, revealed a generous gift that will endow the annual Charity Scott Lecture Series to honor her life and contributions to the field. With this endowment, the College of Law will be able to attract leading scholars in health law, as well as rising stars, bringing their research and expertise directly to Georgia State Law students. On February 15-16, 2024, Center for Law, Health & Society and the American Society of Law, Medicine & Ethics hosted the first Charity Scott Symposium.

Written by Lauren Allred • Georgia State University News Hub • February 29, 2024

- **The Vision and Creation of a Clinical Skills Simulation Center for the Byrdine F. Lewis College of Nursing and Health Professions**

Georgia State University officially opened the Lewis College Clinical Skills and Simulation Center, January 25, 2024. In 2021 **Alice Demi**, Professor Emerita of nursing and Director of the nursing school, gifted \$1,000,000 prior to retiring. This gift marks the first dual-purpose endowment to the Byrdine F. Lewis College of Nursing and Health Professions to be invested during the planning and design phases of the center with subsequent funding from the Robert Woodruff Foundation and Francis Wood Wilson Foundation. One of the center's skill labs will bear Dr. Demi's name. "Philanthropy plays a critical role in supporting student success," said GSU President M. Brian Blake at the ribbon cutting for the Center.

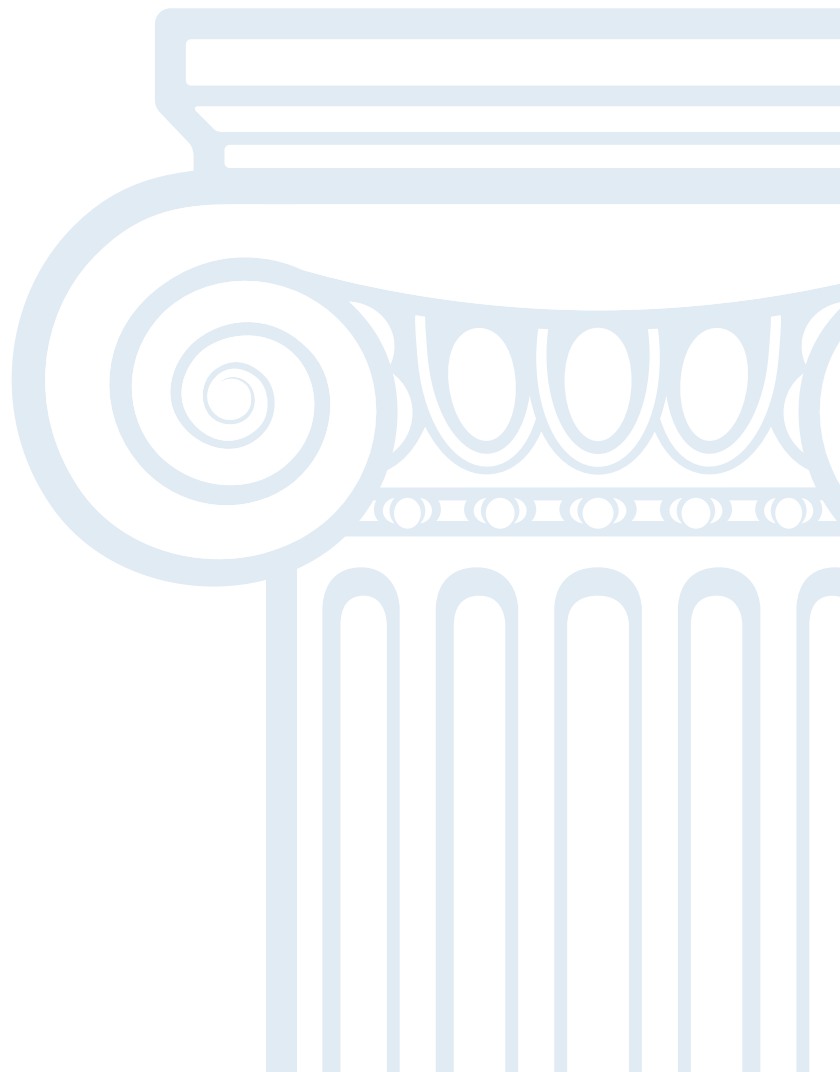
The new 14,500 square-foot center, located on the first floor of the Urban Life building, features 48 hospital beds and seating for 80 students in four clinical skills laboratories, in addition to six interprofessional education simulation suites. In these settings students majoring in the health professions will have the opportunity to practice basic and advanced patient care skills from routine procedures to complex emergencies. GSU Provost Nicolle Parsons-Pollard commented, "The Center is a dynamic space that will foster interdisciplinary learning and ultimately contribute to improvement of healthcare outcomes in the Atlanta community and beyond."

Kaye Torrance • Director of Communications • Lewis College of Nursing and Health Professions



EMERITI ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 2668
Atlanta, GA 30301-2668



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CONTACT US:

emeriti@gsu.edu • 404-413-3400
www.gsu.edu/emeriti



Patricia P. Simmons
Emeriti's graphic designer
psimmons@gsu.edu

Dave Ewert - RCB
geowert@gsu.edu

Ranكين Cooner - CEHD
rcooner@gsu.edu

Harry Dangel, chair Outreach Committee - CEHD
hdangel@gsu.edu

Ex Office past chairs:

John Steward - PUBLIC HEALTH

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Board members with President
M. Brian Blake and Provost
Nicolle Parsons-Pollard.

EDITOR'S NOTE

Emeritas: By Emeriti and For Emeriti

- **Christine Gallant** cgallant@gsu.edu
- Professor Emerita of English (CAS)

This will be my last issue of *Emeritas* as its editor. Many thanks to Alison Mercer, Executive Director of Donor Engagement and Communications, for helping me to complete this issue. I've truly enjoyed my time as editor which began with its Fall 2019 issue. On March 3, 2024, my husband Jim (86) had a CT scan for an unrelated health problem, and discovered he has pancreatic cancer. On April 26 his doctors discovered it is in Stage 4, and I think it best to step down as editor. Time is precious. I will only say to all of you emeriti out there:

Cherish the one/s you love, for you never know . . .