# Arts & Sciences Contributions to the University’s Strategic Goals

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<th>Become a national model for undergraduate education by demonstrating that students from all backgrounds can achieve academic and career success at high rates.</th>
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<td>Goal Two</td>
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## Other Arts and Sciences Accomplishments

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At Georgia State University, the one constant of campus life is change. The university is growing, gaining status as a research and educational institution, and making a remarkable change from a commuter school to a true campus community with a rich intellectual and cultural life. The College of Arts and Sciences, which represents roughly half of GSU’s faculty and staff, is at the heart of these transformations.

All of these changes are shaped by the university’s setting: downtown Atlanta, the center of the ninth-biggest metropolitan area in the nation. Our faculty, students and staff have unique opportunities to work with state and federal government agencies, with international corporations and nonprofits, and with local communities. The university’s busy schedule of lectures, performances and exhibitions play a major role in the cultural life of the city.

GSU is also one of the most diverse institutions in the nation, with students from a wide range of ethnic and socioeconomic backgrounds, not to mention ages and national origins.

Last year, GSU awarded more bachelor’s degrees to African-American students than any other non-profit institution in the country, according to Diverse: Issues in Higher Education. The school has also been named one of the “Top 100 Colleges for Hispanics for Bachelors’, Masters’ and Doctoral Degrees” by The Hispanic Outlook in Higher Education, and ranks among the top 50 universities in the country for graduating Asian students. Our students provide an incredibly fertile academic environment for each other, and for the faculty and staff who work with them.

As the College of Arts and Sciences moves forward, we are guided in our efforts by the priorities of the university’s Strategic Plan. The plan identifies five overarching goals, each of which builds on our existing strengths and outlines strategies for promoting excellence in teaching, research, and service.

This report describes some of the work done toward those goals by the College of Arts and Sciences, its departments, centers and programs during the 2011-12 academic year. The college is taking a leadership role in developing support for undergraduate and graduate students, in expanding faculty research, and in building strong connections between the university, local communities, and institutions and cultures around the globe.

Finally, before moving on to the body of the report, it is important to note one of the most significant changes in the college last year: the arrival of William J. Long (at left) as the new dean of Arts and Sciences.

Long came to the college from the Georgia Institute of Technology, where he served as chair and professor of international affairs in the Sam Nunn School of International Affairs. Long is also a distinguished political scientist whose research interests include health diplomacy and international conflict resolution.

Long followed Lauren Adamson, a Regents Professor of Psychology, who returned to the faculty after nine years of service as dean.
The College of Arts and Sciences is central to any student's undergraduate education at GSU. All undergraduates take their core courses in the college, and more than 50 percent of students eventually choose a major in Arts and Sciences. All in all, the college generated roughly 59 percent of the university's credit hours in fiscal year 2012.

As the university grows, so does the student population served by the college. In fall 2011, the college had 11,631 majors, a 4.3 percent increase over fall 2010. And our students had more choices than ever, with the college creating a number of new degree programs – many interdisciplinary – during the year. Those programs included:

- Five new professionally-oriented bachelor's/master's programs launched in fall 2011, all partnerships between Computer Science or Mathematics and Statistics and the university's Robinson College of Business. These five-year programs should provide a model for similar programs in the future.
- The B.S. in Neuroscience, established in 2011, enrolled 60 students by spring 2012, and is expected to grow steadily.
- New B.A. and B.S. programs in Geosciences were approved by the university in spring 2012. The combined programs will replace the B.A. in Geography and B.S. in Geology, when approved by the Board of Regents.

Growth is only one part of the story however. In 2011-12, the college continued to implement new strategies to help all of its students stay in school, progress toward their degree and graduate.

First, Arts and Sciences hired Dr. Jonathan Gayles, associate professor of African American Studies, into a brand-new position as Associate Dean for Undergraduate Learning. In his new role, Gayles is creating and implementing a college-wide strategy for undergraduate education. Gayles has already led an effort to create a supplemental instruction program for upper-division courses. The new program is designed to work with the existing SI program for lower-division courses, and to help students make the transition from their core classes into their major.

The college also began a major overhaul of its undergraduate advising program in FY 2012 as part of a university-wide effort. Georgia State made plans to expand the number of advisors (with Board of Regents funding), with an eye to building a more proactive approach. Arts and Sciences also established a network for student services professionals across the college, where all staff who counsel students on their academic choices can receive training and share information.

One important continuing program, Major Matters, organized a number of events during the year. The Major Workshop in the fall brought in more than 400 undergraduates to talk to faculty and staff members from each department in the college. More importantly, 70 percent of the students who attended indicated that they had actually used information they learned at the event. A pair of pre-professional workshops brought in alumni to talk to students about careers in their specific fields: international business and digital publishing.
Finally, the college worked with university colleagues to make plans for developing “signature experiences” for undergraduates, as called for in the university’s strategic plan. This new program should provide students with a wide range of options for enriching their classroom education, including: engaging in high-level research; working and studying in the communities, corporations, non-profits and government agencies of metro Atlanta; and study abroad.

In addition to college-level efforts to support undergraduates, our faculty is also deeply committed to supporting student achievements. Examples include:

- Arts and Sciences faculty taught more than 90 percent of the courses offered in the university’s Honors College in 2011-2012.
- At the recent Georgia State Undergraduate Research Conference, 86 of the 100 faculty sponsors were from Arts and Sciences.
- Dabney Dixon (Chemistry), at the request of undergraduate science majors, founded and continues to advise the Undergraduate Journal Club, where students learn to present and discuss research at a professional level.
- Lynee Gaillet (English) is leading GSU’s participation in the national Cognitive Courseware initiative, sponsored by Carnegie Mellon, APLU, and the Gates foundation.
- GSU Debate Team partners Clay Stewart and Luke Floyd finished 17th in the national rankings of individual debate teams – the best national ranking by a GSU debate team in history.
- The GSU Model United Nations team won Best Delegation – the top award – and eight individual delegate awards at a conference in Paris. Earlier this spring, at a conference in Manavgat, Turkey, 13 students won individual awards.
- Model Arab League students traveled to the American University in Cairo, where they took home three out of four awards for best delegation at three different conferences (see page 10).
- GSU students took the top three places in the written-language proficiency exam at the Southeast Turkish Olympiad.

The initiative connects experts from across the country to work toward improvements in curriculum design, course dissemination, and collaborative teaching and learning.

Our students are visibly responding to these efforts. Arts and Sciences retained more first- and second-year students than the university average between fall 2010 and fall 2011, and the DFW rates (i.e., those students who received a D or an F or who withdrew from a class) dropped by 0.8 percent in the same period.

The number of students going on to either full employment or to graduate school also grew by roughly 2 percent in the same period. And surveys show increased student satisfaction on measures ranging from departmental mentoring to overall quality of instruction in one’s major.

Arts and Sciences students and academic teams continued to earn honors and awards for their achievements this year. A few examples include:

- Arts and Sciences students took seven awards in three categories at the Georgia State Undergraduate Research Conference (pictured below). Catherine Stankus, a senior art history major, took the Provost’s award for her presentation on the art of eighteenth-century snuffboxes.
The College of Arts and Sciences is home to 13 Ph.D. programs, two MFA programs, 25 master’s programs and eight certificate programs. Our graduate programs are strong and getting stronger. In fact, five Arts and Sciences graduate programs received top-100 rankings from U.S. News and World Report in the past year: Psychology, Computer Science, English, Political Science, and Sociology. Other important rankings include:

- The Ph.D. in Computer Science has been ranked among the top 10 in the Southeast by the National Research Council.
- The M.A. in Philosophy has consistently been ranked among the top 10 nationally by the Philosophy Gourmet Report, rankings published annually out of the University of Chicago.
- The Ph.D. in Creative Writing (in the Department of English) was ranked #14 in the nation by Poets & Writers.

One of our major priorities is attracting a higher quality of applicant to our graduate programs, which means expanding our recruitment efforts. To that end, the college wrote its first graduate recruitment and enrollment plan this spring as part of a university-wide initiative.

As part of the plan, the college created a new Dean’s Doctoral/MFA Fellowship program, which provides an additional stipend for the strongest students accepted each year. This stipend can be renewed for up to four years, based on the fellow’s progress toward his or her degree. Last fall, the program awarded 11 renewable Dean’s Fellowships, with plans to offer 20 more in the coming year.

There are other, university-funded fellowships available for top graduate recruits, specifically in Second Century Initiative (2CI) and Area of Focus programs within the college. These are for the most part new programs – the 2CI program began in 2010 – and advertising their availability is also a key part of the college’s new recruitment plan.

Arts and Sciences departments, centers and institutes are also expanding their recruiting efforts. Several units held on-campus events for top Ph.D. prospects, bringing them to campus to meet faculty and students and to tour facilities. New recruits will join a group of graduate students that is already achieving at a high level, winning national honors, awards and fellowships. Examples from the past year include:

- Joshua Lillvis (Ph.D., Biology) won the William M. Suttles Graduate Fellowship, the most prestigious of the university’s graduate awards. Lillvis is researching neurological structures and behavior in sea slugs.
- Nicole Cabrera (Ph.D., Physics and Astronomy) won a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship for her innovative project using radial velocity techniques to gather information on exoplanets.
- Chris Escobar (M.A., Communication, pictured at right) worked with Tim Crimmins of History to create an iPhone app that is a historical tour of Georgia’s Capitol building.
- Tiffany Love-Chezem (Ph.D., Neuroscience) won the neurobiology division’s Best Poster award at the annual meeting of the Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology.
- Lara Smith-Sutton (Ph.D., English), received a “Rising Star” award from the Management Communication Association for her work on how to teach business writing practices to undergraduates.
- Darby Proctor (Ph.D., Psychology) won a dissertation research grant from the American Psychological Association for her work on the evolutionary origins of gambling in primates.
- Lauren Wright, Chelsea Smith and Christopher Massie, all members of the School of Music’s Opera Theater program, took second place in the graduate division of the National Opera Association’s national opera scenes competition. The trio performed a scene from Gian Carlo Menotti’s “The Medium.”
The College of Arts and Sciences has a long record of investing in research, and in building interdisciplinary research programs to address crucial social, cultural and scientific issues. During 2011-12, we built on earlier successes with new cross-disciplinary research programs, hired new faculty, and expanded our administrative support both for faculty seeking grants and those managing active grants.

In 2012, the College of Arts and Sciences departments led four of the six new research clusters created under the university’s Second Century Initiative (2CI) – and will participate in a fifth. The initiative calls for the recruitment of 100 additional faculty members over five years, with the specific intention of building internationally recognized research strengths.

The new 2CI programs involving the College of Arts and Sciences are as follows:

- **Microbial Pathogenesis:** This cluster will hire three to four collaborating faculty to focus on the interactions between host cells and pathogens, like viruses or microbial toxins, with an impact on preventing and treating diseases. Faculty in this cluster will also collaborate with the existing Molecular Basis of Disease focus, the Center for Inflammation, Immunity and Infection, and the Center for Diagnostics and Therapeutics.

- **Therapeutics:** Following up on an earlier cluster hiring proposal in diagnostics, this new proposal will hire three faculty specialists in drug discovery based on biomarkers or interventions on the cellular or molecular level for diseases including cancer, infection and immune disorders. Participating departments include Chemistry, Neuroscience, and Biology.

- **Neuroethics:** There will be three hires – one focused on emerging ethical and legal issues raised by neuroscience; one who studies the neuropsychological aspect of moral behavior; and one who examines the implications of neuroscientific discoveries for moral theory. Participants include Philosophy, Neuroscience, Psychology and the College of Law.

- **Shaping the Future of Cities:** The focus of this proposal is the design of cities, including housing policy, transportation policy, and urban amenities such as green space. The cluster will include an urban economist and an economic development expert in the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies (AYSPS), an expert in social structure in the Department of Sociology, and an expert in environmental law at the College of Law.

- **Breaking the Glass Ceiling of Achievement for Children who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing:** Under this proposal, the university will hire three faculty members to focus on improving the linguistic and literary capabilities of deaf and hard of hearing children. The effort is a collaboration of the College of Education and the College of Arts and Sciences, as well as the College of Computing at Georgia Tech.

These initiatives are part of a larger pattern of growth both in the number and the productivity of Arts and Sciences faculty members. In the last year, the college hired 50 new faculty members, including six for 2CI initiatives. Of those incoming faculty, 17 members join the university with external funding, totaling roughly $12 million in grants that will be transferred to GSU.

Our existing faculty also applied for and received more funding than in previous years – $25.6 million in fiscal 2012 compared to $20.3 million in fiscal 2011, or a 26 percent increase in a single year. More than that, the funds awarded have increased much faster than the number of applications. This suggests that our faculty are applying for and receiving larger awards than before.

The growth in awarded funds reflects the College’s increased commitment to research administration. Arts and Sciences now has three full-time staff members who not only process applications, but provide research administration training to our departments and help individual faculty members with applications.
The College has adjusted its tenure and post-tenure review standards to reflect an increasing emphasis on faculty research and professional development. In a related effort, the college has created two new programs to support faculty who are on track to meet those standards. In one of them, the Program For Adjusting Workloads for Junior Faculty (PAWS Jr.), faculty members who pass their third-year review are given a semester free from teaching in order to focus on their research; the college provides compensatory funds to each faculty member’s department. The second, the Post-Tenure/Promotion Recognition of Faculty (PROF), provides the same opportunity for faculty who earn excellent ratings in post-tenure review.

Finally, the college has created a new award program to support the best junior faculty in their research development. The Dean’s Early Career Award (DECA), funded in part by the college’s Board of Visitors, provides a stipend to outstanding young researchers who have successfully completed their third-year review. This award internally demonstrates the college’s commitment to research and to its young faculty, and boosts the credentials of its recipients when applying for outside research funding.

Any consideration of Arts and Sciences faculty must mention the outstanding record of research, scholarship, educational and creative achievement it has amassed in the last year. Examples include the following:

- Eminent Scholars Jian-Dong Li and Binghe Wang (pictured below) in Biology and Chemistry (and Center for Inflammation, Immunity & Infection) found that a particular gene serves a critical regulator of the progress of pulmonary fibrosis, a fatal and currently incurable disease.

- Assistant Professor Ben Miller (English), during his first year as a 2CI hire, received an NSF and SSHRC “Digging into Data” challenge grant. Miller’s project uses computational linguistics and natural language processing to find new witnesses in old records of human rights abuses.

- Two faculty members, Kathryn Kozitas (Anthropology) and Teryl Frey (Biology) received Fulbrights to study in Greece and Germany, respectively.

- Professor Andrew Altman of Philosophy was awarded funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) for a Summer Seminar on “Liberty, Equality, and Justice: Philosophical Problems in Domestic and Global Contexts.”


- Melanie Davenport, associate professor of art education, had a short film titled “The Drum Celebration” shown at the Smithsonian Museum of the American Indian in April 2012. The stop-motion short shows an autumn ritual of the Huicholes, a native group of west-central Mexico. Davenport guided a group of largely Huichole students at the Centro Rural de Educacion Superior in Estipac, Mexico in making the film.

- Nick Demos, professor of music composition, was chosen for a residency at the MacDowell Colony, one of the most prestigious artists’ colonies in the nation. Demos spent his spring 2012 residency working on a commission for the Charleston Symphony Orchestra.

- Professor David Bottoms, the Amos Distinguished Chair in the Department of English, received the Governor’s Award in the Humanities for his lengthy and distinguished career as a poet, including his current term as Poet Laureate of Georgia.

- Leonard Teel, professor of communication and director of the Center for International Media Education, received the American Journalism Historians Association National Award for Excellence in Teaching.

Beyond these examples, Arts and Sciences faculty play a key role in the university’s strong and growing reputation for innovative research both within and across disciplines.
The College of Arts and Sciences is a key player in the university’s work on cities in two ways. First, the college hosts researchers in a variety of disciplines (and interdisciplinary clusters) who specialize in social, economic, environmental, historical and political aspects of urban development. Second, through its many public programs and events – especially in education, the arts and media – the college makes a daily contribution to the quality of life in metro Atlanta.

The college is hiring an expert in urban social structure – to be housed in the Department of Sociology – as part of the university’s Shaping the Future of Cities program, funded by the Second Century Initiative. In addition, Arts and Sciences departments are leaders in four proposals funded by the university’s 2012 Cities Grants program.

Our departments already have a wide variety of programs that engage their student in local and regional urban communities in a variety of roles. Examples include:

- Geosciences has launched a new, NSF-funded summer community geography program that will bring under-represented undergraduate groups to campus to work with faculty researchers and Atlanta-area nonprofits. The program will not only produce research that will be of immediate, practical use, but will also help prepare the next generation of urban investigators.
- The Georgia Debate Center, where undergraduate and graduate students from GSU and Emory teach debate fundamentals to inner-city students, provided 1,844 hours of instruction to 107 students during the year.
- The Bio-Bus program sends out its mobile instructional laboratories, staffed by undergraduate and graduate students, to schools throughout the state. The program’s newest module, “Medicinal Plants: Merging Science and Folklore” reached 1,120 junior high and high school students through 38 trips during the year.

College departments and centers – particularly in the arts – also bring town and gown together through an enormous number of lectures, performances, exhibits and other events that are free and open to the public.

Major events sponsored by the College of Arts and Sciences included:

- Mark Danner, an award-winning journalist and MacArthur Fellow, presented the college’s 2012 Plummer Lecture, speaking on “Living with the New Normal: Human Rights, U.S. Foreign Policy and the 2012 Elections.”
- Steven Cook, the Hasib J. Sabbagh Senior Fellow for Middle Eastern Studies at the Council on Foreign Relations, presented “The United States, Egypt, and the ‘New’ Middle East.”
- The Atlanta Film Festival moved its headquarters to GSU in 2012. This year’s 10-day festival offered more than 220 independent, international, animated, documentary and short films selected from more than 1,800 submissions from all over the world.
- Dan Gilgoff, religion editor for CNN.com, spoke at the first Religion and Public Life Fellow lecture in March. As the first Public Life Fellow in the Department of Religious Studies at GSU, Gilgoff spent the past year sharing his perspectives on religion and the media through luncheons, courses and leading visits to CNN.
- Congressman John Lewis spoke at the Department of Gerontology’s Barbara Pittard Payne Lecture in March. The civil rights icon focused on politics of aging.
- Lutz H. Görgens, Consul General of the German Consulate General in Atlanta, spoke on the politics of the European debt crisis at GSU in March.
- The 40th annual Holiday Iron Pour, which brings to campus representatives from universities across the nation, families from across metro Atlanta. Participants can carve “scratch” molds, which are then filled with molten iron and produce unique keepsakes once cooled.
- Phillip A. Sharp, winner of the 1993 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine, gave a lecture in May on “The Revolution in RNA Biology.”

Be a leader in understanding the complex challenges of cities and developing effective solutions.
CENCIA
The Center for Collaborative and International Arts

2011-12 Events

The Center for Collaborative and International Arts (CENCIA) brings together artists and scholars engaged in arts-related research for a series of events each year. These cross-disciplinary, cross-cultural events enrich campus and community life by connecting arts research to the public. This year’s programs, which brought artists and performers to campus from Brazil, China, Argentina, Finland, Japan, Mexico and Switzerland, drew a record total of 5,582 audience members from on- and off-campus.

Bauru/Atlanta piano and voice competition and concerts
Sept. 21-22, 2011
Two competitions and two concerts – one each for pianists and singers – celebrated the collaborative relationship between the Universidade do Sagrado Coração in Bauru, Brazil and GSU’s School of Music, and featured musicians from both schools.

Abrazo Atlanta
October 3, 2011
A celebration of authentic Argentinian tango music and dance, presented by the Eduardo Tami Trio and touring dancers Claudia Marziano and Toni Saganias. Fernando Reati, chair of GSU’s Department of Modern and Classical Languages, gave a short talk on the history of the tango prior to the performance.

Allyson Comstock
October 6-Norovember 18, 2011
Visual artist Allyson Comstock conducted a paper-making workshop as part of the Repurposed exhibition at the Welch school gallery. The exhibition, curated by Gallery Director Cynthia Farnell, featured work by artists who use repurposed materials to explore questions about the environment.

Faculty Chamber Ensemble of Renmin University
October 15, 2011
This concert celebrated the School of Music’s long-standing partnership with Renmin University in China, and also commemorated the first anniversary of GSU’s Confucius Institute.

First Annual Black Student Film Festival
November 2-3, 2011
A showcase for student films depicting and representing African American people and culture. Awards were presented in seven categories: documentary, suspense, mystery and horror, comedy, drama, romance, action, and music video.

Brazilian Artist Hugo Fortes
February 21, 2012
Fortes spoke on immigration, communication technology, global warming, urban sprawl – and how all of these developments have radically affected perceptions of space and place in America and around the globe.

Astrojazz
March 16, 2012
This celebration of the transit of Venus included live jazz music, stunning astronomical imagery, and a free-flowing conversation with Dr. Gordon Chin, a planetary scientist from NASA.

Symbols for Sound: Exploring Mathematical Music Theory
April 5, 2012
This combined concert and symposium explored the connections between music and math. The concert featured two musicians who are also mathematicians: Emilio Lluis-Puebla of the National Autonomous University of Mexico; and Guerino Mazzola of the University of Minnesota School of Music and the University of Zurich Department of Informatics.

Sixth Annual Atlanta Italian Film Festival
April 5-7, 2012
This festival presented six Italian films never before released in the United States, including the winner of the Italian Film Festival in Miami and the winner of the Centro Campo Italiano at the Venice Film Festival. The festival also included a screening of De Sica’s 1948 classic, Ladri di Biciclette (The Bicycle Thief).

Aurora in April
April 17 & 19, 2012
Two concerts featuring Finnish composers. The first was an evening of contemporary Finnish chamber music performed by neoPhonia, the GSU new music ensemble. The second featured two of the School of Music’s top wind ensembles in a diverse program of Finnish music.

Aurora in April
In an age of diversity at home and opportunity abroad, cross-cultural research and education are vital to the mission of the College of Arts and Sciences. Our faculty members collaborate with colleagues around the world, and bring their global understanding into the curriculum.

Our students are encouraged to experience other cultures in the classroom, through study-abroad and student-exchange programs, and through work with local immigrant communities and international organizations.

During the 2011-12 academic year, the college established seven new cooperative agreements with institutions in China, Egypt, France, Germany, Japan and Taiwan. Including those seven, the college now has roughly 65 agreements with partners in 20 countries.

Many of those agreements establish study-abroad and foreign exchange programs for GSU students. During the academic year, the college sent 71 students abroad to 21 partner universities in 10 countries. The college also hosted 74 students who came from those countries for a semester or a year at GSU.

The biggest growth, however, was in students going on faculty-led programs over the summer. In summer 2012, the college sent 280 students on 23 programs in 19 different countries. Those students represent a 18 percent increase over summer 2012, when Arts and Sciences sent 237 students on international programs. This impressive jump in participation has put the college ahead of schedule in meeting the university’s strategic goal of doubling the number of students studying abroad by 2017.

The college is committed to making sure that even those students who don’t travel abroad are prepared for global competence. Last year, for example, 13 faculty in Arts and Sciences had proposals accepted as part of the university’s Global Education Committee. The participating faculty members went through a two-day training workshop on adding international perspectives to their syllabi, and should reach more than 2,200 students with their revised courses in the coming year.

NEW INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS

In the 2011-12 academic year, the college signed memoranda of cooperation or program specific agreements with seven institutions in Japan, Taiwan, China, France, Egypt and Germany. Details are as follows:

- November 2011 – Memorandum of Cooperation with Doshisha University, Japan. This program is housed in the Department of Psychology.
- December 2011 – Memorandum of Cooperation with China Medical University, Taiwan. This program is housed within the Department of Biology.
- December 2011 – Agreement for Study Abroad Program Support with Peking University, China. This program is housed within the Department of Chemistry.
- February 2012 – Memorandum of Cooperation with the Institut des Amériques, France. This program names Georgia State University as the South Atlantic Center of L’Institut des Amériques.
- February 2012 – Graduate Student Research Program with China Medical University, Taiwan. This program is housed within the Department of Biology.
- February 2012 – Graduate Student Exchange Program with American University in Cairo, Egypt. This program is housed within the Department of Applied Linguistics & ESL.
- April 2012 – Renewal of Student Exchange Program with Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg, Germany. This program is housed in the Department of Modern & Classical Languages.
Our departments and centers also host a variety of faculty and student efforts in global research, teaching and service. Examples include:

• A three-year, $1 million partnership between Applied Linguistics and English as a Second Language and the language and literature programs at the University of Baghdad. The project will create an online mentoring program so that GSU faculty can mentor their Iraqi counterparts in the latest research and pedagogy. In the spring semester, two undergraduate ALES L classes were given the assignment to converse online regularly with students in Baghdad.

• Political Science was chosen by the United States Institute for Peace to run a competition to produce case studies in building peace. The case studies will help researchers, students and policy-makers learn from real-life examples of conflict prevention, reconciliation and post-conflict resolution.

• Nic Scott, a Ph.D. student in Physics and Astronomy, received a scholarship from the French Embassy to travel to the Paris Observatory in fall 2011. Scott worked with the observatory staff to improve European access to GSU’s Center for High Angular Resolution Astronomy, which houses the most powerful interferometric telescopic array in the world.

• Jeffrey Glover, assistant professor of anthropology, led a group of GSU students on an expedition to survey Vista Alegre, an abandoned Maya trading post on the Yucatan Peninsula in Mexico.

At Model Arab League events, students learn about the politics and societies of the Arab world, representing countries and non-governmental organizations in conferences simulating diplomacy. In November 2011, a team of 16 GSU students learned more than they expected to at a conference at Cairo’s American University.

The team brought home three of the four top awards for best delegation in three different English-language conferences. But perhaps more importantly, they also met students who participated in the January 2011 protests that led to the overthrow of former Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.

“It was absolutely amazing” said Kimmia Salehi, a senior majoring in political science. “We have all been following all of the developments in the news and reading about it, and it was really exciting to witness it, following the Arab Spring.”

“The Egyptian students had very intimate stories to tell about what they did and how it happened,” said Rashid Naim, director of undergraduate studies in the Department of Political Science and advisor for the students. “That was a really great learning experience for our students. Some of these same Egyptian students are back on the streets now.”
Research Funding

Faculty and students in the College of Arts and Sciences actively study such crucial areas as brain function and behavior; drug development, archeology, urban health, political science, language acquisition and development, learning disorders, gerontology, astronomy, international development, environmental research, race and gender; bioscience, digital arts and media and molecular biology, to name but a few.

The excellence of the college’s research programs has attracted high levels of funding from government agencies, private foundations and industry partners. The distribution of grants from the biggest federal and state granting agencies for FY12 was as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Applied Linguistics &amp; ESL</td>
<td>$449,154</td>
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<tr>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>$7,591,598</td>
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<td>CHARA</td>
<td>$760,857</td>
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<td>Chemistry</td>
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<tr>
<td>Neuroscience Institute</td>
<td>$3,019,193</td>
<td>21</td>
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<tr>
<td>Philosophy</td>
<td>$50,683</td>
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<tr>
<td>Physics &amp; Astronomy</td>
<td>$1,902,773</td>
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<tr>
<td>Political Science</td>
<td>$176,700</td>
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<tr>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>$3,187,677</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sociology</td>
<td>$393,936</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>College Total</td>
<td>$25,604,793</td>
<td>241</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Summary of external award funding to Arts and Sciences departments in FY2012

Funding by Major Granting Agency

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Granting Agency</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Department of Defense</td>
<td>$306,265.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Department of Education</td>
<td>$141,412.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Department of Energy</td>
<td>$630,807.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Federal</td>
<td>$763,899.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Foundation/Non-Profit</td>
<td>$2,925,449.15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Industry</td>
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<td>NASA</td>
<td>$247,217.40</td>
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<td>NIH</td>
<td>$9,459,906.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>NSF</td>
<td>$7,640,832.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>$2,392,984.93</td>
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<tr>
<td>State(GA)</td>
<td>$627,471.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
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Development

In 2011-2012, the College of Arts and Sciences continued to build and extend its relationships with its broad alumni base.

The college's fundraising efforts were led by Hope Mullen Carter, hired in February 2012 as the college's new Senior Director of Development. Carter came to Arts and Sciences from the University of Georgia, where she raised more than $6.5 million in five years as a regional director for leadership and major gifts.

The Board of Visitors, a group of alumni and friends who work together to support the college and to inspire others to do the same, added five new members.

- Sandra Barnhill (B.S., Political Science, 1981) founder of Foreverfamily, a nonprofits dedicated to supporting the children of incarcerated parents.
- James J. Miller (M.S., Microbiology, 1976), founder of the MicroNanoSun Technology Group.
- Randy Wade, (B.S., Political Science, 1989), director of Property and Transaction Taxes at AGL Resources
- Rodney Wade (B.A., English, 1989), manager of a banking software support and implementation team for Fiserve, Inc.

The Board now has 18 members, who continue to serve as the College’s best ambassadors.

The College also hosted several development-related events during the year, including the annual Alumni Awards Reception and Honors Night (pictured at left), a banquet honoring the recipients of endowed fellowships. A reception at a board member Bill Balzer's house in October 2011 allowed alumni a chance to meet Bill Long, the college’s new dean.

The college also received five new endowments during the year. The new funds are as follows:

- **Bradford and Patricia Ferrer Scholarship in Music.** With a shared commitment and passion to music, the Ferrers are extending their support for students earning a bachelor’s degree in the School of Music. The Ferrers are both alumni of GSU, though not of Arts and Sciences.
- **Tony G. Holcombe Endowment in History.** Tony Holcombe (B.A. History, 1977), was a first-generation college student who became a successful leader in the telecommunications industry. Holcombe and his wife, through a bequest gift, intend to establish this fund to support the Department of History.
- **Religious Studies Endowed Scholarship.** This fund, created by friends and alumni of the Department of Religious Studies, provides assistance to students who are pursuing a degree in the field.
- **Robert Shaw Choral Scholar Award.** This scholarship was created by Florence Kopleff and John Haberlen, both professors emeriti in the School of Music, in memory of Robert Shaw. Shaw, who conducted the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra from 1967 to 1988, conducted a series of ASO concerts with the GSU University Singers and select voice faculty. In 1986, Shaw received the first honorary doctorate ever presented by GSU in the Fine Arts. This scholarship provides support to a choral conducting graduate student in the School of Music.
- **Shanthi V. Sitaraman Intestinal Pathology Endowment.**

Dr. Shanthi V. Sitaraman (pictured at left) was an exceptional clinician, researcher and educator, who studied the pathophysiologic mechanisms of inflammatory bowel disease. Sitaraman died in 2011 after a long and valiant battle against ovarian cancer. Intestinal pathology is a new area of focus in the Department of Biology, and this fund will promote studies in this important area. The fund will also support the Shanthi V. Sitaraman Lecture Series.

All of these efforts, plus the hundreds of meetings our development team had with potential donors, resulted in nearly $2.6 million given over the course of the year.
The College of Arts and Sciences is proud to announce the winners of its 2012 Outstanding Alumni Awards: Sandra Barnhill (pictured below with Dean Long) and Stephen Garber (pictured, right, with Dean Long).

Barnhill earned her B.S. in Political Science in 1981, and then went on to law school and began her career working as a defense attorney. She heard from her female clients that they were worried – more than anything else – about their children, and decided to do something about it. She founded ForeverFamily, a nonprofit that supports children whose parents are incarcerated, in 1987. Today the organization serves families in Atlanta, Louisville, Kentucky, and Austin, Texas.

“GSU is where I really cut my teeth as an activist,” Barnhill said. “Through my involvement with co-founding the GSU college chapter of the N.A.A.C.P., and through working on the Missing and Murdered Children’s Campaign, I learned about fighting for the things you believe in and serving the community. It was at GSU that the purpose of the academy really hit home for me – the education we receive should help us blend intellect and heart so that we can be of service in the world.”

“Sandra Barnhill is the epitome of service and leadership,” said Akinyele Umoja, chair of African American Studies, who nominated her. “She has used her talent and resources to improve the possibilities of families and communities that others had condemned to failure. She has also provided opportunities for dozens of GSU students and alumni to engage in community service and youth development.”

Stephen Garber, who is an Atlanta native, earned his M.A. and Ph.D in Psychology in 1972 and 1974, respectively.

He served as the director of Child and Adolescent Services at South Central Fulton County Mental Health Center and the Southside Comprehensive Health Center before going into private practice. That practice, the Behavioral Institute of Atlanta (BIA), is one of the largest in the state. BIA’s 18 partners include Garber’s wife, Mary Ann, who also got a Ph.D. from GSU, in education.

“The GSU Psychology Department was one of the best programs in the country,” Garber said. “To have such a good program, and to have it in Atlanta – I made connections, I made friends, and I made it through in record time, partly because of the research opportunities in the city.”

“Our alumni award winners this year have both used their education to benefit others – Stephen Garber through his work as a therapist and Sandra Barnhill through creating a support network for families,” said William Long, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. “They embody the GSU ideal of education as an investment not only in individuals, but in the entire community.”

The Outstanding Alumni Awards for 2012 was formally presented to Barnhill and Garber at a reception before the college’s annual Honors Night banquet on April 18.
Facilities

This past academic year the college invested roughly $1.1 million to make the following improvements in teaching infrastructure:

- Built out five offices in Kell Hall for five new lecturers in Biology and Chemistry hired to meet the demands of growing enrollment.
- Renovated Kell Hall lab space for a classroom to support supplemental instruction and help sessions for STEM classes.
- Renovated two classrooms in Kell Hall to support increased enrollment in Geosciences and other science courses.
- Updated and reopened Kell Hall 698, a chemistry organics lab, to support increased enrollment.
- Cost-shared the renovation of Kell Hall 200 lab into a shared College of Education/Neuroscience instructional lab for science education classes and new classes for the Neuroscience Institute's undergraduate program,
- Refurbished 180 graduate assistant carrels; installed A/V equipment in two graduate seminar rooms, 3 conference rooms, and one event space; filled in gaps in furniture requirements,
- Expanded and enhanced Department of Geosciences graduate, seminar and office space.

The college also made plans to create a Science Collaboration and Instruction (SCI) Suite in Kell Hall. The SCI suite will provide a home for both formal and informal tutoring sessions, as well as a general study space for our undergraduate majors. The suite will have room for 30 students and extensive blackboard space for collaborative learning.

The Changing Campus: Arts & Sciences

Georgia State University has grown tremendously in recent years, not least in the quality and diversity of facilities for teaching, research, and creative work. The college has helped drive and shape this expansion. As a result, the college now offers its students and faculty an astonishing array of specialized classrooms, studios, performance venues, meeting and study spaces:

- Across the sciences, the College of Arts and Sciences houses 90 research faculty members in 127,000 square feet of lab space. A Bioimaging Core Facility offers access to electron microscopes, laser-scanning confocal microscopes, and microscopy equipment.
- The university’s Visualization Wall is one of the largest high-resolution displays in the world. Faculty in computer sciences, geosciences, biology, chemistry, applied linguistics, art and history use the wall to engage with vast amounts of complex visual data.
- The Welch School of Art and Design has 20 dedicated studio classrooms, for a total of 32,000 square feet of space.
- School of Music faculty and students perform in both the Rialto Center, an acoustically superb 900-seat facility, and the recently-renovated Kopleff Recital Hall, a 400-seat venue.
- The Digital Arts and Entertainment Laboratory (DAEL) is a state-of-the-art research and production facility for producing and testing digital media content. DAEL has a professional-level lighting grid, a green screen, an audio recording studio, an editing suite, and theaters.
- The Language Research Center is a unique facility where students and faculty members do behavioral – that is, not medical – research with chimpanzees, capuchin monkeys, rhesus macaques, and humans. Researchers at the center have produced groundbreaking research on the primate origins of language, self-control, competence with numbers, and economic decision-making.
- In the near future, the college administration and more than half of A&S departments will move into 25 Park Place, formerly the SunTrust building. The building will add 563,000 square feet of office and administrative space, and will free up other space across campus for conversion into classrooms.