

UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF GEORGIA FOUNDATION

ANNUAL REPORT

Letter from the Chancellor

As we close another year for the University System of Georgia Foundation, I am truly thankful for your support. Your generosity opens the door to economic opportunities that many students otherwise would not have.

Increasing education attainment is USG's top priority. That is our goal because there is a direct relationship between education attainment and Georgia's economic competitiveness and, thus, quality of life.

Your contributions make a difference toward achieving that goal. For many students, financial barriers can prevent them from completing a degree, or participating in a range of experiences that can enrich their education. To put it simply, higher education can be life-changing and your donations do make a difference.

This year, despite unprecedented challenges from the COVID-19 pandemic, our institutions awarded a record 70,879 degrees in fiscal year 2020 — the most in the system's 89-year history. The 4.5% annual increase represents over 3,000 more degrees awarded to USG students than the previous year. It is also the largest year-over-year increase since 2011, when USG joined Complete College America and refocused system efforts on raising education attainment in Georgia.

Our investment in academic initiatives will continue to help increase this number even more. The groundbreaking "Momentum Year" program continues to help our first-year students start their college careers on track. First-year students on every USG campus must take core English and math courses and are encouraged to take 30 credit hours over the academic year to improve success and shorten their time to graduation. Our institutions are also prioritizing course scheduling to make sure critical classes are available to students who need them.

With guidance from our Board of Regents, USG institutions did not raise tuition this year. And over the past five years, the Board has kept tuition increases to an average of 0.9% annually, less than the rate of inflation. Out of the 16 states that make up the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB), Georgia is the 4th lowest of all 16 SREB states in undergraduate tuition and fees.

Finally, to prioritize efficiency, all 26 institutions as well as the system central office have evaluated administrative activities as part of a Comprehensive Administrative Review. This has resulted in over \$112.9 million in redirected savings, allowing funds to be allocated to hiring faculty and staff and enhancing student services that include financial aid, library and research systems, as well as students' campus enrollment and registration experiences.

What you do to support students matters.

I am grateful for the tremendous leadership of Regent Neil Pruitt as chairman of the USG Foundation Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees supports the system's development efforts by raising private funding for scholarships and systemwide academic initiatives. As stewards of donors' contributions, it is diligent in its efforts to realize the maximum benefit of each gift.

In these challenging times, your help is more critical than ever. We are proud of the success we have achieved, and will keep working hard to fulfill our goals and mission. Your gifts change the lives of our students and nurture the education and discovery that will change our state.

Thank you for all you have done to ensure USG students' success.

Respectfully, Dr. Steve Wrigley Chancellor, University System of Georgia



Dr. Steve W. Wrigley

The Board of Regents named Dr. Steve Wrigley the 13th chancellor of the University System of Georgia effective Jan. 1, 2017. He oversees 26 public colleges and universities with a \$9.8 billion annual budget, 48,000 faculty and staff, and more than 341,000 students.

The Georgia Public Library System and the Georgia Archives are also part of USG, which has been recognized nationally for its efforts in cost savings and student attainment. The number of students annually earning degrees has increased 29 percent since 2011, from about 54,000 to nearly 71,000. And through support from initiatives such as Affordable Learning Georgia, students have saved \$19 million annually through the use of free online textbooks.

Prior to becoming chancellor, Wrigley served as executive vice chancellor of Administration for the University System of Georgia from June 2011 until his appointment as Chancellor. Wrigley formerly served as senior vice president for External Affairs, as well as vice president for Government Relations, at the University of Georgia. He also served as director of the Carl Vinson Institute of Government.

Prior to his work at USG, Wrigley served in state government, including five years as chief of staff to former Georgia Governor Zell Miller. He worked on a number of key issues including the creation of the state lottery and the groundbreaking HOPE Scholarship.

Wrigley earned his undergraduate degree from Georgia State University and his doctorate in history from Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois. He and his wife, Lynne, have two children.

Letter from the Chairman

I am honored to serve as the chair of the University System of Georgia Foundation, where our number one priority is raising funds and awareness for scholarships for Georgia's need-based students. The USG Foundation is led by an engaged, diverse and dedicated Board of Trustees, as well as a diligent staff who devote their time and resources to strengthen public higher education in the state of Georgia. We are committed to finding opportunities to support the University System of Georgia, one of the nation's greatest higher education systems.

As a supporter of the USG, the Foundation provides professional development opportunities to our colleagues. In FY20, the Foundation participated in more than 25 seminars and trainings across the state for institutional leaders, board members, and advancement and alumni relations professionals. Additionally, the Foundation awarded \$1,285,750 in need-based scholarships and \$30,000 in faculty awards. These funds were made possible through sponsorships to the Board of Regents' Scholarship Gala, combined with endowment dollars and careful stewardship of the Foundation finances. Scholarships were awarded to all 26 USG public institutions. Thanks to our generous sponsors, the Board of Regents' Scholarship Gala raised \$908,000 for student need-based scholarships.

Along with the important work of raising money for scholarships, the USG Foundation also continued to support the University System through our work on campus housing projects. We are focused on lowering housing costs for students by taking full advantage of savings through tax-exempt bond offerings.

As always, we aim to build a culture of philanthropy that supports the USG. The mission would not be possible without the generosity of donors who give to USG institutions and the USG Foundation, and our dedicated Trustees and staff members who sustain the goals of the Foundation. We look forward to what is to come and thank you for your support.

Sincerely, Neil L. Pruitt Jr. Chair, USG Foundation Board



Neil L. Pruitt Jr.

Neil L. Pruitt Jr. is chairman and CEO of PruittHealth, Inc., an integrated health care company offering independent and assisted living, skilled nursing services, rehabilitation services, home health and hospice care as well as pharmacy services, communitybased services, medical supplies and care management. Pruitt served as chair of the Board of Governors of the American Health Care Association and chair of the Georgia Health Care Association.

As shown by his February 2013, congressional appointment to the Commission on Long-Term Care — a 15-member panel charged with developing plans for a comprehensive, coordinated and high-quality system ensuring long-term care for older adults and people with disabilities, Pruitt has become a recognized leader in the health care profession. Pruitt serves as chair of the Board of Trustees of the University System of Georgia Foundation, Inc., and currently serves as a board member for the Augusta University Health System.

He received a Bachelor of Arts degree in economics from the University of the South in Tennessee and was awarded a Master of Business Administration and a Master of Health Administration from Georgia State University. He is an active member of the Peachtree Presbyterian Church in Atlanta. He and his wife, Mebane, have three children.

The University System of Georgia Foundation, Inc. was established in 1995 as a nonprofit corporation under the applicable provisions of the Georgia Nonprofit Corporation Code. The corporation is a voluntary association of individuals and organizations organized exclusively for charitable purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The corporation was organized as a cooperative organization of the Board of Regents.

USGF Board of Trustees



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JAIME CLOUD EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT AND ASSISTANT TO SECRETARY TO THE BOARD jaime.cloud@usg.edu 404-962-3295



Ways to Give

The USG Foundation offers a variety of convenient giving options to accommodate donors' philanthropic interests:

BY CREDIT CARD

Give quickly and easily using Visa®, MasterCard®, American Express™, or DISCOVER® cards. Online gifts can be made by visiting www.usgfoundation.org/give.

BY CHECK

Please make your check payable to the "USG Foundation." Also, please note your preferred designation on the memo line of your check. Checks should be mailed to USG Foundation Gift Processing, 270 Washington Street, SW, Suite 7002, Atlanta, Georgia 30334.

ELECTRONIC FUNDS TRANSFER (EFT)

EFTs, or monthly bank drafts, are a convenient way to support the USG Foundation. Specify your gift amount (minimum of \$15 monthly) and designation according to your wishes.

To request the form necessary to begin an EFT or make an inquiry, please contact a staff member at (404) 962-3058 or info_usgfoundation@usg.edu.

CORPORATE MATCHING

Your employer may double or even triple your gift to the USG Foundation. Your employer's human resources department can provide details and the matching gift form to include with your check.

STOCK GIFTS

By donating common stocks, bonds, mutual funds and other appreciated securities, donors may also receive tax benefits that include avoiding long-term capital gains tax and obtaining deductions for their annual income tax filing. In most cases, donors can maximize their contribution through gifts of stock by transferring these appreciated securities to the USG Foundation directly, rather than liquidating them first and donating the proceeds of that sale to the Foundation.

Before directing a transfer agent to transfer a stock gift to the Foundation, contact a USG staff member at (404) 962-3058 or info_usgfoundation@usg.edu to learn how best to expedite your donation.

GIFTS-IN-KIND

Gifts-in-kind involve both tangible and intangible personal property. Tangible assets might include single or collective works of art, books or other collectibles; vehicles; animals; and equipment. Intangible assets might include patents; copyrights of cultural, artistic and literary works; and computer software under development. Gifts-in-kind may be retained or sold (with the proceeds of the sale distributed to the university purpose as designated by the donor) or retained by the USG Foundation to use in a manner benefiting its mission.

Contact a staff member at (404) 962-3058 or info_usgfoundation@usg.edu to request someone call you about making a gift.

ESTATE PLAN GIFTS

Donors can provide support for the USG Foundation at the time of their death through a number of estate planning vehicles that, in addition to many of the opportunities outlined previously, include retirement plan assets, charitable remainder trusts, gift annuities and partnership interests. Some planned giving options include opportunities for the donor to receive return income or other financial benefits during his or her lifetime in return for the contribution, as well as immediate tax-deductible benefits without the penalty of capital gains taxes on the transfer.

Contact a staff member at (404) 962-3058 or email info_usgfoundation@usg.edu to request someone call you about making an estate gift.

CORPORATE AND FOUNDATION RELATIONS

Philanthropic partnerships with the USG Foundation foster positive business, academic and community relationships for corporations and foundations. Contact Karen McCauley at (404) 462-3056 or karen.mccauley@usg.edu to learn more about our corporate and foundation partnerships.

Scholarship Support & Endowments

USGF NEED-BASED SCHOLARSHIPS

\$909,863

Funds awarded to USG institutions for need-based student scholarships. Funding made possible through contributions to the annual gala, the Employee Giving Campaign and investment-generated revenue.

THE CORVIAS SCHOLARSHIPS \$546.363

Need-based scholarships awarded to students attending an institution where Corvias has developed, managed and maintained student housing as part of a P3 initiative. Funding made possible by Corvias.

JAMES M. HULL NEED-BASED SCHOLARSHIPS \$85,000

Funds awarded to selected USG institutions for needbased student scholarships, support for the REACH Program and an honorary gift to the Regent Emeritus Donald M. Leebern Jr. Endowed Scholarship Fund. Funding made possible by Regent and Mrs. James M. Hull.

PRUITTHEALTH NEED-BASED SCHOLARSHIPS \$50,000

Funds awarded to selected USG institutions for needbased student scholarships and an honorary gift to the Regent Emeritus Donald M. Leebern Jr. Endowed Scholarship Fund. Funding made possible by PruittHealth.

JAMES H. PORTER ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS \$45,000

Need-based scholarships awarded to students at USG's historically black colleges or universities. Funding made possible by the James H. Porter Trust Fund.

DON L. WATERS NEED-BASED SCHOLARSHIPS \$35,000

Funds awarded to selected USG institutions for needbased student scholarships, support for the REACH Program and an honorary gift to the Regent Emeritus Donald M. Leebern Jr. Endowed Scholarship Fund. Funding made possible by Regent and Mrs. Don L. Waters.

ELRIDGE MCMILLAN LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD SCHOLARSHIP

\$30,000 Funds awarded to a selected USG institution for



need-based student scholarships. Awards are given in honor of the Elridge McMillan Lifetime Achievement Award recipient. Funding made possible through contributions to a named endowment and matching funds from the gala.

REACH PROGRAM SCHOLARSHIPS \$27,500

Renewable awards of \$2,500 to students who meet the REACH Scholarship requirements to be used at any HOPE-eligible institution. Funding made possible through designated contributions.

BARNER AND JOHNNIE MAE GREEN SCHOLARSHIPS

\$12,010

Funds awarded for need-based scholarships for students from Troup County, Georgia, attending a USG institution. Funding made possible by Dr. Carla Green Williams.

AFLAC SCHOLARSHIPS

\$10,000

Funds awarded for need-based scholarships for students from Muscogee County, Georgia, attending a USG institution. Funding made possible by Aflac.

GEORGIA ASSOCIATION OF PHYSICIANS OF INDIAN HERITAGE SCHOLARSHIPS

\$9,000

Funds awarded for need-based scholarships awarded for higher education degrees at USG institutions while promoting the culture of India in a modern, global world. Funding made possible by the Georgia Association of Physicians of Indian Heritage.

HENRY M. "HANK" AND AMY HUCKABY ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIPS

\$7,540

Funds awarded for need-based scholarships awarded to students attending selected USG institutions. Funding made possible through designated contributions to the named endowment.

ELEANOR BOYKIN DAVIS ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIPS

\$5,770

Funds awarded for need-based scholarships awarded to students attending a selected USG institution. Funding made possible through an endowed gift from Erroll and Elaine Davis.

THE MERRYLL PENSON SCHOLARSHIPS

\$3,000

Funds awarded for need-based scholarships for students attending a USG institution enrolled in library and information studies. Funding made possible through designated contributions to the named endowment.

DR. ISAAC J. CRUMBLY CDEP LEGACY ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIPS

\$2,322

Funds awarded for need-based scholarship support awarded to Cooperative Developmental Energy Program students in the dual degree program at Fort Valley State University. Funding made possible through designated contributions to the named endowment.

EARLY COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS \$2,000

Funds awarded for need-based scholarships awarded to graduates of the Early College program planning to attend USG institutions. Funding made possible through designated contributions.

THE BURKE COUNTY REPARATIVE ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP

\$1,000

Funds awarded for need-based scholarships for students from Burke County, Georgia, attending USG's historically black colleges or universities. Funding made possible through an endowed gift from Henrietta L. Wiley and Mary A. Sykes.

RUTH HELEN DIEHL SCHOLARSHIPS \$1,000

Funds awarded for need-based scholarships for students attending USG institutions offering a bachelor's degree or advanced degree in education. Funding made possible by Ms. Darcy Silvia.

Established funds available for disbursement in subsequent years

HALL COUNTY SCHOLARSHIPS

Need-based scholarships awarded to students from Hall County, Georgia, attending a USG institution. Funding made possible by Sen. Butch Miller.

REGENT EMERITUS DONALD M. LEEBERN JR. ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIPS

Need-based scholarships for students attending USG institutions. Funding made possible through an endowed gift from Donald M. Leebern III and designated contributions to the named endowment.

GEORGIA FILM ACADEMY SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Scholarships available for Georgia Film Academy students at participating USG institutions. Funding made possible through designated contributions.

GEORGIA FILM ACADEMY DRAMATIC WRITING AND SCREENPLAY COMPETITION SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships for students interested in the film and digital entertainment industries to attend a USG institution. Funding made possible by Chris Bura.

Faculty awards

THE FELTON JENKINS JR. FACULTY AWARDS \$30,000

Awards for \$5,000 presented to outstanding faculty selected by the USG Academic Affairs Committee. Funding made possible through contributions to the gala and USG Foundation investment income.

USG financial support

OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR \$60,000

Funds designated for the Chancellor's Office to advance the work of the USG. Funding made possible through private contributions to the gala and USG Foundation.

Financial Information*

Consolidated statement of financial position including real estate foundation LLCs

ASSETS	

Cash and cash equivalents	\$1,603,841
Pledges and grants receivable; net	871,100
Investments	5,366,599
Net investments in direct financing leases	375,459,838
Assets limited as to use	34,473,214
Construction in progress	18,393,085
Total assets	\$436,167,677

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Liabilities:	
Construction payable	\$1,725,624
Accounts Payable	136,887
Scholarships payable	76,040
Bonds payable, net	347,059,126
USDA notes payable, net	73,001,287
Accrued interest payable	3,246,999
Total liabilities	\$425,245,963

Net assets:

Without donor restrictions	
Undesignated	3,950,878
Board-designated	4,748,392
Total without donor restrictions	8,699,270
With donor restrictions	2,222,444
Total net assets	10,921,714
Total liabilities and net assets	\$436,167,677

*For the year ended June 30, 2020

Consolidated statement of activities including real estate foundation LLCs

OPERATING REVENUES AND OTHER SUPPORT

Contributions	\$1,612,042
Donated services and materials	34,156
Service contract revenue	546,363
Registration fees and other income	30,191
Management fee income	43,496
Investment income, net of investment fees	531,210
Net realized and unrealized losses on investments	(-75,196)
Investment income from direct financing leases	16,840,117
Rental income	2,827,836
Total operating revenues and support	\$22,390,215
OPERATING EXPENSES	
Program services:	
Scholarships and awards	\$1,290,259
R&D programmatic grants	81,479
USO and BOR support	184,943
Institutional advancement	201,810
Real estate support	14,520,090
Total program services	\$16,278,581
Supporting services:	
General and administrative	\$155,460
Fundraising	428,819
Total supporting services	\$584,279
Total operating expenses	\$16,862,860
NON-OPERATING ACTIVITIES	

OPERATING ACTIVITIES

Loss on extinguishment of bond debt	(8,911,362)
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS FROM NON-OPERATING ACTIVITIES	(8,911,362)
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	(3,384,007)
NET ASSETS, BEGINNING	14,305,721
NET ASSETS, ENDING	\$10,921,714

Summarized statement of financial position excluding real estate foundation LLCs

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

Total assets	\$7,852,459
Liabilities	182,486
Net assets	7,669,973
Total liabilities and net assets	\$7,852,459
DETAIL OF NET ASSETS	

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Without donor restrictions	
Undesignated	699,137
Board-designated	4,748,392
Total without donor restrictions	5,447,529
With donor restrictions	2,222,444
Total net assets	7,669,973
Total liabilities and net assets	\$7,852,459

Audit Committee Report

The Audit Committee of the University System of Georgia Foundation, Inc. and Affiliates (Foundation) has reviewed and discussed with Foundation's management the audited financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2020, to be included in the Foundation's annual report.

The committee has satisfied itself and has advised the Board accordingly that the audited financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2020, are fair, balanced, understandable and allow readers to accurately assess the Foundation's performance.

The Audit Committee has received and reviewed the audits annual direct communication from Mauldin & Jenkins on "Internal Control Related Matters Identified in an Audit" as required by the Statement of Auditing Standards No. 115 and are pleased to report no material weaknesses or significant deficiencies were noted.

Submitted by the Audit Committee John Robinson Pete Robinson Ty Smith

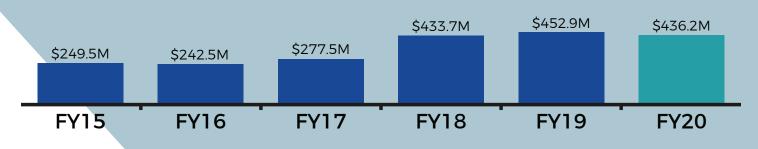
EXPENSES	JUNE 2020	% OF EXPENSE
Scholarships & Awards	\$1,290,259	7.7%
Programmatic Grants	\$81,479	0.5%
USO and BOR Support	\$184,943	1.1%
Institutional Support	\$201,810	1.2%
Real Estate Support	\$14,520,090	86.1%
General & Administrative	\$155,460	0.9%
Fundraising	\$428,819	2.5%
Total	\$16,862,860	100.0%

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS	JUNE 2019	JUNE 2020	CHANGE
Total Assets	\$452.9M	\$436.2M	-3.7%
Net Assets	\$14.3M	\$10.90M	-1.7%
Total Revenues	\$23.0M	\$22.40M	-2.6%
Program & Scholarship Services	\$17.3M	\$16.30M	-5.8%
Supporting Services	\$0.46M	\$0.58M	26.1%

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ASSETS



INVESTMENTS



REVENUE



Investments in Direct Financing Leases

The USG Foundation, in partnership with the University System of Georgia Board of Regents, facilitates financing of capital improvement projects and new facilities at USG institutions through direct financing leases.

The USG Foundation Board of Trustees create disregarded limited liability corporation (LLC) subsidiaries with the USG Foundation as the sole member to house these projects. All of these projects have a ground lease/rental agreement arrangement. This allows bundling of construction projects on various USG campuses by issuing larger, tax-exempt bonds or by refinancing existing tax-exempt bonds.

Advantages to this process include cost-effective fees, increased efficiencies and enhanced risk management.

In June 2017, the Board of Trustees created a separate real estate board, USGREF Manager, LLC, to manage all USG Real Estate Foundation entities and leases. Members of this board are appointed by and from the full USG Foundation board and serve a three-year term.

As of June 30, 2020, the Foundation has entered into 25 agreements with the Board of Regents to lease properties for use by 16 institutions with net assets valued at approximately \$428 million with an outstanding debt balance of approximately \$400 million. This represents an 73% increase in the portfolio in the past five years.

USG REAL ESTATE FOUNDATION I, LLC Albany State College (Darton campus) Dalton State College Fort Valley State University Georgia College & State University Kennesaw State University (Marietta campus) University of North Georgia (Gainesville campus)	\$72,824,761
USG REAL ESTATE FOUNDATION II, LLC Columbus State University Kennesaw State University (Marietta campus)	\$59,802,111
USG REAL ESTATE FOUNDATION III, LLC College of Coastal Georgia Georgia College & State University Savannah State University University of West Georgia	\$51,364,371
USG REAL ESTATE FOUNDATION IV, LLC Fort Valley State University	\$41,732,732
USG REAL ESTATE FOUNDATION V, LLC South Georgia State College	\$37,460,889
USG REAL ESTATE FOUNDATION VI, LLC Gordon State College	\$27,209,195
USG REAL ESTATE FOUNDATION VII, LLC Middle Georgia State University (Eastman & Cochran campuses)	\$56,133,873
USG REAL ESTATE FOUNDATION VIII, LLC Georgia Southwestern State University	\$34,584,213
USG REAL ESTATE FOUNDATION IX, LLC Middle Georgia State University (Macon campus)	\$22,241,562
USG REAL ESTATE FOUNDATION X, LLC Albany State University	\$25,123,911

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Fiscal Management Services

Private grants

The USG Foundation provides fiscal management for private grants administered by the USG System Office in partnership with USG institutions and USG Education Agency partners.

Program management

The USG Foundation provides fiscal management for the University System Office. During FY20 these accounts included:

AFRICAN-AMERICAN MALE INITIATIVE (AAMI) Private funding received to support implementation of the Task Force on Enhancing College Access for African-American Males.

GEORGIA FILM ACADEMY Private funding received to support the Georgia Film Academy.

GEORGIA PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM Private funding received to support Georgia Public Libraries, Georgia Library for Accessible Statewide Service, Entrepreneurial Learning Initiative and Tech Boot Camps.

GEORGIA FINTECH ACADEMY

Private funds received to support the Georgia FinTech Academy.

OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

Private funds designated for the Chancellor and USG staff to advance the work of the University System.

REGENTS' PER DIEM

Regent contributions to cover expenses incurred through their work on behalf of the USG and to provide support for USG programs.



USG Facts

The University System

The University System of Georgia is a part of the community in each of Georgia's 159 counties and provides services across the state. The USG is composed of 26 higher education institutions, including four research universities, four comprehensive universities, nine state universities and nine state colleges. It also includes the Georgia Public Library Service, which encompasses approximately 389 facilities within the 61 library systems throughout Georgia. Additionally, the USG includes the Georgia Archives, which identifies, collects, manages, preserves and provides access to records and information about Georgia.

Degrees, Majors and Rankings

The University System of Georgia's institutions conferred a total of 70,879 degrees in fiscal year 2020.

Enrollment

The University System of Georgia enrolled 333,507 students for Fall 2019.

Economic Impact, Employment and Budget

The University System of Georgia's economic impact on the state was \$18.5 billion in fiscal year 2019, according to the most recent study conducted by the Selig Center for Economic Growth. The USG has an annual budget of more than \$9.6 billion for fiscal year 2020.

USG Institutions



RESEARCH UNIVERSITIES Augusta University Georgia Institute of Technology Georgia State University University of Georgia



STATE UNIVERSITIES Albany State University Clayton State University Columbus State University Fort Valley State University Georgia College & State University Georgia Southwestern State University Middle Georgia State University Savannah State University University of North Georgia



COMPREHENSIVE UNIVERSITIES

Georgia Southern University Kennesaw State University University of West Georgia Valdosta State University

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STATE COLLEGES

Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College Atlanta Metropolitan State College College of Coastal Georgia Dalton State College East Georgia State College Georgia Gwinnett College Georgia Highlands College Gordon State College South Georgia State College

Regents' Scholarship Gala

Gov. Kemp helps USGF raise more than \$908,000 for need-based funds

The 16th annual Regents' Scholarship Gala, hosted by the USG Foundation, raised more than \$830,000 from generous sponsors and \$78,000 in live auction proceeds to support and provide need-based scholarships for students at USG institutions across the state.

The gala included Gov. Brian P. Kemp and first lady Marty Kemp, as well as more than 400 individuals representing USG's 26 institutions, supporters, donors, alumni and businesses. Among the attendees were state elected officials, members of the Board of Regents, and presidents from USG's colleges and universities.

The need-based scholarships funded by the gala will be awarded for the 2020-21 academic year. Each institution's president selects scholarship recipients at their respective campuses.

Over the 16 years the USG Foundation has held this annual event, it has awarded more than \$16.5 million to support the scholarship program, faculty recognition and key USG initiatives.

"The generosity of our many donors opens the door to economic opportunities that many students otherwise would not have," USG Chancellor Steve Wrigley said. "I am especially grateful for Governor and first lady Kemp's support of our efforts. For many students, financial barriers can prevent them from completing a degree or participating in a range of experiences that can enrich their education. To put it simply, higher education can be life-changing, and these donations do make a difference."

"The gala offers an opportunity to celebrate excellence in many forms at the University System of Georgia," said USG Foundation Chairman and Regent Neil L. Pruitt Jr. "The celebration is centered on our students and the positive impact their college experiences are making on their lives today and will continue to make on their future endeavors. For 16 years, the gala has supported USG's mission by generating funds for need-based scholarships through the unwavering generosity of our donors who make this possible."

The Regents' Scholarship Gala honors faculty, alumni, and an individual or couple who exemplify true leadership and support of higher education in Georgia. Gov. Kemp presented the Elridge McMillan Lifetime Achievement Award to Dr. Wayne Clough, president emeritus of Georgia Tech and former secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, for his extraordinary leadership and service to public higher education. This is the highest honor the USG Foundation bestows.

The Foundation also recognized the following recipients of the Regents' Hall of Fame Alumni and Distinguished Friends Award. This award is presented to outstanding alumni and friends for their dedicated service and support to a USG institution:

- John G. Alston Sr., nominated by University of Georgia
- James A. Bishop, nominated by College of Coastal Georgia
- Dorothy Hubbard, nominated by Albany State University
- Stuart Parker, nominated by Valdosta State University
- C. Lamar Wright and the late Ann Wright, nominated by Dalton State College

Six USG faculty members were honored as the 2020 recipients of the Felton Jenkins Jr. Hall of Fame Faculty Award. This prestigious teaching award recognizes faculty's important contributions to their schools and fields of study and for their strong commitment to teaching and student success. The awardees were:

- Dr. Hasitha Mahabaduge, assistant professor, Department of Chemistry, Physics and Astronomy, Georgia College and State University
- Dr. Marina G. Smitherman, chair and professor, Department of Life Sciences, Dalton State College
- Dr. Donald R. Webster, Karen and John Huff Chair of the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Georgia Institute of Technology
- Dr. David Glassmeyer, associate professor, Department of Secondary & Middle Grades Education, Kennesaw State University
- Dr. Ashok K. Goel, professor, School of Interactive Computing, Georgia Institute of Technology
- Dr. Kimberly Shaw, professor, Earth & Space Sciences, Columbus State University

Information about the awards and recipients can be viewed on the USG Foundation website at www.usgfoundation.org/awards_scholarships.



C. Lamar and Ann W. Wrig)

Clockwise from top, (I-r) Regent Sachin Shailendra, Chancellor Steve Wrigley, Dr. Wayne Clough, Regent Neil Pruitt and Gov. Brian Kemp at the Regents' Scholarship Gala. Kemp presented the Elridge McMillan Lifetime Achievement Award to Clough, president emeritus of Georgia Tech and former secretary of the Smithsonian Institution. Dorothy Hubbard, nominated by Albany State University, holds her Regents' Hall of Fame Alumni and Distinguished Friends Award. Gala attendees, which included state elected officials, members of the Board of Regents, and presidents from USG's colleges and universities, mingle during the gala. The gala awards honor faculty, alumni and others who support higher education in Georgia.



Kimberly Shaw



SERVING THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF GEORGIA