

HAPPENINGS

A publication for the Bainbridge College Family

June 2003

Volume 2

BC CLIMBS STATE RANKINGS

According to a recent state report, Bainbridge College ranks at or near the top in measurable performance factors against Georgia colleges and universities.

In the area of six-year graduation rates for first-time full-time freshmen, BC's performance factor tied for first with Abraham Baldwin College and Coastal Georgia Community College among University System of Georgia institutions. BC's three-year average graduation rate also surpassed the averages of the regional universities, state universities, state colleges, and two-year colleges.

BC's performance factor also tied for first with seven other USG institutions in the area of first-year retention rates for first-

time full-time freshmen and surpassed the three-year average for two-year colleges overall.

These total performance factors showed that BC also tied with the University of Georgia overall.

"The college has consistently improved over the years," said BC president Clifford Brock. "We work hard to get students here and they do well once they are here."

BC officials have found that students graduate from the college at high rates, and, frequently, their grades improve when they transfer to several large state universities. Nationally, the grades of community college students tend to drop when they transfer to a university.

REGENTS APPROVE TUITION RATES

Despite statewide budget cuts, students in the USG will see a nominal tuition increase at the state's 13 two-year colleges of just \$33 per semester, about 73 cents per school day.

The 4.95% increase at two-year colleges, such as BC, is lower than the 10% tuition increase at regional and state universities and four-year colleges, and the 15% tuition increase at the USG's four research universities.

"The tuition rates approved by the board will help us maintain quality educational programs in the face of high demand for our services," said University System of Georgia Chancellor Thomas C. Meredith.

"But despite these necessary increases, in-state undergraduate tuition in Georgia's public colleges and universities still remains low when compared against our regional and national peers."

BC President Dr. Clifford Brock concurs with Dr. Meredith.

"An education at Bainbridge College remains one of the best buys in the country. We are one of two comprehensive colleges in Georgia that offers System guaranteed transfer programs and technical programs of study through the Department of

Technical and Adult Education."

"The situation facing Georgia is not unlike that facing public higher education across the country," Meredith said. "As state budgets have been squeezed, public colleges and universities have seen their state appropriations reduced as other needs compete for limited dollars. For example, for FY04, the University System of Georgia is operating on \$56 million fewer state dollars than we had in FY03 – yet we had a record high enrollment in both the fall 2002 and spring 2003 semesters."

Projected percentage tuition increases for many states have reached double digits. "Next door, in Florida, the legislature has approved a 7.5% minimum tuition increase at the two-year level." Brock said.

Tuition increases nationally range from 8-10 percent in Oklahoma, almost 40 percent in Arizona, 9.5-18 percent in Kentucky, 15 percent in Minnesota and 18-25 percent in Nebraska.

Effective for the Fall 2003 semester, tuition for Georgia residents enrolled full-time at two-year colleges will increase by only \$33 per semester (or \$66 per year) over the

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FACULTY/STAFF HONORED



Meritorious Award winners (from l. to r) Norris Thompson, Horace Taylor, Jerry McNease and Connie Snyder pose with President Brock at Honors Night ceremonies. BC employee award winners not pictured included Wilbert Butler, Student Activities Faculty Award, and Doris Carmichael, Rick Perkins Faculty Award.

GRIFFIN EARNS AWARDS



Educational Technology Services Coordinator Neil Griffin received an Image Award and Judges Award from WCTV Channel 6 anchor Julie Montanaro at the Florida Public Relations Association Capital Chapter Image Awards in Tallahassee. The entry, a video for the Bainbridge-Decatur Co. United Way won in the category of Institutional Film or Video. The video was produced in the BC Digital Media Lab.

On The Go

Director of Financial Aid Linda Casey attended the Southern Association for Financial Aid Administrators Conference in Jacksonville which included a session entitled "Staying Out of Jail-Title IV Compliance Issues: An Institutional Responsibility" presented by David Bartnicki of the U.S. Department of Education.

Interim Vice-President of Business Affairs Paula Grollman attended the Tuition Remission Reimbursement Policy Advisory Committee meeting in Atlanta as well as the Asset Management Training in Macon with **Buyer Chris Sapp**, the Health Insurance Portability Act meeting in Macon with **Personnel Director Cindy Dean**, the Financials Model Change Review meeting via GSAMS with **Sapp, Accountant I Carol Newberry**, and **Accounting Assistant Amy Shephard**, and the University System of Georgia Human Resource Association Spring Conference in St. Simons with **Dean**.

Testing/Career Center Director Shannon Sutton attended the Regents' Administrative Council on Student Affairs meeting in Augusta.

Admissions Director Connie Snyder was one of nine directors chosen to represent the USG at the Georgia Best Model Development Project in Macon.

WIA Director Marilyn Melton was re-appointed to the Southwest Georgia Community Action Board in Moultrie.

President Dr. Clifford Brock attended the American Association of Community Colleges conference in Dallas and serves on the AACC Commission on Communication and Marketing.

Members of the Bainbridge College GOAL screening committee included **Vice-President of Student Affairs Dr. Patricia Green-Powell**, **Job Placement Coordinator Linda Washington**, **Testing and Career Counselor Shannon Sutton**, **Director of Continuing Education Greg McDonald**, and **Director of College Relations Valerie Beynon**.

President Dr. Clifford Brock, **Technical Studies Division Chair Dr. Karen Hill**, **Director of Continuing Education Greg McDonald**, **Director of Business and Industry Services Gean Hendrix**, **Administrative Assistant Grace Nix**, and **GSAMS Facilitator Brenda Hendrix** attended the 9th Annual Georgia Manufacturing Week Governor's Luncheon in Atlanta.

Administrative Assistant Grace Nix was approved as a school administrator for the BC School of Real Estate.

Developmental Studies Chair Dr. Carol Adams, **Associate Professor of Developmental English Dr. Carol Sinclair** and **Instructor of Political Science/Geography Dr. John Vanzo** presented papers at the Interdisciplinary Conference for Teachers of Undergraduates at Gordon College in Barnesville.

Developmental Studies Department Chair Dr. Carol Adams has been elected president-elect of the Georgia chapter of the National Association of Developmental Educators. She also presented a paper at the group's state conference at Callaway Gardens.

Instructor of Developmental Reading Greg Loyd served on a panel at the Spring Leadership Conference at Albany State University.

CALENDAR

June 2	First Day of Classes
June 26	River Regional Center Groundbreaking - 10 a.m.
July 4-5	College Closed - Holiday
August 13	Fall Open Registration
August 18	First Day of Fall Classes
Sept. 1	College Closed - Holiday

TUITION continued

previous year, from \$666 to \$699.

"Just because budgets are tight, we are not going to let our drive to enhance quality in the University System diminish," Meredith said. "Today, as never before, Georgia needs a high-quality system of public higher education that can help the state and its citizens prepare for the future and prosper economically."

Welcome

Beverly Moore
Enrollment Services Specialist

Michael Kirkland
Admissions Recruiter

Nancy Kin
Vice-President of Business Affairs

Condolences

Sympathy to **Security Guard Philip Hall** on the passing of his father.

Sympathy to **Instructor of Developmental Mathematics Ray Norton** on the passing of his father-in-law.

Sympathy to **Instructor of Communication/Speech Wynton Hall** on the passing of his grandfather.

This newsletter is available on the BC website as a PDF file. You must have Acrobat Reader on your Mac/PC to download it.

Appointed to a committee? Graduated? Recently married or had a baby? Let the campus know! E-mail your good news to vbeynon by the 15th of the previous month and look for it in an upcoming issue. This newsletter is published bi-monthly by the Office of College Relations.

Valerie Beynon, APR Editor and Publisher