

UNIVERSITY of 
West Georgia



**Fact Book
2004-2005**

2004-2005

University of West Georgia




Fact Book



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Dear Students, Faculty and Staff Colleagues, Alumni, and Friends of the University:

The state of the University is strong, my friends. The year 2005 started with a bang for us!

-  The Board of Regents approved our request to change our name officially to the University of West Georgia (UWG).
-  Our cheerleaders won the national championship for the fourth consecutive year.
-  Our debate team won the second annual debate tournament at the University of California – Berkeley, by beating Dartmouth, Harvard, and Northwestern in unanimous decisions.

And all of this just in the first month of 2005!

Add to that, that earlier in the academic year, UWG beat every other university in America in terms of student research papers accepted for the National Collegiate Honors Council (a 1 in 10 acceptance rate), and you have a picture of why we claim that, within our niche of *Educational Excellence in a Personal Environment*, we remain second to none.





We will continue to build on our strengths of the past year. So, I am honored to share with you the **State of the University** for the 2003-04 year, so that we may all take pride in the accomplishments of our University.






The Fall 2004 semester started with the University of West Georgia (UWG) breaking all prior records for the highest credit hour generation in our history.

It is worth noting that more than 73% of the Fall 1994, entering class could not have been admitted under our current admission standards. Fifty-two percent of the entering class was on Learning Support; today, that percentage is one half of one percent for traditional-aged students! Since that time, the Fall-to-Fall retention rate has increased from 57.47% to 71.6%. The increase in the size of the entering class combined with a 25.1% increase in retention rate, means that 536 more students in 2003 have an increased chance of success and of participation in Georgia's economic growth than in 1994!

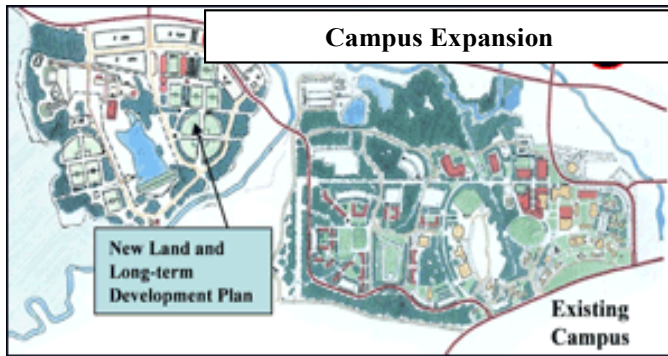
In the academic arena, we continue to excel in national accreditation and recognition for our programs. A complete list of our nationally accredited programs is available in our Fact Book (www.westga.edu/~factbook) on page 10. The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) reaffirmed UWG's accreditation with no further monitoring reports necessary for another 10 years – earlier, after their visit, they gave the University a rare commendation for technology resources, equipment and support, which a SACS accreditation visiting team called “far above that of similar institutions.”

Other accomplishments during the past year include the following:

-  A newly released study commissioned by the University System of Georgia reported that UWG pumped more than \$300 million in “output value” into the west Georgia region during Fiscal Year 2004 — an increase of \$82 million since the last such study in 2002. Conducted by the Selig Center for Economic Growth in the University of Georgia's Terry College of Business, the study also found that UWG accounts for more than 3,000 jobs in the area.
-  UWG was listed in The Princeton Review's second edition of *The Best Southeastern Colleges*, a guidebook featuring the top colleges and universities in 10 states: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee.
-  A team of four UWG Honors students was chosen by NASA to perform a physics experiment on acoustic fire control while floating aboard the agency's “Weightless Wonder” aircraft. The group is the only University System of Georgia team selected as one of 50 teams from around the country to participate in NASA's Reduced Gravity Student Flight Opportunities Program. Other participants include teams from such research powerhouses as Cal Tech, MIT, Carnegie Mellon, Dartmouth, Johns Hopkins and Purdue.
-  For the fifth time in the past seven years, UWG had more Honors students' research proposals accepted for presentation at the annual meeting of the National Collegiate Honors Council than any other U.S. college or university.

-  The Beta Gamma Sigma chapter in the Richards College of Business was recognized as a 2004 Premier Chapter by the national business honor society. UWG was one of only 63 schools in the U.S. to receive this honor.
-  Two computer science students won prestigious national scholarships from Upsilon Pi Epsilon, an honor society for computing. UPE awards only 10 of the scholarships annually, and it is rare for one school to have two recipients. The Department of Computer Science is one of only five such programs in Georgia that is accredited by the Computing Accreditation Commission of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology.
-  West Georgia won the 2004 Best Practices Award from the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia. UWG and Kennesaw State University jointly won the \$15,000 first-place award in the category of finance and business for our new electronic fund distribution system using bank cards coordinated through Higher One, a private Internet financial services provider. The card enables students to receive their financial aid refunds electronically in addition to functioning as a MasterCard debit card and a primary bank account with check-writing and ATM privileges and online banking. This innovation by UWG and KSU has since been adopted or is being considered for adoption by several other universities, thus increasing the saving to the State of Georgia.
-  A poster series titled Stop Sexual Violence produced by Health Services and its student peer educators received national recognition when it won the 2004 Winter Griffith Award for Excellence in Patient Education Materials from the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine.
-  After conducting an in-depth analysis of student success as predicted by high school grade-point average and SAT scores, the University gained approval from the University System to increase admissions standards effective May 1, 2004, to increase student success rates. The Freshman Index was increased from 1940 to 2050, and the minimum Math SAT score increased from 400 to 410.
-  The Georgia WebMBA, which UWG offers in cooperation with Georgia College & State University, Georgia Southern University, Kennesaw State University and Valdosta State University, was ranked among the 10 best and most affordable online MBA programs in the country by GetEducated.com, a clearinghouse that showcases accredited online degrees.
-  The UWG Debate Team qualified for competition in the National Debate Tournament for the 32nd consecutive year, a streak that is matched by only six other schools in the country: Dartmouth, Georgetown, Harvard, the University of Kansas, Northwestern and the University of Redlands.
-  For the fourth time in six years, a UWG student (Toma Omonuwa, a junior Honors chemistry major from Douglasville) was awarded the Goldwater Scholarship, the nation's premier award for undergraduates majoring in mathematics, the natural sciences or engineering.
-  The student Residence Hall Presidents Council received a national award for leadership training from the National Association of College and University Residence Halls, as well as a regional award for best developing residence hall association from the South Atlantic Affiliate of College and University Residence Halls.
-  Ten students were chosen to present research at the 2004 National Conference on Undergraduate Research, and four geology students presented research with faculty at the joint meeting of the Northeastern and Southeastern Sections of the Geological Society of America.
-  A marketing course designed by Dr. Beheruz Sethna, professor of business administration and university president, was selected in a national competition as one of the country's three most innovative courses in the decision sciences by the Decision Sciences Institute.
-  Dr. Said Sewell, assistant professor of political science, received the Anne Julia Cooper Teacher of the Year Award from the National Conference of Black Political Scientists.
-  Sylvia Shortt, counselor and assistant director of the Student Development Center, was awarded the Professional Leadership Award by the American College Counseling Association.
-  Dr. Leland Gustafson, professor of economics, was honored with the 2004 Teaching Fellow award by the Academy of Economics and Finance.
-  In competition with cities around the country and overseas, the University contributed to the establishment of an AirTran Airways Customer Contact Center in Carrollton by creating a program in the UWG Office of Career Services for providing the airline with student part-time workers. The center is expected to employ 200 workers when it reaches full operating capacity.
-  The Department of Nursing established new post-master's certificate programs in nursing education and health systems leadership. The nursing education certificate will prepare advanced practice nurses to teach in nursing schools to help alleviate Georgia's shortage of nursing faculty.

The campus continues to show significant activity and progress in terms of physical facilities:



🔥 We completed our second five-year Facilities Master Plan. As part of the Master Planning Process, a need for land was identified that would meet the needs of campus growth for the next 10-15 years. The City of Carrollton, under the leadership of Mayor Wayne Garner, former Mayor Gerald Pilgrim, and both City Councils, gave the University a grant of about 200+ acres of land towards the northwest of the current campus. That part of the campus will house many athletics and commuter parking facilities in the future.

🔥 We completed the renovation of the food service facilities-Z-6, food court and convenience store, and added coffee kiosks in the Ed center and the TLC.

🔥 We completed renovation of the mechanical systems in the Education Center, the renovation of Tyus Hall, a new parking lot for 400 cars, and an underground utility system to support the technological needs of a vibrant and growing institution.



🔥 Construction was completed of the University Suites, three new residence halls in a privatized 612-bed student housing complex, and the Board of Regents approved the construction of three additional new residence halls, scheduled to open in fall 2005. The Regents also approved the construction of a new Campus Center, a first-class recreational facility to be funded by student fees.

🔥 Reconstruction was completed of the historically significant Adamson Hall, one of the University's earliest buildings, which had been declared structurally unsound in 1995 and demolished in 2001. The new building houses classrooms, labs and offices for the Richards College of Business, as well as offices for Continuing Education and other outreach services.

As I end this State of the University letter, let me close with a few examples of my individual commitment to *Educational Excellence in a Personal Environment*:

- 🔥 For the eleventh consecutive year since I arrived at UWG in 1994-95, I taught an undergraduate course to demonstrate my commitment to our personal environment.
- 🔥 The course that I teach at UWG was been selected, on the basis of a national competition sponsored by the Decision Sciences Institute, as one of the three most innovative courses in the United States.
- 🔥 UWG students, faculty, and staff volunteer to read to, and teach reading to, individual students every week through the Carrollton Elementary School HOST program. I am one of these volunteers, and teach an elementary school child to read, in a one-on-one session, on Monday mornings.
- 🔥 As I have done many times in the past, I helped students move into their residence halls at the start of the semester. While my back thinks I am not at all smart (and is probably right) to keep doing this, my heart tells me to do it as an indicator of my personal commitment to the personal environment and to help add to our welcoming culture.

We look forward to the new academic year, and to your help in having us exceed the accomplishments of the past with even greater ones in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, likely reading "Beheruz N. Sethna".

Beheruz N. Sethna, Ph.D.
Professor of Business Administration, and
President of the University

University of West Georgia

Fact Book

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The University



The University

<http://www.westga.edu/>

History

The University of West Georgia, a senior unit of the University System of Georgia, is a co-educational, residential, liberal arts institution located in Carrollton, Georgia.

Carrollton, about an hour's drive from Atlanta, is the seat of Carroll County and one of Georgia's fastest growing industrial areas. Carrollton provides a regional population of approximately 100,000 with retail shopping, medical, educational and financial services, entertainment, and recreation.

The University of West Georgia originated in 1906 as the Fourth District Agricultural and Mechanical School (A&M), one of twelve such institutions established by the State of Georgia between 1906 and 1917. In 1933, an act by the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia established Carrollton's A&M School as West Georgia College. Dr. Irvine S. Ingram, principal of the A&M School became the College's first president.

In 1957, the institution was authorized to confer a Bachelor of Science degree in Education, making it a four-year senior college unit of the University System of Georgia. Now, majors in over fifty different fields provide students a wide range of options for their undergraduate degrees.

During the following years, West Georgia College became one of the fastest growing institutions of higher learning in the South. From an enrollment of 576 in 1957, the institution's student body is now over 10,000. West Georgia offers 12 undergraduate degrees with majors in over 50 fields.

In 1967, the Board of Regents authorized the initiation of a Master's level graduate program. The institution currently offers nine Masters degrees in over 40 areas of study. The Specialist in Education degree is offered in 11 areas of study, and in 1999, the Board of Regents approved the institution's first doctoral program in Education.

In 1983, the Board of Regents approved the External Degree Program as a cooperative effort between Dalton College and West Georgia. Since its inception, close to 400 degrees conferred through the Center. The Board of Regents in 1988 approved opening the Newnan Center, a joint effort involving the Newnan-Coweta Chamber of Commerce and other business, civic and educational leaders in the area. With an enrollment of more than 300, the Newnan Center provides core curriculum and a possible degree in General Studies for residents in the Newnan-Coweta County area.

On June 12, 1996, in an historic decision, the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia voted to change the name of West Georgia College to the State University of West Georgia. January 12, 2005, they voted to approve changing the name from the State University of West Georgia to the University of West Georgia (UWG).

To accommodate University growth, a multi-million dollar building program has increased the value of the University's physical facilities to nearly \$154 million. Beginning with three small buildings, the University has grown to include nearly 80 structures for learning, living, and recreation on its 394-acre wooded campus.

The Campus

The campus is a unique blend of old and new. Covered with a variety of trees and flowers, the campus is dotted with structures of the early 1900s, as well as buildings exemplifying the most contemporary modes of architecture.

The front, or "Old Campus," a three-block-long expanse of rolling hills shaded by scores of old towering oak, elm, and maple trees, surrounds a number of faded brick buildings stretching in a semi-circle adjacent to the park. This is where West Georgia began as an A&M School in 1906.

Beyond the old campus is a modern academic complex composed of library, social science, humanities, and math-physics buildings. The Richards College of Business Annex was added in 1985. Other buildings in the area include a three-story student center, a health and physical education center featuring a 3,000-seat gymnasium and indoor pool, and one of the most modern college infirmaries in the state. A performing arts center, containing two theatres, a black box and a main stage, which seat 250 and 455 respectively, was completed in 1989.

Situated across from the performing arts center is the focal point for the University's core curriculum classes - the new Technology-enhanced Learning Center. The \$20 million, 110,000-square-foot, three-story, state-of-the-art building was completed in the summer of 2001. Academic departments housed in the TLC include Computer Science, English, Chemistry, and History. The defining feature of the TLC is the "smart" classroom, or studio classroom, in which every student has a computer at his or her desk. Other features include three lecture halls, and chemistry labs, in addition to faculty offices. In the lecture halls, students have a place to plug in their laptops, and in the lobby area, computer screens offer students a chance for a quick revision of their assignments between classes. Labs and lectures are integrated, and experiments are done on computers. The University believes that this high-tech teaching method increases student learning and is proud to be one of only three institutions in the University System of Georgia to use this approach. The January 2003 Southern Association for Colleges and Schools Self Study Visitation Team commended the University for providing resources and technological training support beyond those typically found at comparable institutions.



Much of the University's recent physical development occurred on the west side of the campus. The Education Center, a structure unique in the University System, contains five large lecture-demonstration rooms which, by moving sliding partitions, serves as a 1,000 seat auditorium. It also features an instructional materials center, television and sound recording studios, audiovisual laboratory and dark room, counseling rooms, group observation rooms, study carrels, and other areas for independent study.

Adjacent to the Education Center is the Biology-Chemistry Building, a facility with numerous laboratories, lecture halls, and the latest scientific equipment. A 42,000 square-foot Education Annex opened in 1995, housing education and nursing faculty offices, classrooms, laboratories, and the campus day-care center.

A complete renovation of the University's baseball complex was made possible by a gift from the E. Woodfin Cole family in Carrollton. The 20,000 square-foot, two-level Murphy Fieldhouse provides offices for all athletic personnel, a football locker room, Hall of Fame room, sports medicine area and meeting rooms.

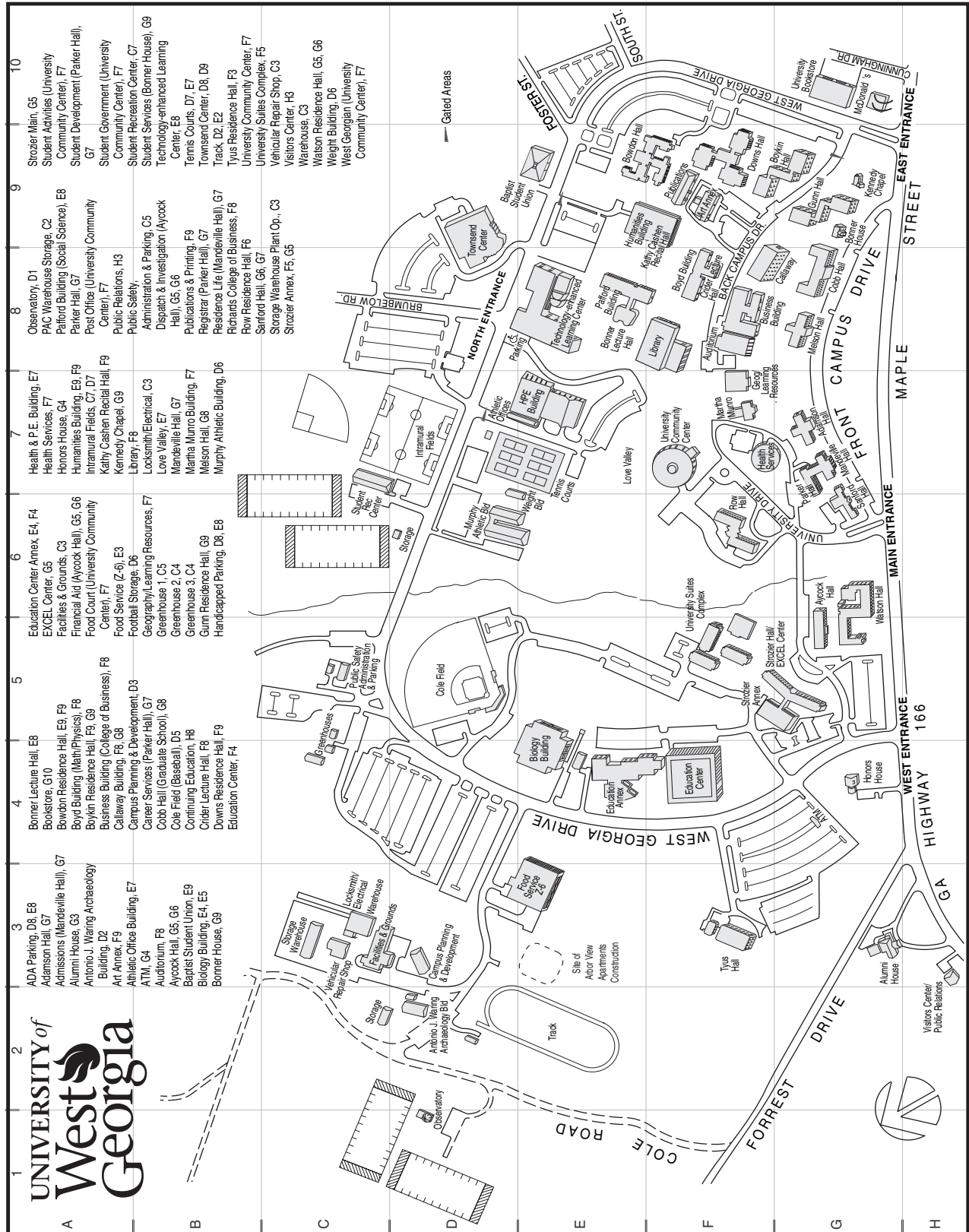
Ten residence halls are located on the campus. Bowdon Hall was named in honor of Bowdon College, a West Georgia predecessor.

Kennedy Interfaith Chapel and Bonner House are two of the oldest buildings on campus. The Chapel was owned first by the Episcopal Church and later by the Catholic Church. When the local parish built a new church, its members donated the Chapel to the University for non-denominational use. In 1964, the late Robert F. Kennedy dedicated it to the memory of his brother, the late President John F. Kennedy.

The Bonner House, constructed in 1843 as a plantation home, is the oldest building on campus. The frame colonial structure has served various purposes through the years. Because of the historical significance of the Bonner House, the Georgia Historical Commission placed a marker on the site outlining its history.

Source: UWG Undergraduate Catalog 2004-2005

Campus Map



Mission of the University of West Georgia

The University of West Georgia, a charter member of the University System of Georgia, is a selectively-focused, comprehensive institution providing undergraduate and graduate public higher education in arts and sciences, business, and education, primarily to the people of West Georgia.

West Georgia offers a range of disciplinary, interdisciplinary, and professional programs at the baccalaureate level. It is also a major provider of graduate education at the master's and educational specialist's levels; further, the University offers a stand-alone doctoral program in education. In addition to being accredited as an institute of higher education, the University has earned national accreditation or recognition in most undergraduate and graduate fields of specialization.

The purpose of the University of West Georgia is to provide opportunities for intellectual and personal development through quality teaching, scholarly inquiry, creative endeavor, and service for the public good. The University aspires to preeminence in providing educational excellence in a personal environment through an intellectually stimulating and supportive community for its students, faculty, and staff.

The University of West Georgia is committed to the following areas of excellence:

- High-quality undergraduate and graduate programs in selected fields in the Arts and Sciences, in Business, and in Education, that are grounded in a strong liberal arts curriculum, and that
 - impart broad knowledge and foster critical understanding needed for intellectual growth, personal and social responsibility, cultural and global literacy and life-long learning;
 - emphasize disciplinary rigor; and
 - foster the development of effectiveness in communication, critical and independent thinking, problem solving, and the use of technology; a learning community dedicated to instructional excellence where close student-faculty interaction enhances both teaching and learning for a diverse and academically well-prepared student body
- Educational opportunities for exceptional students through initiatives such as the development of an Honors College and, for extraordinary high school juniors and seniors, through The Advanced Academy of Georgia.
- Faculty research, scholarship, and creative endeavors which promote knowledge, enhance professional development, contribute to the quality of instruction, and provide significant opportunities for student involvement and field-based experience.
- A broad range of public service activities and proactive partnerships to promote more effective utilization of human and natural resources; to contribute to economic, social

and technical development; and to enhance the quality of life within the University's scope of influence.

- Regional outreach through a collaborative network of external degree centers, course offerings at off campus sites, and an extensive program of continuing education for personal and professional development.
- Student services which increase opportunities for academic success and personal development and enhance the climate of campus life.
- Affirmation of the equal dignity of each person by valuing cultural, ethnic, racial, and gender diversity in students, faculty, and staff.
- A collegial environment in the decision-making processes and supporting practices that embody the ideals of an open, democratic society.

These commitments culminate in educational experiences that foster the development of leaders and productive citizens who make a positive impact throughout an increasingly global society.

Vision Statement for the University of West Georgia Year 2000 and Beyond

The University of West Georgia will be a leader within the University System of Georgia in providing educational excellence in a personal environment.

The University of West Georgia will seek to create for students from various backgrounds every possible avenue to intellectual achievement, personal development, and leadership potential without compromising academic excellence. The University will maintain close contact with all people of the region, be responsive to their needs while raising their aspirations, and generating a more highly educated populace. The University of West Georgia will be recognized for excellence in teaching and learning, research, and public service in undergraduate, graduate, and continuing education. The University will be recognized as being fundamental to the educational, social, cultural, technological, and economic advancement of the region and state.

Specifically, the University of West Georgia will be characterized by:

- Educational Excellence evidenced by outstanding educational experiences, national and regional recognition of selected programs, faculty who excel in their disciplines, superior staff support, and an increasingly capable student body. At West Georgia, teaching, research, and service will be intricately intertwined and supportive of each other.
- A Safe, Supportive Community committed to enhancing learning, through close contracts between students and faculty, small classes taught by senior faculty whenever possible and through dedicated staff who help provide a vibrant campus life.
- An Outstanding, Diverse Faculty and Staff who demonstrate effective communication and teaching skills; utilize new technologies and innovative strategies to enhance

