

THE MAGAZINE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

FALL 2021

Georgia

A stylized illustration of a winding river in shades of blue and green. The river flows through a landscape with green hills, trees, and city skylines. In the foreground, a black pickup truck with a red canoe on its roof rack is parked next to a white camper. A red signpost with three arrows points to 'ST. PAUL', 'ST. LOUIS', and 'BATON ROUGE'. A white plastic bottle is floating in the river. The background features a large white 'G' and the word 'Georgia' in a serif font.

Message in a (Plastic) Bottle

*The Mississippi River
has a pollution problem.
UGA experts are helping solve it.*

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UNIVERSITY OF
GEORGIA

 **INNOVATORS' PLEDGE**

Georgia



Meet the UGA alumni behind eight of Georgia's top craft breweries on p. 30.

THE MAGAZINE OF
THE UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA
FALL 2021

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Dressed in waders, Jim Beasley, lower right, and his students use a seine net to catch aquatic wildlife in a creek as part of a Maymester wildlife field techniques class. p. 18.

DOROTHY KOZLOWSKI

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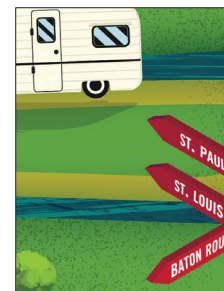
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Sending out an S.O.S., UGA waste management expert and Distinguished Professor Jenna Jambeck provides the first comprehensive overview of how plastics are affecting the nation's most important waterway.

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Make no mistake. Beer is big business, even if you are small. UGA alumni have founded several of the state's most popular craft breweries—including four in Athens. Each has its own culture and its own success story.

ON THE COVER



COVER ILLUSTRATION BY
JACKIE BAXTER ROBERTS

Take a trip up the Mississippi River with UGA's waste management expert Jenna Jambeck and her family as they learn how plastic waste is affecting our most important waterway. The cover illustration by *Georgia Magazine* Art Director Jackie Baxter Roberts highlights three of the sites where Jambeck helped community members track and properly dispose of waste along the river. Learn more about the Jambeck family journey and how everyone has a role to play in the fight against plastic waste on page 24.





Have a Seat

THE STANDS MAY LOOK QUIET NOW, BUT this fall—with crowds back in full force—Sanford Stadium will be rocking for the Georgia Bulldogs like never before. On Saturday, Sept. 11, UGA will host the University of Alabama-Birmingham to kick off the 2021 home football schedule, and these seats will be filled with fans decked out in red and black.

ANDREW DAVIS TUCKER

Georgia

FALL 2021

VOLUME 100

ISSUE NO. 4

GEORGIA MAGAZINE

Editor · Eric Rangus MA '94

Associate Editor · Aaron Hale MA '16

Writers · Leigh Beeson MA '17 and Hayley Major

Art Director · Jackie Baxter Roberts

Advertising Director · Kipp Mullis ABJ '93

Office Manager · Fran Burke

UGA Photographers · Peter Frey BFA '94,

Rick O'Quinn ABJ '87, Andrew Davis Tucker,

Dorothy Kozlowski BLA '06, ABJ '10, and Chad Osburn

Contributing Writers · Elizabeth Elmore BBA '08, ABJ '08,
and Alexandra Shimalla MA '19

Editorial Interns · Rachel Floyd AB '19, MA '20,

Hannah Barron AB '21, and Ireland Hayes

MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS

Vice President · Kathy Pharr ABJ '87, MPA '05, EdD '11

Associate Vice President · Greg Trevor

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Kipp Mullis at E: gmsales@uga.edu or PH: 706-542-9877

FINE PRINT

Georgia Magazine (issn 1085-1042) is published quarterly
for alumni and friends of UGA.

POSTMASTER | Send address changes to:
University of Georgia
286 Oconee Street, Suite 200 North
Athens, GA 30602

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“We are grateful to our state leaders and our friends and alumni around the world for helping UGA provide optimal learning experiences to our students and expand the impact of our research enterprise.”

Capital Projects Propelling UGA

Investment in facilities keeps UGA at the forefront of higher education

If you visit the University of Georgia campus in Athens this fall, you will see several construction projects that are helping to advance our institution. Supported by a mix of public and private funds, these capital projects are ensuring that UGA remains a leader in higher education.

The new Interdisciplinary Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (I-STEM) Research Complex represents one of UGA’s largest capital investments in the research enterprise. Phase I will be completed this fall, and construction of Phase II is underway. Comprising a total of 200,000 square feet, the I-STEM Research Complex is designed to optimize collaborative interactions among faculty, staff, and students in chemistry, engineering, and related STEM disciplines—leading to new research-based products and services that will improve the quality of life in Georgia and beyond.

The Driftmier Engineering Center is undergoing a third phase of renovations to expand and enhance instructional space for UGA’s more than 2,300 engineering students. The first two phases of renovations updated and increased classroom and instructional lab spaces and created a Student Success Center. The current phase includes additional instructional spaces, a student commons, increased accessibility, and the Engineering Education Transformations Institute, among other improvements.

A new residence hall is being constructed on the site of the former Bolton Dining Hall at the corner of Cloverhurst Avenue and Baxter Street. The facility will house 525 first-year students in a thoughtfully designed living and learning environment. It will include common spaces ideally suited for student gatherings, small group study, and individual study.

Construction of a new Poultry Science Building is set to begin during this academic year. The state-of-the-art facility will modernize and increase the space for research and instruction at UGA that supports the largest sector of Georgia’s agriculture industry. In addition, planning and preparations for the modernization of Science Hill have begun. This multiyear project will upgrade midcentury infrastructure and facilities, including the original Chemistry Building and the Biological Sciences Building, to create flexible research and instructional space for multiple STEM disciplines.

We are grateful to our state leaders and our friends and alumni around the world for helping UGA provide optimal learning experiences to our students and expand the impact of our research enterprise.

Jere W. Morehead
President



LEADING THE PACK

in their industries and communities.



ANGELA ALFANO JENNIFER BELLAMY LAUREN D. BELLAMY GREG BLUESTEIN MARIE GREENE BRODER



GAYLE CABRERA MARIO CAMBARDELLA SHONTEL CARGILL REBECCA CHANCEY CARTER COE HARIN J. CONTRACTOR TUNISIA FINCH CORNELIUS



WILLIAM FLOWERS CROZER JENNIFER A. CROZIER DAVID A. DY KEITH GIDDENS ERIC GRAY CODY HALL JOHN HYER



WHITNEY INGRAM RYAN LOKE JOSH MACKEY ANA MARIA MARTINEZ WILLIE MAZYCK ANNA WRIGLEY MILLER E. HEATH MILLIGAN



DAVID W. OKUN JITENDRA PANT BIREN PATEL DOUG REINEKE VICTORIA SANCHEZ TERREL SANDERS JOSH SANDLER



HILARY SHIPLEY BOWEN REICHERT SHOEMAKER CARA WINSTON SIMMONS DANIEL W. STEWART BRITTANY THOMS TRACEY D. TROUTMAN RAQUEL D. WILLIS

UGA TO Z

News, accomplishments,
and accolades from the
UGA community

HOW 'BOUT THEM DAWGS!

The Bulldog Nation Wins 11 Medals in Tokyo

► Athletes from the University of Georgia concluded the 2020 Summer Olympic Games in Tokyo with 11 medals, including three golds. Those golds include one from Shaunae Miller-Uibo, who became just the second woman in Olympic history to defend her title in the 400-meter dash.

Current and former UGA athletes also claimed two silver and six bronze medals during the Games in swimming and in track and field. In addition to those sports, Bulldog alumni represented the U.S. and other nations in diving, tennis, and golf. In total, 27 Georgia athletes and one coach competed for 12 countries in the 2020 Tokyo Olympics.

UGA athletes who won more than one Olympic medal include Lynna Irby (gold and bronze in track and field) and Hali Flickinger and Allison Schmitt, who each won a pair of medals in swimming. With 10 medals over four Olympics, Schmitt is now tied with fellow swimmer Katie Ledecky for third all-time among U.S. women.

If the University of Georgia was a country, it would have placed 23rd in the total medal count.



Olympic bronze medalist Elija Godwin.

UGA MEDALISTS

TRACK AND FIELD

Shaunae Miller-Uibo (Bahamas)
Women's 400m, Gold

Elija Godwin (USA)
Mixed 4x400m Relay, Bronze

Lynna Irby (USA)
Women's 4x400m Relay, Gold
Mixed 4x400m Relay, Bronze

SWIMMING

Chase Kalisz (USA)
Men's 400m IM, Gold

Olivia Smoliga (USA)
Women's 400m Freestyle Relay, Bronze

Jay Litherland (USA)
Men's 400m IM, Silver

Hali Flickinger (USA)
Women's 400m IM, Bronze
Women's 200m Butterfly, Bronze

Allison Schmitt (USA)
Women's 800m Freestyle Relay, Silver
Women's 400m Freestyle Relay, Bronze

AN 'INCREDIBLE HONOR'

Honors Program Becomes the Morehead Honors College

▼ The UGA Honors Program is now the Jere W. Morehead Honors College, thanks to a \$10 million fundraising campaign led by the UGA Foundation and its emeriti trustees.

The effort to strengthen the Honors Program created an endowment that will provide robust support for academic programming, undergraduate research, study abroad opportunities, and internships.

The University System of Georgia Board of Regents approved the naming in May.

“It is difficult for me to adequately express my appreciation to the UGA Foundation Trustees, other donors, the chancellor, and the Board of Regents for making this incredible honor possible,” Morehead **JD '80** says. “Working with the Honors Program—as its director and continuing as provost and president—has been one of the most rewarding and meaningful experiences of my career. I am humbled and deeply grateful.”

Morehead's UGA career began in 1986 when he joined the Terry College of Business as an assistant professor and served as advisor to the School of Law's celebrated moot court program. Before being named UGA's 22nd president in 2013, he held several key administrative posts, including associate provost and director of the UGA Honors Program from 1999 through 2004.

The fundraising campaign for the Morehead Honors College reached its \$10.3 million goal over the summer, and fundraising efforts are ongoing.



ANDREW DAVIS TUCKER



DOROTHY KOZLOWSKI

TRUTH. PURPOSE. GRACE. LEGACY.

Speakers Encourage the Class of 2021 to Live with Intent

▲ Maria Taylor had specific instructions for the Class of 2021.

“Speak your truth. Live in your purpose. Walk in grace. And inspire with your legacy,” said the NBC Sports reporter and UGA alumna. Taylor **ABJ '09, MBA '13** gave the undergraduate Commencement address for the Class of 2021's graduation.

After a year like no other, the university celebrated Commencement with three separate undergraduate ceremonies in Sanford Stadium to accommodate for social distancing. The graduate ceremony was also held in Sanford.

Student speaker Chan Creswell **AB '21** spoke to his classmates about finding his own sense of purpose. Fellow graduate Caleb Kelly **BSEd '21** serenaded the Class of 2021 with a rendition of “Georgia on My Mind.”

A total of 7,530 students met requirements to walk in the university's spring Commencement.

“You should be proud of what you have accomplished so far. But know that your work is only just beginning.” President Jere W. Morehead **JD '80** told the graduates. “Remember the deep ties that bind us together, and remember that, wherever you go, throughout your life, you are part of the UGA family.”

SOUTHEASTERN CONFERENCE

Morehead Named SEC President

► UGA President Jere W. Morehead was elected to a two-year term as president of the Southeastern Conference, which began in July.

In the role, Morehead **JD '80** chairs the SEC's Executive Committee, a seven-member panel that approves the SEC operating budget and oversees the conference's fiscal affairs, among other duties.

In 2020, Morehead was appointed to the NCAA Division I Board of Governors, the highest governance body in the NCAA, and the Board of Directors. The NCAA Board of Governors is tasked with overseeing association-wide issues and ensuring that each division operates in accordance with NCAA policies and principles. He continues to serve on both boards.

Kent Fuchs, president of the University of Florida, was elected SEC vice president, while Ron Rychlak, faculty athletics representative at the University of Mississippi, was elected secretary.



PETER FREY

INNOVATION MIGRATION

Innovation District Draws Tech Startup to Athens

▲ A Dallas, Texas-area health care startup has expanded to Athens to establish its product development headquarters in the University of Georgia's growing Innovation District.

Metropolis uses advanced digital technology to streamline recruiting processes by providing low-touch matching solutions for health care providers to employers in large U.S. metropolitan areas. The company is led by CEO and co-founder Scott Edwards BSFCS '02.

The arrival of Metropolis in the Innovation Hub marks another development in the trajectory of the Innovation District, a campus-wide initiative launched in 2018 to expand UGA's economic impact through entrepreneurship, research commercialization, and industry partnerships.

With a footprint in the Innovation District, Metropolis will utilize many facets of the university's expanding innovation ecosystem, beginning with the Innovation Hub, which hosts startup ventures and experiential learning activities while serving as the university's front door for industry engagement.

Metropolis has already begun the venture by hiring university students and plans to build a long-term talent pipeline with UGA graduates.



PETER FREY

"InnovateU provided me with insights on how to pursue my future goals. It was cool to meet local business owners and learn from them. It has opened my eyes to knowing that I want to open my own practice," said Kayleigh Sims, a rising junior at Clarke Central High School in Athens. She was one of 21 local students to take part in the new program, InnovateU.

EXEMPLARY LEADERSHIP

Meet UGA's New Vice President of Research

◀ Karen J.L. Burg, a noted researcher in tissue engineering and regenerative medicine, has been named vice president for research at the University of Georgia.

Burg (left) was recruited to UGA in 2016 as the Harbor

Lights Chair in Small Animal Studies as part of President Jere W. Morehead's JD'80 Presidential Extraordinary Research Faculty Hiring Initiative, which brought several internationally recognized scholars to campus.

Burg's research has implications for diagnosing and treating diseases, including cancer. Her work has also focused on enhancing science and engineering education and expanding participation in STEM innovation and entrepreneurship.

"It is an exciting time to be at UGA as we grow research, creative works, and innovation, and as we extend our capabilities through community and business partnerships," she says.

Burg succeeds David Lee, who served as the vice president for research since 2005.



ANDREW DAVIS TUCKER

INNOVATION DISTRICT

Local High Schoolers Learn Lessons from UGA Mentors

◀ A new University of Georgia program is helping 21 Clarke County high school students tackle real world problems in new ways.

InnovateU is part of UGA's enduring partnership with the Clarke County School District. Its primary goal is to empower youth to approach real business challenges with a leadership mindset and innovative problem solving.

The program, which met for eight days in June, paired students with professionals—many of them UGA alumni—and UGA faculty and student mentors to address one of two food-related challenges: increasing access to healthy food at affordable prices for people with limited access or increasing farm-to-table opportunities for local farmers.

The students presented their ideas for successfully addressing those challenges at a July 1 event at the Georgia Museum of Art. Plans are underway for the second InnovateU program in 2022.

ON WITH THE SHOW

Performing Arts Center Set for 25th Anniversary Season

► In a much-anticipated return to live, in-person performances, the Performing Arts Center announced that UGA Presents—the university’s professional concert series—will return this fall with an ambitious program of professional music and dance.

The new season marks a reopening of the venue after closing due to the COVID-19 pandemic and also commemorates the venue’s 25th anniversary.

Following a nearly all-digital program for all of the 2020-21 season, UGA Presents will return to its traditional format of presenting touring artists in live performances at full capacity in the Performing Arts Center and Fine Arts Theatre beginning Oct. 5 and continuing through spring 2022.

The 2021-2022 season will feature a diverse mix of classical music, jazz, contemporary and traditional dance, Americana, and vocal music. The program’s 32 soloists, duos, and ensembles will come to Athens from all over the United States and at least eight countries.

In April 2022, the Performing Arts Center will host a weeklong celebration, including a gala concert by six-time Tony Award-winner Audra McDonald and concludes with a performance by the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Donald Runnicles.

Visit PAC.UGA.EDU for schedule and tickets.



DOT PAUL

After closing for most of the 2020-21 season, the Performing Arts Center reopens in October with a full schedule of live, in-person events. April 2022 will mark the center’s 25th anniversary and will feature a week’s-worth of performances.

STORIES THAT MATTER

Peabody Honors Two Industry Greats

▼ The 81st annual Peabody Awards, which were handed out virtually in June, included honors to a pair of remarkable storytellers.

Sam Pollard, documentary producer/director and feature film and television editor, received the Peabody Career Achievement Award. The honor is reserved for individuals whose work and commitment to broadcasting and digital media have left an indelible mark on the field and in American culture.

Pollard has edited a number of Spike Lee’s films and also co-produced several documentaries with Lee. Those documentaries include the Academy Award-nominated *Four Little Girls*, about the 1963 Birmingham church bombings, and the HBO film, *When the Levees Broke: A Requiem in Four Acts*, about the devastation of Hurricane Katrina, which won three Emmys.

Pollard is a professor at the NYU Tisch School of the Arts.

Judy Woodruff, anchor and managing editor of *PBS NewsHour*, also received the inaugural Peabody Award for Journalistic Integrity. A special award designated this year, it honors the sustained achievement of the highest professional standards of journalism, as well as personal integrity, in reporting the news in challenging times.

Woodruff has covered politics and other news for five decades at NBC, CNN, and PBS, and she has covered every presidential campaign and convention since 1976.

The Peabody Awards are based in the Grady College of Journalism and Mass Communication. To see all of this year’s recipients, visit PEABODYAWARDS.COM.



GO DAWGS

National Champion Track Coach Comes to Athens

► In June, Caryl Smith Gilbert, who led the University of Southern California's women to the 2021 NCAA Outdoor National Championship and the men to a top-five finish, was named Georgia's Director of Men's and Women's Track and Field. Smith Gilbert will be the first female head coach of a men's sports program in the history of Georgia athletics.

Smith Gilbert also led the women's team to the outdoor national title in 2018. Overall, in her eight years with the Trojans, both men's and women's outdoor teams finished in the top five nationally four times.

Prior to her position at USC, Smith Gilbert, a native of Denver, was head coach at the University of Central Florida and an assistant at Tennessee, Alabama, and Penn State.

Harris-Champer Retires

Shortly after the Bulldogs softball team finished their 2021 season with a trip to the Women's College World Series—their seventh—the head coach for all of those successful teams, Lu Harris-Champer, announced her retirement.

Harris-Champer spent 25 years as a collegiate softball coach, 21 of them in Athens. During her career, Harris-Champer amassed more than 1,100 victories, and 23 student-athletes that she coached earned All-America honors.

Since her first season at Georgia in 2001, she led the Bulldogs to 959 victories, two SEC championships, and countless other titles. She was named SEC Coach of the Year three times.



A PATH FORWARD

UGA Adopts New Plan to Enhance Diversity and Inclusion

► The University of Georgia's Planning Committee on Diversity and Inclusive Excellence has established a five-year roadmap aimed at advancing diversity and inclusion on campus and beyond.

The plan includes 11 university-level goals ranging from increasing the enrollment of underrepresented students and the number of underrepresented faculty and staff to increasing institutional visibility in the educational pipeline of underserved communities.

The committee established a three-phase process to create the plan. The discovery phase, which wrapped up in December 2020, included conducting more than 40 focus groups with numerous faculty, staff, students, alumni, and community stakeholders. The committee then identified major themes across its data collection efforts to guide the next phase of its work—goal development—which spanned much of the spring semester. The final phase took place this past summer and focused on plan implementation.

In addition to the planning committee, President Jere W. Morehead JD '80 also established a Task Force on Race, Ethnicity, and Community that has developed initiatives to improve the campus culture and strengthen the learning environment at UGA.

GEORGIA MUSEUM OF ART

Art as Memory Care

► The Georgia Museum of Art's associate curator of education, Sage Kincaid, has been working with art therapist Mary Safrai to create a series of activities using art as a tool for memory assistance for those living with memory disorders and their caregivers.

Over the summer, Kincaid and Safrai brought a group to the museum to focus on Elizabeth Jane Gardner's painting "La Confidence," (right) which shows a woman leaning over and whispering into the ear of another woman sitting next to her. The group observed the close relationship between the women, wondered what they were whispering about, and remembered what it felt like to walk outside with bare feet like the women in the painting. They then moved to the art studio to make art of their own, arranging bright, colorful shapes on black paper.

Processing visual images works the occipital lobe of the brain, which is associated with visual and spatial processing, distance and depth perception, and memory formation. Participants also had the opportunity to work closely with their caretakers and meet other people in Athens living with memory disorders.



COMPLEX CONSERVATION

Antelope's Fate Shrouded by Social, Political Forces

▶ A new study by a University of Georgia researcher suggests the endangered oribi, a small breed of antelope native to Africa, will continue to be threatened until conflicts with people can be mitigated or resolved.

For the oribi (pronounced OR-uh-bee), solutions start with access to native grassland that has rapidly disappeared from the South African landscape. But factors like misinformation and mistrust of government work against education and outreach efforts.

Improving access to habitat and community services alone won't stop the serious threat. Political and other issues including poaching and other illegal hunting that is intertwined poverty also complicates the issue.

The recent study by Elizabeth Pienaar, associate professor in the Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources, aims to provide insights for conservation agencies and organizations navigating similar waters, as many other at-risk species face similar issues to the oribi.



KEENAN STEARS

The oribi is an endangered species native to South Africa. Human conflict is among the issues threatening its existence.

GETTING POLITICAL

Taking on Adult Roles Early Boosts Political Engagement in Latinx Children



SPECIAL

◀ Immigrant communities often display low levels of political engagement. But a new study by the University of Georgia indicates that when children of Latinx immigrants take on adult roles because of parents' long work hours, immigrant status, or language deficiencies, they develop skills associated with higher rates of political participation.

In a paper published in *American Political Science Review*, UGA researcher Roberto Carlos (left) found that when children of Latinx immigrants translate for their parents during things like grocery store runs or hospital visits (called "language brokering"), their political engagement can go up as much as 20%. Performing household chores at a young age can also boost political engagement as children get older.

"Young people are providing these services roughly from the time they're 6 or 7, and my argument is that if they can prevail in these spaces, they're going to be able to overcome the obstacles typically associated with political participation," says Carlos, assistant professor of political science in the School of Public and International Affairs. "And it's clear that they do."

Carlos combined three studies—a survey of Latinx college students, a survey of young adults known as GenForward, and a 10-year longitudinal study—to examine how mundane household experiences translate to political engagement.

ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANCE

Harmful Bacteria are Hiding in Livestock

▼ Growing resistance to antibiotics is one of the biggest threats the world faces. As common bacteria like strep and salmonella become resistant to medications, what used to be easily treatable infections can now pose difficult medical challenges.

New UGA research shows that there may be more antimicrobial-resistant salmonella in our food animals than scientists previously thought.

Using technology she developed called CRISPR-SeroSeq, Nikki Shariat, assistant professor of population health in the College of Veterinary Medicine, along with microbiology doctoral student Amy Siceloff, found that traditional culturing methods used to test livestock for problematic bacteria often miss drug-resistant strains of salmonella. This finding has implications for treating sick food animals and the people who get infected by eating contaminated meat.

The study, published in *Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy*, showed that 60% of cattle fecal samples contained multiple strains of salmonella that traditional testing methods missed. More alarmingly, Shariat found that about one out of every 10 samples tested positive for a drug-resistant strain of salmonella called Salmonella Reading. In addition to being antibiotic resistant, Salmonella Reading can cause severe illness in people.

These findings show that current surveillance efforts are likely underestimating the amount of antimicrobial resistance that exists.



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Preparing Students for the World, Not a Test

When Destiny Favors **BBA '21** boarded a plane for the first time, it was for a trip that would change her life.

“If someone would’ve told freshman me that I would fly in a plane for the first time and it would be to Spain, I would’ve called them crazy,” says Favors, a native of Washington, Georgia. “It’s funny how life works out, and without the UGA Experiential Learning Scholarship, it would not have been possible.”

Experiential learning scholarships help students like Favors afford study abroad trips, internships, research opportunities, and service-learning activities. Favors took advantage of scholarship support to study abroad and now she’s a finance management analyst for Bank of America in Charlotte, with plans to leverage her international experience as she builds her career.

“I plan to keep up with my Spanish,” she says. “I am interested in global markets, and I believe Spanish will help open new opportunities in business.”

Like Favors, many UGA students crave opportunities to extend their classroom learning into new environments.

However, travel, housing, and equipment costs can prevent students from taking advantage of their first-choice opportunities. That’s where private gifts can be life changing.

Michael **AB '81** and Doris Boudens (left) established six scholarships to broaden students’ learning experiences beyond the classroom.

“Doris and I were fortunate to have careers that

allowed us to travel the world. We learned about the business practices and cultures in different countries, which was informative and fascinating,” says Michael. “However, the biggest benefit was a broadening of our perspectives and an appreciation for the kindness of people around the globe. We are more open-minded to different points of view and more empathetic because of these experiences.”

UGA is one of the largest public universities in the country to require undergraduate students to engage in experiential learning prior to graduation—and those opportunities are key to preparing students for their journeys after they earn their diplomas.

“Experiential learning empowers every student to apply their learning in real-world contexts, equipping them with the competencies and expanded perspectives to thrive in an emerging, dynamic global society,” says Andrew Potter, director of UGA’s Office of Experiential Learning. “Enabling students to thrive is not simply about career preparation; it’s about preparing them to make a positive impact no matter where they matriculate.”

For Favors, living in Spain with a host family for seven weeks was powerful.

“This experience helped me academically by improving my Spanish, personally by instilling confidence in myself, and socially by making lifelong friends,” she says.



Expand horizons for UGA students by supporting scholarships that will send them far beyond campus to gain life-changing experiences. Donate to the UGA Experiential Learning Fund and open doors to new worlds and opportunities. | [GIVE.UGA.EDU/EXPERIENCE](https://give.uga.edu/experience)

Experiential learning offers students hands-on opportunities to apply classroom and campus experiences in new and challenging settings. The following recent alumni illustrate the power of private support to enhance their UGA experiences as they prepare to become tomorrow's leaders, change-makers, and pioneers.



Destiny Favors BBA '21

CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA

Finance Management Analyst, Bank of America

Destiny Favors was a finance major and Spanish minor who used experiential learning scholarship funds to study in Seville, Spain, and to intern with Bank of America—where she now works full time.

"I plan to keep up with my Spanish, and I hope to be fluent one day. I am interested in global markets, and I believe Spanish will help open new opportunities in business."

Mary-Grace Trogdon BSA '21

ATHENS, GEORGIA

DVM candidate, Class of 2024,

Veterinary Medicine Graduate Student,

University of Georgia College of Veterinary Medicine

Mary-Grace Trogdon used experiential learning scholarship funds to study tropical marine invertebrates and ecosystems at the Key Largo Marine Research Laboratory in Florida.

"I strengthened my understanding of environmental research and honed those skills by completing my own research project and scientific paper."



Harris Jamal BSEH '20, MPH '20

TUCKER, GEORGIA

First-Year Medical Student, AU/UGA Medical Partnership

Harris Jamal is an aspiring physician who wants to ensure health care is at the forefront of sustainability by promoting practices in medicine that decrease the environmental footprint of treatments. He spearheaded a Sustainability in Healthcare initiative on campus that he then enhanced—thanks to experiential learning support—while interning with UGA's Office of Sustainability.

"My internship was the most enriching and fruitful experience at UGA, and one that has shaped my career aspirations. I will always remember it as what started my drive to be the physician that I want to be."

Encouraging WORDS

The UGA Mentor Program celebrates its third year this fall. More than 2,800 mentoring relationships between alumni and current students have been created since the program's launch, and each one of them has its own personality. Some have continued beyond the mentee's graduation. Two of those relationships are detailed here in the participants' own words.

Shallum Atkinson ABJ '17, AB '17

POLICY STAFFER, U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES; WASHINGTON, D.C.



Mentorship matters, trust me. I know because serving as a mentor to Jaquarius has been nothing but a blessing. It not only allows me to stay connected to the Bulldog Nation from hundreds of miles away, but it serves as a living example of how what we do today will impact the people of tomorrow.

I was always told as a Black man, when a door is opened for you, leave the room in a better place than you found it, and keep the door cracked for the next one to follow. I see in Jaquarius, a younger, brighter, and more refined version of myself. It warms my heart to see the positive changes the leaders of my time pursued to create a better environment for him.

We share memories of the many "back in my day" tales he will never understand and advice on how to simply navigate life. It's a match made in Athens.

Jaquarius Raglin

4TH YEAR, HEALTH PROMOTION
AND BIOLOGY DOUBLE MAJOR



Before my mentorship with Shallum, I was focused on finding mentors who could give me advice on medical school and how to deal with STEM courses at UGA. When we transitioned to online learning in Spring 2020, I realized that I needed a more holistic type of support.

When it came time to match with a new mentor on the platform, I chose Shallum. He has a unique perspective since he attended UGA for his undergraduate studies and now works in politics in Washington, D.C. This viewpoint allowed us to have deep conversations about being a Black man at the University of Georgia and in America. We both yearn to bring positive change to the university for the advancement and success of Black students.

Though we have different intentions and majors (his being law and mine medicine), Shallum has taken me under his wing to mold me into a more intentional and well-rounded leader. I would say that he is like an older brother who I can rely on for guidance. I know that I can always count on him.

Scott Morris BBA '87

MANAGING DIRECTOR (RET.), BANK OF AMERICA; CHARLOTTE, N.C.



I've truly been blessed to work with Audrey.

After meeting to understand her interests, objectives, and personality, we partnered on industry leads from my professional network with a focus on how to best prepare for those calls, presentation skills, and tips to establish an ongoing relationship-building process to continue developing her own network.

We also developed a better understanding of her individual strengths and how they align with various possible

career options. My goal was to help her better select coursework, extracurricular activities, and skill development opportunities for those roles. For example, we looked into what "a day in the life" looks like for various roles as well as the skill sets needed to be successful.

She took what we discussed, made it her own, and expanded it. If I gave her five leads, she turned those into 15. Without a doubt, the individual effort that Audrey put into our exchange is what made it successful.

Audrey Dwyer

3RD YEAR, FINANCE MAJOR



Jumping into college as a freshman, you have no idea what the future or even next week will look like. You're making new friends, learning how to get around, and deciding on how you want to spend the next 30+ years of your life. I struggled to decide on a business major. The broadness and bewilderment overwhelmed me: What do I want to do with my life and will I be happy?

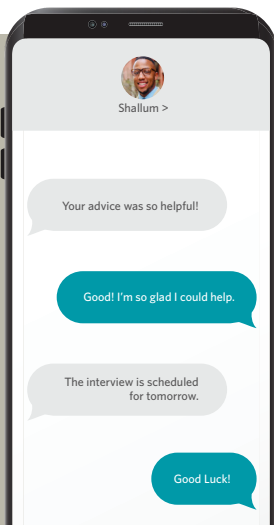
I joined the UGA Mentor Program and connected with my roommate's dad, Scott Morris, who was a former executive at Bank of America. With his guidance, I've built an excellent network within the finance community, learned about financial roles,

learned how to approach investing and value a company, and how to closely watch the stock market and economic news. And, lastly, I learned where I fit into finance.

One of my favorite memories was when Scott helped me tackle a stock pitch for an interview. He devoted two weeks of his time to help me gather information for the presentation and kept me motivated and encouraged. When the pitch concluded, my roommate joked that I spent more time with her dad than she did.

Because of Scott's mentorship, I am confident, knowledgeable, and on the road to success. **GM**

Meet more UGA mentors and mentees at | [NEWS.UGA.EDU/ENCOURAGING-WORDS](https://news.uga.edu/encouraging-words).



HOW IT WORKS

CREATE A PROFILE

Log in with LinkedIn or your email address and create your profile. Share your interests, experiences, and background to give mentors and mentees context.

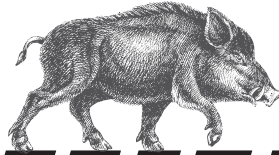
CUSTOMIZE YOUR SEARCH

Students can find the right person for them based on a variety of criteria including identity, industry, major, location, and more.

CONNECT FROM ANYWHERE

You can connect with your mentor or mentee through the website (or by text, phone, video call, or in person), making it easier to fit into your busy schedule.

Simply opening your calendar to a UGA student opens doors for them. Create your mentor profile today at | [MENTOR.UGA.EDU](https://mentor.uga.edu).



HOG WILD

The next generation in wildlife management and research put their skills to the test in a one-of-a-kind, hands-on learning experience at the Savannah River Ecology Lab.

WRITTEN BY AARON HALE MA '16

PHOTOGRAPHY BY DOROTHY KOZLOWSKI BLA '06, ABJ '10

Deep in a South Carolina forest, just off the edge of a murky swamp, a 190-pound wild pig has found itself in a bind.

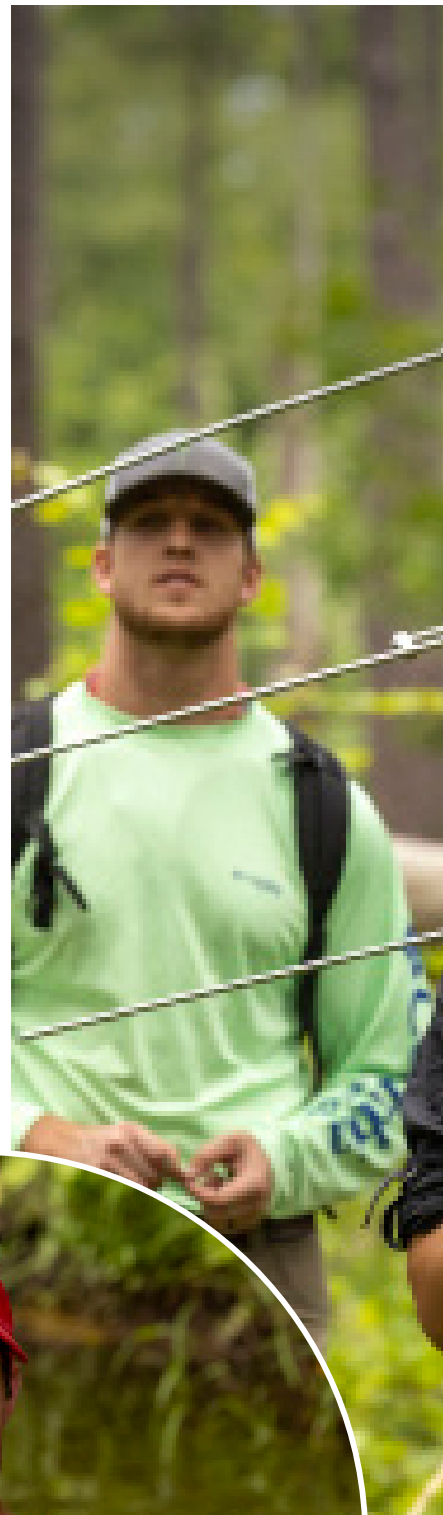
While eyeing what seemed like easy pickings, a pile of dried corn left unattended, the lone boar had rooted himself into a sophisticated net pig trap. He's sealed in.

Escape proves futile. Over and over, the boar charges, tusk-first, into the flexible but resilient black netting that surrounds him. Each time, he harmlessly bounces off as if it were a sideways trampoline.

Eventually, the boar sees a man quietly approaching. He wears a red Georgia Bulldogs baseball cap and carries what appears to be a high-powered rifle. The man, wildlife researcher James Beasley, is followed by more than a dozen others.

In case you're worried, the boar will be fine.

The rifle isn't armed with live ammo. Instead, it's loaded with a syringe-dart carrying a dose of Telazol and Xylazine, a mixture of chemicals to anesthetize the pig.





Kelsey Hoskins, a graduate student in the Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources, uses telemetry equipment to track a radio-collared racoon asleep in a tree. Wildlife radio-tracking was just one of the skills students put to the test in a field techniques class at the Savannah River Ecology Lab.

Opposite: James Beasley, an associate professor at Warnell and UGA's Savannah River Ecology Lab.

Beasley, a faculty member at UGA's Savannah River Ecology Lab and an associate professor of wildlife ecology and management at the Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources, studies the impact of humans on wildlife populations. That includes investigating wild pigs' impact, movements, and reproductive ecology. While these animals have been in the U.S. for centuries, scientists still have a lot to

learn about their ecology, and Beasley's work is helping to fill in some of the blanks.

In some ways, this is the boar's lucky day. Invasive wild pigs are destroying natural environments and farmland across the Southeast, tearing up landscapes with their incessant rooting and eating just about anything that can't run away. And in recent decades, they've spread rapidly.

These clever feral cousins of domestic pigs can be dangerous and tricky to capture. So, typically, when swine wander into a trap like this one—for example, on a farm where they've been destroying crops—they are routinely exterminated.

This trapped pig, on the other hand, will only be out a few vials of blood for scientific study.

THE BEST 10 DAYS OF THE YEAR

The mix of 14 undergraduate and graduate students traveled to Aiken, South Carolina, (about half an hour east of Augusta) in mid-May for Field and Molecular Techniques in Wildlife Research and Management, a course Beasley calls his “favorite 10 days of the year.”

“This is all about getting their hands dirty,” Beasley says. “We take many of the things they learned in the classroom and apply it in a field setting.”

Every day, the students tromp into the woods at the Savannah River Site to field test the skills and lessons they’ve learned in school.

UGA’s Savannah River Ecology Laboratory lies within the U.S. Department of Energy’s Savannah River Site, which is made up of a former nuclear production facility

surrounded by about 310-square miles of forests, waterways, and wetlands. The place is teeming with diverse wildlife species.

While in the wilderness, students practice baiting and placing traps to capture various critters (raccoons, opossums, mice). After they catch an animal, Beasley sedates it and then coaches the students as they collect data from the chemically immobilized animal. This is called “processing.”

Students are as gentle handling these vulnerable creatures as they would be with their own pets. Often, they even nickname the animal as they take its temperature, weigh it, draw blood, get a tissue sample, remove any ticks for analysis, check its teeth for evidence of its age, and tag it (usually with a small piece of plastic on its ear).

For Natalie Heyward, a fisheries and

wildlife major from Stone Mountain, handling the animals is the best part of the course. Coming in, Heyward was planning to get a veterinary medicine degree and work in a zoo. This trip was a chance to test out that goal and get up close with the animals.

“It’s not every day you get to hold a raccoon,” says Heyward, who has already worked with cats and dogs in a vet clinic. “Every animal is different. Raccoons are just interesting to work with. They’ve got cat anatomy and dog behavior.”

They’re also adorable when sleeping.

Heyward and several other students audibly fawn when Beasley tells them that one of the raccoons they’ve trapped is an expectant mother.

They nickname her Martha.



Left: Nina Carlile records data about a sedated raccoon before it is released. As the students worked, Beasley would quietly impart subtle tips he’s learned in the field.

Below: Graduate student Kelsey Hoskins holds a small musk turtle.

Opposite: After a long day in the field, students unwind in a creek near Aiken, South Carolina.





See a short documentary about the course at the Savannah River Ecology Lab at | [NEWS.UGA.EDU/HOG-WILD](https://news.uga.edu/hog-wild)

The Savannah River Ecology Laboratory

Seventy years ago, UGA zoology professor Eugene Odum stepped onto a large landmass of contiguous agricultural fields. The U.S. government had allocated land to build the Savannah River Plant, which would produce materials to make nuclear weapons.

The Atomic Energy Commission charged Odum (below), now known as the “father of modern ecology,” with the task of conducting ecological surveys of plants and animals before the plant’s operations began. That



WALKER MONTGOMERY

research served as a baseline to assess if the operations at the plant were altering the natural environment surrounding the facility.

To get started, Odum recruited three graduate students and developed plans to monitor how radioactive elements traveled through ecosystems to alter plants, animals, and their environments.

The project would eventually grow into the Savannah River Ecology Laboratory, which continues to conduct research at the Savannah River Site. The lab’s research now includes wildlife ecology, disease ecology, biogeochemistry, and forestry and conservation.

Over generations, the lab has also informed the public through public outreach and education. Nearby students can expect visits from UGA scientists, who talk about their work and even bring a few critters along for students to see and touch.

In 2020, UGA took on an expanded role with the Savannah River Site when it joined the Battelle Savannah River Alliance, a consortium of universities and private firms selected by the Department of Energy to manage one of the country’s premier environmental, energy, and national security research facilities—the Savannah River National Laboratory (SRNL).



WALKER MONTGOMERY

HUMANS & WILDLIFE

As the group approaches the trapped boar, it snorts and stares down Beasley, who quietly settles just outside the trap. The pig seems to consider charging but instead attempts another escape and bounces off the netting once again. Finally, the boar turns to face Beasley, defiantly glaring at him, practically daring his tormentor to enter the trap.

Instead, Beasley slowly raises his rifle and waits for an opportunity to get a shot at the thick muscle of the pig's hind leg. The dart hits the target, the syringe injects its anesthesia, and eventually the pig settles in for a chemically induced nap.

Since joining UGA in 2012, Beasley has caught his share of these and other creatures, ranging from scavenging beetles and rat snakes to ring-necked ducks and Eurasian gray wolves. With every wild animal Beasley studies, he's exploring the impact of human activities on wildlife populations.

"We live on the landscape and so do wildlife, and we have a profound impact on many of these species," Beasley says. And wildlife can affect us too. Many new infectious diseases, for example, often originate in wildlife species before jumping into humans.

As we learn more about these impacts, Beasley says, we can mitigate the worst of them with management and conservation strategies.

While most of Beasley's work focuses on the Savannah River Site, his work takes him all over the world. He's been to the Chernobyl Exclusion Zone in Ukraine to explore how wolves and other carnivores appear to thrive—even in the presence of high radiation levels—now that they have no direct human interaction. In Japan, he's helped monitor radiation near the site of the Fukushima nuclear disaster by putting GPS trackers on snakes and wild boar. And this fall, he's headed with a multinational team to Namibia, where large predators are escaping through fences at national parks and then feasting on the local cattle.

FIND THE RIGHT PATH

Throughout the class, Beasley introduces the students to the work of other scientists at the Savannah River Site (a USDA Forest Service wildlife biologist who is fostering red-cockaded woodpecker nests and a UGA herpetologist surveying amphibians and reptiles in a wetland, to name a few). And he makes it a point to check in with each student one-on-one throughout the course so that he can talk with them about their individual career goals and interests.

As the students take in the 10 days of wildlife field research, they get a feel for their passion and their tolerance for a career that's at times thrilling, uncomfortable, gross, and heartbreaking—but also deeply beautiful.

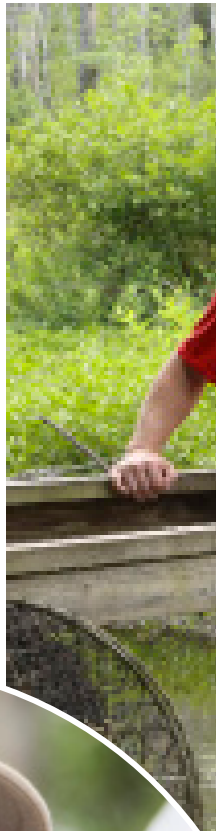
For Heyward, it was a lot to consider. Ultimately, she says, "This course kind of helped me to solidify that I am on the right path."

Right: Beasley and the students from his wildlife management and research field techniques course with professor emeritus J. Whitfield Gibbons (center) near his home.

Below: Undergraduate student Natalie Hayward looks at a salamander in a plastic bag.



Opposite: Beasley leans in toward a sedated wild pig's mouth. Beasley can estimate its age by examining its teeth. Nearby students drew back in disgust of the first whiff of the pig's wretched breath.





SOME PIG!

Back at the swamp, the anesthetized boar has begun to snore.

It takes two students to drag the limp, nearly 200-pound pig out of the trap. Still, they are careful not to pull him over any of the nubby cypress knees protruding from the dark soil. As the students get to work on the boar, someone suggests the name Wilbur.

Careful to finish processing long before the boar wakes in a couple of hours, they work quickly. To keep his body temperature from rising too high, they place gallon-sized ice bags across Wilbur's malodorous skin. And then, as if in a scene from a medical drama, the students crowd over the boar, passing out supplies and samples and announcing each data point for recording. After more than a week working on other animals, the students now seem like professionals.

When it's time for Beasley to open Wilbur's mouth to check his teeth, several students momentarily cringe in olfactory disgust.

"If you haven't smelled pigs' breath, you've got to try it," quips Beasley. "It's Yankee Candle's next scent."

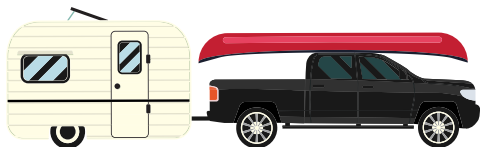
But no one is squeamish for long. Ignoring the halitosis, the students come closer as Beasley estimates Wilbur's age by his teeth, at least 3 years old.

After the processing is complete, Wilbur is dragged back into the trap to sleep off the anesthesia undisturbed. When he wakes up, he will be released, and he'll venture back into the black swamp relatively unchanged except for an additional ear tag and a couple dozen fewer ticks. **GM**

Message in a Bottle

UGA's waste management expert provides the first comprehensive overview of how plastics are affecting the nation's most important waterway.

WRITTEN BY LEIGH BEESON MA '17



Jenna Jambeck was enjoying family time on Memorial Day when she received a surprising message.

It was a call from a fisherman who had found something that he thought belonged to her: a plastic bottle. She had rigged it with a tracking device and dropped it into the Mississippi River in St. Louis to learn how trash travels in our waterways. On the bottle was a note with Jambeck's contact info and a promise of a reward for its safe return if found.

"I get this message saying it's in west Baton Rouge. I didn't release any bottles in Baton Rouge," says Jambeck, Georgia Athletic Association Distinguished Professor in Environmental Engineering and associate director of the university's New Materials Institute. The institute focuses on sustainable product designs and rethinking how we manage our waste. "I'm thinking to myself, *This must be a joke.*"

So she asked him to send her a photo of the bottle. It turns out the bottle, referred to as

Rogue One by the *Star Wars*-loving Jambeck, was one dropped upriver 881 miles away near St. Louis.

Jambeck had stuffed the bottle with a GPS tracker that pinged its location regularly for 32 days. After about 30 miles downstream, it got stuck.

When it began moving again, she assumed it had been pushed off a barge. Then it went silent. The battery had died. By the time the fisherman called 11 days later, Jambeck had given up on finding it.

Even to a researcher who specializes in how our misplaced trash can find its way to unlikely places—like the gyres in the middle of the ocean—it was a remarkable reminder of just how far a piece of plastic, used once and then discarded, can go. And it's a glimpse of the massive challenges posed by the cumulative effects of billions of discarded pieces of plastic.

Jenna Jambeck, Georgia Athletic Association Distinguished Professor in Environmental Engineering and associate director of the university's New Materials Institute.

Inset: A local fisherman in Louisiana found and returned one of the plastic pollution tracking devices Jambeck had launched in St. Louis over a month earlier.



DOROTHY KOZLOWSKI

The Plastic Problem

The Mississippi River is America's most essential inland waterway. It provides hundreds of billions of gallons of water each day to key industries and drinking water to 20 million people in 50 cities in 10 states. But, like many of the country's resources, pollution is taking its toll on the storied river.

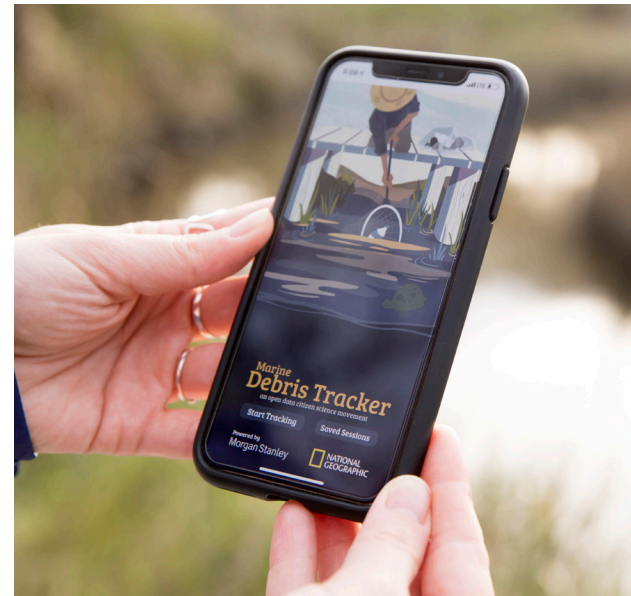
An internationally renowned waste management expert, Jambeck partnered with the Mississippi River City and Towns Initiative (MRCTI), an initiative by local governments that focuses on economic and environmental security along the river; the United Nations Environment Programme; and the National Geographic Society on enlisting the help of communities and local officials along the river to track upstream and coastal litter using the Marine Debris Tracker app.

The app, which she created with Kyle Johnsen in the College of Engineering, is designed to help everyday people make a difference in the battle against plastic pollution by contributing data on the litter we spot in our communities every day. To date, community members have logged more than 4 million items into Debris Tracker, which is supported through a partnership with Morgan Stanley and the National Geographic Society. More than 70% of that garbage was plastic.

This isn't surprising.

In 2015, Jambeck led a landmark study, published in *Science*, estimating that around 8 million metric tons of plastic enter the world's oceans each year. Her follow-up study two years later revealed 90.5% of plastic is never recycled. Prior to Jambeck's findings, it was unclear how much plastic was ending up in landfills, let alone spilling into gutters and oceans around the world.

But no one knows just how much pollution is making its way down the Mississippi. So Jambeck and her expedition team, which included her husband and two pre-teen children, set off in a camper to find out.



DOROTHY KOZLOWSKI

Above: The Marine Debris Tracker app developed by UGA researchers Jenna Jambeck and Kyle Johnsen allows volunteers around the world to map and collect data on waste.

Right: Jambeck, her husband, two children, and two dogs spent a month traveling up the Mississippi River in a camper to study how much plastic waste makes it into America's greatest waterway.





COURTESY OF JENNA JAMBECK

Microplastics

A MACRO ISSUE

You can see garbage just about everywhere. But the problem goes even deeper than the trash cluttering up sidewalks and bobbing in rivers and lakes—it's in the water itself. You can't really see it, but teeny-tiny bits of plastic peel off plastic shopping bags, fibers from polyester clothing, even small fragments of plastics in toothpastes and beauty products. These microplastics are smaller than a grain of sugar, and they're everywhere... including in your body.

"We do not often consider how things we do every day, such as washing your clothes, can contribute to environmental problems in our nearby rivers and streams," says Krista Capps (below), a freshwater ecologist and an assistant professor in the Odum School of Ecology and the Savannah River Ecology Laboratory. "Synthetic fabric, such as fleece, can break down in the washing machine and generate microplastics. Those plastics travel to wastewater treatment plants."

Wastewater treatment can filter out some of the microplastics, but they're not set up to grab them all. And that treated wastewater can still be full of microplastics when it's eventually released into nearby streams and rivers to travel downstream—where another community depends on the waterway for drinking water.

Scientists are still studying the health risks posed by microplastics. But recent studies have shown chemicals from plastics present in human organs and tissues, including known carcinogens.

"Through my research and teaching, I hope to support people in understanding that we all live in a watershed and that we are part of the local and global water cycle," Capps says. "Whatever we do upstream in smaller streams and rivers will have downstream effects on other communities of people and ecosystems. One of the wonderful things about working at the University of Georgia is that teams of researchers from many disciplines are working with diverse groups of stakeholders to address challenges facing our freshwater resources. I think that is how we will solve these kinds of wicked environmental problems in Georgia and throughout the world."



The view of the Mississippi River from North Riverview Park in St. Louis, Missouri.

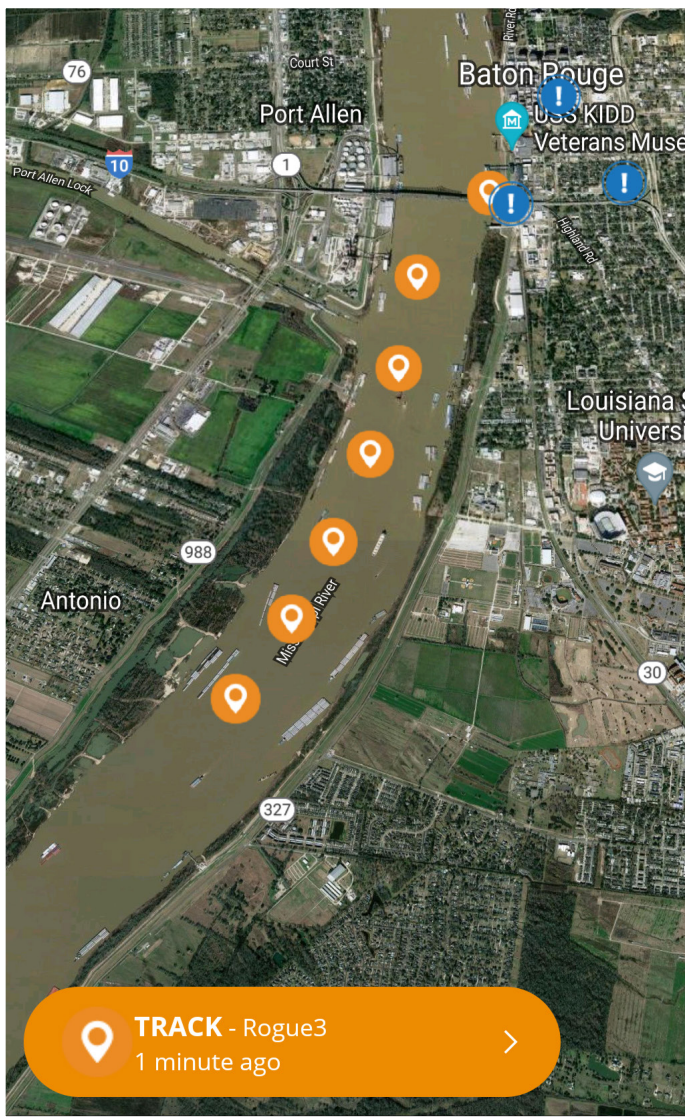


PETER FREY

COURTESY OF JENNA JAMBECK



ST. PAUL, MN

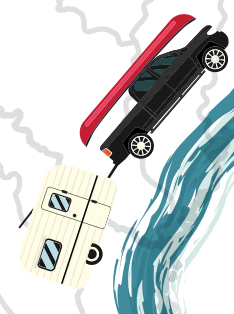


COURTESY OF JENNA JAMBECK

The GPS trackers regularly pinged the location of the plastic bottles Jambeck released, giving a real-time idea of how waste makes its way down the Mississippi.



ST. LOUIS, MO



BATON ROUGE, LA

Join the cause @DebrisTracker on **TWITTER**, and follow Jenna Jambeck's work @**JambeckResearch**.

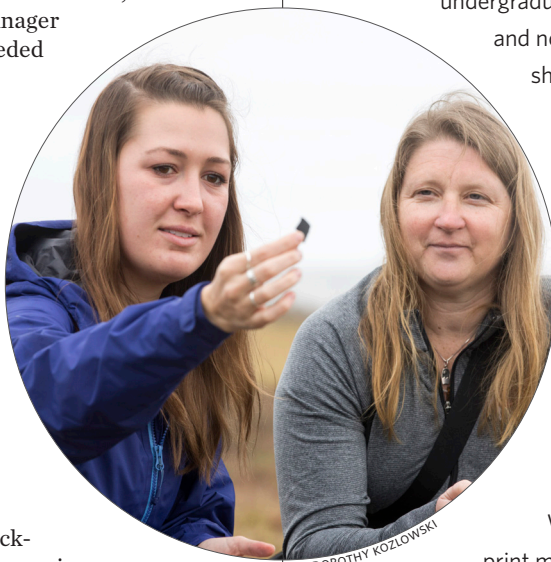
The Project

By 2018, local leaders along the Mississippi knew the plastic problem was getting out of hand. Mayors along the waterway formed the Mississippi River Plastic Pollution Initiative with the explicit goal of reducing the amount of plastic pollution in and around the river.

“Commitments were made by industry and manufacturers, which is great, but that’s kind of where it stopped because we weren’t really sure how those commitments were going to be implemented,” says Jennifer Wendt, the plastic waste reduction campaign manager for the MRCTL. “We decided what we needed to do was find a baseline of what we have out there—find out what, where, how, and when plastics make their way to the river.”

Enter the Marine Debris Tracker app, the Jambeck team, and thousands of community members.

Over the course of about a month, they would log all the trash they saw all along the river (and then dispose of it properly) to provide a comprehensive overview of how bad the trash problem has become. They’d focus on three pilot cities: Baton Rouge, Louisiana; St. Louis, Missouri; and St. Paul, Minnesota. Jambeck would also release plastic bottles fitted with GPS trackers, like Rogue One, to track how the river carries trash in each city. The three cities also had designated clean up days for residents to help record data and be part of the solution to the problem.



DOROTHY KOZLOWSKI

The Findings

The project logged more than 75,000 pieces of trash throughout the Mississippi River Basin. Over 90% of what community scientists found were logged within about 30 miles of the river’s banks. And most of that trash was plastic.

“It’s easy to think when you’re logging items in the Marine Debris Tracker, ‘I’m just logging all of these little pieces of litter on the ground I see’—but what’s the bigger picture?” says Sheridan Finder, a master’s student in environmental engineering who is centering her thesis on the Mississippi River project.

Local mayors have already committed to reducing plastic pollution in the river by 20%. Thanks to this project, they now have their baseline to measure if their new policies work.

“The bottom line is we hope that the data can be used by the communities for action,” Jambeck says. “So now the mayors and community leaders can decide what they want to do to reduce plastic.” **GM**

CAN I RECYCLE THIS?

Katherine Shayne (below, left) stood near the water for the launch of the project in Baton Rouge. An instructor in the College of Engineering and a 2019 UGA 40 Under 40 honoree, Shayne **BSENVE '16, MS '18** has been at Jambeck’s side for years—first as an

undergraduate, then as a master’s student, and now as a partner in an organization she and Jambeck co-founded to combat waste.

“We had a passion for reducing the amount of plastic that ends up in the environment, but we also saw a need to help cities,” Shayne says. “Some cities have over 100,000 people in them and only one or two working on recycling operations and education.”

With many cities still relying on print media, such as billboards or flyers in mailboxes, to spread the word about what they do and do not recycle, Shayne and Jambeck saw a need to fill the education gap about what is recyclable and how to make sure your item doesn’t end up in the trash instead.

“We wanted something that people could ask about recycling and find out the answer immediately,” Shayne says. “And then they could recycle their item properly and feel good about doing it.”

So that’s what they built.

The Can I Recycle This? website provides localized answers to specific recycling questions, creating a virtual platform that helps consumers navigate the confusing world of recycling.

Shayne is now adapting the site and smart technology-compatible program into an app that will work with companies like Amazon to provide a list of the recyclable packing material in deliveries according to local ordinances.

Follow Can I Recycle This?
on **TWITTER @CanIRecycleThis**



WRITTEN BY ERIC RANGUS MA '94

*Make no mistake.
Beer is big business.
Even if you are small.*



Craft breweries—those that are independently owned and max out at 6 million barrels of beer a year—are increasingly major players in the economic and cultural trends of the state of Georgia. Since 2011, Georgia’s craft breweries have grown nearly six-fold.

Today, nearly 54,000 Georgians are employed in jobs related to the state’s 130 craft breweries, and the industry contributes \$8.6 billion of economic impact to the state every year. Some are anchors of their communities and many have been founded or are run by UGA alumni.

ATHENS 'A GREAT BEER TOWN'

Dustin Dustin Watts knows a lot about beer. And he knows a lot about Athens.

Watts BBA '03 is the president of Terrapin Brewery, the first craft brewery established in Athens and now the second largest brewery in the state. Terrapin's co-founder John Cochran BBA '93 hired Watts after hearing that the then-UGA marketing student was talking up Terrapin at his bartending job—and selling a lot of Terrapin beer.

Watts was a natural for Terrapin's sales staff, and after the brewery facility opened in 2007, he worked his way up, eventually leading the sales and marketing staff. In 2018, he was promoted to president.

Watts is still promoting Terrapin beer, but in a wider sense, he's also promoting the

importance of craft beer—to a place's culture, its economy, and its identity.

"Craft beer's one of these products that, when people ask about it, they have three questions: What's the name of the brewery? What's the style of beer? Where is it from?" Watts says.

"With a lot of products, you don't necessarily ask where they're from," he continues. "But with craft beer it's critical. Everybody asks about it. So, we definitely are proud to be from Athens, and we love showcasing Athens. And Athens as a great beer town is becoming a bigger part of the conversation."

And that conversation is becoming much more interesting as Athens' craft brewery ecosystem has grown over the last decade.

Creature Comforts is located downtown



in the old Snow Tire Co. facility. (The old sign still hangs over Hancock Street.) Southern Brewing Company and Terrapin are in industrial areas. The fields that surround them can host massive tailgate parties on football weekends or even a Drivin' N Cryin' concert (as Southern did in June). Akademia is the only true brewpub in town (meaning at least 25% of its beer is sold on-site, and half of its revenue from food sales).

"I love that in this town alone, you can have a good 'ole country gathering by a fire pit at Southern one day, you can hang out in your golf shirt and khakis downtown at Creature, or check out a band at Terrapin," says Matt Casey BBA '99, the owner of Akademia. Casey's brewpub stands out not only because of its food menu but also because it's a family affair. Casey's wife and three sons all work to expand business. "Every one is a different experience, but they are all tied to Athens."

Increasingly, they are also tied to the University of Georgia. For instance, Creature Comforts has partnered with the Willson Center for Humanities and Arts for programming related to how businesses partner with communities in positive ways.

Terrapin's leadership includes three UGA alumni: From left, Dustin Watts president; Daniel Armstrong, supply chain manager; and Jack Albanese, vice president of operations.

Top: Matt Casey, the founder of Akademia Brewing Company, Athens' sole brewpub.



PETER FREY

Right: Brian Roth, co-founder of Southern Brewing.

Below: Fenwick Broyard, the vice president of culture at Creature Comforts.

Southern Brewing co-founder Brian Roth's **BFA '95** collaboration with UGA is directly related to his product. The full spectrum of 87 yeast strains that are used in Southern beer are frozen and stored in the departments of microbiology and chemistry.

"We did a huge collaboration with the chemistry department where we ran all of our beer through mass spectrometers, which gave us all kinds of interesting data. It's kind of cool that all of my collaborations from UGA have been in science, even though I have an art background," says Roth, who was a sculpture major. The spectrometer breaks down the chemical makeup of beer, allowing the brewer to then adjust ingredients to the beverage's taste.



PETER FREY

EDWIN HAMMOND



The depth of the breweries' relationship to UGA is just one aspect of how they are truly local leaders. For instance, during the pandemic, Akademia used its kitchen facilities to provide meals to local residents experiencing homelessness. Others stepped up as well.

Southern was one of the few places where fundraisers could be held while socially distant, and several organizations took advantage. Terrapin partnered with Can I Recycle This? (see page 29) to keep recyclables out of the environment. And for years, Creature Comforts has provided local nonprofits with grants through its Get Comfortable program. In 2020, Creature wrote more than \$500,000 in checks.

On the business side, since its opening in 2015, Creature Comforts has moved into the top 50 domestic breweries in sales while still remaining independent. And its community-oriented nature is part of its DNA.

"In addition to the commitment that UGA instills, one of the things you learn is that team is important," says Fenwick Broyard **MSW '13**, Creature's vice president for culture and one of more than a half dozen UGA alumni among the brewery's leadership. "So now, with the opportunity to step onto a team comprised of so many Bulldogs, really there is no limit to what we can accomplish as a company and on behalf of this community."

Taking a break at Wild Heaven's location on the Westside Beltline in Atlanta are Josh Franks, head brewer; Garrett Arnold, chief of operations; Eric Johnson, brewmaster; and Sarah Young executive vice president.

Below: Johnson, who has traveled the world for 18 years as host of the PBS show *Garden Smart*, sometimes brings back exotic ingredients for Wild Heaven's beers.



PETER FREY



PETER FREY

WILD HEAVEN BREWING ATLANTA

Trapeze downtown. In order to step into a co-ownership role at Wild Heaven in 2012, Johnson had to let go of his other businesses. It was an easy decision that allowed him to pursue his passion of brewing beer.

"Of all the alcoholic beverages that are out there, beer is the only one that is truly culinary," Johnson says. "Wine is agricultural. Distilled spirits is all production and manufacturing. In beer, we have hundreds of styles and there are no real rules outside of 'don't call it a [lager] if it is clearly not that.' You can be as creative as you'd ever want to be."

Johnson earned a degree in horticulture at UGA, and for 18 years, he has hosted the PBS show *Garden Smart*, which has taken him around the country and the world. Johnson's travel has a lot of influence over his brewing.

"Some of the botanical ingredients he uses, we have to Google," says Sarah Young **ABJ '06**, Wild Heaven's executive vice president. She joined the brewery as its sales lead just as its Avondale Estates taproom was opening in 2012. She now heads all of Wild Heaven's sales, marketing, strategic part-

nerships, and HR efforts. "We'll use a type of exotic pear or the Buddha's hand, which is a fingered citrus, where you only use the zest. It's a way to set our brand apart."

Johnson's gardening background also has led to interesting partnerships (like Wild Heaven's Garden Beer collaboration with the Atlanta Botanical Garden), as well as the atmosphere of Wild Heaven's newest location in Atlanta's West End neighborhood. It's prime real estate adjacent to the Westside Beltline Trail, and it features a garden area that Johnson oversees himself.

"Community partnerships, like the connection we've made with the Atlanta Botanical Garden, are integral to the growth of our brand," Young says.

For Johnson, like Young, community is what the work is all about.

"We've always viewed the breweries as that third place to be," Johnson says. "You have work, home, and a third place that is community oriented. A brewery is different than going to a bar. It's kid-friendly. You are engaging in a cultural experience because this is where the product was made."

Although both of its locations are in the Atlanta area, Wild Heaven Brewing wears its Athenian roots on its cans. The name references an *Out of Time*-era R.E.M. song, and it's just one of the pop culture references Wild Heaven attaches to its products.

The Athens angle comes from co-founder Eric Johnson **BSA '96**, a Classic City native and one of the most boundary-pushing brewmasters in the state, if not the country.

For years, Johnson was a leader in the Athens restaurant and bar scene. He owned several, most prominent among them being

OCONEE BREWING



GREENSBORO

Five years in banking was enough for Taylor Lamm **AB '06**. “I wasn’t super-excited about my career path,” he says. “But I really became passionate about this hobby of brewing beer and thought, ‘Why don’t I make that a career?’” So he did.

Lamm quit his job and entered brewery school, which took him from Chicago to Munich, where he learned the science and business of brewing beer. Upon his return to the States, he applied for every job he could find and landed an assistant brewer position in Durham, North Carolina.

A few years later, a mutual friend passed Lamm’s name over to John McGarity **BBA '68**, a real estate developer from McDonough who owned a historic building in Greensboro and wanted to turn the place into a brewery.

Lamm, who was working as a brewer in Greenville, South Carolina, at the time, knew the town. He had been a banker in Greensboro for two-and-a-half years and says that returning was a no-brainer.

Shortly after meeting in person, Lamm, McGarity, and McGarity’s son, Nathan, became partners in what would become

Oconee Brewing. It opened in 2017 in that historic building, which had once been a cotton warehouse and then a Chero-Cola plant.

Attached to the tap room is a 3,600-square-foot event space with outdoor patio space beyond that. “We originally didn’t know what to do with that extra space, but we quickly realized we could utilize it for a variety of things,” Lamm says.

Indeed, Oconee hosts rehearsal dinners, weddings, concerts, and even corporate retreats. While just over 3,000 people live in Greensboro, the town is only 45 minutes south of Athens and an hour, 15 minutes from both Atlanta and Augusta—the perfect distance for an easy getaway. The Lake Oconee resort area is just 10 minutes away, too, and that adds a large and loyal clientele.

“Working for different breweries, you get to know your market,” Lamm says. “You also look at the rest of the state and see some of the styles they are doing. You want to set yourself apart.”

The way Oconee sets itself apart is in a mix of styles Lamm learned how to brew in Germany (like dunkelweizen, a dark wheat not commonly found in Georgia), and

light, easy-drinking styles for the laid-back vacationers and local fans. Oconee’s spiciest offering is a habanero ale.

Distribution has been key. Oconee products are beginning to enter larger markets, and, most importantly, they are very popular locally.

“Lake Oconee is in our backyard,” Lamm says. “Pretty much every restaurant wanted some local beer on draft. That’s when we thought, this might really work. And so far, it has.”



Taylor Lamm walked away from a banking career to open up Oconee Brewing in Greensboro.

PETER FREY

STILLFIRE BREWING



SUWANEE

John Bisges wasn't a brew-beer-at-home kind of person. But he did think craft brewing would be a good investment. Enjoying the job is just a bonus.

"I started my career in retail, but this is more of a passion. I get to grow this business without having to worry about supporting my family with it," says Bisges **AB '93**.

In addition to having co-founded StillFire, he is managing director of Dynacraft, a company based in the Savannah area that is one of the world's largest distributors of bicycles, scooters, and ride-ons—even one resembling UGA's famed mascot, Uga

Built in an old fire station (hence the name StillFire), the brewery provides an open-air atmosphere with indoor-outdoor spaces inspired by Napa Valley wineries. The dog-friendly atmosphere and fenced-in children's playground add more local flavor and speak directly to StillFire's suburban location and aim to be a family destination.

"The old social model of going to dive bars and hanging out in this enclosed dark place just wasn't very inviting, especially for families and kids," says Aaron Bisges **BBA '13, JD '17**, StillFire's general manager and John's nephew. "Breweries now offer more of a social and community aspect than just a place to drink."

StillFire anchors a downtown renaissance in Suwanee. A lot across the street that had been vacant for more than a decade is being redeveloped into a café/restaurant. Beyond that, a row of more than a dozen locally owned shops unfolds in the shadow of City Hall.

Aaron Bisges joined what would become StillFire during his third year of law school at UGA. John invited him to work on start-up concepts, and Aaron's law background helped with the business plan.

"When I first saw the site, and then going back and forth with the city, and building this out and putting it on paper, that's the most exciting part," Aaron says. "You're creating something of your own."



PETER FREY

He's not done creating, either. In June, StillFire and Derek Norton **BBA '02**, the mayor of Smyrna, announced plans for a new brewery in the heart of that northwestern Atlanta suburb. Its targeted opening date is in fall 2022.

John Bisges, right, co-founder of StillFire Brewing with his nephew, Aaron Bisges. The StillFire location in Suwanee has been such a success that the pair recently announced plans to open a second location in Smyrna next fall.

PRETORIA FIELDS



ALBANY

Tripp Morgan arrives for an afternoon photo shoot wearing clothes that represent every aspect of his professional life. His Pretoria Fields fleece promotes the craft brewery that is his pride and joy. Morgan's Pretoria Fields Collective cap highlights the local agricultural community that is centered on the 500-acre organic farm where much of the brewery's fruits and grains are harvested. Underneath are the scrubs he wears to his day job as a vascular surgeon in Albany, the largest city in south-west Georgia.

It's a broad range of skills, responsibilities, and interests—among those interests is the University of Georgia.

"Like everyone else, I wish I was still there," he laughs. Morgan **PHARM '97** credits UGA not only for the pharmacy degree that was the first step in his medical career, but also notes that it was in Athens where he began home-brewing.

Morgan grew up on a farm near Camilla and is a fifth-generation farmer. That knowledge of the land, along with a dedication to health, informs his perspective.

"We practice regenerative agriculture, and

regeneration is behind everything we do," Morgan says. "We work to produce quality products and to keep the land healthy.

After he founded the Pretoria Fields farm, Morgan wanted to build a small brewery there. It was nothing too ambitious. The city of Albany learned about it, and encouraged Morgan to think bigger. In 2017, after some negotiation and the purchase of what had been a warehouse in the center of Albany's historic district, the brewery opened.

Morgan says one of his smartest moves was hiring Dee Moore **BBA '95** as brewmaster. That's Moore's title, anyway, but his responsibilities are far greater. The former financial adviser manages the day-to-day business and even supports sales reps on marketing calls.

Pretoria Fields was the first business to open on Albany's historic Pine Avenue. Several others quickly followed, but the COVID-19 pandemic quashed any momentum the district had and the city is only now beginning to recover.

Albany was one of the hardest hit areas of the country, much less the state, and when beer production at Pretoria Fields shut

down, Morgan and Moore credit a quick pivot to producing hand sanitizer for saving the business.

Pretoria Fields provided thousands of bottles of sanitizer to local hospitals, schools, and other entities for free. They also partnered with a distributor that delivered it nationwide. Even today, bottles of hand sanitizer are sold next to the latest beers, and hand sanitizer-themed shirts hold a place of prominence on the merchandise wall.

Now that Pretoria Fields has fully reopened, it is looking toward the future and hoping to recapture some of the momentum the pandemic interrupted. They are about to buy a food truck to give customers an additional option to visit, and he is currently brewing several new German-style beers that will be ready for an Oktoberfest celebration on Oct. 23.

"We'll be closing off the street, there will be hay bales and bands," Morgan says of the event, which will be a partnership with the city. "We are just looking forward to getting everyone back together again." **GM**

PETER FREY

Before opening Pretoria Fields in 2017, Tripp Morgan, a surgeon, founded the Albany Vascular Specialist Center.

Brewmaster Dee Moore (right) is a former financial adviser. He now runs the day-to-day operations at Pretoria.



See more photos of our craft brewers on the *Georgia Magazine* website at | [NEWS.UGA.EDU/WELL-CRAFTED](https://news.uga.edu/well-crafted)

Bulldog Bulletin

NEWS FOR UGA ALUMNI



NEVER BARK ALONE

GAME-WATCHING PARTIES ARE BACK!

Bulldogs Never Bark Alone—especially during football season. This fall, alumni chapters are hosting gatherings for local and visiting alumni, friends, and fans. Led by passionate volunteers, these groups keep Bulldogs everywhere connected to the UGA alumni family through events and philanthropy. As they build lives and careers, Bulldogs can depend on one of 80+ chapters around the world to bring the spirit of UGA to wherever they are.

alumni.uga.edu/gamewatching

LEADING AND SERVING: THAT'S OUR COMMITMENT

The members of this year's 40 Under 40 class of ambitious graduates (see p. 6) are finding creative solutions to world problems, leading businesses, and serving their communities. The 40 Under 40 Class of 2021 will be celebrated in September, and the event will be live-streamed for the public.

alumni.uga.edu/40U40

FREE ALUMNI CAREER WEBINARS

The UGA Career Center provides alumni with free professional development support: year-round, worldwide, and lifelong. See the full lineup at career.uga.edu/alumni.

Webinar highlights this fall include:

- **New Tools for Managers Post-COVID**, Sept. 21 @ 1 p.m. EDT
- **Back to the Office: Now What?**, Oct. 26 @ 1 p.m. EDT
- **Your Resilience Resume: How to Job Search Post-COVID**, Nov. 16 @ 1 p.m. EST



CHAPTER SPOTLIGHT

[Find your chapter @ alumni.uga.edu/chapters](http://alumni.uga.edu/chapters)

CHARLOTTE ALUMNI CHAPTER

Chapter President: Liz Bruno ABJ '13
Number of Alumni in the Area: 4,200+
 The chapter is excited to host events for alumni and friends prior to the Sept. 4 UGA vs. Clemson football game in Charlotte. Follow the chapter on Facebook or Instagram for details. Local alumni also collaborated to establish a scholarship that will be awarded to a UGA student from the Queen City each year. Meet the first recipient:

Maria N. Carnahan, Class of 2024
Major: Mechanical Engineering
Hometown: Cornelius, NC
Career Aspirations: "I hope to work somewhere related to power generation or helping the environment."



DON'T MISS OUT!

For more events, visit alumni.uga.edu/calendar

40 UNDER 40 LUNCHEON

September 10

Join the livestream to learn more about this year's outstanding young alumni age 40 and younger. alumni.uga.edu/40u40

UGA DAY AT THE BRAVES

September 30 @ 7:20 p.m.

The UGA alumni family will gather to cheer on the Braves in Truist Park. Get your tickets at alumni.uga.edu/braves

HOMECOMING WEEK

October 11-16

A week of UGA spirit, including the annual Black Alumni Homecoming Tailgate. alumni.uga.edu/football

COOKIES & COCOA WITH HAIRY DAWG

Women of UGA will host alumni and their families for a festive afternoon in Atlanta with Hairy Dawg.

Learn more at alumni.uga.edu/women-of-uga

ALUMNI TRIVIA

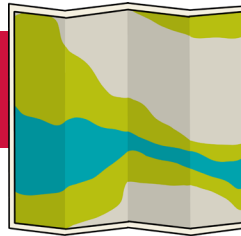
Test your Bulldog knowledge of alumni events and programs. Answers below—but no peeking!

How many years ago did UGA launch Bulldog 100 and 40 Under 40, two programs that recognize successful alumni?

- A. 10 years ago for both programs
- B. 20 years for Bulldog 100; 15 for 40 Under 40
- C. 20 years for both programs
- D. 10 years for Bulldog 100; 11 years for 40 Under 40

How many alumni chapters are participating in the first Road to Athens Challenge and raising funds to establish a scholarship for a local student attending UGA?

- A. 5+
- B. 10+
- C. 20+
- D. 100+



Answers: 1, D, 2, B

YVETTE K. DANIELS BECOMES 77th ALUMNI PRESIDENT



Yvette K. Daniels **AB '86, JD '89** became UGA's 77th alumni president on July 1. Daniels resides in Stone Mountain and is the director of university relations for the Georgia Department of Public Health. She is the first Black woman to serve as UGA alumni president.

She succeeds Brian Dill **AB '94, MBA '19** in this role. Joining Daniels on the board are:

- Charlene Johnson Benn **BS '85**
- Ericka Brown Davis **AB '93**
- DeRetta Rhodes **BSFCS '92, PhD '10**
- Paton Faletti **BBA '99**
- Ashley M. Horne **ABJ '01**
- Adam C. Johnson **MBA '16**
- Christian Robinson **BBA '04**
- Marisa "Marsay" Simpson **BSW '97**

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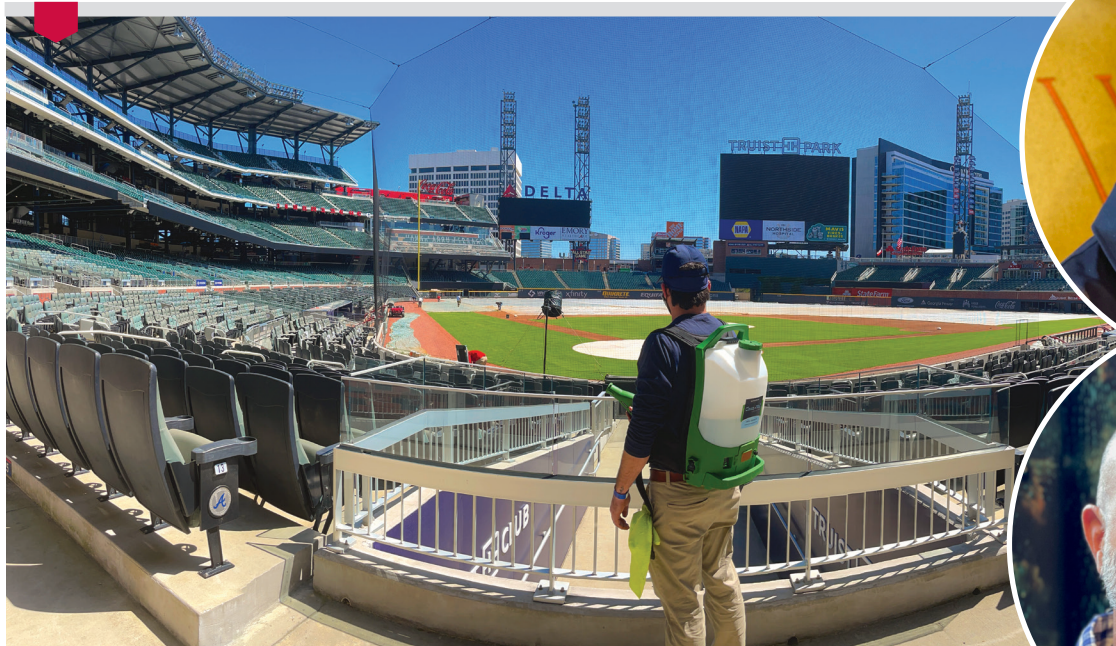


Check out what's going on for alumni and update your email or mailing address with UGA.



CLASS NOTES

Compiled by Rachel Floyd AB '19, MA '20, Hannah Barron AB '21, and Ireland Hayes



SPECIAL



TIDY TEAM

Keeping It Clean

As large gatherings began returning in summer 2021, a company led by two University of Georgia alumni has been at the forefront of cleaning efforts at sports facilities ranging from Stegeman Coliseum in Athens to Truist Park, home of the Atlanta Braves, and even major public spaces like Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport.

Jason Smith **BBA '03** (inset, top) and David Kraitzick **AB '95** serve as director of operations and chief financial officer, respectively, at CleanWell Services, an Atlanta-based disinfecting service that choreographs cleaning routines at these facilities.

At stadiums after games are over and fans have left, CleanWell Services team members make their way through concourses, dugouts, rows of seats, weight rooms, and offices to apply CDC and EPA approved disinfectant to protect fans, players, and coaches against COVID-19 and other hazards.

“On so many levels—as Atlanta natives, lifelong fans, UGA alumni, and entrepreneurs—we appreciate that UGA and the Braves take health and safety seriously,” Smith says. “Their proactiveness helps everyone get back to the games we love and sets the example off the field for businesses striving to return-to-work safely.”

The company also provides commercial cleaning and disinfection for hospitals, office buildings, restaurants, disaster-relief hubs, and special events.

1970-1974

Vickie Spence BSEd '71, MEd '73, EdS '79 retired from her position as executive director at United Way of Gordon County in 2019.

Victoria Webb ABJ '72 retired from her position as pro bono coordinator with the Nashville Bar Association and the Legal Aid Society of Middle Tennessee.

Henry Lowe BBA '73 was inducted into the Georgia Aviation Hall of Fame.

Suzanne Bagby BSPH '74 retired from her position as a pharmacist for the Northeast Georgia Health System after 40 years.

Michael Brinson BSPH '74 was named president of the Georgia Board of Pharmacy.

Bill Bryant ABJ '74 won the Cicero Grand Award presented by the Professional Speechwriters Association.

1975-1979

Sandra Derrick BSHE '76 MEd '80 is president of Dalton Whitfield Murray Retired Educators Association.

Kenneth Callaway AB '77 is president and co-founder of Callaway Blue Spring Water in Hamilton, GA.

Deborah Carthon-Brown AB '78 retired from her position

APPLAUSE FOR ALUMNI

Seamless Transition

Stephanie Bradshaw BSHE '89



DOROTHY KOZLOWSKI

For Stephanie Bradshaw, one nightmare home economics project spoiled her on sewing.

She had to make a skirt with a zipper, waistband, and buttons—an overwhelming task for a novice.

“It was like telling somebody who has never cooked to whip up a soufflé,” says Bradshaw BSHE '89. “It was too advanced. And so I never really enjoyed sewing.”

Fast-forward 30 years; Bradshaw now owns and operates The Stitchery, a fabric and sew shoppe in Rome, Georgia. Isn't it strange how things work out?

“If you told me back then that I would be selling fabric and sewing machines now, I would have thought, ‘You're crazy!’”

After earning her degree in interior design from the University of Georgia, life took a dynamic turn, and she landed

a job with Delta Airlines. Bradshaw spent 10 years as a flight attendant and 13 years raising two daughters. Then an unexpected meeting in 2011 introduced her to the world of entrepreneurship.

Over a meal, Bradshaw and Susan Horton, an avid quilter and sewer, hatched the idea for The Stitchery. Horton's craft skills, paired with Bradshaw's background in design, set the stage for a business that would go on to be recognized by *Quilt Sampler*, a *Better Homes and Gardens* publication, and UGA's Bulldog 100, as well as dozens of newspapers across the state.

When Horton retired in 2018, Bradshaw assumed full ownership of The Stitchery. Today, the shop carries leading sewing machine brands Babylock and Janome, offers weekly classes, and hosts quarterly and special events with top ed-

ucators for both brands. Along with running the business, Bradshaw oversees a staff of five, works with vendors and fabric representatives, and stays current on the latest industry trends and technology.

While sewing wasn't Bradshaw's first love, her outside perspective proved invaluable to the business; she was her target market.

“I could relate to my customer who wanted to start sewing or learning embroidery because I was exactly where they were,” she says. “I started out not knowing anything and had to learn about the machines and the processes.”

Thanks to Horton and other collaborators over the years, Bradshaw now says she knows “enough about sewing to be dangerous,” and her staff jokingly refer to her as a “renegade sewer.”

Although business demands limit time for sewing, Bradshaw finds joy in helping customers select the right machine for their needs and interacting with those who travel from across the Southeast to visit her shop.

“If you antique and that's your hobby, you try to find an antique store near you. That's how people are with quilt and fabric shops—they seek them out,” she says. “And it's fun because each shop has a different personality.”

The Stitchery's personality? Bright and happy, like Bradshaw's fabrics.

“I think my shop reflects how I buy,” she says. “Some shops have more traditional colors like grays, reds, and blues, whereas we've got bright pinks, greens, yellows, and fun floral prints.”

While running a business isn't easy, for Bradshaw, it's rewarding in more ways than one.

“Whether you're making a baby quilt or making a T-shirt quilt for a child who graduated from high school, gifting what you have made is what sewing is all about. It truly is a gift of love from one person to another.”

WRITTEN BY HAYLEY MAJOR



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as an English professor in the University System of Georgia and continues to teach online after her retirement.

Peggy Bryant BEd '79, MEd '80, EdS '88 retired after 30 years of teaching.

1980-1984

Katherine Davidson BSEd '80 is a part-time health and PE teacher at Mitchell Community College in Statesville, NC.

Teresa Ryan ABJ '80 retired in August 2020 from her position as a captain for Southwest

Airlines after 31 years as a commercial airline pilot.

Bill Conlin ABJ '84 is vice president at Berkshire Hathaway Specialty in Atlanta.

Danny Roberson BMus '84, MBA '87 retired from his position at Regions Bank after 34 years in banking.

1985-1989

Rhonda Crowley BSEd '86 is a teacher at Flint Hill Elementary in Oxford, GA.

Ralph Ellis AB '87 has been named a Super Lawyer every

year since 2015. He is a social security disability attorney in Clayton, GA.

Brenda Wells BBA '88, PhD '92 is the director of the East Carolina University Risk Management and Insurance Program in Greenville, NC, and owns Risk Education Strategies consulting firm.

1990-1994

Joe Alexander BBA '90 is vice chair of transactions at DLA Piper in Miami.

Kimberly Ballard-Washington AB '90 was named president of Savannah State University.

Susan Willis BCFCs '90 is the general manager at Vintage Pizzeria in Alpharetta and is president of Sigma Kappa's National Housing Corporation.

Mark Lange BBA '91 is executive director at Morgan Stanley Wealth Management in Richmond, VA.

Michael Douglas BS '93 MEd '96 is senior vice president of business continuity management for Ameris Bank in Atlanta.

1995-1999

Chris Krauth AB '97, AB '98 is co-host of the podcast *Now More Than Ever*, a show dedicated to the machinations of politics, without being partisan.

Patricia Alford ABJ '98 is principal at Dodgen Middle School in Cobb County.

Kim Carney BSA '99, DVM '01 was named associate dean for student affairs and admissions at the Lincoln Memorial University College of Veterinary Medicine in Harrogate, TN.

Christopher Mason ABJ '99 is the executive director of government affairs for Wynn Resorts in Las Vegas.

David Mowery ABJ '99 is co-host of the podcast *Now More Than Ever*, a show dedicated to the machinations of politics, without being partisan.

2000-2004

Paul Bunn BBA '00, MAcc '01 is senior executive vice president and COO at Covenant Logistics Group in Chattanooga, TN.

Carly Armour BSW '01, MSW '07 received the National Disability Leadership Award from the American College Personnel

APPLAUSE FOR ALUMNI

A Nonprofit Calling

Nicole Epps MBA '09



SPECIAL

Nicole Epps MBA '09 has always been motivated to serve others; she just didn't know what the path to get there would be.

After graduating from the University of Pennsylvania and completing a post-college stint with Teach for America in Georgia, the Brooklyn native found herself in Atlanta, working at a real estate development firm. While watching the doc-

umentary *Girls Like Us*, which depicts the stories of girls who are trafficked in major U.S. cities, Epps found the direction to serve that she'd been looking for in the nonprofit sector. "I don't think any child should live like that," she says. "I found my passion, and I transformed my entire career."

Epps moved to Washington, D.C., and began her work as a voice for the survivors of human trafficking. She's now the

executive director of World Childhood Foundation USA, a branch of the global nonprofit dedicated to developing solutions to end childhood sexual abuse, exploitation, and violence.

Epps joined the foundation after years spent being an anti-trafficking advocate in the domestic and international spheres. Another one of her roles was as an associate director of court-appointed special advocates in New Jersey, where she created and managed community outreach programs meant to assist youth aging out of the foster care system. "A lot of my work, in addition to supporting all of our programs and volunteers, was saying, 'How can we work with teens that are in our programs and help them receive the life skills that they might need?'"

She served as managing director of programs and policy at World Childhood for the last five years, before being promoted to executive director this January. "We're at a really interesting tipping point for our organization," says Epps. "Our focus is really to expand our programmatic work."

One of those programs is a partnership with The Economist Intelligence Unit to create the Out of the Shadows Index, a benchmarking tool that measures the responses of 61 countries to violence against children. The new project will use the same measuring system, but apply it to the U.S.

Epps is also proud of the organization's increased work in community engagement and youth participation in Brooklyn and Harlem, New York, and Minneapolis, Minnesota. "We need to be a thought leader and resource in the communities we serve," she says.

Despite finding a home in the nonprofit world, Epps still relies on her business background daily. "My Terry MBA has been a game-changer for my work because I understand the business side of the nonprofit," says Epps. "We need to remain relevant and valid."

WRITTEN BY ALEXANDRA SHIMALLA MA '19

APPLAUSE FOR ALUMNI

The Problem Solver

David Dove AB '09, JD '14

David Dove AB '09, JD '14 was in high school when he was first drawn to the law.

Although he earned a degree in political science, he had no aspirations for mixing the law with a career in politics. But that's exactly what Dove does now as executive counsel for Georgia Gov. Brian Kemp BS '87.

As the top in-house lawyer for the governor, Dove also oversees all appointments and ethics in the state's executive branch, and his staff works side-by-side with agencies on rulemaking.

"A lot of this job is making sure the train runs on time," says Dove. "I tell people our scale of tasks goes from important to significant to critical."

The quick decision-making that's necessary for his job requires Dove and his team to be on call 24/7, whether it's a pandemic that needs attention or a funnel cloud approaching a small town.

"The governor has to be able to trust us so that he knows he has the best information, the best counsel available all the time," Dove says. "So we strive to stay sharp."

Dove's current job was a natural transition from the positions he's held since he graduated from UGA's School of Law and left his hometown of Athens. After earning his undergraduate degree, Dove worked for Kemp while he was secretary of state and also worked for former Gov. Nathan Deal. It was Gov. Deal, a former lawyer himself, who encouraged Dove to pursue law school.

"It was really great to see his passion for the law," says Dove. "Gov. Deal was a great mentor and encouraged me in that regard."

Throughout his career in government, Dove has held a variety of roles ranging from handling campaign finances to serving as government affairs liaison. When Kemp was elected governor in 2018, Dove oversaw the transition.

"Governor-elect Kemp invited me to join his administration as executive counsel during the transition," Dove says. "It was a natural fit not only because we were laying the groundwork for his administration during the transition, but also from



SPECIAL

having worked so closely with him in the past, I knew his passion for advancing the state and his personal ethic. I wanted to help ensure his administration's success."

As an attorney, Dove found a love for civil litigation while in law school at UGA, which he furthered with a stint in private practice, where he worked with other UGA law alumni. "What really appeals to me about being a lawyer is that whenever there's a complex problem—whether that's related to a person, a hospital, a company, or the state—we help people solve problems and improve their condition," he says. "There's never a boring day as a lawyer."

Whether it's a sticky situation or a difficult problem, Dove has learned the balancing act between speed and accuracy. While lawyers sometimes get a reputation for being risk-averse, Dove thrives on thinking through a challenge.

"My favorite part is taking the idea of where the governor wants to go and figuring out how we can do it," says Dove. "You can always say no as a lawyer—that the risk is too great on this one facet—but I like to think creatively and look at it as a puzzle to solve."

WRITTEN BY ALEXANDRA SHIMALLA MA '19

APPLAUSE FOR ALUMNI

The Perpetuity Business

Joy Beasley AB '93



SPECIAL

From the rushing falls at Yosemite to the giant sea turtles populating the reefs of the U.S. Virgin Islands, America's national parks offer strikingly diverse scenery and wildlife. At the headquarters of the National Park Service in D.C., Joy Beasley's days are equally diverse.

As the National Park Service's associate director for cultural resources, partnerships, and science, Beasley AB '93 provides policy guidance for the management of all 423 national park sites. And that's just a fraction of her job.

"Most people are familiar with the National Park Service and with the parks themselves, but there are also these broader programs we administer that touch just about every com-

munity in the country," she says.

In addition to overseeing millions of dollars in grants for states, tribes, nonprofits, and local governments to assist with historic preservation, the agency—a branch of the U.S. Department of the Interior—also manages the National Register of Historic Places and the National Historic Landmarks Program. Together, both programs encompass almost 2 million locations, structures, and objects, all under Beasley's administration.

If her portfolio wasn't large enough, she also guides the management of archeological sites, cultural landscapes, historic structures, archives, and even museum objects (48.3 million, to be exact).

The scope is large, but Beasley's dedica-

tion to the field is even greater.

"We're in the perpetuity business," she says. "We care for these spaces and communities indefinitely, so we're focused on how we can fully reflect the people that we serve and broaden the audiences we're trying to reach."

Beasley herself grew up as a part of that audience. Family vacations sparked her fascination with archeology and history.

"Some of my earliest memories are of visiting national parks," she says. "We'd go to a park like Yellowstone, which is this tremendous natural environment, and I wanted to know more about the people who had been there before."

Beasley got her first taste of archeological fieldwork while pursuing her undergraduate degree in anthropology at the University of Georgia. She and her classmates spent a summer surveying the Oconee National Forest, which involves exploring sites and collecting information about the location, including its history and past human activity in the area.

"I had poison ivy for three straight months," she recalls. "But I loved it. We were like a little family camping out, cooking together, playing cards together. It was a unique experience, and I was totally hooked."

Beasley began her career with the National Park Service in 2003 as a program manager at Monocacy National Battlefield in Maryland, a role she held until transitioning to chief of cultural resources in the National Capital Region in 2013. She served as acting associate director beginning in 2017 before being named to the position permanently in August 2020.

For Beasley, every day is a learning opportunity. And that's something she's committed to personally paying forward. When students interested in the National Park Service or historic preservation reach out to her, she always makes time to talk.

"There were folks along the way—mentors, coworkers, supervisors, professors—who challenged me and who helped create opportunities for me to advance in my career," she says. "So I am always conscious of creating opportunities for others who are working their way up."

WRITTEN BY HAYLEY MAJOR

TIME TO GEAR UP!

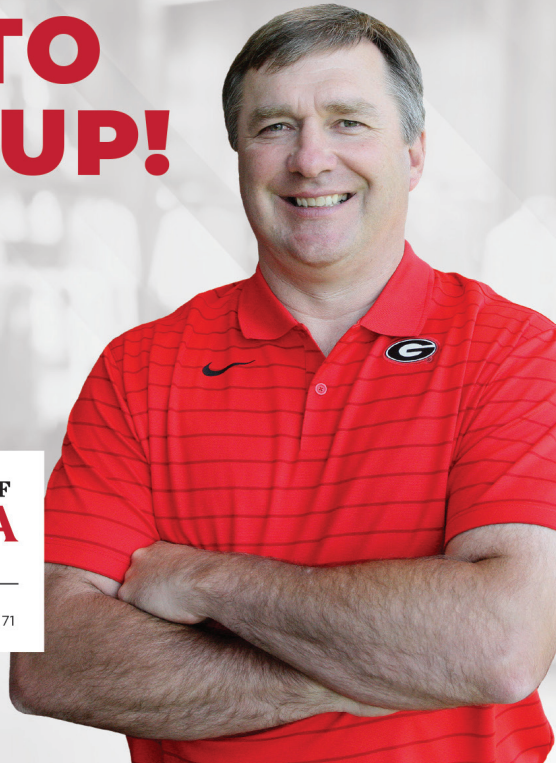
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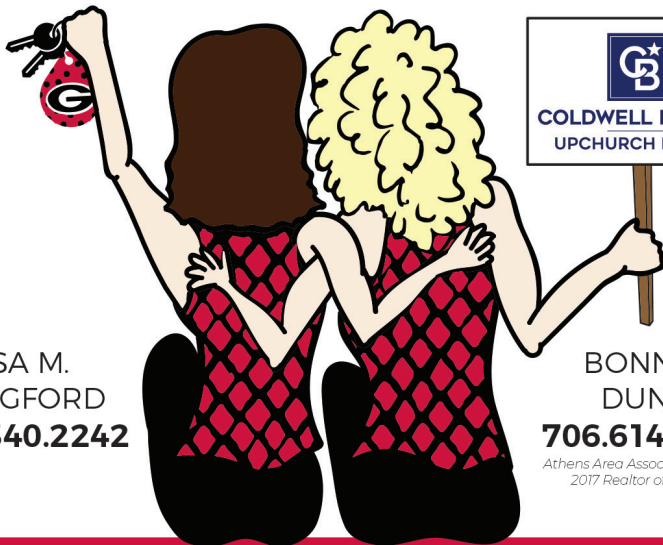
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Association Council's Coalition for (Dis)Ability.

Dustin Calhoun AB '01, BS '01 is medical director of emergency management for UC Health in Cincinnati.

James Ripple BS '02 is chief medical officer at Naval Hospital Lemoore in Lemoore, CA.

Matthew Roper BS '02, DVM '07 is area medical director of North Georgia VCA Animal Hospitals and VCA Roswell Animal Hospital.

Renna Redd AB '03 is an associate librarian at Clemson University.

John Swint BS '03 is a physician assistant and co-owns Premier Hormone Health & Wellness, a small anti-aging medical clinic in Longview, TX.

Nicole Walters AB '03 is founder and CEO of Inherit Learning Company in Atlanta and stars on in the USA Network's docuseries *She's the Boss*.

Jessica Tripp BSFCS '04 is director of risk management for RangeWater Real Estate in Atlanta and is UGA alumni president for the Residential Property Management Board in the College of Family and Consumer Sciences.

George Wright BSED '04, MSW '14 is a contract specialist at Dade Asset Corporation in Atlanta.

2005-2009

Robert Conner Jr. BSED '05 is an instructional technology specialist at Walton County Schools and offensive coordinator for the Monroe Area High School varsity football team.

Brittany Lavelle AB '05, AB '05 was named education and training attorney for the Tennessee District Attorneys General Conference in May 2021.

Akuba Torvikey AB '05 was named the first director of product development at Pattern Beauty by Tracee Ellis Ross in Atlanta.

Nick Slater AB '05 released *Look Out Above: The Young Professional's Guide to Success* in September 2019.

Laura Lanio BSFCS '06, MBA '14 is area director of marketing at Loews Hotels & Co. in Atlanta.

OUR GEORGIA COMMITMENT

FUNDING SCHOLARSHIPS AND BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS

When John AB '62 and Cathie Crawford decided to support the University of Georgia, they did so with one simple premise guiding them—helping students who need it the most.

The couple from Atlanta contributes to an annual scholarship program that helps UGA students fill in the financial gaps that can crop up from year to year. Known as the Crawford Scholarship by its recipients, it supports 20 students—five per class—each year at UGA.

“I look at this as an opportunity to give directly to the students at the University of Georgia,” John Crawford says. “It has afforded us a pipeline to support persons of need, and then have the benefit of seeing the fruits of our giving.”

Ali Elyaman AB '20 is one of those beneficiaries. He pieced together a collection of scholarships and other financial aid to assist him with the costs of attending UGA, but he still fell short of the amount he needed. That’s when he learned about the Crawford Scholarship.

“I wasn’t going to be able to go to UGA without this scholarship,” he says. “I don’t think it clicked in my head at the time, but if I had not gotten it, I wasn’t going to be able to come up with the money I needed to enroll.”

Elyaman forged a deep friendship with the Crawfords, regularly speaking to them on the phone or joining them for a cup of coffee or meal. Building meaningful relationships is an important reason why the Crawfords give back, and their



SPECIAL

ties with Elyaman is just one example of many forged throughout the years.

“They’re just remarkable young people,” Cathie Crawford says. “If anybody needs anything or wants to call us, we make sure they have our contact information.”

The couple typically hosts gatherings with the Crawford Scholars throughout the academic year, offering the opportunity to get to know the students better. It’s a practice that was disrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic, although Zoom calls helped fill the void.

While the Crawfords appreciate the technology that enables them to stay in touch with scholarship recipients, they look forward to returning to Athens in person. “What’s so great about the program is that we get to know we’re helping someone who needs help,” John says. “But we also are getting to know that person, and that’s the real fulfilling part of it—to get to know a student and their circumstances, what their background is, and have a relationship with them.”

“What’s so great about the program is that we get to know we’re helping someone who needs help,” John says. “But we also are getting to know that person, and that’s the real fulfilling part of it—to get to know a student and their circumstances, what their background is, and have a relationship with them.”

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The Art of a Lifetime



PETER FREY

When Leo Twigg was in 10th grade, he got a job as a projectionist in the movie theater in his hometown of St. Stephen, South Carolina.

“I was probably the only Black as young as me to be a projectionist. No one knew because they couldn’t see me up there,” he laughs.

Twigg took away much more than a wry sense of humor from that projection booth. One of the highest points in St. Stephen, the booth also gave Twigg a new perspective.

Like many small Southern towns, St. Stephen was divided by railroad tracks. When trains came through, sometimes miles long, they divided the town. From his high point in the theater, though, Twigg could see both sides—perhaps the only person in town who could.

“I could see how that train separated people,” says Twigg **Edd ’70**. “I feel that way when I’m painting. Many African

Americans suffer in silence. People call you names, and you don’t say anything. I think about that suffering in silence, but you end up having to cross over that.”

Twigg has refined his experience in the theater over a lifetime that has seen him become one of the country’s most esteemed artists of the last 50 years as well as one of the University of Georgia’s most accomplished alumni.

Twigg was the first African American to earn a doctorate in art education from UGA. At the time, he was already a working artist, as well as an instructor at South Carolina State University. By the time he retired in 1998, he had developed SCSU’s art department and also had led the establishment of the university’s I.P. Stanback Museum and Planetarium.

Twigg works primarily in batik, an ancient painting style that uses dyes, cloths, and wax to create lively and expressive im-

agery. It’s more time consuming than other types of painting, but its distinct texture—with cracks and crackles that are very hard to achieve with oils or acrylics—brings a three-dimensional quality to Twigg’s work.

Throughout his career, Twigg has stuck to a process he learned as a young artist.

“To keep things cohesive, I would work in series,” he says. “I’d paint a picture and then another one that’s related to it. I would get out of class, start painting, and my mind would be right there. I could close my eyes and see every part of the work.”

Many of his most well-known pieces have been produced in that manner. *The Targeted Man*, for instance, is a haunting series that juxtaposes gray, silhouetted figures with round, colorful targets. Twigg says one interpretation is that the targeted man represents the African American experience, but another interpretation could be that the viewer is the targeted one. Aren’t we all at one time or another? He muses.



PETER FREY

WRITTEN BY ERIC RANGUS **MA ’94**



Leo Twigg EdD '70

PETER FREY

Targets are just one motif that frequently appears in Twigg's work. Many of the others come from his 88 years of life experiences: cows from his time growing up on the farm, children from the neighborhood, and many instances of crosses and Xs. They can be church crosses, railroad crosses, or, most provocatively, the crossed bars on the Confederate battle flag. Most often in his work, that cross is faded or distorted.

"If you are born in the South and you paint about the South, and you don't include a Confederate flag someplace, there is something wrong with your South," he says, matter-of-factly.

That flag appears in one of Twigg's most recent and celebrated works, *Requiem for Mother Emanuel*, a series of nine paintings he created in the aftermath of the 2015 murder of nine Black worshippers in Mother Emanuel AME Church in Charleston, South Carolina.

Those paintings were on display in Charleston in 2016—one of more than 70 gallery showings of Twigg's work throughout his career.

In 2019, the Georgia Museum of Art presented Twigg with the Larry D. and Brenda A. Thompson Award, which honors living African American artists with a connection to Georgia. He calls it one of the most meaningful awards of his career. In 2020, Twigg was named to the South Carolina Hall of Fame. It was a caper for a career that is far from over.

Twigg is currently working on his second batik related to the murder of George Floyd. The first is displayed at the Virginia Theological Seminary.

"I don't just jump out to paint pictures because they are timely," he says. "I paint them so I can say something about them, and people can see them in different ways.

"With the flag paintings, is it possible for you to look at the flag and see that it's gone? What you are celebrating is a facsimile. How do you make people look at the world they are seeing in a different way?"

Aaron McKeivitt ABJ '08 is director of marketing at CATMEDIA in Tucker.
Allison Carter ABJ '09 is the producer and host of the podcast *Not Your Little Lady*, a show identifying individuals challenging the American South's norms.

Christine Job BBA '09 is host of *Flourish in the Foreign*, a podcast about Black women living and thriving abroad.

Anthony Tilton AB '09 is a shareholder at Ausley McMullen Law Firm in Tallahassee, FL.

2010-2014

Patricia Butcher AB '10 owns Arch Legacy Firm, an estate planning law firm in Athens.

Andrew Curtis BSA '10, DVM '10 published his first book, *Famous Catfish Stew*, in 2020.

David Reynolds AB '10 was promoted to captain in the U.S. Navy Reserves and is also a captain with Southwest Airlines in Denver.

Lindsey Watts ABJ '10 is the director of customer marketing at Sonepar USA in Charleston, SC.

Andrew Furmanski BLA '11 is a senior designer at Martha Schwartz Partners in London.

Brittany Lightsey-Joseph BSFCS '11 is a registered dietitian in the Department of Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition at the Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt in Nashville.

Caulder Harvill-Childs AB '12 is director of state relations at Georgia Tech.

Dr. Sara Powell BSA '12 DVM '17 is owner of SweetWater Veterinary Hospital, in Palmetto.

Ashley Blanton AB '13 is a licensed professional counselor at Stonegate Counseling Associates in Watkinsville.

Lila Denn Chanin BBA '13 is manager of business operations at Texas Children's Hospital in Houston.

Kyle Lawson BS '13 is an internal medicine doctor in Portland, OR.



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APPLAUSE FOR ALUMNI

... And Through the Woods

Lauren K. Ward JD '07, MNR '12, PhD '17



BURTON PHOTOGRAPHY

Driving out of Athens in any direction (well, maybe not 316), you'll soon be surrounded by trees. You might assume these are public lands. But most aren't.

In fact, the vast majority of forested land in Georgia is privately held by families, often going back generations.

The management of those forests—for profit and for conservation—often brings those owners into conflict with government entities, nonprofits, and a host of other parties. That conflict, too, often goes back generations.

Helping work through those issues and ensuring that all entities come out on the other side is now the job of Lauren K. Ward JD '07, MNR '12, PhD '17, executive director of Conservation Without Conflict, a coalition of more than 50 stakeholders—private, commercial,

and governmental—all interested in wildlife policy and practice.

"No matter how far apart we seem, there are common goals," Ward says. "If we can get past some of those grievances from the past and focus on where our goals overlap, we can get to that sweet spot of supporting our private landowners and conserving species at the same time."

That perspective and hope for collaboration have been noticed at the highest echelons of government. In May, a Department of Interior report specifically named Conservation Without Conflict as an initiative that is well-positioned to support the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in its work to incentivize and reward the voluntary conservation efforts of fishers, ranchers, farmers, and forest owners. It's part of the Biden ad-

ministration's goal to conserve 30% of U.S. lands, ocean, and water by 2030.

Ward is the first to describe her educational and career path as atypical. After earning a degree in English at Georgetown, the Atlanta native came home and graduated from the UGA School of Law. She clerked for a district court judge and then moved on to the Georgia Department of Labor. A conventional legal career appeared to be on the horizon, but something pulled her in a different direction.

"In law school, I developed a strong interest in natural resources policy and law," she says.

Ward didn't have the scientific background for it—yet. So she decided to get it. She entered the Master of Natural Resources program in the Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources and enjoyed the work so much that she stayed to earn a doctorate.

"I started to see a vision of the future where I could use research and science-based data to help advocate for better policies outside of the courtroom," she says.

Ward's first post-graduate job was as general counsel and director of regulatory affairs with the Forest Landowners Association. As part of her role, she represented the association as part of the Conservation Without Conflict coalition. While the organization has been around for more than a decade, it had never had an executive director until now.

So Ward has been pretty busy. She's been virtually connecting with stakeholders from her home office in Boone, North Carolina (where her husband John BS '01 is town manager), and looks forward to getting on the road to meet them in person.

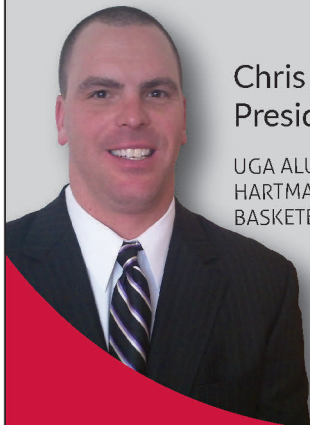
"Sometimes I'll come back through Atlanta on my way to a forest tour in South Georgia, and I'll drive through Midtown," she says. "I look up at all those buildings of law offices are where my friends and colleagues are hard at work and think I could be working there, too. Instead, I'm headed to the woods. I'm still able to bring that knowledge of law and policy with me, but this path just feels right."

WRITTEN BY ERIC RANGUS MA '94



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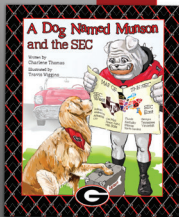
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APPLAUSE FOR ALUMNI

Mint Condition



ANDREW DAVIS TUCKER

The candy starts off as molten golden sugar.

The liquid gold flows onto a metal table to cool. Then, the 100-pound ball of pure sugar rolls to the taffy puller where it's blasted with cold air that turns it a bright, glossy white. The workers add the flavoring—today it's triple distilled 100% pure peppermint oil—and a bright red stripe. After that, it's onto the batch roller where the log of candy is rolled down to size and chopped into bite-sized pieces that look like satin buttons, glistening under the fluorescent lights.

They'll ultimately make their way into a graining room after packaging, where the candy will develop the matte texture that's kept Stewart Candy Company customers loyal for many years.

Known originally for their peppermints and other soft candies, the family-run Stewart Candy Company has deep Georgia

roots in Waycross, with three generations of Stewarts proudly calling the University of Georgia their alma mater. They will be celebrating 100 years as a family business in 2022.

That love affair with red and black started early. James E. Stewart Jr. **BBA '52** (right), known to all as Papa Stewart, made sure of it.

"Learning to sing 'Jesus Loves Me,' as a child was immediately followed by 'Glory, Glory to Old Georgia,'" says Deen Stewart **BS '88**. Deen and his twin brother Sam **BS '88** are the youngest Stewart children and both managing partners in the company. Carrying on that tradition is one of Sam Stewart Jr.'s **BS '17** most cherished memories.

The Stewart family will boast a total of 16 UGA graduates once Joe Cook Stewart earns his bachelor's degree in 2022. All six of Papa Stewart's children graduated from the university, along with six of his grandchildren (not to mention several in-laws).

WRITTEN BY LEIGH BEESON MA '17

James E. Stewart Jr. BBA '52, James E. Stewart III BBA '80, Ivy Stewart Monroe BSEd '81, Amy Stewart Fletcher BSEd '85, MEd '89, Sara Stewart Cotton ABJ '87, Deen Stewart BS '88, Sam Stewart BS '88, Jake Stewart AB '09, Sam Stewart Jr. BS '17, Mary Stewart Bishop BBA '17

THE VALUE OF A UGA EDUCATION

"There was never any question that the Stewart children were going to college, and UGA topped the family's list. Education has always been extremely important to Daddy," says Amy Stewart Fletcher BSEd '85, MEd '89, the third Stewart child and a managing partner of the company.

When Mary Stewart Bishop BBA '17, a human resources specialist for Stewart Distribution and one of Papa Stewart's grandchildren, was studying at UGA, she remembers Papa Stewart asking to borrow her textbooks.

"One day I came in, and he was reading a book on calculus," Bishop says. "I was like, 'Papa, this is not light reading.'"

That drive to keep learning helped Papa Stewart stay ahead of the curve. He was an early adopter of just about every technology, particularly those that helped the business—even if that meant taking up a conference room-sized space with an early generation computer.

The company itself was a family affair from the start.

"When we were little, he'd give us a crayon, and we did inventory down at the Albany Avenue store (the original storefront for Stewart Candy Company)," says Ivy Stewart Monroe BSEd '81, the second eldest of the Stewart six. Sara Stewart Cotton ABJ '87, the fourth Stewart child, created the artwork used for the Stewart business logo today.

For Papa Stewart, leadership has always come down to action. Guided by his strong religious faith and selflessness, his focus has always been to do what's right—by the family, by the business's employees, by the customers, and by the community, says Cotton. And he's passed that expectation down to his children and now grandchildren who work at the company, says James E. Stewart III BBA '80, a managing partner and the oldest child.

A SWEET FUTURE

As the business has grown from three—Granddaddy Stewart (Papa Stewart's father) and two employees—to its current staff of 245 employees, Papa Stewart's adage has served the company well. In addition to making candies ranging from traditional like butter mints and honey, the company has added quirkier flavors like key lime pie and huckleberry.

Stewart Candy also expanded into a large distribution supplier in the late 1970s. Stewart Distribution serves customers throughout Georgia, Florida, Alabama, and South Carolina with everything you can think of, from candy to Herschel Walker wings. Grandson Jake Stewart AB '09 is the company's director of purchasing for the 179,000 square foot warehouse.

The family won't be stopping any time soon.

With five of Papa Stewart's grandchildren now involved in the business and the fifth generation well on its way with seven great-grandchildren, Papa Stewart can feel confident that the Stewart Candy Company and Stewart Distribution will be in capable hands to carry on his and his father's legacy.



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Andy Mills BBA '13 was recognized as the number one account executive for KeepTruckin in Nashville for 2020, and was promoted to regional commercial markets sales manager in April 2021.

Marriah Paige AB '13 is an associate at Weinberg Wheeler Hudgins Gunn and Dial in Atlanta.

Demi Stein BS '13 is owner and a licensed professional counselor at Stein Counseling in Denver.

Max Stein AB '13, BSEd '13 married **Demi Folds BS '13** in September 2020.

Joshua Brown AB '14 is the owner of J. Ryan Brown Law in Newnan.

2015-2020

Briana Burrows ABJ '15, JD '18 is an associate at Weinberg Wheeler Hudgins Gunn & Dial in Atlanta.

Maria Caras BS '15 is a pediatric dentist

at Bon Secours St. Mary's Hospital in Richmond, VA.

Clint Guillebeau AB '15, JD '18 is an associate at HunterMaclean Attorneys in Savannah.

Patrick Smith BS '15 is a transportation planner at Gresham Smith in Atlanta.

John D. Vaughan III ABJ '15, AB '15 is a partner at Rainey & Vaughan Law Firm in Marietta.

Shelby Brown AB '16 married Caleb Swiney in April 2021.

Jerufus Edih BBA '17 is a market research ambassador for the Atlanta Braves.

Jared Farrell BBA '17 is a finance manager at Microsoft in Atlanta.

Madison Miracle BS '17, BS '17 is a resident in emergency medicine at Orlando Regional Medical Center.

Ian Webb AB '17, MA '18 is director of communications for the Georgia State University Library System in Atlanta.

Beverly Hobbs BSFCS '18 is an activity director at Madison Health and Rehab in Madison, GA.

Christina Martinello AB '18, MA '19 is a marketing consultant for ClickDimensions in Atlanta.

Caroline Eastabrooks BSPH '19 is a registered nurse at Northside Hospital-Cherokee in its cardiac unit.

Andrew Nolan BBA '19 is product manager of autonomous vehicle transportation at Ford Motor Company in Detroit.

Travis Onyima BSME '19 is an engineer at GE Gas Power's Edison Engineering Development Program in Atlanta.

Chase Caffrey BBA '20 is an analyst at Paces Ferry Wealth Advisors in Atlanta.

Daniel VanHoozer AB '20 is an account coordinator at EP+Co in Greenville, SC.

2021

Jack Arriola AB '21 is a store associate at In-N-Out Burger in Rancho Santa Margarita, CA.

Aubrey Brinkley BSFCS '21 is a behavioral and mental health tech at Children's Healthcare of Atlanta.

Miranda Moore BSENV '21 is an environmental engineer at Osman Environmental Solutions in Harrisburg, PA.

GRAD NOTES

ARTS & SCIENCES

Robyn Ice MFA '76 is a senior professor of practice at Tulane University and director of the Applied Business and General Legal Studies programs at Tulane's School of Professional Advancement.

Henry Johnson MFA '91 is an associate professor of theatre at Piedmont College.

EDUCATION

Edward Cooper EdD '77 released *Longleaf Pine Murder*, a fictional murder mystery novel in 2020.

Warren Reagin MEd '98 is IB career-related program coordinator at Chadwick International School in Incheon, South Korea. He is also the host and founder of the podcast *Design Cast*.

Alison Griffin MEd '01 is senior vice president at Whiteboard Advisors, a social impact agency based in Washington, D.C.

Yasmine Osborn MEd '01 is director of diversity and inclusion at Hearst Television in New York City.

Wesley Fugate PhD '12 was elected as a member of the Board of Trustees for the Omi-

cron Delta Kappa Society and Educational Foundation.

Ayca Fackler MA '18 was awarded the Jhumki Basu Fellowship by the National Association for Research in Science Teaching.

Gabriel Snell MEd '18 is the operations officer for a U.S. Army Engineer Battalion at Fort Drum, NY.

Lady Cox EdD '19 co-authored *College Ready 2021: Expert Advice for Parents to Simplify the College Transition*.

JOURNALISM & MASS COMMUNICATION

Dennis Hopper MA '71 released two novels, *Shot by Harp* in 2019, and the sequel, *Who's Next*, in 2020.

LAW

Kiran Ahuja JD '98 was appointed head of the Office of Personnel Management, a federal agency that manages the country's more than two million civil servants.

PHARMACY

Michael Brinson BSPH '74 was elected president of the Georgia Board of Pharmacy.

PUBLIC HEALTH

Christian Marchello PhD '18 is senior adviser at the New Zealand Ministry of Health and is part of their COVID-19 Science and Technology Advisory Team.

SOCIAL WORK

Robin Lennon-Dearing PhD '04 is an associate professor at the University of Memphis School of Social Work and was awarded the 2020 Social Work Educator of the Year Award by the National Association of Social Workers' Tennessee Chapter.

Peter Bell MSW '10 is a licensed clinical social worker servicing the Atlanta area via telehealth and private outdoor settings.

VETERINARY

Carlos Davidson DVM '74 retired from his position as owner and veterinarian at Spartanburg Animal Clinic in Spartanburg, SC.

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Class Notes is the first section we work on, so keep these deadlines in mind: for the Spring (March) issue, submit by December 1; for Summer (June), submit by March 1; for Fall (September), submit by June 1; for Winter (December), submit by September 1.

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Robert S. Haltiwanger

Georgia Research Alliance Eminent Scholar
in Biomedical Glycosciences
Complex Carbohydrate Research Center

“Complex carbohydrates cover the surfaces of every cell in our bodies, but we know very little about them. Every new discovery makes me feel like an explorer filling in the uncharted regions of a map.”

Sometimes called saccharides, sugars, or glycans, complex carbohydrates are one of four macromolecules essential to all animal and plant life. Glycobiology seeks to better understand complex carbohydrates, and Robert Haltiwanger is one of the nation's leading researchers in the field.

His laboratory has identified novel complex carbohydrates and the enzymes that help create them in humans and animals. Ultimately, that work has shown how gene mutations that affect those molecules can cause a host of diseases. Haltiwanger's team has also developed new tools to study complex carbohydrates, expanding researchers' ability to analyze and understand the macromolecule's functions.



PETER FREY

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