

Professor Emeritus Dr. Ken Saladin gifts \$1 million to Honors College

It was a twist of fate that brought Dr. Kenneth Saladin to Georgia College in 1977, but that fate turned into an enduring personal fulfillment from teaching that would keep him at the university for 40 years.

"I'm often asked by colleagues and friends why I spent my career and life in Milledgeville," Saladin said. "It actually turned out to be a great fit for me, and from the very beginning, I have loved teaching here."

When Saladin came to Georgia College, he was one of seven faculty in the Department of Biology—now a department that has grown to 30 faculty members. He witnessed the transition of the college from a small, local institution to one of prominence as the state's designated public liberal arts college in 1996.

While teaching, publishers contracted with Saladin to review textbooks in development, which led to an opportunity by a publisher to write one himself. His first anatomy and physiology textbook went on to become the company's best seller and is used by university students around the world today. He spent his tenure at the university teaching a broad spectrum of biology from human anatomy to animal behavior.

Throughout all his work at Georgia College and higher education, one important facet of Saladin's career has been his involvement with the Georgia College Honors Program. He served on the Honors Faculty Council for 20 years and taught Honors courses and colloquia.



Ken Saladin (left) works with students in the lab.

"Serving on the Honors Council was a comfortable niche for me, and it gave me an opportunity to work with faculty that were dedicated to high-caliber students," he said. "I got a lot of satisfaction by teaching honors students and watching them lead successful careers after graduation."

"The Honors Program and now, the Honors College, is the crown jewel of Georgia College," Saladin said. "It epitomizes what it means to teach students how to think—not what to think but how to think analytically, collaboratively and across disciplines."

In honor of the 50th anniversary of the Honors Program at Georgia College this year, Saladin has gifted \$1 million to provide

resources to enrich honors education and provide broader support for transformative experiences. These experiences include internships, study abroad and community-based learning. Saladin also hopes the funds will help inaugural Dean of the Honors College Dr. Brian Newsome get the College off on creative and dynamic footing.

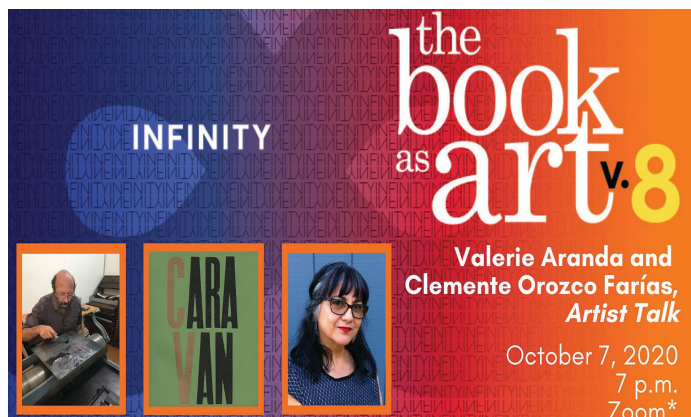
"Dr. Saladin's generous gift positions the new Honors College to enrich Honors education in so many ways: scholarships, resources for the Humber-White House, new curricular and co-curricular offerings, and enhanced support for transformative experiences, including student research, internships, community-based learning, and study abroad. I couldn't be more excited, and more grateful," said Newsome.

Saladin also gives tremendous credit to the previous Honors Program directors: Dr. John Sallstrom, Dr. Doris Moody and Dr. Steve Elliot-Gower. Saladin says it was Sallstrom's "doggedness and perseverance" that has made the Honors Program, now Honors College, what it is today.

"It is meaningful to me to support the Honors College and Georgia College to this extent, because basically I have a deep sense of satisfaction in it," Saladin said. "There is satisfaction in feeling like you are making the world you live in a better place—for the people around you and the people that will live well after you. What better way to do that than to contribute to education—to create an endowment that will enhance education for students for many years to come."

Artist talk by Valerie Aranda and Clemente Orozco Farías

An artist talk with Valerie Aranda and Clemente Orozco Farías, who collaborated on the piece "Caravan" will take place Wednesday, Oct. 7 at 7 p.m. "Caravan" is a part of the "2020 The Book as Art v.8: Infinity exhibition."



In March of 2019, Aranda, professor of art, travelled to Guadalajara, Mexico, to create a book in a collaborative effort with Impronta Casa Editora.

The event will focus on a discussion between artist friends who used a variety of printing presses as the main source of production for this unique edition of books.

This online event is free. Join it by visiting <https://bit.ly/3jtbHwH> or email valerie.aranda@gcsu.edu for more information.

Montessori Academy enrolling students now

The Montessori Academy at the Early Learning Center is enrolling ages six weeks-age five.

This program is a unique partnership between the Baldwin County Board of Education and Georgia College.

Discover what it means to be a part of our Montessori family at our website. gcsu.edu/montessori.

The Montessori Academy is open year round.



GC Soccer earns Team Academic Award

The United Soccer Coaches recently announced the 2019-20 recipients of their Team Academic Award, with Georgia College taking a spot on the list for the sixth season in a row.

The United Soccer Coaches Team Academic Award goes to teams that post a grade-point average of 3.0 or better during the school year.

"I am very proud of the ladies for excelling in the classroom this past year," said head coach Tinna Gallagher. "They faced a lot of challenges in the classroom due to COVID-19 but still managed to finish the academic year in an outstanding way."

In total, 575 teams nationwide earned the award, across all three NCAA Divisions, the NAIA and Junior Colleges.

Owning a 3.50 GPA for the year, the Bobcats were one of six schools from the Peach Belt Conference (PBC) on this list. This marks the sixth straight season for GC and 12th overall.



Did you know?



HKB Sweets recently received the Bobcat Partner Award. Kristin Hope (left), who owns the bakery, was presented the award by Tre' Johnson, assistant director of alumni awards, collaborations & reunions.

a concise way in front of others," he said.

The rigorous pitch competition preparation cycle and experience of speaking in front of others, combined with leadership development lessons learned in his management classes, also prepared him to lead other ROTC cadets.

He was recently selected as the Cadet Battalion Commander for the Old Capital Guard ROTC Battalion through Georgia College's ROTC

program with GMC.

"Cadet McHugh demonstrates all of the leadership qualities we look for in future Army officers," said Professor of Military Science, Lt. Col. Jerry E. Landrum, Ph.D. "Conscientious, focused, scholarly and physically fit, Thomas is an exemplary student and an excellent example of the types of leaders GMC and Georgia College produce."

McHugh said his business classes and ROTC training are an excellent reinforcement of key business principles such as delegation, organizational structure, planning functions and how to work with different personality types. The Army's small unit structure and larger hierarchy serve as a real-world experiential learning environment where he can observe textbook learning come to life.

McHugh also is a young man of faith. He believes his decision to major in business management and commission in the U.S. Army is a way he can help preserve and defend the freedoms we enjoy in America. Indeed, he is learning all the necessary lessons and life skills at Georgia College to be successful future American leader.



Elevator Pitch prepares student for leadership role as Cadet Battalion Commander

Senior management major Thomas McHugh, originally from Tucker, Georgia, knew he wanted to go to college in-state. His campus tour at Georgia College highlighted the classic liberal arts education experience. McHugh reviewed the course list and studied his major options.

His grandfather, a former Army aviator who served in Vietnam, was a lifelong role model for McHugh. His service inspired him to research a way to pursue both a business degree and still give back to his country through a commission in the U.S. Army.

In the end, the proximity of Georgia College to Georgia Military College and their cross-town campus ROTC agreement was the deciding factor for McHugh. He felt the dual program would provide more opportunities for challenge and adventure.

McHugh was sitting at a Braves game when his mom called to say he had been selected for an ROTC scholarship to attend Georgia College. He immediately knew it was the right decision. His course was set.

McHugh is a business management major. As a junior, he first took part in the longstanding Elevator Pitch Competition for the College of Business. It allows students to market themselves to potential employers in 60 seconds or less. At the largest competition in the country hosted at Georgia College, he achieved finalist status his first time competing.

"I learned so much about how to get out of my comfort zone and share about myself in