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

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

When Saladin came to Georgia College, he was one of seven faculty in the Department of Biology—a new department that grew 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 enduring personal fulfillment from teaching that would 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 of 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.

"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 pledged $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 inaugurate 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. Steven Gower. Saladin said it was Sallstrom’s “doggedness and perseverance” that has made the Honors Program, now the 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 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."

Montessori Academy enrolling students now

The Montessori Academy 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 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. Montessori Academy enrolling students now

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