



GCSU hosted its 46th Annual Regional Science and Engineering Fair

Spiders, sugar and humidity were just some of the every-day things 6-12th graders from across Central Georgia experimented with to enter Georgia College & State University's 46th Annual Regional Science and Engineering Fair in February.

More than 160 middle and high school students in 12 surrounding counties attended the competition, an all-day extravaganza of science and fun at the university's Wellness Center on West Campus.

The state's only science competition for K-5 will be March 9 at Georgia College.

"Competitions, like science fairs, can be an intimidating and extensive process, but the rewards are worth it," said Dr. Catrena Lisse, director of Georgia College's Science Education Center.

"By competing, students develop skills in critical thinking, problem-solving, time management and communication," she said. "Furthermore, science fairs open opportunities to win awards and scholarships. They challenge students beyond the classroom, giving them a deeper understanding of science and how it impacts our world."

Participating counties include Baldwin, Bibb, Hancock, Jasper, Johnson, Jones, Laurens, Monroe, Putnam, Twiggs, Washington and Wilkinson.

The 78 projects included:

- "Unwelcome Guests? Invasive

spiders in Georgia" by a 12th-grade student at Jasper County High School.

- "If you give a vegetable some sugar" by an eighth-grade student at Miller Magnet Middle School in Bibb County.

- "The Effects of Humidity on Silica Materials" by a 12th-grade Baldwin High School and Georgia College Early College student.

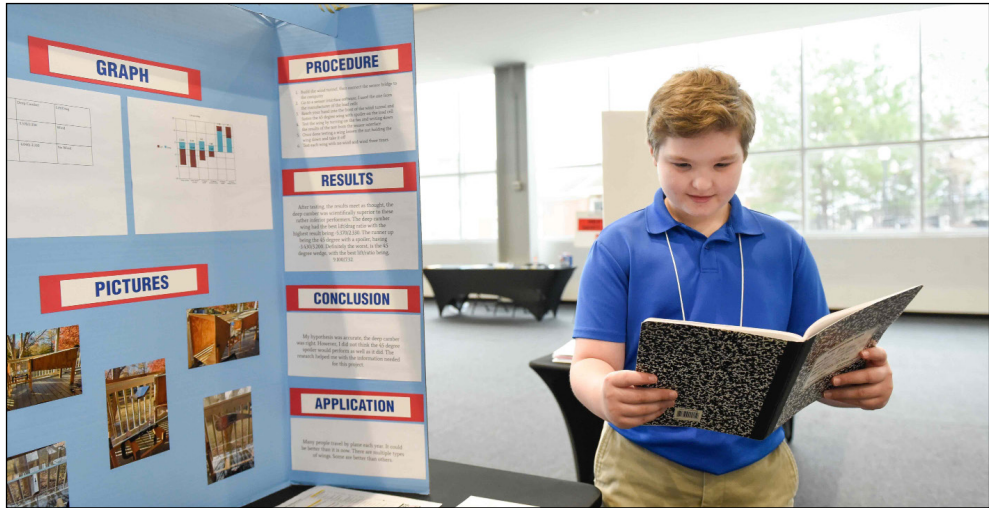
Students answered questions about their projects during judging and public viewing. Then, they enjoyed campus activities and tours in the afternoon.

Best of Show winner, Morgan Collins, a senior at Putnam High School, will now compete with 1,800 high school students from around the globe at the International Science and Engineering Fair in Dallas, Texas. His project was on heavy metals.

"Every year," Lisse said, "I am amazed at what the youth of our community can accomplish."



Middle and high school students from 12 counties competed at the recent Regional Science and Engineering Fair at Georgia College.



GCSU partners with Robins Air Force Base to develop pipeline of workers

Robins Air Force Base is partnering with Georgia College & State University (GCSU) to increase the pipeline of qualified workers necessary for our nation's defense.

The Air Force Sustainment Center at Robins Air Force Base entered into an education partnership agreement with the J. Whitney Bunting College of Business & Technology at Georgia College to develop opportunities for university students to gain real-world work experiences on the base and for Robins AFB employees to access continuing education opportunities at Georgia College.

"The partnership between Georgia College & State University and Robins AFB reaffirms a historic, long-standing relationship and brings us into the future with new opportunities" Dr. Micheal Stratton, dean of the J. Whitney Bunting College of Business & Technology said. "From internships and project-based learning for our students to building pathways for their enlisted and civilian personnel to enroll in our graduate



GCSU and Robins AFB officials sign partnership.

programs, this relationship will be transformational for our respective communities."

This education partnership offers Georgia College students inroads to one of the largest employers in Central Georgia. In FY 2021, the Robins AFB workforce totaled 23,282 people, the vast majority of whom were civilian employees.

"The bountiful career options at the base will ensure that our students and alumni continue to make an impact on the regional and national economies," Stratton said.

Georgia College's College of Business & Technology has strengthened its focus on areas of need in an evolving economy and national defense environment. The College of Business introduced a new degree in Data Science in 2022. And the college's online master's in logistics continues earning high rankings among the best programs in the nation.

The new education agreement provides Robins AFB personnel the chance to collaborate with Georgia College business faculty to influence the design and delivery of courses that increase the marketability of students and develop the skill sets necessary to keep Robins AFB operating at maximum effectiveness.

The education partnership agreement signed in January lasts five years.

Did you know?

In her State of the University address, Georgia College & State University President Cathy Cox highlighted change and innovation as keys to success.

Cox opened her second State of the University address by highlighting examples of student and faculty collaborating on research that garnered national headlines on emerging technologies like blockchain, naming a previously undiscovered species of amphipods and putting Georgia College at the forefront of the fight against cancer.

The university's momentum in areas of innovation is further reflected in national rankings Georgia College garnered over the last year.

To continue this momentum, Cox announced five pillars of the Imagine 2030 Strategic Planning initiative: Innovate, Distinguish, Engage, Empower and Advance.

"We want this strategic plan to be a roadmap that moves us from 'good to great...'" Cox said. "In so many ways, we are already well on our way."

GCSU receives gift to establish professorship and course in Jain Studies

Georgia College & State University is pleased to announce the establishment of the "S & R Palvia Endowed Veetraag Vigyaan Professorship in Jain Studies."

Thanks to a generous gift of \$250,000 from Dr. Shailendra Palvia and Mrs. Rajkumari Palvia, the endowed professorship will allow the Georgia College Department of Philosophy, Religion and Liberal Studies (PALS) to facilitate the infusion of Jain perspectives in courses like philosophy, religion, literature, history and art. GCSU plans to hire the Endowed Professor in Jain Studies — who will teach courses incorporating Jain perspectives — by Fall 2023.

According to Dr. Eric Tenbus, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences:

"The gift to endow a professorship in Jain Stud-

ies is a wonderful opportunity for Georgia College students to further explore the diverse religious cultures of the wider world and to learn about the similarities and differences between various religious traditions, all with the understanding that the world is becoming a smaller place and that we in higher education have an obligation to encourage our students to seek out knowledge and understanding from across the vastness of human civilization. That is at the core of a liberal arts education."

Jainism is an ancient religion, originating in India. Its three core pillars are "Ahimsa," meaning non-violence towards all living beings; "Anekantwad," invoking respect for all perspectives on any issue; and "Aparigraha," seeking satisfaction with limited possessions.

"PALS already embodies the core tenets of Jainism in its courses: Anekantwad is the basis of our liberal arts commitment to embrace the study of various perspectives: domestic and global, contemporary and historic. Courses in Animal Ethics and Social Justice embody the philosophy of Ahimsa, as it applies to human and non-human animals. And Aparigraha is the foundation of courses in Environmental Ethics, Food Ethics and Climate Change," said Dr. Sunita Manian, chair of PALS.

The gift will enable PALS to build on the commitments of this endowment through the application of Jain principles. This adds a new dimension to the study of contemporary challenges facing humanity and the world.



Dr. Shailendra Palvia and Mrs. Rajkumari Palvia donated a generous gift.

What's going on in Bobcat Territory?

Visit frontpage.gcsu.edu/events

Tuesday

14

12:30-1:30 p.m. Panel discussion on "The Lasting Impacts of the Emmett Till Murder" in Arts & Sciences, room 270.

Wednesday

15

4-8 p.m. GCSU Softball vs. Francis Marion at Peeler Complex.

5-6 p.m. Provost's Visiting Scholar, Dr. Rebecca Bixby of the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque talks about ecology of extreme environments in Arts & Sciences, room 167.

6:30-7 p.m. Visiting writer Addie Tsai will give a reading along with GCSU's Timothy Connors and Auden Eagerton at Blackbird Coffee.

Thursday

16

4:30 and 7 p.m. Flannery O'Connor discussion with English Professor Dr. Bruce Gentry on her short story: "The Life You Save May Be Your Own." To register, visit www.app.smartsheet.com/b/form/073634e4dc364a259901062dff4934d4.

Friday

17

2-4 p.m. GCSU Softball vs. Converse at Peeler Complex.

5-9 p.m. GCSU Baseball vs. Florida Southern at John Kurtz Field.

Saturday

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2-6 p.m. GCSU Baseball vs. Florida Southern at John Kurtz Field.

3:30-7:30 p.m. GCSU Homecoming Basketball doubleheader vs. CSU Lakers at Centennial Center.