

Access

20,000th student relishes opportunities at KSU

By Stephanie A. Salter

At 7:04 p.m. on Aug. 10, student Kelvin Davis pressed the enter key on his computer and made history — and he didn't even know it. That Friday night, Davis became the 20,000th student to register at Kennesaw State University.

Never before has Kennesaw State surpassed the 20,000 mark in student enrollment. The explosive growth in recent years has positioned KSU as the third-largest university in Georgia.

Before enrolling at KSU, Davis attended Union College in Barbourville, Ky., on a football scholarship. After one year, Davis decided to make the move to Kennesaw State to pursue his dream of becoming an entrepreneur.

"I wanted to attend a bigger school," said 19-year-old Davis. "I knew there would be more opportunities at Kennesaw State."

He is majoring in business administration and minoring in business management to prepare for his future career.

Even though Kennesaw State is now a large university, Davis does not feel lost in the crowd.

"I am really impressed with how friendly everyone is," Davis said. "The counselors and students all have been so nice. I am a very friendly person myself, so it is good to be around other friendly people."

For many students, like Davis, Kennesaw State is becoming a first-choice university. KSU now offers more than 60 degree programs to accommodate the inter-



Kelvin Davis, 19, made history at Kennesaw State this August, becoming the university's 20,000th student to enroll in classes at the institution. He said he hopes to become an entrepreneur.

ests of a diverse student body. The addition of on-campus housing also has increased students' interest in the university.

In addition to the growing number of local students attending the university, more than 1,500 international students representing 132 countries also attend the university. Minority enrollment now averages more than 20 percent of KSU's entire student body.

As the university's reputation continues to grow, the caliber of its students also has increased.

Today's first-time freshman has an average GPA of 3.19 and an average combined verbal and

math SAT score of 1073, which is 52 points above the national average.

The average age of students is also changing. In the past, non-traditional students made up a significant portion of the student body. Now 56 percent of undergraduate students are under the age of 23, and six out of every 10 students are younger than 35.

"The Kennesaw State name is gaining recognition not only in Georgia, but also throughout the Southeast and abroad," said Joe Head, dean of university admissions and enrollment services.

"I am extremely proud of this

important milestone in the life of our university," said Nancy King, vice president for student success and enrollment services. "It reflects just how far KSU has come in our brief history. Not only are we the third largest university in the state, but I am convinced that we have some of the very best students anywhere. Also, I am pleased that not only have we grown in size, but our reputation has also continued to grow. Kennesaw State is a great place to be!"

Davis will be recognized this fall by the cabinet of KSU President Daniel S. Papp, and will be awarded a one-time \$2,000 scholarship.

What's New...

KSU's First-Year Experience program ranked as one of the best

For the fourth consecutive year, Kennesaw State ranks among the nation's best institutions for its First-Year Experience program in the "U.S. News & World Report" annual "America's Best Colleges" edition. Listed under the "Programs to Look For" section of the report, KSU is the only Georgia institution listed among 40 colleges and universities.

When most freshmen arrive on a college campus, they know few, if any, fellow classmates, neither can they imagine the challenges that college life will present. KSU recognized this fact and implemented what has become one of the most successful first-year experience programs in the nation.

OWL Radio goes live

This July, Kennesaw State's new student Internet radio station, OWL Radio, officially went live with student DJs serving their fellow students, faculty, staff and alumni.

DJs and staff members broadcasted live and took music requests from the station's studios in the Carmichael Student Center.

Requests can be made by calling 678-797-COOL (2665).

Diversity Celebration Luncheon held

Nearly 200 people from a wide variety of backgrounds came together for Kennesaw State University's annual Diversity Celebration Luncheon Aug. 23.

This year's program, "Bridging Global Cultures" featured a panel discussion of international faculty members living in and between diverse cultures. Moderated by Sabine Smith, associate professor of German studies, panelists included Robin Crawford, lecturer of sociology; May Hongmei Gao, assistant professor of communications; Katarina Gephardt, assistant professor of English; Darina Lepadatu, assistant professor of sociology; and Federica Santini, assistant professor of Italian.

Regents approve new master's, bachelor's degrees

By Jeremy Craig
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Kennesaw State University now offers two new degree programs, including an online bachelor's degree in business, thanks to the approval in August of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia.

The new programs approved in August included:

- an online Bachelor of Business Administration with a major in management, offered through the Michael J. Coles College of Business;
- a BBA degree program with a major in international business through the Coles College of Business; and
- a Master of Science with a major in Applied Exercise

and Health Science within the WellStar College of Health and Human Services.

"Each of the new programs approved by the Board of Regents positions Kennesaw State to continue producing highly educated workers in the health and business sectors," said KSU President Daniel S. Papp. "These new programs are in high demand in the state, and we are pleased to secure approval to offer them at Kennesaw State. The online BBA program, in particular, will help us reach a new market of students, who can access our programs at their convenience."

The programs indeed meet critical needs for the state and the nation in each respective field.

The Master of Science in Applied Exercise and Health

Science will prepare students to meet the demands of a growing and aging population that will drive an increasing demand for health care and social assistance through the next decade. Professionals graduating from this program will be prepared to engage in a variety of leadership positions in health and fitness fields.

The online BBA with a major in management will allow KSU to educate current and future business leaders in Georgia and the nation through a degree program offered entirely online, bringing a new delivery method for a highly regarded existing degree. The program will use new online courses, as well as many existing online courses offered through the Coles College, allowing students to complete

their educations from anywhere and at any time. For more information on the BBA program, visit www.colesonlinebba.com.

The new undergraduate international business major at KSU will prepare Georgia students for the reality of the global economy, meeting the increasing demand for employees who have the expertise to successfully address special issues of international business, including matters such as import/export issues, tariffs, judicial system differences, foreign exchange banking issues, property ownership and other matters.

Officials expect the Master of Science in Applied Exercise and Health Science program to start by fall semester of 2008. The undergraduate business programs started this fall.

Faculty cited for outstanding contributions to KSU

By Stacey Moore
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University professors carry out critical teaching, research and scholarship every semester of the school year inside and outside of the classroom.

However, there are several Kennesaw State University faculty members who have taken those important practices to new levels, and for doing so, they were recognized during the Faculty Awards program Aug. 13.

"We have accomplished much this past year and should be proud of the amazing results," Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Lendley C. Black said.

Kennesaw State Trustee Thomas M. Holder, who presented the KSU Foundation Awards to recipients, said that the foundation is grateful and committed to the university's faculty members.

"We will continue to encourage and support scholarly activities



Award winners (l-r): Matthew D. Haffner, Ann B. Gillette, Dana R. Hermanson, David J. Martin and David B. Mitchell.

among tenure-track faculty," he said. A list of the winners follows:

- The Distinguished Professor Award: Dana R. Hermanson, Dinos Eminent Scholar Chair of Private Enterprise and professor of accounting;
- The Distinguished Teaching Award: David M. Johnson, assistant professor of English;

- The Distinguished Service Award: Thomas H. Keene, professor of history; and
 - The Distinguished Scholarship Award: Gabriel G. Ramirez, professor of finance.
- The Foundation Prize recipients included: Matthew D. Haffner, assistant professor of photography, College of the Arts, "Serial

City," 2007; Ann B. Gillette, associate professor of finance, Michael J. Coles College of Business, "If at First You Don't Succeed: The Effects of the Option to Resolicit on Corporate Takeovers," 2006; David J. Martin, professor of science education, Bagwell College of Education, "Elementary Science Methods: A Constructivist Approach," 2007; David B. Mitchell, Distinguished Scholar in Gerontology and professor of Health, Physical Education and Sport Science, WellStar College of Health and Human Services, "Nonconscious Priming After 17 Years: Invulnerable Implicit Memory," 2007; and Wendy B. Sanchez, associate professor of mathematics and mathematics education, College of Science and Mathematics, "Helping Students Make Sense of Mathematics," 2007.

An additional award, the Philip C. Preston Community Leadership Award, was presented to Mark

Patterson, an associate professor of geography.

Black noted that others outside the university's boundaries have taken notice of Kennesaw State's exceptionally talented faculty and its programs.

The Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia recently announced that Mary Garner, associate professor of mathematics and mathematics education, has been awarded the 2007 Award for Excellence in Teaching. The USG also awarded the Professional Sales Degree program in the Coles College of Business with the 2007 Award for Excellence in Teaching. This is the second year in a row that Garner and the sales program have won these prestigious awards.

In addition, a KSU Foundation trustee has made an unprecedented commitment towards KSU faculty through a \$1 million donation to establish an endowed faculty development program.

Women's economic power explained at Siegel Institute

By Karen Pressley

Government and business leaders worldwide should pay heed to the phenomenal economic power of women on a global scale, according to economist Astrid Pregel, who spoke at the Siegel Institute's "Women of Character, Networking for Change" conference Aug. 7 at Kennesaw State University.

Pregel, the first woman appointed to the Canadian Embassy in Washington, D.C., and the first woman Canadian consul general for the southeastern United States, described her career work-

ing in the male-dominated field of economics and government officials, calling herself "an advocate for the empowerment of women in the developing world where the need is greatest."

She explained that women play a most powerful role in economic development, since women take two out of three jobs in the work force, and said that the entry of women into the labor force is the single greatest engine of economic growth — a fact which both Canada and the U.S. need to recognize.

"By realizing the power women

have in the economy, this will bring balance to the way we look at the world so we can all thrive and grow," Pregel said.

Her illustrations helped attendees envision the details, such as looking to see the degree of perseverance, tenaciousness and compassion needed to succeed as a societal change agent. Other topics covered included gender mainstreaming and micro-enterprises for women from a global perspective.

Women also were encouraged to read an article from "The Economist" magazine titled "A

Guide to Womenomics," describing a future world economy which increasingly lies in female hands. A link to this article is available at www.siegelinstitute.org.

Pregel, a 25-year veteran of Canada's foreign service, is the president of Feminomics, her consulting firm in Atlanta, and concurrently serves as an associate with the Institute of Leadership and Entrepreneurship at the School of Management at Georgia Tech.

She was the first woman president of the Society of International Business Fellows (SIBF), and in 2004-05, Pregel served as the act-

ing executive director of the Georgia Council for International Visitors (GCIV) for the State Department's International VIP Visitors Program, which encourages global citizenship "one hand shake at a time."

The "Women of Character, Networking for Change" conference is a bi-annual event held by the Siegel Institute's Phenomenal Women's Global Alliance (PWGA). For more information about the Siegel Institute's women's programs visit, <http://siegelinstitute.org/cal-womens-conference.php>

Campus Notes

Coles College recognized in "Fortune Small Business" magazine

The Michael J. Coles College of Business has been selected by "Fortune Small Business" magazine as one of six best business schools in the United States in family business research and education through the Cox Family Enterprise Center.

The recognition appears in the magazine's September 2007 edition identifying "America's Best Colleges for Entrepreneurs," listing the center on its "honor roll" of institutions which work with family-owned firms.

Additionally, the magazine recognized Coles College's Charles W. Hofer, professor of strategic management and entrepreneurship, among 18 top entrepreneurship-teaching professors in the country. KSU's first Regents Professor was mentioned for his dedication to students and his work with preparing students for business plan competitions.

KSU welcomed as Peace Corps Fellows/USA partner school

The Peace Corps recently welcomed Kennesaw State University (KSU) as its newest Fellows/USA partner school, and its second in Georgia.

The partner school program allows returning Peace Corps volunteers who wish to pursue a Master of Business Administration or Master of Accounting degree in the Coles College of Business to receive a \$2,000 stipend per semester and a tuition waiver for up to 36 credit hours.

A reception was held Sept. 5 to welcome two inaugural fellows to KSU, and to invite other colleges at KSU to join in the program.

Chinese students visit Kennesaw State

By Mashaun D. Simon and Stacey Moore

A group of 11 students and two faculty members from Zhuhai College in China now have some of the best "what I did over the summer" stories to share with their fellow students and colleagues after spending two weeks in America this summer during which they visited Kennesaw State University.

To help familiarize them with American culture and to learn more about their student counterparts, the delegation attended eight specially designed seminars on subjects such as college life, business etiquette and how to apply to schools in the United States.

According to Stella Xu, KSU alumna and part-time faculty member, the students' visit was sponsored by the Coles College of Business and the KSU International Centre.

"It was designed for students heavily interested in American culture and those who may want to further their education in the U.S.," Xu said. "Many of the students are current business or human resources majors, and we hope that after visiting Kennesaw State, they will have an increased interest in the university."

The group also toured metro Atlanta visiting the state capitol and several Fortune 500 companies, as well as touring cultural attractions such as the Georgia Aquarium and the new World of Coca-Cola. Before leaving for their 18-hour flight home, the students met with KSU President Daniel S. Papp in late July.



Students from Zhuhai College in China, located near the former Portuguese colony of Macau in southern China, greet and visit with KSU President Daniel S. Papp in late July.

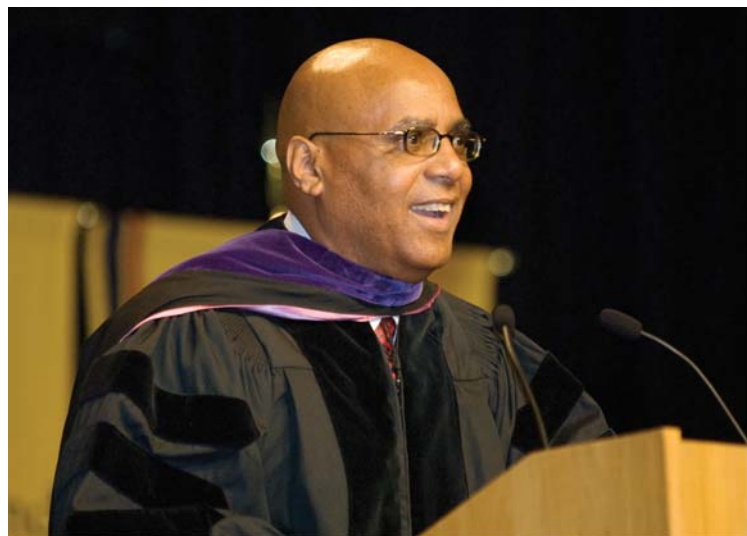
Record-breaking summer commencement

By Stacey Moore
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Graduates of Kennesaw State University's summer commencement ceremonies on July 30 were part of history. Not only was this the largest summer graduating class in the school's 44-year history, but nearly 1,000 new alumni also witnessed the awarding of a degree to the school's oldest graduate, 81-year-old Arthur Harris.

President Daniel S. Papp, who presided over the institution's 84th commencement ceremonies, singled out Harris when he asked students to stand if they fit into certain age categories. Harris was the lone one standing when Papp called out for "those who are 80 and above." He received two standing ovations before receiving a bachelor's degree in English.

"Obviously, you are all an impressive and diverse group of graduates," Papp said. "It's been



Earl Suttle served as commencement speaker during summer commencement ceremonies on July 30, where a record number of graduates received degrees.

a long and difficult road to get to where you are today, but I promise that you will see during the coming days, months and years that it was well worth it."

The graduates did not sit still when spirited keynote speaker, Earl Suttle, addressed them. Suttle, a noted psychologist and consultant, brought high energy

to the audience, urging the graduates to stand and high five one another. He even encouraged the group to chant "G-o-o-d J-o-b," to their family and friends for their help. Suttle also shared pearls of knowledge on the importance of relationship building.

"Eighty-five percent of success is building relationships," Suttle said. "You can't make it alone. You have a mission in life and that is to bring folks together."

Suttle is no stranger to Kennesaw State. His daughter, Lindi, graduated a few years ago with a master's degree from the Coles College of Business.

The Coles College of Education led Kennesaw State in the number of summer graduates, with more than 300 graduates, followed by the College of Humanities and Social Sciences with more than 200 graduates, and the Bagwell College of Education with more than 100 graduates.

First retail opens at University Village dorms

By Jennifer Hafer
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There are no bad days at Hemingwayz.

That is the motto of the just-opened restaurant located in the heart of University Village, the student housing development which is home to Kennesaw State University's first-year and sophomore-year experience programs and honors students.

"We want this to be their place," Hemingwayz co-owner Bobby Saade said. "We want this to be the students' neighborhood restaurant."

The 2,200-square-foot restaurant seats 93 and includes a small conference room. The décor features a South Beach motif, complete with dock flooring, lighted palm trees, tin roof accoutrements and walls painted in tropical hues. The menu consists of a mix of sandwiches, salads, burritos and quesadillas.

Entertainment at the restaurant will include Sunday night football on the restaurant's two flat-screen TVs, beach music and hula hoop contests.



Members of the KSU community were some of the first patrons of Hemingwayz, the first retail to open at University Village, this summer.

"We want the atmosphere to be one of hanging out at our beach house where the students can come in and visit with us," Saade said. "We want the students to come in here, kick back, relax and enjoy themselves."

But it won't be all fun and games — at least not for Hemingwayz's 13 student-employees.

"We will try to allow our stu-

dent-employees to work as much as they desire, but we don't want to work them too much and take them away from their schooling," co-owner Bill Driggers said, adding with a laugh, "of course, the only excuse we'll allow for absences is 'GPA.'"

With 10,000 square feet of retail space available at the village, Hemingwayz is just the first ten-

ant. According to Bob Heflin, director of real estate for the KSU Foundation, a business that will be a cross between a convenience store and a newsstand — Gateway News — will be opening soon.

"The foundation wants to continue developing a vibrant campus life for our students, and retail development is an integral part of that," Heflin said.

KSU to bring nursing program to Appalachian Tech

By Jeremy Craig
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Kennesaw State University will bring its top-notch Bachelor of Science in Nursing program to Appalachian Technical College (ATC) in Jasper, Ga., thanks to approval in August by the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia. The Georgia Board of Nursing will review the proposed satellite at their September meeting.

The accelerated baccalaureate degree program, under the auspices of the School of Nursing in the WellStar College of Health and Human Services, will help to meet a documented need for nurses in the Jasper area and other parts of northwest Georgia. The program is designed for students who hold bachelor's degrees in other disciplines and have decided to enter the nursing field.

A similar KSU program exists on the campus of Georgia Highlands College in Rome.

Classes in the KSU program at Appalachian Tech are expected to begin during the spring semester of 2008. KSU has received \$189,320 in grant funding from the Board of Regents' Nursing Education Task Force to start the program.

"Kennesaw State has an established record of working with other higher education institutions to prepare the state's workforce in critical areas, and this partnership with Appalachian Technical College allows us to continue such efforts," said KSU President Daniel S. Papp. "This is another great example of how KSU helps to meet the state's workforce demands, and will help us expedite the critical production of nurses in Georgia."

"Appalachian Technical College is honored to have the opportunity to partner with Kennesaw State University," said Appalachian Technical College President Sanford Chandler. "It is a huge compliment to our college that



KSU officials visited Appalachian Tech this summer in advance of a new nursing degree program. Pictured (l-r): Martha Marquardt, ATC nursing instructor; Joan Thompson, ATC Vice President of Academic Affairs; Cynthia Brown, KSU, nursing lecturer; Jane Brannan, assistant director, Undergraduate Nursing Program, KSU; Richard Sowell, dean, KSU WellStar College of Health and Human Services; and David Bennett, assistant dean, KSU WellStar College.

KSU will have a presence on our campus and demonstrates a productive and beneficial working relationship between both schools."

Officials with both institutions met this summer to discuss the partnership, and viewed designs

for renovations of Appalachian Tech's 11,000-square-foot Health Sciences Wing, which are anticipated to be completed by early next year. The wing will be used for students in the KSU program at the Jasper campus.

Calendar of Events

Aug. 15-Oct. 2 "Best Of" Student Art Exhibition

The first Biennial 'Best of' exhibition will feature the best of student artwork created during the 2006-07 academic year. Opening reception: Aug. 22, 5-8 p.m. Fine Arts Gallery. Free.

Aug. 29-Oct. 24 AfroCuba: Works on Paper, 1968-2003

A groundbreaking exhibition of 66 prints and drawings by 26 artists representing a cross section of Cuban society and a diverse range of subject matter. This is a Year of the Atlantic World event. Opening reception: Aug. 29, 5-8 p.m. Gallery talk by curator Judith Bettelheim, 6 p.m. Sturgis Library Gallery. Free.

Sept. 8
"Tom Thumb the Great" by Margaret Baldwin. What do you get when you cross a wily wizard, a bored princess, an amorous giantess, and a hero the size of a...thumb? What else? Tom Thumb the Great. A fundraising event for Alpha Psi Omega, the theatre honorary society. 8 p.m. Howard Logan Stillwell Theater. \$5. Tickets available at the door only.

Sept. 14-15
"The Spoken Word! Poetry in Performance" Two evenings of spoken word performance by local and nationally known poets. 8 p.m. Howard Logan Stillwell Theater. \$5. This event includes themes and language that may not be appropriate for all audiences.

Sept. 19
KSU Orchestra.
"Symphony No. 3" by Schumann, "Festive Overture" by Shostakovich, "Brandenburg No. 6" by Bach. Featuring Cathy Lynn and Allyson Fleck, violas. 8 p.m. KSU Performance Hall. \$5.

Sept. 21
KSU Wind Ensemble
8 p.m. KSU Performance Hall. \$5.

Sept. 24-30
"365 Days/365 Plays" by Suzan-Lori Parks, artistic direction by Karen Robinson. 8 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, and 3 p.m. Sunday. Studio Theater. Free. This event includes themes and language that may not be appropriate for all audiences.

Sept. 30
Faculty Recital
Mary Akerman, guitar. 3 p.m. KSU Performance Hall. Free.

For more information on any of these events, call 770-499-3223 or visit www.kennesaw.edu/arts.

Civil rights pioneer shares experiences at KSU

By Mashaun D. Simon and Stacey Moore

Change, oppression and the use of positive energy were just a few of the topics civil rights activist Diane Nash touched upon during her visit to Kennesaw State University this summer.

A key strategist of the civil rights movement in the 1960s, Nash led a workshop titled “The Nonviolent Movement of the 1960s: A Legacy for Today.” She shared Mohandas Gandhi’s philosophy of nonviolence that was embraced by the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. The event was sponsored by the Office of Legal Affairs and Diversity.

In the session, Nash shared the highs and lows of the movement, what strategies worked best, and how the group came to the conclusions and nonviolent ideals that led to their triumphant efforts. She emphasized two basic principles of Gandhi’s Agapic Energy, or nonviolence, which are still applicable today: People are never your enemy; and oppression always requires the cooperation of the oppressed.

Nash, as a Fisk University student, led the historic student sit-in movement in 1960 in Nashville, Tenn. “The lunch counter sit-ins — those efforts were successful,” Nash said. “We learned that people are

never your enemy. However, unjust political systems, attitudes, racism and ignorance are the real enemies.”

She said the Montgomery, Ala., bus boycott was another good example of how to fight oppression without using violence.

“When you kill who you think is the oppressor, you still leave the real problem untouched,” Nash said. “The oppressed did not use violence, yet they won the effort in the end. If violence was effective, we should be living in a utopia by now.”

She recommended that students diligently put forth an effort to study today’s social issues.

“No one can solve our problems for us,” Nash suggested. “Trust yourself and stop cooperating with things that you know are unjust.”

Nash was a founding member of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), as well as a coordinator of the 1961 Freedom Ride between Birmingham, Ala., and Jackson, Miss. She is also the recipient of the Distinguished American Award from the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library in 2003 and the LBJ Award for Leadership in Civil Rights from the Lyndon Baines Johnson Presidential Library and Museum in 2004.



JIM BOLT

Diane Nash spoke to the KSU community about lessons from the civil rights movement.

‘Fun and Facts for Girls Day’ brings Girls Inc. students to KSU

By Stacey Moore
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Eleven members of the 2007 Ethical Leadership Certificate program hosted a “Fun and Facts for Girls Day” for middle- and high-school students at Kennesaw State University on July 10. The girls, who are members of Girls Inc., enjoyed a full day of activities that included presentations on college life and a campus tour.

Girls Inc. was selected to partner in a community project by the staff members who are currently participating in the 18-month-long ELC program.

“A requirement for completion of this program is to create a group community project that will allow members of the class to apply the skills and knowledge we have learned throughout the program to support our local community,” said Nicole

Phillips, assistant director for Minority Student Retention services. “We chose to partner with Girls Inc. this year to provide an opportunity for adolescent girls to visit KSU’s campus, be exposed to and develop leadership skills, as well as stimulate their thoughts and interests in education beyond their high school experience.”

Girls Inc. is a national nonprofit youth organization dedicated to inspiring all girls to be strong, smart, and bold. The organization has provided vital educational programs to millions of American girls, particularly those in high-risk, underserved areas.

In addition, the ELC team held a raffle fundraiser which netted \$800. The check was presented to Girls Inc. leaders at the end of the day-long program. However, the gift of giving didn’t stop there. The raffle prize, a 20-inch television, also was donated to Girls Inc.

Professor’s sculptures connect citizens, aid in remembrance

By Lauren Highfill

Professor of Art Ayokunle Odeleye stands taller than many people. But even he is dwarfed by two of his recent sculpture commissions.

The “Spring Valley Twins” tower 16 feet high at the entrance to the city’s memorial park in Spring Valley, N.Y. The two stainless steel, faceless figures stand opposite each other gleaming in the sunshine — and their message shines just as bright.

Engraved on the sculptures are phrases that speak to the city’s rich diversity. These sayings are etched in multiple languages to further embrace the town’s multiculturalism. The twins, with their human-like shapes, connect everyone and allow the viewers to feel they are being proudly represented.

Although the Spring Valley sculptures were installed in August, they are not the last of Odeleye’s large-scale artwork. In fact, he has been working for five years on another sculpture with a message of tolerance. Commissioned for a memorial park in downtown Wilmington, N.C., the work is nearing completion and features six, 16-foot-high bronze paddles, which Odeleye says symbolize crossing over into the next life in African cultures. The sculpture is meant to help the town acknowledge and cross over the tragedy and legacy of its past — Wilmington’s 1898 race riots, which resulted in the overthrow of the city’s government, and the murders of numerous African-Americans.

“Wilmington was the site of the only



KSU’s Ayokunle Odeleye, professor of art, has sculpted more than 18 public works across the United States, including this installation in Alaska.

coup d’etat in American history; a large number of the African-American population in town was killed,” Odeleye said. Though this event occurred more than 100 years ago, the city felt the need to publicly and appropriately recognize the incident.

Odeleye’s work for this project does not incite blame or minimize the conflict, but presents the soothing images of water and stone to heal past and present wounds. Artificial stones will be incorporated into the installation design — a few of which will carry a special message.

“On top of one stone,” Odeleye said, “there will be a bronze plate engraved with the story of the massacre.” Another stone will honor the community members who were inspired by the history of the sculpture and provided funding for the project. “The names of the donors will appear on another bronze plate on top of the second stone,” Odeleye said. The public and private financing of this project further ties the community to the sculpture, and creates the feeling of acceptance Odeleye desires for this work.

With the installation of the Wilmington sculpture, Odeleye will have sculpted more than 18 public works in seven states from Florida to Alaska.

Odeleye, who was trained at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, Va., and at Howard University in Washington, D.C., has taught at KSU since 1989. He instructs students in three-dimensional design, drawing, sculpture art appreciation and African-American art history.

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