



Greetings from the College of Education at the University of Georgia...

The 2000-2001 school year was a year of hard work and dedication by faculty, staff and students that has reflected itself in major successes for the College. Our external funding from grants and contracts surpassed \$17 million—a record year for the College. We have attracted and recruited talented new faculty members to join our outstanding existing faculty. The academic and test score profile of our entering students is the most impressive in the history of the College. And our faculty are engaged in exemplary projects from local communities in Georgia to the far reaches of the world, as symbolized by the cover of our magazine this year.

The tremendous diversity of scholarship and research by our faculty is making news – from spinal injury rehabilitation, to reducing violence and bullying in middle schools, to the use of brain imaging in diagnosing learning disabilities, to determining best practices in reading and mathematics education. Our many activities and accomplishments have resulted in expanded national and international recognition and a rise in our standing among colleges of education, with five of our graduate programs ranked among the Top 10 in the nation (*U.S. News and World Report*).

The College is pioneering a break-through model to radically transform the way schools, communities and universities work together to advance children's learning. Our groundbreaking partnership with the Clarke County School District is beginning to take shape with two pilot elementary schools – envisioned as community learning centers – scheduled to re-open their doors to a new future in educational achievement in fall 2002.

We are joined in these efforts by the colleges of Arts and Sciences, Family and Consumer Sciences, and the School of Social Work. We are developing similar partnerships with school districts in DeKalb and Gwinnett counties in metro Atlanta and other districts around the state.

But our vision for improving education goes beyond state boundaries. Our faculty and students are pursuing research, service and instruction throughout the nation and around the world. We have recently signed two new university-wide international cooperative agreements to work with universities in Korea and the Netherlands, in addition to the dozens of projects already underway by our faculty in England, Mexico, Japan, New Zealand, Italy, Peru, Russia and the Philippines, to name but a few.

Educators face challenging but exciting opportunities today. By rethinking the ways in which we work together, we can make a tremendous difference in the professional development of teachers, administrators and other educators – a difference that will positively impact education throughout Georgia.

Your support of the College of Education is appreciated by each of us here. We welcome your ideas for improving the College and hope to hear from you soon.

Sincerely,

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ABOUT THE COVER

The cover design was created by A.W. Blalock. Photos taken by Norm Thomson, assistant professor of science education and director of the College's Study Abroad in Kenya program, show rhinoceroses feeding on grassland as thousands of pink flamingoes dot Lake Nakuru, and biology major Marcie Sellers, of Brunswick, Ga., learning how to grind millet, a traditional African grain. The photo of a young elementary school student ringing a bell in Xalapa, Mexico, was shot by Jim McLaughlin, associate professor of elementary education during one of the classes he developed in the UGA/Veracruz Partnership. On the back cover, photos show Paige Putnam, a 2000 COE graduate working with Mexican students in Xalapa and the temple at El Tajin, an important archaeological site in northern Veracruz.

Maps: National Geographic Society
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