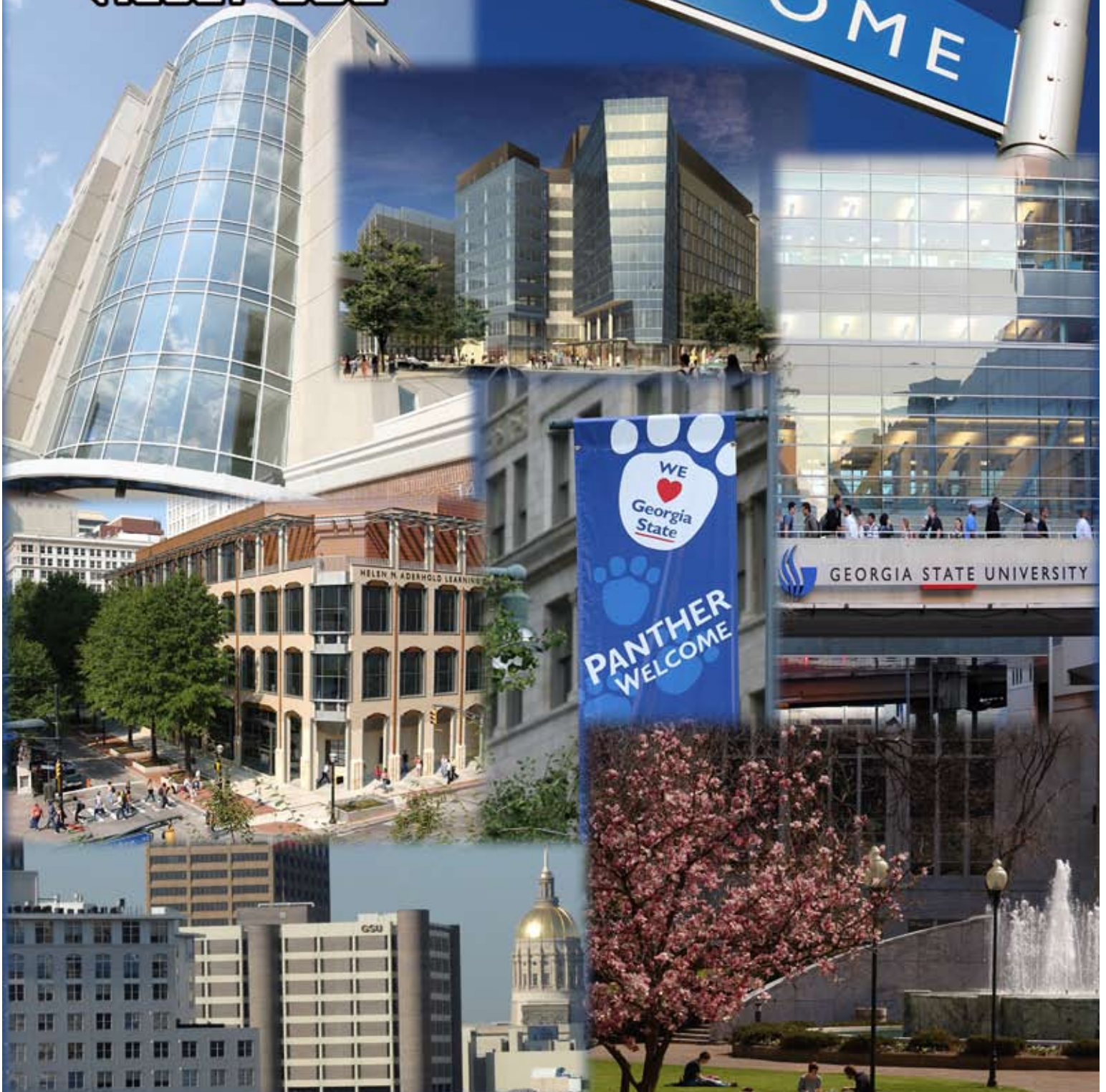




97 YEARS STRONG

97 FUN FACTS ABOUT GSU

WELCOME



GEORGIA STATE

1

Georgia State is the **second largest** of the 35 colleges and universities in the University System of Georgia with an enrollment of more than 30,000 students. The university offers 54 degrees in 250 fields of study with more than 1,200 faculty members.



2

The J. Mack Robinson College of Business has more than 70,000 alumni. Among their number are: Sandra E. Bergeron, one of the most highly respected women of technology and current Chairman of the Board, **TraceSecurity**; Frank H. Boykin, CFO, **Mohawk Industries**; Ahmet C. Bozer, president, Eurasia and Africa Group, **The Coca-Cola Company**; Jim Copeland, CEO (retired), **Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu**; Bradford W. Ferrer, executive VP, finance and administration., **CNN Worldwide**; Tony Holcombe, president and CEO, **Syniverse Technologies**; Richard H. Lenny, chairman, president and CEO (retired), **The Hershey Company**; Mackey J. McDonald, chairman (retired) of **VF Corp.**, whose 25 brands include Lee, Wrangler, North Face, JanSport and Nautica; and Julio A. Ramierez, executive vice-president, Global Operations, **Burger King**. More are included later in this list of numbers.

3

Alumni Hall, now home of the school's Welcome Center and administrative offices that include the university president's, was once known as Municipal Auditorium. That building has attracted major performers like the Jackson Five and Elvis Presley, as well as a 1970 title boxing match when Muhammad Ali defeated Jerry Quarry in what was billed as the "Return of the Champ".

4

Georgia State's **President Mark P. Becker (photo right)** began at Georgia State in January, 2009. He came to GSU from the University of South Carolina and has previously been at Minnesota, Michigan, Washington, Florida and Cornell. He graduated from Towson in the CAA and got his doctorate from Penn State. Becker, is an avid sports fan and considers athletics important to a school. His vision for GSU as a major research institution is increasing the school's stature worldwide.



5

The **Rialto Theatre** on campus was the largest movie house in the Southeast when it opened in 1916 with its 925 seats. At one point, it boasted the largest electric sign above the marquee south of New York City. Today, it has been refurbished and is used by Georgia State students as the Rialto Center for the Arts.

6

Georgia State's campus now occupies **34 acres of downtown Atlanta** with 40 buildings (**photo right**) and 7.5 million square feet of downtown owned. Construction is on the drawing boards with numerous new projects. A multi-million dollar Parker H. Petit Science Center with laboratories and classrooms opened in 2010, next to the Sports Arena. New fraternity and sorority townhouses open for the 2010 fall semester.



7

It was **Ladies First in 1919** when Annie Teitelbaum Wise became the first female graduate of Georgia State and was also the first female graduate of any state-supported school in Georgia. With her bachelor's degree in commerce, she added to her distinction by becoming the school's first female faculty member later.

PANTHERS



8

The Baptist Student Center (photo left) at the corner of Courtland and Edgewood, is designated as a **national historic landmark**. The former commercial building, erected in 1890, was Georgia's **first-ever Coca-Cola bottling plant**. It sits right beside the University Lofts where student-athletes are housed.

9

Apollo XII's command module hatch cover of the second landing on the moon is on display on the eighth floor of Library South.

10

Miss Georgia 2008 was Chastity Hardman, a Georgia State music student who won the crown on June 29, 2008. Hardman was first runner-up in the Miss America Pageant. Second runner-up Kristina Higgins was also a Georgia State student. Georgia State alumna Andrea Bailey (**far right**) competed in the Miss America pageant in 2003 and was named one of the 15 finalists in that nationally televised event.



Hardman (top) and Higgins.



11

The **first African-American student** enrolled at Georgia State 48 years ago in 1962. Annette Lucille Hall was a Lithonia social studies teacher who enrolled in the course of the Institute on Americanism and Communism, a course required for all Georgia social studies teachers.

12

Georgia State is just a few blocks from **The Carter Center**. It is named for former President Jimmy Carter, who has spoken multiple times on campus and worked with the basketball team on Habit for Humanity home builds.

13

Georgia State has a **laboratory designated Biosafety Level 4**, which is the highest level of containment. In level 4 facilities, researchers can safely work with deadly agents such as Ebola, hantavirus, or, in the case of Georgia State scientists, the herpes B virus. It is one of just two University-based level 4 labs in the country.

14

Text Your Professor (during class): In a handful of business classes, GSU began allowing students to text questions to professors during class. Developed by Professor Dave McDonald (RCB), Text Question System (TQS) enables students to ask questions and learn. After a professor turns on the PowerPoint presentation, students can anonymously text questions directly to a specific number. After a screening process, questions scroll across the bottom of the presentation like a ticker tape.

15

Georgia State has graduated **179,000 alumni** since the first class was taught in 1913. Currently, it is estimated there are 100,000 alumni living in the metro Atlanta area.

16

Georgia State's Center for High Angular Resolution Astronomy (CHARA) has one of the world's most powerful optical stellar interferometers, **more powerful than the Hubble Telescope**. This is one of the most important projects in this field since the discovery of the Hubble in 1917. The collection of six telescopes are run from Mt. Wilson, Calif. The telescope can see a nickel from 10,000 miles away. Georgia State also operates an observatory just outside Atlanta at Hard Labor Creek State Park.

GEORGIA STATE

17

Hollywood icons **Clark Gable and Vivian Leigh** were on campus back in 1939 on the eve of the world premiere of “Gone With the Wind” when the Junior League hosted a gala in what is now Alumni Hall. The boys choir from Ebenezer Baptist Church who performed that night in Municipal Auditorium, now Alumni Hall, had a young singer named **Martin Luther King Jr.**

18

Georgia State is in the **heart of activity** of downtown Atlanta. The Sports Arena and center campus are less than a half-mile from CNN Center, Centennial Olympic Park, Philips Arena and **the Georgia Dome (photo right)**. The campus intersects Peachtree Street, the main street of Atlanta. Students have 1,200 extra parking spots at Turner Field, just a half mile from the Sports Arena. **The Panthers will play football in 2010 in The Dome, just blocks from the campus center.**



19

The **first female** chairman, president and CEO to ever ring the **New York Stock Exchange’s opening bell** when she did so in 1998, was Georgia State alum M. Christine Jacobs of Georgia-based Theragenics Corporation.

20

Safety first: Georgia State has the **largest campus police department** of any school in Georgia with more than 100 employees who secure student safety 365 days a year. The force is the only nationally and state certified police force among the universities in Georgia. With video surveillance, call stations and escort systems in place, student safety comes first.

21

Three movies have filmed scenes on the Georgia State campus. Gary Busey, starring in “**The Buddy Holly Story**” in 1978, had Alumni Hall as a backdrop scene. “**Kalifornia**,” a 1993 movie with Brad Pitt, David Duchovny and Juliette Lewis, filmed a scene in the lobby of Sparks Hall. “**The Real McCoy**,” starring Kim Basinger and Val Kilmer, used the Robinson College of Business in 1993.

22

A Georgia State alum won \$250,000 as the top prize on the **TV show “Jeopardy.”** Mark Dawson made his winnings in 2003 and finished with \$344,599 as the Tournament of Champions final winner. Dawson earned a bachelor’s degree and master’s degree in international business.



23

The school’s **coat of arms (right)** is registered in the College of Arms in London. The Latin motto means “Truth is strong and will conquer.” The panther holds the symbol of education, with the quill in red to symbolize the fire in Atlanta’s city emblem. The gold coin indicates the university’s beginnings as a business school. The crown is a representation of the Stone Mountain granite. The center flame is an eternal flame in honor of the first president, George Sparks, and represents flames of scholarship and the burning of Atlanta.

24

METI Man, a robot on campus, breathes, blinks and speaks. He is a computer-driven, life-sized mannequin with a pulse that nursing students practice procedures with. The robot mirrors human responses to medical procedures and will even “die” if a student does something wrong.

PANTHERS

25

The **Andrew Young School of Policy Studies** is so well-known worldwide that students come from 47 different countries to attend. Young is a Presidential Medal of Freedom winner, a former United Nations Ambassador, co-chairman of the Atlanta Olympic Games, a former Atlanta mayor and a top aide to Martin Luther King Jr. during the 1960s. The school is the highest rated in Georgia and is fifth in the nation in public finance and budgeting and 12th in city management and urban policy. Its graduate program in public affairs is 27th of the 269 graduate programs in the United States.

26

Rap superstar **Ludacris** was Georgia State student **Chris Bridges** in 1998 and 1999. The performer, a three-time Grammy winner, is also the rapper with the most Top 25 hits of all time. He was in the School of Music's music management program. He is a graduate of Banneker High in Atlanta.

27

The **Peachtree Road Race**, the world's most famous 10k run, was started by Georgia State cross country coach and dean of men **Tim Singleton**. The "father of the Peachtree" headed it the first six years before turning it over to the Atlanta Track Club by using volunteers from Georgia State's fraternities and sororities. He marked the first race with cooking flour to indicate mileage and charged a \$2 entry fee. The second year, he created the first valuable collectible T-shirt. Many Georgia State faculty and students assisted in the early races, and several Georgia State runners have won or finished in the Top 10.



28

Georgia State is the **ONLY** university to have ever had an **Olympic marathon run through its campus** when the 1996 Olympic runners passed across the campus. The Georgia State Sports Arena was also used as a 1996 Olympics (badminton) competition venue. Many Georgia State staff members participated on the Olympic support team.

29

A Whale of an Internship: Senior biology major Abby Rigdon was able to serve a graduate assistant internship at the **Georgia Aquarium**, just blocks from GSU's campus. She was assigned to work with the whale sharks.

30

Follow The Leaders: In a study of the top 1,600 executives with Georgia companies by Standard & Poor's, Georgia State had more master's degree executives in that group than any other college in Georgia or the nation. Obviously, GSU produces leaders.

31

Elite Help for Elite Athletes: Dan Bernardot, Ph. d. and associate professor at GSU, helped prepare U.S. Figure Skating ice dance teams at the **2010 Vancouver Olympic Games**. He helped silver medalists Meryl Davis and Charlie White. A renowned sports nutritionist, Dr. Bernardot co-directs Georgia State's Laboratory for Elite Athlete Performance. He assists at the Olympic training facilities in Colorado Springs and also works with marathon runners.

32

Georgia State traces its **beginnings to 1913**. It started as a business school called the Georgia Institute of Technology Evening School of Commerce. Wayne Kell, who started the Evening School of Commerce, initially intended it to be a mining engineering program, but lack of interest led him to change to a business-based curriculum. That first year, Georgia State was one room in one building.

GEORGIA STATE



33

The **King Center Memorial** for Martin Luther King Jr. is located blocks from campus. King's library, burial place, birthplace and Ebenezer Baptist Church are all on historic Auburn Avenue. **King (photo left)** spoke to Georgia State's student body in the fall of 1967 with this photo from the school yearbook. This Georgia State speech was less than six months before King was assassinated in 1968.

34

On April 24, 2010, Georgia State played host to the **United States-China Environmental Conference** to study energy and environment issues.

35

Georgia State alum **Ann-Marie Campbell (photo right)** earned her bachelor's and master's degree, while beginning as a cashier at Atlanta-based Home Depot. Campbell rose through the ranks to become the President of the Southern Division, where she oversees 640 stores and more than 100,000 Home Depot associates. It all began with that \$4 an hour job.



36

Two Oscar statues are on display in the Georgia State Library. Johnny Mercer's pair of Oscar statues, along with one of Mercer's pianos, are on display. He wrote or co-wrote more than 1,100 songs, including "Moon River."



37

President-elect William Howard Taft christened Atlanta's unfinished Municipal Auditorium, now Alumni Hall, on Jan. 15, 1909. It marked its 100th anniversary in Jan., 2009.

38

Georgia State has **four Fulbright Fellowship winners** as announced in the summer of 2010. The historic International Exchange Program, sponsored by the U.S. Department of State in Washington, D.C., will allow these four Georgia State Fellows to go to India, Egypt and Germany to continue their prestigious education abroad.

39

A 2008 **grant of \$2.94 million** to the College of Education funded **Project LIBERATE**. This four-year study will allow Georgia State professors and students to research the reading, writing and spelling needs of incarcerated youth, including those with disabilities.

40

The Haas-Howell Building (now the School of Music and College of Arts and Sciences) was originally the home of law firm, Alston & Bird, where **golfing legend Bobby Jones** worked and practiced his law trade.

41

Campus was never dull when comic **country star Ray Stevens** was around. The former student, whose real name is Ray Ragsdale, has gone on to record "Ahab the Arab," "The Streak," and "Everything Is Beautiful" over the past 40 years, while hosting a TV variety show. His 100 albums may have gotten their start when he studied music theory, composition and classical piano here at Georgia State.

PANTHERS

42

Georgia State received a **\$1.1 million research grant** from the National Institute of Health in June 2008 for **cancer research**. Professor Jenny Yang will continue studies in the chemistry lab in working to detect tumors with new procedures.

43

Build It and They Will Come: John Cowart ('59) has been a builder and real estate developer for more than 45 years. His Cowart Properties has built more than 3,000 homes for Atlanta's families as the city grew.

44

The master's degree offered in **Sports Administration** through the College of Education and Kinesiology and Health is one of just two in Georgia and 15 in the entire Southeast. It was also one of the first and is one of the few in a major city to help with internships and the job opportunities at all levels of sports. The founder of the master's program, Rankin Cooter, is now an Athletics board of trustees member.

45

"American Idol" finalist Tamyra Gray, who has since appeared in seven episodes of FOX television network's "Boston Public," was a student at Georgia State. Gray also was first runner-up and talent winner in the Miss Georgia State University pageant in 1998. Gray performed in two Broadway plays, including Rent.

46

Georgia State has long been in the cutting edge of research into the brain and its functions. Now, the university is building on its strong foundation by creating a new **Neuroscience Institute** in the College of Arts and Sciences. The Neuroscience Institute builds off of GSU's collaboration with other universities in the Atlanta-based Center for Behavioral Neuroscience, started in the late 1990s.



47

From Russia, With Love: Russia awarded a National Prize in Applied Economics to, **Jorge Martinez-Vazquez (photo left)**, professor of economics and director of the Andrew Young School's International Studies program; and Klara Sabirianova Peter, assistant professor of economics. The \$1.5 million rubles (\$51,000) award was presented on April 8, 2010 during the 11th International Conference on Economic and Social Development in Moscow. Martinez-Vazquez and Peter had published research on the Russian flat tax and economy.

48

Georgia State has had a student competing in each of the past three Olympics in kayaking. Rebecca Giddens won a silver medal in 2004 and competed in 2000. The 2008 competition in Beijing, China, saw Benn Fraker finish sixth.



49

The **College of Law celebrated its 25th anniversary** in 2008. Its Health Law Program is 4th in the nation and the College of Law ranks No. 60 overall of 184 law schools nationwide. In the past five years, the College of Law rose in the rankings from 97 to 60. Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor gave an address on campus in 2008.

50

Being downtown, public transportation is available to Georgia State students with multiple stops and methods of transportation. As a matter of fact, Georgia State **has its own MARTA train stop** right beside the Sports Arena. Even the Atlanta Braves don't have that luxury for events.

GEORGIA STATE

51

H. J. Russell & Co., founded in 1962, is one of the 10 largest minority-owned firms of any kind in the United States. The construction and real estate giant has had a hand in building most of Atlanta's landmarks including the Georgia Dome, the Olympic Stadium (Turner Field), Philips Arena and Coca-Cola headquarters. CEO Michael Russell earned his master's from GSU, President Jerome Russell, his bachelor's.

Michael Russell



Jerome Russell

52

The **Economic Forecasting Center** in the J. Mack Robinson College of Business was ranked "the most accurate university-based center in the United States" by the Federal Reserve Bank. Dr. Rajeev Dhawan, Director of the Center, has been honored as the "most accurate forecaster" individually.

53

The **Center for Leadership in Disability** received a \$2.6 million grant to research methods to support individuals with developmental disabilities to lead more independent and fulfilling lives.

54

The J. Mack Robinson **College of Business** is in the top eight of all business schools in the U.S. It ranks 24th in the nation among 314 schools offering part-time master's programs, according to the latest rankings by U.S. News and World Report. The executive MBA program is one of the top 20 in the U.S. and one of the top 40 in the world. Its School of Accountancy is ranked 19th by a renowned CPA publication.

55

Home sweet Home. **Both of Georgia State's on-campus residence halls have been opened in the past five years.** The Commons (**photo right**) opened its 2,000-bed four-tower facility in 2007 with state-of-the-art conveniences. A new freshman hall for 350 students opened in August, 2009. Townhomes for fraternities and sororities had groundbreaking ceremonies in 2009. They followed the Lofts Apartments, a 431-bed, 13-story facility that opened on campus in 2002.



56

Like Computers? Georgia State's **Computer Information Systems (CIS) programs** in the Robinson College of Business are highly-regarded. The graduate program is ranked No. 10 in the country.

57

Location, location, location. Georgia State's **real estate program** in the Robinson College of Business knows that and a whole lot more to rank **11th best in the nation**. They will teach you how to calculate the details of life with a risk management and insurance program that ranks **6th best in the country**. The overall undergraduate business program ranks No. 32 in the country among all public universities.

58

On Trial: Arguing before U. S. Supreme Court Justice Samuel A. Alito, Jr. in April, 2010, a **Georgia State moot court law team captured the national title** in the 25th annual Dean Jerome Prince Memorial Evidence Competition in New York. Best Lawyers in America Magazine picked faculty fellow and adjunct faculty member Randall Hughes as the Atlanta Health Care Lawyer of the Year.

PANTHERS

59

In a city that has played host to every major sporting event in the world and almost every type of convention in the world, it was only natural to have a **School of Hospitality Administration**. Georgia State's is **one of the top 25 in the nation** and the oldest in the state. The Cecil B. Day School is named for the founder of Days Inn. It is the only program in the nation to have a classroom in a convention center (the Georgia World Congress Center), and all students must complete practical experience time within the industry.

60

On the rise: Georgia State purchased the Sun Trust Bank Building (**photo right**) in the heart of campus in 2006 and will begin taking over the facility in the near future. The **28-story high rise will become the tallest structure on campus.**



61

And the Grammy Goes To: On Jan. 31, 2010, Georgia State had three ties to winners. Alum Coy Bowles ('04) won for "Best New Artist" with the Zac Brown Band. Current student, Dru Castro, who is a producer and engineer, won for best urban or alternative performance with Pearls. Faculty instructor Mace Hibbard won for Best Contemporary Blues Album as a jazzman with Derek Trucks Band.

62

An aquarium without fish: Georgia State offers its students the **Digital Aquarium** in the University Student Center. The multimedia lab has resources that include 3D, video, audio, graphic design and animation tools that allow students to develop music, movies, interactive media, web sites and virtual worlds.

63

Geoscience Lab: The Inductively Coupled Plasma Mass Spectrometer (ICPMS) Lab has as its centerpiece a **Thermoelectron Element2 mass spectrometer**, a high-resolution instrument capable of trace element analyses down to the sub-parts per billion level. Samples in solution are introduced either through a spray chamber or an Apex desolvating nebulizer. The lab also has a **New Wave UP-213 laser ablation system** for solid samples. The ICPMS lab does trace element analysis for the Department of Geosciences as well as outside users. They can do any of the standard analysis procedures (isotope dilution, standard addition, external standard, semiquantitative), depending on the needs of the user.

64

TV pioneer **Douglas Edwards (1917-1990)** was a Georgia State alum. Edwards was the forerunner of TV news anchoring when, in 1948, he aired 15-minute reports on CBS-TV News five nights a week. The man who followed in Edwards' footsteps was Walter Cronkite. Edwards is a legend in broadcast news history. Edwards, then 20, was a student here in 1937 and 1938 when he took evening journalism classes while he worked at WSB Radio.

65

CIBER Opens: GSU's \$1.6 million federal grant enabled the school to launch a Center for International Business Education and Research (CIBER). This becomes one of just 34 CIBERs in the United States and keeps the business school among the leaders of tomorrow.

GEORGIA STATE

66

I Shall Not Tell A Lie. How rare. Georgia State's Pullen Library has **one of only three known copies of the book**, "The Life of Washington the Great." The book on President George Washington was published more than 200 years ago (1806) in Augusta, Ga. The most famous part of the book is the story of Washington cutting down the family cherry tree and confessing to it because he said he could not tell a lie. The author, however, later admitted that he had made up that story in the book.

67

Georgia State has a current **Ambassador to the United States**. Vladimir Petrovic (BA, '00 in International Relations) is ambassador from the Republic of Serbia to the U.S. and resides in Washington, D.C. Petrovic presented his official papers as a diplomat at The White House to President Barack Obama. President Obama also nominated David Adelman (MPA '95) as U. S. ambassador to Singapore. The DeKalb lawmaker, who graduated from the Andrew Young School, was confirmed on March 19, 2010.



68



Georgia State's **Student Recreation Center** was opened in 2001 and is a full city block long and four stories high. The facility includes weight rooms, cardiovascular fitness rooms, game rooms with pool tables, a swimming pool, a climbing wall, aerobic and martial arts classes, racquetball courts, a jogging track, whirlpools, basketball courts and the Touch The Earth outdoor activities program.

69

Teaching Them To Teach: The College of Education received its largest-ever grant of \$13.5 million to increase the number of highly-qualified teachers being prepared for the high-need schools across the country. The five-year grant will keep GSU in the forefront of preparing teachers for tomorrow.

70

The White House. Among the Georgia State alum to have ever worked in the White House was former political science student Jody Powell, who served as President Jimmy Carter's press secretary from 1977-80.

71

Outstanding Delegates. Georgia State's delegation won the Top Prize for a 5th consecutive year at the **United Nations simulation**. Held in New York City from March 28-April 3, Georgia State's team beat the 189 colleges sending delegations.

72

Song of the Year writer. Music school alum Doug Johnson (Class of '79) co-wrote "Three Wooden Crosses" which Randy Travis sang to win the Country Music Association Song of the Year award in 2003.

73

Up For Debate. Georgia State's Debate Team participated in 16 tournaments on the topic of, "should the U.S. reduce the size or role of nuclear weapons," and finished No. 40 among the hundreds of colleges.

PANTHERS

74

What's in a name? Georgia State, **founded 97 years ago in 1913** as the Georgia Institute of Technology's Evening School of Commerce, became known as The Atlanta Division of the University of Georgia (1947-54), then as Georgia College of Business Administration (1955-60), then as Georgia State College (1961-68) and as its current name, Georgia State University, 41 years ago (1969).

75

Helen M. Aderhold Learning Center. The state-of-the-art facility (**photo right**) opened in 2002 and includes a Cyber Cafe for students, a 200-seat lecture hall and computer-wired classrooms, and it is in the historic Fairlie-Poplar District of campus.



76

Movie Theatre. Georgia State **students run their own movie theatre.** It is called Cinefest Film Theatre and it is located on the second floor in the University Center across the street from the Sports Arena. Cinefest began in 1970, marking four decades of the student-operated movie house.

77

Jones For the Defense. **One of the nation's foremost female trial lawyers** is Georgia State alum Linley Jones (Class of '92). Jones has been named to the "Super Lawyers List" by the prestigious Super Lawyers magazine for four of the past five years. She serves as a legal analyst for CNN and as a source for multiple publications. She specializes in personal injury lawsuits, especially those involving brain and spinal cord injuries.

78

ROTC. The Army has operated its officer training program at Georgia State since 1951. The two-year program, with benefits to help with the cost of education, has produced military officers for six decades, with its size peaking toward 1,000 during both the Korean and Vietnam wars.

79

African-American Studies. Georgia State has had a Department of African-American Studies for almost 20 years. The well-respected department has been the home for the National Council for Black Studies since 2002. The 33rd annual conference was held in Atlanta in March 2009.

80

WRAS-FM (Album 88) radio. Georgia State has the largest completely student-run radio station in the country with **100,000-watt FM** powerhouse WRAS-FM (88.5). Founded in 1971, WRAS is funded by student activity fees and operates with a staff of 50 students. The station features cutting edge new music as well as numerous speciality shows. The only time students do not run the programming is when Georgia State athletics events are broadcast. It enjoys a signal that reaches from the border of South Carolina to the border of Alabama and 100 miles south to the Macon area.

WRAS-FM (88.5)

ALBUM 88

100,000 WATTS

81

The wheels on the bus go round and round. Georgia State has a 30-foot-long mobile teaching laboratory for the biology department. The massive bus, called "The Bio Bus," has logged more than 1,000 visits to Georgia schools and organizations. Run by the faculty and students, the bus provides hands-on demonstrations and activity projects for students in grades four through 12.

GEORGIA STATE

82

Catch me if you can. Former Georgia State distance runner Andrew Letherby has gone on the past decade to run for success. He won a bronze medal while competing for his native Australia in the Commonwealth Games. Letherby has finished in the Top 10 of the Boston Marathon and has run marathons around the world, finishing in the Top 20 in Japan, Italy and Germany. He has a pair of Top 10 finishes in his last two runs in the Peachtree Road Race. Former distance runner Jenn Feenstra finished among the top 20 females in the 2009 Boston Marathon.

83

The newest building. Georgia State has opened a new University Science Park. One of the facilities in the park is the Parker H. "Pete" Petit Science Center, across the street from the Sports Arena and Rec Center. The facility (**photo right**) is named for the GSU alum who was CEO of Matria Healthcare, now part of Alere Medical, and the founder of the Petit Group, an investment management venue. The Center will house the departments of biology, chemistry, nursing, nutrition, physical and respiratory therapies, public health and GSU's Neuroscience Institute. About 2,000 students a day use its classrooms, labs and facilities.



84

Good sports. Georgia State has **graduates in the front offices of the NFL, MLB, NBA and NHL.** The Atlanta Falcons chose GSU alum Greg Beadles as VP and Chief Financial Officer. GSU alum Drew Baur is a co-owner of the St. Louis Cardinals. **Michael Gearon, Jr. (photo left)** is a part-owner of the Atlanta Spirit which owns the Atlanta Hawks and Atlanta Thrashers. Scott Brooks ('99) is Director of Game Production with the St. Louis Rams and worked eight years in entertainment with the NHL Washington Capitals.

85

Above Underground Atlanta. Parts of Georgia State's campus are above the old Underground portion, which was the main part of Atlanta in the 1800s. Viaducts were built to permit better traffic flow, and stores raised their storefronts to accommodate that move. The original Underground was revived in 1970 with stores and restaurants. It was revived again in 1990. Students can pass from the MARTA Five Points stop to campus via the Underground main street.

86

Get well soon. Saint Joseph's Hospital in Atlanta called on CEO Bonnie Phipps, a State undergrad and master's recipient, to keep the hospital among the best in America. She had previously been the CEO of PROMINA Health System and CFO of DeKalb Medical Center. In 2006, Phipps was called to Baltimore to head St. Agnes Healthcare and Providence Hospital in Washington, D.C.

87

CAA sports. The Panthers belong to the Colonial Athletic Association. The strong league has won four national football championships (FCS Division) in the last seven years and sent an all-time NCAA record five teams into the postseason two years ago. CAA members have earned multiple NCAA football bids for 19 consecutive years and 33 total bids in the last 10 years. In NCAA basketball, George Mason advanced to the Final Four in 2006, capturing the national spotlight. Mason beat Georgia State in OT in the CAA Tournament that year.



PANTHERS

88

Madame Speaker. Master's degree holder **Jan Jones (photo right)** became the most powerful woman in the history of the Georgia Legislature when she was elected the Speaker Pro Tempore in January, 2010. Jones (MBA, '82) shattered the glass ceiling in a place where more than 80 percent of the Legislature are still males. Former House Speaker Glenn Richardson, a GSU alum as well, served from 2007-2009.



89

Center of town, zero mile post. Through G Deck parking and just across the railroad tracks behind the Sports Arena is the Georgia Freight Depot. The remaining one-story building of the Freight Depot, built in the 1870s, still stands and is the oldest building in central Atlanta. In the area at the base of the Freight Depot is the Zero Mile Post of the train line, marking the beginning point.

90



Ken Rodriguez

Buck Lanford



Talking sports. Turn on a local Atlanta TV station and you'll get information from a lot of former Georgia State students. FOX 5 has a pair of sports anchors in Ken Rodriguez and Buck Lanford. On WSB 2 (ABC), former Panther Chuck Dowdle served as the Sports Director for decades before retiring in 2010, but still does work with the Atlanta Braves broadcasts. Turn on to Comcast Cable TV (CSS) and listen to Matt Stewart do sports talk shows or play-by-play of countless events. Or, turn on a radio and you will hear the morning drive host of WSB Radio, Georgia State alum Scott Slade. Georgia State's own voice, Dave Cohen, has worked in Atlanta sports for decades and is an alum of GSU as well. Multiple others are behind the scenes handling the details of radio and television.

91

A slam dunk. The Sports Arena has played host to two **ESPN Slam Dunk and Three-Point competitions (photo right)** during the weeks of the two NCAA Final Four championships. The major TV event is shown live and on replays with celebrities in town cheering the contestants from schools across the country.



92

His honor, the mayor. Georgia State alum Sam Massell has served as the mayor of Atlanta, was on the board of MARTA and on the board for the 1996 Olympics. He was the founding president of the Buckhead Coalition, a prestigious association of CEOs which guides the growth of one of Atlanta's most vibrant business districts. He is in Georgia Trend Magazine's "Most Influential Georgians Hall of Fame."

93

Chocolate lovers. Georgia State alumni are allowed to be candy and chocolate lovers in support of former Hershey's President and CEO Richard Lenny. His career, which included positions as president of Nabisco and Pillsbury North America, earned him the rank of one of the 30 "World's Most Respected CEOs" by a national publication.

GEORGIA STATE

94

Study Plans. The Library (photo right) has undergone a **\$20 million renovation.** The Quiet Study Room on the fifth floor was designed at students' request to provide more than 50 carrels with power and wireless Internet for individual study. The Learning Commons integrates technology, writing and English as a second language expert assistance.



95

Ready for you. The remodeled Georgia State Bookstore is stocked and ready with all the textbooks and supplies necessary. They're ready with Panthers officially-licensed merchandise and Blue and White school color apparel.



96

Newest Dorm and Dining. The Freshman Dorm with a dining hall opened on Piedmont Street, just two blocks from the Sports Arena, for the start of school in 2009. The 325-bed facility with suite-style floor plans increases the total number of on-campus school beds to 3,000.



97

Coach Curry Into Hall of Fame: Football head coach Bill Curry was inducted into the Atlanta Sports Hall of Fame on June 12, 2010, right here on campus at the Rialto Center. Curry was in this year's class with Atlanta Braves' future Hall of Fame pitcher Tom Glavine, PGA golf star Larry Nelson, and Georgia High School football coaching legend Buck Godfrey. Curry is already in the State of Georgia Sports Hall of Fame.

