



ATLANTA METROPOLITAN STATE COLLEGE

Office of Communications • 1630 Metropolitan Parkway, SW • Atlanta, Georgia 30310

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 30, 2018

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AMSC's University System Academic Recognition Day Honoree Celebrated Along with Other High Achieving Students During Annual Honors Day

Atlanta (Mar. 30) – On his day off, Antonio McGaha sits in the campus library at a computer conducting research. He's early for his 2:30 PM appointment with the AMSC Office of Communications. His shirt reads: "perseverance is better than quitting." It is but one of the quotes he collects that guides this year's University System of Georgia (USG) Academic Recognition Day honoree from Atlanta Metropolitan State College (AMSC).

Atlanta Metropolitan wasn't McGaha's first turn at seeking a college degree. Over two decades ago, he began his college career. Due to unforeseen circumstances, he was not able to complete his studies. When he decided to return to college, he chose AMSC. McGaha is a junior social work major with a 4.0 grade point average (GPA). He's a member of the Kappa Delta Pi international honor society in education and on the dean's list.

"Being a father, working full-time, and taking full-time courses has been a lot of hard work. It gives me a great sense of accomplishment," said McGaha when speaking on being recognized for Academic Recognition Day. "The greatest thing about it is showing my son, who is in school now, that even at my age it can be done."

To be recognized as the institution's representative for USG Academic Recognition Day, students are nominated by faculty and the finalist is chosen by a small group of faculty and advisors. Not only are students chosen for their academic achievement, student involvement matters as well. McGaha, who is 39 years old, currently works with special needs students, and wants to be a community social worker upon completion of college. He also volunteers with young men of color teaching them life skills in a program called Social Boys which would be his blueprint for the not-for-profit he wants to start.

The USG annually recognizes a student from each of its 26 institutions to be honored at the University System Office during a monthly meeting of the Board of Regents. Students, along with their respective college presidents, are invited to a luncheon with the Chancellor and USG staff.

About Atlanta Metropolitan State College:

Founded in 1974, Atlanta Metropolitan State College – a four-year institution located in the heart of Atlanta, Georgia – offers bachelor's and associates degrees, as well as some certificates, in 42 programs of study, including business, mathematics and computer science; humanities and fine arts; natural sciences and social sciences. Atlanta Metro serves the needs of all of its students through a traditional day program, a Morning, Evening, and Weekend College, and online. For more information, please visit: atlm.edu.



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At AMSC, the USG Academic Recognition Day honoree is recognized at the annual Honors Day ceremony. The celebration honors Atlanta Metropolitan students who have earned academic distinction. Honors Day participants have achieved the dean's list, highest and high academic honors, and division honors. Also recognized are inductees into various academic honor societies. This year's theme, "Our Academic Success Distinguishes Us," is indicative of what truly makes AMSC a jewel of the city in higher education – its students.

Division honors students must have completed 12 major hours and earned 30 credit hours at Atlanta Metropolitan with at least a 3.5 GPA as of fall 2017. Dean's list students must have earned a semester GPA of 3.5 or more during spring and/or fall 2017 and earned at least 9 credit hours in non-learning support courses. High honors students must have earned at least 27 credit hours at AMSC and maintained a 3.5 – 3.79 GPA. Highest honors students must have earned at least 27 credit hours at Atlanta Metropolitan and maintained a 3.8 – 4.0 GPA.

Honors Day will take place on April 10th at 10:15 AM in the Physical Education Complex.



Pictured: Antonio McGaha, AMSC USG Academic Recognition Day Honoree.

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