Originally established as Atlanta Junior College in 1974, the college became the thirty-first institution of the University System of Georgia with an initial enrollment of 504 students. The name of the institution was officially changed to Atlanta Metropolitan College during the 1987-1988 academic year and to Atlanta Metropolitan State College in 2012. Atlanta Metropolitan State College offers a unique campus environment for its students. The college is located within the city of Atlanta, which boats an urban population of approximately 3.4 million, a thriving economy, and an international outlook with all the cultural resources of a thriving metropolitan area.

**Mission**

Atlanta Metropolitan State College (AMSC) is a four-year unit of the University System of Georgia, offering day, evening, weekend, and online courses. The college is located in the southwest area of the city of Atlanta, and is positioned on an expansive beautifully landscaped campus. It is also conveniently accessible via MARTA (Atlanta’s public transportation system). Atlanta Metropolitan State College provides a unique campus atmosphere for its students, offering degree programs in more than 46 areas of study.

AMSC is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. It also has a rich history that is tied to the city of Atlanta for which it is named. The academic programs and services offered by the college are high in quality, comprehensive and unique. Associate of Science and Associate of Arts transfer programs are available along with a Joint Enrollment Program and an Honors Program. The courses and programs at AMSC are accessible, affordable and available seven days a week. In addition to traditional college courses, we also offer classes through a Morning, Evening and Weekend College.

Students find their niche participating in dozens of wholesome honorary, professional and social clubs and organizations, including Student Government Association, Phi Theta Kappa, College Choir, the International Students Organization and the AMSC student newspaper, *The Student Times*. In addition, Atlanta Metropolitan State College has a strong record in intercollegiate athletics and holds four championships in the Georgia Junior College Athletic Association Conference for men’s basketball.

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**Senior Administration**

Gary A. McGaha, Ph.D.  
President

Mr. Larion M. Williams  
Vice President for Institutional Advancement

Dr. Mark A. Cunningham  
Vice President for Institutional Effectiveness

Dr. Cynthia D. Evers  
Vice President for Student Affairs

Dr. Michael Heard  
Vice President for Academic Affairs

Mr. Freddie L. Johnson  
Vice President for Fiscal Affairs

Director of Media Relations and Communications:  
Sheila Tenney

Photographer:  
Carl Johnson

Printer:  
Martino-White Printing, Inc.
Dear Atlanta Metropolitan State College Family and Friends,

On May 8th, we said farewell to the largest graduating class in Atlanta Metropolitan State College (AMSC) history, but more importantly, we welcomed them into the growing ranks of Trailblazers. At commencement, I thanked our graduates for their passion to learn, the need to serve, the need to give back and impact others.

AMSC continues to be a major economic and educational engine as we continue to make a difference in this community, the city of Atlanta and the state of Georgia. Each year, we build on a stellar reputation and expand the impact that AMSC has on a growing student population, area employers, organizations, and communities. This past year, AMSC was approved to offer the Bachelors of Business Administration (BBA) to compliment a growing number of four year degree programs.

The College is seeing the fruits of the commitment to holistically educating students and future leaders and working collaboratively with community partners to cut new pathways to the future. We will not retreat from these endeavors and will continue to seek and build high quality programs for students, promote alumni, seek meaningful and measurable partnerships with the community and friends in the public and private sectors.

As President, I believe that the challenge of maintaining institutional excellence and quality, in the face of limited budgets, provides an opportunity for us to be creative and unrelenting in determining what is essential to our mission, to use the resources acquired wisely, and to find alternative ways to fund the core purposes of the institution. A major goal of the institution will continue to be improving the Atlanta community by educating residents who attend Atlanta Metropolitan State College.

As in the past, this Annual Report offers a limited but expanding report of some of the accomplishments and milestones from the previous academic year. Thank you for your continued support for our students and AMSC as the future remains bright for this important and vital institution of higher learning.

Very best regards,

Gary A. McGaha, Ph.D.
President
On behalf of Atlanta Metropolitan State College President Gary A. McGaha, Ph.D., the Atlanta Metropolitan College Foundation, Inc., the students that attend this great institution, the administrative cabinet, the outstanding faculty, and staff, “Thank You” for your support for AMSC this past academic year. Your investment is greatly appreciated. As a result of your financial support, this vital institution of higher learning continues to reach new levels of success in enrollment, academic programs, student support services, and community partnerships.

The Honor Roll of Donors consists of all contributors who made donations to Atlanta Metropolitan State College (AMSC) and/or The Atlanta Metropolitan College Foundation, Inc. from July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015.

Every effort has been made to include all gifts and donors to the College or The AMC Foundation, Inc. during this period. However, if your name is not listed, we sincerely apologize for any inadvertent errors or omissions that may have occurred.

Thanks again for your continued financial support and vote of confidence in our work on behalf of the deserving students that attend this institution.

Very best regards,

Vice President for Institutional Advancement & Executive Director – AMC Foundation, Inc.
Organizations and Corporations

$100-$1,000
AMSC Alumni Association
Corinth Missionary Baptist Church
Greater Atlanta Economic Alliance
Hendessi & Associates
Hillsman, Inc.
METROPOWER, Inc.
Network for Good

$1,001-$3,000
AIRMA, Inc.
Atlanta Job Corps Center
Atlanta Neighborhood Development Partnership, Inc.
Capitol City Bank & Trust Company
Citizens Trust Bank
Chick-fil-A, Inc.
Delta Air Lines, Inc.
Emory Health Care
Georgia Power Company
New Calvary Missionary Baptist Church
Positive American Youth, Inc.
Publix Super Markets Charities, Inc.
Quiktrip Corporation
Sigma Gamma Rho, ETA Sigma Chapter
Southwest Airlines
United Way of Greater Atlanta
Willie A. Watkins Funeral Home, Inc.

$3,001-$5,000
Amerigroup Corporation
BB&T Bank
Follett Higher Education Group
Pepsi Beverages Company
Rumph & Associates

$5,001-$10,000
Wells Fargo

$10,001-$24,000
United Way of Greater Atlanta

Foundations

$150-$1,500
AD King Foundation, Inc.
AMC Foundation, Inc.
AT&T Foundation
Georgia Power Foundation

$1,501-$10,000
Davis Family Foundation
Georgia Pacific Foundation
James & Celest Dallas Foundation
McMillan USG Foundation Achievement Scholarship
Pepsico Foundation
Wines & Spirits Wholesalers of GA Foundation

$10,001-$30,000
USG Foundation, Inc.

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- Gary McGaha
- Elridge McMillan
- Tom and Freda Rumph

#### $25,000
- Anonymous
VINCE T. FLEETWOOD
Unit Sales Manager / General Manager

Vince Fleetwood currently serves as the Unit Sales Manager (GM) of Pepsi Beverages Company facility located in Athens, GA. He began his position as Pepsi’s Unit Sales Manager in October 2012.

Mr. Fleetwood has more than two decades of experience in the beverage industry – all with Pepsi. Vince joined the Pepsi team in August 1994 and has held a variety of sales and operational positions in different locations around the Georgia area. Mr. Fleetwood’s responsibilities and influence extends throughout all areas of the organization including strategic planning and execution, product launch and development, and people leadership. He has received notable awards such as “District Sales Leader of the Year”, 2004- 2007. Vince was recognized in 2007 as one of the top 10 DSLs within Pepsi South East Region “Top Ten Club”. Among other awards, Vince received the “ACE” (Aspire, Commit, Excel) award in 2008 and 2010. He has achieved success through understanding the importance of having strong teams that embrace the importance of striving for greatness DAILY.

Currently, Mr. Fleetwood is responsible for the Athens facility day-to-day leadership and general management of the company which is responsible for 2.8M cases, $30M Revenue, and $7.2M NOPBT which service 15 counties. Under his leadership, Pepsi (Athens) has been able to consistently achieve year over year growth. He has been able to drive a healthy P&L all 3 years that he has been in this role.

Mr. Fleetwood is no stranger to Atlanta as he is an Atlanta native. He graduated from Lakeshore High School in 1987. He continued his studies and graduated from Atlanta Metropolitan with an Associates of Business degree. He currently resides in Lawrenceville, GA with his wife and three boys. In his spare time he is a sports enthusiast, youth league football and basketball coach, and frequently finds himself speaking to the youth about his road to success. If it wasn’t for God by his side . . .
Atlanta Metropolitan State College (AMSC) continues to be a major economic engine in the city of Atlanta, pumping $102 million into the Atlanta metropolitan economy during Fiscal Year 2014, according to a study conducted by the Selig Center for Economic Growth in the University of Georgia’s Terry College of Business. The $102 million represents a 2.00% increase for AMSC since the FY 2013 report.

In addition to the $102 million in total economic impact generated by AMSC during FY 2014, the study determined that Atlanta Metropolitan State College is responsible for 1,038 full-and part-time jobs, up from 984 from the previous year. From these positions, 283 positions, or 27 percent, are on-campus jobs while 73 percent, are private or public-sector jobs.

The report quantifies the economic advantages and significant benefits that AMSC conveys to metropolitan Atlanta and Fulton County. The $102 million represents the economic impact of spending by Atlanta Metropolitan State College, its faculty, staff, and students who attended the institution in FY 2014.

“Atlanta Metropolitan State College continues to be an educational and economic asset to the metropolitan area,” said Gary A. McGaha, Ph.D., President of AMSC. “The report continues to emphasize the consistent growth, and financial stability that AMSC brings to the region during this period of economic recovery.”

Economic Highlights

Total Economic Impact:  $102 million.
Employment Impact:  1,038 jobs. On avg. $1 million in initial spending generates 14 additional jobs.
Labor Income Generated:  $45 million, an increase from $43 million.
Personal Services:  Faculty/Staff spending supports 398 jobs, up from 389
Student Spending:  Supports 507 jobs which is an increase from 466 jobs.

Established in 1974, Atlanta Metropolitan State College is a four-year unit of the University System of Georgia, and the College is fully accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS).
CollegeFish is an interactive website enabling community college students to successfully transfer to a senior institution. Chapter President (2014-2015) Janet Walker is emphatic about Atlanta Metropolitan State College (AMSC) students connecting to this site and has encouraged them to use CollegeFish to search for schools and scholarships, as well as mentored them in the process of creating a profile. On our college campus she has setup tables with give-a-way bags containing helpful CollegeFish information and reminders and she has posted flyers and posters around and in the Office of Student Activities and placed baby Ike’s and bookmarks in the cashier windows in the Business Office, the President’s Office, the Library, and the Registrar’s Office. She also set up display tables in all of the buildings on campus.

But that wasn’t enough for Ms. Walker. She has facilitated trainings and workshops on CollegeFish at the chapter, regional and international levels. On the chapter level, Janet organizes and leads training sessions at least twice every semester. On the regional level, she makes sure a CollegeFish display table and items are available for any chapter that needs them and offers training and guidance. In fact, Janet has been nicknamed “The CollegeFish Lady.” One time she gave her CollegeFish supplies to a new chapter. In addition, Janet joined advisor, Michelle Geisert, at a training session for new advisors held summer 2014 at Georgia Military College in Milledgeville, GA where she provided an informative and well received session on CollegeFish. At the international level, Janet has attended a number of CollegeFish webinars and volunteered at the CollegeFish Booth at the 2014 NerdNation in Orlando. She is proud to support this part of Phi Theta Kappa and, for her amazing enthusiasm, her chapter, with the support of the region, nominated her to Phi Theta Kappa International Headquarters where she received one of five CollegeFish Fanatic Awards at the Annual Convention held in San Antonio. We are very proud of our very own CollegeFish Lady. To learn more about CollegeFish, just look for Janet and Ike around campus or head to collegefish.org.
Five members of Beta Beta Tau participated in the Georgia Regional Service Project at the Spring 2015 Conference. Members collected and brought items for packaging and sending to service men and women overseas. We each wrote a personal note of thanks to be included in the boxes. The service people were thrilled to receive the care boxes.

Georgia Regional Selfie at the Annual Convention in San Antonio

Georgia Regional Phi Theta Kappa President Gerald Andre, Chapter Officer Nicolas Vaz, and Chapter Advisor Michelle Geisert attended the 2015 Phi Theta Kappa Annual Convention in San Antonio, Texas. During the Awards Ceremony on Saturday evening, it was announced that Beta Beta Tau Chapter was named one of the Top 100 Chapters for the second consecutive year based on combined scores on the Honors in Action Research and College Projects. A second award was presented to Dr. Curtis Todd, PTK Advisor and Beta Beta Tau alumnus, where he received a Phi Theta Kappa International Alumni Appreciation Award. A third award was given to Chapter President, Janet Walker, where she was named one of five CollegeFish Fanatics. CollegeFish is an online program where college students can register to be connected with scholarships at baccalaureate awarding colleges. It was an exciting night for the chapter and the Georgia region.
eta Beta Tau hosted the inaugural Georgia Regional Phi Theta Kappa Bootcamp July 2015 to regional members. The day long session provided training in the Honors in Action and College Projects as well as achieving Five Star Status and enrolling in CollegeFish and was a joint effort with Regional and chapter officers from Georgia Highlands College and Atlanta Metropolitan State College. We hope to raise the research and writing skills of members as well as make the region more competitive internationally.

Janet Walker, 2014-15 Chapter President, Ready To Sign in Bootcamp Participants
Beta Beta Tau has been very busy on campus this past year. We partnered with the AMP Board and the Psychology Club to bring important programming to Atlanta Metropolitan State College (AMSC.) Our events included Quests of Human Expression: Tattooing As Body Art, Title IX and Sexual Misconduct on College Campuses, and our second Annual Anti-Bullying Panel. We were named a top 100 chapter at the Annual Convention in San Antonio in April 2015 for these events and we plan to continue with more programs this year.
AWARDS RECEIVED AT THE 2015 GEORGIA REGIONAL CONVENTION

Chapter Awards
Honors In Action, Theme 3: Quests of Human Expression:
Tattooing as Body Art
Beta Beta Tau, Atlanta Metropolitan State College

Honors In Action, Top Scoring Chapter across all themes
Beta Beta Tau, Atlanta Metropolitan State College

College Project: Title IX and Sexual Misconduct on College Campuses
Beta Beta Tau, Atlanta Metropolitan State College

Distinguished Chapter of the Region Award for top scoring chapter in combined scores of Honors in Action and College Projects
Beta Beta Tau, Atlanta Metropolitan State College

Member, Officer, and Advisor Awards
Distinguished Chapter Officer
Janet M. Walker

Individual Regional Awards
Georgia Hall of Honor
Samuel Yeomans, 2014-2015 Chapter Vice President

Sarah Anne Staples Award
Janet M. Walker, 2014-2015 Chapter President

Georgia Distinguished Alumnus
Dr. Curtis Todd, AMSC and Chapter Alumnus, Chapter Advisor

Georgia Distinguished Administrator
Dr. Cynthia Evers, Vice President of Student Affairs

The chapter also received two scholarships to the 2015 Honors Institute at University of New Mexico in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Awards Received at the 2015 International Convention
Distinguished Alumnus
Dr. Curtis Todd, AMSC and Chapter Alumnus, Chapter Advisor

Top 100 Chapters for our combined scores combined scores on the Honors In Action topic (The Art of Expression: Tattooing as Body Art) and the College Project (Title IX and Sexual Misconduct on College Campuses.)

Janet Walker, The 2015 Collegefish Transfer Triumph Award (one of five in the Community College Student category) for her outstanding innovation, advocacy, and ambassadorship at the chapter, regional, and international levels on teaching, training, and helping students, staff and advisors at collegefish.org.

5 Star Status for the eighth consecutive year.
First, the Educational Opportunity Center would like to thank the Atlanta Metropolitan State College for its continued support. Armed with our mission and a super staff, EOC has fulfilled each of its major objectives for the past twelve years. We pledge to continue to be strong partners with all of our participants and stakeholders. Our stakeholders have been excellent in providing us with the support we need to assist our participants in pursuing their educational endeavors.

Educational Opportunity Center of Atlanta Metropolitan State College is a federally funded grant program from the United States Department of Education. The program was funded $230,000.00 to assist 1000 participants from Upson, Lamar, Spalding, and Pike Counties. We will continue to strive for academic excellence as we offer our participants the best in customer service while obtaining their educational goals and options.

The need for the Educational Opportunity Center is clearly validated by 1) a high percentage of residents who dropped out of high school-31.4%; 2) an extremely low college-going rate-16.4%; and, 3) the high number of families in the target areas with income below 150% of the poverty level-58.3%. Therefore, with great pride, the Educational Opportunity Center is proud to announce that during the academic recruiting year, it was successful in selecting and serving the educational needs of its 1000 participants. Participants who were interested in enrolling in post-secondary education, an adult literacy program, needed career information and guidance, financial and economic literacy, financial aid, mentoring, tutoring, academic and personal counseling, and course selection, received assistance from the willing staff at the Educational Opportunity Center. Exceptionally rewarding, the Annual Performance Report to the Department of Education revealed that the Educational Opportunity Center exceeded its goals in meeting all four mandatory objectives. These ambitious but attainable objectives address the needs of our participants in the target areas. 85.8% of the Educational Opportunity Center participants’ population is both low-income and first generation college students.

Together with our dedicated and committed partners in education, we hosted a series of Financial Aid/Scholarship Awareness Workshops (one of the workshops was held in conjunction with the Georgia Student Finance Commission at Griffin High School and Spalding High School). As a result of this and other workshops at the high schools, 185 College Admissions and Financial Aid applications were completed and 153 High School Seniors were accepted into postsecondary institutions.

Additionally, we hosted a series of Financial and Economic Literacy Seminars in conjunction with local banks and lending institutions. In an effort to better equip our participants for college and beyond, the Educational Opportunity Center also provided the following workshops: Career Awareness, Resume Writing, Goal Planning, Decision Making, Preparing and Succeeding in College, College Matters, Motivating the Adult Learner, Proven Successful Test Taking and Study Skills, Federal Loan Default/Rehabilitation, Stress and Time Management, and Dress for Success.
The Educational Opportunity Center assisted participants with various postsecondary educational requirements such as ACT/SAT Preparation, Completing FAFSA, Completing College Applications, and GED/Adult Literacy Preparation. We also host career readiness services to inmates at the Griffin and Williamson Diversion Centers, Workforce Development Centers, Department of Labor, Family and Children Services, Housing Authorities, and Public Health Departments.

The Educational Opportunity Center joined forces with the Southern Crescent Technical College in Thomaston and Griffin Georgia on March 24-25, 2015 to host two of the largest Self-Empowerment Expos in our target area. Students and potential students from Clayton, Henry, Taylor, Talbot, Monroe, Butts, and Fayette Counties along with Upson, Lamar, Spalding, and Pike Counties took total advantage of the many services offered during the Expo. Representatives from Gordon State College were in attendance to answer questions and provide additional counseling to those students who wish to obtain Associate and/or Bachelor’s Degrees.

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Three of the Educational Opportunity Center former participants and recent post-secondary graduates were fortunate enough to attend the Alumni Reception and STEM Conference held at the Atlanta Metropolitan State College on April 17-18, 2015. These former participants were afforded the opportunity to meet and exchange meaningful dialogue with other former participants, TRIO students, program directors, and educational and community leaders. We believe these participants and students will establish a lifelong friendship that will prove to be helpful throughout their academic and personal careers.

The Educational Opportunity Center provided monthly workshops for students at the Upson Lee Learning Academy. These students have dropped out of regular high school and returned under alternate educational plans. The tailored workshops allow students to receive personal and educational counseling that fosters exceptional behavior propelling them toward obtaining postsecondary education.

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Our staff attended professional development trainings hosted by Georgia Association of Special Programs Personnel, National Educational Opportunity Center Association, Southeastern Association of Educational Opportunity Program Personnel, and Council for Opportunity in Education. Eagerly, the Educational Opportunity Center Staff took the challenge and committed themselves to better serving their participants. Topics of discussion included new legislation and regulations, policies and procedures, the latest in technology, and many other topics that will assure TRIO personnel’s success as we continue to work with participants and students.

Participants especially enjoyed seeing the living facilities and eating in the cafeteria with the other college students.

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TRIO PROGRAMS

The “Summer Connection” Seminar held at the Monroe G. Worthy Educational Complex was a huge success. Over 200 participants and potential participants were exposed to various educational and cultural community resources. Guess speakers and vendors delighted our participants as they shared their expertise and inspired them to pursue their academic goals and objectives. As a result of this seminar, participants have found employment, housing, and educational access. The attendees were overwhelmed with delight and gratitude as they received valuable information that we believe will equipped them with lifelong skills.

The Educational Opportunity Center busy but rewarding academic year, culminated with a fantastic summer college tour to New York City and our nation’s capital Washington, DC. Participants toured and received valuable postsecondary admission and financial aid information from Howard University, Seton Hall University, Manhattan College, and Rutgers University. Our participants were overwhelmed with knowledge as they visited the White House, M. L. King Jr., WWII, Jefferson, FDR, and Lincoln Memorials, Washington Monument, Capital Building, Smithsonian Institute, and the National Museum of Natural History in Washington and the 911 Memorial, Staten Island Ferry to view the Statue of Liberty, Rockefeller Center, Empire State Building, Central Park, Strawberry Fields, Grand Central Station, and the Alice in Wonderland Sculpture. Just for fun, the participants also attended a Broadway Play “Finding Neverland, in beautiful Times Square and “Amateur Night” at the Apollo.

Thank you to everyone who played an active part in successfully assisting the Educational Opportunity Center with another great year of counseling and providing information on college admissions to qualified adults who entered and/or continued a program of postsecondary education.

Educational Talent Search
Small Program Makes Big Impact

- Educational Talent served 600 students in 2014-2015
- Recruited 60 new middle and high school students
- Reviewed over 100 new student applications
- Provided a Career Focused Summer Enrichment for 50 middle school students
- Provided an Educational and Cultural trip to NYC for 30 students
- Provided over 100 college application fee waivers to TS seniors
- Provided over 100 SAT/ACT waivers to TS juniors and seniors
- Participated in the Saint Phillips Church Annual STEM Workshop with 50 middle school students
- Completed over 50 FAFSA applications
- Provided over 800 free summer meals to TS students
- Provided college admission assistance for over 60 students
- Provided career exploration for over 300 students
- Facilitated college tours for over 90 students
- Reviewed over 900 student report cards and transcripts
In July 2015, U.S. Department of Education awarded Atlanta Metropolitan State College an additional 5 year grant for Student Support Services Program. This new award will ensure that Student Support Services will continue to serve 140 selected students until 2020. The participants received academic tutoring, advice and assistance in postsecondary course selection, assistance with information on both the full range of student financial aid programs; benefits and resources for locating public and private scholarships; and assistance in completing financial aid applications. The goal of SSS is to increase the college retention and graduation rates of its participants. This federally funded grant was subsidized by the United States Department of Education for this past year in the amount of $220,000.00.

- 83% of participants served by SSS project met the performance level required to stay in good academic standing at Atlanta Metropolitan State College.

- 82% of all participants served by SSS project have persisted from one academic year to the beginning of the next academic year or have graduated during the academic year.

- 77% of the SSS participants are low-income, first generation college students and/or students with disabilities.
2014-2015 Thomaston Upward Bound Program

The 2014-2015 academic year was a dynamic one for the Thomaston Upward Bound (TUB) program. We served 56 students including 21 seniors. Both the students and parents initiated an academic plan of action that will continue to aid the students in graduation and college matriculation. Seven of our students participated in the Move On When Ready program at either Gordon State College or Southern Crescent Technical College.

During the year, TUB offered over 250 hours of tutoring to our students and 150 hours of academic instruction during in the summer. The staff spent over 400 hours in academic counseling and advisement. Our students also toured nine colleges and participated in several cultural events like our mentoring initiatives, Poised for Purpose and Succeed Like a Man. Students also collaborated with local organizations, Dissipating Disparities, Inc. and the Emancipation Proclamation Committee to volunteer for community events.

One of our students, Sterling Neill, graduated with a dual Associates degree in Science and Art from Gordon State. Sterling is a 2015 recipient of the Gates Millennium Scholarship and will be attending Mercer University in Macon, Georgia. She also participated in the Summer Bridge program at Gordon State.

Thomaston Upward Bound had 38 scholars who participated in the Summer Enrichment Program with 35 being residential on the Gordon State campus. Twenty of our graduates were accepted into an institution of higher learning with several students receiving merit based and local scholarships to assist them in their costs of attendance.
The AMSC Upward Bound Program

The AMSC Upward Bound Program is a federally funded program that serves low income, first generation students. The primary purpose of the Upward Bound Program (UB) is to provide students with the motivation and assistance to attend and graduate from a post-secondary institution. The UB program recruits participants from 10 target high schools located in Clayton and Fulton Counties. The UB program is composed of three separate grants that serve a total of 210 participants.

The Upward Bound staff has been actively serving participants through an array of programs and events during the 2014-2015 academic year. The program sponsored special weekend retreats for each grade level of participants to provide intense assistance in college-readiness activities such as how to choose a college, college tours, financial aid guidance as well as motivational speakers. The staff has prepared 39 college-ready participants in the graduating class of 2015; twenty one (21) of the graduates participated in the summer Bridge Program by taking courses at AMSC during the summer of 2015. Eleven (11) of the graduates will continued their education at AMSC this fall. Also, the UB graduates of 2015 earned over $250,000 in scholarships for college.

Our Upward Bound participants in grades 9 -11 have a variety of positive opportunities provided by the program. Thirty three (33) participated in the summer work study program on campus at AMSC, which provided the students with job shadowing, career information, and money for school. Five (5) students participated in the AMSC Dual Enrollment Program in which they earned college credit. Also, 115 students participated in the Upward Bound Summer Academy which provided academic enrichment in math, science, English, foreign language, and other courses as well as weeklong educational/cultural trip to Washington, DC in July.
Drs. Curtis L. Todd, Kokila Ravi, Harry Akoh, and Vance Gray presented at the 8th Annual – 2015 Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) Conference and subsequently published their research findings in The Online Journal of Distance Learning Administration. SoTL, the premiere conference on the scholarship and teaching for higher education was held at the Coastal Georgia Center in Savannah from March 25th – 27th. Attendees came from across the United States and eight foreign countries.

The AMSC team presented their research, course development, instructional experiences, and scholarship focused on adult learners and online education. Their presentation “The Development of an Online Adult Learner-Focused Program: Rewards and Opportunities” was well received and garnered broad-based attendance from conference participants. The presentation endeavored to examine holistically a number of issues; First, online and adult learner-focused courses address some of the pressing needs facing institutions of higher learning and students: access, convenience, quality and rigor, and enhanced instructional strategies to meet the needs of adult learners re-entering college. Second, increased demands for online degree programs and courses that offer the flexibility and convenience suited to the competing demands on adult learners’ time, and the need to provide robust courses and programs anchored in evidence based practices designed to improve and enhance teaching effectiveness to meet established student learning outcomes. One way AMSC has sought to meet this need is with the development of an online adult learner-focused program. The peer-reviewed journal article also examined these issues, as well as evaluated various aspects of the College’s online adult learner-focused programming activities and levels of student satisfaction.

Dr. Todd is an Associate Professor of Social Work. Dr. Ravi is the Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs and Coordinator of Distance Education. She also serves as the Prior Learning Assessment Director and Institutional Representative for Quality Matters. Dr. Akoh is an Assistant Professor of History and serves as the Department Head for the Division of Social Sciences. Dr. Gray is Interim Dean for Social Sciences and Assistant Professor of Political Science.
Summer 2015, Atlanta Metropolitan State College (AMSC) launched its first campus-wide student Internship Program. The primary mission of the AMCS Internship Program is to provide students learning experiences that integrate classroom knowledge and theory with practical application and skill development, in a professional environment. Moreover, students are afforded opportunities to explore career possibilities, gain valuable experience, develop marketable skills, and establish networking and professional relationships with potential future employers. Students have shown overwhelmingly positive support of the AMSC Internship Program, with numerous applications being submitted within days of publishing the internship program on the AMSC website. “Internships are an essential part of my strategy for achieving career goals. My family assisted me in researching to find internships. I am also thankful for the support AMSC provided me in finding internships,” says Benjamin Allen, a former AMSC Pre-Engineering major and former MARTA intern.

The AMSC Internship Program spans a wide range of internship types and variations. The College partners with various corporations, businesses, community/non-profit organizations, and municipalities to offer substantive, career-oriented internships, covering the gamut of career needs and aspirations of students. In addition, students may select from either paid internships or those that award academic credit. Research shows that at least 65% of students who obtain meaningful career jobs have some form of internship experience on their resume, and that internships are the fastest growing method that companies use for “vetting” or interviewing for future employment, particularly for high paying positions.

The AMSC Internship Program is an institutional effort. The program is governed by a campus-wide Committee, with representatives from each of the five departments on campus: Academic Affairs, Fiscal Affairs, Institutional Advancement, Institutional Effectiveness, and Student Affairs. The AMSC Office of Special Programs, a unit of Institutional Effectiveness, manages the internship program, which includes maintaining the internship website, processing student applications, and implementing the array of services that students receive who are enrolled in the internship program, including: (1) access to a database of internship postings, (2) resume building, (2) business etiquette training, and (4) faculty/staff mentorship, offered throughout the internship to ensure success. The Internship Program has been designed to support students’ academic, professional, and personal interests through carefully vetted placement and application processes for both interns and internship sites. To qualify for the AMSC Internship Program, students must have the following minimum eligibility requirements: (1) currently enrolled AMSC student, (students must remain enrolled throughout the internship), (2) sophomore or above (meaning earned a minimum of 30 credit hours), (3) good academic standing; maintain a minimum grade point average (GPA) of at least 2.5, and (4) report to and work with an internship advisor or mentor throughout the process. In addition to the AMSC internship eligibility requirements, students must meet the requirements set by potential employers.

For more information about the AMSC Internship Program and how to apply, students contact the Office of Special Programs, internships@atlm.edu, via phone at 678-623-1281, or visit atlm.edu/internships.aspx. The Office of Special Programs is located in L-206. Potential internship sponsors are invited to contact the Office of Special Programs to develop new internship opportunities for students.
On Wednesday, April 15, 2015 at the University System of Georgia Board of Regents meeting; Atlanta Metropolitan State College received approval for the establishment of a Bachelor of Business Administration (B.B.A.), effective April 15, 2015.

The new B.B.A. program allows AMSC students to complete a baccalaureate degree in Business Administration, rather than requiring students to transfer after completing an associate’s degree. Students in the program receive a solid foundation in the basis of business administration and management.

Through guided elective courses, the B.B.A. program provides students the opportunity to pursue specific areas of interest by collaborating with AMSC’s existing campus programs. Students who desire to pursue management positions in Digital and Entertainment industries have the opportunity to take at least two courses from the Digital and Entertainment Design program currently being offered in the Division of Humanities and Fine Arts. Students interested in entrepreneurship careers have the opportunity to take three courses in entrepreneurship. They also have access to resources existing within the AMSC Center for Entrepreneurship. The Center for Entrepreneurship provides assistance in writing business plans and opportunities for professional internship placement and other applied experiences.

AMSC is the only access institution within the University System of Georgia (USG) in the Metropolitan Atlanta area offering a baccalaureate degree in Business Administration that prepares students to pursue employment or graduate work in business management. Program courses draw from existing AMSC programs within the Division of Business and Computer Science and the Division of Humanities and Fine Arts. A three credit hour Internship/Co-op is required of all students in the BBA program. The primary delivery method for the BBA degree program is the “face-to-face” format. Other formats and technological methods are utilized, including hybrid and online courses to provide flexibility in scheduling.
AMSC Women’s Basketball team finished 4th in the Conference with a 1st Team All-Conference Selection, Ta’Asia Wright. Ta’Asia Wright was also voted freshman of the Year in the Conference.

The 2014-2015 Women’s Basketball team was comprised of all freshmen. All will be returning as sophomores for the upcoming season.

AMSC Men’s Basketball team finished 4th in the Conference with two All-Conference Selections, Carnilious Simmons was the Conference leading rebounder, finishing third in the nation in rebounding. He was voted to the All-Conference Team. Carnilious Simmons and Brice Booker were voted to the 1st Team All-Conference Freshman Team. Antoine Hurst graduated this spring and will be attending Coastal College. Glenn Holloway, early signee, will be attending Alabama State University this fall.

AMSC’s Athletic Program had another stellar academic year. Of the 19 players in the program, men and women, 11 were inducted into the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society. (6 women and 5 men) Ta’Asia Wright and Carnelious Simmons will be Pre-seasoned All conference and potential All-American candidates. Both students are members of Phi Theta Kappa.
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Georgia State Board of Pardons and Parole
Georgia Department of Corrections
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