



# ATLANTA METROPOLITAN COLLEGE

**BELIEVE • BEGIN • BECOME**

2010-2011 ANNUAL REPORT

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Perfect Image

A unit of the University  
System of Georgia

[www.atlm.edu](http://www.atlm.edu)

# HISTORY

Atlanta Metropolitan College was 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 institution's name was officially changed to Atlanta Metropolitan College during the 1987-1988 academic year. Atlanta Metropolitan College offers a unique campus environment for its students. The college is located within the city of Atlanta, which boasts 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 College (AMC) is a two-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 College provides a unique campus atmosphere for its students, offering degree programs in more than 46 areas of study.

AMC 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 AMC 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 approved honorary, professional and social student clubs and organizations, including Student Government Association, Phi Theta Kappa, College Choir, the International Students Organization and the student newspaper, The Student Times. In addition, Atlanta Metropolitan College has a strong record in intercollegiate athletics and holds four championships in the Georgia Junior College Athletic Association Conference for men's basketball.



University System of Georgia

# PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Each year, the Annual Report offers a view of what Atlanta Metropolitan College (AMC) has focused on in the previous 12 months and the economic impact the institution has in the community. As a member of the University System of Georgia (USG), AMC is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS). AMC has a rich history that is tied to the city of Atlanta for which it is named. Institutional academic programs and services offered are challenging, comprehensive and affordable. The College offers forty-six programs, two of which are certificate granting programs (Automated Office Management and Criminal Justice). Many of AMC's courses are offered online and most are available six days a week. In addition to the traditional course schedule of Monday - Friday 8:30 am-5:30 pm, AMC also offers courses during the evening and weekend hours. AMC is also in partnership with the Atlanta Public Schools (Maynard Jackson High School), through which the institution offers an Early College program.



Continuing to add to AMC's program offerings, the Board of Regents approved this past year to change the institutional mission of Atlanta Metropolitan, a two-year unit of the USG, to that of "State College", status.

Beginning this fall, AMC will offer its first bachelor of science degree with a major in the biological sciences. This degree is specifically designed to increase the pipeline of students who earn degrees in STEM disciplines – Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. We are extremely excited about this landmark event. This decision will change the trajectory of the institution and enhance our ability to more completely serve the educational needs of all Georgians, especially those who reside in metropolitan Atlanta.

A series of developments have taken place at AMC over the past few years that has caused an on-going rebranding campaign for the institution. Some of those developments include: statewide and national recognition for academic excellence in STEM disciplines; a downtown Instructional site at 34 Peachtree Street; approval to award the baccalaureate degree in May of 2011; and changing the emblem of the institution from a Red-Eyed Panther to a Trailblazer.

AMC is both an impact and an opportunity institution, which makes it one of the most important institutions of higher learning in Atlanta in terms of access. AMC educates a larger percentage of Atlanta and Georgia natives than any other institution, public or private, in Metropolitan Atlanta. It is an opportunity institution because it educates inner city and underserved students who perform well.

For each of the aforementioned reasons, AMC has a great deal to celebrate.

I invite you to take a good look at Atlanta Metropolitan College, enroll in school, matriculate successfully, and join the thousands of graduates who understand that AMC is the place for you to BELIEVE, BEGIN and BECOME.

Sincerely,

*Gary A. McGaha*

Gary A. McGaha, Ph. D.  
President

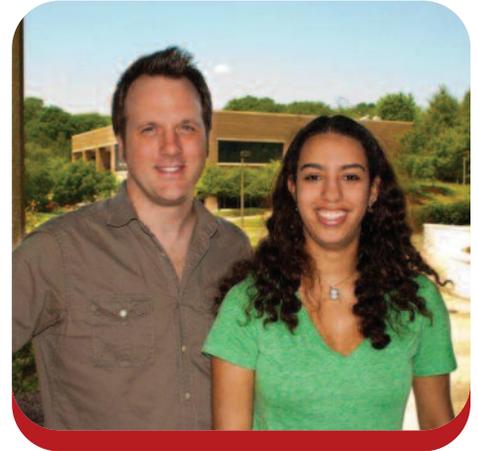
# SCENES AROUND CAMPUS



*President McGaha congratulates Alumna of the year, Arvis Carmichael-Smith*



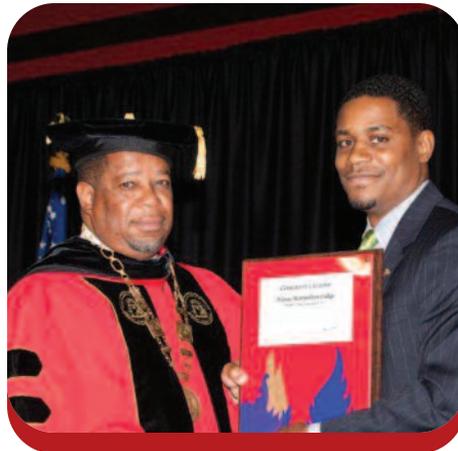
*AMC Graduates: (left) Wendall Carter, (right) David Cocker along with Alumni President Leisa Stafford*



*Former students pose for billboard campaign: Richard S. Toman and Stephanie Barron*



*President receiving proclamation from the Fulton County Commissioners Office*



*President McGaha receiving the Phoenix Award from the Mayor's Office*



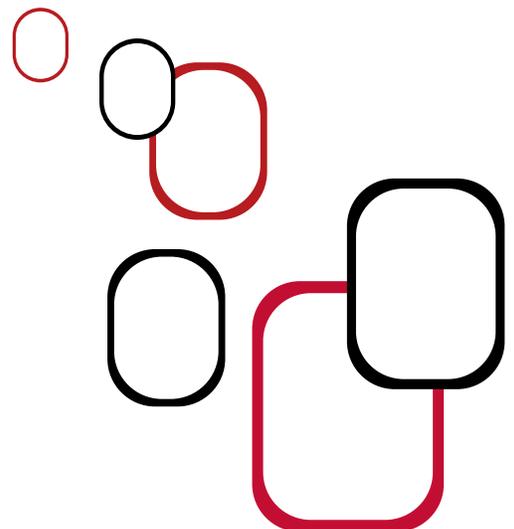
*2011 Founder's Day Speaker, Benjamin J. Tarbuton, III, Chairman of the Board of Regents*

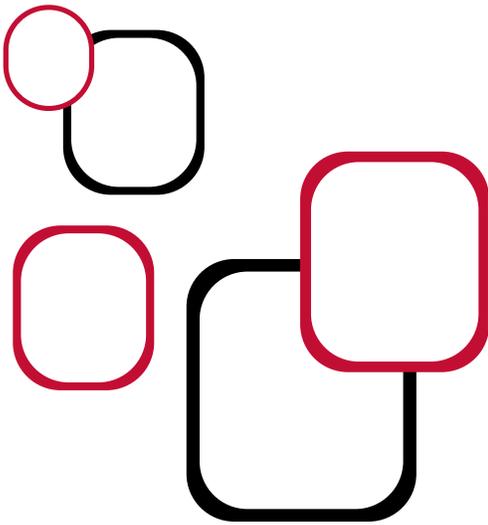


*Felecia J. Phillips, Senior Account Manager, PGA Acquisitions for AT&T Global Enterprise Solutions presents \$5,000 scholarship check from the Women of AT&T to AMC President McGaha*



*Former students and graduates of AMC: Love Wilborn Stephanie Baron, and Lance Uwaifo*





*Mrs. McGaha, (second from left), President McGaha (center) along with friends and family attend the 2011 AMC Cruise for a Cause Fundraiser*



*Atlanta City Council Member, Joyce Sheperd (left), President McGaha and a guest attend the Cruise for a Cause Fundraiser*



*Dean of Humanities Frank Johnson carries the Mace during Founder's Day Celebration*



*President McGaha congratulates Leisa Stafford, Alumni President, after giving 2011 graduates Alumni charge*



*Ward Gailey directs AMC choir during Honors Day*



*Bill Davenport, Georgia Power, President McGaha, and Senator Vincent Fort during Founders Day 2011*



*AMC Foundation members Ms. Elaine Davis, Mr. Bobby Olive and Ms. Sharmen Gowens*



*Foundation Member, Bill Davenport, Georgia Power*

## SCENES AROUND CAMPUS

# ATLANTA METROPOLITAN COLLEGE

## 2010-2011 HONOR ROLL OF DONORS



On behalf of Atlanta Metropolitan College President, Gary A. McGaha, Ph.D., the Atlanta Metropolitan College Foundation, Inc., the exceptional students that attend this great institution, the outstanding faculty, supportive staff and the administrative cabinet, "Thank You" for your financial support to Atlanta Metropolitan College (AMC) this past academic year. Your investment in Atlanta Metropolitan College is greatly appreciated.

Because of your support, AMC continues to reach new accomplishments in academic progress, student achievement, external partnerships and community presence. With your financial contributions, you each continue to demonstrate a deep commitment to our students and Atlanta Metropolitan College. Your support and leadership has repeatedly played a key role in our ongoing success.

AMC is committed to meeting the needs of the Atlanta community while providing the programs and services necessary for its growing student population to achieve success, while emphasizing learning for leadership and service.

There is no way to fully express the gratitude felt for your loyalty. AMC remains continually inspired by the generosity of donors like you, who answer the call to give again and again.

Thank you for your continued support and strong vote of confidence in our deserving students and our work at Atlanta Metropolitan College.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Larion M. Williams". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Larion Michael Williams  
Vice President for Institutional Advancement

The **Honor Roll of Donors** consists of all contributors who made donations to Atlanta Metropolitan College (AMC) and/or The Atlanta Metropolitan College Foundation, Inc. from July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2011. Every effort has been made to include all donors and donations during this period. However, if your name is not listed and your contribution was not given directly to the Office of Institutional Advancement, your gift may not have been recorded in our database. We apologize for any inadvertent errors or omissions that may have occurred. Thank you for your continued support to Atlanta Metropolitan College (AMC).

# HONOR ROLL OF DONORS

## Gifts of \$1 - \$99

Curtis Anderson  
Chuck Beasley  
Burrell Billingslea  
Tony Bradley  
Wendell Carter  
Richard Covington  
Steven Craig  
Larry Daniely  
Henry Dorsey  
Harry Dzakwasi  
Dwight Ellison  
Carmen Ferguson  
Kelly Ford  
Argent Gibson  
Henry Hammond  
Terry Harrington  
Jesse Hightower  
Samantha Hughes  
Sheila James  
Ruth Jean  
Trelidia Johnson  
Keleah Lambert  
Elisha Lipscomp  
Steven Major  
Roslyn Manley  
Barbara Manning  
Don May  
Janelle Mendoza  
Barbara Morgan  
Lee Norris  
Abiodun Oji  
Gwendolyn Peterson  
Roslyn Pope  
Bernice Rector  
Gerald Roberts  
Rodney Roberts  
Nathan Sloan  
Cassandra Smith  
Georgianne Thomas  
Lena Tice  
Beverly Ward  
Victoria Washington  
John Williams  
Monica Williams  
Bethaney Willis  
Tammy Young

## Gifts of \$100 - \$499

Veronica Adadevoh  
Allen Col. Rex  
ANDP – John O'Callaghan  
Atlanta Tribune  
Christopher Bennett  
Kenneth Burth  
Weldon Coleman  
Mark Cunningham  
Sandra Demons  
Betty Dixon  
Jerome & Tonya Drain  
Weldon Elbert  
Bonita Flournoy  
Gloria Glass Gayters  
Young Hughley  
Interface Flor, LLC  
Ivan Johnson  
Doris Jones  
Charles Kelley  
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Adebayo Kuranga  
Janice Liddell  
Margaret Lowder  
Lisa Mallory  
Bobby Olive  
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Robert Quarles  
Joseph Schneider  
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Curtis Todd  
Traci Waites  
Regina Warren  
Jasper Wilson  
Stephen Woodall  
Woodline Solutions

## Gifts of \$500 - \$999

Rumph & Associates PC  
Freddie Johnson  
Naopoleon L. Hornbuckle  
Frank & Velyna Johnson

## Gifts of \$1,000 - \$4,999

AmeriGroup Foundation -  
Tita Stewart  
Atlanta Housing Authority  
- Barney Simms  
CD Moody Construction  
Chase Bank  
Cynthia D. Evers  
Friends of AMC  
Georgia Pacific  
Georgia Power Foundation  
Sharmeen Hawkins  
Elridge W. McMillan  
Paul Cheeks Architect  
Urban Engineers  
USG Foundation  
-SunTrust Bank  
USG Foundation Inc.  
Willie Watkins  
Wells Fargo-Pamela Cross  
Wells Fargo Securities  
Larion M. Williams

## Gifts of \$3,000- \$4,999

Marcus Greene  
Gary A. McGaha

## Gifts of \$5,000 - \$9,999

Branch Bank & Trust (BB&T)  
GAP Foundation Inc.  
Wine & Spirits Foundation  
Women of AT&T  
-Felecia Phillips

## Gifts of \$10,000 & Above

Davis Family Foundation

The Honor Roll of Donors consists of all contributors who made donations to Atlanta Metropolitan College (AMC) and/or The Atlanta Metropolitan College Foundation, Inc. from July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2011. Every effort has been made to include all donors and donations during this period. However, if your name is not listed and your contribution was not given directly to the Office of Institutional Advancement, your gift may not have been recorded in our database. We apologize for any inadvertent errors or omissions that may have occurred. Thank you for your continued support for Atlanta Metropolitan College.

# ONLINE GIVING IS AVAILABLE



Online giving is available through our website ([www.atlm.edu](http://www.atlm.edu)) or you may contact the Office of Institutional Advancement at (404) 756-4666.

Giving online has many benefits such as:

- Simple
- Quick
- Secure
- Reduces Cost
- Attracts more donors
- Creates awareness for AMC
- No need to worry about checks lost in the mail

Areas to support with your donations are:

1. **Annual Giving Program:** Giving to the Annual Fund is unrestricted giving and allows AMC to direct funds to the greatest needs at AMC.
2. **AMC Scholarship Fund:** Supporting students who don't have the financial resources to attend the College.
3. **Endowed Scholarship Fund:** Establishing an ongoing funding source to provide needed scholarships to deserving students attending Atlanta Metropolitan College.
4. **Friends of Athletics:** Supporting the athletic programs established at AMC to provide resources for building a culturally rich environment for student athletes.

*Thank You for Caring About Atlanta Metropolitan College*

# ATLANTA METROPOLITAN COLLEGE

## ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT



The Alumni of the Year award is the highest honor Atlanta Metropolitan College can bestow upon its graduates. The graduate and their achievements personify the principles and ideals of Atlanta Metropolitan College.

**Ms. Arvis Carmichael-Smith**, class of 1994 is the Atlanta Metropolitan College (AMC) 2011 Alumni of the Year. After completing her Associates Degree, in Biology, she received a Bachelor of Science in Veterinary Technology and a Masters of Science in Animal Nutrition from Fort Valley State University.

During her matriculation at Atlanta Metropolitan College she was involved in the Student Government Association and the Drama Club. *“AMC provided me with the foundation needed to make a smooth transition to a four year institution. The faculty and staff really cared,”* Smith stated.

She continued to make a difference by participating on the selection committee for the president of the College. She also contributed to the groundbreaking for the gymnasium, as well as the campus improvements. One of her most memorable times at AMC was being crowned Miss Atlanta Metropolitan College ‘1993-1994.’ *“This is an accomplishment I will always cherish.”* — Ms. Carmichael Smith.

She is not only a current active member of the Alumni Association, where she holds a Director position on the Board of Directors, but she is also one of the charter members of the “unofficial” alumni association. The unofficial alumni association had been around for quite some time, meeting at student homes and discussing thoughts on improving the organization. It was not until she was contacted by Larion Williams (Vice-President of Institutional Advancement) that the group became an official organization (2009) with specific leadership roles and outlined bylaws. *“Ms. Smith exemplifies all of the characteristics desired in an Alumni of the Year recipient — dedication, commitment and service.”* — (President McGaha)

Carmichael-Smith's professional career consists of serving as partner of Banfield, The Pet Hospital. She credits her success to her husband Martin for his continued love and support. To him she is eternally grateful.

Her volunteer work includes working for Hosea Williams, *“Feed the Hungry”* and Chauncey Davis, *“Bike for Life”*. Outside of professional interests, she enjoys traveling, crossword puzzles, sewing, socializing with friends, and living in Rex, Georgia.

*“AMC provided me with the foundation needed to make a smooth transition to a four year institution. The faculty and staff really cared.*

— Ms. Arvis Carmichael-Smith

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

## Atlanta Metropolitan College Foundation, Inc.

### Board of Directors (External)

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Darryl A Hicks (Immediate Past Chairman)

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Ms. Kimberly Hutchens

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Ms. Linda Fils-Aime

Mr. Jim Winestock

Mrs. Sharmen Gowens

Mrs. Sonjia Young

The Atlanta Metropolitan College Foundation Inc., is a Georgia non-profit corporation with the expressed purpose of receiving, investing, and administering private support for Atlanta Metropolitan College (AMC). A board of directors comprised of community, civic, and corporate leaders, along with college administrators, provides guidance for investing and managing charitable gifts to maximize the gift's value to the College. The AMC Foundation, Inc., is organized under the laws of the State of Georgia and section 501 (C)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 as amended, and serves as the principal fundraising organization for the receipt and management of all private gifts and contributions to and on behalf of Atlanta Metropolitan College.

The mission of the Foundation is to support and enhance the College by encouraging charitable gifts from community, corporate, foundation, alumni, and friends leading to academic programs of excellence. This margin of excellence allows the College to build upon a growing reputation of quality and value beyond the traditional resources provided by the state appropriations or student tuition and fees.

# ATLANTA METROPOLITAN COLLEGE

## REGENTS APPROVE 'STATE COLLEGE' STATUS

**A**TLANTA – (May 10) – The Board of Regents voted today to change the institutional mission of Atlanta Metropolitan College, a two-year college of the University System of Georgia (USG), to that of “State College.”

Atlanta Metropolitan College will offer its first bachelor of science degree with a major in the biological sciences. This degree is specifically designed to increase the pipeline of students who earn degrees in STEM disciplines – Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. It will also prepare students for professional schools in the health sciences such as Medicine, Dentistry and Pharmacy. While the program as approved today by the Board does not include a teacher certification component, College officials have future plans to add this. Program graduates will have entry-level opportunities for immediate employment and offer the foundation for those students who seek a master’s or higher-level degrees.

“The Board’s actions reflect the evolving role of our access institutions as we identify specific job-related and economic development needs throughout the state,” said Rob Watts, chief operating officer for the USG. “Officials at these institutions have made a strong and data-driven case to the Board for the mission change and for the

needs in these communities for specific baccalaureate degree programs.”

The state college sector was established in 1998 and categorizes two-year, associate-degree granting institutions that have been authorized by the Board to offer a limited number of four-year baccalaureate degree programs. The University System’s other institutional categories are: research universities, regional universities, state universities, and two-year colleges. With May’s actions, there are now 12 USG institutions in the state college sector.

“We are extremely excited about this landmark event. This decision will change the trajectory of the institution and enhance our ability to more completely serve the educational needs of all Georgians, especially those who reside in metropolitan Atlanta,”  
— President McGaha.



Founded in 1974, Atlanta Metropolitan College is a unit of the University System of Georgia. All courses offered by AMC are transferrable to senior-level colleges and universities.



# “Adding Value— Serving Society” Atlanta Metropolitan College *Fiscal Year 2011*

**A**tlanta Metropolitan College (AMC) served and strengthened the community during June 30, 2010 – July 1, 2011 as follows:

- AMC partnered with the Atlanta Public School System's Project GRAD (Graduation Really Achieves Dreams) program, and served as the senior host site for the 2010 High School Senior Summer Academy. Project GRAD served 100 students and is designed to ensure that students in economically disadvantaged communities are exposed to a college environment.
- Atlanta Metropolitan College (AMC) completed the Reaffirmation of Accreditation SACS process.  
  
The Divisions of Social Sciences and Science, Math, and Health Professions developed and submitted; Bachelor of Science programs proposals in Criminal Justice, Teacher Education, and Mathematics for Board of Regents approval.
- AMC increased the number of online course offerings in FY2011 to a total of 81 courses, a 59% increase from the previous academic year.
- AMC expanded its high school recruitment efforts to Newton, Henry, DeKalb counties.
- The Division of Science Math, and Health Professions (SMHP) held a significantly expanded Health Careers Fair October 2011.
- SMHP provided a booth at GA STEM Day, Friday 10/14, [www.gastemfestival.org](http://www.gastemfestival.org) at the Gwinnett Arena.
- The number of science related student clubs increased, to include: Global Green, National Society of Black Engineers, American Chemical Society, and Journal Club.
- Retention rates of SMHP majors were increased for the spring and fall 2011 to 47%.
- A Tribeta Science Honor Society was established (must first partner with a current college with the honor society-Georgia State).
- The Atlanta Metropolitan College, Clayton, West Clayton and Fulton County, Upward Bound Programs continued serving 185 students in over ten high schools. The participants are low income; first-generation college students who receive academic assistance as well as cultural and social development begin as ninth graders and remain with the program through high school graduation.
- This summer, the Classic Upward Bound and Upward Bound Math Science operating in Thomaston, Georgia had 50 high school students participate in a five-week residential program at Gordon College in Barnesville, Georgia.
- The Atlanta Metropolitan College Talent Search Program served 100 middle and high school participants in their 2011 Summer Educational Enrichment Program, and 600 students throughout the year.
- In 2011, 1,000 participants (adults and high school dropouts and 100 high school seniors) enrolled in or participated in the Educational Opportunity Centers Program from Thomaston-Upson, Barnesville-Lamar, Zebulon-Pike, and Griffin-Spalding Counties.
- Student Support Services provided opportunities for 140 students to assist in their academic development, assist students with basic college requirements, and to motivate students toward the successful completion of their postsecondary education at AMC.

# Atlanta Metropolitan College's Reaffirmation of Accreditation

Atlanta Metropolitan College submitted the final Reaffirmation of Reaccreditation Report, titled Response to the Onsite Committee's Visit, during the spring 2012 semester. This Report provides a strategy for how the College will ensure that it sustains an effective and integrated planning and assessment process, and that the results from its planning and assessment process will be utilized to ensure continuous growth of its programs and services. The underlying question that the Reaffirmation of Accreditation process seeks to assess is how effective an institution achieves its stated mission. Planning/assessment and use of those results are the fundamental means or "vehicle" that an institution utilizes to achievement its mission.

The Response to the Onsite Committee's Visit Report was submitted to a SACS team who conducted a two-day visit at AMC during the fall 2011 semester. The SACS Team engaged in a variety of events including interviewing unit and division leaders, reviewing faculty and staff transcripts and credentials, evaluating College documents, participating in focus groups consisting of faculty, staff, and students, meeting with Board of Regents representatives, and assessing the College's academic programs. The SACS Team also appraised AMC's institutional effectiveness process, the College's fiscal stability, and physical facilities and resources. The Team concluded its review process by conducting a thorough evaluation of AMC's instructional site at 34 Peachtree Street, Atlanta, GA. Dr. Cheryl Cardell, SACS Vice President and member of

the visiting Team, indicated that Atlanta Metropolitan College can be assured that the SACS Team carried out a comprehensive evaluation of every aspect of the College's programs and services, with no stone left unturned.

SACS will determine the Reaffirmation of Accreditation of Atlanta Metropolitan College in July 2012. Dr. Mark Cunningham, the College's SACS Reaffirmation of Accreditation Director, indicated that he is very confident that AMC will be reaffirmed. "All aspects of the reaffirmation process have been successfully completed and satisfied by the College. This has been a very tedious process and a lot of hard work by a lot of dedicated people. I am very proud to have served as Director of Reaffirmation of Accreditation for Atlanta Metropolitan College through two reaccreditation processes over the past 12 years," says Dr. Cunningham, who also indicated that he is very grateful to President Gary A. McGaha for having the faith and confidence in him and selecting him to lead the College through arguably the most important event that occurs at educational institutions.

For more information about the reaffirmation process, you may visit the SACS Reaffirmation Office located in room 209 of the Library/Administrative building, or email or call for assistance at [sacs@atlm.edu](mailto:sacs@atlm.edu) or 404-756-2701, respectively. Visit the Reaffirmation of Accreditation website at <http://atlm.compliance-ssist.com/accreditation/>.

# ATLANTA METROPOLITAN COLLEGE IMPACTS LOCAL ECONOMY BY \$92 MILLION

**A**TLANTA, GA—(June 7) Atlanta Metropolitan College (AMC) continues to be a major economic engine in the city of Atlanta, pumping \$92 million into the Atlanta metropolitan economy during Fiscal Year 2010, according to a study conducted by the Selig Center for Economic Growth in the University of Georgia's Terry College of Business.

The report, released June 2, updates similar studies conducted on behalf of the Intellectual Capital Partnership Program (ICAPP), an initiative of the University System of Georgia Board of Regents' Office of Economic Development. The \$92 million represents about a 29% increase for AMC since the FY 2009 report.

In addition to the \$92 million in total economic impact generated by Atlanta Metropolitan College during FY 2010, the study determined that Atlanta Metropolitan College is responsible for 849 full- and part-time jobs. From among these positions, 166, or 20 %, are on-campus jobs while 683, or 80%, are private- or public sector jobs. In other words, for each job created on AMC's campus, there are approximately 3.1 off-campus jobs that exist because of the spending related to AMC's presence.

The report quantifies the economic benefits that Atlanta Metropolitan College conveys to Atlanta and Fulton County. It shows that \$60 million of the \$92 million in total economic impact was due to initial spending by Atlanta Metropolitan College for salaries and fringe benefits, operating supplies and expenses, and other budgeted expenditures, as well as spending by students who attended the institution in FY 2010. With the addition of the new academic building currently under construction and the Fall 2012 expansion of the AMC student center, Atlanta Metropolitan College's spending for capital projects in 2011-2012 will add additional revenue.

"Atlanta Metropolitan College continues to be an educational and economic asset to the metropolitan area." (Gary A. McGaha., Ph.D., President of AMC.) "The report emphasizes the consistent growth, vitality and financial stability that AMC brings to the region during this period of economic recovery."

The Selig Center's research, however, only highlights a portion of the true impact of Atlanta Metropolitan College on the community. It neither quantifies the many long-term benefits that a higher-education institution and its outreach and service units impart to its host community's economic development, nor does it measure intangible benefits, such as cultural opportunities, intellectual stimulation and volunteer work to local residents. Spending by USG retirees who still live in the host communities and by visitors to USG institutions (such as those attending conferences or athletic events) is not measured, nor are additional sources of income for USG employees, such as consulting work, personal business activities and inheritances.

Overall, the report revealed the University System of Georgia's 35 institutions had an economic impact totaling \$12.6 billion. The Selig Center's FY 2010 report is available at: <http://www.usg.edu>.



# ATLANTA METROPOLITAN COLLEGE COMMUNITY SERVICES INITIATIVES

## Phi Theta Kappa Honors In Action Project 2010-2011

The Beta Beta Tau Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) at Atlanta Metropolitan College (AMC). Each year, PTK sponsors a Honors in Action (HIA) project where chapter members are challenged to develop a project in which they can lead and serve. This year, the theme of the Honors in Action project is **The Democratization of Information: Power, Peril, and Promise**. According to the project guidelines, "For any **Honors in Action** project, individuals or groups may develop different or additional ways to incorporate elements related to scholarly research, leadership, service, and fellowship" (Phi Theta Kappa, 2011). Of the ten (10) issues provided by PTK, AMC's Beta Beta Tau chapter narrowed the project focus to Issue #3, The Individual and Community. The focus question for Issue #3 was "How does the dissemination of information influence the individual and community"? After a lengthy discussion and brainstorming session, the HIA team narrowed the focus of project to determining the needs of refugee families in the greater Atlanta community and, in keeping with the theme of the **Democratization of Information**, determining how to use information technology to assist these families as they strive to become self sufficient in the greater Atlanta area.

The team was active and engaged in the topic from the beginning. Team members decided to be primarily responsible for at least one hallmark of the project. The four hallmarks include leadership, scholarship, service, and fellowship. The team leader, Cassandra Johnson, facilitated the entire project while Fellowship Leader Byron Simmons played a major role by working as the community outreach liaison. *Continued on Page 16*



AMC Honors in Action Fellowship Leader and 2011-2012 Phi Theta Kappa CoPresident Byron Simmons with a group of students.



AMC Honors in Action Team Leader Cassandra Johnson and the 2011-2012 Phi Theta Kappa CoPresident pictured spending quality time with the children.

# ATLANTA METROPOLITAN COLLEGE COMMUNITY SERVICES INITIATIVES

*Continued From Page 15*

Mr. Simmons scheduled and conducted interviews with Refugee Family Services and the Refugee Resettlement and Immigration Services of Atlanta. After conducting the interviews, sharing the information with the team and with PTK members, Mr. Simmons provided training dates for team members so that members could be trained by Refugee Family Services to tutor refugee students, a primary need that was identified during the interview.

"I love working with the children! You just can't help it.", stated Mr. Simmons during his report. He also shared that he would like to involve the Institution as a whole in working to serve the refugee population.

Mr. Simmons and the HIA team discussed trying to serve in other ways and meet other needs of the refugee community such as collecting needed items like dictionaries from the organizations "wish list".

"I did not know, that Atlanta was a 'hub' in the nation for the placement of refugees" stated Service Leader Janet Walker. During the on-going research conducted for the project, the team discovered that Georgia is one of the top ten (10) states in the US for refugee resettlement. The entire team worked together to conduct research, a mandatory and integral part of the project.

"I did not know  
that Atlanta was a  
'hub' in the nation  
for placement of  
refugees.  
— Janet Walker"

Cassandra Johnson and Byron Simmons will represent the Beta Beta Tau Honors in Action Team this year at the Phi Theta Kappa 2011 Annual Convention, April 7-9, in Seattle, Washington. Beta Beta Tau is the only chapter in the State of Georgia that will present a poster session at the Convention.



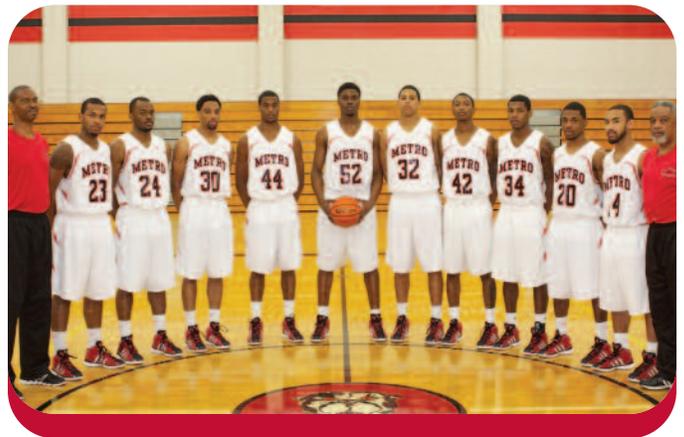
*Tutoring Session: Byron Simmons tutoring a small group of students.*

# ATLANTA METROPOLITAN COLLEGE SPORTS

Started in 1992, Atlanta Metropolitan College's athletic program is part of the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA). The College supports two intercollegiate teams — men's basketball and women's basketball. In their first year, the men's basketball team took second place in the NJCAA Region 17 Conference, and continues to be a strong sports team. AMC also has a spirited cheerleading squad and dance team who cheer at the home basketball games. The team emblem is now the Trailblazers. *(Pictured Below)*



**2010-2011 Womens Basketball Team**



**2010-2011 Mens Basketball Team**



**Timothy Martin #14**

is slated to become the first Atlanta Metropolitan College basketball player to be named First Team Academic All-American.



**Darius Minor #20,**

was selected Second Team All-Conference



**Charles Shedrick, #30**

was selected Honorable Mention or Third Team All-Conference.

ATLANTA METROPOLITAN COLLEGE  
TRAILBLAZERS





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