One Hundred Years of Educating at Savannah State College 1890-1990

CLEVE W. HALL, Ed.D.
Regional Provost, Savannah State College
Advisor, Technical Education, Savannah State College
(Member of the Georgia State Board of Technical and Adult Education)
Acknowledgments

THE AUTHOR IS first indebted to his parents, Robert R. and Mattie E. Hall, of Winter Park, Florida for making education the center piece of his life. Without this early focus, this document would not have been possible. The writer also owes a great debt of gratitude to Professor Frank A. Manny of Boxford, Massachusetts for the interest which he exemplified in the writer’s education. When the author was a ninth grade student at Hungerford High School in Eatonville, Florida, Manny introduced him to President Benjamin F. Hubert who later gave him a work-aid scholarship to attend Savannah State College. The love, admiration, and respect for this College which President Hubert and his faculty and staff instilled in the writer will always be cherished.

The author will forever be grateful to President William K. Payne for employing him as Chairman of the Division of Technical Sciences at Savannah State College and providing him with the proper administrative and financial support to implement innovative four-year programs in engineering technology at the institution.

Special appreciation goes to Chancellor George L. Simpson, Jr. for appointing the writer Acting President of Savannah State College and giving him the support this task demanded. He is also indebted to the following members of Dr. Simpson’s staff for their confidence and cooperation:

Frank C. Dunham
Gordon M. Funk

Dr. Mary Ann Hickman
Dr. John W. Hooper
H. Guy Jenkins, Jr.
Dr. Howard Jordan, Jr.
Shealy E. McCoy
Dr. Thomas F. McDonald
Attorney Henry G. Neal
Dr. Haskins R. Pounds
Jacob H. Wansley
Dr. Jerry M. Williamson

The assistance and friendship of Chancellor Vernon Crawford and his wife Helen during the author’s Acting Presidency will always be cherished by him and his wife Maud.

Special acknowledgment is due the members of the Board of Regents, especially Attorney Erwin A. Friedman and Elridge W. McMillan, for their steadfast support of and confidence in the writer as Acting President of Savannah State College. Many thanks also go to Chancellor H. Dean Propst for extending the author the second invitation to be the chief administrative officer of this institution.

The author is also deeply indebted to the following persons for their unwavering support and loyalty during his Acting Presidency:

Dr. Hayward S. Anderson, Professor of Business Administration
Att’y. Earl F. Brown, President of the Savannah State College National Alumni Association
Johnny Campbell, Associate Professor of Economics
Alvin Collins, Associate Registrar
Ella W. Fisher, AIDP Coordinator, and staff
Dr. Lawrence Harris, Professor of Social Science
Alexander Hurse, Retired Agricultural Extension
Dr. Jeffery James, Assistant Professor of Chemistry
Benjamin Lewis, Director of Development and College Relations, and staff
J.C. Lewis, President of WJCL-TV and J.C. Lewis Motors
John McGlockton, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Carver State Bank
Vernese D. Mikel, Secretary to the President
Prince K. Mitchell, Vice President for Business and Finance, and staff
Dr. Govindar K. Nambiar, Professor of Biology
Atty. Michael Pratt, Administrative Assistant to the Vice President
Dr. Kamalakar B. Raut, Professor of Chemistry
Willie Mae Robinson, Director of Special Services
Martha K. Stafford, Secretary to the Vice President
Evanel R. Terrell, Professor Emeritus of Home Economics
James Thompson, Jr., Assistant Professor of Music and Director of Choir
Dr. Willie G. Tucker, Head of the Department of Chemistry
Herbert C. White, Director of Plant Operations, and staff

Many persons assisted in the preparation of this book and it would be impossible to thank everyone individually for his or her contributions. However, there are some individuals who provided a special kind of service for which the writer wishes to express his thanks.

Special acknowledgement goes to the following persons for their contributions as indicated:

1) Providing pertinent information orally and/or on hard copy:
   Juanita J. Adams
   Dr. Hayward S. Anderson
   Angela Brown
   James Butler
   CDR. E. Clark, Jr.
   Arthur Dwight
   Dr. Charles J. Elmore
   Dr. C. Obi Emeh
   Dr. Roselyn Payne Epps

2) Typing the manuscript:
   Alison Frazell
   Martha K. Stafford

3) Reading the manuscript and making needed improvements.
   Dr. Vernon Crawford
   Maud L. Hall
   Elridge W. McMillan
   Prince K. Mitchell
   Harriet Peeler Stone

4) Producing the photographs:
   Robert W. Chisley
   Leonard Jones, II
   Charles F. McMillan, Jr.
   Robert Mobley
   Randy Tharpe

Without the indispensable support, tolerance and understanding of my wife Maud; children Woodrow, Lydia Hall Johnikin, and Alvin; and grandchildren Lashanda Johnikin, Vil Johnikin, Jr., and Danielle Hall, it would have been impossible to complete this document. Their cooperation during the last four years of this undertaking was remarkable.
# Table of Contents

1. **Introduction** .......................... 1

2. **Founding of Georgia State Industrial College for Colored Youth** .......................... 3  
   a. Atlanta University and the 1862 Land Grant Fund .......................... 3  
   b. Land Grant Act of 1890 .......................... 4  
   c. Locating College in Savannah .......................... 4

3. **Presidency of Richard R. Wright, Sr., 1891-1921** .......................... 7  
   a. Opening of the College .......................... 8  
   b. Agriculture .......................... 10  
      (1) United States Farm Demonstrator .......................... 11  
      (2) Farmers Conferences .......................... 12  
   c. Industrial Department .......................... 14  
      (1) Manual Training .......................... 14  
      (2) Specialized Trades .......................... 15  
      (3) Smith-Hughes Program .......................... 18  
      (4) National Army Training Detachment .......................... 18  
      (5) Superintendents and Faculty .......................... 19  
   d. Domestic Science .......................... 20  
   e. Commercial Course .......................... 20  
   f. Georgia State Colored Fair .......................... 20  
   g. Reflections .......................... 21

4. **Presidency of Cyrus G. Wiley 1921-1926** .......................... 25  
   a. Women Boarding Students .......................... 26  
   b. Meldrim Hall .......................... 27  
   c. Agricultural Extension Services .......................... 27  
   d. Vocational Agriculture .......................... 28  
   e. Business, Home Economics and Trades .......................... 28  
   f. United States Bureau of Education Report .......................... 29  
   g. Reflections .......................... 30
5. Presidency of Benjamin F. Hubert 1926-1947 .................................................. 33
   a. Agriculture .......................................................... 35
      (1) Curriculum and Faculty ........................................ 35
      (2) Teaching Facilities ........................................... 38
      (3) New Farmers of America ...................................... 38
      (4) Agricultural Extension ....................................... 39
   b. Business Practice ................................................ 40
   c. Home Economics .................................................. 42
   d. Trades and Industries ........................................... 43
      (1) Curriculum and Faculty ........................................ 43
      (2) National Defense Training ................................... 44
      (3) Facilities ...................................................... 45
      (4) T&I In-Service Conferences .................................. 46
   e. National Youth Administration Projects ....................... 46
   f. Log Cabin Center ................................................ 46
   g. Building Program ............................................... 48
   h. Threats to Remove Land-Grant Function ........................ 51
   i. Reflections ....................................................... 54

   a. General Improvements ............................................ 55
   b. Agriculture ....................................................... 58
   c. Business .......................................................... 58
   d. Home Economics .................................................. 59
   e. Trades and Industries ........................................... 60
   f. Financial Problems ............................................... 61
   g. Resignation ....................................................... 61
   h. Reflections ....................................................... 62

   a. Reorganization of Academic Structure .......................... 64
   b. Accreditation ..................................................... 66
   c. Improvements of Physical Plant ................................ 67
   d. Agriculture and Agricultural Extension Service ............. 68
   e. Business .......................................................... 70
   f. Home Economics .................................................. 71
   g. Technical Sciences .............................................. 72
   h. Desegregation ..................................................... 74
   i. Student Uprising ................................................ 75
   j. Reflections ....................................................... 76


   a. Building Program ................................................ 80
   b. Teacher Education ............................................... 82
   c. Graduate Program ............................................... 82
   d. Joint Undergraduate Programs with Armstrong State College 83
   e. African Awareness Movement ................................... 84
   f. Agricultural Extension Service ................................ 84
   g. Federal Programs ............................................... 85
   h. Business Programs ............................................... 85
   i. Technical Programs .............................................. 85
      (1) Engineering Technology ...................................... 85
10. Presidency of Dr. Prince A. Jackson, Jr., 1971-1978 ........................................ 93
   a. Organizational Structure ............................................ 94
   b. Accreditation .......................................................... 94
   c. Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps ............................... 94
   d. Joint Graduate Program ............................................. 96
   e. Joint Undergraduate Programs ..................................... 96
   f. FM Radio Station ..................................................... 97
   g. Major Construction Projects and Naming of Buildings ........... 97
   h. AIDP ............................................................... 99
      i. Survey of Black Businesses ..................................... 100
      j. Home Economics .................................................. 100
   k. Technical Sciences .................................................. 101
      (1) National Accreditation of Engineering Technology Programs 101
      (2) COSIP Science Improvement Program .......................... 101
      (3) Joint Technology Programs .................................... 102
      (4) T&I Consortium .................................................. 102
      (5) Dual Degree Program .......................................... 103
      (6) Industrial Arts Curriculum Project ............................ 103
      (7) Electronics Technology Update Workshop .................... 103
   l. Extended Services .................................................... 103
   m. Reflections ........................................................... 104

11. Acting Presidency of Dr. Clyde W. Hall 1978-1980 ................................. 105
   a. Desegregation Plans ............................................... 106
      (1) Discrete Degree Programs .................................... 108
      (2) Joint Degree Programs ....................................... 108
      (3) Graduate Programs ............................................ 108
   b. Business Administration and Education Swap Programs ........... 111
   c. Marine Biology ..................................................... 114
   d. Joint Continuing Education Center ................................ 115
   e. Presidential Search Committee .................................... 115
   f. Historical Marker .................................................. 115
   g. Reflections ........................................................... 116

   a. Merger ............................................................... 121
   b. Building Program ................................................... 121
   c. Grants for Research, Instruction and Service .................... 125
   d. Academic Enhancements in the Humanities and Social Sciences 126
e. Business Administration .................................................. 126
   (1) IBM Relationship .................................................... 126
   (2) Advisory Board .................................................... 127
f. Engineering Technology .................................................. 127
   (1) Desegregation Program .......................................... 127
   (2) Computer Science Technology ................................ 127
   (3) International Education ........................................ 128
   (4) Student Organizations .......................................... 128
   (5) Accreditation Process ........................................... 128
   (6) Solar Energy Research Institute .............................. 128
   (7) National Association of Radio and Telecommunications 129
   (8) Senior Engineering Technologists ............................ 129
   (9) Instructional Equipment ........................................ 129
g. Home Economics .......................................................... 130
h. Men's Basketball ......................................................... 130
i. Reflections ...................................................................... 130

   a. Merge or Not to Merge .............................................. 134
   b. Regional University ................................................ 136
   c. Search Committee .................................................... 138
   d. Plant and Curriculum Enhancements ............................ 138
   e. Reflections .................................................................. 138

   a. Centennial Celebration ............................................. 142
   b. Football Fame ......................................................... 142
   c. Super Secretary ....................................................... 144
   d. Reflections .................................................................. 146

Selected Bibliography ....................................................... 147

Appendices ........................................................................... 151
   A. An Act to Equitably Adjust the Claims of Colored Race for a Portion of the Proceeds of the Agricultural Land Scrip 151
   B. Act of the General Assembly of Georgia Which Established Georgia State Industrial College for Colored Youth 152
   C. Warranty Deed of the First Tract of Land for Georgia State Industrial College for Colored Youth ..................... 154
   D. The First Code of Laws for the Government of the Georgia State Industrial College for Colored Youth .................. 155
   E. Periodic Statistics of Enrollment and Revenue for Educational and General Operations Expenses .......................... 158
   F. Faculty and Staff with Twenty-five or More Years of Service at Savannah State College Between 1890 and 1990 ......... 159
   G. College Songs ............................................................ 162
ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF EDUCATING
SAVANNAH STATE COLLEGE was the first state supported institution of higher education established in Georgia for black citizens. The institution came into existence as a product of the 1890 Land-Grant Act of the United States Government. During its formative years, most of its financial support came from federal sources, and its major instructional programs embraced agriculture and the mechanic arts of the land-grant mission. As public school teaching opportunities expanded for blacks, the College became a center for the preparation of teachers. During recent years, the institution shifted its emphasis from teacher education to other areas such as, business, natural and social sciences, engineering technology and mass communications. Throughout this instructional evolution at Savannah State College, the United States Government was a major change agent.

This book attempts to document with editorial comments the development of Savannah State College during its first one hundred years of existence. The publication is subdivided by the administrations of the College's nine permanent and three acting Presidents. This subdivision was made because each chief administrative officer of the College was faced with unique opportunities and problems, and each utilized a distinct administrative style in dealing with these challenges. In some instances, events were recorded under a president's administration which did not originate there, but they became major issues of his presidency.

The author went to Savannah State College as a work-aid student in June, 1942 and graduated in June, 1948, after a three year tour of duty in the United States Navy during World War II. Two of the writer's teachers, Antonio Orsot and Samuel L. Lester, were initially employed by the first president, Richard R. Wright, Sr., and they related to the author many of their early experiences at the institution.

Savannah State College employed the author as an Instructor the summers of 1949 and 1951, and a Professor and administrator in a variety of capacities from 1961 to 1987. The writer was personally acquainted with all of the College's chief executive officers, except the first two. He also was an active participant in many of the events which took place at the institution during his tenure as a student and employee.

As events were chronicled in this document, an attempt was made to identify individuals along with their academic qualifications who played major roles in their coming about. The majority of the information concerning these events came from publications of the State of Georgia, University System of Georgia, Savan-
nath State College, United States Government and the Savannah print news media. Many players in events herein listed were interviewed to verify and/or clarify certain aspects of this study.
ON NOVEMBER 26, 1890, the General Assembly of Georgia passed an Act to establish a school for the education and training of colored students in connection with the University of Georgia. This Act authorized the creation of a Commission of five persons to be appointed by the Governor that would procure the grounds and buildings necessary for the school and that this institution would be a department of the University under the initial control and management of the Board of Trustees of said institution.

The curriculum of this school was to embrace studies required by the Land-Grant Acts of the Congress of the United States passed July 2, 1862 and August 30, 1890. The 1862 Act authorized the United States Government to donate to each state and territory 30,000 acres of federal land for each senator and representative that it then had in the United States Congress. This land was to be sold and the funds derived there from would be invested to fund perpetually a college whose leading mission would be the teaching of agriculture and mechanic arts. The Georgia Legislature accepted the provisions of the initial Act on December 12, 1866, but the State College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts at the University of Georgia for white students was not established until April, 1872.

Atlanta University and 1862 Land Grant Fund

From the sale of the federal land, Georgia received $242,202.17 and after investing this sum at a minimum of 5% rate the State received $16,954.14 annually. The State of Georgia on March 3, 1874 passed an Act attempting to equitably adjust the claim of the black citizens of Georgia to a portion of the proceeds of the Land-Grant fund by appropriating to Atlanta University $8,000 annually for the teaching of agriculture and mechanic arts to black Georgians.

This arrangement between the State and Atlanta University existed until 1887 when the State withdrew the funds because white students, mostly children of white faculty members, were being taught at the University which legislators argued violated the laws of segregation of the races in public education in Georgia.

While Atlanta University was the pseudo Land-Grant College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts for blacks in Georgia from 1874-1887, it expanded its facilities for the teaching of agriculture, domestic science, and mechanic arts. A forty-foot by sixty-foot well equipped barn with full cellar was erected in 1882, and in the summer of 1884, the University added a large room to one of its dormitories to accommodate classes in cooking. In 1884, the widow of the late
L.J. Knowles of Worcester, Massachusetts appropriated from her husband’s estate $6,000 toward the construction of Knowles Industrial Building. This three-story brick structure was one hundred feet by forty-four feet and contained well-equipped laboratories for the teaching of mechanical drawing, woodworking and metal working.

Although Atlanta University was founded as a liberal arts institution, it had a respectable agricultural and mechanical arts program during the period it participated in Georgia’s Land-Grant program and several years thereafter. In 1883, the University was the first institution of higher education in Georgia to offer manual training in its program as conceived by the founder of this discipline, C.M. Woodward at Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri. Clarence C. Tucker was the creator of this subject at Atlanta University.

Land-Grant Act of 1890

The United States Congress amended the 1862 Land-Grant Act on August 30, 1890 by providing additional funds of $50,000 annually to each state. However this amendment had the following provisions:

That in any State in which there had been one college established in pursuance of the act of July second, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, and also in which an educational institution of like character has been established, or may be hereafter established, and is now aided by such State from its own revenue, for the education of colored students in agriculture and mechanic arts, however named or styled, or whether or not it has received money heretofore under the act to which this act is an amendment, the legislature of such State may propose and report to the Secretary of the Interior a just and adequate division of the funds to be received under this act between one college for white students and one institution for colored students established as aforesaid which shall be divided into two parts and paid accordingly, and thereupon such institution for colored students shall be entitled to the benefits of this act and subject to its provisions, as much as it would have been if it had been instituted under the act of eighteen hundred and sixty-two and the fulfillment of the foregoing provisions shall be taken as a compliance with the provision in reference to separate colleges for white and colored students.

Locating College in Savannah

The passage of the 1890 Land-Grant Act forced the State of Georgia to establish a land-grant college for blacks if it wanted to continue receiving federal funds from this program. Since the withdrawal of funds from Atlanta University in 1887, the State had withheld the $8,000 annual land-grant appropriations in its treasury. So on November 26, 1890, it established Georgia State Industrial College for Colored Youth in order to receive both the 1862 and 1890 federal land-grant funds.

The Act of the General Assembly creating the college authorized the Commission to secure a location for the institution that (1) was within or near the corporate limits of a city or town of the state which offered the best inducement for the institution, (2) was easily accessible to all black people, and (3) offered the best donations of value.

Shortly after the passage of legislation, black leaders in Augusta, Americus, Macon, Columbus, and Savannah started lobbying for the location of this college in their community. On March 6, 1891, about 150 persons held a meeting in the basement of First African Baptist Church in Savannah for the purpose of organizing the community’s efforts toward securing this college for Savannah. Rev. Alexander Harris, Pastor of Second Bryan Baptist Church, was elected Chairman of the group and James Ross, Secretary. A committee was appointed consisting of Rev. Alexander Harris, Rev. E.K. Love, Rev. J.M. Simms, J.H.C. Butler, Rev. J.B. Lofton, Rev. M.J. Ingraham, J.C. Simmons, J. McIntosh and H. Maxwell to promote the idea of establishing the land-grant college in this community.

On March 13, 1891, the third public meeting in the interest of this college was held at First African Baptist Church with Rev. E.K. Love presiding. It was agreed that Savannah would offer the Commission $10,000 and a site for the location of the college. A committee was appointed to help implement this proposal. The committee members were Rev. Alexander Harris, Rev. E.K. Love, Rev. J.H.C. Butler, John McIntosh Jr., J.C. Simmons, H.M. McLean, Y.M. Milledge, F.H. Davis, J.H. Davis, F.E. Washington, H.R. Rahn, C.H. Ebbs, W.H. Royall, A.M. Monroe, T.T. Jackson, Peter Williams, Sandy Rhett, Peter Melrose, James H. Rogers, H.D. Cannick, Rev. James M. Simms, Rev. J.B. Lofton, Hosea Maxwell, and James Ross.

On March 18, 1891, the black community
found at Green Squares Baptist Church its final meeting before presenting its offer to the Commission for locating this college in Savannah. At this meeting, it was agreed that a committee of Rev. E.K. Love, Rev. J.M. Simms, Rev. M.J. Ingraham, Rev. Alexander Harris and Rev. F.E. Washington would leave on March 19, 1891 for Atlanta and offer the following sites for the college:

1. Thirty-two acres of land three miles from city on Vernon River for $5,000.
2. Twenty acres of the Pritchard Tract three miles from city for $10,000.
3. Fifty acres known as the Rose Farm five miles from city near Vernon River for $6,000.
4. Eighteen acres near Warren Resort with a twelve room house and artesian well for $5,000. (Savannah Morning News, March 19, 1891)

The people of Savannah were successful in convincing the Commission to locate the first state college for blacks in their community. On May 13, 1891, George Parsons of New York City gave the Trustees of the University of Georgia ten (10) acres of land, containing a large ante-bellum house, on which to establish a college for blacks in accordance with the Act passed by the Georgia General Assembly on November 26, 1890. In the deed of conveyance, Parsons stipulated the following:

"that should at anytime from any cause the said Branch College cease to exist or its location be changed, then in either of these events, the land hereby conveyed is to revert to donor, his heirs, executors and administrators or assigns."

On July 30, 1891, Sara B. Postell deeded to the Trustees of the University of Georgia 66.1 acres for the consideration of $6,000. This land was adjacent and south of land given by Parsons, and it also contained a large southern mansion. These two parcels of land were originally a part of the Placentia Plantation and later became known as the Warren Place. On the north they were adjacent to a predominantly white residential area in Thunderbolt, Georgia, and on the east by the Atlantic Ocean Coastal Marshland.

The first building on the college site was named Parsons Hall in honor of its donor, and was first used as a dormitory for male students. It was later used as a dormitory for female students and residences for faculty. It also housed
the college post office before it was demolished in the 1950s. This structure was located on the present site of the swimming pool.

The second major college building was the mansion on Postell’s land that was named Boggs Hall in honor of Dr. W.E. Boggs, Chancellor of the University of Georgia at the time of the founding of the College. This building was located in front of Camilla Hubert Hall and was originally used as an administration and classroom building. Before its demolition in the 1950s, it served for many years as dormitory for women.
Chapter 3

Presidency of Richard R. Wright, Sr.
1891-1921

THE GEORGIA STATE Industrial College for Colored Youth had a preliminary session in the Baxter Street School Building in Athens during the summer of 1891 with Richard Robert Wright Sr., as President and three additional instructors assisting him (A.J. Carey, Annie L. McNeal Herndon, and Loring B. Palmer).

The new President was born in Dalton, Georgia in 1855, and shortly after the Civil War he matriculated in school at Cuthbert, Georgia. He later moved to Atlanta and attended Storrs School, out of which Atlanta University developed. Wright spent seven years at Atlanta University in high school and college and was graduated in the first college class in 1876. Upon graduation, he became Principal of Howard Normal School at Cuthbert where he remained four years. In 1880, he became Principal of Ware High School in Augusta, the first black high school in Georgia supported by city funds. Wright remained at Ware until he was appointed President of Georgia State Industrial College for Colored Youth in 1891.

Prior to becoming college president, Wright called the first convention of black teachers in Georgia in 1878, and presided as President of the group for three years. In 1880, this organization became the Georgia State Teachers Association. For ten years Wright was editor of the Augusta Sentinel, a widely read black southern newspaper of this era.
Opening of the College

On the first Wednesday in October, 1891, Georgia State Industrial College for Colored Youth opened in Thunderbolt, Georgia with an elaborate ceremony which included the participation of Georgia Governor W.J. Northern, State School Commissioner Bradwell, Chancellor W.E. Boggs; Chairman of the Commission, Judge P.W. Meldrim; Rev. E.K. Love, Pastor First African Baptist Church; Rev. L.B. Maxwell, Pastor of First Congregational Church; and many other notable persons representing various parts of the state. This institution opened as the first state supported college in Georgia for black students.

The institution opened with eight students, but by the close of the first term the enrollment had grown to forty-two (four college, ten normal and twenty-eight sub-normal). All these were boarding students, except six who lived in the Savannah area. Henry T. Jones, James T. Lewis, Carey L. Norflet and Daniel B. Young, all from Augusta, made up the first freshman college class.

The initial program of studies for the young college included college, normal school and sub-normal curricula. The college curriculum consisted of courses in Greek, Latin, mathematics through differential calculus, English, history, political science, philosophy, biology, physics, chemistry, astronomy and christian evidence. To be admitted to the college course students were required to pass an examination in English and other typical high school subjects.

Students admitted to the normal school curriculum had to pass an examination in spelling, grammar, geography, United States history, and arithmetic which included square root. The normal program was four years in length consisting of traditional college preparatory subjects with an addition of practical pedagogy in the senior year. This curriculum was designed to prepare persons for the college course, as well as elementary school teachers for public schools.

The one-year sub-normal curriculum was designed to prepare students for entrance to the normal program. Elementary level courses in English, arithmetic and science constituted the offerings of this program.

Required course work in agriculture and/or mechanical arts was not an integral segment of the college course of study. Limited offerings in manual training and agriculture were offered in the normal and sub-normal curricula. However, all students were required to work on the farm and/or building and grounds after or before school hours. They were paid for the work at a rate of forty cents per eight hour day.

The first class to complete the normal courses did so in June, 1895. The graduates of that class were as follows:

- Julius C. Few — Thomasville, GA
- Isaac M. Jackson — Savannah, GA
- John T. Sanders — Valdosta, GA
- James B. Stevens — Johnston Station, GA
- Richard R. Wright, Jr. — College, GA

The College conferred its first A.B. degree in June, 1898, to Richard R. Wright, Jr., the President's son.

The original organization of the College called for a president and an instructor in each of the disciplines of English, mathematics, and natural sciences; a superintendent of mechanical department, foreman of the farm, a drill master, treasurer, and a proctor who would supervise boarding students and the care of buildings and grounds. The treasurer had to live in the city of Savannah and post a $10,000 bond. The president, instructors, superintendent and farm foreman designed, arranged and implemented the program of studies, subject to the approval of the Chancellor of the University of Georgia and the Board of Commissioners.

The first permanent officers of Georgia State Industrial College were the following:

**Board of Commissioners**
- Hon. P.W. Meldrim, Chairman, Savannah
- Hon. W.R. Hammond, Atlanta
- Hon. P.J. Cline, Milledgeville
- Hon. J.B. Felder, Americus
- Col. G.T. Murrell, Winterville
- W.E. Boggs, D.D., LL.D., Chancellor of the University of Georgia and ex-officer Superintendent, Athens
- Major J.F. Brooks, Treasurer, Savannah

**Faculty**
- Richard R. Wright, A.M., President
- Instructor in English language and literature; also in mental and moral science.
- Decatur C. Suggs, A.M., Vice President
- Instructor in Natural Sciences (After leaving the college he earned a Ph.D.)
- Frank E. Cobb, A.B.
- Instructor in Mathematics and Librarian
Loring B. Palmer, A.B.
Instructor in English; Secretary of Faculty (After leaving the college, he became a physician).

Robert H. Thomas
Foreman of the farm.

Rev. James M. Simms
Proctor and Steward.

Dr. T. James Davis
College Physician.

Rev. L.B. Maxwell, A.B. (Pastor of First Congregational Church)
Occasional Instructor.

Students from Georgia were admitted without a charge for tuition, but were charged $6.25 per calendar month or $50.00 a scholastic year boarding fee. Students who desired to have the College do their washing paid an extra seventy-five cents per month for that service. The College had no scholarships, but needy students could assist with their expenses by working on the campus. The College was organized so that most of the work on the farm, the construction and maintenance of college buildings, and the keeping of the grounds were performed by the students for pay. The recitation schedules were arranged to permit students to work with little interference. All students were required to do some manual work regardless of their financial needs.

The initial plans for the physical plant of the College included the erection of the following buildings:

1. A classroom building with a forty-foot by eighty-foot assembly room and six thirty foot by forty foot classrooms.
2. A dormitory to accommodate forty to fifty students with dining hall, kitchen, pantry, steward’s room, etc.

Bachelor of Arts diploma of Isaac Monroe Jackson June 10, 1902.
3. A machine shop.
4. A barn and stables with stalls for four horses and four cows.
5. Four dwellings for faculty.

George Parsons, the donor of the first tract of college land, sold the Trustees of the University of Georgia 7.1 acres of land for $712.00 on July 11, 1892. This land was adjacent and west of the parcel that he had given in 1891.

Agriculture

During the first year of the College, Robert H. Thomas, founder of College Park Baptist Church, was employed as Foreman of the Farm, but no specific courses in agriculture were outlined for students. The stated aim of the department was to give the students a practical as well as scientific knowledge of farming. To earn their expenses, the students worked on the fifty-acre farm, which was located mostly west of Placentia Canal. They produced food for students’ consumption in the dining hall and for sale. The academic courses were so arranged that they did not interfere with the students’ farm work program.

The first major construction project at the institution was undertaken in 1891-92. The structure was an attractive dwelling for the farm foreman and a suitable barn for farm animals. These were located on the present site of the B.F. Hubert Technical Sciences Building. The residence was moved in the 1950s to its present location, 3122 Falligant Avenue, Thunderbolt, Georgia.

By 1901, William C. McLester became the second Foreman of the Farm and Superintendent of the Department of Agriculture. McLester was a Jefferson, Georgia native and an 1883 graduate of the Normal Department at Atlanta University. He held this position for more than ten years before he left the College to manage his model farm on Dale Avenue in Savannah. On September 6, 1902, McLester married Lavinia De Vaughn, the first teacher of plain sewing and dressmaking at the institution. By the time of his sudden death on August 14, 1918, McLester had accumulated a considerable estate embracing properties in Florida and Georgia.

F.H. Cardoza of Tuskegee Institute established a dairy at Georgia State Industrial College in 1902 with a capital outlay of $600 for specialized dairying equipment. The dairy program instructed students in the caring for a dairy herd, milking of cows, separating and analyzing milk, ripening of cream and the making of butter. The major aim of the program was to prepare students to operate successfully a dairy in connection with a farm. In 1903 during the Farmers Conference, the College reported more than seventy students were studying dairying as their agriculture subject. Cardoza left the College in 1903. A separate dairy barn was built in 1904.

After the departure of Cardoza, the dairying program did not have permanent leadership until the employment of Jake F. Frazier of Americus in the fall of 1909 as head of the College’s dairying operation. Frazier was a normal school graduate of Georgia State Industrial College with a specialty in dairying. His exemplary performance in the dairy as a student impressed the College’s officials to the extent that he was given a scholarship in the summer of 1909 to attend a specialized course in dairying at the University of Wisconsin at Madison. Frazier worked in the College’s dairy during the Presidencies of Wright, Wiley and Hubert. He was widely respected for his knowledge and management skills in his area of specialization.

During the early years of the College, the staff of the University of Georgia, in cooperation with College personnel, planted experimental crop plots on the College farm. This program in 1913-1914 consisted of plots of corn, cotton, and oats which were used to facilitate the teaching of agriculture.

By the school term of 1914-1915, the agriculture program had expanded and was organized into three areas: practical agriculture, poultry raising and dairying. Robert H. Thomas had been re-employed as Superintendent of the Farm and M.J. Smitherman taught poultry raising. Frazier was still employed in dairying. The agricultural program was three years in length, primarily as a part of the normal school pro-
gram. However, students in both the preparatory and college programs could study agriculture. Students were allowed to work on the farm after school and earn five cents an hour.

President Wright reported in his 1918 Annual Report to the Georgia Department of Education the production on the College farm as follows:

Corn, cotton, beets, ground nuts, squash, peas, turnips, cabbage, okra, oats, white potatoes, sweet potatoes, tomatoes, sage, onions, lettuce, strawberries, etc.; some fruit; pears, peaches, grapes. A few hogs were raised. $116.45 worth of these were sold as meat, and there is some home cured meat on hand. Vegetables sold from the college farm brought $1,385.35. The Dairy and Poultry Departments were equally successful. During the year, the Dairy disposed of butter and milk to the value of $797.92.

United States Farm Demonstrator

The United States Government enacted the Smith-Lever Extension Act May 8, 1914 and the Georgia Legislature accepted provisions of same, August 11, 1914. This Act provided federal funds for the promotion of extension work in agriculture and home economics.

Under the Smith Lever Act, Eugene Alexander Williams was employed September 14, 1914 as the first black United States Farm Demonstrator in Georgia. He was headquartered at Georgia State Industrial College.

Williams was a native of Birmingham, Alabama and a graduate of Tuskegee Institute. A portion of his salary was paid by the College and his office was on campus; however, his work was statewide in scope. In his position, he provided valuable information to black farmers on a variety of farm crops and animals. He urged them to conduct their farms on a scientific basis. Williams was a dynamic person and was very well liked by the farm population because of his sincere interest in their welfare and because of his willingness to assist them in whatever manner he could.

Williams organized black farmers into clubs in his districts of the State for the central purpose of getting them to meet and discuss their common problems. The clubs also provided opportunities for him to demonstrate new sci-
scientific techniques. One of the most impressive farm clubs in the State located at Millen thought so much of Demonstrator Williams that they organized a movement in 1916 to give Williams a new Ford to be used in his work. They felt that this vehicle would enable him to serve more fully the hundreds of black farmers who had been greatly assisted by him during the past three or four years.

Williams, in cooperation with the United States Department of Agriculture, the Central of Georgia Railway, black farmers, and Georgia State Industrial College organized an Agriculture Railroad Car Exhibit which travelled in south, east and middle Georgia from January 5 to February 10, 1916. This “agriculture school on wheels” contained prized farm products produced by black farmers in this region. The car commenced its trip in Athens and ended in Savannah, making forty-three stops at such places as Macon, Atlanta, Columbus, Albany, Fort Valley, Millen, Dublin, and Statesboro. The car was placed near Central Georgia Railway Station; a formal program consisting of local dignitaries and agriculture experts preceded the opening of the car to the public.

During the month of January it was reported that more than 24,000 persons visited the car before it reached Savannah. In many locations where the car was exhibited, school officials granted a holiday so the children could witness the admirable collection of farm products produced by thrifty, energetic and intelligent black farmers.

Farmers Conferences

President Wright felt that one technique the College could use to fulfill its land-grant mission of helping black farmers was to hold annual "Farmers Conferences" at the institution. These conferences were designed to provide a platform for large and small black farmers—owners, renters or sharecroppers—to tell the stories of their successes and failures. Many farmers came simply to hear encouraging words from prosperous farmers. Some came from small cabins to tell a simple story of projects, such as adding a room, repairing a barn, or purchasing a small piece of land. Others came to seek advice on how to rear their children better. Many times the farmers adopted resolutions which they felt would help to promote a better way of life for them and their families.

The College sought some of the most prominent men in agriculture and other aspects of Negro life to make presentations related to the latest techniques of scientific farming. As the conferences developed, a health component was added to the conference agenda. Important topics related to the prevention and cure of common diseases such as tuberculosis, hook-worm, yellow fever, etc. were discussed.

The first Mini-Farmers Conference was held at Georgia State Industrial College on June 7, 1893 in connection with the second commencement exercises of the institution. A representa-
Presidency of Richard R. Wright, Sr.

tive number of persons from various parts of the state were present at this campus program. The program was launched with an address by President Wright where he appealed to members of the race to stand by the College, build it up, give it their support, their influence and patronage.

The Honorable Anthony Wilson of Camden, a member of the Georgia General Assembly, addressed the audience concerning the Legislature's interest in the College. He said that he had been sent by his colleagues to investigate the work of the institution and to see if progress taking place here justified additional funding from the state. He stated that he was elated over the progress the institution had made in two years and he strongly endorsed additional funding. Additional addresses were given by Judges P.W. Meldrim, and Hammond; Reverends L.B. Maxwell, R.R. Downs, A. Ellis and T.M. Smith; and Chancellor Boggs. At the close of the program, as a special treat, all persons in attendance were served dinner.

At the 1903 Farmers Conference, George Washington Carver of Tuskegee Institute delivered an informative address entitled, "What Is Best on a Farm and How to Manage It." Carver was praised for his outstanding address by Chancellor Hill of the University of Georgia, Honorable W.A. Pledge of Atlanta, and Collector of Custom, Deveaux, all of whom were in attendance. The College distributed to the farmers in attendance 1,000 packages of potent farm product seeds.

Dr. Carver was also the speaker at the 1904 conference and he gave the farmers practical and technical information concerning farming problems. The special topics that year dealt with the study of the Ogeechee oyster and the cultivation of rice. Fifteen hundred packages of first-class seeds were given to farmers. The College was also successful in securing a roundtrip railroad fare of one and one third plus twenty-five cents for participants at the conference. All persons who came to the conference by railroad and wanted the discount had to secure a certificate from the ticket agent at the point of departure and get it validated at the conference.

The 1905 conference program included the following topics and speakers:

"Use of Commercial Fertilizer"—Dr. R.J. Redding, Director of State Agricultural Experiment Station.
"Injurious Insects"—Dr. W.D. Newell, State Entomologist.
"Sea Island Cotton"—W.D. Orton, Experimental Farm at Blackshear, GA.
"Pneumonia and Its Prevention"—Dr. J.W. Williams.
"The Negro Agricultural Problems"—Monroe N. Work, (Ph.B. and M.A., University of Chicago) Professor of Pedagogy and History, Georgia State Industrial College. Work later became the Director of Records and Research at Tuskegee Institute where he became a renowned collector of information on blacks.

The first annual bulletin of the Farmers Conference was issued in 1905 and contained valuable information concerning blacks in Georgia as related to their wealth, education, farms, land ownership, etc.

The three day 1906 Farmers Conference was held February 21, 22, 23, and one hundred and ninety-two of the most progressive black farmers in the states were in attendance. The complete statistics of the conference were:

- Farm owners 159
- Farm renters 33
- Number of acres owned by farmers 23,766
- Number of acres rented by farmers 3,000
- Farmers making a profit last year 156
- Counties represented 17 GA 2 S.C.

It was at this conference that a resolution was adopted which endorsed the establishment of a State Colored Fair. President Wright used this resolution as a springboard for his work with the State Fair Movement.

These Farmers Conferences continued throughout the Wright Presidency; however, the attendance to them fluctuated. President Wright and students from the College traveled over the state each year promoting the conferences which were held annually on or near President George Washington's birthday. Dr. George Washington Carver made a presentation concerning products that he had produced from the peanut at the 1920 conference which was the last conference of President Wright's format. The February, 1921 conference, the last during President Wright's tenure, was under the super-
vision of State Supervising Agent Eugene A. Williams and the topics discussed were:

1. Home Improvements
2. Cooperative Marketing
3. Home gardening
4. Sweet potatoes and curing houses
5. Extent Negro agents are helping white farmers
6. Child feeding
7. Rural problems as seen by President Wright

Industrial Department

Manual Training

When Georgia State Industrial College opened in Savannah, Percy Ashley was employed as Instructor of Mechanic Arts. However, his tenure at the institution was short and a fully organized program in mechanic arts was not launched the first year. President Wright allowed a shoemaker, a tailor, a blacksmith and a wheelwright to practice their trades at the college with students as apprentices the first year, but these persons received no compensation from the College for teaching. Loring B. Palmer, teacher of English, taught a limited program of mechanical drawing as manual training to students in the normal and sub-normal programs during the first year. Also, all students were required to work in agriculture and/or industrial pursuits at least one hour after school for which they were paid. R.E. Cobb, the mathematics teacher, had a knowledge of surveying which he used with student help to survey the campus.

The first organized program in manual training was introduced at the beginning of the second term in October, 1892, and Albert A. Ashton of Savannah was employed to direct it. Woodworking and mechanical drawing were the key elements of this program and they were taught in a facility with nine benches, each equipped with a full set of tools.

W. Wilson Cooke of Orangeburg, South Carolina became Superintendent of the Industrial Department October, 1893. Prior to coming to Savannah, he had been instructor of architectural drawing at Claflin University for a number of years. Upon the arrival of Cooke, the instructional staff of the industrial department included Joseph S. Hines and J.M. Roston who taught blacksmithing and wheelwrighting, respectively. Cooke introduced carpentry and masonry as courses in the manual training program.

The method of teaching in the manual training program was theoretical and practical. The instructor would place a sketch of the object of wood or metal with all its basic dimensions on the chalkboard, and students were required to draft the object and construct same as drawn. The student was graded on both his drawing and construction skills. This procedure was followed during the first two years of the three year program. The third year consisted of lectures and mostly practical work in the occupation studied. The content of the blacksmithing and masonry courses was:

Blacksmithing
First year—Use and care of forge and forge tools. Twelve lessons in forging according to drawings. Lectures on tempering and annealing. Lectures on composition of iron and molding of same.
Second year—Ten exercises in filing from mechanical drawings. Exercises in chipping; construction work, such as, making of hammers, fullers, tongs, chisels, wrenches, punches, etc.
Third year—Advanced work in filing, chipping, and annealing.

Masonry

The three-year manual training course was an integral element of the three-year normal course whereby the student pursued an industrial subject each term along with his academic subjects. The only industrial subject offered college students was an architectural drawing course in the freshman year. Sub-normal students were required to take agriculture and/or manual training. Opportunities were provided for special students to devote all of their time to one trade area. At the 1895 commencement, the first Certificates of Proficiency in the trade area were awarded to several young men.

The quality of work done by the students in manual training could be measured by the type of awards that they received for their exhibits and the magnitude of their construction projects on campus. At the 1895 Cotton States and Inter-
national Exposition held in Atlanta, the College received awards for its industrial exhibition.

In 1896, the faculty and students in manual training constructed the first Meldrim Hall which was located in front of Herty Hall. This structure was a large fifty-eight-foot by eighty-foot wood frame two-story structure with a seventy-four-foot high tower. This building had four large classrooms on the first floor and a chapel on the second floor with a seating capacity of 800. This structure was designed by W. Wilson Cooke, and was named in honor of Chairman of the Commission, P.W. Meldrim. The building was destroyed by fire in December, 1917.

The school term of 1898-99 witnessed the introduction of three industrial areas: tailoring, painting, and shoemaking. W.H.A. Howard and Charles A. Lewis taught painting and tailoring, respectively. The painting course included exterior and interior house painting and sign painting.

Specialized Trades

Prior to the 1899-1900 school term, instruction was provided in the trades under the umbrella of manual training which, at the time, was somewhat of a national practice of secondary and collegiate institutions offering industrial training. Upon the departure of Cooke and the elevation of Joseph S. Hines to Director of the Industrial Department from his position as instructor of blacksmithing, the industrial area was reorganized into two Departments: Department of Manual Training and the Department of Trades. Manual training was continued as an integral part of the normal school curriculum with emphasis on mechanical drawing, iron and woodworking, but the courses in carpentry, blacksmithing, masonry, painting, tailoring and shoemaking were isolated into specialized three-year trade programs designed to produce craftsmen. The faculty of this program was as follows:

Carpentry — T. Lee
Blacksmithing — J.S. Hines

First Meldrim Hall.

Masonry — L.B. Thompson, A.B.
Painting — W.H.A. Howard
Shoemaking — E.F. Golden
Tailoring — C.A. Lewis

Students in the trade program devoted four hours, a half school day, to the study of the trade and the remainder of the school day studying typical secondary subjects. Each trade course was so organized that a typical student could complete the program in three years, a period which usually was sufficient for the completion of the normal school course. However, students were allowed to accelerate their trade programs depending upon their technical background at entry and upon how rapidly they acquired the necessary skills.

The College was organized into two groups of trade students. Before noon, one group of students would pursue trade instructions while the other group was in academic courses. After lunch these groups would reverse their instructional order. Upon the completion of the three year trade programs, students were awarded Certificates of Proficiency which indicated courses completed and work performed. Many students worked at their trades as apprentices during the summer while away from the College to earn school fees and to enhance their skills. At the 1900 commencement, twelve students received their certificates under the reorganized trade program.

Students who continued their education in the collegiate department after completing a trade and normal programs were provided practical and theoretical work opportunities to further develop their skills. All male students in the sub-normal, normal, and collegiate programs were required to study a trade and/or agriculture.

The construction of Hill Hall, a boys dormitory, by students and faculty, was quite an achievement for the Industrial Department. This structure was started in 1900 and completed in 1901. The masonry construction was under the supervision of Instructor Lewis B. Thompson, who received his A.B. degree from Georgia State
Presidency of Richard R. Wright, Sr.

Industrial College in 1899. He was the second college graduate of the institution. (He was also the son-in-law of President Wright). The woodwork was supervised by T. Lee and the metal work by Joseph S. Hines. During the construction of this building, the Savannah Tribune urged its readers to go out and see this magnificent structure. It stated, "You must go out to see the new dormitory building resplendent in its beauty and imposing in its proportions." Hill Hall was named in honor of Dr. Walter Barnard Hill, Chancellor of the University of Georgia from 1899-1905. Dr. Hill attended a meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Georgia State Industrial College on December 13, 1905 in Savannah. He contracted a severe cold on returning to the University from this meeting which developed into pneumonia; he died December 28, 1905, from this illness.

President Wright reported to the Department of Education in its Report to the General Assembly for the School Year Ending December 31, 1904 the following statistics concerning the approximate number of students who had pursued the various industrial courses since the founding of the College:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Blacksmithing</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carpentry</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tailoring</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masonry</td>
<td>250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shoemaking</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Painting</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wheelwrighting</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>885</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Many of these students had not completed their trades at the College, but had received sufficient instruction to engage in the occupation at some level. President Wright also reported that several young men who had completed the industrial courses at the College were teaching at other colleges.

The 1904-1905 school term brought new focus to the faculty of the Industrial Department. M.A. Davis and R.M. Cooper became the new teachers of carpentry and tailoring, respectively. Davis was a native of Georgia and a graduate of Hampton Institute. He had also studied at Boston School of Technology. He came to Georgia State Industrial College from the position of Director of Industrial Department at State Normal College at Frankfort, Kentucky. Cooper
By 1912, power machinery had been installed in the carpentry and shoemaking shops and 325 Certificates of Proficiency had been issued by the College in the trades. In 1913, a new concrete block building was constructed by students to house a new steam laundry. The blocks for this structure were manufactured on campus by students and the building was designed by the faculty of the Industrial Department. Howard Jackson initiated the instructional program in laundering which was open to male and female students. Jackson remained as an employee of the College for many years. The laundry building was later named White Hall in honor of Willie Palmer White, a teacher of dressmaking at the College for many years. It was located on the present site of Lester Hall.

The enrollment of the College for the 1917-1918 term was 517 (414 males and 103 females). The enrollment in the trade courses was as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Craft</th>
<th>Enrollment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Carpentry</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masonry</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blacksmithing</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Painting</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tailoring</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laundering</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wheelwrighting</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

However, toward the close of the school term, many of the students included in these figures were drafted into the United States armed Forces for World War I.

By the 1918-1919 school term, Georgia State Industrial College had divided its program of studies into grammar school (three years), high school (three years), normal school (two years) and college (four years). The agriculture, commercial, domestic science and trade courses were basically segments of the grammar and high school programs. Some attention was given the commercial course in the normal school program.

Smith-Hughes Program

On February 23, 1917, President Woodrow Wilson signed the Smith-Hughes bill passed by the United States Congress. The Bill provided federal funds to the states for the teaching of agriculture, trade and industrial education, and home economics at levels less than college grades. The Legislature of Georgia promptly passed a bill accepting the provisions of this Act and appointed a State Board of Vocational Education to administer same.

In 1918-1919, the State Board funded the first trade and industrial courses as a part of the federally supported Smith-Hughes program at the Georgia State Industrial College. These courses were two all-day classes in blacksmithing and masonry. There was a total enrollment on ninety students. During the 1919-1920 school term, this program had grown to one all-day class in each of the trade areas of carpentry, masonry, blacksmithing, and shoemaking for which the college received $3,000 of Smith-Hughes funds. These courses were offered primarily in the grammar school department to youth over sixteen years of age. Those pursuing these courses devoted fifty percent of their time to shop instruction, thirty percent to related industrial subjects, and the remainder to typical grammar school subjects.

National Army Training Detachment

During World War I, the United States Government contracted with Atlanta University, Arkansas Branch Normal School, Wilberforce University, Florida A&M College, Georgia State Industrial College, Hampton Institute, Howard University, North Carolina A&T College, Prairie View Normal, South Carolina State Industrial School, Tuskegee Institute, and Western University in Kansas to provide vocational training for black soldiers for service with The National Army. The areas of training included in this program were auto driving and repair, carpentry, blacksmithing, electrical work, wheelwrighting, plumbing, radio operating, telegraphy, telephone operation and repair, electronics, and tractor operation.

The two major features of this Vocational Section B program were:

1. Schools could induct from their normal student body students who had completed their grammar school training, who were eighteen years of age and over, and who were physically fit.
2. Those students, who were qualified at the end of their vocational period to pursue higher studies, such as mathematics, physics, chemistry, etc. and gave evidence of ability as leaders, could continue their education for an additional two, four or six months.

A military detachment of approximately two-hundred soldiers received two months of
industrial training at Georgia State Industrial College under the military program during the summer of 1918. James Webb and R.M. Bradshaw were special instructors in this program. On August 31, 1918, each participant in the Army Training School for Mechanics was presented by his commanding officer a certificate designating his record and grade of work during the training period. Each soldier was classified either as an expert journeyman or an apprentice depending upon his technical competence. The group was sent from Georgia State Industrial College to Camp Hancock in Augusta, Georgia.

In September, 1918, when the collegiate units of S.A.T.C. were organized, the need arose for a modification of the vocational course in black schools with the view of providing commissioned and non-commissioned officers for black units. The modified plan provided for from two to six months of additional training for soldiers who had shown the capacity of leadership during the basic two-month vocational course. This additional training at the college was to include instruction in English, mathematics, science and Military values. Georgia State Industrial College had been approved for the advanced training course, but the Armistice of November 11, 1918 terminated all negotiations.

Superintendents and Faculty

The Superintendents of the Industrial Department during the Presidency of Richard R. Wright, Sr., were as follows:

- Percy Ashley 1891-1892
- Albert A. Ashton 1892-1893
- W. Wilson Cooke 1893-1899
- Joseph S. Hines 1899-1906
- T. Lee 1900-1904
- M.A. Davis 1904-1905
- E.B. Knight 1905-1906
- E.M. Wilson 1906-1919
- Antonio Orsot 1919-

Orsot came to the College in the Fall of 1919 as teacher of carpentry, and mechanical and architectural drawing. He was a graduate of Tuskegee Institute and came to this institution from a teaching position at Voorhees Industrial School in Denmark, South Carolina. His first major construction project on this campus was the designing and supervision of the construction of the second Meldrim Hall which was the major administration, assembly hall and classroom building on the campus until its demolition in 1981. The cornerstone for this structure was laid June, 1920 with an elaborate program featuring as main speaker, Dr. James Hardy Dillard, President of the Anna T. Jeane's Foundation. The building took several years to complete. Orsot designed other campus buildings and remained at the college until his retirement in 1952.

The tenure of faculty in the Industrial Department during Wright's administration was as follows:

**Blacksmiting**
- Joseph S. Hines 1893-1906
- J.W. Warren 1906-1909
- P.S. Moore 1909-
  - Certificate of Proficiency, 1903 Georgia State Industrial College

**Carpentry and Woodworking**
- Percy Ashley 1881-1892
- Albert A. Ashton 1892-1893
- W. Wilson Cooke 1893-1899
- T. Lee 1900-1904
- M.A. Davis 1904-1905
- E.B. Knight 1905-1906
- E.M. Wilson 1906-1919
- Antonio Orsot 1919-

**Laundering**
- Howard Jackson 1914-

**Masonry**
- Lawrence B. Thompson 1894-1920
  - Normal diploma, 1896; A.B. degree, 1899 Georgia State Industrial College
- P.W. Simmons (asst.) 1913-1915
- J.W. Warrick 1920-
  - Normal diploma, 1918 Georgia State Industrial College

**Painting**
- W.H.A. Howard 1898-1903
  - Normal diploma, 1898; A.B. degree, 1901, Georgia State Industrial College
- J.H. Hazel 1903-1919
- Samuel L. Lester 1920-
  - Normal diploma, 1920, Georgia State Industrial College

**Shoemaking**
- E.F. Golden 1901-1907
- G.A. Halloway 1907-1914
- F.A. Dilworth 1914-1915
- C.F. Flipper 1915-

**Tailoring**
- Charles A. Lewis 1898-1904
- R.M. Cooper 1904-

**Wheelwrighting**
- J.M. Roston 1892-1921
Domestic Science

At the beginning of the 1898-1899 school term, the Georgia State Industrial College admitted women for the first time. These students were not allowed to live on campus as boarding students, but selected out-of-town females were permitted to live in designated homes in the college community. An extensive recruiting program for these new students was conducted by Nathan B. Young.

The first women to graduate from the College in the Normal Department did so in June, 1900. They were Ethel Bizard, Florence A. Fields, Ella McIntosh, and Mamie L. Whitmire. The first female to receive an A.B. degree from the College was Lucrene Dixon, Class of 1915.

All female students were required to take a vocational course just as the male students were. The first offerings for women were dressmaking and plain sewing which were taught by Lavinia E. DeVaugh.

The three-year course in sewing was as follows:

First year: Study of cloths and equipment; sewing of seams, hems, patches, and button holes; beginning dressmaking.

Second year: Taking measurements and drafting patterns; making of underwear, shirt-waist, children dresses and dress construction from drafted patterns.

Third year: Advanced dressmaking; study of embroidery, millinery and interior decoration.

In 1909, students and faculty of the Industrial Department constructed a domestic science building to house an expanded program for young women at the College. This building was later named Hammond Hall in honor of Judge W.R. Hammond of Atlanta who served on the College's Board of Commissioners for many years. The cooking and sewing programs were housed in this facility and at one time tailoring and shoemaking were also taught there.

Willie G. Hill was employed shortly after the completion of Hammond Hall and was the first teacher of domestic science. She remained at the College until 1920. In 1913, Willie Palmer White replaced Lavinia DeVaugh Mc Lester as teacher of dressmaking and plain sewing. Mc Lester resigned because of ill health.

The three-year home economics courses in cooking and sewing for women were basically normal school courses. The technical content of the domestic science (cooking) course, was as follows:

First year — Introduction to the study of cooking with its place in home economics. Study of fats, proteins, soups, combination of starch, etc.

Second year — Study of meat proteins; beef, pork, etc. Study of heat consumption fuels. Study of carbohydrates — vegetables; potatoes, cereals, fruits and digestion as its relation to cookery; protein gelatin; advanced cookery; frozen mixtures.


Commercial Course

A three-year normal level commercial course was instituted at Georgia State Industrial College in the fall of 1914 with G.L. Gaines as instructor. The course of study consisted of the following subject areas:

- Commercial Spelling
- Commercial Arithmetic
- Commercial Geography
- Business Forms
- Bookkeeping
- Commercial Arithmetic
- Stenography
- Typewriting

By the fall of 1920, W.E. Tibbs, (A.B. Howard University) was the teacher of commercial subjects. The popularity of this area among the college level students as their trade preference grew rapidly. Of the thirty students in the collegiate department in 1920-21, sixteen, or fifty-three percent, indicated the commercial course as their vocational area. This choice may have been because most of the students at this academic level were graduates of the College's secondary program and had already pursued one of the traditional vocational courses in high school. Therefore, they took the newer program in commerce to satisfy their collegiate vocational requirements.

Georgia State Colored Fair

The Farmers Conference, which met on February 21-23, 1906, passed a resolution endorsing the concept of a State Colored Fair. On March 8, 1906, President Wright met with a
number of leading black citizens at Wage Earners Bank on West Broad Street in Savannah and temporarily organized a group to sponsor a State Fair which would show the progress of the colored people for the past forty years, especially along agricultural, business and industrial lines. A mass meeting was held at St. Phillip Memorial A.M.E. Church on West Broad Street March 21, 1906 in the interest of the Fair. An application for a charter was filed in the name of Georgia State Colored Agricultural and Industrial Association which was the organization sponsoring the Fair. The Association offered 10,000 shares of stock at $1.00 a share, and at the time of the mass meeting more than 1,000 shares had already been sold and/or pledged.

The permanent organization of the Association consisted of regular officers, such as president, secretary, treasurer; sixteen vice presidents from various districts in the state, and a Board of Directors of one hundred members chosen from counties in the state. President Wright was chosen President of the Association. The Fair was not sponsored by Georgia State Industrial College, but the Commissioners supported President Wright's involvement in the undertaking and allowed him to use his time to promote and manage its affairs. Chairman Meldrim followed the Fair movement with much interest.

The Association opened an office at 610 New Street in Savannah to promote the Fair. It was agreed in early summer of 1906 to hold the first State Colored Fair in Macon. Soon thereafter, the headquarters for the Fair was set up in Macon on Spring Street near Cotton Avenue. The regular officers of the Association were:

Richard R. Wright Sr., President
Georgia State Industrial College

Louis B. Thompson, Secretary
Georgia State Industrial College

Sol Johnson, Treasurer
Savannah Tribune

The first State Colored Fair was held in Macon, November 12-19, 1906; its motto was "Tell Them We Are Rising," a famous quotation of President Wright. During the opening convocation, Dr. Booker T. Washington of Tuskegee Institute delivered a very moving address.

Georgia State Industrial College sent an elaborate exhibit from its agricultural, industrial and sewing departments. This exhibit included wagons and buggies made in the blacksmithing and wheelwrighting shops; shoes and harnesses made in shoemaking shop; artistic miniature stairway made in the carpentry shop; Prince Albert suits and tuxedo coats made in the tailoring shop; ornamental brickwork; and quality sugar cane, cotton, rice and potatoes produced on the College's farm.

The First Fair was a tremendous success and paid stockholders five percent dividend on their investment. President Wright traveled over the state during the summer of 1906 promoting the Fair and spent his winter holidays that same year keeping the records of the Fair, for which services he received no pay.

The second annual State Colored Fair was held in Macon in November, 1907 and collected $7,066.55 from the gate receipts, concessions, midway, etc., and $3,668.12 from the sale of stock with a total income of $11,564.67. The expenditures totaled $5,949.13. The Association paid six percent dividend on 5,000 shares of stock outstanding. Over 6,000 persons attended this affair.

The State Colored Fair was held in Macon until November 21-30, 1916 when it was held in Savannah at Joyland Park located opposite Catholic Cemetery on the Thunderbolt Car Line.

President Wright worked diligently with the Fair and the College always sent exhibits. However, Wright was criticized and sued about the Fair. There appeared to be some misunderstanding by many persons who bought shares of stock in the Association on how a stock company operated. Wright stated in his Second Annual Report of the Fair that people "must be taught the meaning of a joint stock company; that when they purchased shares in a chartered or incorporated company, they can not take their money out at will; that the only way to get their money out is to sell their stock for what it will bring in the market . . . that all they can get is their dividend."

Reflections

Before Richard R. Wright, Sr. became President of Georgia State Industrial College, he was familiar with Savannah and many Savannahians were familiar with him. He had spoken at Beach Institute, the only high school for blacks in the city at the time; First African Baptist Church and other churches long before he was appointed College President. He also previously knew many persons here through his connections with Atlanta University; because during this period many of the prominent blacks of Savannah were graduates of that institution. Also a very strong
relationship developed between him and Rev. E.K. Love, Pastor of First African Baptist Church and a strong supporter of the founding of the College. Wright came to the community with a very broad base of black support. However, as he remained at Georgia State, his local black support declined. Some attributed the gradual demise of this support to his political aspirations. Wright was a Republican and had personally met at least two Republican Presidents, William McKinley and William Howard Taft. These Presidents visited the college while they were in office (McKinley in 1898 and Taft in 1912). President McKinley appointed Wright Paymaster in the Volunteer Army during the Spanish American War with the rank of Major. Many of the local black Republicans, including Sol Johnson of the Savannah Tribune, accused Wright of wanting most of the prominent local Republican appointive positions, and of always wanting to be a delegate to the National Republican Convention. Many leaders felt that Wright should avoid politics since he was the President of a state supported college. The political feud between Wright, Sol Johnson, and the Savannah Tribune became so intense that Wright filed a suit in the courts against the Tribune and its owner. He lost the suit.

Wright’s Presidency of Georgia State Industrial College spanned thirty years, and considering (1) the meager financial support the College received from the State to fulfill a land-grant mission, (2) the political and economic status of blacks in Georgia at the time, and (3) the controversy among blacks concerning industrial education versus classical education, his Presidency was a successful one.

President Wright tried to fulfill the agricultural and mechanic arts mission of the College by doing the following:

1. Requiring all students (sub-normal, normal and collegiate) to study a vocational course while at the institution.
2. Holding annually Farmer Conferences to help black farmers.
3. Using the college farm and campus building projects to develop students’ skills in agriculture and mechanic arts.
4. Organizing and promoting Colored State Fairs to enhance black pride in agriculture and mechanic arts.

The College did not expand in physical plant, collegiate offerings or enrollment as many had expected. Only forty students received degrees and three hundred eighty-seven were awarded normal school diplomas between 1891-1921. The low college enrollment was greatly attributed to the lack of feeder black public and/or private high schools in the state. Most of the collegiate students were normal school graduates of Georgia State Industrial College.

The state’s financial support of the College was far less than support mandated by the size of the state’s black population and the amount doled out of the state’s treasury to similar schools for white students.

As late in Wright’s Presidency as the 1920 school year, the state aid to Georgia State In-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>State Aid for Institution</th>
<th>Total Value of College Property</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>University of Georgia — Athens</td>
<td>$ 95,000</td>
<td>$2,657,386</td>
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<tr>
<td>North Georgia Agriculture College — Dahlonega</td>
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<td>Georgia School of Technology — Atlanta</td>
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<td>State Normal School — Athens</td>
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<td>State College of Agriculture — Athens</td>
<td>$ 90,000</td>
<td>$ 745,664</td>
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<td>Georgia Medical College — Augusta</td>
<td>$ 35,000</td>
<td>$ 155,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Georgia State Normal College — Valdosta</td>
<td>$ 35,000</td>
<td>$ 505,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total for white institutions</td>
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<td>$6,941,550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia State Industrial College — Savannah</td>
<td>$ 10,000</td>
<td>$ 83,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia Normal and Agriculture College Albany</td>
<td>$ 15,000</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total for black institutions</td>
<td>$ 25,000</td>
<td>$146,500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

22
Presidency of Richard R. Wright, Sr.

Industrial College was $10,000, only 1.75% of the total amount spent by the State of Georgia on institutions of higher education for white students during the same period. Its physical plant valued only $83,000 as compared to the $6,941,550 for white institutions (1.20%). The doctrine of separate but equal in higher education in Georgia was a mockery. The separation of the races was strictly enforced, but the equality of financial support never existed.

Only two substantial buildings were constructed during the Wright Presidency: Hill Hall, a three story masonry boys dormitory; and the first Meldrim Hall, a two-story wood auditorium and classroom building which was destroyed by fire in 1917. However, two small masonry buildings to house domestic science and the steam laundry, several wood trade buildings, residences for the President and Vice President, several faculty cottages and several farm barns were constructed. The trade buildings were located on the present sites of Morgan and Wright Halls; the homes of the President and Vice President were located on the site of the parking lot east of Colston Administration Building until they were moved in the 1950s to 3113 Thompkins Heights and 3206 Whatley Avenue in Thunderbolt, respectively. The new masonry constructed Meldrin Hall was started before Wright's departure, but it was not completed until later.

The vocational offerings were basically on the secondary level, but were fairly well taught with very limited facilities. Many of the persons who received Certificates of Proficiency in the trades practiced their occupations as tradesmen after leaving the institution, and many became teachers and directors of industrial departments of black colleges and industrial schools. Only three of the instructors in the vocational areas had college degrees: Lawrence B. Thompson in masonry, W.H.A. Howard in painting and W.E. Tibbs in commerce. Thompson and Howard were graduates of the liberal arts program of Georgia State Industrial College and Tibbs was from Howard University.

The collegiate curriculum was a typical classical college program of its era with a requirement that each student engage himself in the pursuit of one of the occupational area offered at the college. Most of the College students continued in the trades in which they had pursued in normal school, and became the lead students on College construction projects and the College farm operation. This approach to higher education was Wright's compromise in the industrial education versus classical education struggle in the black community. Although Wright was a graduate of Atlanta University, he supported Booker T. Washington's philosophy. He amplified this support by having Washington as his commencement speaker in June, 1905 and the feature speaker at the opening of the Georgia State Colored Fair in 1906. George Washington Carver was a frequent participant in the Farmers Conferences.

President Wright was a leader among his peer black land-grant college presidents. He was instrumental in organizing the National Association of Presidents of the Colored Agriculture and Mechanical Colleges in Chattanooga, Tennessee in 1901, and was elected the first President, a position to which he was unanimously re-elected for more than five consecutive years. This organization expanded to include other black institutions and met annually in different cities in the Southeast.

Wright was considered by some national leaders to be a spokesman on Negro matters. In 1901, he was requested to speak before the Industrial Commission in Washington concerning his view on issues involving the Negro in American life. Some blacks praised his comments before the Commission, while others harshly criticized him. However, the Commission appeared to have been impressed with Wright's remarks.

In 1894, Wright wrote a book entitled Brief Historical Sketch of Negro Education In Georgia. He served as editor of a newspaper and wrote many articles for the press. He was always praised by Atlanta University as one of its distinguished alumni.

After thirty years as President of Georgia State Industrial College, Wright resigned in June, 1921 and moved to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania where he organized a Negro bank, Citizens and Southern Bank and Trust Company. Wright married Lydia Elizabeth Howard of Columbus, Georgia June 7, 1876, and they had nine children. He died in Philadelphia at the age of ninety-four.
UON THE DEPARTURE of Richard R. Wright, Sr., June, 1921, the Board of Commissioners with Judge P.W. Meldrim as Chairman elected Cyrus G. Wiley as the second President of Georgia State Industrial College. Wiley was a native of Beaufort, South Carolina and an 1899 normal school and a 1902 college graduate of this institution. He had done some summer study at Columbia University, and had been employed by the College as an instructor in mathematics for the previous year. Before becoming an instructor at Georgia State Industrial College, Wiley was Principal of Magnolia High School in Valdosta, Georgia where he had been an effective administrator and an active alumnus assisting President Wright with projects such as the Alumni Association, Farmers Conferences, State Colored Fairs, etc. Wiley was very well admired by the local black community and had its support at the time of his appointment and throughout his tenure as President.

When Wright resigned, Henry Pearson, A.M., who was Vice President and had been at the College for twenty-six years, also left to go to Claflin University in Orangeburg, South Carolina. This departure necessitated the appointment of a new Vice President. Wiley chose Antonio Orsot who had been appointed Superintendent of the Mechanical Department a year earlier. Orsot served in both capacities during Wiley’s Administration. The other instructors during Wiley’s first year as President were as follows:

- F.A. Curtwright, A.B. — Natural Sciences
- John A. Lockette, A.B., A.M. — Mathematics
- F.R. Lampkin, A.B. — English and Pedagogy and Secretary of Faculty
- J. Frank Rogers, A.B. — English
- W.E. Tibbs, A.B. — Bookkeeping, Stenography, and Typewriting
- J.H. Warrick — Masonry and Plastering
- S.L. Lester — Painting, Glazing, Sign Painting and Kalsomining
- C.F. Flipper — Shoe and Harness Making
- P.S. Moore — Blacksmithing and Wheelwrighting
- R.M. Cooper — Tailoring
- Howard Jackson — Laundering
- Willie P. White — Plain Sewing and Dressmaking
- J.S. Frazier — Dairying and Poultry
- J.W. Derrick — Foreman of Farm
- Anna M. Blount — Matron

John A. Lockette and J. Frank Rogers were employed by President Wiley in the Fall of 1921. Lockette was an 1898 normal school and a 1901
college graduate of the institution, and had been employed since graduation as Principal of graded schools in Claxton and Tennile, Georgia; and Gainesville and Palatka, Florida. Rogers received his high school and college education at Georgia State Industrial College, graduating in the classes of 1912 and 1915, respectively. He had also been Principal of elementary schools in Quitman and Douglas, Georgia. Both of these individuals worked at the College for many years.

When Wiley assumed the Presidency, the College property consisted of one hundred sixteen acres of land, eighty-one acres of which were used for farming purposes. There were two recitation buildings (Boggs Hall and an incomplete Meldrim Hall); two major farm buildings, four wood trade buildings, a masonry laundry, a masonry domestic science building, five wood cottages for President and faculty; and two dormitories (Hill Hall and Parsons Hall). At the beginning of President Wiley’s second term in 1922, he organized the College’s instructional program into four departments with the following Directors:

- Literary Department — F.R. Lampkin, A.B., Boston College
- Commercial Department — W.E. Tibbs, A.B., Howard University
- Mechanical Department — A. Orsot
- Agricultural Department — E.A. Williams

The program of studies was divided into grammar school (7th and 8th grades), high school (9th-12th grades), normal (one year post-high school), and college (four years). All students were required to pursue a vocational course with these programs.

**Women Boarding Students**

Probably the most far reaching action of the Wiley Administration was the admission of
women as boarding students at the College. In October, 1921, eleven young women were admitted as boarders in the old boys’ dormitory, Parsons Hall. However, President Wiley felt that a new dormitory should be constructed for girls as had been constructed for boys. Therefore, he exerted a lot of energy to have constructed a new facility for the new boarding students.

The Board of Commissioners gave the College authority to raise money to support a grant offered from the General Education Board for the construction of a girls’ dormitory on campus. This agency had promised the College $25,000 if the College and the Georgia Legislature would match this amount toward the construction of a dormitory which cost at least $55,000. Wiley felt that if the black community could raise at least $10,000 of this amount, this would encourage the General Assembly to appropriate the balance of the matching money. The College devised a scheme of selling tags for ten cents to students and twenty-five cents to patrons and friends to raise money. This idea received wide support. State School Superintendent M.L. Brittain declared Friday, February 17, 1922, as “Industrial College Day” for the promotion of the sale of these tags. Walter B. Hill, son of the former Chancellor and Supervisor of Negro Schools in Georgia, also promoted the sale of these tags. During the months of February and March, 1922, black schools and communities were organized to promote the fund drive for the girls dormitory. Five thousand dollars were raised, far less than the amount anticipated. Unfortunately, this dormitory was not constructed during Wiley’s tenure because of the lack of financial support coming from the Georgia General Assembly to match the General Education Board’s grant. The first dormitory for girls was not constructed until 1938 as a part of the federal WPA program during the Hubert Administration.

Meldrim Hall

The construction of the second Meldrim Hall, which was on the present site of the south addition to King-Frazier Student Center, began in 1919 and the cornerstone was laid June, 1920, but the structure was not fully completed until 1926. This was a major construction project for faculty and students in the Industrial Department. Antonio Orsot and L.B. Thompson with their students started the construction of this building. After the departure of Thompson in 1920, J.H. Warrick assumed Thompson’s role of doing and supervising the masonry aspects of the structure. Orsot designed the building, and supervised the carpentry work on the building. The original design of the building included eight recitation rooms, a president’s office, space for college administration, a library, and an auditorium, with a gallery, capable of seating 1,000. The completed structure had an estimated cost of approximately $100,000.

At the opening of school in October, 1922, three of the classrooms of Meldrim were sufficiently completed for use and the auditorium was ready for use later in the school term. The building was used long before it was completely finished. Upon the completion of this structure, the administrative and instructional programs were enhanced greatly. The auditorium made it possible for the College to sponsor large inside programs on campus, a feat unheard of before this facility became available. The moving of the President’s office from Boggs Hall to Meldrim freed space which was used to board additional female students.

Agricultural Extension Services

Georgia State Industrial College became the focal point of agriculture extension in 1914 when Eugene Alexander Williams was appointed the first black State Agent under the federal Smith-Lever Act. His headquarters was located on the second floor of the creamery on the College farm. The passage of the federal Smith-Hughes Act in 1917 and the College’s initial involvement in that program gave impetus to the further development of agriculture at the institution. However, the College did not unify its efforts in these federally subsidized programs until the Wiley Administration. In 1921, Georgia State Industrial College became the headquarters for not only the black State Agricultural Demonstration Agent but also the Assistant State Demonstration Agent, the District Home Demonstration Agent, and the Home and Farm Demonstration Agents for Chatham County.

Percy H. Stone was employed as the first State Club Agent for black youths in Georgia in 1922. He was a graduate of Hampton Institute and had taught at Fayetteville State Teachers College in North Carolina, and had also served as agricultural extension agent for Clarke and adjacent counties. Juanita Conyers was appointed in 1917 as the first State Home Demonstration Agent for blacks and she was succeeded by Camilla Weems. Benjamin S. Adams, of Quit-
man, Georgia, was the first black agriculture Farm Agent for Chatham County. All of these persons had their headquarters at Georgia State Industrial College.

Also, during 1921, Lydia D. Thornton, State Industrial Supervisor for the Jeanes Fund, had her office at Georgia State Industrial College. She worked as a field agent for the institution visiting schools and working with local Jeanes teachers. She also gave demonstrations in home economics, and was very active in the College's girls' dormitory tag fund-raising program. However, this relationship with the Jeanes Fund was terminated in 1922 because of the inability of the College to fund its portion of this arrangement.

As a segment of the program of the black State Club and Home Demonstration Agents, short courses were held annually at Georgia State Industrial College in August for youth participating in the club programs over the state. The 1922 program, which was typical of others during this era, consisted of courses for girls in canning, cooking, pickling, sewing, shuckmaking, basketry and hat making; and courses for boys in growing and harvesting vegetables and field crops, poultry raising, dairying and building sanitary toilets.

President Wiley exhibited his support and enthusiasm for the agricultural extension boys club work by inviting and funding the travel of the most outstanding club member in the State to the College's February, 1925 Annual Farmers Conference as the guest of the President. Wiley wanted the youth to tell the farmers in attendance of his successes in farming. P.H. Stone, State Club Agent, selected Walter Floyd of Lamar County as the recipient of this offer. This young man had grown in 1924 as a club project one acre of cotton, one acre of corn and one-fourth acre of Laredo soybeans. From his project, he had gathered 1,700 lbs. of seed cotton, 41% bushels of corn and 4 bushels of soybeans plus the additional roughage and hay. These yields were far beyond what typical farmers were receiving from similar crops in the state.

**Vocational Agriculture**

A four-year high school curriculum in vocational agriculture was initiated at Georgia State Industrial College in 1922. It was approved by the Federal Board of Vocational Education which allocated the College a sum of $2,750 as its part of Georgia's Smith-Hughes program. Alva Tabor, from Alabama and a Tuskegee Institute graduate, was employed as the first black State Vocational Agriculture Itinerant Teacher-Trainer, and Harvey E. Hall, also from Tuskegee Institute, was employed as a Resident Vocational Teacher-Trainer of agriculture at the College to implement this program.

This new agriculture curriculum allowed students to pursue traditional high school subjects in English, history, mathematics, and science as well as specialized courses in agriculture. The program had a special feature for those students who wanted to become teachers of vocational agriculture; it provided an additional year of study after high school in special methods of teaching agriculture.

The sequence of courses in the high school agriculture curriculum was the following:

- **First Year**: Farm crops and crop projects  
  Farm shop in woodworking
- **Second Year**: Animal husbandry and animal projects  
  Farm shop in forging, concrete, harness repairs,  
  rope work, beltwork, drafting and blueprint reading
- **Third Year**: Horticulture garden and orchard crops  
  Poultry  
  Farm shop in farm machinery
- **Fourth Year**: Farm management and accounts  
  Dairy feeds and feeding  
  Farm shop in gas engines and tractors

Students were assigned small teaching plots where they employed the science of agriculture which was taught in the classroom.

The initial faculty for this program included E.A. Williams, Alva Tabor and H.E. Hall, all diploma graduates of Tuskegee Institute; and J.S. Frazier and J.W. Derrick, diploma graduates of Georgia State Industrial College.

**Business, Home Economics and Trades**

The vocational programs in commerce, domestic science, dressmaking and trades continued during President Wiley's administration basically the same as they were when Wright departed. The faculty and offerings were basically the same other than the introduction of auto mechanics in 1923 with J.G. Hollingsworth as teacher. All of these were primarily three-year high school programs designed to produce craftsmen upon completion. However, they were pur-
sued by collegiate students in connection with the traditional college courses because all students had to study a vocation.

United States Bureau of Education Report

The United States Bureau of Education sent a Specialist in charge of land-grant college statistics to Georgia State Industrial College on May 23-24, 1923 to study carefully whether the College was fulfilling the conditions required of land-grant institutions. The Bureau became concerned that the College was lagging far behind other land-grant institutions for blacks in the southern states. This perception was reflected in the College's annual reports to the federal government. The land-grant legislation authorized the Secretary of the Interior to ascertain and certify to the Secretary of the Treasury whether each State and Territory had fulfilled its agriculture and mechanic arts collegiate mandate before receiving its annual appropriation from the federal government. If a state or territory had not met the conditions of the law, federal funds could be withheld from the state or territory. From all indications Georgia was not meeting its budget obligations at Georgia State Industrial College.

The Specialist found that the self perpetuating Board of Commissioners had exercised very little interest in the College as a Board. This agency had left the supervision and promotion of the institution almost entirely to Chairman J.W. Meldrim, who exercised almost complete control over the policies of the institution which extended to internal administration, such as approving and disapproving requisitions for supplies. Very little authority was given to the President. The Board had met infrequently from June 1916 to May 1923, holding only twelve meetings with very low attendance at each.

The conditions of many of the buildings and furnishings were undesirable. Hill Hall, the boys' dormitory, had no toilet facilities and the new Meldrim Hall was incomplete.

The equipment for teaching the trades was fairly adequate and instruction in that area was
very well done, but equipment for the teaching of home economics and science was insufficient. There were no science laboratories or facilities for a library. The living conditions for girls needed improving.

Georgia State Industrial College had for 1920-21 a total income for current expenses $29,667, the lowest of all black land-grant institutions. Texas had the highest $375,079, but Georgia had the larger black population of 1,206,365 as compared to Texas black population of 741,694. Most of the funds for Georgia State Industrial College came from the federal government and very little from the State Treasury.

The salaries of the President and faculty were lower than those in other black land-grant colleges. President Wiley's annual salary was $1,500 as compared to $3,000 the average salary of presidents in other similar colleges, and salaries of faculty ranged from $660 to $1,020 as compared to an average salary of $1,150 in other black land-grant colleges.

An analysis of the 453 students enrolled in 1922-23 indicated that 198 were in grammar school, 239 in high school and only 16 in college. Fifty-five percent of the high school students and fifty-four percent of the elementary students were residents of Chatham County. The federal government felt that the land-grant college had become basically a local school of less than college grade rather than a statewide college of agriculture and mechanic arts.

After a careful analysis of the historical perspective of the institution, and its system of control, value and conditions of the property, qualifications of faculty, and status of the curriculum; the United States Bureau of Education Evaluator drew the following conclusions and made the following suggestions:

1. The state control of the college was unsatisfactory and the present Board should be replaced by a new board of seven members, each appointed by the Governor, to serve a seven-year term.
2. The State should appropriate immediately $60,000 to complete Meldrim Hall, and construct a dormitory for girls and a practice school.
3. The State must increase its appropriation to at least $30,000 annually for improvements and maintenance of equipment, faculty and physical plant.
4. The college should offer a standard four-year land-grant college curriculum.
5. The United States Bureau of Education would monitor the progress of Georgia State Industrial College to determine if Georgia should continue receiving federal land-grant funds.

With the threat of federal land-grant funds being withheld from the State of Georgia because of conditions at Georgia State Industrial College, the General Assembly of Georgia on August 16, 1924 abolished the self-perpetuating Board of Commissioners and created a governor appointed Board of Trustees consisting of five members, each with five-year terms. A. Pratt Adams, a prominent attorney in Savannah, was appointed Chairman of the new Board in 1925. With his leadership the Board started implementing suggestions listed in the United States Bureau of Education's report.

Reflections

President Wiley was a very likable administrator as indicated by his wide acceptance in Valdosta where he had been high school principal and in Savannah during his presidency of Georgia State Industrial College. The local black community gave Wiley its unwavering support because he was considered to be a very congenial person who wanted the community to support the College. He initiated the first Georgia State Industrial College Night April 6, 1922 at a local church where students appeared before the public in songs, oratory and debate. This initiative proved successful because the community rallied behind this activity throughout the Wiley years.

After the departure of President Wiley in August, 1926, Sol Johnson in his editorial in the Savannah Tribune, September 16, 1926, expressed the general feeling of the community toward Wiley.

"Since becoming the head of the institution, his interest was unabating and his action tended to endear him to the student body and the citizens. He was able to secure for the first time the whole-hearted support of the citizens for the college and he entered heartily into affairs of the people with a spirit wholly void of the least semblance of selfishness or narrowness."

Much of Wiley's local support came because of his willingness to utilize the College to educate the Savannah elementary and high school students which really was a function of the local Board of Education.

The greatest successes of the Wiley Presidency probably were (1) the admittance of wom-
en as boarding students, (2) the unifying and wholeheartedly supporting the federally subsidized agriculture extension and vocational agriculture programs, and (3) establishing an acceptable regular summer school for inservice teachers.

President Wiley was plagued with the lack of adequate financial support from the Georgia Legislature to support a first-class land-grant college for black citizens as President Wright had been. This was a matter for which many in the black community blamed him as they had done Wright, but in reality he had very little control over this matter.

In 1922, the state allocations for the maintenance of state institutions similar to Georgia State Industrial College were as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Allocation</th>
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<tr>
<td>University of Georgia</td>
<td>$110,314</td>
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<tr>
<td>North Georgia Agricultural College</td>
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<tr>
<td>Georgia School of Technology</td>
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<td>State Normal School</td>
<td>63,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Georgia Normal and Industrial College</td>
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<td>District Agricultural Schools</td>
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<td>South Georgia State Normal</td>
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<td>Bowdon State Normal and Industrial College</td>
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<td>Georgia State Industrial College for Colored</td>
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<tr>
<td>Georgia Agriculture and Normal College for Colored Teachers</td>
<td>17,500</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,018,212</strong></td>
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</table>

As indicated above, Georgia State Industrial College received from the State $10,000 or less than one percent of the state's appropriated funds for the maintenance of its agricultural, normal and collegiate institutions. Georgia Agricultural and Normal College for Colored Teachers at Albany was the only other state college in Georgia for blacks during this period, and the two institutions received only $27,500 or 2.7% of the state's funds. The remainder of the money went to support schools for white youth. The

The 1921 championship football team with Coach Waters standing at extreme right.
total value of building grounds, equipment and library at Georgia’s agricultural, normal and collegiate institutions for white students in 1921 was $7,354,208, and Georgia State Industrial College’s plant valued $83,000, only 1.12% of the value of the white institutions. During this period the population of the state was more than forty percent black.

When Wiley departed, the annual appropriation from the state for the maintenance of the college was still $10,000 and other income from the federal government and other sources came to $19,349, giving the institution an operating budget of $29,349. There was really no racial justice in the manner in which the institution was supported with public funds.

The annual collegiate enrollment during the Wiley years averaged about twenty students and only twelve received A.B. degrees between 1921 and 1926. The same problem which faced President Wright concerning this issue faced President Wiley. During this period there was almost a complete absence of public high schools in Georgia for blacks to feed an enrollment of a public college. Georgia State Industrial College collegiate students were mostly graduates of the institution’s high school.

The high school enrollment increased during the first years of Wiley’s presidency, peaking in 1923-24 with a total two hundred twelve students. One hundred and seventeen, or 55.18% of these students, were from Savannah who mostly commuted daily by streetcar and other means. In 1924-25, the high school enrollment declined because of the establishment of a senior public high school for blacks in Savannah by the Board of Education. Prior to this time there was no such school in this community for its black citizens.

At the close of the 1926 summer school, President Wiley resigned and went to Morris Brown College in Atlanta as its Dean. He died in January, 1930 as Pastor of Big Bethel A.M.E. Church in Atlanta. His body was returned to Valdosta, Georgia for burial.
Chapter 5

Presidency of Benjamin F. Hubert
1926 - 1947

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN HUBERT became the third President of Georgia State Industrial College September, 1926 upon the strong endorsement of Savannah Attorney A. Pratt Adams, Chairman of the newly formed Board of Trustees. Adams was committed to finding a person for the President of the institution with a rich background in college administration and a strong commitment to agriculture. It had become necessary for the College to carry out its land-grant mandate as recommended in the 1923 United States Bureau of Education Report if the State of Georgia was to continue receiving land-grant funds. Hubert qualified perfectly for this position because he was reared on a Georgia farm, had a degree in agriculture from a prestigious institution, and had been a respected college administrator.

President Hubert was born in Hancock County on the successful farm of his parents Zacharias and Camilla Hubert. He had received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Morehouse College and a Bachelor of Science degree in agriculture from Massachusetts Agriculture College at Amherst in 1912. At the time of his appointment he was near the completion of a Master of Science degree in agriculture at the University of Minnesota. Hubert was the brother of John Wesley Hubert, the then renowned principal of Cuyler Street Junior High School, the only public secondary school in Savannah for blacks. Hubert had served as Director of Agriculture at

President Benjamin F. Hubert.
South Carolina State College and Tuskegee Institute, and had also served as supervisor of agricultural instruction for black troops of the American Expeditionary Forces in France at the close of World War I. He was attached to the staff of the University of Beaune.

President Hubert was a prolific writer and a convincing speaker with a very strong sense of mission. Immediately upon his arrival at Georgia State Industrial College, he started expounding orally and in print his philosophy for building an effective college for Georgians. He repeated many times, "Know Georgia, Believe in Georgia and Build a Better Georgia." Throughout his tenure at the institution, he never wavered from this philosophy.

When Hubert arrived at Georgia State Industrial College, the buildings and grounds were in deplorable conditions. The institutional program was mostly less than college level and unaccredited. There were no science laboratories; and very few faculty members possessed college degrees. Most of those that did have them were graduates of Georgia State Industrial College. During his first term 1926-27, he added seven new members to the faculty who had attended institutions such as Columbia University, Wilberforce University, Atlanta University, Morehouse College and University of Minnesota. He felt that the best strategy for upgrading the instructional program was to employ teachers who were products of reputable institutions. This was an approach that he pursued religiously during his presidency.

Hubert outlined his immediate needs for the College in his report to the Department of Education for the Biennium ending December 31, 1926 as follows:

1. Fully equipped laboratories
2. New home economics building
3. Dining hall
4. Laboratory school
5. Improved facilities and animals for agriculture
6. Campus roads and driveways
7. Increased maintenance fund for forty faculty members
8. New trade building
9. More cottages for teachers

During the school term 1926-27, the College was organized into the following departments:

College — four-year course leading to Bachelor degree
Normal — two-year post-high school course in teaching leading to a diploma
High School — four-year course leading to:
(a) regular high school certificate
(b) commercial high school certificate
(c) agricultural high school certificate
(d) industrial certificates for students completing a trade and two years of high school work
Grammar School — seventh and eighth grades

Hubert's first major improvements of the physical plant were remodeling Hill Hall by installing inside plumbing and appropriate electrical fixtures, and completing Meldrin Hall with a steam heating plant and opera chairs in the auditorium. These improvements were made by the use of student labor with the supervision of faculty of the Division of Trades and Industries.

Agriculture

Curriculum and Faculty

At the close of the Wiley Administration, no members of the agriculture faculty had a college degree, nor was there a curriculum in place leading to a degree in agriculture. A degree seeking curriculum was outlined in that area during Hubert's first year, supported by a faculty member with a degree, Clarence S. Ross, who had an A.B. degree from Morehouse College and a B.S. in agriculture from the University of Minnesota. His specialties were soils, fertilizers and animal husbandry.

The first four year curriculum leading to a degree in agriculture at Georgia State Industrial College required 218 quarter hours to complete with hours distributed as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Quarter Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French &amp; German</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economics and Sociology</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The greatest needs for workers in agriculture with degrees during the Hubert era were for rural extension workers and teachers of vocational agriculture in secondary school programs supported by federal funds. Therefore, vocational agriculture education had to be the paramount focus of the College's agriculture program. In order to carry out the mandate, Thomas N. Roberts was employed in 1928 as the resident teacher trainer in agriculture replacing Harvey E. Hall who departed in 1928 after serving six years as resident teacher trainer.

Roberts was a native of Woodbine, Georgia and was in the first class to graduate from Cuyler Street Junior High School in Savannah. He attended Voorhees in Denmark, South Carolina and Morehouse College before receiving a Bachelor of Science degree in agricultural education from Hampton Institute in 1927. He continued his education at the University of Wisconsin where he received a Bachelor of Science degree.
in agricultural economics in 1928, the same year he was employed at Georgia State Industrial College. Later in 1932, Roberts received the Master of Science degree in agricultural education from the University of Wisconsin on a Rockefeller Foundation Fellowship and a Julius Rosenwald Fellowship.

The collegiate curriculum in agricultural education was restructured under Roberts as a program in agricultural education and the first graduate of this program in 1929 was Wesley A. Myers who in 1930-31 successfully pursued with honors advanced study in agricultural education at Connecticut Agricultural College at Storrs.

The initial entrance requirements of applicants for the agricultural education curriculum included the completion of a four-year vocational agriculture secondary course or the completion of an accredited public or private high school program with six months of farm experience. This curriculum required 203.5 quarter hours to complete, with sixty-eight quarter hours in specialized courses in agriculture, such as animal husbandry, farm mechanics, farm crops, agricultural economics, etc. dispersely taken with the courses in the following areas:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sciences</th>
<th>35 quarter hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>20 quarter hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>39 quarter hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sociology</td>
<td>5 quarter hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>3 quarter hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Education</td>
<td>13.5 quarter hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electives</td>
<td>20 quarter hours</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The apprentice teaching element of Robert's agriculture program received regional notoriety by requiring every student to spend ten weeks during the winter quarter of his senior year in an off-campus community under the supervision of an acceptable vocational agriculture teacher. The trainees were required to be active participants in the total life of the assigned community. They participated in the teaching of day and evening classes in agriculture, attended community meetings and church activities; and also helped local farmers with their typical farm problems, such as, repairing machinery, constructing and repairing homes and barns, terracing land, medically treating animals, etc.

Roberts not only provided opportunities for his students to participate in activities of rural Georgia, he also expanded their exposure by having them participate in a national organization. He organized the agriculture students at the College into the Georgia State Industrial College Agricultural Association and affiliated it with the collegiate section of the American Country Life Association. In October, 1929, for the first time, a student from the College's Association attended the national conference of the parent organization at Iowa State College, Ames, Iowa. This student was the only black student present at the gathering.

Roberts did a creditable job in vocational agriculture at the College before he resigned in early 1935 to assume the position of Project Manager of the Tuskegee Resettlement Project of the United States Division of Agriculture Adjustment Administration in Alabama. He remained an employee of the federal government in a variety of capacities until his death March 3, 1945, at which time he was Special Assistant in the United States Department of Agriculture.

By 1931, the agriculture faculty included Ross who by this time had received his M.S. degree from the University of Minnesota; Thomas Roberts; Robert Thomas, farm manager, a student of Hubert at Tuskegee who came with him in 1926; and R.H. Richardson who had a B.S. in agriculture from Tuskegee and taught dairying and field crops.

In September, 1935, Frank Marcellus Staley of Americus, Georgia became Director of the Division of Agriculture. He was a graduate of Morehouse College with an A.B. degree, and possessed the B.S. and M.S. degrees in agriculture from Cornell University. At the time of his appointment, he was pursuing doctoral studies in agriculture at Ohio State University. Staley understood agricultural education very well, therefore, he continued the program which Roberts had launched. Probably Staley's greatest contribution to this program was that of integrating on campus agricultural experiments into the agriculture teaching program.

Immediately after the arrival of Staley, the College became seriously involved with agricultural experiments in farm crops, cattle, hogs and poultry in cooperation with Georgia State Experiment Station, State Department of Entomology and the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA). For several years, experiments were conducted on the College farm in the development of strands of Sea Island Cotton which would be economically profitable for farmers to grow under boll weevil conditions in coastal Georgia.

Series of experiments were conducted on the College farm to determine the value of phos-
phates when applied to various farm crops. The federal government through TVA gave, on one occasion, a thirty-five-ton carload of super phosphate fertilizer for these experiments. RAMIE became an experimental crop for ordinary low land to determine its adaptability and profitability as a material to replace cotton in the manufacture of cloth. Many varieties of peanuts were planted to determine which varieties were the best money crops for this area of the state.

There also was a seven-acre-swine sanitation project on an elevated portion of the College farm where experimental grazing cover crops were grown for brood sows and their litters of pigs. A ten-acre forestry demonstration project was established in 1939 with mature pines, two-year-old slash pine seedlings, year-old pine seedlings, and pine seed beds.

Staley departed at the beginning of World War II and was replaced first by B.H. Crutcher as Acting Director and later by J.B. Wright as Acting Director during the remainder of Hubert's Presidency. Crutcher had a B.S. from Florida A&M College and M.S. from Iowa State College. Wright was a graduate of Alcorn A&M College with a B.S. and a M.S. from Iowa State College.

During the Hubert Presidency, Alva Tabor continued to work as the itinerant teacher trainer in agriculture for blacks. His title was changed to Supervisor of Agricultural Education for blacks of the Georgia Department of Vocational Education. It was his responsibility to upgrade agricultural instruction in black schools. He worked directly with the federally funded Smith-Hughes vocational agriculture teachers, many of whom were graduates of Georgia State Industrial College. Tabor was assisted in his supervisory activities by L.S. Molette before his office was moved from Georgia State College in the 1930s.

Some other persons who served on the agriculture faculty between 1926 and 1947 were as follows:

- Ellis Whitaker
  (B.S., Georgia State College; Advanced Study University of Minnesota)

- F.J. Gordon
  (B.S.A. and M.S., Ohio State University)

- William McKinley King (Killed in an auto accident in Savannah while on the faculty June 1, 1946.)
  (B.S., Hampton; M.S., Iowa State College)
Frank Tharpe
(B.S., Georgia State College; Advanced Study Cornell University and Iowa State College)

Valentino D. Strickland
(A.B., Rust College; M.S., Massachusetts State College)

L.S. Alexander
(B.S., Alcorn A&M College)

Teaching Facilities

The first major move to improve the facilities for the teaching of agriculture during the Hubert Administration was the development of a first-class dairy herd. Much of the College's farm land was ideal for pasture; therefore, a farm fencing program was launched immediately to accommodate this activity. An excellent brick dairy cow barn with silo and a two-story creamery constituted the major dairy buildings. A twenty-five-cow, pure-bred Guernsey herd including a bull (Chester) was assembled, and Jake Frazier provided excellent care for these animals as dairyman until his death August, 1946.

Other improvements made of the College's farm animals were the development of a pure-bred Hereford beef cattle herd with a registered bull. A Duroc-Jersey hog compound, and several colonies of over 1,000 white Leghorns and pedigreed Parmeter Red hens with appropriate housing for each.

Frank Tharpe, teacher of farm shop, with resident NYA students and College students in his classes constructed an excellent farm shop and cannery building in 1939-40. (This building was located on site of B.F. Hubert Technical Sciences Center). In 1940-41, Tharpe's students also constructed an incubator house with classroom, demonstration room and laboratories. (This building still stands near Gordon Library.) With these facilities and the construction of Herty Hall in 1937, which housed agriculture extension, science and agriculture laboratories, and classrooms; the facilities for teaching vocational agricultural education at the College were fairly adequate for the enrollment.

New Farmers of America

After vocational agriculture became a paramount program at Georgia State College during the Hubert years, the majority of the vocational agriculture teachers in the secondary schools of Georgia were graduates of this institution. The reputation of the College in this area won it the privilege to host on campus the Fourth National Annual Convention of the New Farmers of America, August 12-14, 1938. The previous con-
ventions of this group had been held at Tuskegee, Hampton, and Prairie View State College in Texas. The organization consisted of black secondary students studying vocational agriculture, and their teachers, in the Southern states. More than 1,000 persons participated in this affair including students, and their teachers, state supervisors, United States Department of Agriculture personnel; itinerant and resident teacher trainers of vocational agriculture. The principal activities of the organization at the convention were business sessions, judging contents of various agricultural products and animals, public speaking and singing contests, sight seeing tours, and a boat ride. S.B. Simmons was National Executive Secretary of the group at that time.

Agricultural Extension

During the Hubert Presidency, P.H. Stone became Agriculture State Agent for blacks after the death of Eugene A. Williams in 1925. Alexander Hurse became the second State Club Agent for black youth in 1930 after the elevation of Stone. Hurse was a 1926 normal school graduate of Tuskegee Institute. He had been public school principal at Cairo, Georgia, and vocational agriculture teacher and agricultural demonstration agent at Saundersville and Waycross, respectively, before coming to Savannah. Hurse later received the B.S. degree in agriculture from Georgia State College in 1934 and the M.S. degree from South Carolina State College. He also became President of the College's National Alumni Association in 1935.

In 1927-28, Stone studied agriculture at Hampton Institute on a General Education Board Scholarship, and in 1930-31, he received a Rosenwald Fund Scholarship to study at Connecticut Agricultural College where he received the B.S. degree with distinction in agricultural economics.

The agricultural extension program under the leadership of Stone supported by Hurse; Camillia Weems, State Home Demonstration agent for blacks, and other members of his staff organized and sponsored many outstanding farm demonstrations and 4-H Club youth projects. The work in this area grew rapidly, for example, in 1931 extension work was carried on in thirty counties as compared with twenty-seven in 1930, and nineteen in 1929. Two hundred and fifty-one communities participated in the extension programs in 1931 as compared with one hundred forty-two in 1930, one hundred seventy-four in 1929, one hundred thirty-one in 1928 and one hundred fifty-three in 1927.

In the 1920s and 1930s poor soil was responsible for much of the black rural poverty of Georgia; therefore, the agricultural extension service devoted a considerable portion of its efforts to effective terracing and proper methods of crop rotation. Another major problem of black farmers during this period was inadequate food production on a self-sustaining basis. A very widely publicized "Live-at-Home Program" was promoted which caused many small black farmers to improve their production of corn, pork, beef, vegetables, poultry, etc. for self consumption.

The overall growth in the extension program was also manifested in the development of the 4-H program under the leadership of Alexander Hurse. In 1931, 3,659 boys registered in the 4-H club program as compared to 2,766 in 1930, and 2,157 in 1929. By 1936 this participation had grown to 21,997 with 15,484 of these youngsters completing their agricultural demonstration projects which dealt with cotton, corn, sweet potatoes, home gardens, beef cattle, swine, poultry, etc. Many of these projects were sponsored by banks, companies, businessmen, etc.; and the economic profitability was the central theme of all activities.

Probably the most unique 4-H demonstration project was the beef calves project which was started in 1936 and sponsored by the Citizens and Southern Bank of Georgia. The Bank would buy the feeder calves for 4-H boys who had made application for them and whose applications had been approved by the State Agent Stone, State Club Agent Hurse and State Beef and Sheep Specialist. These calves would be picked up the first of September in Atlanta and taken to the farms of the participating club members. The following procedure was used to select the participants for this program:

1. A survey was made of the boy's and father's farm.
2. A study was made of the feed grown and on hand.
3. A careful check was made of the boy's interest in 4-H club work and projects which he had carried through in the past year.

The club members would feed these calves out and sell them to the highest bidder at selected auctions.

Beginning in 1927, Georgia State Industrial College began hosting in August each year the
4-H short courses for boys and girls. This was usually a one week encampment which included a variety of activities in livestock, poultry, and crop judging; oratorial contests for boys; and cooking, sewing, bric-a-brac making and public speaking contests for girls. These young people had as their pledge: My head to clearer thinking, my heart to greater loyalty, my hands to larger service, and my health to better living, for my club, my community, and my country.

These high school students and their agents lived in the College's dormitories, ate in the dining hall and had their assemblies in Meldrin Auditorium. The entire College Community was involved in this program. The faculty of agriculture, trades and home economics directly assisted with the programs in their areas. Thomas N. Roberts, teacher trainer in agriculture, directed these short courses for five years. By 1939, Alexander Hurse and Cammella Weems had developed this program to the extent that more than 500 club members were attending these 4-H short courses annually. This was an effective recruiting program for the College during the Hubert era.

Another exemplary project supported by the extension service and vocational agriculture of the College in 1934 was the Liberty County Livestock Improvement Experiment. In the Thebes-Midway community, six purebred Aberdeen-Angus bulls were purchased by the Local Board of Education to serve the cattle of black farmers in the area who owned a total 27,000 acres of land and over 1,000 head of native cattle. Each farmer participating in the project signed a contract to castrate, sell or otherwise dispose of all his scrub bulls, and his cows would mate only with the registered bulls in an attempt to develop a finer grade of beef cattle.

The agricultural extension offices were originally located on the second floor of the Creamery and were later moved to Hill Hall. They were moved again to Herty Hall when it was completed and remained there until they ceased to operate on the campus.

Business Practice

From the inception of courses in commerce at Georgia State Industrial College until 1935, the offering in this area were primarily on the secondary level. During the second and third years of high school, stenography which included instruction in simple letter writing, phrasing, dictation, and actual office service using the Pitman System was offered. A two-year touch-system typewriting course and a one-year principles-of-bookkeeping course were also offered at the secondary level. After the departure of Walter E. Tibbs in 1926, this program was gradually phased out with the high school program in 1934.

Business offerings at the collegiate level were instituted with the employment of J.H. Gadson in 1935. Gadson was a graduate of Morehouse College with an A.B. degree and of Northwestern University with a M.B.A. with a major in accounting. He organized the first collegiate Division of Business at the College in 1935-36. The following objectives were outlined:

1. To offer minimum business training to students specializing in trades so that they may apply fundamental business principles along with technical skills in pursuing their trades.
2. To prepare students to efficiently fill clerical accounting and stenographic positions.
3. To determine through surveys and other means, business opportunities.
4. To train and encourage capable students to establish small business units.
5. To offer a foundation for students who plan to do advanced work in the field of business administration.

The initial offerings of the newly formed Division of Business included three one-quarter in length courses in accounting, two in business English, one in business law, one in business mathematics, two in business organizations, six in shorthand, six in typewriting, and one in office practice. The shorthand, typewriting, and office practice courses were part of a two-year Certificate of Proficiency course in business. This program was housed in the very beginning in Morgan Hall, but was later moved to Meldrin Hall. The first faculty of this Division included Gadson; Josephine France (Hubert), a graduate of Boston Clerical School; and Ursurline B. Belcher (Ingersol) who had attended Miner Teachers' College, University of Minnesota and University of New Hampshire.

To assist in the implementation of the objective of encouraging students to establish small businesses, a student cooperative store was established on December 10, 1935 under the supervision of the Division of Business. This enterprise began with forty-four students and teachers as members and a capital investment of $32.80 from membership dues. The College Co-op
Shoppe, as it was called, started in a rented small six-foot by eight-foot room off campus so that it would have the same operating expenses as other competing neighborhood businesses. During the first year of business, the Co-op gross receipts totaled $1,440, and it soon outgrew its original space. By 1940, the Co-op had five departments (bookstore, cafeteria, clothing and notions, confectionary and gasoline station), and occupied the space in a building across the street from the north entrance to the campus that had been previously used by three other stores. Its total sales had reached $12,000 and its membership had reached 391: forty-four faculty and 347 students.

The Co-op was managed according to the Rockdale Principles with a Board of Directors comprised of twelve students and teachers. Many students in business and home economics earned money for their college fees by working in this enterprise, which existed until the end of President Hubert's tenure. It was a very popular place for students to socialize and relax.

No degree grid was outlined for collegiate business courses initially. By 1940, the first curriculum leading to a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Practice was developed. It required 180 quarter hours to complete with a minimum of forty hours distributed among courses in accounting, business law, retail merchandising, money and banking, business English, and business organizations. President Hubert emphasized the fact that this program was called Business Practice instead of Business Administration because the emphasis was on teaching the students to understand and manage small businesses rather than large corporations and the New York Stock Exchange.

The students in the Division of Business, under the leadership of Gadson in 1937, conducted a survey of the business owned and operated by blacks in the Savannah community. They found the following:

15-Barber Shops
10-Beauty Parlors
14-Cafes and restaurants
9-Coal and wood yards
73-Confectionaries
5-Fish and poultry markets
16-Groceries
6-Night clubs
3-Printing companies (2 weekly newspapers)
6-Service stations and garages

18-Shoe repair shops
6-Funeral homes
2-Blacksmith shops
1-Candy manufacturing
3-Drug stores
1-Electrical supply shop
1-Furniture store
2-Glaciers
1-Mattress factory
1-Smoke shop
2-Real estate dealer
1-Tailor shop
1-Bank

Most of these businesses were small and their recordkeeping systems were far from adequate. This survey prompted the College to assist in the organizing of black business persons so that the expertise of the Division of Business could be of assistance to them in their operations. Shortly after the survey, President Hubert and Gadson took the leadership in organizing the Savannah Business Improvement Association with L.B. Toomer as its first President and C.V. Kelley as its first Executive Secretary. Gadson served as Executive Secretary of the group for several years. This marriage of the College and the community provided opportunities beneficial to both.

In September, 1940, C.A. Christopher was employed as the second full time teacher in the Business Practice Division with an advanced degree. Christopher held a B.S. degree from Arkansas A.M.&N. College and M.S. degree in Business Administration from Atlanta University. He also managed the College Co-op Shoppe.

After Pearl Harbor and this country’s entry into World War II, there was a great need for women to do clerical work for the United States Government in Washington, D.C. Alberta Boston, a student at Georgia State College from 1938 to 1941, was the first student of the Division of Business to take and to pass the competitive examination for a Senior Typist position in Washington. She interrupted her studies to take the position, but later returned to teach at the College until her retirement. She was an outstanding teacher of shorthand, typing, and office machines.

In October, 1943, the Division of Business expanded its offerings to include evening courses as part of the College’s war efforts. Elizabeth C. Hannah headed the secretarial aspects of this program. She was a graduate of Indiana University with a B.S. degree in Business Administra-
tion and had worked in the public schools of Indianapolis, Indiana and at Alcorn A&M College in Mississippi. Also assisting her with this program was C.A. Christophe.

Home Economics

The Home Economics Department was reorganized September, 1926, when President Hubert hired his cousin, Annie Dixon, as Head of this area, and to be the Director of the College's dining hall. She had a B.S. degree from Mechanics Institute of Buffalo, New York with a major in home economics, and was pursuing a masters degree in the same area at Columbia University. She came to Georgia State from Tuskegee where she had been employed as a home economist for the past two years. She was the first teacher in this discipline at Georgia State Industrial College to possess a college degree.

The first four-year degree curriculum, which required two hundred ten quarter hours to complete, was initiated in 1926-27. Sixty-eight of these hours were required in home economics and the rest were in English, natural sciences, social sciences, education, music, chemistry, hygiene, physical education and free electives. However, this program was criticized by the United States Bureau of Education during its study of Negro colleges in 1928 for only offering two collegiate courses in cookery, foods, and nutrition. There were very few students enrolled in the program at the collegiate level and no one had graduated from it. Most of the students in home economics were in high school and took foods or clothing as a vocational course.

By 1931, this initial collegiate home economics program was evolving into the traditional four-year collegiate home economics education program found in most land-grant colleges with the following objectives:

1. To train teachers of home economics for positions in elementary and secondary schools.
2. To train supervisors of home economics for public and rural schools.
3. To train district and county teachers in extension work for women.
4. To develop leaders to help solve home and family problems.
5. To train efficient home makers.

This evolution included a two-year teacher training curriculum in home economics which prepared teachers at the normal level. The collegiate level program was not completely stabilized until 1934 when Leah Lucine Woods of Valdosta received the B.S. degree in home economics. She was the first college graduate in this area. The teachers of this program at that time other than Director Dixon were: Harriet Peeler (B.S., Hampton Institute; Advanced Study, University of Chicago) who later married P.H. Stone; and Ella M. Washington (B.A., University of Iowa).

When Hubert arrived the instructional cooking component of sub-college home economics program was conducted in the College's kitchen and dining room located on the first floor of Hill Hall, the boys dormitory. President Hubert frequently complained about this condition before Adams Hall was constructed in 1929-31 and all food functions were moved there. After Meldrin Hall was completed in 1926, sewing rooms were established there. When shoe-making and tailoring vacated Hammond Hall, this building was renovated in 1931 to house again home economics. Hardwood floors, French doors to all rooms, and a dining room where students could serve meals were added. This was a structure with four rooms, two of which were used for clothing classes. Even with these improvements, this facility was inadequate for an expanding collegiate program in home economics.

The Board of Regents met at Georgia State College on April 29, 1939 and promised the student body that a modern home economics building would be built soon. They went as far as selecting the site for this building, but it was never constructed.

Once the high school program was phased out in 1934, all efforts in home economics were devoted to building a college level program in this area. More and more women elected this area as their major, and home economics education became one of the largest majors for female students. During the 1942-43 term, a new dimension to home economics became a reality, i.e., residential home management. Hattie Hurse, a 1936 home economics graduate, assisted in the Fall of 1942 with the conversion of the farm manager's residence into a residential home management house. All senior students in the home economics programs were required to live in this house for six weeks and participate in actual experiences of utilizing time, energy and resources essential in effective home management. This facility was used for that purpose until the departure of President Hubert.
Anne Dixon died suddenly on April 18, 1940 and Harriet Peeler Stone served as Acting Director of the Division of Home Economics until the appointment of Josephine O. Dobbs (B.S., Spelman and M.A., Columbia University) in September 1942. Dobbs also served as resident teacher trainer. Inez Richards (B.S., Cheyney State College; M.A., Temple University) succeeded Dobbs as Director and retained that position until the end of the Hubert era.

Some of the teachers of home economics, not previously mentioned, who served between 1926-1947 were:

- Mary Willie Allen Reed (B.S., Wilberforce University)
- Mollie Nix (B.S., Kansas State College) who later married A.C. Curtright
- Minnie B. Head (A.B., Spelman College)
- Mildred M. Roberts (A.B., Butler University; M.S., Columbia University)
- Amy P. Bailey (B.S., Cheyney State College)
- B.E. Calvert (B.S., Alcorn A&M College)
- Catherine M. Cooper (B.S., Georgia State College)
- Evelyn Wilkerson Rambeau (B.S., Georgia State College; M.S., Hampton Institute)

Trades and Industries

Curriculum and Faculty

During the early part of the Hubert Presidency, the trade courses of the College were taught basically as they had been taught during the Wright and Wiley periods, with no collegiate level courses offered in this area. However, all students, regardless of their academic classifications, were required to take a vocational course. Those not taking agriculture, home economics, or business were required to take a mechanical trade. Each high school student devoted one-half of each school day to the study of a trade for which he or she received one-half unit of credit each year. Trades offered were auto mechanics, blacksmithing, bricklaying and plastering, carpentry, laundering, painting, shoemaking and tailoring. Students received most of their practice in these trades by constructing and maintaining the College’s plant and facilities. All of the buildings on campus were constructed mostly by students and faculty until the PWA/WPA building program started at the college in the mid 1930s.

Auto mechanics was introduced as a trade at Georgia State Industrial College in 1923 by J.E. Hollingsworth and was later taught by Harold Crawford from 1927 to 1928. However, this activity did not become a viable trade area until 1928 with the arrival of Leroy Brown who had received a B.S. degree from South Carolina State College. Brown was a scholastically gifted person who also was a master mechanic and master electrician. He not only revitalized auto mechanics, but he expanded the offerings in the trade area by organizing for the first time an applied electricity course. This program was designed to prepare electricians capable of installing and repairing electric light systems and power equipment. One of the first major projects of students in this course was installing an underground electric lighting system for the campus. Brown gave the institution more than forty years of faithful and dedicated service before his retirement.

Plumbing was introduced as a three-year trade course in 1931 by Howard Jackson, Director of the College Laundry. Plumbing and steam fitting were becoming major campus projects as indoor plumbing and steam heat were being installed in the various campus buildings. With the installation of a central heating plant at the laundry, steam fitting became a major activity.

Masonry was temporarily discontinued in 1935 upon the departure of John Warrick who had been the instructor in this area since 1920. It was revived by the employment of Will Edwards in 1938 who enlarged the masonry program by adding stone masonry to the activities of brick laying and plastering. Evidence of this aspect of the program can still be seen in the fireplace in Hodge Hall and the foundation of the small log cabin at the entrance of the campus.

As early as 1938, radio servicing became a segment of the applied electricity course taught by Leroy Brown. Beginning the fall of 1942, radio repair was taught as a special evening course for a period during World War II by W. Virgil Winters (A.B., University of Iowa; M.A., Ohio State University), the physics teacher of the
College. However, the course in Radio did not develop into a specialized trade course until 1946 when Singleton and Bacon were employed to offer same as a part of the trade program for returning Veterans.

In September, 1939, Wade Wilson was employed in the Division of Trades and Industries as the first teacher in this area with a graduate degree in this discipline. Wade received the B.S. degree in industrial arts education and the M.Ed. degree in industrial education from Cheyney State College and Pennsylvania State College, respectively. He had also done some doctoral study at the University of Minnesota prior to coming to Georgia State College. After his arrival, the institution organized its first degree granting curriculum in industrial education. Wilson's tenure at the college was short, therefore, this program was not really effectuated until the arrival of William B. Nelson in 1945. It graduated its first student, Clyde W. Hall, in June, 1948. Nelson received the B.S. degree from Alcorn A&M College and the M.S. degree from Iowa State College. He had been Dean of the Faculty at Alcorn before he came to Georgia State College as Registrar and the sixth Head of the Division of Trades and Industries.

National Defense Training

Georgia State College initially became involved in the National Defense Training program in September, 1940 by offering classes in carpentry and auto repair in cooperation with the Georgia State Board of Vocational Education. This initiative was the direct results of a meeting President Hubert called at Log Cabin Center in August, 1940 which had as its theme “The Negro and National Defense.” There were over one hundred distinguished black leaders at this meeting and they attempted to bring to the attention of the nation through the Associated Press and other news organizations the need for training and full participation of blacks in all segments of national defense.

Shortly after Pearl Harbor in 1942, this beginning in defense training developed into a Vocational Education National Defense Training School (VE-ND) at the College under the directorship of Leroy Brown. This school was supported by the Federal and State Boards of Vocational Education. Courses were offered in ship carpentry, ship sheet metal, ship plumbing and pipe fitting, ship electric welding, ship gas cutting, and auto mechanics. Classes were offered Monday thru Friday from 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. and from 7:00 p.m. to midnight. Some of the instructors in this program were:

- Ship carpentry: Antonio Orsot
- Ship sheet metal: Frank Tharpe
- Ship plumbing and pipe fitting: James Willis
- Electric welding: Albert Jackson
- Auto mechanics: Rutherford Lockette
- Clerk: James Brown
- Clerk: Vera L. Dowdell (Brown)

This program had the dual purpose of preparing skilled and semi-skilled workers for the current war era and for the post-war civilian economy. Many persons completing courses in this program found successful employment in the shipyards of Savannah, Brunswick, and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

On June 17, 1943, the Jones Ship Construction Company in Brunswick hired the first fifteen arc welding graduates and wanted exclusive rights to all trainees completing the arc welding program. The company encouraged the College to start as many classes as possible.

In 1943, an allocation of approximately $40,000 worth of shop equipment was transferred from the old NYA camp at Jesup, Georgia to Georgia State College for the war production training program. The expenditures and student participation in this program for 1943 were as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenditures</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ship carpentry and woodwork</td>
<td>$3,207.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ship plumbing and pipe fitting</td>
<td>2,855.33</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Ship Carpentry | 64 | 15 | 9 |
| Ship Plumbing  | 41 | 10 | 6 |
| Ship Welding Electric | 200 | 94 | 89 |
| Ship Cutting Gas | 80 | 32 | 12 |
| Automotive Mechanics | 71 | 11 | 8 |
| **Totals**     | 456| 162| 124 |
The War Production Training Program ended at Georgia State College June 30, 1945. It had been financed and equipped almost entirely by the federal government.

Facilities

Upon the arrival of Hubert in 1926, the trade areas were housed in several locations on campus. Shoemaking and tailoring were located in Hammond Hall, the laundry occupied a masonry structure, the other trades were in two old wooden structures which had been constructed in the 1890s shortly after the opening of the College. Tailoring was soon moved to temporary quarters until its demise before 1930, and a new masonry structure with modern machinery was constructed for shoemaking in 1931.

President Hubert frequently referred to the main wooden trade buildings as "fire traps." Sure enough on the evening of May 23, 1932, a fire destroyed these wooden structures which housed the carpentry, woodworking, blacksmithing, drafting, auto mechanics, electricity and painting shops. R.L. Brady, the night operator of the Thunderbolt Street Car Line, discovered the fire about 11:00 P.M. Very little of the equipment was saved; however, Antonio Orsot entered the structure after the fire was well underway and managed to save some valuable drawings and drafting equipment. This fire was reported as a spectacular blaze which attracted the attention of many people in the city of Savannah.

Plans were put in motion immediately to build a new masonry structure to house the Department of Trades and Industries. However, these plans did not materialize as quickly as anticipated. Orsot designed the building and started its construction with student labor in 1932, but the building was eventually completed as the first campus building of the PWA/WPA program. This project was approved March, 1935 and the building was dedicated June 3, 1936 as Morgan Hall in honor of Regent Samuel Hill Morgan of Guyton who represented the First District on the Board. Morgan died one month after the dedication of this building. President Hubert considered him a sincere and enthusiastic supporter of Georgia State College. Morgan Hall originally housed facilities for the teaching of carpentry, woodworking, architectural and mechanical drafting, painting, industrial physics, typewriting, shorthand and bookkeeping.

In 1938-39, two detached masonry structures were built on the south and north sides of Morgan Hall to house masonry and auto mechanics/electrical activities, respectively. During the same period, the laundry was enlarged significantly for the installation of a steam cleaning plant.
In 1945-46, a large NYA shop building was moved from Blythe Island, near Brunswick, to the College to expand the facilities in Trades and Industries. Shops for machine shop, woodworking, auto mechanics, and welding were placed in this building to accommodate the large influx of World War II veterans pursuing specialized trades, and the revitalized college program in industrial education. Painting occupied the space in Morgan Annex vacated by auto mechanics, and architectural and mechanical drawing occupied the former woodworking shop in Morgan Hall. Radio servicing and electricity were placed in Morgan Hall in space formerly occupied by physics.

Teaching In-Service Conferences

Beginning in the early 1930s, conferences and in-service classes were held periodically at Georgia State College for trade and industrial education secondary teachers. These in-service activities were conducted mostly for a two-week period. Teachers in attendance earned college credit toward teacher certification because they did not have college degrees. They had earned their teaching positions on the basis of their competence and work experiences in the trades that they taught. The two-week session in July, 1939 was typical of those offered during this era when Georgia did not have an itinerant teacher trainer for black trade teachers as it had for teachers of vocational agriculture. Usually, a black teacher trainer from another state would come to Georgia and conduct the summer program for the trade teachers. Maxwell B. Thomas from Florida performed this task in 1939.

National Youth Administration Projects

The National Youth Administration (NYA) of the United States Government extended educational opportunities to young people in the late 1930s who otherwise would have been unable to receive such because of their financial conditions. The University System of Georgia participated in the NYA work assistance program for out-of-school youth and regular college students.

The college work programs for regular students were opened to students between the inclusive ages of sixteen and twenty-four who were citizens of the United States with acceptable character, making satisfactory academic progress in college, and pursuing at least three-fourths of a normal class load. Students in this program were given work assignments which were supervised by college officials or public agencies in the local communities. These students were not replacing workers normally provided through the regular budget of the institution or public agencies. The president or a designated official of the institution selected the participants and allocations to the different colleges were made on the percentage of enrollment basis. All units of the University System participated in this program in 1938-40. Georgia State College in 1938-39 had one hundred forty-five participants and expended $5,030.40. In 1939-40, the College received an allotment of $7,290 for the program.

The NYA resident work training programs for out-of-school youths were established in 1938 at the following four units of the University System:

- Georgia State College at Savannah
- West Georgia College at Carrollton
- Georgia Normal and Agricultural College at Albany
- Georgia State College for Women at Milledgeville

This program was a one-year terminal educational experience which was designed to prepare financially deprived young people who were capable of returning to their respective communities with knowledge and skills that would make them productive citizens. For one-half day participants attended classes which were specifically adopted to fit their educational needs and spent the remainder of the school day in practical work experiences.

President Hubert developed the NYA resident project at Georgia State to utilize the services of faculty members in agriculture, home economics and trades as supervisors of the students' related work experiences. Students were housed in the regular College's dormitories, but their work and classroom experiences were arranged by President Hubert and NYA officials. In 1938-39, sixty persons participated in the resident program at a total monthly cost of $1,800. The institution received $20 per participant for subsistence and each youth received $10 as spending money.

Log Cabin Center

President Hubert felt that blacks did not have to leave rural Georgia in order "to live the good life." To him rural life could be as enjoyable
and enriching for blacks as urban life, therefore, he vigorously opposed the urban migration of southern blacks which started immediately after World War I.

Hubert began putting in place in 1926 an inclusive rural education program at the College which would improve the productivity of black Georgia farmers. In order for him to demonstrate to blacks that his rural philosophy was feasible, he decided to make his place of birth a living demonstration of what could be done in rural Georgia, if common sense, scientific farming, sound business practices and cooperative efforts were adopted by black farmers. He called this place Log Cabin Center and made it an extension center of Georgia State Industrial College.

The farm in Hancock on which Hubert was born, a portion of which his parents purchased in 1868, was located in a black community composed of family farms of the Hubert brothers, Zacharias (Zach), Daniel and Floyd; Gordon Dixon, Ellen Lewis and a few other persons. In 1929, these persons owned an aggregation of more than 8,700 acres of land.

In order for Hubert to have a supportive structure for his rural life project, he organized the Association for the Advancement of Negro Country Life in 1928, and served as its Executive Secretary. He also purchased that same year from his parent's estate four hundred sixty-six acres of land to begin his rural experiment with six former destitute tenant farmers. He placed these farmers on his land and demanded that they engage in diversified agricultural practices with a minimum acreage of cotton and more food production. He also insisted on the use of proper fertilizer and insecticides. These farmers were successful the first year and thus brought recognition to Hubert's experiment. The success attracted small black farmers to the area.

In 1932, a 1836 square foot Camilla-Zach Log Cabin Community Center was constructed a short distance from the Hancock County Training School with local logs and native granite. This building was used as an activity center for the rural farming community and headquarters for the Association. The structure was designed by W.W. Wilkins of South Carolina State College and Antonio Orsot. Its construction was supervised by Orsot, Frank Tharpe, and Leroy Brown using local black artisans and laborers. This building became the focal point of all activities related to Log Cabin Center which later consisted of a cooperative store, cafeteria, dairy, Piney Rest (Hubert's Cottage), church, parsonage, health center, swimming pool, and the first Girls Scout Camp for blacks in Georgia. Most of these structures were designed by Orsot and constructed by the faculty of the Industrial Department at the College with the assistance of local help.

On July 18, 1932, Georgia State Industrial College initiated a Second Session of Summer School for rural teachers at Log Cabin Center. This session was designed to enhance teaching
in the rural schools of that section of Georgia. The activities were so arranged that the practical arts of agriculture, home economics, and manual training were integral parts of the teacher preparation program. All teachers had to spend a portion of the school day engaged in the practical arts. Hubert always argued that the teachers in attendance were mostly from one room schools where the teacher had to satisfy as many of the needs of the students the best she could. Therefore, she needed preparation in more than the traditional academic areas. Some of the teachers from Georgia State College conducting this first Log Cabin Summer School were John L. Lockette, Joan L. McAllister (Gordon) who worked more than forty years at the college before retiring; James Butler in manual training; and Harriet Peeler in Home Economics. These summer sessions started as non-degree credit granting experiences, but they later developed into college credit granting activities. This practice of holding a summer school session at Log Cabin Center continued throughout the Presidency of Hubert. The faculty and in-service teachers lived in homes in the community. The classes were conducted in Hancock County Training School, Log Cabin Community Center, and other facilities in the area.

The Hubert experiment in rural life flourished in the 1930s and became a mecca for those interested in rural development. Many national, regional and local conferences and social events were held at Log Cabin Community Center.

Black persons in the local areas considered it as "the place to be" during this period. By 1940 and the beginning of World War II, young blacks began migrating from the area leaving mostly the elderly behind. This was the beginning of the demise of this community. Hubert attempted to revive it after leaving the Presidency of Georgia State College in 1947, but was unsuccessful. By the time of his death in 1958, it had almost disintegrated. Presently, only the relics remain of a once thriving rural black community.

Building Program

When President Hubert arrived at Georgia State Industrial College, he was shocked by the deplorable conditions of the physical plant, but he found at the institution Antonio Orsot, Director of Trades and Industries, who was capable of helping him to put the place in order. Not only could Orsot design and draw the plans for the buildings, he was also capable of taking his carpentry tools and building the structures. Hubert frequently referred to him as the "Master Builder." The two became a cohesive campus building team. Orsot designed, drafted the plans and supervised the construction of all buildings built on campus between 1920 and 1947.

As early as 1927, Hubert was able to secure monies from the General Education Board and Rosenwald Fund to construct a dining hall and laboratory school, respectively. In 1928-29, he devised the scheme of raising money to help build a physical education building by having
young ladies representing the various classes run for the title of "Miss Georgia State Industrial College" and win on the basis of the maximum amount raised for this project. Additionally, the widow of William G. Wilcox of New York gave a substantial sum for the construction of this facility.

The first building named during the Hubert Presidency was Adams Hall, the college's dining hall which became usable in 1929 but was not completed until 1931. It was a 5,000-square-foot facility with an attractive dining hall for 500 students, a balcony for musicians and observers, a modern kitchen, and a faculty dining room. Later a walk-in refrigerator unit was added to accommodate the preservation of products from the College's farm. This $60,000 facility was financed mostly by funds from the General Education Board, and was named in honor of A. Pratt Adams the first Chairman of the Board of Trustees and the first Regent from the First District.

The United States Government sought shortly after the inauguration of President Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1933 to relieve the unemployment problems of the great depression by subsidizing the construction of public buildings, highways, bridges, etc. through the Public Works Administration/Work Progress Administration (PWA/WPA). The Board of Regents used these agencies to improve the facilities at the various institutions by applying for funds to construct specific dormitories, classrooms, libraries, laboratories, etc. at the different units.

By June 30, 1939, the following buildings had been constructed or remodeled at Georgia State College using federal funds:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Building</th>
<th>Total Cost</th>
<th>Trust Funds</th>
<th>State Funds</th>
<th>Federal Funds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Herty Hall (agriculture)</td>
<td>$40,000.00</td>
<td>$3,000.00</td>
<td>$12,000.00</td>
<td>$37,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morgan Hall (trades)</td>
<td>31,000.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>19,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wilcox Gymnasium</td>
<td>45,312.08</td>
<td>9,000.00</td>
<td>20,000.00</td>
<td>36,312.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hubert Hall (girls dorm)</td>
<td>92,398.68</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>72,398.68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hill Hall (Renovated boys dorm)</td>
<td>43,376.72</td>
<td></td>
<td>3,376.72</td>
<td>40,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meldrim (Renovated administration)</td>
<td>16,574.56</td>
<td>1,815.60</td>
<td></td>
<td>14,758.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td>$268,662.04</td>
<td>$9,000.00</td>
<td>$40,192.32</td>
<td>$219,469.72</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(1) Herty Hall; (2) Camilla Hubert Hall; (3) Wilcox Gymnasium; (4) White Hall; (5) Powell Laboratory School.
ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF EDUCATING

Additional federal funds were used to remodel Parsons and Boggs Halls, to construct Hodge Hall as a community house, and to beautify campus grounds.

On December 5, 1938, Georgia State College held a dedicatory program for its recently constructed and renovated buildings. Major Richard R. Wright, Sr., former President, and Dr. John B. Watson, President of Arkansas State A.M.&N. College, delivered the principal addresses at this dedication of the following buildings:

**Powell Laboratory School**

A three-teacher laboratory school building constructed in 1932 mostly with student labor on the Rosenwald plan with three classrooms, and a large industrial room. It was named in honor of Willie G. Hill Powell who became, in 1911, the first teacher of foods in the home economics program at the College. She was born in Eufaula, Alabama, and educated at Knoxville College and the University of Chicago. After leaving the College in 1920, she became a very prominent business, civic and church leader in the Savannah community before she was killed in an automobile accident in December, 1934.

**White Laundry**

Building was originally constructed in 1913, but was enlarged to accommodate a steam and central heating plant in 1931 and 1937. Named in honor of Willie P. White who taught sewing at the college from 1913 until her death January 16, 1933. She was a graduate of Haines Institute in Augusta, Georgia and was a dedicated employee.

**Wilcox Gymnasium**

A physical education building with basketball court and spectator seating galleries named in honor of William G. Wilcox who had been Superintendent of the City Public Schools of New York City and Chairman of the Board of Trustees at Tuskegee Institute. Wilcox's widow made the first large contribution toward the total of $9,000 President Hubert raised for the constructing of this $45,312 facility.

When Wilcox Gymnasium was completed in 1936, it was the best inside basketball facility located at a black college in Georgia. President Hubert saw this facility as an excellent recruiting device for the College. He was instrumental in organizing a state high school basketball tour-
nament which was held at Georgia State College every Spring. The first of these tournaments was held in March, 1937. This tournament continued as an annual event during the remainder of Hubert's tenure. Boys and girls basketball teams representing schools in Atlanta, Augusta, Macon, Savannah, Quitman and other places in the state came to these very well managed and enjoyable tournaments.

**Herty Hall**

A two-story brick science and agriculture building, constructed mostly with federal funds. Named in honor of Dr. Charles Holmes Herty, who was a chemist born in Milledgeville, Georgia, December 4, 1867, and died July 27, 1938. He was a graduate of the University of Georgia and received the Ph.D. degree from Johns Hopkins University in 1890. He pioneered in the development of newsprint from Georgia pine trees.

**Camilla Hubert Hall**

A three-story masonry dormitory completed in 1938 to house one hundred fifty young women. Hubert Hall was named in honor of President Hubert's mother.

**Log Cabin Information Center**

As a senior student, Frank Tharpe, served as an Instructor in farm shop because of his expertise in this area. In 1938, he and his class constructed the Log Cabin Information Center at the north entrance of the campus. The logs were cut from the wood lot on the College farm. President Hubert planned this building as a symbolic structure to emphasize that log buildings could be efficient, beautiful and symmetrically designed, and did not have to be dilapidated as those in which many blacks lived as farm sharecropper and slaves. The arch over the entrance to this structure was the trademark of the log buildings at Log Cabin Center in Hancock County, Georgia.

**Threats to Remove Land-Grant Function**

When the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia was organized in January, 1932, there were twenty-six institutions comprising the University System. Many of these institutions were small, mostly high schools and deep in financial trouble. No persons, nor group of persons, knew very much about the internal affairs of all these schools. It became the task of this newly formed body to examine each institution and make a judgment concerning its destiny as a state supported institution of higher education. A grant of $20,000 was received from the General Education Board for the purpose of making a survey to determine the viability of each institution.

During the calendar year 1932, some members of the Board of Regents visited each school and started the process of recommending consolidation and closing of certain institutions. This process continued in 1933. In April and May, 1933, it was rumored that the Departments of agriculture, home economics and trades would be moved from Georgia State Industrial College as a part of the Regents' reorganization plan. The local political community became aroused and active to prevent this from happening. In early May, Mayor Thomas Gamble of Savannah, Judge Friedman of Chatham County, Presi-
dent Poster Pierport of Chamber of Commerce, Herschel V. Jenkins of Savannah Morning News and others sent messages to Governor Eugene Talmadge protesting the move to dismantle Georgia State Industrial College. The Governor replied immediately stating that no such action was planned. By the end of 1933, the Board of Regents had reduced the number of institutions in the University System to eighteen but no changes were made at Georgia State Industrial College, Albany Normal, or Forsyth State Teachers and Agricultural College, the three black units of the System.

Again in 1937, the issue surfaced at the Board of Regents about the feasibility of agriculture being offered at Georgia State College because the land of the College's farm did not represent the typical Georgia farm land and the College was not located in the geographic center of the state's black farm population. President Hubert defended the College's position in a letter July 18, 1937 to Regent John G. Kennedy of the First District by stating that the argument stating that the land-grant college must be in the center of the population it served was unfounded, because the University of Georgia, Ohio State University, University of Minnesota, Florida A&M College, Alabama A&M College and many other land-grant colleges were not in the center of their service areas. He also stated that the College had progressed greatly in recent years and was located in the midst of all types of agricultural commerce with a very favorably relationship with the local community. He felt that this move was more political than educational.

Dr. Walter D. Cocking, Dean of the College of Education, University of Georgia, early in 1938 was charged by the Board of Regents to head a survey committee to study private and public institutions for blacks in Georgia under a grant of $2,500 from the Rosenwald Fund and the General Education Board. The purposes of this survey were to examine present status of higher education for blacks in Georgia, and to propose recommendations for future programs. One of the recommendations of the Survey Com-
mittee was that the state continue to maintain three institutions for the higher education of Negroes, but that the institution at Forsyth be discontinued and the physical property of the institution now known as Fort Valley Industrial and Normal School be secured as more ideally located for the third institution.

Many felt that the recommendation of Cocking's survey to bring Fort Valley Industrial and Normal School into the University Systems would threaten the land-grant status of Georgia State College because it satisfied perfectly the argument of being in the geographic center of the black farm population of the State with typical Georgia farm land.

In October and November, 1938 the Board of Regents was flooded with telegrams, petitions and resolutions supporting the land-grant program at Georgia State College. On November 8, 1938, Regent Kennedy released the following statement in the Savannah Morning News which had been authorized by the Chairman of the Board, Marion Smith of Atlanta:

In developing higher education for Negroes in the State of Georgia by State owned institutions, the Board of Regents will in no way interfere with the good work that Georgia State College at Thunderbolt is doing at this time, nor will the land-grant appropriation be transferred to any other unit of the University System.

The work on the physical plant at Thunderbolt in recent past will prove this and the people in this section of Georgia and the friends of Georgia State College need have no fear but this course will be followed.

On July 1, 1939, the Board of Regents took possession of Fort Valley Normal and Industrial School from the Episcopal Church and Church Council of Education of New York at no cost to the state. This transfer was funded by a grant from the General Education Board which paid off all the school's debts and the cost of legally closing the transaction. The programs of State Teachers and Agricultural College at Forsyth were transferred to Fort Valley and its physical plant was given to Monroe County Board of Education for a county high school. This new unit of the University System became a real threat to the land-grant status of Georgia State College, but President Hubert and his supporters were able to delay for several years the inevitable decision concerning this matter. Fort Valley eventually became the black land-grant college in 1949 after the close of the Hubert Presidency.
Reflections

Benjamin F. Hubert was the first President of Georgia State College with the authority to manage on campus the College's budget. Prior to his arrival, financial transactions of the College were approved and executed by the Chairman of Commission and a Treasurer off-campus. Hubert was an astute businessman who managed the College's finances with care and direct personal supervision. He also was a public relations wizard who knew "during his period of black history" how to develop black and white relationships for the betterment of the College. He accepted any opportunity to speak if he felt that it would promote his philosophy and the College which were inseparable. He wrote periodically an article entitled "Negroes Succeed in Georgia" in the Savannah Morning News in which he amplified the successes of black Georgians who had succeeded through self-help. This was the backbone of the philosophy which he expounded at weekly vespers and chapel programs at the College.

Many students, including the author, received a college education because of the self-help philosophy of President Hubert. Students during his administration did most of the buildings and grounds maintenance of the College and grew most of the food for student consumption. Therefore, there were many jobs for students. Any destitute student who was willing to work could always get College employment to pay his or her college fees by appealing to President Hubert. During the early depression years of the 1930s, President Hubert made it possible for students to pay their fees with home farmed agricultural products at market prices.

Throughout President Hubert's presidency, he attempted to upgrade the faculty by employing persons who were graduates of some of the most prestigious northern universities in this country. He encouraged and obtained assistance for many worthy faculty members to do advanced study at these institutions. He employed the first person at the College with an earned doctorate in 1946, Dr. Booker T. Griffith (B.S., M.S. and Ph.D., University of Pittsburgh). Some of his Deans of Faculty were:

William Edward Griffin
(A.B., Morehouse College)

Asa H. Gordon
(A.B., Atlanta University; L.L.B., Hamilton College of Law; A.M., Columbia University)

A.C. Curtright (A.B., Morehouse College, A.B., University of Chicago; M.A., University of Minnesota)

William K. Payne
(A.B. Morehouse College; A.M., Columbia University)

The Physical Plant was upgraded tremendously between 1926-1947. The vocational agriculture program of the College was respectable and the Log Cabin Center project received national recognition. The name of the College was changed from Georgia State Industrial College to Georgia State College in 1936. Hubert became a black leader who was frequently requested to speak at all types of functions, especially those related to the "Negro Problems in America."

Students organized the first Student Government Association during the Hubert era, and John Camper became its first President, 1946-47. The first student annual called the Hubertonian was published in 1937. Many graduates of the College became principals of public schools all over Georgia because of the Hubert influence. This disbursement of graduates helped the College to maintain a statewide boarding student population.

Many urban blacks did not appreciate Hubert's rural philosophy for the College and constantly fought his efforts. Many of the threats to remove the land-grant program from Georgia State College were prompted by disgruntled blacks who felt that since this College was in an urban area it should not be promoting "Back to the Farm Program." Before World War II, Hubert was able to ward off these threats because he knew where the political power bases were in Georgia, and he kept himself in the good graces of these power brokers by always promoting productive and positive programs for blacks.

President Hubert lost his power base after World War II because (1) the politics of Georgia changed, (2) a new Chancellor was employed for the University System, and (3) most students were financially able to pay their college fees because of the veteran programs and the improved employment status of blacks; they no longer needed his financial assistance. The threat to the land-grant status was rapidly becoming a reality. These conditions and other factors prompted President Hubert to submit his resignation in February, 1947, effective June 30 the same year. He returned to Log Cabin Center and promoted that activity until his death April 30, 1958.
Chapter 6

Presidency of James A. Colston
1947 - 1949

THE BOARD OF REGENTS accepted the resignation of Benjamin F. Hubert as President of Georgia State College on February 20, 1947, and elected James A. Colston as fourth President of the institution May 7, 1947, effective July 1, 1947.

Colston was born in Quincy, Florida, July 27, 1909 and spent a portion of his youth in Winter Park, Florida. He received his Bachelor of Science degree from Morehouse College in 1932, the Master of Arts degree from Atlanta University, and had pursued doctoral studies at Columbia University and University of Chicago. Colston had served as Principal of high schools in Ormond, Florida and Macon, Georgia; and also had served as President of Bethune Cookman College in Daytona Beach, Florida. He came to the Presidency of Georgia State College from the position of Director of Public Relations at Hampton Institute in Virginia.

General Improvements

Immediately after the arrival of Colston at the College, a massive campus improvement program was launched. Meldrim Hall, Hill Hall, and other buildings were refurbished before the fall term started in September. Colston spent $49,340.40 for repairs his first year as compared to $1,318.95 President Hubert spent his last year in office. A Department of Buildings and Grounds was established for the first time, and Felix Alexis, Jr. (B.A., Xavier University) was its first Director. This was a maintenance milestone in the history of the College because this was the first time the repairs of the physical plant ceased to be the responsibilities of faculty and students in the Division of Trades and Industries.

Some major physical plant improvements during 1947-48 resulted from the relocating on campus of three World War II surplus buildings for the College infirmary, fine arts program (was located on site of Lester Hall), and student center (was located on the north side of Wilcox Gym). The infirmary had eighteen beds with an examination room, doctor and nurses offices, and living quarters for a full-time nurse (building is presently used as a laundromat). The fine arts building was equipped with choir, band and piano practice rooms. The student center had a seating capacity of 200, a recreation room, a bookstore and a confectionary. This facility replaced the College Co-op Shoppe which was located off campus. The President’s home was transferred to Hodge Hall and the old residence was converted into living quarters for female faculty and staff.

During Colston’s first year, a telephone exchange with a switchboard was installed on
President Colston and family.

Student Center in 1949 with Parsons Hall in the background.
Presidency of James A. Colston

campus which made telephone service available to all major departments. This was a very new experience on campus. New uniforms were purchased for the band, football and basketball teams. The first permanent athletic field with a quarter mile encircled track and permanent seating for spectators was started which was opened to the public for the first time at the traditional 1948 Thanksgiving football game with Paine College (was located on site of Gordon Library).

By the close of Colston's second year the roads on campus had been resurfaced, a main water line with fire hydrants had been installed; Parsons Hall had been completely renovated with thermostatically controlled central heating system to accommodate five spacious five-room apartments, nine single rooms for women, and lounges for faculty and commuting students; and the Warrick/Edwards Cottage had been converted into a six-room apartment and seven single rooms to accommodate male faculty (was located on the site of the intersection of Thompsons Road and Whatley Avenue and was moved in 1954 to Grant Street in Thunderbolt, Georgia).

Colston was the first President of the College to have an inauguration. This event took place on August 14, 1947 during the Fifty-Eighth Summer Commencement Exercises. Dr. Raymond L. Paty, Chancellor of the University System of Georgia, delivered the inaugural commencement address. The faculty was presented to the President by Dean W.K. Payne; students by Clyde W. Hall, President of Student Council; and Alumni by Frankie Golden, President of the Alumni Association.

Along with the expansion of the physical plant, Colston increased the faculty and staff from 77 at the beginning of his tenure to 200 by the end of the first academic term. In 1948-49, for the first time, faculty members with academic degrees were awarded the professional titles appropriate to their credentials, while those individuals in the Division of Trades and Industries who lacked the qualifications for college teaching were given technician status. The teaching corps that year consisted of 66 persons distributed among the ranks with average salaries for nine months as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Average</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Professors</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate Professors</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant Professors</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The organization of the College in June, 1947 included the Divisions of Agriculture, Home Economics, Trades and Industries, and Arts and Sciences which included the Department of Business. William K. Payne and William B. Nelson remained Dean of Faculty and Director of the Division of Trades and Industries, respectively; but all other academic leaders were changed by Colston without any major alterations in the organizational structure of the institution. Edward H. Harmond, (B.S., Hampton; and M.S., Michigan State College) became Director of Agriculture. Ella P. Epting (A.B. and B.S., Prairie View University; M.S., Colorado A and M College) became Acting Director of Home Economics; William A. Brown (A.B. and M.S., Atlanta University; and Ph.D., Ohio State University) became Director of Arts and Sciences.

Some of the persons who came with Colston during this great influx of faculty and staff remained many years after his departure, and gave exemplary service to the institution were:

- Timothy C. Meyers (A.B., Lincoln University in Pennsylvania; M.A., Columbia University) came as Registrar, and later served as Dean of Faculty and Acting President.
- Martha Avery (Corley) (B.S., Princess Anne College; M.S., Columbia University) came as Instructor of Home Economics and was later promoted to Assistant Professor.
- John B. Clemmons (B.S., Morehouse College; M.S., Atlanta University) came as Head of Department of Mathematics and later served as Registrar.
- J. Randolph Fisher (A.B., Howard University; M.A., Howard University) came as Associate Professor of English and was later promoted to Professor. He also co-authored the College hymn in 1950.
- Albert E. Frazier (B.S., Tuskegee Institute; M.A., Arizona State College) came as Assistant Coach and Instructor of Physical Education and later promoted to Assistant Professor and became Athletics Director.
- Ida Belle Gadsden (B.S., Georgia State College; M.S.P.H., North Carolina College; Ph.D., University of North Carolina) came
as Consultant in Health and was later promoted to Professor of Education.

Stephen M. McDew, Jr. (B.S., Georgia State College; M.D., Meharry Medical College) came as college Physician and has a campus building named in his honor.

Geraldine T. Hooper (Abernathy) (B.S., Xavier University; M.S., University of Wisconsin) came as Instructor of Physical Education and was later promoted to Assistant Professor.

Thelma E. Moore (Harmond) (B.S., Fort Valley State College; M.Ed., Atlanta University; Ph.D., Ohio State University) came as Instructor of Education and was later promoted to Professor and Chairman of the Division of Education.

Theodore A. Wright (A.B., Baker University; M.A., University of Michigan) came as Athletic Director, Head Coach of the football and basketball, and Associate Professor of Physical Education. The Athletic Field was named in his honor.

Ella W. Webb (Fisher) (B.S., Xavier University; M.Ed., Temple University) came as Instructor of Physical Education and was later Directors of Upward Bound and AIDP and was promoted to Assistant Professor. Has an annual girls basketball tournament named in her honor.

Althea M. Williams (Anderson) (A.B., Fort Valley State College; B.S.L.S., Atlanta University; M.S.L.S., Syracuse University) came as Assistant Librarian and was later promoted to Assistant Professor and Reference Librarian.

Loreese E. Davis (A.B., West Virginia State College) came as counselor for Women and Head Resident of Camilla Hubert Hall and was later promoted to Dean of Women.

Agriculture

On June 11, 1947, the Board of Regents adopted a resolution designating Fort Valley State College as the land-grant college for blacks which would remove this function from Georgia State College. However, the United States Office of Education refused to abide by this resolution because it felt that only the General Assembly of Georgia had the authority to change the land-grant designation of a college. The Board of Regents appealed to the 1949 General Assembly to legalize its 1947 resolution. The General Assembly granted the Regent's request, thus the land-grant designation was transferred to Fort Valley State College.

With the removal of land-grant status from Georgia State College, the agriculture program went through a phasing out period. The freshman enrollment in agriculture was terminated spring of 1948 and this discipline was completely eliminated in August, 1951. An arrangement was made for students in agriculture to transfer to Fort Valley State College without penalty.

The only faculty hired in the area during the Colston's years were Harmon and Thomas A. Jeter, Jr. (B.S., Hampton Institute).

In the fall of 1947 the canning plant was converted into showers and dressing rooms for football teams and the football field was moved from the center of the campus in front of Wilcox Gymnasium to the center of College farm where the present library is located.

Probably the most significant thing that happened in the Division of Agriculture after the removal of the land-grant program was the birth of twin calves by Maximae Leonia a registered Guernsey cow of the dairy herd. These calves were sired by Riegeldale Emery's Chester also a registered Guernsey owned by the College. The birth of these calves received national attention because the probability of a cow giving birth to twins has been approximated to be one-half of one percent of all calves born annually.

The Agricultural Extension program continued on campus as usual under the leadership of P.H. Stone as State Agent of Negro Work with the following professional staff:

Camillia Weems, Assistant State Agent
Albert S. Bacon, Assistant Supervisor
Alexander Hurse, State Club Agent
Augustus Hill, Assistant State Club Agent

Business

The program in business was revised at the beginning of the 1948-49 school term to achieve the major goals of preparing competent (1) teachers of business subjects for the secondary schools, (2) secretaries, and (3) accountants. A three-track sequence was developed to achieve these goals with a common freshman year and minimum competence requirements in typing, accounting, and office organization.
Presidency of James A. Colston

and management for all business students. A student was awarded a B.S. degree upon the completion of 180 prescribed quarter hours in the major of either business education, secretarial science or accounting. Robert C. Long Sr., (B.S., Hampton Institute; M.A., New York University) became Acting Chairman of the Department which was in the Division of Arts and Sciences. Other teachers in the department were: Lenore B. Bellinger (B.S., Miami University); and Franklin Carr (B.S., West Virginia State College; M.B.A., New York University).

During the spring quarter of 1948, the college offered an off-campus Evening Business School at the West Broad Street YMCA in Savannah. This school was for high school graduates and others who found it difficult to attend regular classes at the College. College credits were earned by high school graduates while others received credits which could be applied to their high school records. Courses in accounting, shorthand and typing were offered and certificates of completion were issued at the end of two years or six quarters of satisfactory performance. Robert Charles Long was Director of the Center.

Home Economics

The objectives of the Division of Home Economics in the Fall of 1948 were expanded beyond the preparation of home economics teachers and home demonstration agents to the pre-professional preparation of dietitians and managers of restaurants, cafes, tea rooms, and institutional cafeterias. For the first time a curriculum in foods and nutrition was offered as a major in addition to the major in home economics education. These programs required a common freshman year with a major concentration beginning at the sophomore level.

The home management residence was moved from the farm managers house to the cottage where the Lockette family had lived for many years. This building was located on the site of the present Colston Administration Building.

President Colston with Miss Georgia State, Thelma E. Perry (second from right), and her attendants at the 1947 Homecoming game.
Ella P. Epting remained only one year at the College and Christine H. Coleman (B.S., Arkansas A.M.&N. College; M.S., Kansas State College) became Acting Director of Division of Home Economics. The faculty of the area increased to five during the Colston years, and some of the persons who taught in this area were as follows:

Robie L. Boyd  
(A.B., Paine College; M.A., Howard University)

Sara Ann Jordon Dixon  
(B.S., Southern University; M.A., Hampton Institute)

Martha Avery  
(B.S., Prince Ann College; M.S., Columbus University)

Evelyn L. Hunter  
(B.S., Hampton Institute)

Mynia R. Brown  
(A.B., University of Toledo; M.A., Howard University)

Mary W. Pitts  
(B.S., Florida A&M College; M.A., New York University)

### Trades and Industries

The specialized certificate trade courses and the industrial education degree programs launched in 1945 primarily for returning World War II Veterans came into their own during the Colston era. Machine Shop was added as a trade in the fall of 1947 with the employment of Robert M. Chisley (B.S., Hampton Institute). Antonio Orsot was relieved of the teaching of carpentry and woodworking and his activities were confined to instruction in mechanical and architectural drawing. Frank Tharpe, former teacher of farm shop, and Murrell S. Johnson (B.S., Tuskegee Institute) assumed all teaching responsibilities in the wood industry area.

The enrollment in the Division reached its zenith during the 1947-48 term as indicated below, but later began decreasing as the veteran enrollment declined.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trade</th>
<th>Length of Course</th>
<th>Enrollment</th>
<th>Graduates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>Winter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Automobile Mechanics</td>
<td>30 months</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auto Body and Fender</td>
<td>18 months</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carpentry</td>
<td>24 months</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electricity</td>
<td>18 months</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Machine Shop</td>
<td>36 months</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masonry</td>
<td>12 months</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Painting</td>
<td>18 months</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radio Repair</td>
<td>12 months</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shoe Repair</td>
<td>12 months</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial Education</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Degree Program)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td></td>
<td>327</td>
<td>303</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The trade certificate classes required 30 clock hours of attendance a week.

September 1948 brought to Georgia State College the headquarters for Amater Z. Traylor the first black trades and industries itinerant teacher trainer for federally subsidized vocational trade programs in black public schools in Georgia. Traylor (A.B., Morehouse College; M.A., Atlanta University) was a journeyman carpenter, and was assigned the responsibility of working with students and teachers in the trade programs for the purpose of improving instruction. Inservice workshops and conferences for trade teachers had been held at Georgia State College infrequently before Traylor’s arrival, but after his employment these became routine and annual events.

A trade and industrial education degree granting curriculum, open only to persons with recognized trade experience equivalent to at least two years beyond the learning experience, was initiated for vocational trade teachers. This
Presidency of James A. Colston

program included no on campus shop experiences other than one course in mechanical drawing, but emphasized courses in general education and professional techniques of teaching vocational subjects at the secondary level.

Financial Problems

At the close of President Colston's first fiscal year June 30, 1948, Georgia State College experienced a deficit of $23,807.68 in its General and Educational funds as compared with a surplus of $35,529.17 in the funds at the close of the Hubert Presidency, June 30, 1947. This reflected a loss in general operating funds of $59,336.85 in one year.

The Auxiliary Enterprise Account for the operation of the dining hall, dormitories, and other auxiliary enterprises also dropped during this period from a surplus of $31,770.77 at the beginning of the fiscal year to $1,965.92 at the close of the period reflecting an operating loss of $29,804.85. Much of the deficits were attributed to the great increase in personnel put on the payroll and the making of many needed physical plant repairs and improvements. Also some of Colston's financial woes came from the poor record keeping and business management skills of his Comptroller, Primus D. Davis, Jr. Faculty and staff were also cited for making improper and illegal travel and other expenditures.

The managing of the financial affairs of the College did not improve during the second year of the Colston's Presidency. As of June 30, 1949, the College had a deficit of $38,936.35 in the Educational and General Fund as compared to the $23,807.68 deficit it had had the previous year which reflected a net loss of $15,128.87 in these funds. Instead of a surplus of $1,965.92 in Auxiliary Enterprise Account at the close of the accounting period in 1948, there was a deficit of $20,618.73, representing a loss of $22,584.65 in these funds. The State Auditor in his 1949 report stated that the financial records of the College had been poorly kept which included many errors in accounting, overdrawn bank accounts, numerous accounts payable, and the improper mingling of funds. He also reported that $1,267.36 of College funds had been diverted to the private use of Cashier, John H. Gilmore. It was recommended by the auditor that the financial affairs of the College should be handled by the Central Office of the Board of Regents unless improvements were made in business management at the College. Gilmore and Davis were released, but this situation contributed greatly to the demise of Colston's Presidency.

The Board of Regents allocated $4,323,544 of State funds in 1948-49 to the teaching units of the University System of Georgia and for graduate education of blacks. Of this amount of $589,394, or 13.63%, went toward higher education of blacks in the state who comprised more than one third of the state's population. Georgia State College received $200,144, or 4.62%, of the Regents' allocation which was far less than what this institution deserved in view of the size of the black population it served, and the funds it needed to function as a class "A" college.

Colston employed deficit spending to make many improvements at the College because the state allocations to the institutions were insufficient and did not increase significantly during his tenure.

Resignation

After President Colston had submitted his resignation to become effective September 1, 1949 and it had been accepted, many persons and groups started badgering the Board of Regents to rescind its acceptance of his leaving. Many allegations surfaced as to why he had resigned. Some published reports alluded that he had had speakers on campus who opposed racial segregation. Others stated that he had allowed a college student to attend a national conference in which protesting racial segregation policies was an issue. There were others who said some disgruntled and ousted faculty members had used their political influence to bring about his downfall.

A delegation of Atlanta leaders including Rev. William H. Borders, Pastor of Wheat Street Baptist Church; C.A. Scott, Editor of Atlanta Daily World; Rev. M.L. King, Sr., Pastor of Ebenezer Baptist Church; Dr. William Boyd of Atlanta University; William A. Fowlkes, Managing Editor of Atlanta Daily World; and E.J. Edwards, Vice President of Georgia Teachers and Education Association, met with Chancellor Harmon W. Caldwell on August 25, 1949 and made a plea for the retention of Colston. They brought to the attention of the Chancellor the various allegations, and hoped that they had not influenced the Board's decision. Caldwell assured the group that Colston's downfall was not due to racial issues, but deficit spending at the Col-
lege. The Board of Regents had excused Colston's budget deficits for 1947-48 because this was his first year and he may not have been familiar with the system. But this matter became intolerable at the close of his second term.

Two days later on August 27, 1949, Dr. J.W. Wilson, a dentist; L. Law, Secretary of Georgia State College Alumni Association; J.Q. Jefferson, President of the Hub, a black Savannah Civic group; Dr. J.A. Jamerson Jr., a dentist; Dr. M.D. Bryant, a physician; B.J. James, a merchant; R.A. Gadsden, a retired school principal; and Sidney A. Jones, a funeral director, all from Savannah, met with Chancellor Caldwell in an effort to get the Board of Regents to recall the resignation of Colston. The group offered to underwrite $20,000 of Colston's deficit if his resignation was recalled, but Caldwell informed them that he would not recommend their proposition to the Board of Regents for approval.

Many letters, telegrams, petitions, etc. were sent to the Board of Regents on behalf of Colston, but the Board refused to reconsider its actions in this matter.

Reflections

President Colston did a superb job of building good will for the College in the local and wider communities. He made many needed improvements in faculty, staff, physical plant, administration, and instructional programs. He enhanced the public relations aspect of the College tremendously when he established a Department in that area and employed Wilton C. Scott (A.B., Xavier University) as its Director. That Department produced many first class publications promoting a positive image of the College. It also upgraded and renamed the students' yearbook and newspaper, The Tiger and The Tiger's Roar, respectively. Scott instituted an annual Press Institute for regional high school students which has continued until the present under the dynamic leadership of Dr. Charles Elmore.

An Artist Series was introduced January, 1948 which presented reputable artists such as the Southerners, Negro Repertory Players, Don Cossack Chorus and Dancers, etc. These artists performed twice on each occasion, once on the campus in Meldrim Auditorium and again at the Savannah Auditorium. The city performances were for the benefit of local citizens and commuting students. This type of concern ingratiated Colston in the eyes of the local black community.

Colston was a dedicated hard working educator who had unquestionable integrity, honesty, and sincerity. He had committed himself to the task of elevating, as soon as possible, Georgia State College from its Class "B" rating to Class "A" rating by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. He was a chief executive who believed in the delegation of authority and responsibilities to properly designed subordinates. Unfortunately, the State of Georgia did not fund the College at its legally obligated level, so many of the needed improvements had to come from deficit spending if they were to be effected at all. It is also a sad commentary for Colston, who put in place the proper administrative style for managing a college, to have negligent fiscal officers contribute greatly to his downfall.

Colston left Georgia State College and completed his Ph.D. degree at New York University and later became President of Knoxville College in Tennessee and Bronx Community College in New York City, from which he retired. Colston died January 21, 1982, in Greensboro, North Carolina. The Administration building at the College was named in his honor.
Chapter 7

Presidency of
Dr. William Kenneth Payne
1949 - 1963

ON SEPTEMBER 1, 1949 William Kenneth Payne became the chief executive officer of Georgia State College as Acting President, a newly created designation for the chief administrator of the College. No other person had served as Acting President before Payne assumed that role. Payne had been at the institution since 1937, and had served as College Examiner, Professor of Education and Dean of the Faculty under Presidents Hubert and Colston. He was a native of Calhoun, Alabama, and a graduate of Morehouse College and Columbus University with A.B. and M.A. degrees, respectively. Payne had also pursued doctoral studies at the University of Minnesota and the University of Chicago. He came to Georgia State College from the position of Dean of Dunbar Junior College in Little Rock, Arkansas.

The Board of Regents elected Payne as the fifth President of the College at the March, 1950, meeting to become effective July 1, 1950.

At Allen University's Founders Day Convocation, February 29, 1952, the honorary degree of Doctor of Letters was conferred on Payne by the institution for his distinguished service in the field of education.

The first major task of the Payne Presidency was to improve finance management at the College. Emanuel A. Bertrand was elevated from his position of Chief Accountant to Comptroller upon the departure of Primus D. Davis. Bertrand was a Hampton Institute graduate with a B.S. degree who came to the College with Colston. He and President Payne made an excellent team of finance managers. By June 30, 1950, the
$38,936.35 deficit in the Educational and General Funds which Colston left at the end of his last fiscal year had been converted to a surplus of $65,139.08. The deficit of $20,618.73 in Auxiliary Funds had been reduced to a deficit of $3,900.29 during the same period. This had been accomplished by reducing the full-time personnel from 152 persons to 138, controlling unnecessary expenditures and establishing an accurate recordkeeping system.

The system of accounting which the University System had in operation during this period allowed surpluses in accounts at an institution at the end of a fiscal year to be carried forward without reducing state appropriations for the ensuing fiscal year. These sums could accumulate and be used by the institution for future projects. Presidents Payne and Hubert utilized this system effectively to make major purchases of instructional equipment which were not budgeted in current budgets. The critics of Presidents Hubert and Payne always accused them of returning their surpluses to the state treasury which was not the case at all.

After several years of discussions by the Board of Regents concerning renaming Georgia State College, it finally renamed the institution Savannah State College at its January 18, 1950 meeting. This name was in line with the names of the other two black institutions in the System that were located in the cities in which they were located. At this time, the black institutions were the only units in the University Systems so named.

Reorganization of Academic Structure

At the beginning of the Presidency of Payne, the organization of the College was basically the same as it was during the Colston years with four Divisions: Agriculture, Arts and Sciences, Home Economics, and Trades and Industries. Eugene Stanley (B.S., Wilberforce University; M.A., Ohio State University) became Acting Dean of Faculty and Director of Division of Arts and Sciences. Evanel E. Renfrow (Terrell) (B.S. and M.S., University of Iowa and Graduate Dietitians Diploma from Michigan State College) became Director of the Division of Home Economics. These were the only major changes made in the upper academic administrative personnel during Payne's first year. However, in 1951 the Division of Agriculture was abolished after the transfer of that program to Fort Valley State College.

In September, 1950, Timothy C. Meyers was elevated from the position of Registrar to Dean of the Faculty, a position he held during the remainder of Payne's tenure. Meyers was a native of Cordele, Georgia, and a 1917 normal school graduate of the institution. He had received an A.B. degree from Lincoln University in Pennsylvania and M.A. degree from Columbia University. He was a meticulous record keeper and an academician who stressed faculty and student scholarship from the Dean's office. He and President Payne were an excellent team of administrators who fostered and maintained the academic integrity of the College.

The Board of Regents entered on July 30, 1949, into a contract with Dr. George D. Strayer, former Director of the Division of Field Studies of the Institute of Educational Research, Teachers College, Columbia University, to conduct a survey of the University System of Georgia which would include inquiries and recommendations related to, but not limited to, the elimination of unnecessary units and/or functions of units of the System. A staff of distinguished educators was assembled by Strayer and the survey commenced September 1 and a report was submitted to the Board of Regents December 15, 1949.

The report recommended the following functions for Savannah State College:

1. Be developed distinctively as the State College for blacks for the industrial and business fields.
2. Continue emphasis upon programs in trades and greater emphasis than at present upon education for employment and operation of various businesses, including home economic employment other than that of secondary teaching.
3. As a secondary emphasis, develop elementary teacher education for grades one through eight at the Bachelor's level only and, as soon as adequate facilities for observation and practice teaching are made available, develop professional teacher education in secondary school academic fields and also special subjects as majors in industrial arts, fine arts, commercial and distributive fields, and when the occasion arises in trades and industrial education, and as a minor in health and physical education.
4. Provide a sound program in arts and
sciences leading to the Bachelor's degree with special emphasis upon majors in mathematics, the physical sciences, economics, and the graphics and plastic arts.

By June, 1950, the Board of Regents had basically redefined the functions of Savannah State College in accordance with the recommendations of the Strayer's Report.

Beginning in July, 1951, the three Presidents of the black units with members of their faculties, in cooperation with the Chancellor's office, started reviewing the existing curricula and allocations of educational functions of Albany State, Fort Valley State and Savannah State in light of the Strayer's Report for the purpose of (1) eliminating as much duplication as possible; (2) eliminating conflicts of interpretation; and (3) establishing curricular patterns of organization which would minimize misunderstanding. In early 1952, the study group unanimously recommended that

1. A divisional pattern of organization be established at each school which would include Divisions of Humanities, Social Sciences, Natural Sciences, Education and Vocational Training; Savannah State College would have a Division of Engineering and Technical Sciences, and each division would be headed by a senior professor who would be directly responsible to the Dean of Faculty;
2. Savannah State College offers majors in economics, chemistry, secondary education, business administration, engineering and technical sciences; vocational training, and offers only a one year terminal program in home economics;
3. A uniform core curriculum in general education at the freshman and sophomore levels be established at the three schools; and a study committee on general education be established with representatives from each school to develop the uniform program.

In keeping with the recommendation of the Presidents' Study Committee, a Study Committee on General Education was formed consisting of an academic administrator and several faculty members from each college. Dr. Elson K. Williams (A.B., Morgan State College; A.M., Columbia University; Ed.D., New York University), Director of the Division of Arts and Sciences, served as the College's administrative representative on that committee. He later became Coordinator of General Education at the College.

In September, 1953, Savannah State College put in place a general education program that had been approved by the faculty and the Board of Regents which required the restructuring of all curricula at the College. This program required all students insofar as possible to complete one hundred twelve hours of general education in their first two years of college study.

Shortly after the arrival of Dr. Calvin L. Kiah (A.B., Morgan State College, M.A., Columbia University, Ed.D., Columbia University) as Chairman of the Department of Education, all teacher education curricula were revised in 1951. New curricula were structured under the umbrella of the Approved Program Approach of the Georgia Division of Teacher Education and Certification. In order for an institution's programs to receive approval, the college had to make a self study of its programs following which a visiting committee appointed by the State Department of Education inspected them and recommended disapproval or approval of programs. Once a student had completed an approved curriculum at an institution under this program, he was recommended to the Division of Certification for a four-year Professional Teaching Certificate in his discipline. This certificate would be issued by the State without further evaluation.

All teacher education curricula at the College, including business education, industrial arts education, industrial education, and trade and industrial education were catalogue listed in the Department of Education with a minimum required core of professional education courses in each.

Until 1959, Savannah State College maintained divisional structure with a Division of Arts and Sciences containing a multitude of Departments. In 1958, the College underwent a self-study which dictated the reorganization of the academic structure of the institution into the following seven divisions with a Chairman, and a newly created position of Coordinator of General Education:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Division of Business Administration</th>
<th>Chairman</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Hayward S. Anderson (B.S., Savannah State College; B.S., Northwestern University)</td>
<td>Dr. Hayward S. Anderson</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Faculty meeting in 1961.

Division of Education
Dr. Calvin L. Kiah

Division of Humanities
Dr. Booker T. Griffith

Division of Natural Sciences
Dr. Elmer J. Dean (A.B., Kentucky State College; M.A., Ed.D., Columbia University)

Division of Technical Sciences
William B. Nelson

Division of Home Study
William E. Griffin

Coordinator of General Education
Dr. Elson K. Williams

Accreditation

The Board of Regents at its October, 1950, meeting requested the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to make an immediate inspection of Savannah State College and the other two black units with the view of giving these institutions the same recognition that was given the white units in the University System. At that time black institutions were not given full membership in the Association, but were given "A" or "B" ratings. Savannah State College had received a "B" rating from the Association in 1940.

After the visit of an Inspection Committee, a report was submitted to the Association at its December, 1950 Annual Meeting which recommended the following corrections at Savannah State College before approval could be given the institution:

1. Increase books in library and give library staff faculty ranks.
2. More completely outlined delegation of authority to faculty and students.
3. Complete the construction of sewage disposal system, heating plant and the renovation of physical education building.

These corrections were made, therefore, at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Association in St. Petersburg, Florida in December, 1951, the Executive Committee of the Association approved Savannah State College. This action granted the College the practical equivalent to the membership in the Association enjoyed by white institutions. At this time, the Association no longer granted class "A" and "B" ratings to black institutions, only approval or...
disapproval.

In the late 1950s the Southern Association agreed to admit black institutions to full membership on the same basis as white institutions. Savannah State College conducted a self-study and a Visiting Committee came to the campus March, 1961 to review the institution for membership. At the Association's December, 1961 Annual Meeting in Miami Beach, Florida, Savannah State College received full membership in the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. This accomplishment can be greatly attributed to the effective leadership and educational statesmanship of President Payne. He had to remove two of his long standing administrative heads who did not have doctorates, C. Vernon Clay, Head Department of Chemistry and W.B. Nelson, Chairman Division of Technical Sciences and replace them with Dr. Charles Pratt (B.S., Langston University; M.S. and Ph.D. University of Oklahoma) and Dr. Clyde W. Hall, respectively, to satisfy accreditation criteria.

Improvements of Physical Plant
An eight-member delegation of the University System of Georgia Committee of the Georgia House of Representatives spent two days in December, 1945 on the campus of Georgia State College studying first hand the conditions of the institution. This was a segment of the Legislature's program of familiarizing itself with the funding needs of units of the University System. The group highly praised the work being done at the College and hoped that the institution would receive more financial support from the state. The group identified some of the urgent needs of the College to be more equipment in home economics, a new library, better dormitory accommodations, adequate faculty housing, etc.

In the September, 1950 meeting of the Board of Regents, Chancellor Harmon Caldwell stated that a court attack demanding equal colleges for blacks or admission of blacks to white institutions of higher education in the State was almost inevitable. Regent Sandy Beaver of Gainsville stated that the state could avoid enormous grief in the near future by embarking on a program of equalizing facilities at black institutions. At the same time, Governor Herman Talmadge and the Legislature were requested to raise the bonding ceiling of the University Building Au-
authority from $12,000,000 to $24,000,000. This agency borrowed money to build dormitories, classrooms, libraries, etc. for use at units of the University System. The Building Authority had a $6,000,000 program under construction and a second $6,000,000 program was almost ready. A new dormitory for men at Savannah State College was a part of the later program.

On September 23, 1950, the Mayor and Alderman of Savannah sent to the Board of Regents a unanimously approved resolution commending the achievements of Savannah State College and urging the Regents to give a substantial portion of its improvement funds to the institution.

The College laundry was destroyed by fire in February, 1951, and was rebuilt shortly thereafter. In 1954, the home economics building was enlarged.

During the Payne Presidency the following major physical improvements were made at Savannah State College between 1950 and 1963:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sewage Disposal System</td>
<td>$172,135</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water System</td>
<td>43,846</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heating Plant</td>
<td>235,025</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laundry</td>
<td>58,996</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wright Hall Dormitory for Men</td>
<td>383,472</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Wright Hall Dormitory for Men was opened on February 18, 1956, and dedicated as Wright Hall in memory of the first President of the College.

Agriculture and Agricultural Extension Service

Agriculture as an instructional program was terminated at Savannah State College in August, 1951. However, the office of the Georgia Agricultural Extension Service for blacks re-
mained, with P.H. Stone as State Agent.

This office continued working with farm and home demonstration agents in the various counties who were helping rural families improve their quality of life through improved farming techniques, better health and recreational conditions, and home improvements. The effectiveness and reputation of the Georgia Extension program for blacks gave Stone and his staff national recognition. In 1955, Stone was so well thought of on a national level that he was employed by the United States Department of Agriculture as Assistant to the Assistant Administrator in charge of program work of the extension service. This was a significant appointment for a black person considering the limited employment opportunities for blacks at that level in governmental agencies. This position entailed working principally with state extension programs in the southern section of the United States in developing effective farm and home programs for rural blacks of this region.

Camilla Weems (A.B., Spelman College) retired March, 1955 after a long and illustrious career as Assistant State Agent for blacks in charge of home demonstration work. She was a dedicated worker who did what was necessary to get the job done. She touched the lives of many black women in this state in such a way that their lives were more meaningful and productive.

When P.H. Stone departed for Washington D.C., Albert S. Bacon Sr., a 1938 agriculture graduate of the College, became State Agent for Negro Work. Bacon was born in Quitman, Georgia, where he started his career in agricultural extension in 1943. His prior experiences also included Assistant County Supervisor for Farm Home Administration, and Principal and Vocational agriculture teacher in Sylvester, Georgia. Bacon received a M.S. degree in agriculture economics from the University of Minnesota before becoming State Agent. He left his post as State Agent June, 1959, to replace Stone in Washington, D.C. upon Stone’s retirement.

Augustus Hill was promoted to State Agent for Negro work when Bacon left. Hill was a native of McRae, Georgia and was also a 1933 graduate of the high school department of State Teachers Agricultural College in Forsyth, Georgia, and a 1937 graduate in agriculture of Georgia State College. Before coming to the extension service as Assistant Negro State Club Agent in 1945, Hill had served as Principal and teacher of vocational agriculture at Evans County Training School at Claxton, NYA Project Coordinator at Albany State College and County Agent in Grady County, Georgia. In 1955, he was promoted to Assistant Supervisor for Negro work in the Agricultural Extension Service. At the time Hill became State Agent there were fifty-six counties with eighty-three black agents assisting rural farmers and their families improve agriculture production and country life.

The annual short courses of the 4-H Clubs were held at Savannah State College until the 4-H Club Center was constructed at Dublin, a

project which Alexander Hurse, P.H. Stone, and Augustus Hill worked diligently to bring into fruition.

The Lions Club of Dublin, in cooperation with other public spirited citizens of Laurens County, in the early 1940s gave some thirty acres of land to the Negro 4-H Club for a camp. Shortly thereafter, the 50,000 club members started raising funds to erect the center by taxing themselves ten cents each per year for the project. With these funds and other contributions they received, materials were purchased and black county agents used a shuttle system to the camp and erected the first eight permanent buildings on the site.

The plans for this facility were revised as follows in 1954: (1) construct a five hundred capacity auditorium and thirty cottages that would accommodate sixteen youth and two adult leaders each, (2) convert present dormitories into six conference rooms and present assembly building into a cafeteria for five hundred, and (3) install proper water, lights, gas and sewage systems. The Martin Theatre, Inc. gave an additional one hundred forty-two acres of land for the Camp. The Mills B. Lane Foundation funded the construction of the first cottage and the wife of Parker B. Poe gave sufficient funds for the second cottage and an additional $6,000 toward the completion of the swimming pool. In April, 1956, Governor Griffin made a grant of $200,000 of State funds toward the development of the Camp.

Alexander Hurse and staff operated this camp until his retirement June 30, 1962. The Georgia Teachers and Education Association gave Hurse a plaque for his meritorious service to education and community growth and development upon his retirement in recognition for his work with the 4-H program.

**Business**

The business program moved to several locations on campus during the Payne era before it returned to Morgan Hall where a segment of the program had been offered when the building opened in 1936. In 1949, it was located in Meldrim Hall where it had been since the Hubert Presidency. Later it was moved to Boggs Hall, Boggs Hall Annex (a frame building of the old Chatham County Protective Home
which was located on present site of Bowen-Smith Hall) and to Hill Hall before moving to Morgan Hall in 1960 under the leadership of Dr. Hayward S. Anderson.

The Department maintained its three earlier majors, business education, secretarial science and accounting. However, in 1951, the accounting curriculum was changed to business administration with options in accounting and general business. The faculty expanded the same year to five with the addition of Albertha E. Boston (A.B., Howard University; M.A., New York University); William H. Bowens (A.B., Morehouse College; M.A., Atlanta University), and Ben Ingersoll (A.B., Morehouse College; M.A., Atlanta University) who also served as Registrar. In 1955, Ingersoll became Chairman of the Department replacing Long. He held that position until the reorganization of the academic structure of the College in 1958 when Dr. Hayward Anderson assumed that responsibility.

During the school term 1952-53, a Department of Economics was established with R. Grann Lloyd (B.S., Tennessee A&I State College; M.A., Columbia University; Ph.D., New York University) as Chairman. This department offered a major and a minor in economics until the 1958 reorganization when it was abolished and its offerings were placed in the Division of Business Administration.

With the creation of the new Division the following four majors were offered: business education, general business administration, economic, and secretarial sciences. The program in business education was listed under the Division of Education but was administered by the Division of Business Administration. A common sequence of courses during the freshman and sophomore years was required of all non-teaching majors in the Division which included courses in business mathematics, business writing, accounting, and elementary typewriting.

T. Franklin Carr, Assistant Professor of Business Administration, was instrumental in establishing in February, 1950 a Federal Credit Union at Savannah State College. SAVASTATE Teachers Federal Credit Union was the chartered name of the organization which was opened to all employees of the College for loan and saving accounts.

Home Economics

With the employment of Evanel E. Renfrow (Terrell) as Director of the Division of Home Economics in 1949, a new era for this discipline was launched. Evanel was a native of Grinnell, Iowa and was a B.S. and M.S. degree graduate of the University of Iowa as well as a registered dietitian who had taught at Florida A&M College, Tuskegee Institute and Lincoln University in Missouri before coming to Georgia State College. She also had had several years of professional experience in hospitals as a dietitian. Therefore, when home economics education, the largest major in the Division was terminated in 1954 and other threats to abolish the entire area arose, Evanel had the necessary experience, vision, education, and fortitude to maintain the existence and credibility of the discipline by shifting its emphasis from teacher education to professional preparation in other areas.

Evanel badgered the administration in 1954 to improve Hammond Hall, the home economics building, which at that time consisted mainly of four rooms without rest room facilities. An addition was constructed which included two staff offices, two rest rooms, and a storeroom. The remainder of the building was upgraded with six modern unit kitchens, multipurpose classroom, a textile and clothing laboratory with fitting room, a dining room and an office for the Director.

The foods and nutrition curriculum was expanded to include institutional management, and new degree granting curricula in textile and clothing, and child development replaced the teacher education program. A nursery school was established to support the non-teaching program in child development. However, the child development degree program was deleted in 1958, and a sequence of courses in this area for a minor and the nursing school were retained.

During the College's reorganization, the Division of Home Economics was reduced to a Department in the Division of Technical Sciences.

With the abolition of vocational home economics came the reduction of the home economics faculty from six to four persons. The last employed during this period were Mollie (Nix) Curtright (B.S., Kansas State College; M.S., University of Minnesota) and Zelia Qwen (B.S., Fayetteville State College; M.A., Columbia University). Mollie had been a faculty member before she married a former Dean of the Faculty, A.C. Curtright.

During the summer of 1960, the Department of Home Economics, in cooperation with the United States Department of State and the Caribbean Commission, sponsored a six-week family life education tour of the Caribbean for vocational home economics teachers.
Technical Sciences

Savannah State College had offered specialized sub-collegiate vocational trade courses as an integral segment of its College program since 1899. However, in 1953, the College and the Board of Regents decided to discontinue this practice and remove access to such courses from students enrolled in collegiate programs. An Area Trade School was established on campus the summer of 1954 which was funded mostly by the Savannah-Chatham Board of Education and the State Department of Education. This was a subcollegiate trade school open to area attending and non-attending high school students on a twelve-month basis, and was administered and taught by College personnel in College facilities. The enrollees paid no tuition and were not classified as Savannah State College students. The program was a part of the beginning of a network of area vocational technical schools developed in Georgia. The vocations and teachers at the inception of this program were:

- Automotive Mechanics
- Bricklaying and Plastering
- Carpentry and Woodworking
- Mechanical drawing and related subjects
- Shoe repairing

This program was terminated at the College in the summer of 1960 and transferred to Harris Area Trade School located on Price street in the building of the old Beach Institute, the first high school for blacks in Savannah. This Trade School was created by the Savannah-Chatham Board of Education to accommodate the transferred program which was placed under the Directorship of Robert A. Young, 1938 agriculture graduate of Georgia State College. The transferring of this program from the College was due mainly to (1) the moving of all technical courses from their old quarters in the NYA building and Morgan Hall to the new Technical Sciences Center, and (2) the forbidding of institutions of higher education by the accrediting agencies to mingle collegiate and subcollegiate programs in the same facilities.

The visionary leadership of William B. Nelson was able to convince the Board of Regents to construct a million dollar structure at Savannah State College to house its technical programs. When this facility was completed in 1960, it was the most expensive structure ever built on this campus. It was an attractively designed, four-unit complex with adequate space for four industrial technology programs and supportive chemistry and physics laboratories.

When all curricula at the College were revised to accommodate major changes in the teacher education program, it became necessary to make some curriculum changes in the degree offerings in the technical sciences. Prior to this
time, building construction was offered as an option in industrial education. This option had elements in industrial teacher education making it possible for a graduate of the program to teach if he so desired. But with the Approved Program Approach to teacher certification, this type of combination program could not be offered. Therefore, it became necessary to prescribe a specific curriculum in building construction and one in teacher education in each industrial teaching fields.

In 1951, a curriculum in building construction was established which was designed to prepare construction foremen and small contractors. The enrollment in this program did not flourish because teaching remained the most attractive employment outlet for black college graduates during this period.

With the 1958 reorganization of the College came the Division of Technical Sciences with a new Department of Industrial Technology which offered four years curricula in automotive technology, building construction technology, electronic technology and electrical technology. The new Technical Sciences Center was designed to accommodate these programs which also suffered from low enrollment.

On June 12, 1961, Dr. Clyde W. Hall and Frederic D. Browne, II were employed as Chairmen of the Division of Technical Sciences and Head of the Department of Industrial Technology, respectively. Dr. Hall was returning from a four-year tour in Liberia, West Africa as Trades and Industries Specialist and Program Officer at Booker Washington Institute in Kakata, Liberia, on contract with Prairie View A&M College and Booker Washington Institute in Kakata, Liberia, on contract with Prairie View A&M College and International Cooperation Administration of the United States Government. Hall was a 1948 Magna Cum Laude graduate of the College and a native of Winter Park, Florida. He received a M.S. degree from Iowa State College and Ed.D. degree from Bradley University. He had also taught at Arkansas A&M and N. College and Tennessee A&I State University prior to coming to the College.

Browne had received a B.S. degree in mechanical engineering from Northwestern University and M.S. in mathematics from the University of Michigan. He was the first full-time faculty member employed by the College with a professional engineering degree.

Shortly after the arrival of Hall and Browne, President Payne asked them to make a study of the offerings, facilities and faculty of the Division of Technical Sciences with specific emphasis on the Department of Industrial Technology. On August 18, 1961, a document was submitted to the President entitled, *A Preliminary Report Containing Details of a Study of Engineering Technology and Industrial Teacher Education Programs at Savannah State College, Savannah, Georgia*. This report involved an investigation of the building construction, electronics and mechanical engineering technology curricula of all the technical institutes in the United States that were then accredited by the Engineers Council for Professional Development. The findings of this study were used as a basis for recommending engineering technology programs to replace currently offered industrial technology programs. It was also recommended that the industrial teacher education program be aligned to meet current Georgia certification requirements for teachers of trade and industrial education, and industrial arts education.

Beginning in the fall of 1962, Savannah State College pioneered in the offering of four year degree level engineering technology programs in building construction, electronics and mechanical technology. These were the first bachelor degree level engineering technology programs in Georgia and the southeastern part of the United States.

Every effort was made by President Payne's administration to upgrade the industrial technology faculty and facilities to meet the higher demands of engineering technology. Scholarships were provided by the College and sought from other sources for faculty members to attend engineering technology summer institutes and programs. Between 1961 and 1963, $37,500 were spent to equip the electronics laboratories with Philco TechRep System of teaching electronics and to equip the material testing laboratory with the Tinus Olsen 120,000 lbs. Universal Testing Machine with appropriate attachments.

Browne departed in 1963 and was replaced as Head of the Department of Engineering Technology by William H. Sullivan (B.S., Morehouse; M.A., Atlanta University; B.S., in Electrical Engineering, Carnegie Institute of Technology) who remained at the College until his retirement in 1971.

Students who were already enrolled in the industrial technology program prior to September, 1962 were automatically transferred to the engineering technology program without any loss of credit. In June, 1963, Ernest Brunson and David Wilkerson received degrees in Building Construction Technology as the first graduates.
of engineering technology at Savannah State College. Although these students had not received the full treatment of the new program, they were sufficiently prepared in engineering technology to make them employable. Brunson was employed by Aeronautical Chart and Information Center in St. Louis, Missouri, as an engineering technologist, and Wilkerson went into the United States Peace Corps in West Africa as a specialist in his discipline.

The secondary and post-secondary trade and industrial education programs in the black public schools of Georgia improved and expanded tremendously under the supervision of State Itinerant Teacher Trainer A.Z. Traylor. He traveled the state visiting and working with trade and industrial programs, and he also held annually at Savannah State College summer inservice workshops which were designed to upgrade the competency in teaching techniques and technical knowledge of teachers in this field. One of those noteworthy workshops was a three-week all-day workshop for electronics teachers which was held on campus commencing July 30, 1962, and was funded by the State Department of Education. It was conducted by L. Rousseau of the Philco Corporation using the state-of-the-art Philco Techrep System of teaching electronics. This workshop was repeated in the summer of 1963 with State Department of Education funds and was also conducted by Philco personnel.

Traylor also did a magnificent job of organizing and supervising the Georgia Youth Industrial Education Association (GYIEA) which was a black student organization of enrollees in trade and industrial education programs in the State. This group held its annual meetings with its "live trade contests" in the different vocational areas every March on campus from 1952 to 1962 when this activity moved for a period of time to Carver Vocational High School in Atlanta.

This move was due to the shortage of housing on campus to accommodate the high influx of public school students attending this meeting. The College faculty and staff of the Division of Technical Sciences always conducted the occupational contests for this youth group. This type of activity existed in the black student organization many years before it became a part of the white student organizations in the State.

The GYIEA was affiliated with a national youth group called the American Youth Industrial Education Association (AYIEA) which held its annual convention usually at Tuskegee Institute after black state organizations met in the spring. The state trade contest winners would compete at the national convention to determine national winners. This group came into existence in 1949 and held trades contests many years before white students started participating in such activities at meetings of Vocational Industrial Clubs of America (VICA). AYIEA held its national meeting at Savannah State College in 1952. William B. Nelson and A.Z. Traylor were very active in the organization and management of this Association during its entire existence.

Richard Mondell Coger, a native of South Carolina and a 1962 graduate in industrial art education, was the first Savannah State College student to be selected for the United States Peace Corps. Coger received three months' training at the University of Maryland commencing July, 1962 and was assigned for two years to British Honduras in South America. Coger later received the masters degree and doctorate in his field of specialization.

William B. Nelson, former Chairman of the Division of Technical Sciences, retired June, 1962 after seventeen years of illustrious service to Savannah State College. Nelson inspired many young men "to be the greatest that they can be," and probably the greatest moment of his career came with the completion of the one million dollar Technical Sciences Center which he worked diligently to have built on this campus.

Desegregation

Dr. William Kenneth Payne was chief executive at Savannah State College during probably the most difficult period in the history of education of blacks in Georgia. He was President in 1954 when the United States Supreme Court declared racial segregation in public education unconstitutional, and when immediately thereafter, political leaders of the state openly defied the law. As a matter of fact, it was politically advantageous to do so if one wanted to be elected or be appointed to a political position. Most of the white politicians of the State engaged in all kinds of illegal and politically expedient maneuvering trying to maintain segregation in higher education between 1954 and 1961 when the courts forced the University of Georgia to admit its first two black students, Charlene Hunter and Hamilton Holmes. During the same period blacks were attacking racial segregation on all
Presidency of Dr. William Kenneth Payne

fronts, and black public school and college students were among the main activists in this movement. Students at Savannah State College were no different than students at other black colleges. Some of them actively participated in the civil rights struggle in Savannah. President Payne was caught between two opposing forces: on the one hand, the politicians who controlled the College and his professional future as President, on the other, the students. The politicians, in the main, wanted to maintain racial segregation; the students wanted to change the system. Being a black person, President Payne was sympathetic with the students' cause, but to maintain his position as President, he was obliged to carry out the policies of the Board of Regents. This situation presented President Payne with an awful dilemma.

The acquisition of Armstrong College of Savannah as a unit of the University System of Georgia January 1, 1959, created additional pressures on the President of Savannah State College. This unit was a segregated white institution which came into the University System five years after the United States Supreme Court had ruled that such institutions were illegal. Also with the creation of Armstrong as a unit of the University System, came the split in public support of higher education in this community along racial lines.

In March, 1960, the Savannah Branch of the NAACP under the leadership of Wesley W. Law, a 1948 graduate of Savannah State College, launched a sit-down strike at the lunch counters in stores on Broughton Street in downtown Savannah for the purpose of racially integrating these facilities. Shortly after the first sit-down strikes, Mayor W. Lee Mingledorff appointed a Bi-Racial Committee that consisted of white and black leaders of the community, including President Payne, to work with the merchants and the NAACP to resolve this race issue. After meetings with the merchants by the Committee, the merchants refused to change their lunch counter policies. The NAACP refused to work with the Committee, thus, an impasse developed which did not enhance the integration posture of Committee Members including President Payne.

As this situation progressed, some Savannah State College students were arrested and tried as sit down strikers. This student activism brought protest from as high as Governor Ernest Vandiver demanding disciplinary action against these students. At the May, 1960 meeting of the Board of Regents, the responsibility of disciplinary actions against these students was placed directly in the lap of the President. The Board also adopted a non-retroactive policy which stated that any student of the University System who was charged with the violation of any state or federal law or who was indicted for any such offense would be subject to suspension pending the outcome of his trial. If convicted, appropriate disciplinary actions would be administered by the president and faculty of the institution where the student was enrolled.

The non-violent civil disobedience and the effective boycott by blacks of the merchants in Savannah continued until July, 1961, when the lunch counters were eventually racially integrated and all charges dropped against involved students. Throughout this period, President Payne was under tremendous conflicting pressure to carry out the policies of the Board of Regents and to do what he knew was right in his own heart. This situation caused the President of Savannah State College to suffer untold agonies.

Student Uprising

As soon as President Payne, with the assistance of his faculty and staff, achieved full accreditation for the College and was plotting a future course of academic excellence for the institution, he was faced with the last crisis of his career and life, a student uprising.

Students Bobby Hill and James Brown reported to the Savannah Morning News on April 19, 1963 that they had circulated a petition addressed to President Payne asking for reconsideration of Dr. Cleveland A. Christophe's employment contract for the ensuing year. The President and the appropriate College administrators had approved the non-renewal of Dr. Christophe’s 1964 contract because he was non-tenured Professor of Economics and his services had not been acceptable during his probationary period which began June, 1961. The students sent President Payne a copy of this petition, but he did not receive it until April 22. Shortly after the President received his copy, he called a meeting of his administrative staff including Division Chairmen to discuss the issue and decide on what, if any, disciplinary actions should be taken against the circulators of the petition. At this meeting, most of the administrators who spoke urged the President to expell those students. However, there were some in a minority who
were against such drastic actions because they felt that the students had the constitutional right to do what they had done. The President took the advice of the majority and expelled Hill and Brown that week. Hill had been recently awarded the "Man of the Year" by the College for his successful collegiate career.

On Monday morning April 29, 1963, Hill and Brown lead a demonstration of about 700 students who hanged President Payne in Effigy. The students formed a secret organization called "The Student Action Committee" with Hill and Brown as its leaders and continued to demonstrate. As the demonstration grew, their focus shifted from the non-renewal of Dr. Christopher's contract to other issues, some racial, against the administration and the needed physical improvements of the College. Students were urged to boycott classes until a resolution could be found to Hill's and Brown's expulsion. The Savannah Branch of the NAACP had a mass meeting in support of the students' demands. As the students continued to boycott classes, the Administrative Council affirmed its support of the President and agreed to enforce the student attendance regulations of the College.

By Friday, May 3, 1963, students had agreed on a mass withdrawal from the College and approximately 400 officially did so. On May 7, 1963, the Board of Regents officially closed the campus to outsiders and gave officially enrolled students until 8:20 a.m. May 9, 1963, to return to their classes or face expulsion. Hill and Brown were conditionally reinstated on May 9, 1963, and most of the students returned to their classes, ending the boycott.

Dr. Christophe appealed the President's decision to the Board of Regents and received a formal hearing. However, his contract was not renewed.

The student demonstrations had a positive impact on the Board of Regents concerning needed physical plant improvements of the institution. At the June, 1963 Commencement Exercises, James A. Dunlap, Chairman of the Board of Regents, announced an improvement program for the College in excess of a million dollars to include tennis courts, a classroom building, a dormitory, etc.

**Reflections**

President W.K. Payne was a sincere dedicated and honest administrator whose word was his bond. One could depend on whatever he promised. Educational administration was his life. He and Dean Meyers made an excellent team of administrators who provided academic integrity for the institution. President Payne and his charming wife Mattie Beverly Payne were a superb first family who provided many enriching activities in their home for faculty, staff, students, and community persons.

The Payne administration brought many worthy programs and activities to the Savannah State College. Many of which have already been discussed, but there are others which should be mentioned. The annual Christmas Choral Society Concerts under the direction of the Head of the Department of Fine Arts, Dr. Coldridge Braithwaite (A.B., M.A., Ed.D., Harvard University) were very enjoyable and well attended by College and community persons. The annual band concerts with Charles Gill (B.S., Savannah State College; M.S., University of Michigan) conducting were equally appealing. The annual production of the Savannah State College Faculty Research Bulletin which provided an opportunity for faculty to put into print their research efforts was a noble undertaking. The establishment of a Retirement Banquet for retirees of the institution has continued to the present. The enjoyable Homecoming Parades on the streets of downtown Savannah with their high stepping bands and attractive floats will never be forgotten, neither will Frank Tharpe's contributions to this undertaking. Coach Ted Wright's basketball teams participated in the national tournaments of NIA in Kansas City, Missouri, which was the first time the College had participated in that type of activity.

The managing of Savannah State College, with all its on- and off-campus maneuverings, took a heavy toll of the health of President Payne. He died July 23, 1963, after a few hours of illness of an apparent cerebral hemmorhage at the age of sixty. He was buried on campus in front of Meldrim Hall where he had served gallantly as President for fourteen years, the third longest tenure of any president of the institution.
DEAN TIMOTHY C. MEYERS was appointed Acting President immediately after the death of President W.K. Payne. He had served efficiently as President Payne’s Dean of Faculty for the previous thirteen years, and was the ideal choice to serve the College in this capacity.

Acting President Meyers’ first task was arranging the funeral for President Payne which was held in Meldrim Auditorium on July 30, 1963 with Rev. Herbert M. Turner of First Congregational Church officiating. Rev. Turner was the Pastor of the Church where President Payne had been a communicant for many years.

Acting President Meyers and his Acting Dean of Faculty, Dr. Clyde W. Hall, completed an ongoing classroom space utilization study to determine the size of the proposed classroom building (Payne Hall). They used the findings of this study to write a building program for the new facility.

The 1963 Summer School Commencement was held in August and the fall term opened as usual in September. Acting President Meyers was very familiar with these activities and everything went as planned. Meyers served brilliantly as Acting President and returned to his position as Dean of Faculty until 1964. He retired in 1966 and died in a automobile accident on March 1, 1984, at the age of eighty-five.
President Jordan and wife, Ruth, with his administrative staff and their wives in a receiving line at Reception for Seniors in 1966.
DR. HOWARD JORDAN, JR., was elected sixth President of Savannah State College at the Georgia Board of Regents meeting in Atlanta September 11, 1963, to report to the College November 1, 1963. Dr. Jordan, along with Dr. Clyde W. Hall and Dr. Lionel Newsome, had been recommended to the Board as candidates for the position of President by the Savannah State College National Alumni Association.

Dr. Jordan was a native of Beaufort, South Carolina, and had attended Savannah State College during his first two years of college. However, he transferred to South Carolina State College where he received the A.B. degree with a major in history and political science. He did his graduate work for the Master of Arts degree at Howard University and the Doctor of Education degree at New York University. Dr. Jordan came to the Presidency of Savannah State College from the position of Dean of Faculty at South Carolina State College.

Dr. Jordan came very well known and was admired by many Savannahians before his arrival as President. He was an excellent speaker and had a receptive outgoing personality. He came to the College highly recommended with a varied college administrative background. Dr. Jordan found the College’s finances in excellent order. The students and alumni had brought to the attention of the public and the Board of Regents the many financial needs of the College, and public commitments had been made by members of the Board to improve the physical plant of the institution. The stage was set for a successful administration.

During Dr. Jordan’s first year, the administrative structure of the College and persons holding major administrative position remained as they were at the death of President Payne. Timothy Meyers returned to his Dean of Faculty position and remained there until the close of the 1963-64 term. At which time, Dr. Robert D. Reid (A.B., Talladega College; M.A., University of Michigan; Ph.D., University of Minnesota) became Dean of Faculty.

The race issue had surfaced during the recent student demonstrations regarding the admission of white students and hiring white faculty members at the College. On September 26, 1963, a twenty-six-year-old white Fort Stewart soldier, Robert M. Schreier, was the first identified white student to be admitted formally to Savannah State College. The Board of Regents had approved the credentials of Schreier and had left the final decision of his admission to the College. He was admitted as a special student to take an evening chemistry course and a Saturday advanced science course for secondary teach-
ers. Schreier had previously attended the University of Maryland. Savannah State College was the first of the three black units of the University System to admit white students.

Building Program

When Dr. Jordan arrived, the program for the fifteen-classroom building with offices for thirty-two teachers, data processing facilities, secretarial center, reading clinic and language laboratory had been completed; and the building project was approaching the architectural planning stage. Shortly thereafter, a dormitory for one hundred eighty women became a part of the University System Building Authority’s bond issue which had been planned and approved during the Payne administration. Throughout Jordan’s tenure the College witnessed great growth in its physical plant.

On March 9, 1966, Savannah State College dedicated six buildings at an elaborate affair. The Honorable Carl Sanders, Governor of Georgia, delivered the dedicatory address; James A. Dunlap, Chairman of the Board of Regents, was in charge of the ribbon cutting ceremony; and Dr. George L. Simpson, Jr., Chancellor of the University System, presented his “Forecast for the Future of Higher Education in Georgia.”

The following buildings were dedicated:

Wiley-Wilcox Health and Physical Education Annex including classrooms, offices, and swimming pool.

Asa H. Gordon Library
Dr. Gordon was former Dean of College and was the first member of the Savannah State College faculty to publish a book.

B.F. Hubert Technical Science Center
Dr. Hubert was the third President of the College.

J.L. Lester Hall (Dormitory for Women)
Janie L. Lester was a teacher and Dean of Women for twenty-five years.

Lockette Hall (Dormitory for Women)
John A. Lockette was a teacher of mathematics and Dean of Men from 1921-1937. His wife Elenora served as Dormitory Director until 1947.

W.K. Payne Hall (Classroom Building)
Dr. Payne was the fifth President of the College.

Additional buildings named during the Jordan presidency were as follows:

W.A. Harris Infirmary
Dr. Harris was a prominent physician in Savannah who served as college physician for many years.

A.E. Peacock Hall (Dormitory for Men)
Amjogollo Elijah Peacock was a native of West Africa who taught social sciences and was College minister from 1940 until his death in 1962.
J.F. Kennedy Fine Arts Building
John F. Kennedy was President of the United States.

Buildings and Construction Projects
Completed 1964-1971

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Building</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Wiley Wilcox Additions (Swimming Pool)</td>
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<td>Lockette Hall</td>
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<td>Peacock Hall</td>
<td>565,076</td>
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<td>Kennedy Fine Arts Building</td>
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<td>Student Center and Food Service Building</td>
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</table>

*John McGlockton, 1935 graduate of the College and a dedicated alumnus, was instrumental in securing the lighting for the stadium at no expense to the State of Georgia.

Teacher Education

The Georgia State Department of Education started the Approved Program Approach to teacher certification in the early 1950s, and Savannah State College under the leadership of Dr. Calvin Kiah and the faculty of the Division of Education guided Savannah State College through the radical changes in teacher education. Initially, programs which were approved for certification received one-year approval from the State Department of Education renewable on an annual basis. Later the five-year plan of approval was established. Each institution seeking such was required to make a self-study using established State Department criteria. After which the State Department sent a Visiting Committee to the College.

At the August, 1966, meeting of the State Board of Education, Savannah State College received the highest endorsement for some of its teacher education programs. Five-year approval was given to the following seven programs:

- Elementary Education
- Library Science
- Industrial Arts
- Mathematics
- Social Sciences
- Health and Physical Education
- Trade and Industrial Education

With the five-year approval of these programs, Savannah State College was among the sixteen out of thirty-one colleges and universities in the State of Georgia offering teacher education with this highest level approval for its programs.

At the same meeting of the State Board of Education, five-year approval was denied the following teacher education programs of the College:

- Business Education
- Science
- English
- Foreign Languages
- Music Education;

However, these programs later received five-year approval after making the necessary modifications to meet state criteria.

Graduate Program

The Board of Regents approved Savannah State College to offer a Master of Science degree with a major in Elementary Education, effective summer of 1968. Dr. Thelma M. Harmond (B.S., Fort Valley State College; M.Ed., Atlanta University; Ph.D., Ohio State University) provided the leadership for the development and approval of this program. Dr. Harmond became Chairman of the Division of Education after the elevation of Dr. Kiah to Dean of Faculty in 1966. Dr. James A. Eaton (A.B., Virginia State College; B.D., Howard University; M.A., Boston University; Ed.D., Columbia University) was appointed Director of Graduate Studies.

The general regulations for obtaining the Master of Science degree were:

1. Admission to graduate study
   a. Baccalaureate degree from an accredited college.
b. Cumulative undergraduate average of 2.5 on 4.0 scale or 1.5 on 3.0 scale.
c. Minimum score of 450 on National Teacher Common Examination.
d. Completion of requisites for admission into proposed field.

2. Maintenance of scholastic average of "B" or better with no more than four (4) courses or twenty (20) quarter hours of a "C" grade.

3. Satisfactory completion of a synthesizing experience which may be standardized or which may be locally developed.

The program opened with a 1968 summer enrollment of forty-six and grew to ninety-six the summer of 1969. The following statistics were collected on the enrollees of this program 1968-1969:

1. The mean undergraduate cumulative grade point average for regular students admitted in 1966 was 2.94 on a 4.0 scale.
2. The mean National Teacher Examination score for regular students admitted in 1968 and 1969 was 540 on the Common Examination.
3. The percentage of non-black enrollment during 1968 and 1969 sessions was 18.5 percent.
4. The percentage of men admitted was 19.5 percent.

The first graduate degrees conferred in Savannah, Georgia were presented to the following graduates of this program in June, 1970:

Carolyn S. Anderson, Savannah State College, B.S., 1959
Gloria S. Brown, Savannah State College, B.S., 1956
Lillie K. Ellis, Savannah State College, B.S., 1966
Adlene G. Kennedy, Savannah State College, B.S., 1965
Velma G. Simmons, Spelman College, A.B., 1950
Dorothy B. Vaughn, Savannah State College, 1955

The first white graduate of this program was Martha B. Coolidge, a 1968 graduate of Armstrong State College. She was in the second class, August, 1970.

This graduate program was probably the most racially integrated college program in the State. The number of white students continually increased during the thirteen quarters of the program's existence as an independent program at Savannah State College before becoming a Joint Graduate Program with Armstrong State College. The white enrollment to the program reached 27.6 percent in 1971. The program enrolled well over 200 students and conferred sixty-five Master of Science degrees with a major in elementary education.

Dr. Eaton in his Requiescat: The Graduate Studies Program at Savannah State College 1968-1971 stated:

The program made great contributions to improving race relations. In 1968 (and 1971) few black and white teachers in Savannah, Georgia, had ever studied together and had the chance to explore each others thoughts, not to mention to work together or to work competitively in an academic situation. At first there was fear on both sides. Both students and faculty worked together to eliminate this. Racial friction on the part of students never existed among the graduate students. Better understanding both in teaching and students resulted.

Joint Undergraduate Programs With Armstrong State College

In the fall of 1970, Savannah State College and Armstrong State College launched what was called "Joint Programs" leading to the Bachelor of Science degree with a major in criminal justice and a Bachelors of Business Administration degree with majors in finance, management and marketing. Required courses of each program were offered on one campus and not on the other which necessitated students enrolled in these programs to study at both schools.

Many of Savannah State College administrators, faculty, students, alumni and supporters, who played no part in the making the decision of having joint programs nor knew of it until the Board of Regents had approved it, were deadly against this arrangement. They saw it as being advantageous for Armstrong State College and disadvantageous for Savannah State College. This arrangement was viewed by its critics as a mechanism which enabled Armstrong State to get new programs approved by the Board of Regents using resources of Savannah State College that Armstrong State College did not have at the time to meet the approval criteria of the Board of Regents. The critics also felt that
once these programs were approved, Armstrong State College would go its separate way and each institution would be in competition for the same students for these programs.

Armstrong State College was founded in 1935 as a white junior college supported by Savannah and became a white unit of the University System January 1, 1959. It was elevated to four-year college status in 1964 and conferred its first Bachelors degree Spring of 1968. It did not receive full membership in the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools as a four-year institution until December, 1968, with accreditation retroactive to January 1, 1968.

It was obvious that when an institution as young as Armstrong State College teamed with an institution as old as Savannah State College, which conferred its first Bachelor's degree in 1898, to offer joint education programs, the older institution brought to the arrangement greater experience, expertise and resources.

The critics of these undergraduate joint programs were proven correct. Soon after these programs were approved and had operated for a short period, the mandatory attendance policy on both campuses ceased to be enforced and each institution went its separate way.

African Awareness Movement

In the late 1960s black college students became very conscious of their African heritage and promoted all kinds of activities to become more knowledgeable of and better identified with the land of their ancestors. To satisfy partially this need of students at Savannah State College, a Seminar on African Studies was introduced which was organized mostly by the following students: Jeffrey Jenkins, Ronald Clark, and Clarence Martin.

Wilbur C. McAfee (B.Ed., Southern Illinois University; M.A., University of Illinois), an Assistant Professor of Social Sciences, assisted the Seminar students in writing a proposal to secure funds for a group trip to Africa. This proposal was submitted to several foundations without success. During this same period, Savannah State College students had assisted in the 1969 annual two-day Spring Cleaning Program in a low-income areas of downtown Savannah. This program was administered by the Citizens and Southern Community Development Corporation.

When Mills B. Lane, President of Citizens and Southern Bank, learned of the students' disappointment concerning their tour to Africa, he donated sufficient funds to send fifty students and five faculty members to West Africa to visit the countries of Liberia, Ivory Coast, Ghana and Nigeria. This group left August 15, 1969 for a fifteen day tour. They returned with a wealth of experience and many treasured artifacts. This was Savannah State College's students first taste of international education which later became a larger aspect of the College's work.

Agricultural Extension Service

When the land-grant designation of Savannah State College was moved to Fort Valley State College in 1949, it was the plan of the Board of Regents to transfer the Agricultural Extension program also; but, because of the effectiveness and political clout of this agency, that was not done. However, the threat to move this program continued. The last big push to retain the program at Savannah State College came from a group of alumni in the Spring of 1961 who formally requested of the Board of Regents to reconsider its plan and leave the Headquarters of this agency in Savannah. The Board at its April 12, 1961 meeting denied the request and restated its position to move this service to Fort Valley State College. A resolution was adopted at the February 12, 1964 Board meeting which stated that the agency would be transferred to Fort Valley State College, effective July 1, 1964.

The last staff of the Georgia Agricultural Extension Service located at Savannah State College consisted of the following persons:

Augustus Hill (B.S., Savannah State College) State Agent
K.C. Childers (B.S., Savannah State College) Area Supervisor
J.A. Demons (B.S., Savannah State College) Area Supervisor
M.C. Little (B.S., Savannah State College; M.S., Iowa State College) Assistant Club Agent
Ann J. Postell (B.S., Savannah State College) Area Supervisor
Carrie B. Powell (B.S., Savannah State College) Assistant Club Agent
Ruby C. Black (B.S., Savannah State College) Clerk
During the Presidency of Jordan, Savannah State College started receiving substantial funding from the federal government for a variety of programs. A very effective program which started in April, 1966, was Upward Bound with Wilbur C. McAfee as Director and Willie Mae Robinson (B.S., Savannah State College) as secretary. This project was financed by the Office of Economic Opportunity until 1968 when the Office of Education in the Department of Health, Education and Welfare assumed the funding which lasted until 1979. At this time the newly created Department of Education began supporting the program. The initial grant for Upward Bound was less than $100,000 and by 1990 the level of funding was more than $300,000.

Upward Bound has enrolled from one hundred to one hundred thirty "high risk" students between the ages of fourteen and nineteen in grades nine through twelve annually. Each year two-thirds of the enrollees have been members of low-income families and first generation potential college students. The project's main goal was to provide on-campus academic and cultural enrichment to enrollees so that they would successfully graduate from high school and college. The Project at the College has been highly effective in that many of its graduates have become successful professionals ranging from teachers and various technicians to medical doctors and a Roman Catholic Priest.

The following persons have served as Directors of Upward Bound:

- Wilbur C. McAfee 1966-67
- Dr. Whittington B. Johnson Summer 1967
- Martha Wilson 1967-68
- Ella W. Fisher 1968-77
- Willie M. Robinson 1977-

Technical Programs

Engineering Technology

In 1966-67, the building construction curriculum was upgraded to Civil Technology. The new program was designed to prepare engineering technologists capable of functioning as (1) architectural and structural designers and draftsmen, (2) highway engineering technicians, (3) estimators, (4) materials testers, and (5) surveyors.

Leon Jay Meyer, a Savannah registered architect, a member of the American Institute of Architects, and a graduate of the University of Florida, was employed in the spring of 1967 as a part-time instructor in engineering technology...
to teach courses in architectural design and drafting. He was the first white instructor employed in the Division of Technical Sciences; he did a creditable job. Meyer also was the first local architect to employ in his office a black student and graduate of the engineering technology program at Savannah State College.

The American Society for Engineering Education (ASEE) invited Wilbur H. Sullivan, Head of the Department of Engineering Technology, to make a presentation concerning the bachelor level engineering technology programs at Savannah State College at its June, 1967 National meeting at Michigan State University. Savannah State College pioneered in the offering of four-year programs in engineering technology when most of the programs in this discipline were two years in length. ASEE promoted the development of four-year college programs in engineering technology and Savannah State College was proud to have been a part of this development.

Technorama

From the inception of engineering technology at Savannah State College, it was anticipated that the task of encouraging black youngsters to pursue technical college programs requiring two years of college level mathematics would be a difficult one. The first major recruiting effort was for faculty members to publicize the program by making personal visits to the high schools over the state. The sustained recruiting program was to hold annually on campus programs aimed primarily at high school students with an interest in technical education.

The first of these annual programs called an Engineering Technology Fair was held January 31, 1964. It was a one day affair with fifty-four high schools represented by more than one hundred fifty participating out-of-town students and counselors. The Fair dramatized the importance of technology in the space age through the use of live technical demonstrations of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration’s “Spacemobile,” and exhibits and consultants from Southern Bell Telephone Company, Union Camp Corporation, General Dynamics, General Electric Corporation, U.S. Corps of Engineers, etc.

This annual recruiting event became the TECHNORAMA, and was expanded to include occupational contests among the high school students. These events proved to be successful recruiting devices. The enrollment in the technical programs increased, as many of the students who had been high school participants in the TECHNORAMA matriculated at Savannah State College.

Engineering Technology Seminar

Prior to the establishment of engineering technology programs at Savannah State College, most of the collegiate students in technical programs were preparing to teach industrial subjects in the public schools. Few, if any of the college level students, went directly into industrial employment and most knew nothing of the opportunities which existed there. Therefore, it became necessary for the College to devise a mechanism which would introduce students to the real industrial world and teach them how to find and hold employment there.

This was done by placing an Engineering Technology Seminar in the junior year of all technical curricula beginning the winter quarter 1965. At this Seminar students were exposed to a variety of audio-visuals dealing with the organization, development and management of big American industries. Speakers from industry made presentations and all students in the Seminars were required to go on planned in-town and out-of-town industrial tours. Students with their teachers went by College bus on tours in Savannah, Atlanta, Jacksonville, Augusta and Charleston, and visited plants of Continental Can Corporation, Union Camp Corporation, AVCO Lycoming Corporation, Philco-Ford Corporation, Chevrolet Division of General Motors, Western Electric Corporation, Lockheed-Georgia Company, Inc., Florida Machine and Foundry Company, Florida Wire and Cable Company, etc.

On these tours students were provided experiences which were impossible to simulate on a college campus. In every plant visited, the group was provided with very courteous and knowledgeable guides who exhibited a real desire on the part of plant management to enrich the students’ backgrounds and make them aware of the job opportunities available. Many of the graduates in the technical areas of the College found employment in many of the places visited.

Women in Technical Programs

Mary Virginia Little was the first woman to enroll in industrial arts education at Savannah State College. She started her college career in September, 1965, after graduating from Butler-Baker High School in Eatonton where she had successfully taken industrial arts courses under E.J. Jemison, a graduate of Savannah State Col-
Presidency of Dr. Howard Jordan, Jr.

lege. Mary received the Bachelor of Science degree in August, 1969, and has since been a very successful industrial arts teacher.

Little was not the first woman to enroll in a technical program at the College, but she was the first to receive a degree. Beatrice Johnson of Valdosta and Vivian Reid Ramson of Augusta enrolled in September, 1964, as the first women to enroll in this area. Both were seeking degrees in engineering technology. Ramson dropped out at the end of the first year.

Cooperative Education

The Savannah Plant of Union Camp Corporation entered into an agreement with Savannah State College during the 1966-67 term to offer cooperative education opportunities to students enrolled in engineering technology at Savannah State College. Union Camp tested several of the College's students and picked Anthony Hampton and Robert Powell, freshman and sophomores, respectively, to be the first participants of this program. These students alternated their work and study periods each quarter. Hampton initiated this program the summer of 1967 and Powell the following fall. Other industries such as IBM in Poughkeepsie, New York; Continental Can Corporation, Savannah District of United States Corps of Engineers, Detroit Diesel, General Electric Large Steam Turbine Plant in Schenectady, New York, etc., provided co-op stations for Savannah State College engineering technology students. Most of the work stations were for summer employment. In 1974-75, this program became a part of a College wide co-op program under the Directorship of Deloris C. Hill in the Division of Extended Services. The Division of Technical Sciences pioneered in granting college credit for organized college sponsored cooperative education experiences.

Savannah Council for Technical Education

In 1965, a group of engineers and architects in the Savannah area, lead by Everett L. Cole, organized the Savannah Council for Technical Education. The Council consisted of eighteen members, one permanent representative from each of the fifteen professional societies in the area and three additional members who served as permanent officers. The purpose of the Council was to study and improve the conditions of the technological profession in the Savannah area.

On August 8, 1966, Cole, the Executive Director of the Council, sent Chancellor George L. Simpson, Jr., a letter requesting the Board of Regents to acquire the physical plant of the then deactivated Hunter Air Force Base for the purpose of establishing a technical program at Armstrong State College.

On August 27, 1966, an editorial appeared in the Savannah Evening Press entitled “Technical School Proposal” in which the editor endorsed the request of the Savannah Council to Dr. Simpson to establish a technical program at Armstrong. Also, in this editorial appeared this statement "on the college level there is not a single technical school in the entire area of Southeast Georgia."

The Savannah State College community was offended by the position of the editor which ignored its technical programs while supporting the establishment of such programs at Armstrong which would be in competition with the ones at this institution.

By August 28, 1966, Dr. Clyde W. Hall wrote a letter to Thomas F. Coffey, Jr., managing editor of the Savannah Evening Press, which brought to his attention the paper's incorrect statement about no technical programs in this area, and which also gave a brief description of Savannah State College's programs. An article was published in the Savannah Evening Press on August 29 alluding to the content of Dr. Hall's letter, and the letter which closed with the following statement was published August 30:

I am sure students, teachers, alumni, and friends of Savannah State College would appreciate your correcting the above statement because it tends to discredit our college which has done so much to make this community a much better place in which to live.

Hunter Air Force Base was not acquired for use by the University System. However, Savannah State College benefited from this debate. Later the Savannah Council served on the College's Advisory Committee of Engineering Technology, and Everett L. Cole worked diligently with the College to get its engineering technology curricula nationally accredited by the Engineers Council for Professional Development in 1973.

Driver Education

On February 25, 1966, the Georgia State Department of Education gave approval for Savannah State College to offer courses in driver education for teacher certification. These courses
were listed under the Industrial Arts Education sequence and were entitled "Introduction to Driver Education" and "Advanced Driver and Traffic Safety Education." These courses were offered and taught by John Mason for the first time in the summer of 1966 as a part of the Grant-In-Aid Driver Education Program sponsored by the State Department of Education under the supervision of Angelo Crowe. Ample equipment for these courses, including a driver simulation trainer, was purchased from the American Automobile Association. The Dixie Chrysler-Plymouth Company of Savannah provided dual controlled cars for this program for several years.

Wilbur Sullivan, Eugene Jackson and Dr. Hall attended a two-week summer Teacher-Trainer Driver Education Institute in 1966 at the University of Georgia which was sponsored by the American Automobile Association. Driver education continued at the College for many years.

Industrial Arts and Space Technology

The Education Program Branch of the John F. Kennedy Space Center, in cooperation with the Georgia State Department of Education Industrial Arts Consultant, Raymond Ginn, conducted an Industrial Arts and Space Technology Pilot Project at Savannah State College. This project was an outgrowth of a Space Technological Conference for industrial arts teacher educators and State Supervisors which was held in 1966 at Cape Kennedy where Dr. Clyde W. Hall was a participant.

The project was a pioneering effort in the industrial arts field and served as a means of introducing space technology curriculum information to pre-service and in-service industrial arts teachers in Georgia. Kennedy Space Center lecturers conducted the workshop and disseminated space technology information concerning electronics, metals and metal forming, power propulsion, woods, plastics, ceramics, drafting and design.

As a continuation of this project, a Space Technology Seminar was held at Savannah State College July 1-3, 1968 for state in-service professional education development for the black trade and industrial education teachers at Savannah State College. This publication was widely acclaimed by professionals in the field.

Trade and Industrial Education

With the passage of the 1964 Civil Rights Acts by the United States Congress and the forced racial integration of white schools under the 1954 Supreme Court Decision, black colleges, such as Savannah State College, started witnessing some unfair competition in the late 1960s from white institutions of higher education. Many whites thought that since their institutions had been forced to accept blacks that black institutions and programs should be eliminated. Many whites refused to realize that white institutions came into existence as racially segregated institutions the same as black institutions. Therefore, the integration of white institutions by blacks also called for the integration of black institutions by whites, not the abolition of the latter, but the upgrading of them to remove the discriminatory inequities that had been created by an unfair segregated educational system.

This abolition or exclusion movement against programs at black state institutions was probably first felt at Savannah State College in the in-service trade and industrial education program. Prior to desegregation, Savannah State College provided, mostly during the summers, in-service professional education development for the black trade and industrial education teachers in Georgia and the University of Georgia did the same for the white teachers.

Less than college grade trade and industrial education teachers were employed on the basis of their competence in their vocations rather than their college preparation. After these teachers were employed, they were required to earn at least five credit hours annually in special professional education courses at Savannah State College, if black, and University of Georgia, if white, until thirty hours had been accumulated.

In 1963, the United States Government passed a massive vocational education bill which greatly expanded vocational schools in this country, including Georgia. As these vocational schools grew, the in-service needs of the teachers followed. Savannah built two branches of its area post-secondary vocational technical schools, one predominantly black and one predominantly white. It also opened a vocational high school. The development of these schools, along with others in the state, increased the in-service trade and industrial education summer enrollment at Savannah State College.

The first white teachers attended these classes in the summer of 1967. Shortly there-
after, an organized clandestine campaign began, urging black and white trade and industrial education teachers not to attend Savannah State College's program. The campaign claimed, falsely, that the program was not approved by the State Department of Education for certification. In fact, this program had received five-year approval in 1966. President Jordan and Dr. Hall were compelled to do something about this situation; therefore, they had a conference in May, 1968, with George W. Mulling, Director of the Division of Vocational Education of the Georgia Department of Education, and several members of his staff to clarify the situation about the acceptance of credit from Savannah State College for trade and industrial education teacher certification. Mulling informed his staff and others of the acceptance of Savannah State College's program and included Dr. Hall in other activities of the Division of Vocational Education to support his position toward the College’s program.

With the untiring assistance of Robert Young, the then Director of the Cynthia Street Branch of Savannah Area Vocational Technical School, the College was able to kill the effects of this movement aimed at phasing out its trade and industrial education in-service certification program. These in-service classes grew in numbers and racial mix until there became a decline in the hiring of new teachers in this area.

At the August, 1970, Commencement, Claude E. Carpenter of Columbus and William E. Monroe of Augusta were the first in-service teachers to receive a Bachelor of Science degree from Savannah State College with a major in trade and industrial education.

EPDA Leadership Institute

A National Panel of Consultants for Vocational Education Personal Development was appointed in 1968 with Dr. Robert M. Worthington, Assistant Commissioner of Education of the New Jersey State Department of Education, as Chairman. This panel of consultants provided Leadership Training Institutes for the development of vocational-technical personnel which were funded by the Educations Professions Development Act (EPDA) of the United States Office of Education. Dr. Clyde W. Hall was one of the twenty-seven panel members selected from all sections of the country, and he encouraged the Panel to devote a portion of its attention to the diminishing role of black colleges and universities in the preparation of vocational-technical personnel.

A Leadership Training Institute dealing specifically with this subject was held at Savannah State College July 7-8, 1969 with college personnel in attendance from Georgia, South Carolina, Florida, North Carolina, Texas and Tennessee. Other Institutes of the Panel in Houston and Boston also devoted some time to this subject.

As an outgrowth of this movement, the participation of black colleges in EPDA vocational personnel development increased greatly. Savannah State College entered into an EPDA consortium in 1970 with the University of Georgia to prepare pre-service trade and industrial education teachers using an innovative approach. Also two faculty members of the Division of Technical Sciences, Lester B. Johnson and Ernest Brown, were recipients of EPDA Doctoral Fellowships at the University of Missouri. These Fellowships provided free tuition and a stipend and dependent allowance which enable them to devote full time to study for the Ph.D. degree in vocational education; both received degrees.

Faculty

Dr. Hall attended a conference called by the Savannah District of the United States Corps of Engineers on January 20, 1967 concerning a Graduate Fellowship Program which the Corps of Engineers was launching. As an outgrowth of that conference, John Mason, Assistant Professor of Civil Engineering Technology was invited to work with the Corps as a part of a Professor's Refresher Program commencing June 5, 1967. Mason has worked at the Corps every subsequent summer through 1990. Other faculty members from the Divisions also have participated in this program.

Leroy Brown, Assistant Professor of Mechanical Engineering Technology, was elected November, 1970 to the Thunderbolt Georgia Town Council as its first black member. Brown had lived in Thunderbolt for more than forty years and had merited this kind of recognition and respect.

Home Economics

Food Technology Workshops

The Department of Home Economics under the leadership of Evanel Terrell offered during summer of 1964 a Food Technology Workshop for in-service home economics teachers
dealing with new foods and newer methods of cooking. This workshop provided full tuition scholarships for fifteen in-service teachers. The project was funded by the Southern Education Foundation. Recipients of the scholarships were selected on the basis of (1) their chemistry background, (2) their contributions to the profession, and (3) the number of students they had inspired to get a college degree in home economics. Consultants for this workshop came from the United States Department of Agriculture, Test Kitchen of Swift and Company of Chicago, Food and Drug Administration, etc.

Early Childhood Education

An early childhood program was offered by the Division of Education, in cooperation with the Department of Home Economics, which was designed to prepare and certify elementary education graduates to teach kindergarten, nursery school and grades one through three. This program allowed students in the above discipline to pursue, during their junior and senior years, a series of courses totaling twenty quarter hours credit in child development which were taught in the Home Economics Department.

The teaching practicum for this program took place in the Savannah State College nursery and kindergarten school which also was under the control of Home Economics. Evanell Terrell provided the leadership for the development of this program which was initially approved for certification by the State Department of Education in 1966. Earnestine L. Lang (B.S., Savannah State College; M.Ed., Savannah State College—Armstrong State College) and Lottie L. Tolbert (B.S., Savannah State College; M.Ed., Savannah State College—Armstrong State College) directed the nursery and kindergarten school for this program.

Reflections

Dr. Howard Jordan, Jr., was a "Community President." He maintained throughout his Presidency a very favorable relationship with the larger college community, especially the business community. He was very active in programs of the Chamber of Commerce; he met and mingled with business people freely. The amount of the financial contributions to the College from local business establishments increased tremendously between 1963 and 1971.

President Jordan had a sound business attitude toward the finances of the college. He and his Comptroller Wesley L. Johnson Jr. (B.S., Morris Brown College; M.B.A., Atlanta University) statemanly managed the business operations of the College.

The activities of the College expanded during the Jordan era. Many of these added features have already been discussed, but there are a few others which should be mentioned. The Men's Glee Club, under the directorship of James Thompson, Jr. (B.A., North Carolina College; M.Ed., University of Michigan), was invited by United States Department of Commerce to perform at the United States Pavilion of the New York World's Fair, May 11 and 12, 1965. The drama productions of the "Players By the Sea"...
were enhanced with the employment of Dr. Robert L. Stevenson (B.S., M.A., Tennessee A&I State University; Ph.D., Indiana University) as teacher of the theatre and English.

During the last years of President Jordan's tenure, he started encountering some difficulties with the students. This was during the college student protest era, when college students nationwide discovered what they called "student rights." This movement gained momentum in 1969-70 at Savannah State College during the Student Government Association Presidency of Ronald Clark, an elementary education major.

After the group of students returned from Africa with some sense of pride in the birth place of their forebearers, they felt that the College was not promoting sufficiently their heritage. Therefore, in early February, 1970, the Student Government Association presented the College administration with a written list of approximately thirty-four "Demands" related to the African issue, as well as other concerns of theirs at the College. Some of the "Demands" were:

1. Involve the College more in the black community through the social science curriculum.
2. Have more black speakers and entertainers.
3. Charge tuition based on the ability to pay and not some set price.
4. Abolish standardized tests in all departments because they are geared for the "white middle class."
5. Establish a grade review board with the power to change unfair, unjust and bias grades.
6. Establish student committees to make rules and regulations for the President and Dean.
7. Provide financial assistance to all students who need aid.
8. Furnish free bus transportation or subsidize bus tickets for city students.
9. Guarantee each student gainful employment after graduation.
10. Lift curfew limitations on women students.

There were other demands dealing with the firing of certain faculty members. It was obvious that many of these demands were unacceptable, but President Jordan did what most prudent presidents would have done; he appointed a special committee of his most able administrators and faculty to work with a group of students to answer the "Demands." This committee reported its findings to the President, and on March 2, 1970, President Jordan held an all-stu-
dent assembly and reported the findings of the committee. There was insufficient cause for most of the "demands" and many were not within the domain of the College to implement. Those that dealt with academic regulations such as withdrawing from courses, teachers returning graded papers, the grading system, etc., were referred to the Academic Council for adjudication. This discourse temporarily silenced the students' protest. However, until Dr. Jordan departed, all types of unsigned leaflets were distributed with many unfounded criticisms of various aspects of the College.

Dr. Jordan was named Vice Chancellor for Services of the University System of Georgia in January, 1971, effective February 1, 1971, ending a productive career at Savannah State College with the dedicated support of his wife, Ruth. He was the first black to hold such an administrative position in the Central Office of the Board of Regents. Dr. Jordan held that position until his death at the age of seventy, December 2, 1986.
Chapter 10

Presidency of
Dr. Prince A. Jackson, Jr.
1971 - 1978

DR. PRINCE A. JACKSON, JR., became Acting President of Savannah State College on February 1, 1971. He came to the Presidency from the position of Chairman of the Division of Natural Sciences and Director of the Institutional Self-Study for re-accreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. Dr. Jackson was the first native born Savannahian to become President of the College and was the second graduate of the College to do so. He received the B.S. degree in mathematics, Cum Laude, from Savannah State College; M.S. from New York University, and Ph.D. from Boston College.

Dr. Jackson came to Savannah State College in 1955 from William James High School in Statesboro and was employed as the College's first Alumni Secretary. Before he became an academic administrator, he had served as teacher of mathematics and physics. Dr. Jackson also at the time of his appointment was an elected member of the Savannah-Chatham County Board of Public Education where he was serving as its Vice President. He came to the position of Acting President a very popular person, and was greatly admired by the students because they saw him as one who could readily relate to their concerns. They also saw him as a person who would provide vigorous and dynamic leadership so that Savannah State College could meet more effectively the rising aspirations of Black Americans and other disadvantaged persons.
Shortly after the announcement of Dr. Jackson's appointment in January, 1971, Dr. George L. Simpson, Jr., Chancellor of the University System, appointed a Search Committee to recommend to him a candidate or candidates to succeed President Jordan as permanent president of the College. This Committee consisted of nine faculty members, six students, six alumni and its chairman, Dr. Clyde W. Hall. It was the first time this process had been used to fill the position of President at Savannah State College.

The Search Committee received many endorsements from alumni, faculty and student groups; civic, political, social and church organizations; and individuals for Dr. Jackson to become the permanent President of the College. The Search Committee so recommended to Chancellor Simpson as its only candidate. Dr. Jackson was elected the seventh President of Savannah State College by the Board of Regents on April 14, 1971, effective immediately.

On April 16, 1971, the Savannah Evening Press expressed its pleasure of Dr. Jackson's election in an editorial:

The support given his appointment speaks well of the respect and esteem in which he is held. We are especially pleased that in naming Dr. Jackson to his new post, the State Board of Regents was able to select a native Savannahian. This new assignment is one Dr. Jackson has earned and one that will provide new challenges. We congratulate him and wish him great success.

The popularity and support for Dr. Jackson during his early tenure as President was not confined to the local area. The Board of Regents at its March 8, 1972 meeting congratulated President Jackson for his being commended by the Georgia House of Representative Resolution (H.R. No. 812) for outstanding educational and community services.

Organizational Structure

The organizational structure of the College, with basically the same major Officers of Administration and Division Chairmen, remained as Dr. Jackson found it when he ascended to the Presidency. The first major change in personnel was the departure of the Dean of Faculty, Dr. Calvin Kiah, who left in May, 1971, to become a Vice President at Georgia State University in Atlanta. He was replaced by Dr. Thomas H. Byers (A.B., Johnson C. Smith; M.A., University of Michigan; Ph.D., Ball State University). Wesley L. Johnson resigned in 1972 and Prince K. Mitchell (B.S., Savannah State College) became the Comptroller. Dr. Margaret C. Robinson (B.S., Savannah State College; M.S., University of Michigan; Ph.D., Washington University) replaced Dr. Jackson as Chairman of the Division of Natural Sciences.

The position of Associate Dean For Undergraduate Studies was created in 1972 and was filled by Martha Wright Wilson (B.S., M.S., University of Minnesota).

The major change in the organizational structure during the Jackson Presidency was the re-establishing the position of Vice President at Savannah State College which had been discontinued at the departure of President Wiley in 1926. This position superseded the Dean of Faculty and reported directly to the President. Dr. Clyde W. Hall was elevated to the position in October, 1976. Dr. Hall, however, resigned the Vice Presidency in August, 1977, and returned to his former position as Chairman of the Division of Technical Sciences.

Accreditation

The first major task of the Jackson administration was the re-accreditation of the institution by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. Dr. Jackson had completed the self-study and the Visiting Committee arrived on campus March 7, 1971. This entire process was successful and the College received its ten-year re-accreditation December, 1971. Also in 1971 the College's teacher education program, under the leadership of Dr. Thelma Harmond, Chairman, Division of Education, received national recognition through a ten-year accreditation by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE). Savannah State College was the first institution in this city to receive such recognition from this prestigious organization.

In 1976, the teacher education program received its third five-year approval from the Georgia State Department of Education after a thorough review of a well prepared self study. This approval assured the graduates of this program certification.

Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps

President Jackson, along with key student leaders, convinced the student body that the establishment of a Naval Reserve Officer Train-
ing Corps (NROTC) at the College would enhance the image of the institution and strengthen its instructional programs. During this period there was a tremendous amount of college students' hostility toward military officer training units on campus because of their dislike of the Vietnam War.

On March 10, 1971, the Board of Regents authorized President Jackson to execute a contract to establish an NROTC unit at Savannah State College, effective immediately. This unit actually opened in October, 1971, with forty-one midshipmen, as the third NROTC unit in a traditional black college. A Division of Naval Science was formed and Commander Virgil V. McGee (B.S., Tennessee A&I State University) of the United States Naval Reserve was the first Commanding Officer. He and his staff of Navy and Marine officers and enlisted men first occupied the converted space of the cabinetmaking and masonry shops of Building B in the B.F. Hubert Technical Sciences Building. Later in 1976, a new facility was constructed specifically to house this program.

The NROTC instructional program consisted of a college major, Navy specified college courses, and Navy professional courses. The ultimate goal of the program was to commission midshipmen in the Navy and Marine Corps upon the receipt of bachelors degree in prescribed curricula.

Commander McGee was an ideal leader for this embryonic program. He provided the necessary nurturing and guidance Savannah State College's students needed to prepare themselves for successful careers in the military. He and his staff integrated themselves and the NROTC into the total life of the College. Commander McGee commissioned on June, 1974, the following first officers of this program:

- Larry D. Carr, Ensign USN
- Walter E. Gaskin, Second Lieutenant USMC
- Larry Hall, Ensign USN
- Marshall Pollard, Ensign USN

In June, 1977, the first two female officers (Martha L. Hall and Cynthia Miller) were commissioned, and in August that same year the first graduate of Armstrong State College was commissioned by the unit. As of December, 1989, the NROTC unit had commissioned 110 naval officers.

81 Navy Ensigns (18 female)
29 Marine Corps Second Lieutenants (6 female)

The Unit has had the following Commanding Officers:

- CDR V.G. McGee 1971-75
- CDR A.N. Catalano II 1975-78
- CDR J.K. Slaven 1978-84
- CDR E. Clark, Jr. 1984-1990
- CDR C. Williams 1990-

The NROTC Unit has been a very productive unit. It has had excellent leadership and has been an asset to the College. As of May 30, 1990, all of the first graduates were still in the military services and had reached the ranks of Lieutenant Commander, Commander, and Lieutenant Colonel. Probably the most outstanding graduate of the NROTC program was Lieutenant Commander Donnie L. Cochran of Pelmham, Georgia, a 1976 civil engineering technology graduate. He was the first black pilot to fly with the Navy prestigious Blue Angels, and was the 1988 Black Engineer of the Year. One of the planes that Cochran flew was permanently mounted on campus.
Joint Graduate Program

Savannah State College operated an independent graduate program in elementary education thirteen quarters before Armstrong State College joined in September, 1971, to form the Joint Graduate Program. At the time of this academic marriage Armstrong State College offered no graduate programs. The combined faculties, libraries and other resources of these institutions made it possible for both of them to offer an extended graduate program in this community, and foster racial integration of the two institutions.

Because of some of the shortcomings of the undergraduate joint programs between these institutions, an attempt was made with the Joint Graduate Program to make it a program of cooperating equal partners. A Graduate Council was established as a policy making body with adequate representation from both schools. The chief administrative officer for the program was an Associate Dean, later Dean of Graduate Studies, who ran the program with this position alternating between campuses every two years. Dr. James A. Eaton of Savannah State College was the first director of this program. He was followed by Dr. Joseph V. Adams of Armstrong State College. All graduate students pursued courses on both campuses. The degrees issued by the program carried the names of the two colleges and the signatures of their presidents. They were conferred jointly by the two presidents at alternating commencements of the two schools.

The following joint graduate programs were offered during the Presidency of Dr. Jackson.

| Master of Education in Elementary Education | Fall, 1971 |
| Master of Business Administration | Fall, 1972 |
| Master of Education with majors in Chemistry, Biology, Mathematics, English; History and Political Science | Summer 1972 |
| Master of Education with majors in special education with emphasis on the teaching the emotionally disturbed; and Business Education | Summer 1974 |
| Master of Education with major in early childhood education | Winter 1976 |

The Joint Graduate program existed until 1979 when the Desegregation Plan moved all business programs to Savannah State College and teacher education programs to Armstrong State College. The graduate programs followed the transfer of the undergraduate programs.

Joint Undergraduate Programs

Savannah State College continued its cooperative attitudes of assisting Armstrong State College with joint undergraduate programs during the Presidency of Dr. Jackson. All undergraduate degree programs, except social work and political science, which Savannah State teamed with Armstrong to offer during this period were already offered at Savannah State, but had not been offered at Armstrong.

The programs initiated in this joint venture between 1971 and 1978 were:

| Bachelor of Music Education | Winter 1972 |
| Bachelor of Science in Education with a major in | Winter 1972 |

Gordon Library (second).
These programs were initially structured the same as the earlier joint undergraduate programs with the students being required to take courses on both campuses. As a matter of fact, Savannah State College purchased a bus to foster these programs. However, both colleges attendance policies for these programs were abandoned and each institution went its separate way.

FM Radio Station

President Jackson convinced the Chancellor and the Board of Regents of the need for a low wattage FM Radio Station for educational purposes at Savannah State College. His position was that this station would be operated as a laboratory for the development of communication skills of students. The President would be responsible for the operating policies of the station, but a faculty member would be the operating officer. The College had the responsibility of securing outside funding sources for the installation costs.

The College put on the air a ten-watt FM station with the call letters of WHCJ at 86.6 on the FM dial. The station established its test pattern in July, 1975, and was officially aired September, 1975. Willie Brown, former Savannah City Councilman and Chatham County Commissioner, served as station manager for several years during the Jackson Presidency.

Major Construction Projects and Naming of Buildings

The physical plant continued to expand between 1972-78, and the major construction projects were the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>Completed</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1972</td>
<td>Faculty Housing</td>
<td>$288,750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1972</td>
<td>Bostic Hall (Dormitory for men)</td>
<td>1,045,888</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1972</td>
<td>Water Storage Tank</td>
<td>91,380</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1974</td>
<td>Electrical Distribution System Phase I</td>
<td>64,379</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1976</td>
<td>Whiting Hall (Education and Business)</td>
<td>1,431,404</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1976</td>
<td>Field House and NROTC Armory</td>
<td>530,489</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1976</td>
<td>Chiller Replacement in Lockette Hall</td>
<td>81,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1977</td>
<td>Library</td>
<td>2,674,988</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1978</td>
<td>Remodeling Camilla Hubert Hall for Married Students (The first such facility at the College.)</td>
<td>964,169</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1978</td>
<td>Reroofing and Repair Phase II</td>
<td>100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1978</td>
<td>Chiller Replacement in Lockette Hall</td>
<td>84,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$7,356,947</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Orsot Faculty Housing.
The most unique of all the above structures was the round library which was one of few in this country with that shape.

The following buildings were named between 1971 and 1978 in honor of persons listed below:

**Bostic Hall (Dormitory for Men)**
Melvin Bostic, an engineering technology freshman and army veteran, was maliciously killed by a white youth, Steven Alterbaum. He was in an automobile mishap while he was collecting money for Savannah State College Scholarship Fund at the corner of Victory Drive and Abercorn Streets in Savannah on October 7, 1972.

**King-Frazier Student Center**
Martin Luther King was the internationally recognized black civil rights leader from Georgia who gave his life for the civil rights and poor people's struggle in America.

Varnetta Frazier was a graduate of Savannah State College who gave exemplary service for many years as the Dietitian in the College dining hall.

**Medgar Evers Plant Operation Complex**
Medgar Evans was a fearless black civil rights leader who was assassinated in 1963 during the desegregation struggle in Mississippi.

**Whiting Hall (Education and Business)**
Helen Adelen Whiting was a native of Washington, D.C., and received the B.S. and M.A. degrees from Columbia University in 1926 and 1931, respectively. She was the first black supervisor of black elementary schools in Georgia, serving in that capacity from 1935 to 1943.

**Drew-Griffith Science Building**
Dr. Booker T. Griffith was the first person employed full-time at Savannah State College with an earned doctorate. He was employed in 1946 and served as Professor of Biology and Chairman of the Division of Natural Sciences until his retirement.

Dr. Charles L. Drew was a black native of Washington, D.C., who received the B.A., M.D. and M.D.S.C. degrees from Amherst College, McGill University School of Medicine and Columbia University, respectively. Dr. Drew was an expert on blood plasma and was considered the father of the "Blood Bank."

**Bowen-Smith (Dormitory for Women)**
Lula Smith graduated from Georgia State Industrial College in 1901 as a member of the second co-ed graduating class. She was a retired teacher of the Savannah-Chatham County School System and was a dedicated supporter of the Savannah State College Alumni Association.

Sylvia E. Bowen was an effective teacher of mathematics at Savannah State College.
AIDP

Savannah State College received in 1976 a five-year Advanced Institutional Development Program (AIDP) grant of $2,750,000 from the United States Government Title III, Higher Education Act of 1965 as amended, to strengthen developing institutions. This was the grant that the College had received which enabled the institution to develop programs, employ needed personnel and purchase equipment that would not have been possible with local and state funds.

This grant was initially distributed among the following major activity areas with indicated Directors:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Directors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AIDP Coordination</td>
<td>Jacquelyn M. Byers (B.S., Johnson C. Smith University; M.A., Ohio State University)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration Support and improvements</td>
<td>Juanita J. Adams (B.S., Savannah State College)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planning, Management, and Evaluation</td>
<td>Dr. George J. O'Neill (B.S., Savannah State College; M.S., Oklahoma State University)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institutional Research</td>
<td>George Thomas, Sr. (B.S., Savannah State College; M.S., Oklahoma State University)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Curriculum and Instruction in English</td>
<td>Dr. Charlie Gaulden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Studies</td>
<td>Swannie M. Richards (B.S.C., M.S., North Carolina Central)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instructional Resources and Improvement Center</td>
<td>Dr. Sarah Harper (B.S., Baylor University; M.A., University of California; Ph.D., University of Santo Thomas)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Support Service</td>
<td>Henton Thomas (B.S., Savannah State College; M.Ed., Georgia Southern College)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mass Communications</td>
<td>Delores C. Hill (B.S., Savannah State College)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooperative Education</td>
<td>Dr. Mary C. Torian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business Administration</td>
<td>Dr. Lester B. Johnson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expanding Career Options in Engineering Technology</td>
<td>Dr. Lawrence Harris (B.S., Baylor University; M.A., University of California; Ph.D., University of Santo Thomas)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Studies</td>
<td>Dr. Kailash Chandra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooperative Physics Program</td>
<td>Dr. Sarah Harper (B.S.C., M.S., North Carolina Central)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Robert Bess, Director of Development, served as Acting Coordinator of AIDP until he resigned in 1977. The first permanent coordinator of this program was Ella W. Fisher (B.S., Xavier University; M.Ed., Temple University) who gave it dedicated and efficient leadership until her retirement in 1980. Dr. George O’Neill (B.A., Youngstown State University; M.A. and Ph.D. University of Southern California) succeeded Fisher as Coordinator and provided statesmanlike leadership for this program until December, 1988. Since that time, this program has been efficiently managed by Dr. Charles J. Elmore.

The funding sequence for Title III programs at Savannah State College since the 1976 grant was as follows:
### Programs Supported

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Programs Supported</th>
<th>Funding Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1981-1983</td>
<td>Student Support Services: Planning, Management and Evaluation; Developmental Studies; Mass Communications; Engineering Technology; and Home Economics</td>
<td>$800,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1982-1987</td>
<td>Institutional Aid Program</td>
<td>2,731,299.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1986</td>
<td>Institutional Aid Program, Endowment Grant Program (Federal Matching Funds for Scholarship Endowment)</td>
<td>150,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1987-1992</td>
<td>Strengthening Historically Black Colleges and University Program</td>
<td>*2,250,000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Anticipated five-year total.

Some of the major accomplishments of the Title III Programs at Savannah State College were as follows:

1. The establishment of a Comprehensive Counseling Center with Henton Thomas as its Director, and Rachael Claiborne (A.B., Claflin College; M.Ed., South Carolina State College), Edna Jackson (B.S., Savannah State College; M.Ed., Savannah State College/Armstrong State College), Shirley James (B.S., Spelman College; Ed.M., Harvard University), and Yvonne Stevens (B.S., Hampton Institute; M.S., M.Ed., Atlanta University) as Counselors. One of the noteworthy accomplishments of this group was the planning and the implementation of a very unique and effective freshmen orientation program called "SSC Fever."

2. Supported an English Communicative Skills Project which upgraded the freshman English courses and created a writing laboratory designed to meet the individual needs of students in the communicative skills program.

3. Funded a computer laboratory in the School of Business and a new production studio in Mass Communications.


### Survey of Black Businesses

The Division of Business Administration conducted a survey of businesses owned or operated by blacks in the Savannah community in 1974 and published its findings in a document entitled The Savannah Minority Business Directory. The survey consisted of a block-to-block canvass and necessary follow-ups by students enrolled in Dr. Mary Torian’s Administrative Practice and Internship courses. Hubert L. Reeves, a retired economist from the United States Department of Labor, served as Director of the study. Four hundred and sixteen businesses were identified. These included accounting services, attorneys, auto repair shops, a bank, barber shops, cleaners, confectionaries, contractors, day nurseries, dentists, florists, insurance companies, grocery stores, physicians, service stations, etc.

### Home Economics

In 1971, the Visiting Committee of the Southern Association of College and Schools recommended that the top priority be given the employment of a person with a terminal degree in the Department of Home Economics. This recommendation was met in September, 1972 with the employment of Dr. Theresa A. Anthony (B.S. and M.S., State University of Buffalo; Ed.D., Teachers College of Columbia University) as the first person with a doctorate in this department, and also the first full-time white teacher in this area. Dr. Anthony served for a short period as Acting Head of the Department after the retirement of Terrell.

Mollie Nix Curtright, Assistant Professor of Home Economics, retired August, 1974 after a long tenure at Savannah State College. She was replaced with the second white teacher in this area Dr. Anita Lincoln (B.S., Michigan State University; M.S. Wayne State University; Ph.D., Southern Illinois University) whose contract was not renewed in 1978.

Evanal R. Terrell, Head of Department of Home Economics, retired June, 1976 after twenty-seven years of dynamic service to Savannah State College. After the transfer of the land-grant function to Fort Valley State College in 1949, it was a struggle to maintain home economics at Savannah State College because home economics education went with this federal mandate. This program was the largest in the De-
partment of Home Economics. All kinds of recommendations and threats were made to abandon the entire area at the College; but, because of Terrell’s leadership, fortitude, vision and hard work that did not take place during her tenure. With very limited facilities and meager budgets, Terrell always maintained viable programs in home economics and kept this discipline utmost in the minds of the College community. Terrell was replaced by Dr. Sara Harper as Head of the Department of Home Economics; however, Dr. Harper’s contract was not renewed in 1978.

Technical Sciences

National Accreditation of Engineering Technology Programs

The civil, electronics and mechanical engineering technology curricula were evaluated by the Engineers’ Council for Professional Development (ECPD) for national accreditation April 30-May 2, 1973. A team of persons coming from the University of Dayton in Ohio, New York City Community College at Brooklyn and Pennsylvania State University spent three days on campus inspecting facilities, examining curriculum materials, student examinations and course outlines; interviewing students, teachers, graduates, and Advisory Board members; and examining employment records of engineering technology graduates as reported by their employers.

In July, 1973, ECPD accredited Savannah State College’s three engineering technology programs for four years. This was an endorsement which was cherished in the profession. These were the first four-year engineering technology programs accredited in a predominantly black college, a distinction which only two institutions in the Southeast enjoyed.

The faculty of engineering technology at the time of initial ECPD accreditation were Wilber N. Sullivan, Dr. John T. Demel (B.S.M.E., University of Nebraska; M.S. and Ph.D., Iowa State University), Frank Tharpe (B.S., Savannah State College; M.S., Iowa State University); Dr. Dennis Potter (B.S., California State Polytechnic College; M.S., and Ed.D., Utah State University), Dr. Paul C. Tien (B.S.E.E., National Taiwan University; M.S.E.E. and Ph.D., University of South Carolina); Ernest Brown (B.S., Savannah State College; M.S., Bradley University); John L. Mason (B.S., Bluefield State College; B.S.C.E., Howard University); Dr. Clyde W. Hall and Lester B. Johnson (B.S., Hampton Institute; M.S., South Carolina State College) who was on leave studying for the doctorate at the University of Missouri. Martha K. Stafford (B.S., Savannah State College; M.Ed., Savannah State/Armstrong State College) was the Secretary.

Yardy Williams, Coordinator of Engineering Technology Programs for the Central Office of the Board of Regents, played a key role in the process of getting Savannah State College’s programs accredited.

COSIP Science Improvement Program

Savannah State College was awarded a grant of $240,000 by the National Science Foundation under COSIP to improve over a three-year period its instructional programs in chemistry, earth science, engineering technology and physics. Of this amount, electronics engineering technology received $84,600 which was distributed as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Additional Electronics Faculty (Salary)</td>
<td>$13,000</td>
<td>$8,700</td>
<td>$4,400</td>
<td>$26,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electronics Technician (salary)</td>
<td></td>
<td>8,000</td>
<td>4,000</td>
<td>12,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instructional Equipment</td>
<td>45,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Books</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td>$59,500</td>
<td>$16,700</td>
<td>$8,400</td>
<td>$84,600</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

101
Dr. Min-tai Pao (B.S.E.E., National Taiwan University; M.S.E.E. and Ph.D., University of Florida) was employed as Assistant Professor of Engineering Technology and William Kalman was employed in 1974 as laboratory technician with COSIP funds. Dr. Willie G. Tucker (B.S. and M.S., Tuskegee Institute; Ph.D., University of Oklahoma), Chairman of the Department of Chemistry, was the Director of COSIP grant.

Joint Technology Programs

Savannah State College united with Savannah Area Vocational-Technical School in the Fall of 1973 to offer an Associate of Science Degree in the fields of civil technology, drafting and design technology, electronics technology and mechanical technology. These degrees were conferred by the College. This program was designed:

(1) to combine specialized technical development of the area vocational-technical school with general education at the College.
(2) to provide the necessary academic preparation from area vocational-technical graduates to continue their education in their specialized technical fields without academic penalty.

The curriculum consisted of one hundred quarter hours credit, fifty-five quarter hours of which were taken at Savannah State College mostly in general education courses with the remaining forty-five quarter hours being awarded by the College to graduates of Savannah Vocational-Technical School in the areas of the programs.

Robert A. Young, Director of Savannah Vo-Tech, participated in the conferring of the first Associate degrees at the June, 1976, commencement to the following persons: Roger Pruitt from Savannah with a major in Civil Technology; Albert Beasley from Savannah with a major in Design and Drafting Technology.

T&I Consortium

From September, 1970, through August, 1973, Savannah State College, in a consortium with the University of Georgia, was engaged in a project designed to investigate and demonstrate a better technique of producing on campus qualified baccalaureate degree trade and technical education teachers. Traditionally, teachers in this service area were recruited from industry on the basis of their industrial experiences, and after employment as teachers, they were provided limited in-service specialized professional exposure to qualify them for teaching without a college degree.

Although Savannah State College offered a degree program in the trade and industrial education since the late 1940s, this program had not been very productive because (1) a college degree was not a major criterion used by the State Department of Education in the teacher selection and permitting process in this service area, (2) the College was not an integral part of vocational education planning at the State level, (3) the program had received very little financial support from the State Department of Education prior to the grant, and (4) there had not been a full time faculty member assigned to this area since the departure of A.Z. Traylor in the early 1960s. The major thrust in this area of the College prior to 1970 was offering specialized professional trade and industrial education courses for locally employed non-degree permit vocational teachers.

This $55,973 consortium project provided for the first time since 1963 an opportunity for Savannah State College to participate in a State Department of Education funded trade and industrial education staff development project. It provided between 1971-73 a full-time faculty member in this area with a secretary and adequate travel and supplies to promote the instructional program.

Dr. Jay T. Smith (B.S., Alcorn A&M College; M.S., Bradley University; Ed.D., University of Missouri) was employed as full-time Coordinator of this program in September, 1971, and Rejena Lipsey was employed as his secretary. They did an admirable job of executing this project. The major objective of this program was to design a curriculum which would provide continuous flow of graduates from vocational-technical programs and other qualified personnel in vocational education into trade and industrial teaching. In order to achieve this objective, the curriculum was modified to

1. Grant college credit for prior appropriate skill development in areas of trade and industrial education.
2. Integrate cooperative industrial work experiences in the curriculum.
3. Provide a teaching internship in lieu of student teaching for already employed permit teachers.
Twenty-three students, seventeen of them full-time, participated in this consortium, and two of the first year's enrollees, Annie Lou Hunt Anderson and Mary Elizabeth Martin Blackshear, were the first graduates of this program in August, 1973 with a Bachelor of Science degree and a major in trade and industrial education. These women were graduates of Savannah Area Vocational-Technical School.

This project received national publicity through an article written by Dr. Smith published in School Shop June, 1973, entitled "Georgia's Answer to T&I Teacher Certification."

At the expiration of the grant in August, 1973, a new one-year grant of $25,973 was made to Savannah State College by the State Department of Education to participate in another consortium with the University of Georgia. This consortium was designed to determine and provide performance based vocational competencies for trade and industrial education teachers. This program was in part a continuation of the previous project. Dr. Smith departed in August, 1973, and Dr. Charlie Gaulden (B.S., Savannah State College; M.S. and Ph.D., University of Missouri) became the T&I Coordinator of this program which terminated August, 1974.

**Dual Degree Program**

In 1977, Savannah State College entered an agreement with Georgia Institute of Technology to offer a dual degree program whereby undergraduate students at Savannah State would attend this institution three years and transfer to Georgia Tech for two additional years and receive degrees from both institutions. This program was opened to majors in chemistry, mathematics and engineering technology.

**Industrial Arts Curriculum Project**

Between 1965 and 1971, the Industrial Arts Curriculum Project (IACP) was developed at Ohio State University and the University of Illinois with a large grant from the United States Department of Education. It consisted of two secondary industrial arts career education programs called "The World of Construction" and "The World of Manufacturing" which were field tested for national use. Specialized curriculum materials, tools and equipment were developed for the program, and in-service workshops were offered nationwide to prepare the typical industrial arts teachers to teach the subjects at the secondary level. These workshops were conducted by teachers who were a part of the field testing of the project.

The Division of Technical Sciences conducted its first IACP World of Construction In-service Workshop June 12-30, 1972 with Carl Brown (B.S., North Carolina A&T University; M.S., University of Illinois) as the experienced teacher. The first IACP World of Manufacturing In-service Workshop was held June, 11-29, 1973, with Samuel Owens (B.S. and M.S., Prairie View A&M College) as the experienced teacher. Savannah State College conducted a series of IACP workshops. The Georgia State Department of Education funded two of these workshops for the first time in June, 1975, as a part of its staff development programs, and continued to do so for several summers.

**Electronics Technology Update Workshop**

Commemorating the summer of 1976, the Georgia State Department of Education funded a series of two-week workshops at Savannah State College to update the technical knowledge of electronics teachers employed in the post-secondary area vocational-technical schools of the state. At the first workshop July 19-30, 1976, Dr. Paul C. Tien served as supervisor and lead teacher; and John H. Lloyd, Associate Director of Instruction, Division of Post-Secondary Vocational-Technical and Adult Programs of the Georgia State Department of Education; and Yardy Williams, Coordinator of Technology Programs of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia, served as resource persons.

This workshop provided twenty in-service electronics teachers the opportunity to

1. Update their expertise in integrated solid-state circuits,
2. Modify and develop new instructional units of the Georgia electronics curriculum in integrated solid-state circuits,
3. Develop techniques of implementing individualized instruction in electronics through the utilization of same in workshop.

These workshops were always well attended and the technical content of them advanced with the rapid growth of electronic technology until their discontinuance in the mid 1980s.

**Extended Services**

In 1972, an Extended Services area was established which encompassed a variety of adjunct programs, and Wilton C. Scott was given
the title, Associate Dean of Extended Services. Many renovations were made in Hill Hall to accommodate Scott's concept of enlarged programs in this area. Initially, Scott and his staff were successful in securing funds for a variety of programs.

In the mid 1970s, many veterans of the Vietnam War were taking advantage of the G.I. Bill and various programs were being established for them at institutions all over the country. Savannah State College through Extended Services developed a variety of programs for veterans and adults which supported and supplemented the regular College academic program. Some of these programs were the Veterans Education and Enrichment Program (VEEP), Veterans Outreach Center, Emergency School Assistance Program, etc. Some of these programs flourished until January, 1976, when the Veterans Administration discovered that benefits had been misused by veterans in these programs and others of the College. Some veterans had dropped courses or dropped completely out of Savannah State College and were receiving monthly benefits based on their original enrollment status with neither the College nor the veterans notifying the Veterans Administration of their change in enrollment status. These discrepancies revealed that the Veterans Administration had dispersed illegally thousands of dollars to veterans associated with programs at Savannah State College. This revelation brought a series of investigations by the Veterans Administration and the Board of Regents. A resolution to this problem was not reached between the Board of Regents and the Veterans Administration until long after the Presidency of Dr. Jackson.

Reflections

During the Presidency of Dr. Jackson, Savannah State College received national recognition through the accreditation of its teacher education and engineering technology programs. The College was unique in that it was one of few black institutions with a FM Radio Station and a NROTC program. Dr. Jackson provided the type of administrative climate which allowed his subordinate administrators to develop their areas to the greatest degree with his full support. He had gigantic aspirations and wanted all segments of the College to have the same. The enrollment of the College reached its highest peak during his administration and financial support for the college increased tremendously.

Dr. Jackson was a compassionate President in terms of providing employment for persons at the institution and arranging financial means for the faculty and staff to seek the terminal degrees. If Dr. Jackson wanted to employ someone, even though there was no specific position in the budget for which that person qualified, he would create a title and a position, and divide the funding of the position among several budget centers so no one area would witness a great impact of the loss of revenue.

Dr. Jackson had a philosophy which he called "Grow your own Doctorates." Several faculty and staff members with Master's degrees were provided part salary and other financial assistance to pursue full-time doctoral programs without financial hardship. Many of these people are still employed at Savannah State College and owe much of their success to Dr. Jackson's goodwill.

In 1975, Dr. Jackson's popularity began to wane and he announced his plans to leave the Presidency June, 1976. However, when the time came he changed his mind and his contract was renewed.

The problems of the veteran enrollment status along with other problems related to student conduct and the methods of adjudicating them at the College severely damaged public support of Dr. Jackson's administration. Therefore, on January 18, 1978, Dr. Jackson wrote Chancellor Simpson asking that he not be considered for re-election for the ensuing fiscal year and that he wished to resign as of June 30, 1978. At the February 8, 1978, meeting of the Board of Regents, Dr. Jackson's request was honored. However, the severity of public outcry against Dr. Jackson remaining until June, 1978, prompted him to vacate the Office of Presidency March 27, 1978.

Upon Dr. Jackson's departure of the Presidency, he remained on the College's payroll and served as Coordinator of the College Residence Center at Fort Stewart and the Savannah Neighborhood Education Center before resuming his professorship in mathematics in 1980.
WITH THE SUDDEN departure of Dr. Prince Jackson, Jr., from the Office of the President three months before his previously announced date of departure, June 30, 1978, it became necessary for Chancellor George Simpson, Jr., to name an Acting President until a permanent President could be elected. Dr. Clyde W. Hall was given that role on March 27, 1978, after serving Savannah State College in the capacities of Chairman of the Division of Technical Sciences from 1961-1976 and 1977-1978, and Vice President 1976-1977.

When Dr. Hall was appointed Acting President, it was envisioned that this assignment would last several months, but it did not terminate until September, 1980. One major reason the tenure of Dr. Hall lasted as long as it did was the inability of the State of Georgia to develop quickly an acceptable desegregation plan. It would have been folly to elect a permanent President for the College without knowing if the institution would escape merger during the State's desegregation process.

Dr. Hall was faced immediately after taking office with two major tasks. The first of these was to develop a strong unified posture for the College family during the desegregation debate which would convince the Board of Regents to maintain Savannah State College as an autono-
leadership of Dr. Hall, the College developed A Plan for the Desegregation of Savannah State College which the College community rallied around during the latter part of the debate before the Fourth Segment of a Plan to Further Desegregate the University System of Georgia was approved by the Board of Regents. This final plan of the Regents incorporated many of the proposals of the College's plan.

The second major concern was the strengthening of the College's academic programs by (1) rigidly enforcing the academic standards and social regulations of students, and (2) improving the supervision of faculty and staff.

In 1978, the satisfactory academic progress of a student at Savannah State College was hinged on his maintaining a cumulative average of 2.00 (grade of "C") or above. If his average fell below this level, he was subjected to probation, suspension, or dismissal. During the 1978 spring and summer quarters, the records of the entire student body were examined in light of the College's academic standards, and students were categorized accordingly. This necessitated the College to suspend 212 students in the fall of 1978, 228 in the winter of 1979, and to place many on academic probation. The College enrollment dropped drastically from 2,448 in the fall of 1977 to 2,066 in the fall of 1978.

The execution of the suspension program and the adoption in October, 1978, of the Regent's desegregation plan which transferred all of Savannah State College's teacher education programs to Armstrong State College created a great undercurrent of dissatisfaction among faculty, students, staff and alumni. This anxiety erupted in a massive student demonstration on the campus of the institution on early Thursday morning, February 8, 1979. A large group of students moved barricades to the entrances of the College and would allow only students and employees to enter. Student leaders disrupted classes all morning encouraging all students to participate in the protest. Students consented to remove their barricades about noon after Acting President Hall consented to have a question and answer session with them in an all-college assembly that same day. This activity did not tranquilize the students because they placed similar barricades the next morning. Dr. Hall convinced John T. Stevens, President of the Student Government Association, that the solution to the impasse was the appointment of a committee consisting of twelve faculty and staff members and twelve students to examine and recommend solutions for the complaints of the students. Their dissatisfaction at the time dealt mostly with (1) the desegregation plan, (2) quality of food in the cafeteria, (3) rigidly enforced academic standards program, (4) visitation regulations of opposite sex in dormitories; and (5) the control of public traffic on Thompkin Road which had become very hazardous for pedestrian students. This committee worked diligently Saturday and Sunday trying to resolve the students' complaints.

Early Monday morning February 12, 1979, students barricaded the entrances to the campus with a flatbed trailer, an old car and all the trash that they could find on campus, but not a single student manned the barricades. The campus maintenance staff removed the debris so traffic could flow normally and Dr. Hall took a very firm stand against anyone attempting to impede the movement of vehicles and people on campus.

As the student protest progressed, it started focusing on the removal of Acting President Hall which was fueled by some faculty and staff members who had been affected and/or were dissatisfied with some of Dr. Hall's decisions. However, Dr. Hall continued maintaining his firm position, and the students backed off their protest and proceeded to go about the business of obtaining an education.

Desegregation Plans

The NAACP Legal Defense Fund (LDF) filed in October, 1970 a class action suit in Judge John H. Pratt's United States District Court for the District of Columbia against the United States Department of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW) on behalf of students attending public schools and colleges that had continued segregating and discriminating on the basis of race since the enactment of the 1964 Civil Rights Act. These institutions were continuing to receive federal assistance in violation of Title VI of said Act which prohibited federal support to racially biased public institutions. LDF also used as plaintiffs in it's lawsuit citizens and federal taxpayers whose funds were being illegally expended to those discriminating schools. This case became known as the famous Adams case because John Q. Adams of Brandon, Mississippi, was the first name on the alphabetical listing of plaintiffs.

During the adjudication of the Adams Case, LDP claimed that HEW was not diligently pursuing and securing acceptable desegregation
plans from the ten states in violation: Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania and Virginia. LDF presented Judge Pratt sufficient evidence for him on February 16, 1973, to grant the Fund declaratory and injunctive relief for each separate cause of action in the complaint, and ordered HEW to begin enforcing Title VI by terminating federal funds to states that failed to develop and submit acceptable desegregation plans for their public institutions of higher education. On June 12, 1973, the Appeals Court affirmed the lower court’s ruling and ordered the affected states, including Georgia, to develop acceptable statewide desegregation plans or experience a termination of federal funds.

A Plan for the Further Integration of the University System of Georgia and Individual Plans for Further Integration were received by HEW on July 13, 1973, in response to a letter from Peter E. Holmes, Director of the Office of Civil Rights (OCR), on May 19, 1973. Holmes, on November 10, 1973, acknowledged the progress the University System had made in its efforts to eliminate the dual system of higher education in Georgia, but stated that the desegregation plans submitted lacked sufficient specificity in many areas of desegregation and improvements at the traditional black institutions (TBI)—Savannah State College, Albany State College, and Fort Valley State College. Therefore, a statewide plan was requested which dealt with areas of concern such as governance, faculty, students, curricula, physical plant costs, recruitment, etc. involved in the desegregation process.

On June 1, 1974, A Plan for Further Desegregation of the University System of Georgia was submitted to OCR as the plan to abolish racial dualism in public higher education in the state in accordance with HEW criteria. This plan was approved by HEW on June 21, 1974, and confirmed by letter July 19, 1974. It listed the joint and cooperative programs between Savannah State College and Armstrong State College as mechanisms for fostering desegregation.

Also, in this plan was a proposal to initiate a study to delineate the specific roles of Savannah State College and Armstrong State College in order to reduce and/or eliminate non-generic duplicative programs for the purpose of promoting enrollment of a significant number of non-majority students at each institution. A HEW Duplication Committee was to be appointed co-chaired by the two Presidents and have a membership that included the Dean, three tenured faculty members, two students and two alumni from each college. The purposes of this Committee were:

1. Examine carefully existing curricula at the two institutions for the purpose of reducing and/or eliminating non-core duplication curricula.
2. Make recommendations as to the division between the two colleges of programs so that each college will have distinct upper level programs and majors not unnecessarily duplicated the other.

This Committee was to be appointed by August 1, 1974; was to complete its report by July 1, 1975; and its recommendations were to be approved and implemented by July 1, 1976.

The appointed members of the HEW Duplication Committee from Savannah State College were:

- Dr. Prince Jackson, Jr., President and Co-Chairman
- Dr. Thomas H. Byers, Dean of College
- Dr. Clyde W. Hall, Chairman, Division of Technical Sciences, tenured faculty
- Dr. Isaiah McIver, Associate Professor of History, tenured faculty
- Martha Wilson, Associate Dean, tenured faculty
- Josie B. Sessoms, Alumna
- Ruby L. King, Alumna
- John Clark, President, Student Government Association
- Jessie Barnes, Vice-President, Student Government Association
- Dr. Hayward S. Anderson, Recorder for Savannah State College

The organizational meeting of this Committee was held at Savannah State College on September 18, 1974, with President Jackson presiding and subsequent meetings alternated between the campuses of the two colleges with the host president presiding. After many meetings and much internal scrutiny of the two institutions, the Committee recommended in its final report the following types of programs for the colleges:
Discrete Degree Programs

Offered only at one college, not duplicated at the other

Armstrong State College  Savannah State College
Health Professions  Technical Sciences
Psychology  Home Economics
Public Administration  Political Science
Anthropology  Sociology
Romance Languages  Industrial Arts
Speech Correction  Trade and Industrial Education

Cooperative Degree Programs

At least one or more courses in each program will be offered only at one college, not duplicated at the other, but required at each.

Biology  Health Physical Education
Chemistry  Mathematics and Recreation
Criminal Justice  History

Joint Degree Programs

Offerings of each program equally divided between the two colleges.

Fine Arts (Bachelor's program)  Earth Sciences
Art  Social Work

Duplicated Programs

Each college would offer these:

English  Teacher Education
Business Administration

Graduate Programs

Offer joint and unilateral graduate programs under a Joint Graduate Council.

On July 1, 1977, HEW adopted new guidelines for desegregation plans in response to Judge Pratt's order, and Georgia submitted its revised statewide plan on September 1, 1977. The Director of OCR sent Chancellor George Simpson, Jr., a memorandum on October 19, 1977, indicating HEW's receptiveness to portions of the plan, but stated that the plan lacked specific actions Georgia pledged to take in the future to desegregate completely its public higher education system. He also stated that the plan was void of specificity concerning strengthening and enhancing the traditional black institutions in the System. The enhancement and not the obliteration of these institutions was the attitude of President Jimmy Carter's Administration. Therefore, this became the main focal point during the final stage of negotiations for an acceptable desegregation plan which would avoid the termination of federal funds to all public institutions of higher education in Georgia.

The improvement of the physical plant and instructional programs of the State's TBIs was a dire necessity because of their neglect and unfair treatment during most of their history. Although the Board of Regents allocated $3,358 of state funds per student at the three TBIs in fiscal 1979 as compared to $2,250 per student in the eleven white senior colleges, and had maintained a positive disparity in state allocations to these institutions since fiscal year 1956 when the allocation was $455 for TBIs and $409 for other similar institutions, there still existed a need for a huge influx of funds at these black colleges to eradicate their glaring deficiencies. These institutions did not have the same access to additional federal, local government, and private funds that counterpart white institutions had. In 1978, Savannah State College was the third oldest of the twelve senior colleges and the seventh oldest of the thirty-two colleges and universities of the University System of Georgia. (University of Georgia 1785, Medical College of Georgia 1828, North Georgia College 1873, Middle Georgia College 1884, Georgia Institute of Technology 1885, Georgia College 1889.) It was obvious that if this institution had been equitably funded throughout its history, there would have been no need to seek reparation funds at this time.

After much discussion, the Board of Regents agreed in a letter from Chancellor Simpson to the Director of OCR on March 6, 1978, to study ways of strengthening Savannah State College, Albany State College, and Fort Valley State College; and eliminate unnecessary duplication...
of programs at nearby public white colleges. The Board agreed to complete this study no later than July 1, 1978, and submit its plans for enhancing the TBIs to OCR after its meeting in August, 1978.

The Board of Regents and Chancellor Simpson put in place in Savannah a Community Liaison Committee and a Joint Savannah State College/Armstrong State College Faculty/Staff Group to study roles of the two institutions and suggest a plan for strengthening Savannah State College in compliance with the criteria of HEW. The Community Committee consisted of two Regents, two alumni association presidents, two student body presidents, two elected faculty members and four lay persons from the Savannah community. The appointments were as follows:

- Regents
  - Erwin A. Friedman, Savannah
  - Scott Candler, Jr., Atlanta

- Alumni
  - Earl F. Brown, Jr., Savannah State College
  - Louis Reisman, Armstrong State College

- Students
  - James Smith, Savannah State College
  - John H. Opper, Jr., Armstrong State College

- Faculty
  - Dr. Otis S. Johnson, Savannah State College
  - Dr. Richard Summerville, Armstrong State College

- Community Representatives
  - Dr. Irwin Victor — Physician
  - Curtis Cooper — President of NAACP
  - Ben Tucker — Owner radio station WSOK
  - Vernon E. Kelly — Chairman of Board, Department of Family and Children Services

These groups were charged with the responsibility of investigating the continued existence of Savannah State College and Armstrong State College in terms of the following options which the Board of Regents had included in its plan:

1. Merger of the two institutions.
2. Specialization of colleges by allowing one to teach lower division courses, with the other offering upper and graduate level classes.
3. Formation of a lower division branch campus.
4. Installation of unique programs at traditional black Savannah State College and elimination of duplicating programs at predominantly white Armstrong State College.
5. Any other options or combination of the above.

The Community Liaison Committee held public hearings to receive input from the community concerning the future of these colleges in Savannah. The first of these hearings was held May 8, 1978, at the Civic Center and approximately 500 persons were in attendance. The majority of the speakers were supporters of Savannah State College and saw option four as the best plan to desegregate and enhance that institution.

The second hearing was held May 22, 1978, at the Jewish Educational Alliance Auditorium, 5111 Abercorn Street, and approximately 400 persons were in attendance. The majority of the speakers supported Armstrong State College and saw option one as the best solution to the higher education dilemma in Savannah.

The Liaison Committee and College Study Group held a series of meetings, but very little unanimity could be reached concerning which of the five options was best for this community. However, during the two-month study various individuals, groups and organizations presented proposals to the Liaison Committee including A Plan for the Desegregation of Savannah State College which was developed by Savannah State College.

The College's plan supported option four and proposed the elimination of duplicated programs by transferring to Savannah State College all programs from Armstrong State College which it had duplicated since its elevation to a four-year institution in 1964, ten years after the Brown decision outlawing segregation in public education. It also proposed the enhancement of Savannah State College by offering new programs in environmental studies, computer science, chemical engineering technology, aeronautical engineering technology, architectural engineering technology, marine biology, mass communications, etc., and by making major improvements of physical plant with (1) the construction of new buildings for business administration, home economics, marine biology, infirmary, continuing education and communications; (2) the renovation of the old library for an administration building; (3) the expansion of the
student center; and (5) the construction of roads, with curbing and gutters, parking lots, sidewalks; underground storm drainage, and electrical power lines.

The Community Liaison Committee held its last meeting on June 26, 1978, and was unable to reach a consensus on a report to the Board of Regents. Therefore, Regent Erwin Friedman, Chairman, agreed to write an introduction and attach it to all the reports the Committee had received including Savannah State College’s desegregation plan.

The Board of Regents was unable to complete its desegregation plan by its September 1, 1978, deadline, therefore, was given an extension by HEW because of its satisfactory progress in developing an acceptable plan. On October 19, 1978, the Board of Regents approved the Fourth Segment of a Plan for Further Desegregation of the University System of Georgia which allowed Savannah State College and Armstrong State College to remain autonomous units, but required them to exchange duplicated programs in their largest enrollment programs, business administration and teacher education. Effective September 1, 1979, Savannah State College would offer all business administration courses and Armstrong would do likewise in teacher education. This plan also incorporated many of the physical plant and academic enhancements proposed in Savannah State College’s plans.

Georgia’s plan was tentatively approved by HEW Secretary Joseph Califano on February 9, 1979, at a news conference where he also indicated President Carter’s pleasure over the enhancement of the TBIs. This plan was formally approved by HEW March 2, 1979. It included strengthening Savannah State College by adding the following programs and facilities:

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<tr>
<th>New Program</th>
<th>Implementation Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Environmental Studies</td>
<td>September, 1979</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chemical Engineering Technology</td>
<td>September, 1980</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aeronautical Engineering Technology</td>
<td>September, 1981</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marine Biology and Technology</td>
<td>September, 1979</td>
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<tr>
<td>Computer Technology</td>
<td>September, 1981</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joint Continuing Education</td>
<td>September, 1979</td>
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<tr>
<th>New Facilities</th>
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<tr>
<td>Administration Building</td>
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<tr>
<td>Infirmary</td>
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<tr>
<td>Business Administration Building</td>
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<tr>
<td>Addition to Student Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joint Continuing Education Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landscaping, roads, parking lots, sidewalks, and underground electrical distribution system.</td>
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The approved Georgia Plan was opposed in a variety of ways by many constituents of the
Savannah State College Community. The students staged a protest against it, and on November 7, 1978, the National Alumni Association sent to the Secretary of HEW A Position Paper Documenting the Need for the Rejection of the Desegregation Plan of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia.

Marsha Artis, President of Student Government Association at Savannah State College; Joey Waller, student and basketball player at the College; Christine and Robert Waller, parents of Joey; and alumnus Robert Bess filed a class action suit on August 7, 1979, in United States District Court for the Southern District of Georgia against the Board of Regents and the Secretary of HEW. Plaintiffs sought a preliminary injunction to maintain the status quo by halting action of the defendant which would further degrade the academic status of Savannah State College and which otherwise would have had an adverse and disproportionate effect on present and future black college students. Plaintiffs sought a permanent injunction compelling defendants to establish a unitary system of higher education in Savannah.

United States District Judge B. Avant Edenfield held a hearing on the complaint August 24, 1979, and on September 4, 1979, he denied the request for an injunction to stop the transfer of the programs between the two schools. However, he did not rule on the constitutionality of Georgia’s desegregation plan for Savannah State College and Armstrong State College because that question would have to go to trial. On February 2, 1981, following a trial, the court rendered a judgment in favor of the defendants after the plaintiffs had withdrawn their suggestion of merger prior to the hearing.

Many persons at both institutions and in the local community had a multitude of misgivings about the implementation of the desegregation plan. There was a tremendous fear that the enrollment at both colleges would drop drastically and the community would find itself with two “half colleges.”

A large segment of Savannah State College supporters felt that the loss of teacher education would be a deathblow to the institution since this area had been the backbone of the College for many years. However, they were unaware of the decline of enrollment in this area as other job opportunities opened to blacks. As recent as the 1979 June and August graduating classes with a total of 201 graduates, sixty-five, or thirty-two percent, of the persons were in business administration as compared forty-one, or twenty-one percent, were in teacher education. The remaining ninety-five, or forty-seven percent graduated in fields of the humanities, natural sciences, social sciences, and technical sciences. This was the first year that the number of business graduates exceeded those in teachers education which had been declining for the past two years while business was increasing.

Business Administration and Education Swap Program

With so much misinformation circulating and persons feeling that their jobs were being threatened, it became imperative that the presidents of the two colleges devise a transition plan which would bring about an effective and tranquil transfer of the academic programs.

Acting President Hall and President Henry Ashmore of Armstrong throughout the debate, before and after the desegregation plan was approved, maintained effective communication between themselves and always presented unified and/or understanding positions, although they may have differed on issues. This attitude eliminated many problems, and facilitated harmony at the many meetings held with affected faculty and students at the two colleges concerning the transfer program.

The following basic principles were followed in transferring business administration to Savannah State College and teacher education to Armstrong State College.

Students
1. Students within ninety quarter hours of graduation in business administration and teacher education were considered transfer students.
2. Transfer students eligible to graduate between September, 1979, and August, 1980, received degrees from their initially enrolled institution although they had transferred to the other school.
3. Transfer students remained under their initial catalog from September, 1979, to August, 1980, and courses were offered to accommodate them at the college to which they transferred.
4. Transfer students were allowed to continue participating in extra curricula activities at their initially enrolled institution.

Faculty
1. All faculty and staff in the Department
of Business Administration at Armstrong State College and the Division of Education at Savannah State College were required to transfer.

2. Rank and tenure followed transferred faculty member.

3. Recommendations for 1979-80 rank, promotions, salary, etc., for transferred faculty and staff were made by home institutions according to University System guidelines.

4. Each affected faculty member was sent a letter to ascertain his or her intent to transfer and a written reply was requested.

In order to facilitate the combining of the business programs at Savannah State College, the Board of Regents approved in April, 1979, the creation of the School of Business with a Dean as its chief academic officer which became effective July 1, 1979. This school was established with the following three Departments:

Accounting, Information Systems and Finance
Business Administration
Office Administration

With the creation of the School of Business at Savannah State College, the Joint Graduate Program and the Divisions of Business Administration and Education were abolished.

The Joint Graduate Program during its life from 1972 to 1979 awarded 797 Masters degrees distributed as follows:

Elementary education 464
Special education 78
History education 49
Early childhood education 36
Political science education 32
Business education 24
Mathematics education 21
English education 15
Chemistry education 10
Biology education 5
Business administration 63

The first known graduates of this Joint Graduate Program to receive doctorates were undergraduates of Savannah State College. Dr. Jeffrey Jenkins was awarded the M.Ed. degree in political science education in June, 1973, by the Program, and received the Ph.D. degree from the University of Michigan in 1976. Dr. Mary S. Bain received the M.Ed. degree in 1972 and was awarded the Ed.D. degree in 1979 by Nova University.

The 1980 Division of Education’s fiscal year budget of $313,015 was transferred to Armstrong State College which included fourteen faculty positions and two staff positions. However, only twelve faculty and one staff person transferred and they were as follows:

Dr. Thelma Harmond — Professor and Division Chairman
Dr. Herman Sartor (B.S., South Carolina State College; M.S., Ph.D., University of Wisconsin) — Professor.

Dr. Ida J. Gadsden (B.S., Savannah State College; M.S.P.H., North Carolina College; Ph.D., University of North Carolina) — Professor.

Dr. Clifford V. Burgess (A.B., Mercer University; M.A., George Peabody College; Ed.D., Auburn University) — Associate Professor.

Dr. Aurelia D. Robinson (A.B., Spelman College; M.A., Atlanta University; Ph.D., University of Georgia) — Associate Professor.

Dr. John Cochran, Jr. (A.B., Paine College; M.A., Atlanta University; Ed.D., University of Georgia) — Associate Professor.

Maurice Stokes (B.S. and M.S., Kansas State Teachers College) — Associate Professor.

Dr. Carnelia Lawson (B.S., Florida State University; M.Ed., University of Southern Mississippi; Ed.D., University of Arkansas) — Associate Professor.

Dr. Stephen K. Agyekum (A.B., Johnson C. Smith University; M.S., Ph.D., University of Georgia) — Associate Professor.

Virginia R. Blalock (B.S., Savannah State College; M.S., Illinois State University; Ed.D., University of Oklahoma) — Associate Professor.

Ruby Black (B.S., Savannah State College; M.Ed., Ed.S., University of Georgia) — Assistant Professor.

Lou Frazier (B.S., Savannah State College) — Administrative Secretary.
With the transfer of these people, Savannah State College lost some of its best prepared, most loyal, dedicated and hard working employees. Dr. Harmond and her staff were the first to bring graduate education to this community; and also to obtain national recognition for teacher education by getting all Savannah State College's teacher education programs accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE). When these programs were transferred to Armstrong State College, they had five-year approval from the Georgia Division of Teacher Education and Certification, and a ten-year endorsement from NCATE. Armstrong's teacher education programs were not accredited by NCATE.

Armstrong State College transferred to Savannah State College a budget of $329,324 for fiscal 1980 which included fifteen faculty positions in business administration and a secretary. Only twelve of the eligible persons on this budget transferred to Savannah State College and they were as follows:

Dr. Thomas R. Eason (B.S., Union University; M.B.A., Ph.D., University of Mississippi) — Professor and Department Head.

Dr. Sarman K. Bhatia (B.A., M.A., Punjab University; Ph.D., Ohio State University) — Professor.

Dr. Orange W. Hall (B.S., Air Force Institute Technology; M.B.A., Hofstra College; Ph.D., University of Florida) — Professor.

Dr. William D. McCarthy (B.B.A., M.B.A., Ph.D., University of Georgia) — Professor.

Dr. Edward L. Alban (A.B., Ph.D., University of Georgia) — Associate Professor.

Dr. Michael A. LaBurtis (B.B.A., University of Cincinnati; M.B.A., Bowling Green State University; Ph.D., University of Alabama) — Associate Professor.

Rubyen M. Chambless (B.B.A., University of Georgia; M.B.A., Ohio State University) — Assistant Professor.

Robert E.L. Morgan (B.B.A., M.A., Memphis State University; Certified Public Accountant) — Associate Professor.

William K. DeCastra (B.S., Florida Southern College; M.B.A., University of Oklahoma) — Assistant Professor.

W. Jan Jankowski (B.B.A., Armstrong State College; J.D., Emory University) — Assistant Professor.

Robert E. Jensen (B.A., Atlanta Christian College; M.B.A., East Carolina University) — Assistant Professor.

Dr. Mary L. Lamb (B.S. Ed., M.Ed., University of Missouri; Ed.D., Indiana University) — Assistant Professor.

The faculty members of the Division of Business Administration of Savannah State College who united with the Armstrong Faculty to form the first teaching corps of the School of Business were:

Dr. Mary C. Torian — Professor and Division Chairman.

Dr. Hayward S. Anderson — Professor.

Dr. Jeraline S. Harven (B.S., Tennessee State University; M.S., Ed.D., Indiana University) — Professor.

Johnny Campbell (B.S., Savannah State College; M.A., Atlanta University) — Associate Professor.

Dr. Ram B. Sing (M.A., Ph.D., Patna University) Associate Professor.

Dr. Alberta E. Boston (A.B., Howard University; M.A., New York University; Ed.D., Temple University) — Assistant Professor.

Arthur Kolgaklis (B.S., Georgia Institute of Technology; M.B.A., Harvard University) — Assistant Professor.

Arthur Levy (B.S., University of Pittsburgh; Certified Public Accountant) — Assistant Professor.

Charlease Stevenson (B.S., Allen University; M.S., Indiana University) — Assistant Professor.

Willie Wardell (B.S., Savannah State College; M.S., New York University) — Assistant Professor.

George F. Conlin (B.S., B.A., Boston University; J.D., John Marshall Law School) — Instructor.

Warren Mitchell (B.S., Savannah State College; Certified Public Accountant) — Instructor.
By mid August 1979, two hundred and sixty-two business majors from Armstrong State College had signed forms indicating that they had planned to transfer to Savannah State College. However, only 151 actually pre-registered for the 1979 fall quarter. Nonetheless, the great drop in enrollment at Savannah State College that had been forecasted by many of the critics of the desegregation swap program did not materialize. Savannah State College enrollment reached 2,088, a small increase over the fall of 1978. Approximately 200 students from Armstrong State College transferred.

The 1979 term opened without any incidents and complications. The new School of Business occupied Whiting Hall, the facility which had been shared by the old Divisions of Business and Education. This unit was launched with a fiscal budget of $747,342. Dr. Mary C. Torian was appointed Head of the Departments of Business Administration and Office Administration and Dr. Thomas Eason was assigned Head of the Department of Accounting, Economics, Finance and Information Systems, and Coordinator of Graduate Program in Business Administration. These Department heads co-chaired the position of Dean of the School because Acting President Hall did not want to select a Dean, before the arrival of the permanent President of the College.

Marine Biology

At the June, 1979, meeting of the Board of Regents, Savannah State College was authorized to offer Bachelor of Science degree programs in marine biology and in environmental studies. The former program was the only one of its kind in Georgia, and it replaced the marine biology certificate program in the biology degree program which was proposed in the 1978 desegregation plan. This change came about because of the strong insistence of Acting President Hall and Dr. Margaret Robinson, Chairman of the Division of Natural Sciences, for a degree program rather than a certificate program in this area.

Dr. Joseph P. Richardson (A.B., University of Tennessee; Ph.D., University of North Carolina) was employed in January, 1979, to launch the marine biology program. Dr. Matthew Gilgian (B.A., Hartwick College; Ph.D., University of Arizona) came to the institution in March, 1979, as the second professor in this area. These two persons with the untiring support of Dr. Robinson developed an effective marine biology program. The first students graduated from this program June, 1985, and they were:

Wallace G. Gowens — Savannah
Jacob R. Richardson II — Beaufort, South Carolina
A new facility, with a dock, boats, classrooms, offices and wet laboratories was completed for marine biology in 1989, making this facility the only one of its kind at a senior college in the University System of Georgia.

Joint Continuing Education Center

The Savannah State College/Armstrong State College Joint Continuing Education Center began operating in rental space in the United Way Building on Bull Street in downtown Savannah during the 1979-80 term. This Center was controlled by the two institutions and had as its purpose to provide such continuing education programs as, but not limited to, statewide, regionally, and locally oriented credit and non-credit courses in such areas as the use of leisure time, professional and occupational upgrading, cultural and social enhancement, etc.

President Ashmore and Acting President Hall employed Dr. Gary Norsworthy (B.A., M.A.; Ph.D., Florida State University) in March, 1980, as Dean of the Center. He reported to the two Presidents, and each College had a campus coordinator who reported to the Dean. Rosemary Banks (B.S., Savannah State College; M.Ed., Savannah State College/Armstrong State College) served in that capacity for Savannah State College. The fiscal affairs for the Center were handled by Savannah State College during its first two years and were transferred to Armstrong State College for the same period of time. Later the Center developed the capacity to handle its fiscal affairs and its name was changed to Coastal Georgia Center for Continuing Education.

The city of Savannah donated in fiscal year 1982 four acres of land in the old Central of Georgia Railroad Complex on West Broad Street for the construction of new facility for the Center which was completed in 1986 at a cost of $3,138,840. This Center was a 40,000-square-foot complex with office space, a 362-seat auditorium and eight classrooms.

Presidential Search Committee

Shortly after HEW formally approved Georgia's desegregation plan for public higher education, Chancellor Simpson started putting in place the mechanism for securing a permanent President for Savannah State College. In April, 1979, a Search and Selection Advisory Committee was appointed and chaired by Dr. Luetta Milledge (A.B., Fort Valley State College; M.A., Atlanta University; Ph.D., University of Georgia), Chairman of the Division of Humanities. This Committee consisted of twelve faculty and staff members, three alumni, five students and six community persons; and was charged with the responsibility of screening all applicants for the Presidency and recommending to the Chancellor its top three choices.

The Committee completed its work in late 1979 and recommended to Acting Chancellor Vernon Crawford its top candidates, one of whom was Dr. Leonard H.O. Spearman (B.S., Florida A&M University; M.A. and Ph.D., University of Michigan) who was at the time Associate Deputy Commissioner for Higher and Continuing Education of the federal government. Dr. Spearman was elected President of Savannah State College by the Board of Regents on February 13, 1980, to become effective July 1, 1980. He had a swell of support in the Savannah State College community and made numerous trips to the College between his election and May, 1980. During this period he was able to get the Board to approve a new administrative structure for the College consisting of two Vice Presidents, three administrative Deans and three academic Schools with Deans: Business; Humanities and Social Sciences; Science and Technology. Unfortunately, Dr. Spearman withdrew his election as President of Savannah State College in June, 1980, to take the Presidency of Texas Southern University in Houston.

The Presidential Search Committee was reactivated with essentially the same membership to recommend to Chancellor Crawford by July 15 other candidates for the position. The Committee recommended as one of its final choices, Dr. Wendell Gilbert Rayburn.

Historical Marker

The Association for the Study of Afro-American Life and History in Savannah, under the dynamic leadership of Wesley W. Law, was instrumental in getting the Georgia Historic Preservation Office to place a historic marker at Savannah State College which denoted the historical significance of this institution as the first state supported black college in Georgia.

This bronze marker was unveiled at a ceremony on June 1, 1979, with resolutions from the City of Savannah and Chatham County presented by Alderman Roy Jackson and Commissioner Willie Brown, respectively. John S. Delaware, Dr. Henry Collier, Jr., and Law, all alumni, also participated in the unveiling.
Reflections

Dr. Clyde W. Hall became Acting President of Savannah State College during a very crucial period in the history of the institution. At the very beginning of his appointment, the desegregation debate was raging and there were strong sentiments in the local community to phase out the institution by merging it with Armstrong State College. The Savannah State College immediate family was somewhat divided on this issue because the faculty by majority vote had just sent Chancellor Simpson a resolution supporting a merger whereby Savannah State College would absorb Armstrong State College. However, this resolution was strongly opposed by some faculty members.

It became imperative at the very beginning of Dr. Hall’s tenure that Savannah State College unify its position in this debate and develop a document explaining its point of view. Dr. Hall was able to get the College family to rally around its position as stated in The Plan for the Desegregation of Savannah State College which the institution had developed. This document, with the unified efforts of the College’s supporters, greatly attributed to the maintenance of the institution as an independent unit of the University System of Georgia.

The rigidly enforcement of the academic standards of the institution from 1978-1980 greatly enhanced the academic tone of the institution. It also decreased tremendously student social problems in the dormitories. What this move did was eliminate many students who were not serious about their education and inspired those to study who wanted to remain at the College. Unfortunately, the faculty in the spring of 1980 lowered the academic standards so a student could remain at the College in good standing with less than a 2.00 cumulative average (grade of "C") until he had acquired 121 quarter hours, almost a junior classification. This was a tragic mistake after the institution had had the "C" average requirement for satisfactory progress of students for many years and the faculty had constantly complained about the previous administration not rigidly enforcing academic rules and regulations.

Dr. Hall’s technical expertise in construction of was an asset during the planning of the physical plant enhancement program of the desegregation plan. He was able to provide a kind of leadership in this area which few presidents could. He personally assisted with the programming and planning of the administration building, infirmary, home economics building, business administration building, the west campus sidewalk system, roads, parking lots, underground drainage and electrical systems; and improvements on Thompkin Road. The administration building and sidewalk and road systems were mostly completed before he left office. Dr. Hall and Prince Mitchell, Vice President for Business and Finance, were an excellent team for upgrading of the physical plant and keeping the finances of the College in order.

At the very beginning of Dr. Hall’s tenure, he had a large cadre of supporters and many of them vocally committed themselves to his "25 Percent Club." He challenged the faculty and students to spend 25 percent more time in preparing for their classes and upgrading the institution, and 25 percent reduction in tardiness, absenteeism, in student center, destructive gossip, etc. But as he started putting in place his no-nonsense style of administration based on the adherence to the rules and regulations of the institution, this support started to wane. He

Acting President Hall, wife Maud, Vice Presidents for Business and Finance Prince K. Mitchell and other Administrative personnel greeting seniors at the 1979 Senior Reception.
moved several key College Administrators who served at his pleasure which also antagonized some persons. Dr. Hall became the scapegoat for the loss of the teacher education programs. He was also tried and acquitted in Chatham State Court on battery charges filed by a disgruntled faculty member.

Another of Dr. Hall’s problems stemmed from his refusing to fill some vacant positions which were sought by some self-designated campus faculty and staff leaders. These positions came about mostly because of resignations and internal transfers, and were not needed because of the decline in enrollment. The budget of the College was not reduced because of the shortfall in enrollment and the funds from these positions were amended into in the fiscal budget to purchase additional instructional equipment costing more than $100,000.

The Search Committee saw fit not to recommend Dr. Hall as a candidate for the position of permanent President although he had applied, and many responsible persons supported his candidacy.

The Board of Regents at its February, 1980 meeting expressed special appreciation to Dr. Hall for his outstanding leadership and guidance of Savannah State College during his tenure as Acting President. Upon the recommendation of Chancellor Crawford, the Board approved a leave of absence during fiscal 1980-81 for Dr. Hall to do advanced study and professional development in computer science and other technical fields at Clemson University, Valencia Community College, Mid-Florida Technical Institute and the University of Central Florida.

Dr. Hall returned to Savannah State College in September, 1981, as Professor of Engineering Technology and was promoted to Regents' Professor in 1982, upon the recommendation of Regents' Professor in 1982, upon the recommendation of Chancellor Crawford. He was the first and only member of the faculty at Savannah State College to receive such recognition. Dr. Hall retired in June, 1987. However, he was asked by Chancellor H. Dean Propst to serve as Acting President again after the resignation of Dr. Rayburn in 1988, but he declined.

Governor Joe Frank Harris appointed Dr. Hall in September, 1990, to a three-year term on the Georgia State Board of Technical and Adult Education, representing the First Congressional District.
President Rayburn at 1981 Homecoming game with his wife, Gloria.
Chapter 12

Presidency of Dr. Wendell G. Rayburn
1980 - 1988

DR. WENDELL GILBERT RAYBURN (B.A., Eastern Michigan University; M.A., University of Michigan; Ed.D., Wayne State University) was elected on August 20, 1980, by the Board of Regents as the eighth President of Savannah State College, effective September 15, 1980. Dr. Rayburn came to the Presidency from the position of Dean of the University College of the University of Louisville in Kentucky, where he had been employed since 1974. He had previously been employed in a variety of capacities at the University of Detroit between 1968 and 1974.

The new President was a native of Detroit, Michigan, and had served the public schools of that city as an Elementary Staff Coordinator in 1968 and an elementary and junior high school science teacher between 1954 and 1968. Dr. Rayburn, along with three other candidates, was recommended to Chancellor Vernon Crawford by the Search Committee as a qualified applicant for the Presidency of Savannah State College.

President Rayburn found the College's finances in excellent order. The 1980-81 budget of the College was funded above the average allocation per full-time equivalent student in senior colleges of the University System. There were a variety of vacant funded personnel positions which provided an opportunity for the new President to employ many key people of his choosing, or to transfer funds to areas where he thought the needs were.

Dr. Rayburn was the first person to serve as chief administrative officer of this institution without any experience either as a student and/or employee of a historically black institution. He did not bring with him the "Southern Black Experience" which had sustained Savannah State College throughout its history.

Upon the arrival of Dr. Rayburn, the implementation of the desegregation plan was underway. The academic structure of the institution had been reorganized into three schools, and the combined business programs of Savannah State College and Armstrong State College had been functioning successfully one year without a permanent Dean. Architects had been employed and the designs of the business building, home economics building and infirmary were well underway. The conversion of the old library into a modern administration building was near completion, and the west campus sidewalk, underground drainage and electrical systems were being installed.

The first major tasks of Dr. Rayburn were 1) to rearrange and solidify his officers of administration;
2) employ a compatible Vice President of Academic Affairs, a Dean of Students, and Deans of the three newly created academic schools; and
3) make a decision concerning the residence of the President. No President had lived on campus since the departure of President Jordan in 1971.

Before the close of the 1981-82 school term, President Rayburn had filled the following positions:

Vice President for Academic Affairs—Dr. Edward J. Hayes (Ph.B., M.A., University of Michigan; Ph.D., Wayne State University)

Dean of Student Affairs—Dr. Leon White (B.S., M.Ed., Tuskegee Institute; Ph.D., University of Michigan)

Assistant to President/Director of Public Relations—Dr. Charles J. Elmore (B.S., Savannah State College; M.A., Ph.D., University of Michigan)

Dean of School of Humanities and Social Sciences—Dr. Ja Arthur Jahannes (B.A., Lincoln University; M.A., Hampton Institute; Ph.D., University of Delaware)

Dean of School of Sciences and Technology—Dr. Margaret C. Robinson

Dean of the School of Business—Dr. Leon G. Parrish (B.S.E.E., M.S., Ph.D., Georgia Institute of Technology)

Prince Mitchell, Benjamin L. Lewis, John B. Clemmons, Dr. Gary F. Norsworthy and Andrew J. McLemore continued in their administrative positions of Vice President for Business and Finance, Director of Development and College Relations, Acting Registrar, Dean of Joint Continuing Education Center, and Librarian, respectively. Alvin Collins (B.S., Savannah State College; M.Ed., Armstrong State College) became Registrar upon the retirement of John Clemmons in 1983.

The formal inauguration of Dr. Rayburn as the eighth President of Savannah State College was held May 19, 1982, on the lawn in front of John F. Kennedy Fine Arts Building with Dr. Harold Delaney, Executive Vice President of the American Association of College and Universities, delivering the inaugural address. The following greetings and salutations to the President were given:

Board of Regents — Marie W. Dodd, Chairman

City of Savannah — John P. Rousakis, Mayor
College Faculty and Administration — Dr. Luetta L. Milledge, Head of the Department of Humanities and Fine Arts

Students — Virgil Stanley, President of Student Government Association

Alumni — William Weston, President of National Alumni Association

Sister Institutions — Dr. Henry L. Ashmore, President of Armstrong State College

Dr. Dale W. Lick, President of Georgia Southern College

The investiture of the President was done by Chancellor Vernon Crawford. This inauguration was the second held for a President of Savannah State College.

Merger

It appeared that every time one of the colleges in Savannah lost its permanent president, the question of merging the institutions surfaced. Shortly after Dr. Henry F. Ashmore announced in January, 1982, his resignation as President of Armstrong State College to become effective August 1, 1982, the supporters of combining the local colleges started expressing their wishes. The magnitude of this discussion influenced the Board of Regents to put on hold the appointment of a Search Committee to find a replacement of Dr. Ashmore until the merger issue was resolved.

Chancellor Vernon Crawford announced in June, 1982, that the Board of Regents had approved a plan to study the status and future of public higher education in Savannah. This study would include the services of professional staff persons who were familiar with relationships between historically white and historically black institutions in the same vicinity. Charles Fancher, Associate Vice Chancellor for the Board of Regents of the State University and Community College System of Tennessee, and Gordon K. Davies, Director of the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, were employed by the Regents to study the Savannah higher education situation. These consultants made several trips to Savannah in November, 1982, to interview persons interested in this issue. They submitted a report to the Regents in early 1983 which did not recommend a forthright solution to the problem. However, they did suggest several options which could be pursued to eliminate the situation, one of which was merger.

At the August, 1983, meeting of the Board of Regents, a representative of the Committee on Higher Education in Savannah presented a summary of its study with conclusions and recommendations regarding Armstrong State College and Savannah State College. This Committee of five black and five white citizens was formed in November, 1981, to examine the education delivery system of the two University System institutions in Savannah. The black citizens on the committee were:

- Robert Bess, Counselor at Shuman Middle School
- Rev. Matthew Brown, Pastor of St. John Baptist Church
- Curtis V. Cooper, Executive Director of West Side Urban Health Center and President of the Savannah Branch of the NAACP.
- Betty Ellington, Administrative Coordinator, Exceptional Child's Program of the Savannah-Chatham County Board of Education.
- Roy L. Jackson, President of Jackson Brothers Chevron Service Center.

With a grant from the Savannah Port Authority and the Lane Foundation, consultants were employed from the Office of Adult Learning Service of the College Board to make an investigative study of the two colleges. The Committee's findings were not very complimentary of the local colleges and rejected the concept of merging the existing institutions. However, it did recommend the abolition of the two schools as they existed and establishing a Savannah Community College on one of the campuses and a major branch of either the University of Georgia or Georgia State University on the other.

The Board of Regents temporarily settled the question of merger at its November, 1983, meeting when it adopted a recommendation from its Education Committee which reaffirmed the status of Savannah State College and Armstrong State Colleges as autonomous senior colleges of the University System. This decision tranquilized the situation until the departure of President Rayburn in 1988.

Building Program

President Rayburn recommended to the Chancellor that a new residence for the Presi-
dent be constructed instead of remodeling the existing facility, Hodge Hall. This recommendation was predicated on the prohibitive estimated cost of making the present structure acceptable to the Rayburns. At the March, 1981, Board meeting, the Regents authorized the construction of a two-story residence containing approximately 3,200 square feet with a project budget of $200,000. Leon Meyer and Company of Savannah was appointed architect, and this project was completed in 1982 at a cost of $266,177. This was an attractive structure east of the administration building overlooking the salt water marsh. Unfortunately in August, 1985, the Board of Regents adopted a new policy concerning campus residences for Presidents of the System which prohibited Presidents of senior and junior colleges from living on campus. After the departure of the Rayburns, this house was not to be used as a home for the President.

The Rayburn Administration witnessed the planning of the business administration building and the marine biology facility, and the completion of administration building, infirmary, joint continuation center, and the west campus drainage sidewalk and road systems. All of these construction projects were a part of the 1978 desegregation plan which had been planned before Dr. Rayburn arrived.

Listed below were the expenditures for these construction projects and others by fiscal years during the Rayburn years.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1981</td>
<td>Administration Building</td>
<td>$1,050,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>New Walk System — Phase I</td>
<td>$170,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1982</td>
<td>Walk System Phase II</td>
<td>$208,960</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Underground Electrical Distribution System</td>
<td>$565,359</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Correction of Building Fire Code Exceptions</td>
<td>$273,085</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Walk System Phase III</td>
<td>$303,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Residence of the President</td>
<td>$266,177</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Replacement of fan coil units and pipe insulation of Lockette Hall</td>
<td>$103,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1983</td>
<td>Replacement of zone piping in Lockette Hall</td>
<td>$63,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Electrical Distributor System Phase III</td>
<td>$269,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Infirmary</td>
<td>$664,749</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Reroof Payne Hall and Library</td>
<td>$95,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1984</td>
<td>Reroof and Repair Warehouse Shop and Food Service Facilities</td>
<td>$119,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1985</td>
<td>Sidewalk and Site Improvements Phase IV</td>
<td>$320,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Asbestos Abatement in Dormitories</td>
<td>$41,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1986</td>
<td>Joint Savannah State College and Armstrong State College Continuing Education Center</td>
<td>$3,138,840</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Reroof Lockette Hall</td>
<td>$120,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$7,770,170</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The budgets for construction projects which were under construction and/or in the planning stage when Dr. Rayburn departed in 1988 were as follows:

- **Business Administration Building**
  - $3,034,912
- **Marine Biology Facility**
  - 500,000
- **Annex to Student Center**
  - 4,000,000
- **Total**
  - $7,534,912

A sad commentary in the construction program at Savannah State College during the Rayburn years was the discontinuation of the construction of a new facility for the home economics program. Beginning with the administration of President Hubert, the faculty, students, and alumni of home economics had been promised by different members of the Board of Regents, different Chancellors, and other public officials that an adequate home economics facility would be constructed at Savannah State College. Finally in 1979, Acting President Hall was able to convince Chancellor George Simpson, Jr. to approve this project and the Board of Regents employed Levy and Kiley Architects of Savannah to design the home economics building. Unfortunately, after this facility was designed, President Rayburn recommended to the Board of Regents that the entire program in home economics be discontinued because of its low productivity, much of which was due to the out-of-date inadequate facility for the program. Levy and Kiley were paid $31,068 for their services on this project.

The Awards and Designation Committee (Geraldine H. Abernathy, Dr. Hayward S. Anderson, Dr. Charles J. Elmore, Dr. J. Arthur Johannes and Dr. Clyde W. Hall, Chairman) recommended to President Rayburn that the facilities listed below be named in honor of the designated persons for their unflagging support of Savannah State College. President Rayburn accepted the Committee's recommendations and received Board of Regents' approval for same in September, 1985.

- **James A. Colston Administration Building**
  - The fourth President of Savannah State College, serving from 1947-1949. The residue of Dr. Colston's innovative administrative changes has remained at the College for more than forty years.

- **Theodore A. Wright Athletic Stadium**
  - Employed at the College from 1947 to 1970. Established the Department of Health and Physical Education and planned the first permanent football field at the College in 1947. His conference champion basketball teams participated in the NAIA National Basketball Tournament in Kansas City, Missouri, three consecutive years, 1959-1961. This was the first national athletic recognition the College received.

- **Antonio Orsot Faculty Apartments**
  - Employed at the College from 1919 to 1952. Director of the Mechanical Department from 1921 to 1945. Designed and supervised the construction of the second Mel- drim Hall, Adams Hall, Willie Powell Laboratory School, Morgan Hall, Wilcox Gymnasium, Herty Hall, Camilla Hubert Hall and Hodge Hall.

- **William Harris — Stephen M. McDew Health Center**
  - Dr. Harris was a prominent physician in
Savannah and was the driving force behind the success of Charity Hospital where he served as Superintendent for many years. This was the only hospital where black physicians could practice in Savannah prior to 1956. He provided health care for students at the College for many years without compensation.

Dr. McDew was a graduate of the College and a prominent physician in Savannah. He organized the first health facility at the College and served as its Director for thirty-four years.

Asa H. Gordon Library (Round) Employed at the College from 1928 to 1941. Served as Director of Instruction from 1928 to 1936 and Director of the Department of Social Sciences and Research Publications from 1939 to 1941. Was a prolific writer of articles, books reviews, books and research studies about blacks. His most noted books were Sketches of Negro Life and History in South Carolina and The Georgia Negro. The first library building on campus was also named in his honor.

Benjamin J. James Street (North Entrance) Enrolled at the College in 1921 as a sixth grade student and graduated with a B.S. degree in 1932. Operated a confectionary and variety store at three different locations on the street named in his honor from his college days until his death, June 28, 1973. Was an indefatigable supporter of the College.

A 1986 campus map drawn by John T. Muirhead, a civil engineering technology student.
Grants for Research, Instruction and Service

The era of faculty grants for research and instruction at Savannah State College began with the employment of Dr. Charles Pratt as Head of the Department of Chemistry in September, 1961. Dr. Pratt brought to the institution a grant from the Cotton Seed Research Foundation when he came which eventually grew to the amount of $24,000. This was the first such major science research grant to a faculty member at this institution. Dr. Pratt was also successful in securing other grants from public and private sources. He was the first to secure grants from the National Science Foundation (NSF) for instructional improvement institutes for science teachers and students. Before his departure in 1969, he had conducted three NSF institutes for teachers and one for students.

Beginning in the early 1970s other faculty members, mostly in the Division of Natural Sciences, were instrumental in securing grants from NSF and the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The first major NSF grant after the resignation of Dr. Pratt came in 1973 under the leadership of Dr. Willie J. Tucker, Head of the Department of Chemistry, as a COSIP three-year grant in the amount of $240,000. This money supported instructional programs in chemistry, earth science, physics and engineering technology through the purchase of scientific equipment and hiring of additional faculty and staff.

In 1975, the Department of Biology with Dr. Margaret C. Robinson as its leader, received a Minority Biomedical Support (MBS) five-year grant of $307,000 from NIH for research support in cardiovascular pharmacology, enzymology, cell physiology and mycotoxicology. A supplementary award of $268,000 was made in 1977 to expand the research of this project to include reproductive physiology and ultrastructural changes in cell metabolism. This project received more the $2,207,000 before its demise in 1987. Dr. Obi Emeh (B.S., Cuttington College of Liberia; M.S., Tuskegee Institute; Ph.D., University of Wisconsin) was the Director of this grant throughout its life. Many MBS graduates of Savannah State College received graduate degrees in science, medicine and dentistry from a variety of leading universities in this country. A multitude of research papers were presented at professional meetings related to the College's MBS program.

Dr. Govindan K. Nambiar (B.V.S., University of Madras; M.S., University of Tennessee; Ph.D., Texas A&M University) was instrumental in securing a grant of $504,376 in 1979 from NIH for the Minority Access to Research Careers Program (MARC) which was designed to prepare minority undergraduate honor students (cumulative grade point average of 3.0 and above) in the fields of biology, chemistry, physics and mathematics for successful admission to the Ph.D. level programs in the biomedical sciences. The first students in this program were:

- Tommy D. Ford — Butler, Alabama
- Brian N. Johnson — Atlanta, Georgia
- Marcia L. Johnson — Jefferson, Georgia
- Cheryl A. Lewis — Grand Rapids, Michigan
- Patricia Sreen — Savannah, Georgia
- Freida L. Wesson — Dayton, Ohio
- Zakat Mikal — Savannah, Georgia

A large number of the participants of this program earned doctorates in the sciences.

Some of the faculty members in addition to the Directors who participated in COSIP, MBS, MARC and/or other major science research programs at the College were the following:

- Dr. Kailash Chandra (B.S., M.S., Agra University; Ph.D., University of Gorakhpur)
- Dr. Gia S. Ghuman (B.S., M.S., Punjab University; Ph.D., University of California)
- Dr. Frissel R. Hunter (B.S., Virginia Union University; M.S., Howard University; Ph.D., State University of New York)
- Dr. Jeffrey James (B.S., Savannah State College; M.S., Tuskegee Institute; Ph.D., Howard University)
- Dr. Pullabhotla V. Krishnamurti (B.V.S., Madras Veterinary College; M.S., University of Wisconsin; Ph.D., Texas A&M University)
- Dr. Manchery P. Menon (B.S., Madras University; M.S., Arga University; Ph.D., University of Arkansas)
- Dr. Kamalakar B. Raut (B.S., B.A., M.S., Bombay University; Ph.D., University of Oklahoma)
- Dr. Harpal Sing (M.S., Punjab University; M.P.H., Ph.D., University of Tennessee)
- Dr. Bernard L. Woodhouse (B.S., M.S., Ph.D., Howard University)
The largest single grant Savannah State College received was the AIDP award of $2,750,000 in 1976. Robert Bess, the Development Officer, played a major role in its acquisition. With the continued funding of Title III, NIH programs and additional grants from a variety of other agencies, such as, the Small Business Administration, Petroleum Research Fund, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Solar Energy Research Institute, Environmental Protection Agency, Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, Department of Agriculture, Department of Energy, etc. Savannah State College in 1985-86 received the third largest amount for grants, gifts and contract used for instruction, services and research among the fourteen senior colleges in the University System of Georgia. The College's research grants totaled $713,088 which was the second largest of the senior colleges, only exceeded by Fort Valley State College which was an 1890 land-grant institution.

Academic Enhancements in the Humanities and Social Sciences

The Bachelor of Social Work program which was started in 1972 as a joint program with Armstrong State College and later became an independent curriculum at this institution was accredited by the Council on Social Work Education in 1984. This program from its inception was under the leadership of Dr. Otis S. Johnson (A.A., Armstrong College; A.B., University of Georgia; M.S.W., Atlanta University; Ph.D., Brandeis University) who nurtured it to this level of excellence. This was the third discipline at Savannah State College to receive national accreditation, following teacher education and engineering technology.

With the implementation of the Master of Public Administration program in the fall of 1986, this became the third area in which a graduate program had been offered at Savannah State College. When teacher education was transferred in the desegregation process, the College was left with graduate work only in the area of business. Dr. Willie E. Johnson (B.A., California State Polytechnic University; M.S., M.S.P.A., Ph.D., Florida State University) became the first Coordinator of the Public Administration program.

Another casualty of the transfer of teacher education was the loss of a degree program in health and physical education. After the transfer, this area was left with only general education service courses. Its degree granting ability was revived in the fall of 1982 with a Bachelor of Arts in Recreation and Parks Administration under the leadership of Dr. Kenneth F. Taylor (B.A., Stillman College; M.A., Ed.D., University of Alabama).

A Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in Mass Communications became effective at Savannah State College the Spring of 1982. Over $51,000 were spent on the purchase of new equipment to upgrade the power of the campus radio station, WHCJ, to an output of 1500 watts. With the use of Title III and Quality Improvement Funds, a television studio with appropriate equipment was established in Kennedy Fine Arts building to support this program.

Business Administration

At the time of the arrival of President Rayburn, the School of Business was co-managed by Dr. Mary C. Torian and Dr. Thomas Eason, and the instructional programs of the area were distributed among three departments. Dr. James G. Gilkey, Jr., a graduate of Harvard University, was employed as Acting Dean of the School for a short period before the employment of Dr. Leo G. Parrish, Jr., in 1981 as the first permanent Dean of the School of Business. All departments of the School were discontinued and the undergraduate major areas of concentration were as follows: accounting, economics, finance, general business administration, information systems, management, marketing and office administration. A Master of Business Administration was offered as the College's only graduate program.

The instructional technology program in business was tremendously enhanced in 1983 with the establishment of a computer center in Whiting Hall with a Prime 750 Group two super mini-computer with sixty Prime PST terminals, two Printronics printer/plotters, three spin writers, a Telex automatic loading tape drive and appropriate software. This center was funded by the United States Office of Education through the Title III grant to Savannah State College.

IBM Relationship

In August, 1964, Savannah State College established its first Computer Center with an IBM 1620 computer. This computer was initially installed in Building C of the B.F. Hubert Technical Sciences Center before it was per-
Presidency of Dr. Wendell G. Rayburn

manently moved to Payne Hall after its completion in 1965. Ben Ingersoll, Registrar, was the first Director of the Center which was used for administrative functions of registration and student records as well as for teaching. Martha Wilson, Assistant Professor of Mathematics, taught the first computer programming course in FORTRAN in the fall of 1964 using this facility as a laboratory.

With the acquisition of the IBM 1620 computer, a representative from IBM conducted a two-week seminar for faculty and staff in computer operations and programming. Shortly thereafter, IBM initiated a faculty loan program whereby it allowed one of its employees to come to the institution on a full-time basis and assist in the computer center and the teaching of computer science classes. The relationship between the College and IBM existed for approximately ten years and some of the loan participants were:

Charles Savage II (B.S., Savannah State College), Mary Beth Ogorchok, James Farinholt, etc.

The School of Business revived this relationship between IBM and the institution in May, 1985, by entering a three-year contract to explore the teaching of business subjects by using the computer in normal classroom situations. As a part of this agreement, IBM loaned the College twenty IBM personal computers with monitors, printers, disk drives and software, and re-established its employee loan program with the College. Don Walsh became the Visiting IBM Executive Teaching Professor in 1985-86 and he remained at the College through fall quarter 1987.

Advisory Board

The School of Business established a comprehensive Advisory Board consisting of representatives from local businesses such as First Bank of Savannah, Carver State Bank, Savannah Foods and Industries, Chatham Steel Corporation, American Cyanamid Corporation, Gulfstream Aerospace Corporation, Carson Products and others. This Board served as a public relations vehicle as well as an agency to monitor the business curricular offerings in terms of current local business needs.

Engineering Technology

With the creation of the School of Sciences and Technology in 1980, the Division of Technical Sciences was abolished and the Departments of Engineering Technology and Home Economics were placed in the newly created School. Dr. Lester B. Johnson continued as Head of the Department of Engineering Technology, a position he had held since the retirement of Wilbur Sullivan in 1973.

Desegregation Program

The first programs to be implemented in engineering technology under the 1978 desegregation plan were (1) Associate of Applied Science degree programs in chemical engineering technology and computer technology, and (2) a Bachelor of Science degree program in process engineering technology. These programs were effectuated Fall Quarter 1981 with a $127,000 special desegregation appropriation from the Board of Regents. Dr. Joseph G.M. Massaquoi (B.Sc., M.Sc., University of Whales; Ph.D., West Virginia University) was employed the 1982 Winter Quarter to start up the chemical and processing engineering programs. However, he was forced to return to his native Nigeria, West Africa, at the close of the academic term because of visa problems. After Dr. Massaquoi’s departure, the development of these programs was vested with Fred Moser (B.S., M.S., Pratt Institute) beginning the fall of 1982. Unfortunately, these desegregation programs were deactivated in 1989 because of low enrollment. The computer technology program thrived and was ABET accredited in 1989 with Asad Yousef (B.S., University of Engineering and Technology of Pakistan; M.S., University of Cincinnati) as its major professor.

Computer Science Technology

The Department of Mathematics, Physics and Computer Sciences, under the leadership of Dr. Kailash Chandra, and in cooperation with the Department of Engineering Technology, developed a unique four-year baccalaureate degree program in Computer Science Technology which was approved by the Board of Regents in December, 1983, under the desegregation plan for Savannah State College. This program was an interdisciplinary approach to computer science with a flexible orientation toward either a specialization in hardware or software courses. All students were required to take some courses in each area, but could specialize in one. The hardware courses were taught by the Department of Engineering Technology, and graduates of the Associate Computer Tech-
nology curriculum could pursue this curriculum on a 2+2 basis.

**International Education**

The Department of Engineering Technology started experiencing an international influence with the employment of its first foreign faculty member in 1970. The size of the foreign faculty population continued to increase with persons coming from such countries as Taiwan, India, Nigeria, Pakistan, etc. The presence of these persons not only strengthened the faculty in terms of technical expertise but provided a melting pot of cultural understanding so badly needed in a readily accessible multi-cultural world environment.

Shortly after the arrival of foreign faculty, students from nations such as India, Pakistan, Jordan, Nigeria, etc. started enrolling in programs in engineering technology. In the late 1970s, the largest influx of students from a single country was from Iran. However, after the fall of the Shah and the United States hostage crisis, the number of Iranian students enrolled declined greatly. At the peak of the Iranian enrollment, the largest number of foreign students at the College was in engineering technology.

The international reputation of the Department of Engineering Technology attracted the government of Saudi Arabia to enter into a contractual relationship with the College in 1982 to provide a summer accelerated program for its students enrolled in engineering technology. A grant of $27,749 was provided to offer during the summers of 1982 and 1983 four required courses in engineering technology which otherwise may not have been offered due to insufficient enrollment. This was done so the Saudi Arabia students could complete their degree requirements in less than four calendar years. The participants of this program were commissioned in the Saudi Arabia Royal Navy upon completion of their work at Savannah State College.

**Student Organizations**

The electrical engineering technology students with their faculty advisors Dr. Paul C. Tien, Dr. M.T. Pao and Nathan Stone (B.S.E.E., Lafayette College), organized a student branch of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) and received a charter in 1974. A student chapter of the American Society for Civil Engineers (ASCE) was chartered in 1979 with faculty advisors John L. Mason and Rex C. Ma (B.S., National Taiwan University; M.S., University of South Carolina). The very next school term a student chapter of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) received its charter. Dr. Pravin Raut (B.E., University of Bombay; M.S., Ph.D., Georgia Institute of Technology) has served as its faculty advisor almost from the beginning.

On June 3, 1982, Alpha Delta Chapter of Tau Alpha Pi, national honor society for engineering technology, was chartered by Dr. Frederick L. Berger, Executive Director. Twelve students and Dr. Lester B. Johnson were initiated as chartered members and Dr. Clyde W. Hall was awarded its first honorary membership. Savannah State College became the first historically black institution granted a chapter and the second institution in the state to become affiliated with this national honor society.

**Accreditation Process**

Savannah State College was the first traditionally black college in the Southeast and the first college in Georgia to get its four-year engineering technology programs accredited by the Engineers’ Council for Professional Development (ECPD). The College has been able to maintain this accreditation since 1973.

Shortly after the College’s programs in engineering technology were accredited, personnel from the institution became involved in ECPD accreditation of other institutions. Dr. Clyde W. Hall became in 1976 the first Ad Hoc visitor from Savannah State College to serve on an ECPD accreditation team, and he continued to do so until his retirement in 1987.

Dr. Lester B. Johnson was appointed in 1980 to the Technical Accreditation Commission (TAC) of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET), the organization which succeeded ECPD. He became Regional Chairman and served on this Board until 1984. Dr. Johnson has also served as an Ad Hoc Visitor on many ABET accreditation teams and in many instances he served as chairman of the team.

**Solar Energy Research Institute**

Savannah State College was one of six historically black colleges and universities (HBCU) selected by the Solar Energy Research Institute (SERI) to participate in a program to assess the solar energy resources available in the Southeastern United States, and to introduce solar energy information and solar resource data to
the HBCU and their surrounding communities. This program has operated since 1985. The designated principal investigator was Kendall W. Hill, Assistant Professor of Mechanical Engineering Technology (B.S., Georgia Institute Technology; M.S., University of Southern California).

Equipment provided by SERI was set up at an observation site on the campus of Savannah State College and was operated by Hill and his student assistants. Funding provided by SERI was used principally to support work-study programs for students who were educated in the techniques of data collection, analysis and distribution. The funding for this project was as follows:

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National Association of Radio and Telecommunications Engineers (NARTE)

In 1987, NARTE designated the Department of Engineering Technology as an official testing center. This designation authorized the College to display the NARTE logo and publish its electronics engineering technology programs as accredited by NARTE. This entitled graduates of Savannah State to apply for NARTE certification at the Third Class Engineer Level without examination.

Senior Engineering Technologists

Dr. Lester B. Johnson and John Mason were granted in 1982 certificates as Senior Engineering Technologists by the National Institute for Certificate in Engineering Technologies (formerly known as the Engineering Technologists Certification Institute). This certificate signified that recipients were qualified to practice engineering technology by reason of knowledge and ability to teach the engineering principles applicable to engineering technology.

Instructional Equipment

For many years at Savannah State College, the acquisition of the state-of-the-art technical instructional equipment was a major problem due to the insufficient funding of the institution by the State of Georgia. However, in the 1980s with the support of the United States Government Title III funds, and the Desegregation and Quality Improvement Funds of the Board of Regents, the College was able to enhance greatly its equipment inventory in engineering technology. Some of these funds were used to do the following:

1. Equip an energy conversion laboratory.
2. Upgrade microwave equipment.
3. Equip a computer graphic laboratory with a Hewlett-Packard CAD system consisting of graphic workstations and D size 8-pen plotter, and with microcomputers attached to graphic tablets, printers, and plotters.
4. Equip a beginners’ manual drafting laboratory with eighteen completely modern workstations.
5. Enhance the manufacturing laboratories with computer controlled milling machines and lathes, an industrial robotic work cell, and a complete flexible manufacturing system.
6. Establish a chemical engineering technology laboratory with distillation unit, gas/liquid absorption columns CEO, phase heat exchange boiler, process control system, and liquid phase chemical reactor.
8. Upgrade surveying laboratory with electronic measuring devices, microcomputers and plotters.

Faculty members who have not been previously mentioned and who contributed greatly to the continuation of ABET accreditation of the engineering technology programs in the 1980s were as follows:

Dr. Ernest S. Brown (B.S., Savannah State College; M.S., Bradley University; Ph.D., University of Missouri-Columbia)

Dr. Ven S. Kouch (B.S.E.E., M.S.E.E., West Virginia University; Ph.D., Arizona State University)

Raymond D. Schlueter (B.S., M.S., Iowa State University)

Dr. Alex Kalu (B.A., University of Nigeria; B.S., University of Texas at Arlington; M.S., Louisiana Tech University; Ph.D., Louisiana State University)
After the retirement of Evanel Terrell as Head of the Department of Home Economics in 1976, there was very little stability in the leadership of this area before its discontinuance in 1986. Dr. Theresa Anthony and Diana Wagner (B.S., M.S., Tuskegee Institute) served in acting capacities at various times when the Department was without a permanent Head: Dr. Sara Harper served as Department Head from 1977-78 and Dr. Alpha H. Jones (B.S., University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff; M.Ed., Colorado State University; Ph.D., University of Nebraska) was appointed in 1980 as the last permanent leader of this area.

Dr. Jones and her staff attempted to revitalize this discipline by getting the Board of Regents to approve Bachelor degree programs in general home economics and fashion merchandising to become effective fall 1982. Title III continued funding the Coordinated Undergraduate Program in Dietetics according to its schedule, and the construction of a new home economics building was a live issue. However, all these efforts ceased to increase the enrollment in this Department.

A committee from the Central Office Staff of the Board of Regents conducted a productivity/management review of Savannah State College in July, 1981. A segment of this review focused on the status of the Home Economics Department in terms of quality and productivity. An analysis of this department revealed that there were the following five full-time faculty members:

- Dr. Theresa Anthony — tenured
- Martha H. Corley (B.S., Maryland State College; M.A., Columbia University; M.Ed., University of Maryland) — tenured
- Dr. Alpha Howard Jones
- Ada Knight (B.S., Fort Valley State College; M.Ed., Pennsylvania State University)
- Diana Wagner

The program in dietetics and institutional management had graduated 2, 0 and 2 persons in the fiscal years of 1979, 1980 and 1981, respectively. Only 3, 1, and 3 persons had successfully exited the textile and clothing major the same fiscal years.

Upon the recommendation of President Rayburn, the Board of Regents approved the discontinuance of all programs in home economics along with B.A. degree program with a major in political science and sociology, Bachelor of Business Administration with a major in economics effective as early as winter quarter 1985, but no later than the fall quarter 1986. This action was predicated on the findings of the productivity/management review.

Men's Basketball

The Men's Basketball Team, with Russell Ellington (B.S., Morris Brown College) as its coach, won the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Division III Tournament Championship three consecutive years from 1979 to 1981. This was the first time in recent years that the College had had this type of winning consistency in its basketball program.

Reflections

President Wendell G. Rayburn came to Savannah State College with a philosophy of making the institution a viable local urban college. He felt that one way to enhance this approach to higher education in Savannah was to become actively involved in community affairs. President Rayburn was appointed to many governing boards in the public and private sectors of the Savannah Community. His appointments in this area far exceeded any of his presidential predecessors, and he devoted many hours to this work. Many of the people with whom he worked in this area praised him for his dedication to community causes.

The administration of Dr. Rayburn became the beneficiary of the 1978 desegregation agreement between the State of Georgia and the United States Government. All the major construction projects, other than the residence for the president, as well as the majority of the new academic programs initiated between 1980 and 1987 were a part of this plan. The overall destiny of the College, both physically and academically, was greatly determined by the requirements of this desegregation effort.

President Rayburn attempted to embellish the course of the College's desegregation plan
by appointing two major committees to assess critically the College's mission and programs, and to project strategies for improving them. In November, 1983, a Task Force on Excellence was appointed consisting of faculty and staff with Dr. George N. Williams (B.S., Savannah State College; M.S., Tuskegee Institute; Ph.D., Howard University) as its Chairman. Vice President Edward Hayes in 1984-85 chaired a Presidential Commission with a membership of faculty, staff, alumni and friends of the College which was charged with roughly the same responsibilities as the Task Force. Both committees were highly publicized at the time of their charging by President Rayburn, and they worked diligently to fulfill their assignments. Reports were written with observations and recommendations, but they had very little influence on the operation of the College.

The enrollment of the College started to decline in 1984 reaching a recent all time low of 1,606 students in the spring of 1987. The Board of Regents had discontinued in 1985 several programs including all home economics offerings upon the recommendation of President Rayburn. The School of Business had not received national accreditation by the American Assembly of Collegiate School of Business (AACSB) in spite of all the funds that had been funneled into that area. These shortcomings and others lead to the questioning of the effectiveness of Dr. Rayburn's leadership.

Unrest started developing in the student body centered around the style and effectiveness of the President's leadership. A formal vocal dissatisfaction with Dr. Rayburn came from the students on March 17, 1986, in a news conference when the Student Government President Adrian Houston called for his resignation.

The Savannah State College National Alumni Association under the Presidency of Dr. Jimmie Jackson of Washington, D.C. became disenchanted with the leadership of Dr. Rayburn. The organization felt that the institution's senior college status would be threatened if the enrollment continued to decline, and budgets were continually reduced mainly because of shortfalls in projected enrollments. Therefore in 1986, the National Alumni Association asked the Chancellor and Board of Regents for the resignation of President Rayburn because it felt that his leadership had become ineffective. Chancellor H. Dean Propst did not honor the recommendation of the National Alumni Association to release President Rayburn, however, the dissatisfaction of his administration continued.

On November 3, 1987, Dr. Rayburn announced to the faculty and staff his resignation as President of Savannah State College to become effective January 31, 1988. At this time, Dr. Rayburn left Savannah State College and became President of Lincoln University in Jefferson, Missouri.
Dr. Hanes Walton, Jr., Calloway Professor, was the main speaker at the 1988 Founders Day Program. Dr. Prince Jackson, Jr., Acting President Bolden and Dr. Ja Arthur Jahannes shared the platform with Dr. Walton.
Acting Presidency of Dr. Wiley S. Bolden
1988 - 1989

CHANCELLOR H. DEAN PROPST surprisingly presented at a faculty and staff meeting on February 1, 1988 Dr. Wiley S. Bolden as Acting President of Savannah State College. This announcement came as a shock to the Savannah community because very few persons in this area knew Dr. Bolden, and he had had very little, especially in recent years, interaction with Savannah State College administrators and faculty.

Dr. Bolden retired from Georgia State University in 1987 as Professor Emeritus of Educational Foundations after seventeen productive years at that institution. He was a renowned educator whose professional preparation included a B.S. degree from Alabama State University with a major in chemistry, and M.A. and Ed.D. degrees from Teachers College, Columbia University. Dr. Bolden’s administrative experiences in education ranged from junior high school principal in Montevallo, Alabama, to Dean of the Faculty at Clark College in Atlanta. His professional background also included participation in a variety of programs sponsored by institutions and organizations as diverse as Tuskegee Institute, Southern Education Foundation, Georgia State Department of Education, United States Office of Education and North Carolina Central University. Dr. Bolden was married to the former Willie Creogh Miller, who possessed a doctorate in history, and they had four children. Dr. Bolden was also a licensed psychologist and he came to this interim position...

Acting President Wiley A. Bolden.
well qualified for the challenge.

Acting President Bolden inherited the top administrative officers that Dr. Rayburn left at the time of his departure. The only major change in this corps during the Bolden era was at the position of Vice President for Academic Affairs. Dr. Edward J. Hayes vacated this position in August, 1988 to take a similar position of Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs at North Carolina A&T University. Dr. George O'Neal served in this office in an acting capacity until a permanent person was hired in 1990 by Dr. Bolden's successor.

Upon the recommendation of Prince Mitchell, Vice President for Business and Finance, Dr. Bolden employed Dr. Jeffrey Jenkins as Director of Plant Operations on December 1, 1988. This was a master stroke of finding the right person for the right job. Dr. Jenkins was a graduate of this institution and had received a doctorate from the University of Michigan. He had once been employed by the College in the AIDP program in the late 1970s and had owned and operated a commercial building cleaning company since that time. His interest and professional skills immediately transformed this campus into one the most attractive and best maintained in the University System of Georgia.

Merge or Not to Merge

The first major crisis of the Bolden Presidency was the issue of merging Savannah State College with Armstrong State College. This issue surfaced again, as it had done in the last ten years when one of the institutions lost its permanent president. Shortly after Dr. Rayburn announced his intent to leave Savannah State College, the pro-merger forces started their campaign to unite these two colleges. The impetus of this movement motivated the Board of Regents at its March, 1988, meeting to authorize Chancellor H. Dean Propst and his staff to make a feasibility study of consolidating the two colleges in Savannah and the two in Albany: Albany State College, predominantly black, and Darton College, predominantly white. A report on this study was due at the April Board meeting.

In 1979, the State of Georgia implemented a five-year desegregation plan for public higher education in the State which included swapping of programs in education and business administration between the two Savannah Colleges. As a part of this arrangement was a gentlemen's agreement that an academic School of Business would be created at Savannah State College with a Dean who would be white, and a similar School of Education would be created at Armstrong and its Dean would be black. This posture was designed to show good faith and foster desegregation. Dr. Charles Nash was employed in 1979 as the Dean at Armstrong and Savannah State employed an interim white person in 1980 before Dr. Leon Parrish (white) was employed in 1981 as the permanent Dean. The five-year desegregation mandate expired on December 31, 1985. Armstrong State College abolished the School of Education and its position of Dean in July, 1987, and Dr. Nash left the institution. Savannah State College maintained its administrative commitments to this desegregation exchange program while Armstrong did not. This switch in administration and the great decrease in black faculty and students in education at Armstrong State College caused the black community to become very skeptical of any merger arrangements with this institution. Therefore, when the merger issue presented its ugly face this time, the black community was united against it.

Chancellor Propst and Arthur Gignilliat, Regent representing the First Congressional District, conducted a series of meetings in Savannah March 22-23, 1988, with various constituencies of the two colleges as a part of the feasibility study.

A public forum was held on March 22 at the Coastal Georgia Center for Continuing Education. The night before this public meeting, the black community held a rally at Pastor Matthew Southall Brown's Church, St. John Baptist, to express vehemently its desire to maintain the autonomy of Savannah State College. At this meeting, Curtis Cooper, President of the Savannah Branch of the NAACP; State Representative Diana Harvey Johnson, State Senator Al Scott, a host of local black ministers, and representatives of the faculty, staff, students and alumni of Savannah State College expressed their determination to keep the traditionally black institution autonomous and under black control. Roy Jackson, an alumnus of the College, emphasized at this meeting that Savannah State College was the most integrated unit of the University System of Georgia with a forty-six percent non-black faculty and a student body of approximately twenty percent non-black.

Chancellor Propst and Regent Gignilliat held a meeting specifically for public officials on March 23 to get their input concerning the merger issue. The turnout to this session was extremely small. Only five Chatham County
Commissioners, two Savannah Aldermen and three State Legislators attended. The three black County Commissioners (Dennie Frazier, Dorothy Pelote, Joe Murray Rivers) and black Alderman Floyd Adams opposed merging the colleges. Prior to this meeting, Aldermen Adams and Robert Robinson, in cooperation with Commissioners Pelote and Frazier, had issued a statement at a press conference on behalf of local black elected officials opposing the combining the two local colleges. On March 25, 1988, the Chatham County Commissioners passed a resolution opposing merger which had been sponsored by the three black Commissioners.

At all meetings held in Savannah as a part of the feasibility study, the black community was united in its efforts to save Savannah State College, and it expressed passionately its displeasure with the notion of destroying the autonomy of the institution.

The April, 1988, meeting of the Board of regents was held at Fort Valley State College and the merger issue was a part of the agenda. However, between this meeting and the hearings in Savannah, this issue was kept before the public by the media. The April 10, 1988 Savannah News Press carried lengthy articles by two educators at the two colleges expressing opposing views on this subject. Dr. Otis S. Johnson of Savannah State College wrote an article entitled "Black Controlled Schools Have Earned Their Place" which opposed merging the two colleges because of the fairness and the right of blacks to control some of the thirty-four units in the University System of Georgia. At the time, only four of these units were controlled by black administrators and they were the ones with a majority black student population. He also emphasized the success of these institutions in graduating black students when compared with those controlled by whites. Dr. Steven D. Ealy of Armstrong argued in his article entitled "Separate Colleges Counter the Historic 1954 Decision" that maintaining a majority black Savannah State College was in violation of the United States Supreme Court decision outlawing separate but equal public institutions. His logic was faulty because he equated a law abiding integrated public institution to one that was majority white. Both local institutions were open to all races and there was no attempt to keep their students, faculty and/or staff racially separate.

Dr. Jimmie C. Jackson, President of Savannah State College National Alumni Association, and Dr. Benjamin F. Lewis, Past Director of the Office of Development and College Relations at Savannah State College, spoke at the April meeting of the Board concerning the disadvantages of merging the institutions and their opposition to this move. Chancellor Propst gave a progress report of his study of this situation and postponed the decision on this matter until a later meeting.

The issue of merging the colleges in Savannah and Albany was finally resolved at the May, 1988, meeting of the Board of Regents. Chancellor H. Dean Propst made an excellent 45-minute presentation to the Board which gave a detailed account of the desegregation struggle in Savannah and his personal acquaintance with it as an Administrator at Armstrong State College. He admitted that that opportunity helped him "to develop a much more complete understanding of the social, cultural and educational impact of the traditionally black institution on its past and current constituencies." He went on to state further "through working with my colleagues at Savannah State, I developed a more sophisticated sense of their goals, their dedication, and their achievements. In short, I developed a profound respect for them and for the significant societal impact of the college they served... The loyalty of those who support the traditionally black institutions is in many ways of greater depth than the loyalty of those who attended other types of institutions."

Chancellor Propst recommended against merging the colleges in Albany and Savannah which was a courageous decision on his part considering all the pro-merger forces at work. However, Propst did recommend that (1) a formal structure be organized in Albany and Savannah to coordinate and to promote the services offered by the institutions in each city, and (2) that the development of the concept of providing a sectional response to area needs in public higher education be intensified.

The Board of Regents unanimously approved Chancellor Propst's report and recommendations and immediately approved a motion to study the possibilities of providing university-level delivery system of higher educational services on a regional basis in the southern part of Georgia.

Shortly after the Board of Regents decided not to merge the predominantly black and white institutions, Governor Joe Frank Harris expressed his full support of the decision and hope that this merger issue would be put to rest for quite some time.
Regional University

Shortly after Dr. Dale Lick was elected President of Georgia Southern College in 1978, he started expressing the need for university-level education in South Georgia. At the November, 1980, meeting of the Board of Regents, Dr. Lick proposed a new category of institutions within the University System which he called regional universities. These institutions would offer programs through doctoral degree-level and would have a classification between the present universities and senior colleges of the System.

The Board of Regents adopted in December, 1980 specific procedures for reclassifying institutions within the system which required the president of the institution seeking the change of status to write the Chancellor requesting such. These procedures also required a comprehensive review of the institution to determine its eligibility and readiness for advanced status in the System.

President Lick became publicly active in espousing university status for Georgia Southern College. Other persons including politicians and organizations became advocates of this advancement for the Statesboro school. The magnitude of this public movement with the involvement of President Lick prompted the Board of Regents at its June, 1981 meeting to vote unanimously to reprimand Dr. Lick for his efforts to gain university status for Georgia Southern without following established procedures of the Board. In July, 1981, President Lick made a formal request to Chancellor Vernon Crawford to pursue the Board of Regents’ procedures for advancing Georgia Southern to university status. However, very little transpired officially to elevate this institution until the merger question in Savannah was resolved, and the Board adopted Chancellor Propst’s recommendation of establishing a consortium of area institutions to provide expanded higher educational services in South Georgia.

The Board of Regents at its May, 1988, meeting put in motion the planning process for the establishment of regional universities in South Georgia. Late in 1988, two proposals were developed by presidents and their colleagues recommending structures of universities in their regions. The Southwest Georgia proposal recommended a “confederated university” which would include all seven state colleges of the region (Abraham Baldwin Agricultural, Albany State, Bainbridge, Darton, Valdosta State, South Georgia and Waycross Colleges). These institutions would maintain their present autonomy, but would unite administratively and resourcefully to provide a university-level educational delivery system in that region.

The proposal coming from the Southeast region recommended a multi-campus regional university with its headquarters at Georgia Southern which would consist of Armstrong State, Brunswick, East Georgia and Georgia Southern Colleges as full partners and Savannah State College as a cooperating partner. The full partners in this consortium would relinquish their present autonomy and each campus would be governed by a Provost who reported to the President of Georgia Southern University. Acting President Wiley Bolden refused to allow Savannah State College to become a full partner in this arrangement and lose its autonomy because he saw this configuration as another device to cause present constituents of this institution to lose control and benefits.

The Board of Regents voted in January, 1989, to create a new classification of institutions called "regional universities." However, this concept would not be implemented before July 1, 1990, and these institutions would only address specific high demand graduate level needs of their regions. Their research activities would be confined to projects applicable to special problems of their areas and would not duplicate efforts of existing university level institutions. The Board authorized the hiring of external consultants to review the two proposals and suggest a blueprint for regional universities in the state.

Dr. Raymond Dawson, Senior Vice President, University of North Carolina System; and Dr. Roy McTarnaghan, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, State University System of Florida, were employed as external consultants to study the regional university concept.

In the consultants’ June, 1989, report to the Chancellor and the Regents’ Planning and Oversight Committee, they recommended that (1) Georgia Southern be made a regional university, and (2) a Southeastern Georgia Graduate Center be established headed by the Dean of the Graduate School of Georgia Southern with Savannah State and Armstrong State Colleges participating. This proposed structure left the undergraduate programs and autonomy of the three colleges unchanged.

The Board of Regents at its September, 1989, meeting voted eleven to two to establish the first
"regional university" in the System at Georgia Southern as proposed by the Regents' Planning and Oversight Committee which was headed by Regent Arthur Gignilliat of Savannah. The three black Regents (Elridge McMillan of Atlanta, Carolyn Yancey of Atlanta and Joe Greene of Thomson) provided the only Regents' opposition to the plan because of their concern about the diminishing role of Savannah State College in this arrangement. McMillan and Yancey voted against the plan and Greene abstained. McMillan was always a staunch supporter of Savannah State College throughout the more than ten-year desegregation debate. He was always concerned about how this institution would benefit from the Board's actions.

The constituents of Savannah State College did not oppose the elevation of Georgia Southern to a regional university, but they strongly disapproved of doing it at the expense of Savannah State College's graduate program. At the September Board meeting before the proposal was adopted, Charles G. Young, President of Savannah State College National Alumni Association, and other officials of the organization, presented a position paper which expressed their opposition to the Oversight Committee's plan because it threatened the viability of Savannah State College by limiting its scope to undergraduate education.

The approved plan elevated Georgia Southern to a regional university on July 1, 1990, and placed all graduate work in the region under its domain with Savannah State College and Armstrong State College as "affiliates." Although the two Savannah Colleges gave up their graduate programs, they remained autonomous undergraduate institutions. Savannah State College lost three graduate programs (Master of Business Administration, Master of Public Administration and Master in Social Work) and gained absolutely nothing in return.

It was also ironic that the academic community has always used external funded research of an institution's faculty as a clear indicator of its capacity to offer quality graduate programs; and yet, Savannah State College, whose faculty research far exceeded those of Georgia Southern for many years, as indicated in the University System of Georgia Information Digest 1987-88, had to relinquish its graduate programs to the Statesboro school.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Armstrong State</td>
<td>$120,499</td>
<td>$26,800</td>
<td>$176,147</td>
<td>$82,577</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia Southern</td>
<td>$402,987</td>
<td>$120,846</td>
<td>$125,920</td>
<td>$153,064</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Savannah State</td>
<td>$600,820</td>
<td>$713,088</td>
<td>$817,817</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Business Administration Building.
Immediately after the Board’s actions concerning the regional university, faculty, staff, students, alumni and supporters of Savannah State College started expressing their displeasure with the decision. An organization called the Task Force for the Preservation of Historically Black Public Colleges (Savannah State College National Alumni Association, Albany State College National Alumni Association, Fort Valley State College National Alumni Association, Southern Christian Leadership Conference, NAACP, National Council of Negro Women, Concerned Black Clergy of Atlanta, Georgia black elected officials, and Georgia Legislature Black Caucus) presented to the Board of Regent a statement in opposition to the approved plan to elevate Georgia Southern to regional university status by subordinating the educational role and status of Savannah State College to the undergraduate level. The organization expressed the paradox of this situation by pointing out that Savannah State College which had been the first institution in Savannah to offer graduate work, was now losing this function to an institution outside the community for no legitimate reason.

On June 20, 1990, Attorney Roy Mayes of Atlanta, on behalf of the Savannah State College National Alumni Association, filed a suit in the United States District Court which requested a temporary restraining order to keep the Board of Regents from elevating Georgia Southern to a regional university status by subordinating the educational role and status of Savannah State College to the undergraduate level. The organization expressed the paradox of this situation by pointing out that Savannah State College which had been the first institution in Savannah to offer graduate work, was now losing this function to an institution outside the community for no legitimate reason.

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This struggle was nothing new for Dr. Bolden because of his background as an activist in the desegregation struggle of the Atlanta Public Schools. He had also worked in both traditionally black and white colleges, and knew the advantages and disadvantages of both. With this first hand knowledge of the issues involved in this debate, it was not a difficult task for him to advise the College Community to pursue the anti-merger course.

After Chancellor Propst had recommended not to merge the institutions in Savannah and the Board had adopted his recommendation, the life of Savannah State College was again at stake in the multi-campus regional university proposal submitted for the southeastern section of the state. Dr. Bolden refused to submit Savannah State College to this arrangement as a full partner because he saw it as another device to destroy the autonomy of the institution.

Dr. Bolden's interim presidency lasted from February 1, 1988, to August 31, 1989. During this period, he was an effective administrator who charmed his way into the hearts of many at this institution. He and his wife, Dr. Willie Bolden, were very well liked and many wished it had been possible to keep them as the permanent first family of the College. Dr. Bolden was a very analytical administrator who had the skill of communicating his decisions in a palatable manner. His contributions to the survival of Savannah State College will be long remembered.
Left to right: Gwendolyn Goodman, interim Superintendent of Savannah-Chatham County School System; President Gardner and his wife, Dr. Dorothy Gardner, attending the 1990 Centennial Homecoming Football Game. Goodman was a 1958 graduate of Savannah State College.
Chapter 14

Presidency of Dr. William E. Gardner, Jr.
1989 - 1991

AT THE JULY, 1989, meeting of the Board of Regents, Dr. William E. Gardner, Jr., was elected the ninth President of Savannah State College, effective September 1, 1989. Dr. Gardner was the son of a Baptist preacher and was a 1960 graduate of Morehouse College with a Bachelor of Arts degree. He was a Pennsylvania licensed psychologist with a M.A. degree from New York University and a Ph.D. degree from Michigan State University. His wife, Dorothy J. Gardner, also had a Ph.D. degree. They had two children.

Dr. Gardner came to the Presidency from the position of Vice President for Academic Affairs at Lincoln University in Pennsylvania. He had been at that institution since 1973 where he had served in other capacities such as Vice President for Planning and Development, Chairman of the Division of Social Sciences, Chairman of the Department of Psychology, Director of Counseling and Testing, and Director of Freshman Studies. Dr. Gardner’s professional experiences also included participation in numerous funded research projects in his discipline, and administrative and/or teaching assignments at Temple University, Villanova University, and Michigan State University. Dr. Gardner’s diverse professional background and his understanding of people and higher education were of great benefit to him during his tenure at Savannah State College.

It became necessary for Dr. Gardner to fill three top administrative positions shortly after

![President William E. Gardner, Jr.](image-url)
his arrival. The Vice President for Academic Affairs had been vacant since the departure of Dr. Hayes in 1988: Dr. Charles Woodard (B.S. Edinboro University; M.A., Wayne State University; Ph.D., University of Michigan) resigned his position as Vice President for Student affairs in June, 1989. Thomas H. Hines (M.H.S., Lincoln University of Pennsylvania) relinquished the position of Director of Development and College Relations in November, 1989, after having held that position since September, 1985. Dr. George W. Reid (B.A., M.A., North Carolina Central University; Ph.D., Howard University) and Dr. James B. Ewers, Jr. (B.A. Johnson C. Smith University; M.A., Catholic University; Ed.D., University of Massachusetts) were employed as Vice President for Academic Affairs and Vice President for Student Affairs, respectively. Past Director of Development and College Relations, Dr. Benjamin Lewis, served in an acting capacity in his old office.

Centennial Celebration

Savannah State College celebrated its One Hundredth Anniversary with the following major events in 1990:

October 26, 1990 Opening of Savannah State College's Archives in Adams Hall which had been spearheaded by Dr. Dorothy Gardner.

October 28, 1990 Inauguration of President William G. Gardner, Jr.

October 29, 1990 Willie Jackson, Tenor, in Concert, Assistant Professor of Music and Director of Concert Choir (B.A., Morris Brown College; M.M.Ed., Florida State University).


November 1, 1990 "A Century of Tradition, Pride and Progress Through Sciences and Technology—The Centennial Circle." School of Sciences and Technology.

November 2, 1990 Coronation of Miss SSC and a Parade of Past Miss SSC's.

November 2, 1990 Viewing of Centennial Documentary which was produced by faculty, staff and students of the mass communications program.

November 3, 1990 Parade in Downtown Savannah.

Football game with Fort Valley State College in Theodore Wright Stadium.

Centennial Ball.

November 16, 1990 Founder's Day Convocation.

The Inauguration Convocation for Dr. Gardner was held in Johnny Mercer Theatre at the Savannah Civic Center. The Investiture of this occasion included (1) the presentation of the President by Regent Arthur M. Gignilliat, (2) charge and presentation of Medallion by Chancellor H. Dean Propst, and (3) Faculty charge by Dr. Luetta Colvin Milledge. This was the third inaugural ceremony for a president of Savannah State College.

The Founder's Day convocation featured as keynote speaker the Honorable Clarence Thomas, Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. Judge Thomas, who was born and reared in Savannah, gave an inspiring address concerning his struggle to achieve and how this community and Savannah State College had influenced his professional aspirations. Judge Thomas was a graduate of Yale Law School and had served as Chairman of the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission for eight years before he was appointed Judge in 1990.

Football Fame

Georgia State Industrial College started playing football as an intercollegiate activity in 1902. During the very early years, the institution struggled to play from one to five games annually against opponents in its region. W.P. Tucker, the College's English Professor, coached the team in the late 1910s and the institution had its first most successful season in 1916 with three wins and one loss.

The first year the College received any notoriety for its football team was during the 1921 season under Coach Waters. This team
won the Championship of the Georgia South Carolina Association with the following record:

**Georgia State Industrial College**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Score 1</th>
<th>Score 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Paine College 0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Haines Institute 6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>South Carolina State 0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Allen University 0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>YMCA 0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Claflin University 0 (game was called)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>Benedict College 20</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Claflin University game was played at Georgia State on December 2, 1921, and it was cancelled after two minutes into the second quarter because the fatal injury of Lynwood Scott, a star fullback on the undefeated Claflin team. The game began by Georgia State kicking off to Claflin and the ball was fumbled and Georgia State recovered it. On the very next play, "Dago" of Georgia State ran around right end for a touchdown leaving a string of Claflin's players, one of whom was Scott, on the ground in his wake. Scott was taken off the field because of an injury. Physicians tried to revive him on the sideline, but he died shortly after the beginning of the second quarter. The game was called immediately after Scott's death with Georgia State leading 14 to 0. Scott was from Sumter, South Carolina and was a prominent student at the University. He also played on the baseball and tennis teams and sang second tenor in the school's quartet.

The star players on the 1921 team were:

- Benjamin McFarland, quarterback and team Captain, an agriculture major from Valdosta.
- Andrew Dago, fullback, a tailoring major from Atlanta.
- Dewey Clarence Belcher, halfback, a second year college student from Savannah.

Listed below are other conference championships won in football by the College.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Conference</th>
<th>Coach</th>
<th>Won</th>
<th>Lost</th>
<th>Tied</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1938</td>
<td>South Atlantic Athletic</td>
<td>Arthur Dwight</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1942</td>
<td>South Atlantic Athletic (Co-Champion)</td>
<td>William McKinley King</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1967</td>
<td>Southeastern Athletic</td>
<td>Leo Richardson</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1972</td>
<td>Southern Intercollegiate Athletic</td>
<td>John Myles</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The tenure of some of the football coaches was as follows:

- Richard Richardson 1929-1934
- Arthur Dwight 1935-1939 (B.S., Savannah State College)
- William McKinley King 1940-1942
- Albert Frazier and H.I. Bowman 1953
- Ross F. Pearly 1954-1956
- (B.S., Lincoln University of Missouri; M.Ed., University of Pittsburgh)
- Richard Washington 1957-1963 (B.S., M.S., State University of Iowa)
- Leo Richardson 1964-1968 (B.S., Morris College; M.A., Tuskegee Institute)
- Frank Ellis 1977-1985 (B.S., Savannah State College; M.Ed., Savannah State College/Armstrong State College)
- William "Bill" Davis 1986-
The employment of William “Bill” Davis (B.S., Johnson C. Smith University; M.S., Indiana University) as Head Coach in 1986 ushered in a new era of football at Savannah State College. Two of his football teams won more games in a single season than any other team in the history of the College. Davis’ most successful season was in 1989 when his team won eight games and lost only one, and that one loss was to Georgia Southern College who went on to become that year the National Champion of NCAA Division I-AA. The 1989 team’s record was as follows:

**Savannah State College**

- 50 — Miles College 6
- 34 — Elon College 10
- 57 — Morris Brown College 13
- 14 — Georgia Southern College 35
- 55 — Clark-Atlanta University 12
- 21 — Fayetteville State University 20
- 29 — Knoxville College 5
- 45 — Fort Valley State College 37
- 29 — Albany State College 27

Unfortunately, the 1989 team was ineligible to compete for the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Championship because of NCAA restrictions caused by irregularities in another College sport. However, Coach Davis was named Black College Coach of the Year by Sheridan Broadcasting Network.

The other members of the coaching staff for this magnificent team were:

- Daryl McNeil (B.S., South Carolina State College) Quarterback and Wide Receivers Coach.
- Kenneth McWhorten — Lineback Coach.
- Paul Russell (B.S., St. Augustine College) Running Back Coach.
- Stanley Rivers — Tight Ends Coach

Savannah State College has had some outstanding football players in addition to those previously mentioned on the 1921 team. Some of the others were Arthur Dwight, Jake Frazier, John "Iron Horse" Myles, Lindsey "Cario" Weatherspoon, Robert "Nancy Hank" Slocum, Joseph Turner, Frank Ellis, Kenneth Dawson, Timothy Walker, Cecil Newsome, Frankie Harper, Elbert Roberts, John Dickerson, Casey Grigsley and Shannon Sharpe.

Beginning in 1980, Timothy Walker, a linebacker from Warner Robins, played for the Seattle Seahawks for several years after entering the organization as a free agent. Kenneth Dawson, a running back from Brunswick, was drafted by the Seattle Seahawks in 1981 as the first football player from Savannah State College to enter the National Football League through this process.

Joseph Turner and John Myles were inducted into the Greater Savannah Athletic Hall of Fame as the first football players from this institution so honored. Myles was a star runner, passer and kicker on the 1938 and 1942 championship teams.

Casey Grigley, a mechanical engineering technology major of the 1986 team, was the first running back at Savannah State College to be recorded as having gained over 1,000 yards rushing in a season.

Shannon Sharpe was inducted into the Georgia Sports Hall of Fame in 1990 as the NCAA/Division II male athlete of the year. Sharpe scored eighteen touchdowns on the 1989 team as a wide receiver, and was named to Kodak All-American First Team. Shannon was drafted in the seventh round by the National Football League Denver Broncos in 1990 as the second football player from this institution to receive that type of recognition. He had a successful "rookie season" with the Broncos.

**Super Secretary**

Vernese Dorothy Mikel of Evans County and an honor graduate of Savannah State College served as secretary for more top echelon administrators at this institution than any other person in the history of the school. She served as secretary for the Chairman of the Division of Business Administration, Dr. Hayward Anderson; Dean of the Faculty, Timothy Meyers; and Presidents Dr. Prince Jackson, Jr., Dr. Clyde W. Hall, Dr. Wendel Rayburn, Dr. Wiley S. Bolden, and Dr. William E. Gardner, Jr.

Vernese’s death on February 4, 1990 was a tremendous loss to the College. She was a dedi-
Running back Casey Grigley.

Wide receiver Shannon Sharpe.
cated, sincere and trustworthy employee who always gave service beyond the "call of duty." Her efficiency as Secretary and later Administrative Assistant to the President was superb. She managed the affairs of The Office of the President with dispatch and thoroughness. She will always be remembered by those who worked with her as a charming and unselfish person who was only interested in getting the job done.

Reflections

Dr. William E. Gardner, Jr., served very well as President of Savannah State College during his short tenure. His rich background in historically black colleges was an asset to him. The aspirations and problems of this institution were similar to those that he had encountered either as a student or employee in other black colleges.

Listed below are some of the accomplishments for which Dr. Gardner provided leadership during his brief but brilliant Presidency.

1. Established an improved recruitment strategy which resulted in a thirteen percent increase in student enrollment.
2. Obtained funding grants for the renovation of Hill Hall and the implementation of an Advanced Water Technology Institute.
3. Successfully completed the College Self-Study for reaccreditation by Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS).
4. Renovated Adams Hall as College Archives.
5. Secured a permanent display on campus of the Blue Angel plane which was flown by Lt. Commander Donnie Cochran.

Dr. Gardner's untimely death on April 23, 1991 came as a shock to the Savannah State College community.

Dr. Annette K. Brock, Head of the Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences, was appointed Acting President of Savannah State College, May 3, 1991. She became the first woman to be the Chief Executive Officer of this institution.
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The Tiger.

Tiger's Roar.


Traylor, A.Z., Georgia Youth Industrial Education Association Pre-Planning Conference, Savannah State College, Savannah, Georgia, January 13, 1962.


Year Books of the Georgia State Industrial College.

Year Book, Catalog Editions of Georgia State Industrial College.

V. Newspapers

Savannah Evening Press.

Savannah Morning News.

The Herald.

The Savannah Tribune.
Appendices

Appendix A
An Act to equitably adjust the claims of the colored race for a portion of the proceeds of the Agricultural Land Scrip.

Section I. Be it enacted, etc., That the sum of eight thousand dollars be, and the same is hereby, annually appropriated to the Atlanta University, upon condition that said Institution shall admit for instruction in the same as many colored pupils from each county in the State, free of charge for tuition, as there are or may be members of the House of Representatives of this State from such county, to be nominated by said members, respectively, so long as said appropriation continues: Provided, the Governor shall not draw his warrant for the said sum until the Trustees of said Institution shall have submitted a plan, for the expenditure of said sum, to a Board of Commissioners, consisting of the Chancellor of the State University, and two members of the Faculty of the same to be selected by him, and until such plan, upon such modification as may be required by said Commissioners shall be approved by them, or a majority of them, each year in writing and filed in the Executive office, and said Commissioners shall at all times have authority to exercise all power necessary to see that said fund is faithfully applied according to said plan of expenditure.

Section II. That the appropriation herein provided for, shall be in lieu of any claim of the colored population of this State upon the proceeds of the Agricultural Land Scrip donated by the Congress of the United States, and the course of instruction in said Institution shall be so far modified as may be necessary to adapt the same to the objects of said grant.

Section III. That the Board of Visitors of the State University, or a committee of their body, shall exercise like functions and powers, touching said Institution, as are prescribed by law for said Board in relation to the State University.

Section IV. That nothing in this Act contained shall operate to impair the right of the State to make a readjustment of said fund between the two races, should Congress hereafter make an additional grant or grants to the State, for educational purposes.

Section V. Repeals conflicting laws.
Approved March 3, 1874.

Direction As To Appropriation For The Atlanta University
Resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring, That in the future the Governor be directed not to draw his warrant for the annual appropriation of the sum of $8,000.00 to the Atlanta University, under the act of March 3rd, 1874, until such a plan of expenditure as will secure the exclusive use of the same for the education of colored children only, in accordance with the declared and settled policy of this State, on the subject of co-education of the races, has been submitted, and approved by the commission constituted in said Act for the supervision of the expenditure of said appropriation.

Resolved further, That said commissioner be instructed to "see that said fund is faithfully applied according to said plan of expenditure," and in no other way.
Approved September 23rd, 1887.
Appendix B

Act of the General Assembly of Georgia Which Established Georgia State Industrial College for Colored Youth.

Section 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of this State, and it is hereby enacted by authority of the same, that there shall be established in connection with the State University and forming one of the departments thereof, a school for the education and training of colored students. Said school shall be located, equipped and conducted as hereinafter provided.

Section 2. Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the Governor shall appoint five fit and discreet persons, residents of this State, to be known as the Commission on the School for Colored Students, who shall serve without pay, except that their actual expenses while away from their several places of residence, attending to the duties of such Commission, may be allowed, as hereinafter provided; and they may select from their number a Chairman and a Secretary, prescribe rules and regulations for their government; may accept the resignation of any member, and fill all vacancies.

A majority shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Section 3. Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That it shall be the duty of said Commission, as soon as practicable, after the passage of this Act, to procure the grounds and building necessary for establishment of the school herein provided for.

It shall be located within or near the corporate limits of that city or town in the State which shall offer the best inducements for such location, in the opinion of said Commission.

In making the selection of a location for said school, the Commission shall give preference to such place as shall be of easy access to all the colored people of the State, having due regard to the appropriateness, eligibility and healthfulness of the surroundings, as well as to any offer or donation of value that may be made to secure the said school, and any inducements offered by any non-sectarian institution of this State.

The selection, once made, shall be final.

Section 4. Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the said Commission, as soon as they shall have selected the location and procured the necessary grounds, shall proceed to have erected on such grounds suitable buildings for said school; or in case they secure grounds upon which there are buildings already erected, shall proceed to remodel the same, erecting any additional buildings that may be necessary and practicable under the appropriation made therefor.

Section 5. Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That a course of training shall be provided for all the students in said school, embracing the studies required by the Acts of the Congress of the United States, approved July 2nd, 1862, and August 30th, 1890, making donations of public lands, and the proceeds thereof to the States and Territories for educational purposes. No student shall be permitted to remain in the institution unless satisfactory progress shall be made by him in the opinion of the faculty.

Section 6. Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the said school, when so established, shall be a part of the University of Georgia, and under control and management of the Board of Trustees. Said Board shall have authority from time to time to add such special features to the course, and to open such other departments of training and instruction therein as they shall deem that the progress and advancement of the times require. They shall also have authority to ordain and establish such rules and by-laws for the regulation of the school and the teaching, training and governing of the students, not inconsistent with this Act, as in their opinion may be proper to secure the success of said school.

Section 7. Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the officers of said school shall be a President, and such other professors, teachers and instructors as may be necessary, in the opinion of the Board of Trustees, to carry on the school in accordance with the intention of this Act.

The Chancellor of the University of Georgia shall have the general supervision of said school. The officers aforesaid shall be elected and their salaries fixed, either directly by the Board of Trustees or through the local Board of Trustees hereinafter provided for.

Section 8. Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That when the necessary buildings shall have been procured, erected or completed as required by this Act, and said school shall be ready for the reception of students, said Commission shall notify the Board of Trustees of the University of Georgia, and shall turn the said school over to their control and management.
Appendices

Section 9. Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That there shall be one beneficiary for each representative in the General Assembly, from each county in this State selected by the Board of Education in each county, under such rules and regulations to be prescribed by the local Board of Trustees herein provided for, and who shall be first entitled to the benefits of said school; that the tuition shall be free to all students who are residents of the State of Georgia.

The rates of tuition to others than residents of the State, shall not exceed fifty dollars per annum.

Section 10. Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the five persons named in the second section of this Act shall become, as soon as said school is turned over by them to the Board of Trustees of the University of Georgia, a local Board of Trustees for said school, with perpetual succession, as hereinbefore provided, and they shall always be charged with the immediate control, supervision, and management of said school, subject to the General Board of Trustees. The Chairman of said local Board of Trustees shall be ex-officio a member of the Board of Trustees of the University of Georgia.

Section 11. Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That all property purchased under the authority of this Act shall be free from liens or incumbrances, and title to the same, as well as to any donations that said Commission may receive, shall be taken in the name of the Trustees of the University of Georgia, in their corporate capacity; and said property shall become the property of the State of Georgia, and the same shall not be alienated by any one, nor shall any valid lien be created thereon, neither in the erection of any building thereon, nor by the act of any person, nor by the operation of law.

Section 12. Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That when any one of said Commission shall have incurred any necessary expense while away from his place of residence in the performance of his duty under this Act, then, on verification of the same by his affidavit, the Governor may endorse the same as correct, and order it paid out of the funds herein appropriated. Any indebtedness for plans and specifications must likewise be endorsed by the Governor before payment of the same is made.

Section 13. Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That when said Commission shall have performed their duties under this Act, and shall turn over said property to the Trustees of the University of Georgia as herein provided, said Commission shall submit to said Board a full and final statement describing the property purchased, the amount of money expended therefor, with proper vouchers, and said Board of Trustees, after a verification of the same, shall transmit to the Governor said report, with any suggestions therewith they may deem proper to make, and the Governor shall transmit to the General Assembly a summary of the same.

Section 14. Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the sum of eight thousand dollars be, and the same is hereby annually appropriated to the Board of Trustees of the University, to be drawn upon executive warrant in their favor for said purposes.

Section 15. Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the appropriation herein provided for shall be in lien of any claim of the colored population of this State upon the proceeds of the Agricultural Land Strip donated by the Congress of the United States, by said Act of Congress, approved July 2nd, 1862.

Section 16. Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the Board of Visitors of the State University, or a committee of their body, shall exercise like functions and powers touching said institution as are prescribed by law, for said Board, in relation to the State University.

Section 17. Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That as to the additional donation of the proceeds of public lands made to this State by the United States, under said Act of Congress approved (August 30th, 1890) thirtieth, eighteen hundred and ninety, the General Assembly proposed and reports to the Secretary of the Interior of the United States as a just and equitable division of the fund to be received under said Act of Congress of August thirtieth, eighteen hundred and ninety, between one college for white students and one institution for colored students and two-thirds for the whites, provided, that this division may be at any time modified by the written consent of the Secretary of the Interior of the United States and the Governor of Georgia, for the time being, so as to make the same a just and equitable division of the fund arising under said Act of Congress of August thirtieth, eighteen hundred and ninety, between the white and colored people of this State for the purpose of said education.
Section 18. Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the Act, approved March 3rd, 1874, entitled "An Act to equitably adjust the claims of the colored race for a portion of the proceeds of the Agricultural Land Strip," by which eight thousand dollars per annum was heretofore appropriated the Atlanta University, is hereby repealed. And no colored student shall be admitted into the University, and no white student shall be admitted into the school for colored students herein provided and established.

Section 19. Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That all laws and parts of laws in conflict with the provisions of said Act, including said Act of March 3rd, 1874, be, and the same are, hereby repealed.

Approved November 26, 1890.

Appendix C

Warranty Deed of the First Tract of Land for Georgia State Industrial College for Colored Youth (Recorded in Book 6-Z, pages 37-39. Clerk of Superior Court, Chatham County, Georgia)

State of New York
County of New York
City of New York

This indenture made and entered into this thirteenth day of May in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ninety-one (1891) between George Parsons of the City, County and State of New York party of the first part and the Trustees of the University of Georgia a body corporate under the laws of the State of Georgia of the second part witnesseth that whereas under an Act of The General Assembly of the State of Georgia approved November 26th, 1890, entitled an Act to establish a school for colored persons as a branch of the State University and such school is about to be established. And whereas in conformity with the second section of said Act the Governor of the said State of Georgia appointed the Commission of the School for colored students whose duty it was to procure the grounds and buildings necessary for the establishment of said school and whereas said Commission has selected a site near the corporate limits of the City of Savannah in which went the said party of the first part was to donate the premises hereinafter described upon the terms and upon the uses hereinafter limited. Now them in consideration of the premises and of his desire to aid and promote the objects of said colleges by these presents does give grant alien enfeoff and confirm unto the Trustees of the University of Georgia for the use of said Branch College and for no other use whatsoever. All that certain lot tract or parcel of land lying situate and being in Chatham County Georgia containing ten (10) acres being all of Lot Number One (1) and a large part of lots numbered two and three according to a map or plan of a subdivision of sixty nine acres situated on the plat near Thunderbolt drawn by Edward J. Thomas January 1891 of which sixty-nine acres, the ten acres hereby granted are a part being on the eastern portion of said sixty-nine-acre tract and more particularly described as follows: Beginning at a point on the northeast corner of said lot number one thence westwardly along the southern line of a unnamed street twenty feet wide for a distance of nine hundred feet which forms the northern boundary of said ten acres thence at a right angle to said northern line southerly a distance of five hundred and eighty feet the remaining portions of said lots two and three forming the western boundary thereof thence at a right angle to the last mentioned line eastwardly a distance of seven hundred and ten feet to a stake on the western edge of a marsh through which runs a creek said ten acres being bounded on the south by lands of Postell thence northeasterly following its curvature of the aforementioned marsh to the point of beginning which said Marsh and creek form the eastern boundary of said ten-acre tract. The property herein granted having been by deed dated March 15, 1890, conveyed to said George Parsons by Chandler W. Smith to the record of which deed in Chatham County Book of Deeds 6 T Folio 87-89 reference is hereby made. Together with all and singular the houses outhouses Tenements, hereditaments and appurtenances thereunto in any wise belonging or appertaining and the rents issues and profits thereof. To have and to hold all and singular the land alone described and premises with the appurtenances and every part and parcel thereof for the uses herein before specified upon the following limitations however that should at any time from any causes the said Branch College cease to exist or its location be changed then in either of these events the land hereby conveyed, is to revert to the donor his heirs, executor and administrators or assigns.

In Witness Whereof the said party of the
first part has hereunto set his Hand and seal the day and year first above written.

Signed Sealed and Delivered in the Presence of
James Marshall  George Parsons
Geo. H. Coney  SS
State of New York

City and County of New York. George H. Coney a Commissioner for the State of Georgia duly commissioned and qualified and residing in The City and County of New York hereby certify that I did see the above mentioned George Parsons sign the above instrument of writing and he and him acknowledged that he executed the same for the uses and purposes therein expressed and that I and the said James Marshall did attest said instrument as subscribing witnesses in the presence of said George Parsons and of each other. Witness my hand and official seal this thirtieth day of May 1891.

Geo H. Coney
Commissioner for Georgia in New York. Recorded July 2, 1891.

Appendix D

The First Code of Laws for the Government of the Georgia State Industrial College for Colored Youth.

Adopted by the Trustees of the University, June, 1891, and approved by the Commission of Georgia State Industrial College for the regulation of its Faculty and Students, September 1, 1891.

1. The government of the College is vested in the President, Professors, Instructors, and Commandant of Cadets, styled Faculty of the Georgia State Industrial College for Colored Youths.

2. These officers are not to engage in any occupation or pursuit which will interfere with a regular and punctual discharge of all their official duties.

3. It is the duty of every officer to use his best exertions to carry into complete effect every law of the College.

4. The President has a right to be present at any lecture or recitation, and to conduct the same at his pleasure. He is to see that daily prayers are held with students, and that public worship be celebrated with them on the Lord's day. He is ex-officio, the presiding officer of the Faculty, and the executor of their decisions in cases of discipline. He is to preside at all public exercises and commencements and confer all degrees.

5. To Professors and Instructors is especially committed the preservation of order and decorum, in their respective departments.

6. Every matter brought before the Faculty shall be decided by vote, and it shall be the privilege of the President when present to vote in all cases, and to give a casting vote in case of a tie or make a tie.

7. The Faculty shall appoint one of their number Secretary, whose duty it shall be to keep a faithful record of their proceedings, which record shall be submitted to the Trustees at their annual session, and shall be at all times open to the inspection of any Trustee.

8. All officers of instruction are required to give six months' notice of an intention to resign.

9. In the absence of the President from Savannah, his power shall be exercised by a chairman of the Faculty, appointed by him; the Faculty, when assembled, shall have the right to punish offenders at once, or, at its discretion, may postpone action, until the return of the President.

10. A member of the Faculty shall be appointed by the Trustees to act as inspector of buildings, and he shall keep accurate accounts of all expenditures for repairs, and superintend the same and make reports to the proper committee of the Board of Trustees.

11. Each member of the Faculty shall submit to the President and Faculty, twenty days before the annual meeting of the Trustees, a report of his department, to be forwarded by the President to the Trustees, with his annual report to the Faculty, before submitting same to the Trustees.

12. Complete power is vested in the President in all disciplinary supervision and punishment for misbehavior and remissness of any duty by the students and he shall not be required to consult the Faculty thereon, except at his option, unless the offense raise the question of expulsion; provided, nevertheless, it shall be the duty of each member of the Faculty to cooperate with the President in the enforcement of discipline,
and each member is especially required to preserve order and endorse discipline in his own department.

13. The individual professors have jurisdiction over the students in the general government of the College. They have the right to investigate and discover offenses and offenders, and any resistance to them in the assertion of this right is a resistance to the lawful authority of the governing power of the College. It is the duty of each professor and other officers to co-operate with the President in discovering offenses and offenders, to aid its preventing and suppressing disorders and that, not as a "posse comitatus" summoned by him, but as those essentially vested with the authority and sharing with the President the responsibility to enforce discipline and good order. But their responsibility ceases when they have discovered offenses and offenders and reported them to the President, except in cases where the issue of expulsion is raised, and such issue may be raised by any member of the Faculty. The President will alone be held responsible for the manner of dealing with the offender discovered by him or reported to him, except when the issue of expulsion is raised.

14. Should the authority of any Professor or Instructor be resisted by any student or students, it shall not be competent for the President alone to investigate the case, but it shall be the duty of the officer thus resisted to arraign the party or parties before the Faculty, and it shall be competent for that body to inflict any punishment, ranging from reproof to expulsion.

Chapter II. on Classes and Studies

1. There shall be four classes, which in their succession shall be called Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, and Senior.

2. The terms of admission, the studies to be pursued and other exercises to be performed by the several classes shall be prescribed by the Faculty and Trustees.

3. The students of each class shall attend daily and shall perform such exercises as shall be prescribed by the Faculty.

4. All speeches and essays to be delivered in public or before the officers and students, shall be submitted to the Professors in charge of such exercises at such time before the delivery as the Faculty shall prescribe. No student shall make any additions to the corrected copy delivered to him by the Professor, or deliver anything in public which he has been directed to omit. Any student violating this law, or refusing to perform the part assigned him, shall forfeit his degree. The Faculty has the conclusive right to prescribe the order of speakers on all public occasions.

5. Faculty may inflict such punishment as they may deem necessary and proper, even to the withholding of degrees, and the public exposure of their names on Commencement Day, on members of the Senior Class who may be guilty of acts of insubordination or other misconduct, after their final examinations.

6. No student against whom charges are pending before the Faculty shall be permitted to withdraw from the College until such charges are determined.

Chapter III. of Religious Exercises and Moral Conduct.

1. The President, or in his absence, one of the Professors or Instructors, shall conduct daily morning prayers in the Chapel or some other room, including the reading of a portion of the scriptures. Each student shall attend the exercises.

2. The officers and students shall attend divine service on every Sabbath morning and the Sunday afternoon service held in the Chapel. No student shall attend service in the city unless by the permission of the President.

3. A strict observance of the Sabbath is required of every student, and it shall be his duty to attend with punctuality and becoming decency during the time of divine service.

4. It is required of all students to treat all persons with decency and respect, and especially to exhibit the most respectful deportment to the officers of the College, and if a student shall disobey any of the lawful commands of his instructors or shall, either in speech or action, manifest disrespect toward any of them, he shall be admonished or suspended, according to the nature of his offense; and if any student shall insult or strike any officer, he shall be suspended, dismissed or expelled.

Chapter IV. of the Library and Apparatus.

1. The Library is for the use of all persons connected with the College. No person except the Trustees, the President, the Professors, Instruc-
tors, officers and students shall have the privilege of taking books out of the Library, except by the permission of the President.

2. The Librarian shall keep a record, showing every volume borrowed from the Library, the name of the borrower, and the date of its loan and return.

3. The Librarian shall note the injury, if any, done to any volume while in the possession of any person, and shall assess the damage to be paid therefor by such person. Such person shall be debarred the use of the Library until such damages are paid.

4. The Library shall be kept open daily, except Sunday, from 9 A.M. until 4 P.M.

5. No student shall be allowed to take out more than two books at one time, nor retain any book longer than two weeks, nor shall he lend any volume borrowed from the Library.

6. All volumes borrowed from the Library shall be returned at least one week before commencement.

7. All the apparatus is placed in the immediate care of the Professors of the respective departments, but no instrument, nor any part of the apparatus, shall be loaned to any one.

Chapter V. Offenses and Punishments.

1. Every absence of a student from recitation, lecture or religious exercises, shall be reported by his instructor, and he shall be punished in such a manner as the President and Faculty may think proper.

2. If a student shall be habitually inattentive to his duties or disorderly in his conduct, or should his example be thought injurious, the Faculty may send him privately from the institution.

3. Any student found in the possession of any deadly weapon, or who shall be guilty of any crime for which an infamous punishment may be inflicted by law, shall be expelled.

4. Any student who sends or accepts a challenge to fight a duel, or who shall carry such challenge or be second in a duel, or in any way aid or abet it, shall be immediately expelled and shall not be restored except by the Board of Commission.

5. No student shall possess or exhibit any indecent picture, or purchase or read any lascivious, impious or irreverent books, and if he be convicted thereof, or of lying, profaneness, obscenity, playing at unlawful games or other gross immoralities, he shall be punished according to the nature of offense, by admonition, reproof, suspension, dismissal, or expulsion.

6. If any student quarrel with, abuse, strike or insult a fellow-student or other persons, he shall be punished according to the nature of his fault.

7. No student shall bring or cause to be brought into the College buildings, any spurious, malt or fermented liquors. Any student found buying or drinking any such liquors in any store or barroom, or who is found intoxicated therein or elsewhere, shall be punished by admonition, suspension or dismissal for the first offense, and for the second shall be expelled.

8. If any combination or agreement be formed by the students to do any unlawful act or forbear a compliance with any order from lawful authority, or if any enormity, disorder or act of disobedience shall be perpetuated agreeably to or in conformity with such combination, so many of the offenders shall be punished by reprimand, suspension, dimission or expulsion as may be deemed necessary for the preservation of good order.

9. No student expelled, dismissed, or suspended, shall be permitted to enter the College buildings or grounds without permission from the President.

10. Every student shall, when required, give evidence respecting the violation of any laws, and if he refuse such evidence when called on, or wilfully falsifies therein, he may be punished even to dismissal.

11. No student shall be questioned by another as to any testimony he may have given in regard to the violation of any law, and in case any student shall so question his fellow to ascertain whether such testimony has been given, with intention to bring him into contempt, the student so acting shall be deemed to have committed an offense, and shall be punished according to the magnitude of the same, even to dismissal.

12. Every student against whom sentence of expulsion has been pronounced may, by letter addressed to the President, within ten days after said sentence, appeal to the Board of Commissioners, who may, at the next session thereafter, make a final decision thereon.
13. No student shall hereafter be regularly discharged from the College without the written consent of his parent or guardian, and the discharge shall be in such terms as the conduct of the student may warrant.

14. If any case shall occur not expressly provided for by law, the President and Faculty shall have power to provide suitable punishment, in their discretion, by admonition, reprimand, suspension, dismissal or expulsion, as the circumstances of the case may demand.

NOTE: By this action of the Commission, the powers exercised by the Chancellor at Athens are here devolved upon the President, subject to the advice and direction of the Chancellor, who, by legislative enactment, is invested with supervisory and visitatorial power. The exercises of this power by the President and Faculty will be paternal and mild in spirit, but firm and decisive when occasion requires. The vicious, the indolent, and persistently disobedient will be excluded from privileges designed only for good and dutiful citizens.

Appendix E
Periodic Statistics of Enrollment and Revenues for Educational and General Operations Expenses.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>Enrollment</th>
<th>State Allocation</th>
<th>Total Revenue**</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1902</td>
<td>436</td>
<td>8,000.00</td>
<td>*24,666.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1912</td>
<td>497</td>
<td>8,000.00</td>
<td>*24,666.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1921</td>
<td>262</td>
<td>10,000.00</td>
<td>29,667.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1930</td>
<td>525</td>
<td>25,109.00</td>
<td>108,458.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1940</td>
<td>562</td>
<td>29,233.49</td>
<td>123,821.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1950</td>
<td>1,352</td>
<td>236,398.00</td>
<td>478,235.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1960</td>
<td>1,004</td>
<td>684,000.00</td>
<td>899,570.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1970</td>
<td>2,496</td>
<td>1,656,600.00</td>
<td>2,831,390.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1980</td>
<td>2,088</td>
<td>5,592,087.00</td>
<td>8,691,749.73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>2,075</td>
<td>10,908,593.00</td>
<td>17,803,903.81</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Includes only Federal Land-Grant funds and state allocation.

**This total does not include revenue for Auxiliary Enterprises and Student Activity Programs.
Appendix F

Agricultural Extension Personnel, Faculty and Staff with Twenty-Five or More Years of Service at Savannah State College Between 1890 and 1990.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name, Degrees and Some Positions Held at the College</th>
<th>Beginning Date of Employment</th>
<th>Last Date of Employment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Richard R. Wright, Sr., A.B., M.A., President</td>
<td>1891</td>
<td>1921</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joseph M. Roston, Teacher of Wheelwrighting, Proctor</td>
<td>1892</td>
<td>1921</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Louis B. Thompson, B.A., Superintendent of Industrial Department, Teacher of Masonry</td>
<td>1894</td>
<td>1920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henry Pearson, A.B., Teacher of English, Vice President</td>
<td>1895</td>
<td>1921</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jacob &quot;Jake&quot; Frazier, Teacher of Dairying, Dairy Manager</td>
<td>1909</td>
<td>1946</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philander S. Moore, Teacher of Blacksmithing, Plumber, Physical Plant Maintenance</td>
<td>1909</td>
<td>1960</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Howard &quot;Taxi&quot; Jackson, Teacher of Laundering, Superintendent of Laundry</td>
<td>1914</td>
<td>1950</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carl F. Flipper, Teacher of Shoe Repairing</td>
<td>1919</td>
<td>1949</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samuel L. Lester, Teacher of Painting</td>
<td>1920</td>
<td>1952</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Camilla Weems, A.B. Home Demonstration Agent, Assistant State Agent</td>
<td>1920</td>
<td>1955</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Antonio Orsot, Teacher of Carpentry, Architectural and Mechanical Drawing, College Architect, Vice President, Director of Industrial Department</td>
<td>1928</td>
<td>1972</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percy H. Stone, B.S., State Club Agent, State Agent</td>
<td>1922</td>
<td>1955</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>George H. Brooks, Cook, Physical Plant Maintenance</td>
<td>1934</td>
<td>1974</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Janie L. Lester, B.A., M.A., Dean of Women, Professor of English</td>
<td>1927</td>
<td>1952</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leroy Brown, B.S., Teacher of Auto Mechanics and Electricity, Assistant Professor of Mechanical Engineering Technology</td>
<td>1928</td>
<td>1972</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Joan E. McAllister Gordon, A.B., M.A., Ph.D., Librarian, Professor of Social Sciences</td>
<td>1928</td>
<td>1971</td>
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<tr>
<td>W. Vergil Winters, A.B., M.A., Professor of Physics</td>
<td>1929</td>
<td>1963</td>
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<tr>
<td>Varnetta K. Frazier, College Dietician, Matron in Dormitory</td>
<td>1930</td>
<td>1965</td>
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<td>William E. Griffin, B.A., Assistant Professor of Social Sciences, Chairman of Division of Home Study, Dean of Faculty</td>
<td>1930</td>
<td>1965</td>
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<td>Alexander Hurse, B.S., M.S., State Club Agent</td>
<td>1930</td>
<td>1962</td>
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<td>Clifford Vernon Clay, B.S., M.S., Associate Professor of Chemistry</td>
<td>1932</td>
<td>1972</td>
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<td>Josephine I. France Hubert, B.S., Teacher of Business Subjects, Secretary to the President, Supervisor of Secretarial Center</td>
<td>1932</td>
<td>1975</td>
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<tr>
<td>Harvey Skrine, Truck and Bus Driver, Physical Plant Maintenance</td>
<td>1940</td>
<td>1976</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. William K. Payne, A.B., M.A., Litt, D., College Examiner, Professor of Education, Dean of Faculty, President</td>
<td>1937</td>
<td>1963</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mollie Nix Curtright, B.S., M.S., Assistant Professor of Home Economics</td>
<td>1937</td>
<td>1974</td>
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<td>Frank Tharpe, B.S., M.S., Teacher of Farm Shop and Building Construction, Assistant Professor of Industrial Education</td>
<td>1938</td>
<td>1973</td>
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<tr>
<td>Martha Wright Wilson, B.S., M.A., Assistant Professor of Mathematics, Associate Dean, Acting Vice President</td>
<td>1939</td>
<td>1981</td>
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<tr>
<td>Louise Lautier Owens, B.S., M.A., Professor of English, Director of Self Study</td>
<td>1940</td>
<td>1985</td>
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<td>Name</td>
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<tr>
<td>Homer Lewis, Plumber, Physical Plant Maintenance</td>
<td>1943</td>
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<tr>
<td>Murdin Butts, Plumber, Assistant Director of Physical Plant</td>
<td>1946</td>
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<td>Amos Simpson, Electrician, Physical Plant Maintenance</td>
<td>1946</td>
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<tr>
<td>Madeline G. Harrison Thomas, A.B., B.S.L.S., M.S.L.S.,</td>
<td>1946</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assistant Librarian, Assistant Professor and Catalogue Librarian</td>
<td>1946</td>
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<tr>
<td>Geraldine Hooper Abernathy, B.S., M.S., Assistant Professor</td>
<td>1947</td>
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<tr>
<td>of Physical Education, Girls Basketball Coach</td>
<td>1947</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eloise Albright, Physical Plant Maintenance</td>
<td>1947</td>
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<tr>
<td>Felix Alexis, B.A., Director of Physical Plant</td>
<td>1947</td>
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<tr>
<td>John B. Clemmons, A.B., M.S., Professor and Head of the</td>
<td>1947</td>
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<tr>
<td>Department of Mathematics, Registrar</td>
<td>1947</td>
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<tr>
<td>Martha M. Avery Corley, B.S., M.S., Assistant Professor of</td>
<td>1947</td>
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<tr>
<td>Home Economics</td>
<td>1947</td>
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<td>J. Randolph Fisher, A.B., M.A., Professor and Head of the</td>
<td>1947</td>
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<tr>
<td>Department of English, Co-Author of School Song</td>
<td>1947</td>
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<td>Albert Frazier, B.S., M.A., Football Coach, Athletic Director, Assistant Professor of Physical Education</td>
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<td>Dr. Stephen McDew, B.S., M.D., College Physician</td>
<td>1947</td>
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<td>Wilton C. Scott, A.B., M.A., Director of Public Relations,</td>
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<td>Associate Dean of Extended Services</td>
<td>1947</td>
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<tr>
<td>Christopher Butler, Carpenter, Physical Plant Maintenance</td>
<td>1948</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Ella Webb Fisher, A.B., M.A., Girls Basketball Coach, Assistant Professor of Physical Education, AIDP Coordinator, Director of Upward Bound</td>
<td>1948</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nelson R. Freeman, B.S., M.A., Veterans Secretary, Manager of Bookstore and College Inn, Dean of Men, Chairman of Student Personnel Services, Director of Placement, Dean of Students</td>
<td>1948</td>
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<td>Dr. Ida Belle Jenkins Gadsden, B.S., M.S.P.H., Ph.D., Professor of Education</td>
<td>1948</td>
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<td>Dr. Thelma Moore Harmond, B.S., M.Ed., Ph.D., Professor and Chairman of the Division of Education</td>
<td>1948</td>
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<td>Dr. Elmer J. Dean, A.B., M.A., Ed.D., Professor and Chairman of the Division of Social Sciences</td>
<td>1949</td>
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<td>Doris Harris Jackson, B.S., Cashier, Supervisor of Secretarial Center</td>
<td>1949</td>
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<td>Althea Morton, A.B., M.A., Assistant Professor of French</td>
<td>1949</td>
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<td>Dr. Luettia Colvin Upshur Milford, A.B., M.A., Ph.D., Professor of English, Chairman of the Division of Humanities, Head of the Department of Humanities</td>
<td>1949</td>
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<td>Maurice S. Stokes, B.S., M.S., Associate Professor of Education</td>
<td>1949</td>
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<td>Evanel Renfrow Terrell, B.S., M.S., Professor and Head of the Department of Home Economics</td>
<td>1949</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Albertha E. Boston, A.B., M.A., Ed.D., Teacher of Typing, Shorthand and Office Machines; Associate Professor of Business Administration</td>
<td>1950</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beautine Hardwick, B.S., Secretary, Administrative Assistant to the President</td>
<td>1951</td>
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<td>Susie Blake, Physical Plant Maintenance</td>
<td>1952</td>
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<td>Nancy Brundage, Physical Plant Maintenance</td>
<td>1953</td>
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<td>Walter W. Leftwich, B.S., M.S.P.H.E., Assistant Professor of</td>
<td>1953</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>1954</td>
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<tr>
<td>Farnese H. Lumpkin, B.S., M.A., Assistant Professor of Home Economics and Fine Arts</td>
<td>1954</td>
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<td>Name</td>
<td>Position</td>
<td>Start Year</td>
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<td>Arthur L. Brentson, B.S., M.S.</td>
<td>Assistant Professor of English</td>
<td>1955</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Prince A. Jackson, B.S., M.S., Ph.D.</td>
<td>Alumni Secretary, Chairman of Division of Natural Sciences, President, Professor of Mathematics</td>
<td>1955</td>
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<tr>
<td>Robert Holt, B.S., M.A.</td>
<td>Associate Professor of English</td>
<td>1956</td>
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<tr>
<td>Richard K. Washington, B.S., M.S.</td>
<td>Football and Track Coach, Assistant Professor of Physical Education</td>
<td>1956</td>
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<td>Otis Charlton</td>
<td>Physical Plant Maintenance</td>
<td>1957</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prince K. Mitchell, B.S., Bookkeeper, Budget Assistant, Assistant Comptroller, Comptroller, Vice President for Business and Finance</td>
<td>1957</td>
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<tr>
<td>Robert &quot;Jimbo&quot; Butler</td>
<td>Physical Plant Maintenance</td>
<td>1958</td>
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<tr>
<td>Martha Stafford, B.S., M.Ed.</td>
<td>Secretary for Division of Technical Sciences, Secretary to Vice President, Administrative Assistant to President</td>
<td>1958</td>
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<tr>
<td>Herbert White, B.S., M.S.</td>
<td>Director of Physical Plant, Physical Plant Maintenance, Steam Plant Manager</td>
<td>1958</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Hayward S. Anderson, B.S., B.B.A., M.B.A., D.B.A.</td>
<td>Professor and Chairman of the Division of Business Administration</td>
<td>1959</td>
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<tr>
<td>Robert Mobley, B.S., M.Ed.</td>
<td>Director of Audio-Visual Center, Instructional Resources Coordinator, College Photographer</td>
<td>1959</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vernese D. Mikel, B.S.</td>
<td>Secretary for Chairman of the Division of Business Administration, Dean of Faculty and President; Administrative Assistant to the President</td>
<td>1961</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Margaret C. Robinson, B.S., M.S., Ph.D.</td>
<td>Professor and Head of the Department of Biology, Chairman of the Division Natural Sciences, Dean of School of Sciences and Technology</td>
<td>1959</td>
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<tr>
<td>Willie Batten, Carpenter</td>
<td>Physical Plant Maintenance</td>
<td>1961</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Clyde W. Hall, B.S., M.S., Ed.D.</td>
<td>Professor and Chairman of the Division of Technical Sciences, Vice President, Acting President, Regents' Professor of Engineering Technology</td>
<td>1961</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Willie G. Tucker, B.S., M.S., Ph.D.</td>
<td>Professor and Head of the Department of Chemistry, Coordinator of Cooperative Education</td>
<td>1962</td>
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<tr>
<td>Erma Mobley, B.S.</td>
<td>Secretary for Division of Home Study, Education Program Specialist</td>
<td>1963</td>
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<td>Johnny Campbell, Jr., B.S., M.A.</td>
<td>Associate Professor of Business Administration</td>
<td>1964</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Mason, B.S., M.S.</td>
<td>Assistant Football Coach, Associate Professor of Engineering Technology</td>
<td>1964</td>
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<td>Dr. Kamalaker Raut, B.S., B.A., M.S., Ph.D.</td>
<td>Professor of Chemistry</td>
<td>1964</td>
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<td>Dr. Bernard L. Woodhouse, B.S., M.S., Ph.D.</td>
<td>Professor of Biology</td>
<td>1964</td>
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<td>Dr. Venkalaraman A. Narayanna, M.A., M.Sc., Ph.D.</td>
<td>Professor of Physics</td>
<td>1965</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Robert L. Stevens, B.S., M.A., Ph.D.</td>
<td>Director of &quot;College Players By The Sea,&quot; Professor of English and Theatre</td>
<td>1965</td>
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<tr>
<td>Orieis Thomas</td>
<td>Physical Plant Maintenance</td>
<td>1965</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samuel Williams, B.S., M.Div., D.Min.</td>
<td>College Minister, Director of Resident Life</td>
<td>1965</td>
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</table>
Appendix G
College Songs

Georgia State College

Victory Song

Down on the coast of Georgia
There stands a school so fair;
Her sons and daughters loyal
Will always do their share
They come from North, East, South and West
They come to Georgia State
and there they learn to do life's tasks
and knowledge to partake

Chorus

Georgia, Georgia, we love thee
Love thy moss laden oak trees
There's no school can take her place
Dear old Georgia State
On to victory! On to victory! Georgia State

Football Cheer

Way down yonder in Thunderbolt, Georgia
Rah! Rah! Rah! Rah!
Georgia State jumped on another little team
Rah! Rah! Rah! Rah!
And it beat that team and it beat them so bad
Rah! Rah! Rah! Rah!
It gave them the worst beaten that they had ever had
Rah! Rah! Rah! Rah! Rah!
Georgia State's better!!!
Georgia State's better now!

School Songs

Georgia State College

Dear G.S.C.
My G.S.C.
For thee we'll cry
For thee we'll die
In all our dreams
Your fair face beams
You are the flower of our hearts
Dear G.S.C.

Our dear old school
My dear old school
Orange and blue
How we love you

Savannah State College

Let us give thanks and praises to Thee,
For our Alma Mater, S.S.C.
Thine honor, pride and eminence,
We raise in prayerful reverence.

Guide us still from day to day,
Be Thou mindful lest we lose our way;
Help us know that life, short or long,
Means increasing work for weak and strong.

Refrain

Where Savannah meets the sea,
Where grassy plains and palms abound
Where the flow'rs are gems of loveliness,
There S.S.C. is found.
We adore each beauteous scene and hall,
Our all we pledge to Thee!
In our hearts we'll build a shrine for Thee,
We hail Thee, S.S.C.

J. Randolph Fisher,
Professor of English

Hillary R. Hatchett, Jr.
Associate Professor and
Director of Music