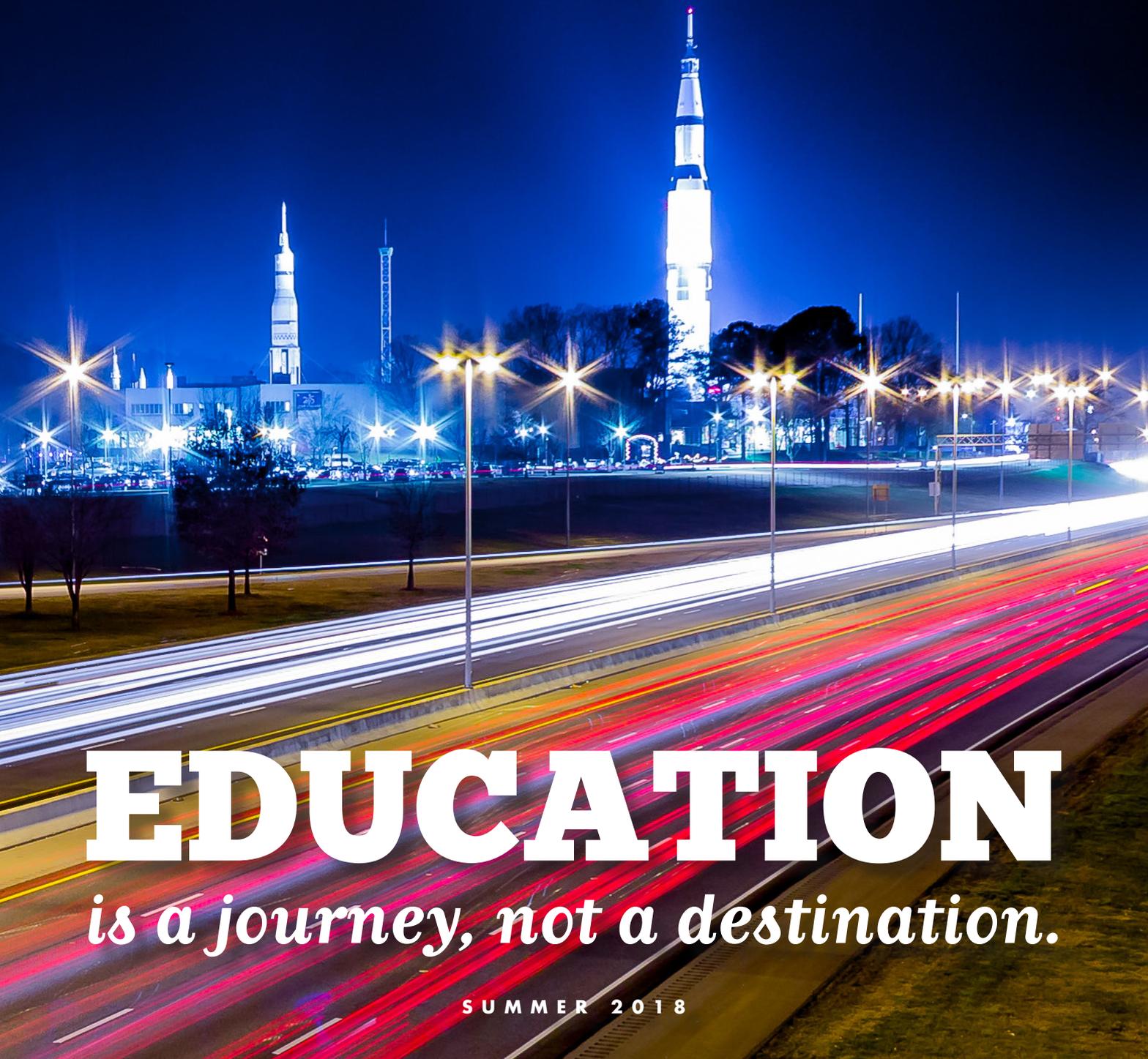


*The*

# COLUMN

ATHENS STATE UNIVERSITY



# EDUCATION

*is a journey, not a destination.*

SUMMER 2018

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FIDDLERS CONVENTION



Mark your calendar for the 52nd annual Fiddlers Convention!

# A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT GLENN



## *Dear alumni and friends of Athens State University:*

I can remember when I first held my first-born, Lisa, in my arms. I can vividly remember a wide range of feelings at that particular moment. One of those feelings was a feeling of dread. It was based upon the realization that it was my job as a father to teach her to walk, so that one day she could walk away from me and live her own life, her way. Of course, she didn't leave us in the sense of going away and cutting off contact, but when a child goes off on her, or his, own, they are no longer in your life the way you like best. I felt that same feeling when I came to Athens State ten years ago. I was excited about the possibilities offered by the future, but I knew it would not last forever. And, when we were successful in attaining autonomy and having our own Board, I knew it would be my job to teach the Board all it needed to know to one day replace me. It is an odd feeling.

Many of you may be aware that Laurie and I will soon be moving to Texas to begin a new journey at the University of Houston-Victoria. We are excited by the possibilities this new opportunity presents, but we are also experiencing great melancholy as we prepare to leave people to whom we have become very attached. I am reminded about one of my favorite movies, *The Wizard of Oz*. You will recall that near the end, the main characters get to have their wishes granted by the Wizard, and the Tin Man wanted a heart. After granting the wish, or sort of since he is not a real magician, the Wizard says, "And remember my sentimental friend, a heart is not judged by how much you love, but rather by how much you are loved by others." We know that we have been loved by others here. And, the great sadness we feel is a reminder of just how much we have been loved.

Please know that while we will not be within your view, you will never be out of our sight and our thoughts. We will watch what comes next for this exceptional institution and community with great pride. No man touches another without being touched himself. You have touched our lives in a myriad of ways that enrich us and prepare us for the new challenges ahead. Thank you for everything.

Forward ever be our watchword, Conquer and Prevail!

Now go and do good work.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert K. Glenn". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dr. Robert "Bob" Glenn  
President

## OUR VISION

*Athens State University will be the premier destination for transfer students seeking the highest quality education and cutting-edge delivery at the most affordable cost. As the upper division university in Alabama, building on a tradition that began in 1822, Athens State University will be the catalyst for positive change in the lives of its students.*

## OUR MISSION

*The University advances the best interests of its students and the State of Alabama through teaching, service, research, and other creative activities to empower students to make valuable contributions in their professional, civic, educational, and economic endeavors. Through innovative communication and course delivery for high-quality undergraduate and select graduate programs, Athens State University provides a supporting environment for each student, demonstrating the importance of the diverse and interdependent nature of our state and society. Athens State University changes the face of Alabama by changing the lives of its students.*

## CONTACT US

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## CONNECT WITH US



# ATHENS STATE UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT DR. BOB GLENN TO RESIGN



The Athens State University Board of Trustees recently announced that Dr. Robert “Bob” Glenn will resign from his role as president.

Glenn, who became the University’s 36th president in 2008, was integral in helping lead the University in its transition from the Alabama Community College System to a fully independent state university with an autonomous board of trustees.

“We appreciate Dr. Glenn’s contributions in helping build Athens State to where it is today, and we thank him for the vision he has shared with us over the past decade. We are excited to build on the momentum that has been created, shaping the future of higher education as we approach our bicentennial in 2022,” said Cathy Dickens, Board chair. “We wish Dr. Glenn well in his future endeavors.”

## DR. RON INGLE NAMED INTERIM PRESIDENT



*Dr. Ron Ingle during his time as Interim Provost in 2015.*

The Athens State University Board of Trustees voted unanimously at its May meeting to authorize the Executive Committee to enter into negotiations with Ronald R. Ingle, Ph.D., to serve as Interim President of Athens State University. Dr. Ingle has verbally agreed to serve in this capacity while a national search is conducted.

“Dr. Ingle’s previous service at Athens State, along with his experience in higher education, made him an excellent candidate to serve as Interim President while the University seeks a replacement for Dr. Bob Glenn, who resigned earlier this month to become President at the University of Houston – Victoria,” stated Cathy Dickens, Board chair. “We are confident Dr. Ingle’s leadership will be valuable to the University and local community during this transition.”

Dr. Ingle is President Emeritus of Coastal Carolina University and previously served as Interim Provost at Athens State University from January 2015 through June 2016. He has a robust history in higher education administration, with a focus in recent years on assisting higher education institutions during periods of leadership transition. He focuses on leading through shared governance, open communication, and transparent operations.

Dr. Ingle holds a Ph.D. in Psychology from Ohio State University, a master’s degree in Higher Education Administration from Florida State University, and a bachelor’s degree in English from Wofford College. He is expected to begin his duties as Interim President this summer.

Stay updated on the presidential search process:

**ATHENS.EDU/PRESIDENTIALSEARCH**

# “REMOVED” EXHIBIT BY BRUCE LARSEN OPENS AT ALABAMA CENTER FOR THE ARTS



The Alabama Center for the Arts opened a new exhibit entitled “REMOVED” on Wednesday, June 6, 2018. The exhibit features new, never-before-seen artwork by world-renowned fine art sculptor and special effects artist, Bruce Larsen.

Larsen, an Alabama native, has extensive experience with creating animatronic animals and creatures for Hollywood films. He believes that “everything in life is recycled,” and his edgy style is derived from a combination of two of his biggest passions: recycling and history. Larsen prefers to choose objects and artifacts with historical significance to create his sculptures as opposed to more traditional mediums. He also likes to draw his materials from his environment, incorporating many geological and cultural elements of his immediate surroundings into his artwork.

Larsen was part of the inaugural class inducted into the Alabama Center for the Arts Hall of Fame in November

2016. In April, Larsen loaned a 30-foot-tall metal owl sculpture to the Center. The sculpture is indicative of his incredible artistic talent and can currently be viewed in the Alabama Center for the Arts courtyard between the Visual Arts and Performing Arts buildings, across the street from the historic Princess Theatre.

Larsen’s work has been featured extensively across the state and nation, and he was selected by the Alabama State Arts Council in 2008 to be part of a cultural exchange between Alabama and Italy.

“REMOVED” will remain open until Monday, August 20, 2018. A closing reception and artist talk will also be held on August 20 beginning at 5:30 PM. The community is invited to attend this free event and meet Larsen.

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*Pictured to the left: The 30-foot owl sculpture on loan from Larsen*



# R E M O V E D

BRUCE LARSEN

JUNE 6 - AUGUST 20 • MAIN GALLERY

AUGUST 20: CLOSING RECEPTION (5:30 PM) & ARTIST TALK (6:00 PM)



# ALUMNI ASSOCIATION NAMES 2018 ALUMNI AWARD HONOREES



*2018 Alumni Award Honorees (left to right): Dr. Travis Schrimsher, Mrs. Mary Hovater, Mrs. Amanda Elgin, Dr. Joe Brasher, and Dr. Sheila H. Byrd (Not pictured: Mr. George Lawrence Hubert)*

The Athens State University Foundation, in conjunction with the University Alumni Association, hosted a Scholarship Reception and Alumni Awards ceremony on April 7, 2018. At the event, the Alumni Association recognized outstanding members of the Athens State community who have made significant contributions to their companies, community, and society as a whole.

**The Outstanding Recent Graduate Award was presented to Mrs. Amanda Elgin**, who graduated summa cum laude from Athens State University in 2015. She is a third-year special education teacher at Athens Elementary School and teaches students with significant learning disabilities in grades K-3. In 2017, she was recognized as Athens Elementary's Teacher of the Year. Mrs. Elgin has a strong philosophy that all children can learn and should have opportunities to find and develop their personal strengths.

**The Dr. Angeline Nazaretian Distinguished Service Award was presented to Dr. Joe Brasher**, retired College of Education faculty member. Dr. Brasher mirrors what public service, philanthropy, and volunteerism embody, showcasing these characteristics during his 27 years of service to the University. In 2013, Dr. Brasher was inducted into the Eleanor Roosevelt Chapter of Kappa Delta Pi International Honor Society in Education.

**The Outstanding Alumna Achievement in Arts and Sciences Award was presented to Dr. Sheila H. Byrd**, who is a 1982 graduate of Athens College and has been a full-time English professor at Calhoun Community College since 1990. In 2002, Dr. Byrd accepted the position of National Executive Director of Sigma Kappa Delta, the English Honor Society for two-year college students. She was recently honored with a scholarship in her name as the longest-serving executive director.

**The Outstanding Alumnus Achievement in Business Award was presented to Mr. George L. Hubert**, who graduated from Athens State College in 1970 with a bachelor's degree in business administration. He is recently retired from the United States Department of Homeland Security in Washington, DC. Mr. Hubert is a Vietnam Veteran and obtained a Doctor of Jurisprudence in 1976 from the University of Baltimore. During his career, he spent 39 years in federal law enforcement.

**The Outstanding Alumnus Achievement in Education Award was presented to Dr. Travis Schrimsher**, who earned a Bachelor of Science in Education from Athens State University in 1997, specializing in social science. He later attained his Ed.D. in Leadership and Professional Practice from Trevecca Nazarene University in 2011. Dr. Schrimsher currently serves as Principal of Athens High School, named one of "America's Best High Schools" by *U.S. News and World Reports* in 2017. He was recently selected as the District Eight President of the Alabama Association of Secondary School Principals.

**The Distinguished Alumna Award was presented to Mrs. Mary Hovater**, who earned a Bachelor of Science in Physics and Mathematics in 1998. She also completed a Master of Science in Physics from the University of Alabama in Huntsville in 2005. Mrs. Hovater has an extensive background in the aerospace and physics industry, serving at NASA Marshall Space Flight Center in roles such as Impact Testing Facility Lead, NASA Deputy Lead of Operations for the Launch Abort System, and her current role as Technical Manager in the Office of Strategic Analysis and Communication, where she works on helping shape the strategic direction of MSFC. She was recognized for 25 years of service in January 2018.



# Celebrating A HEAD START

## AN INTERVIEW WITH MS. ALLY HOLMES, ATHENS BIBLE SCHOOL CLASS OF 2018

Meet Ally, one of Athens State's newest faces on campus. Majoring in elementary education with dreams of making a difference in the world, Ally, like many other students, is excited about experiencing everything her college journey brings with it. One thing, however, sets Ally apart from most other students on campus - her age! Ally happens to be one of the youngest students taking classes at Athens State, entering her junior year at age 18.

Heeding advice from her principal, Ally took dual enrollment classes that allowed her to complete her freshman and sophomore years of college while she was in high school, graduating with both a high school diploma and an associate's degree. "I immediately saw the value in taking dual enrollment classes," Ally said. "I knew that I would have to work really hard in order to do it, and it kind of scared me, but I'm glad that I did it in the long run."

Ally knew at an early age that teaching was her passion, in part due to her teachers at Athens Bible School making such an impact in her life. She wants to be a positive influence for children, showing them that knowledge is power. Ally strives to also be a positive influence to her peers, leading by example. She encourages other students to take advantage of the opportunity presented by dual enrollment classes.

Despite the rigorous schedule, including several homework-filled "all-nighters," Ally says she still had time to enjoy the full high school experience. "I still had plenty of time with my friends. It's just a matter of what you prioritize and what you make time for."

She acknowledges that she didn't reach her current level of success alone; she says it took a village to help her get where she is today. "My parents are at the top of the list of people who helped me get here because they are so supportive of me. They are so loving, and they want to do what's best for me always," Ally said. She also thanked Mr. Adams and Ms. Gail for taking care of her and trying to do what was best for her. "At one point or another, you're going to have to grow up and take on your responsibilities. I think that's just another great part of what dual enrollment helped me with."

After she finishes her undergraduate degree, Ally plans to continue her education to earn both her master's and doctorate degrees in education. "I've found with many things that have come in my life that you have to work hard in order to do something, to accomplish what you really want, no matter how scary or how hard it may seem to you at that time." According to Ally, success means "setting a goal, working to the best of your ability, and achieving it." Her admirable work ethic has no doubt prepared her for success both in and out of the classroom.

Ally received a scholarship from Athens State and began classes this summer, along with completing work-study duties in the Office of Admissions. With two years of her college career already completed, Ally has a significant head start in establishing her career, allowing her to more quickly build knowledge and skills, enter the job market, and achieve the success she desires.

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IS WHERE THE  
**CO L**  **M N S**  
ARE

**HOMECOMING 2018**

*"Come Together" at Athens State*

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 3 & SATURDAY, AUGUST 4**

**RSVP TODAY!**  
**ATHENS.EDU/HOMECOMING**

# JOIN US!



## THE WANNA BEATLES

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 3 | 6 PM**  
**Homecoming Dinner & Concert**  
Founders Green

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 4 | 9 AM**  
**Summer Commencement**  
Founders Green

**SPECIAL GUESTS - CLASS OF 1968**  
*Celebrating 50 Years!*

# ATHENS STATE UNIVERSITY AWARDED STATE GRANT

Athens State University has been awarded a \$1 million grant from the Alabama Capital Improvement Trust Fund. These funds originate from oil and gas capital payments received into the Alabama Trust Fund and are created for the purpose of financing public improvement projects and programs such as public education facilities. The governor appoints these funds where needed by executive order.

Athens State University strives to continually provide its students with the best service and facilities possible to ensure they receive an education of the highest quality. Technology has become a vital component to modern, asynchronous education, and the University seeks to further its expertise in this area. Therefore, the funds obtained shall be used to repurpose almost 11,000 square feet of existing space in the current Classroom Building for the purpose of furthering success in online programs, increasing accessibility, and meeting the technological needs of collaborating with online students.

**The center will include the following:**

- An instructional design space for faculty and staff to work collaboratively on the development of digital content
- A digital curriculum exploration environment where faculty can develop techniques and methods to incorporate discipline-specific technologies that will engage students and improve learning
- Audio/video recording and editing facilities
- Technology enhanced classroom space
- Faculty Commons area
- Student collaboration space

The creation of an instructional design space on Athens State's campus will ensure that faculty can create instructional content for online course delivery and will serve as a space where new ideas and methods for teaching and learning can be forged. With this new, dedicated space, Athens State will continue to leverage technology to create impactful educational experiences for a diverse student population.

## STUDENTS STUDY ABROAD IN MILAN, ITALY



*Dr. Vanessa Miller (far left) and Dr. Kevin Dupre (far right) with the group of Study Abroad students who studied in Milan, Italy May 28 through June 17.*

*Students blogged about their experiences while on the journey. To learn about their adventures, or for more information about future trips, please visit [ATHENS.EDU/STUDYABROAD](http://ATHENS.EDU/STUDYABROAD).*

Athens State students recently embarked on the first study abroad trip in the University's history. The group of 11 students, led by English Professor, Dr. Kevin Dupre, and Psychology Professor, Dr. Vanessa Miller, were able to immerse themselves in the culture of Milan, Italy while studying their choice of psychology or poetry.

"I believe that art, music, and experiencing different cultures all share the unique ability to bring out joy in people, despite whatever background they may come from," said Caroline, a Health Science student who studied abroad. She views the opportunity to study abroad as a learning adventure.

Emily, a Business Management student, hoped to gain an appreciation for different perspectives from the trip. "I think it's important to be culturally aware in an increasingly global job market." She also thought the opportunity was an important step in learning new things about herself, including how she adapts to unfamiliar surroundings.

The group will be trailblazers for what Dr. Dupre and Dr. Miller hope will become an annual educational opportunity for students of all majors. Planning is currently underway for a study abroad trip to Salamanca, Spain in 2019.

# NEMAK JOINS ATHENS STATE THROUGH LEARNING PARTNERSHIP



Athens State University is pleased to announce a new learning partnership with Nematik, a leading automotive component manufacturer that produces aluminum components for Powertrain and Body Structure applications. A signing ceremony was held on campus to celebrate the agreement.

The learning partnership is designed to assist Nematik employees and their immediate family members in achieving their educational goals in career-appropriate disciplines through online and traditional classroom settings. Over 20,000 Nematik employees from 38 facilities

worldwide have the potential to benefit from this partnership.

Nematik is Athens State's second learning partner. The University created a learning partnership with Lyons HR in April 2017 to assist employees and their families with educational goals. These partnerships exemplify a shared commitment to producing highly-skilled members of the workforce, providing resources that could otherwise be out of reach for certain individuals. Athens State plans to expand this program to new businesses by creating additional learning partnerships in the future.

## ATHENS STATE UNIVERSITY ESTABLISHES TEACHER CERTIFICATION ASSISTANCE FUND (TCAF)

Athens State University has established the Teacher Certification Assistance Fund (TCAF) to assist students with the cost of certification testing fees. Preservice teachers are overly burdened with the cost of testing required for certification, as the cost of Praxis II tests begin at \$266 and are in addition to tuition, books, fees, supplies, and other expenses. Additionally, the state of Alabama has added a new certification requirement, the edTPA, which will cost students an extra \$300.

Athens State University's preservice teachers are receiving real-world classroom experiences through hands-on training and unique learning opportunities created by the faculty in the College of Education (COE). As a result of the innovative COE Teacher Preparation Program, Athens State University graduates are sought out by superintendents and principals across the region and state. However, many students have to "sit-out" a semester in order to save enough money to complete these requirements.

Previously, financial aid and scholarships could not be used to assist students with these test fees. The newly-established Teacher Certification Assistance Fund will assist students with these expenses so they can obtain certification and join the teaching profession in a more timely manner without the added financial burden.

More than \$8,000 has been donated to build the fund so far, primarily from COE faculty and staff, with the first scholarship of \$150 awarded in May. The COE's goal is to endow the fund to provide ten scholarship awards per semester.

For more information or to make a contribution to TCAF, please contact the Office of University Advancement at 256-233-8185 or [advancement@athens.edu](mailto:advancement@athens.edu).



# AN EDUCATION IS COMPRISED OF LIFELONG LEARNING; IT'S A JOURNEY, NOT A DESTINATION.

Cathy Dickens, Board of Trustees Chair and Athens State alumna, has had a successful career in the aerospace and defense industry. The secret to success? Enjoy the journey.

Degree completion is usually the focal point in an educational journey, with students impatiently counting down the days until they walk across the stage and receive the coveted diploma they have worked so diligently for. However, the learning process doesn't end there. Learning is a lifelong process; it is a self-directed and self-paced journey of discovery, oftentimes through trial and error. Our minds are constantly engaged with the world in which we live, using past experiences as the basis for interpreting new ones. All of these experiences and skills build on an existing foundation of knowledge, with new skills and abilities constantly evolving and expanding our view of the world.

Athens State University understands each person's journey is different. With a typical student over 30 years of age with a family's needs to consider, accommodating lifelong learning is one of the things we do best. "The major thing that sets Athens State apart is the extreme focus on the student," says Cathy Dickens, board chair and Class of 1993 alumna. "Athens State not only offers flexibility, but the instructors, professors, the entire staff at Athens is very focused on making sure that the education continues to be at the highest quality while understanding the needs of each individual student. It's a much more personal experience for students than many other colleges."

The University has made significant investments in providing top-quality programs to learners of all backgrounds, including the addition of graduate programs

in 2016. The programs, one offered from each of the three colleges, can all be completed entirely online. With concentrations including logistics and supply chain management, career and technical education, and religious studies, the programs encompass a wide spectrum of specialized training for individuals looking to advance their professional careers or build knowledge and skills for personal enrichment.

## COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES: RELIGIOUS STUDIES

The Master of Arts in Religious Studies program is designed for any individual who is interested in the academic study of religion. The program is non-denominational, which promotes learning, critical thinking, and research in an open, honest, and neutral environment. Students in the program will gain a broad perspective of religion that will encompass major religious traditions across the world. In addition, students will strengthen their knowledge and understanding of the subject matter through analysis of religious texts and traditions.

This program is an excellent pathway to many exciting and rewarding careers, including pastoral leadership, teaching, social work, counseling, and other roles in nonprofit and community service and leadership. Additionally, the Religious Studies graduate program offers a thesis track to prepare students for academic research in religious studies in pursuit of a Ph.D. or other doctoral degree.

## COLLEGE OF BUSINESS: GLOBAL LOGISTICS & SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT

Companies, governments, and industries need qualified people to lead in developing solutions to their logistics and supply chain management operations. Athens State University's online master's degree program in Global Logistics and Supply Chain Management has been designed to give students the knowledge and skills needed to advance into senior-level positions in a wide variety of business fields.

Graduates from the program are equipped to be successful in areas such as logistics, supply chain management, and operations management, as well as the specific functional disciplines of inventory, distribution, and transportation management. With coursework focused on developing the critical-thinking and leadership skills required in a wide variety of 21st century workplaces, it has been exciting to watch a growing number of our graduates be recruited to positions outside the traditional supply chain arena, such as acquisition/contract management, international operations, and sales/marketing. When this is coupled with the innovative structure of curriculum delivery through distance learning, students holding degrees outside the field of business have also been able to seamlessly transition into the program and thrive.

## COLLEGE OF EDUCATION: CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION

Athens State University's online master's degree program in Career and Technical Education is designed to develop professional leadership skills and provide training for professionals in education and business. The program is a perfect solution for those working in secondary, postsecondary, or adult education; corporate or industrial training; career counseling; and workforce development.

Through 30 hours of graduate coursework, students are equipped with the knowledge, skills, and abilities to understand the adult learner, effective teaching trends, current issues in the field, and pedagogical and andragogical practices. The program provides a strong philosophical and historical perspective of career and technical education, consisting of 15 semester hours in the core field, 9 hours in an option area (Curriculum and Instruction, Leadership, or Instructional Technology), and 6 hours of career and technical education electives.

## YOUR JOURNEY IS OUR JOURNEY: CELEBRATING SUCCESS WITH MR. LORENZO CUM

Meet Lorenzo Cum. He is one of the most recent graduates from the College of Business Global Logistics & Supply Chain Management master's program. Lorenzo works as Senior Retail Projects Coordinator at CB&S Bank in the Huntsville area. With an undergraduate degree in business and communications, it took him a while to consider the possibility of returning to school and furthering his education. When deciding on an institution and program, his top considerations were affordability and flexibility.

"I started looking around at different schools and applying for different programs. In the end, the best option for me was Athens State," said Lorenzo. "Affordability was definitely one of the factors in my choice, and another big selling point was the ability to do everything online. During the summer, I was able to complete coursework while traveling in Europe. It was great to be able to live my life and not fall behind."

While the courses are administered online, Lorenzo says his experience in the program was very personalized, with attentive detail from faculty members. "It is a well-built, well-designed, well-balanced program, and the support system from classmates in the cohort helps keep you motivated to stay on track," Lorenzo continued. "I would suggest for anyone looking into the program to get to know the faculty and understand their experiences. Their viewpoints really help textbook principles come to life in a real-world professional environment."

Lorenzo is quick to point out that the skills he learned in the program can be applied to any industry and any workplace setting. "Anyone could benefit from this program. It's not just limited to a manufacturing or production environment, which is what you think of with logistics and supply chain management. The program helped me think of banking from a new perspective, analyzing the customer transaction flow, vendor management, and even marketing campaigns. It's been very useful in my career here at the bank. It's also been helpful from a self-improvement standpoint. I feel I am now a better leader, communicator, and better at time management. These are extremely valuable skills in any setting."

## LIFELONG LEARNING - FOCUS ON THE JOURNEY

With a degree, doors are opened, and futures are built. Having a well-rounded education is an important component to success. "Even if you have a job and you have a lot of experience, that degree is going to allow you to go to the next level," says Cathy Dickens. "It's an accomplishment, and that's something no one can ever take away from you." Cathy says no matter what, never give up. "There will be times when you'll get discouraged and you'll be tired, but if you are tenacious and keep taking it one step at a time, it will be worth it in the end."

*For information about Athens State's online master degree programs, please visit [www.athens.edu/masters](http://www.athens.edu/masters).*



52<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL

TENNESSEE VALLEY OLD TIME



FIDDLERS CONVENTION.

Mark your calendar!

OCTOBER 4

through

OCTOBER 6

The Tennessee Valley Old Time Fiddlers Association was formed in 1967 due to overwhelming support from two local fiddling contests, thus establishing the Tennessee Valley Old Time Fiddlers Convention. With a stated goal of reviving the tradition of old time music, the annual event held on the historic campus of Athens State University is known as the "Granddaddy of Midsouth Fiddlers Conventions."

In 2013, legislation was passed in the State of Alabama recognizing the Tennessee Valley Old Time Fiddlers Convention as the official home of 14 state champions in the following categories: Harmonica, Bluegrass Banjo, Dulcimer, Old Time Banjo, Classic Old Time Fiddler, Buck Dancing, Mandolin, Dobro, Old Time Singing, Guitar – Finger Picking, Guitar – Flat Picking, Bluegrass Band, Old Time Band, and last but not least, Fiddler. Each year, hundreds of contestants come to Athens, Alabama to compete for these coveted titles, joining thousands of folks who come to listen or who bring their own instruments and play in impromptu jam sessions.

This year, the dynamic group **FLATT LONESOME** will play a free concert on Thursday, October 4 at 7:00 PM. On Friday, October 5, **RHONDA VINCENT**, crowned "the new queen of bluegrass" by the *Wall Street Journal*, will take the stage with her band **THE RAGE** at 4:00 PM and 6:00 PM. Finally, the Grammy-award winning and nationally-acclaimed **RICKY SKAGGS & KENTUCKY THUNDER** will perform on Saturday evening at 6:00 PM.

Competitions begin Friday evening at 7:00 PM and will end Saturday evening with the fiddle-off. The Fiddlers experience is enhanced with dozens of food vendors and over 125 area craftsmen displaying their arts and crafts, offering unique and custom-made souvenirs. Convention proceeds support student scholarships and University projects. We hope you will join us!

### COMPETITIONS:

- Beginning Fiddler (*age 10 and under*)
- Apprentice Fiddler (*ages 11 - 15*)
- Junior Fiddler (*ages 16-34*)
- Intermediate Fiddler (*ages 35-54*)
- Senior Fiddler (*ages 55+*)
- Classic Old Time Fiddler
- Beginner Musician (*Guitar, Banjo, or Mandolin*)
- Guitar Finger Picking
- Guitar Flat Picking
- Harmonica
- Mandolin
- Bluegrass Banjo
- Old Time Banjo
- Dobro
- Dulcimer
- Old Time Singing
- Bluegrass Band
- Old Time String Band
- Buck Dancing

For more information or to purchase tickets, please visit us online:

[TVOTFC.ORG](http://TVOTFC.ORG)

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& Aetos Systems, Inc. (Brown Hall)



# FLATT LONESOME

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4 | 7 PM  
FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!



## Rhonda Vincent & The Rage

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5 | 4 PM & 6 PM



## Ricky Skaggs & Kentucky Thunder

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6  
6 PM



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