



Strictly Business

Fall 2023

Bachelor of Science with Majors in:

- Accounting
- Acquisition & Contract Management
- Advanced Manufacturing Management
- Aerospace Systems Management
- Health Care Management
- Human Resource Management
- Logistics & Supply Chain Management
- Management
- Management of Cybersecurity Operations
- Management of Technology
- Marketing
- Occupational Health and Safety Management

Master of Accountancy

Master of Science with Majors in:

- Acquisition and Contract Management
- Global Logistics and Supply Chain Management
- Strategic Healthcare Management & Administration
- Strategic Human Resource Management
- Strategic Leadership and Business Analytics

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College of Business Welcomes New Dean



Dr. Troy Adair began duties of the new College of Business Dean on July 1, 2023. He is a seasoned academic administrator with extensive teaching experience. He has experience managing academic departments, overseeing faculty hiring, admissions, advisement, budgeting,

institutional research, and strategic planning, including regional accreditations, new program development, and student recruitment and retention. Before accepting the position at Athens State University, Dr. Adair was serving as a Professor and Co-Director of the Computer Science and Business Degree Program at Lehigh University in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.

Dr. Adair holds a Ph.D. in Finance from Indiana University, an MBA from University of North Dakota, and a B.S. in Computer Science from the University of Alabama at Birmingham. Outside of his academic positions, Dr. Adair has served as a business consultant.

Dr. Adair was a Commander in the U.S. Air Force 91st Strategic Missile Wing from July 1984 to July 1989, in Minot, North Dakota, where he was responsible for overseeing facility maintenance, operational maintenance, and security teams for 150 ICBM launch silos. Dr. Adair is happy to be “back in the South” where he has family, after many years living in various parts of the country.

As Dean, Dr. Adair will maintain a strong commitment to quality and innovation. His background and expertise are well-suited to lead the flexible, engaging, and relevant programmatic offerings within the College of Business. We welcome him to the University!

Henry Appointed to COB Board of Visitors

Scott Henry, Redstone GCI Senior Managing Consultant, has been appointed as the newest College of Business Board of Visitor. The appointment is for three years.

Mr. Henry has a B.S. in Accounting from Auburn University and is affiliated with the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA). Mr. Henry is a CPA with over 30 years of accounting experience (10 years in public accounting and 20 years in the government contract

industry). He has been the accounting manager or controller for government contractors ranging in size from 50 to 800 employees. He currently works with the Redstone GCI client base on a variety of issues pertaining to government contract accounting and compliance and specializes in assisting clients with their development of compliant accounting systems, financial audits, and proposal pricing and cost volumes. He also assists contractors after contract award with cost account-

ing, indirect rate structures, payroll, and general accounting functions.

Mr. Henry is currently serving as a board member for Athens City Schools. The College of Business welcomes his expertise.



OHSM Receives GSP® Designation

Athens State University's Bachelor of Science in Occupational Health and Safety Management (OHSM) has been reviewed by the Board of Certified Safety Professionals (BCSP) and approved as a Graduate Safety Practitioner® (GSP®) Qualified Academic Program (QAP), providing the program's graduates the opportunity to apply with BCSP for the GSP designation after graduation. The GSP meets the credential requirement for the Certified Safety Professional® (CSP®), the "gold standard" in safety certification, allowing those who hold the designation to waive the Associate Safety Professional® (ASP®) certification examination.

A GSP QAP is a degree program in

safety, health, and environmental practice that has been reviewed by BCSP and demonstrates a substantial match to the ASP exam blueprint. Any person having graduated from Athens State University with the B.S. in OHSM may apply for the GSP designation within their program's applicable dates.

Dr. John Wells, Assistant Professor of OHSM, has spent the last three years creating a dynamic Safety Management Program like no other in the nation. Dr. Wells states, "When we say our graduates are EHS man-

agers, we guarantee they can balance a budget, manage people, and navigate regulatory affairs!"

Christy Uden, CEO of BCSP, proclaims, "We welcome Athens State University's exceptional safety program and those who graduate from it. Those who graduate from GSP Qualified Academic Programs have a strong foundation of knowledge that deserves recognition; and BCSP looks forward to supporting them in the development of their careers."

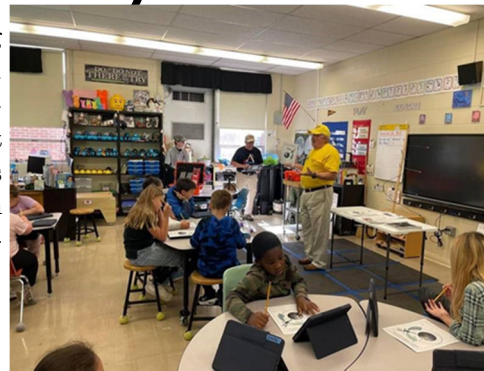
More information on the B.S. OHSM can be found at <https://www.athens.edu/programs/occupational-health-safety-management/>.



Aerospace Visits Cowart Elementary School

David Ausley (Athens State University alumnus), Ryan Frost (current B.S. Aerospace Systems Management student), and Dr. Wayne McCain (Professor of Aerospace Systems Management) visited Jennifer Kennedy's third grade STEM Lab classes at Spark Academy (Cowart Elementary) in Athens, Alabama, last November. The

trio talked about their ongoing STEMSAT CubeSat project. Ms. Kennedy's students are establishing a tracking station to collect data from STEMSAT which is planned for launch some time in late 2023 on a Vaya Space Dauntless hybrid propulsion rocket.



ATHENS STATE STUDENTS TOUR POLYPLEX FACILITY

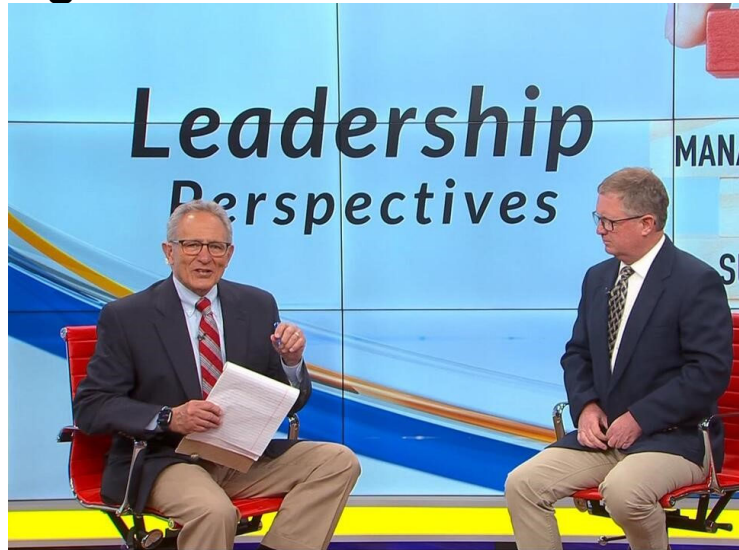


During the Fall 2022 semester, a group of Athens State students toured the Polyplex manufacturing facility in Decatur, Alabama. Dr. Kim Roberts, Dr. Mike Essary, and Dr. Cyndi Lovelace accompanied students in the MG 390 Operations Management course and the student chapter of American Production and Inventory Control Society (APICS) on the experiential learning tour.

Polyplex is among the world's largest producers of thin polyester film used in packaging food products and industrial applications. Students received an overview of the plant's operations and a guided tour through the process areas and warehousing area. Polyplex has facilities in India, Turkey, Thailand, and the United States. They are investing more than \$90 million in an expansion project at the Decatur facility.

Talking Economics

Jeff Johnson, Assistant Professor of Management and Economics in the College of Business, was featured on WHNT Channel 19's "Leadership Perspectives." Topics of discussion included banks, inflation, the stock market, and the economy. He specifically discussed the recent failure of banks like Silicon Valley and Signature and what that failure really means for most people. The full interview is at <https://whnt.com/news/leadership-perspectives/economics-professor-discusses-failing-banks-inflation-and-the-current-economy/>.



Accounting Major Wins Competition



Kayla Watwood, graduate student in the Master of Accountancy program at Athens State University, is the 2023 winner of the Institute of Management Accountants (IMA) Student Manuscript Competition. The competition provides IMA student members from around the globe the opportunity to share their IMA membership experiences in an 800-word essay.

Ms. Watwood is in her third year of service as an Accounting Club officer. She works as an auditor for DCAA (Defense Contract Audit Agency). Ms. Watwood received a plaque from IMA, and her winning manuscript will be published in the next issue of *Strategic Finance* magazine.

COB Hosts Guest Speaker

In January 2023, the College of Business hosted Dr. Marcus Ambe, Executive-in-Residence, and a renowned Procurement and Supply Chain Management Professional with ties to the African continent. Dr. Ambe is President of African Institute for Supply Chain Research (AISCR).

During Dr. Ambe's visit, he made a presentation to faculty and administration that proposed Athens State University hosting the AISCR. His presentation demonstrated how AISCR activities can be beneficial in fostering and pro-

moting the Athens State University brand as a hub for the supply chain programs. He also promoted the development of executive education programs to support U.S. companies sourcing or investing in Africa.

At the moment, there are over 600 U.S. companies with a presence in Africa. These companies battle with challenges of supply market intelligence, quality control, certification of suppliers, regulatory compliance, and port challenges.



Dr. Marcus Ambe

OnlineU Awards Rankings

OnlineU ranked several Athens State programs as the most affordable. The College of Business achieved Most Affordable Degree Ranking in 2023 for the following:

Master's in Accounting #1

Healthcare Management #3

Supply Chain Management #3

Master's in Healthcare Management #3 (tie)

Master's in Human Resources #4 (tie)

Master's in Management #4 (tie)

Human Resources #5

Accounting #9

In addition, GetEducated named the Athens State University M.S. in Strategic Leadership and Business Analytics one of the top three most affordable online programs out of 71 regionally-accredited schools.

Athens State University's Human Resource Management degree program was ranked #4 by Online

Schools Guide as one of the Top Online Bachelor's in Human Resources in the country. Intelligent.com ranked the same program as #11 on a list of the top 32 online human resources programs nationwide. The ranking is based on tuition costs, the number of credits required to graduate, and the online coursework delivery format.

Athens State University is committed to providing affordable degrees with superb quality.

Accounting Club News



The Athens State University Accounting Club has done it again! They are the 2023 recipients of the Gold Award of Excellence. The award includes a certificate and \$500 monetary award.

To be eligible to win the Gold Award, the student chapter must meet several criteria. Chapters are required to hold a minimum number of educational meetings throughout the year, attend industry tours, publish newsletters, participate in community service and pro-

motional events, participate in a case study and manuscript competition, attend the annual IMA student Leadership Conference, and prepare an executive summary. Each year the Athens State University student chapter represents the University glowingly by going above and beyond the requirements with more than the required number of meetings and other activities. This achievement demonstrates the group of students' dedication to excellence.

The 2023 Accounting Club service project was to make more than 150 Valentine's Day cards and goody bags for the residents and staff at Limestone Health Facility Senior Rehab and Recovery Center. Each goody bag contained a special card, soap, lotion, and candy. The students wanted to provide a meaningful, yet practical, ges-

ture of thoughtfulness and service for the residents and staff at the center.

Professors Diann Hammon and Emily Corzine delivered the Valentine's Day goody bags. The impact of this service project goes beyond simply filling and delivering bags; it goes to the heart of each recipient and reminds them that someone genuinely cares for them.



Valentine's Day Goody Bags

In Memoriam

The 2022-2023 Academic Year has been a very difficult one for the College of Business. Going back to August 2022, the College of Business has lost the following people associated with our institution:



Dr. Robert "Bob" Gulbro was a Professor of Management and former Dean of the College of Business.

His years of service were from 1994-2011. Dr. Gulbro passed away on August 20, 2022.



Dr. Robert "Bob" McCall was a former faculty member in the College of Business and very active in Delta Mu Delta. He was at Athens

State from 1975-1992. Dr. McCall died on November 3, 2022.



Dr. Gary Huckaby was an Assistant Professor of Management from 2018 to his passing on February 19, 2023. He dedicated his life to

his family, community, and to teaching and helping others. He was a great encourager and life coach to many.



Dr. William "Bill" Wilkes served as a Professor of Economics from 1996-2023. He

contributed to the annual "Economics Update" newsletter and aided in more than one economic impact report for the Athens area. He was also known for his love of clocks. Dr. Wilkes died

on April 28, 2023.



Ms. Dahlia Newton was an Assistant Professor of Management from 1985-2001. She passed away on July 6, 2023.



Ms. Joyce Driskell was an Administrative Assistant in the School of Business from 1985-1996. She passed away on September 26, 2023.

The College of Business acknowledges the combined years of vast experience and valuable expertise possessed by each of these individuals. Their contributions are many and will not soon be forgotten. Thank you!



Dr. Charles "Rick" Roberts, Professor of Acquisition and Contract Management retired on September 1, 2023. He had been employed at

Goodbye and Hello!

Athens State University since 2010. Prior to coming to Athens State, Dr. Roberts served as Chief Logistics Officer for U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command at Redstone Arsenal, and retired from this position in 2010. Dr. Roberts served on many committees and was well respected across the entire campus.



Dr. MaryEllen Dennis, is a new Instructor of Healthcare Management. She has both a Doctor and Master of Health Administration from Capella University and a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. We welcome her to the College of Business.

2023 Service Awards and Faculty Accomplishments

At this year's fall convocation, the following COB faculty received service awards:

5 Years—**Mallory Jackson, Christopher Nelson, and Dr. Gary Huckaby (Posthumous)**

30 Years—**Dr. J. Wayne McCain**

Drs. Cynthia Lovelace and Darren Waldrep were promoted to Associate Professor. **Drs. Stacie Hughes and Kim Roberts** were promoted to Professor.

Dr. Bryan Kennedy, Ms. Laura Lynn Kerner, and Dr. Thomas Pieplow were all granted Emeriti Faculty status.

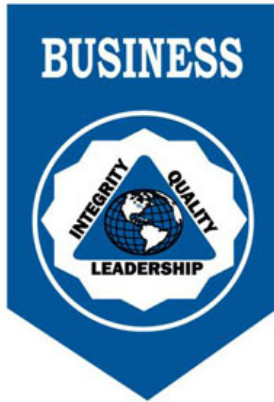
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Athens State University
Sanders Hall
300 North Beaty Street
Athens, AL 35611

256-216-5352
FAX: 256-216-5351
www.athens.edu/college_business/

Editor: Molly Pepper, CAP



Sanders Hall, College of Business

Invest in the future...

With the challenges facing higher education, your help is very much needed and greatly appreciated. We solicit your assistance in ensuring the continued progress of our institution through course offerings, programs, and progress in the College of Business. We urge you to make your tax-deductible contribution to the ASU Foundation in support of the College of Business.

Enclosed is my gift of \$ _____ to the College of Business.

(Make checks payable to the ASU Foundation/College of Business.)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

Mail your contribution to: College of Business, ATTN: Molly Pepper, Executive Assistant to the Dean, College of Business, Athens State University, 300 North Beaty Street, Athens, Alabama 35611

Leaving a Legacy

When an institution has been around for over 200 years, it will have seen many individuals come and go. Athens State University has a storied history of several presidents who served under some trying times. Madame Childs was the president of the institution during the Civil War. She was purported to have saved Founders Hall from destruction by producing a letter from President Abraham Lincoln in support of the institution. Another president, Mary Norman Moore, served during a typhoid epidemic during which some students died. More recently, the institution's leadership had to make tough decisions during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The thing to remember about great leaders is that they cannot accomplish greatness all alone. They must have tremendous support

from others around them. Someone has to be there to cook and serve the meals, clean the toilets and classrooms, file the student records, etc. One person cannot perform every function that is necessary to run any university.

There is a poem called "The Dash" by Linda Ellis that speaks of the time we spend on earth between our birth and death dates. In a similar way, many of us will be remembered by the dash between our hire and retire dates. Shouldn't we focus on being the type of employee that puts forth our best efforts to make the institution as strong and vibrant as possible?

As mentioned on the previous page, the College of Business has lost several retired employees over the past year. While they were here, each made great contributions to the institution. Some

worked on establishing new programs. Several served as faculty advisors, helping navigate students to a degree. Some served as club or honor society advisors. Others just provided needed support to those around them.

Some titles have more prestige (and the pay scale to go with it!) than others, but all jobs are necessary to keep the institution going. It is important to realize that everyone has a specific role and that they choose to perform their duties to the best of their abilities. That is how you can leave a legacy.

Athens State University, as an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution, complies with all applicable federal and state laws regarding nondiscrimination and affirmative action. Athens State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, disability, religion, genetic information, or veteran status in employment, or admissions to or participation in educational programs and activities. Inquiries or concerns may be addressed to the Office of the Vice President of Enrollment and Student Support Services, 300 N. Beaty Street, Athens, AL 35611, 256-233-8175.