EGC’s Economic Impact Grows To Over $49.7 Million Annually On Its Region

In a time of budget cuts, reductions, and scaling back it is simply amazing to see East Georgia College’s annual economic impact on its service area jump from over $42 million to over 49.7 million, based on the latest ICAPP study for 2008.

The updated report offers confirmation that Georgia’s University System of Georgia, of which East Georgia College is a part, continues to be one of the state’s key economic engines. Together, the 35 institutions of the University System of Georgia (USG) packed an economic impact totaling $12.1 billion on the state’s economy during Fiscal Year 2008.

The Selig Center for Economic Growth in the University of Georgia’s Terry College of Business analyzed data collected between July 1, 2007, and June 30, 2008, to calculate the University System’s FY2008 economic impact. This work updates similar studies conducted on behalf of The Intellectual Capital Partnership Program (ICAPP), an initiative of the Board of Regents’ Office of Economic Development. The previous report, based on FY2007 data, placed the USG’s economic impact at $11 billion. The first study in the series calculated the USG’s impact at $7.7 billion in FY1999. The latest $12.1 billion thus is a $4.4 billion increase since FY 1999 – or a growth of 57 percent in the system’s economic impact on Georgia’s communities.

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In addition to East Georgia College’s $49,752,756 total impact generated in FY2008, the study determined that EGC is responsible for 540 full and part-time jobs, both on-campus and off-campus that exist because of the presence of East Georgia College in the region.

“While our research has consistently shown the important economic contributions public colleges and universities make to communities and the state, this latest study supports the argument that the University System can play an important role in helping Georgia’s economy recover,” said study author Dr. Jeffrey M. Humphreys, director of economic forecasting for the Selig Center. “For each job created on a campus, there are 1.6 jobs that exist off-campus because of spending related to the college or university. These economic impacts demonstrate that continued emphasis on colleges and universities as a pillar of the state’s economy translates into jobs, higher incomes and greater production of goods and services for local households and businesses.”

Dr. John Black, president of East Georgia College stated, “The new Economic Impact Report is clear evidence that ‘education is a good investment’ and it emphasizes the wisdom and vision of the Swainsboro leaders who led the effort to establish East Georgia College, then Emanuel County Junior College, in the early seventies.”


The East Georgia College chapter of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, Beta Iota Beta, recently held its Induction Ceremony in the Richard L. Brown Room of the EGC Student Services Center.

The purpose of Phi Theta Kappa is to recognize and encourage scholarship among two-year college students. To achieve this purpose, PTK provides opportunity for the development of leadership and service, for an intellectual climate for exchange of ideas and ideals, for lively fellowship for scholars, and for stimulation of interest in continuing academic excellence.

Welcome and introduction for the Induction ceremony was made by Brianna Jones, PTK vice president. Introduction of speaker was presented by Dr. Tim Goodman, Vice President for Academic Affairs at EGC and PTK advisor. Dr. John Black, President of EGC, Phi Theta Kappa Presidential Ambassador for Georgia and honorary member of PTK, gave the program. PTK President Megan Loya and PTK Vice President Jones inducted the new members. Dr. Goodman closed the meeting and a reception was held for the new members, their families, and other college guests.

Today Phi Theta Kappa is the largest honor society in American higher education with more than 2 million members and 1,200 chapters located in all 50 of the United States, U. S. territories, British Virgin Islands, Canada, Germany, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, United Arab Emirates and Palau.