

A Vision of Undergraduate Research at Georgia College

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WHO WE ARE

State's public liberal arts institution since 1997

Location: close to geographic center of the state

Campus population

- 5,700 undergraduates; 850 graduate students
- 307 fulltime faculty; 75% with a terminal degree
- 16:1 student to faculty ratio

Academic Programs: 40 undergraduate, 29 graduate

Demographics

- **Students** – 60% female; 84% white/non-Hispanic
- most from metro-Atlanta area
- growing out-of-state/international student population
- **Faculty** – mirrors student ethnic demographic



MAJOR CHALLENGES



- maintain the enthusiasm generated at the Spring 2012 URACE Symposium
- truly integrate UR into the curriculum
- develop faculty mentoring reward and compensation models
- systematic inclusion of non-STEM faculty in UR
- collect meaningful data and evaluate effectiveness/impact

SUCSESSES

University-Level

- Quality Enhancement Plan (institutional accreditation) focused on “Building a Culture of Engaged Learning”
- institutionalized opportunities for citizenship & UR
- \$100,000/year UR budget

Office-Level

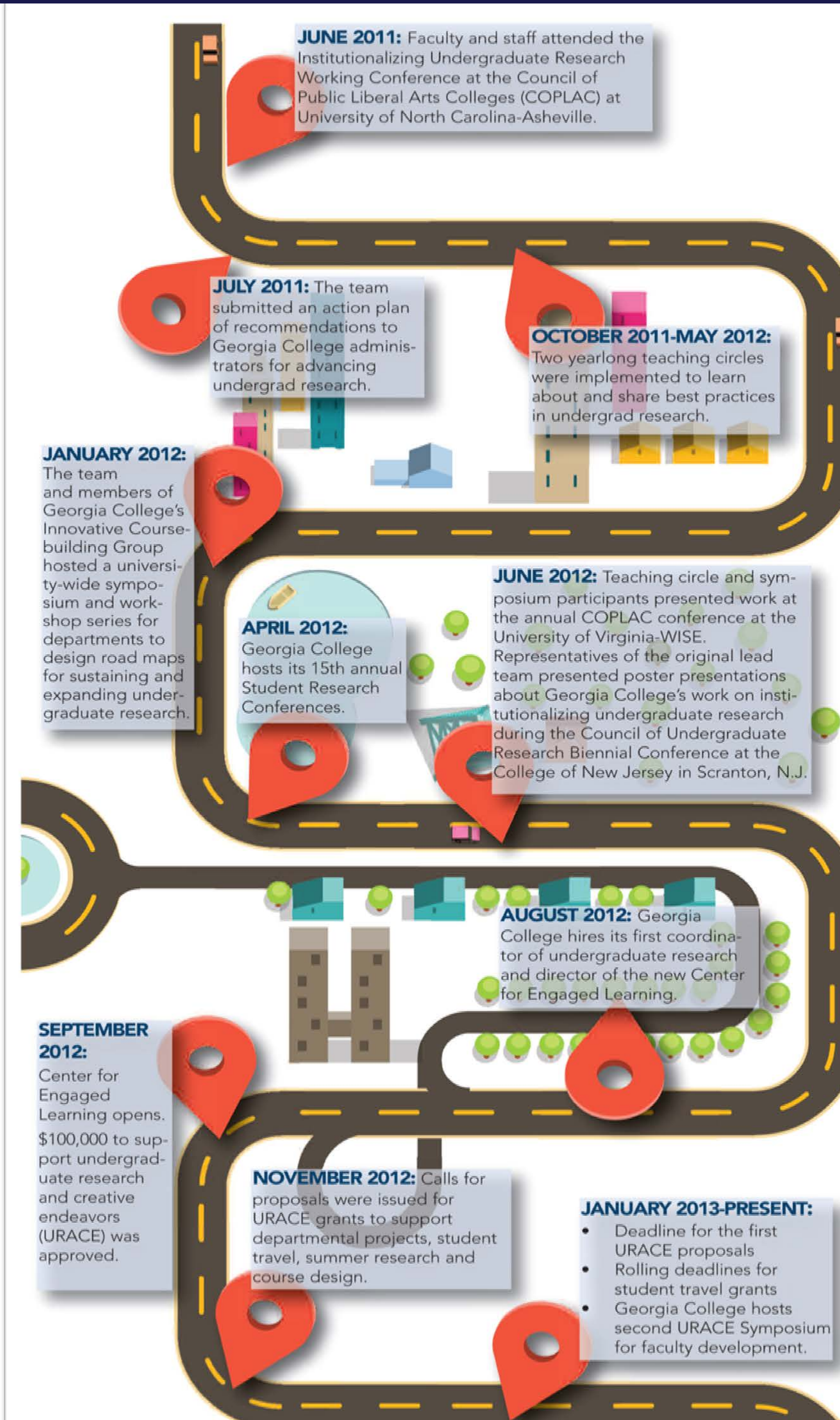
- new URACE Office
- new URACE Coordinator and URACE Faculty Coordinator
- URACE Grant Program: second grant cycle

Faculty/Staff-Level

- URACE Action Plan updates (2012/2014) from 11 academic programs – art, biology & environmental science, chemistry, education, English, government & sociology, kinesiology, marketing, mathematics, physics, psychology, theater
- URACE Teaching Circles
- Mentoring Handbook
- external funds

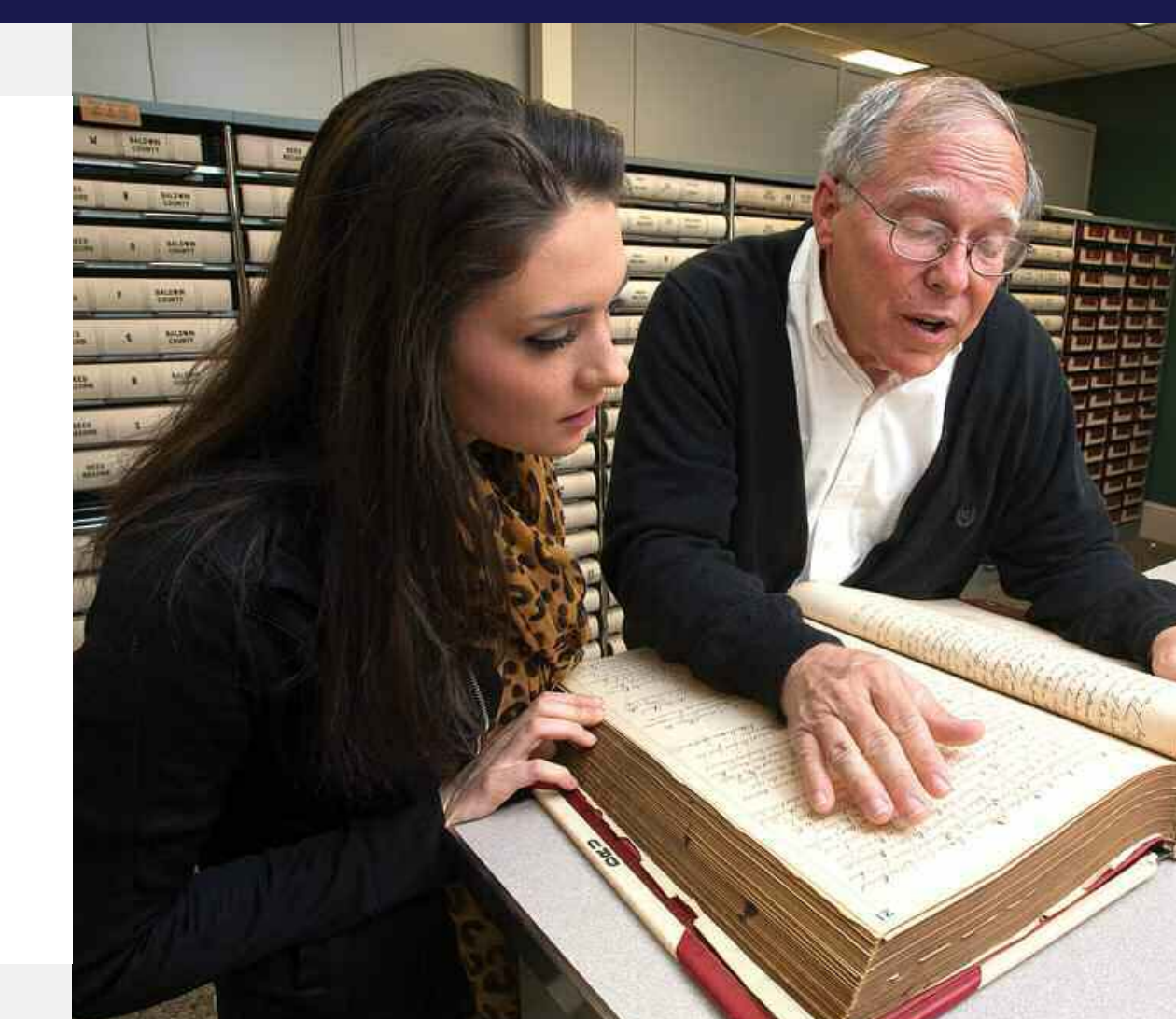
Student-Level

UR Conference Presentations	2012	2013	2014
Academic Programs	31	34	38

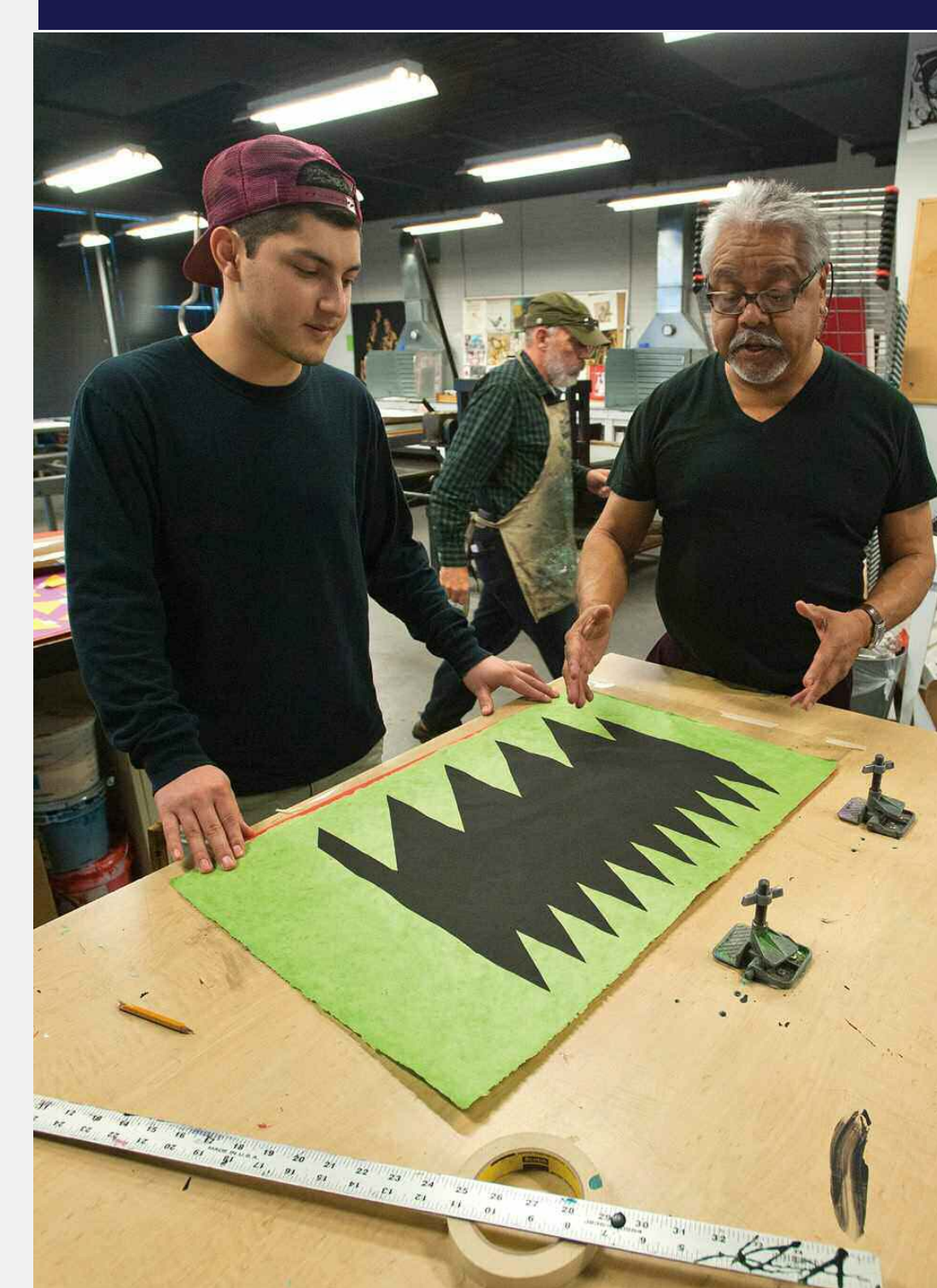


WE NEED CREATIVE SOLUTIONS FOR...

- fully utilizing UR coordinator roles
- making the critical link between instruction and UR intentional
- assisting departments reach consensus on UR participation as a PUI
- fully/better utilizing our URACE (faculty) symposia to foster real dialogue



FUTURE PLANS



- university-wide dialogue of strategies tried, implemented, or rejected
- meet with individual departments to assist with barriers and creative solutions
- foster cross-disciplinary collaborations
- undertake a comprehensive URACE inventory
- implement a communications plan to include recognition and celebration