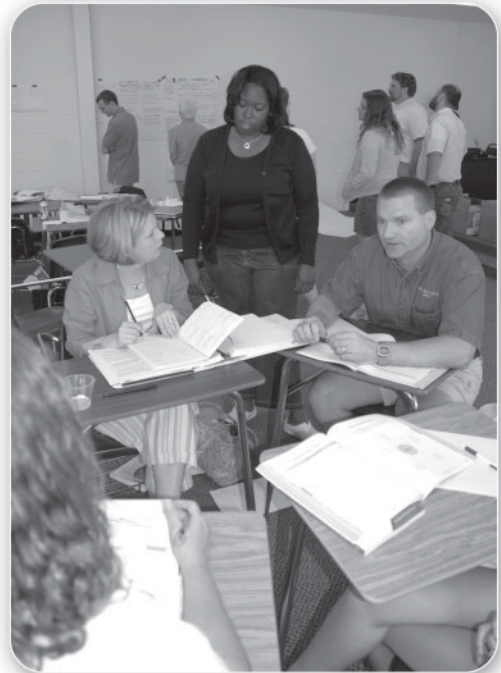


IMPROVING EDUCATION: Mark Donahue (far right), a 1992 alumnus, was one of more than 190 educators from across the state participating in a two-day session at NGCSU where Georgia's new K-12 curriculum was discussed. The June 6 and 7 event, part of an eight-day session, was designed to train educators in the new Georgia Performance Standards K-12 curriculum. "This is a tremendous undertaking by the Georgia Department of Education," said Donahue. "It's one of the biggest changes in Georgia education in a number of years." Donahue, who teaches high school science in Union County, said the new standards are completely revamping the curriculum of all grade levels. The teachers will go back to their schools and train their peers in the new curriculum with interactive media tools provided by the state education department. The department has different implementation schedules of the new GPS curriculum for different subject areas. On the North Georgia campus, some of the teachers involved in the June training were from mathematics, language arts and the sciences. To learn more about the new state curriculum, go online to www.georgiastandards.org.



New vice president (Continued from page 1)

"As the new VPAA, I want to enhance the communication from and to our office from others, both on campus and with alumni and community folks," she said. "In the fall, I will be starting a 'Suggestion Box Lunch' to begin this enhancement."

No longer the chief academic officer on an interim basis, Roberts-Betsch is ready for the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. As the new academic year approaches, she has several priorities in Academic Affairs.

"With the approval to create the Center of Teaching & Learning Excellence, I hope to work with the center's director, Dr. Irene Kokkala, to support innovations in teaching and learning and the concomitant faculty development associated with the use of technology in the classroom."

Roberts-Betsch is also conscious of the changing roles and needs of academic administrators and faculty members.

"We have already begun the process of increasing the autonomy of the deans and schools. I want to continue developing models and procedures in relation to this autonomy. I am most supportive of a review of faculty, department heads, and dean workloads. I have assigned each dean some faculty 'release time slots' to start the process of rewarding faculty for their participation in scholarship and service activities. We still have more work to do in the area of faculty roles and awards."

The newly named VP said that another goal is to ensure that NGCSU receives SACS reaffirmation. She believes the university needs to review student-learning outcomes as related to the institution's mission and to track if and how students meet those outcomes both in core curriculum courses and in their majors.

"I am most grateful for the opportunity to learn, grow, and develop into what I hope will be a collaborative and successful partnership between the greater NGCSU community and myself," she said. 🏠

Full story at www.ngcsu.edu/digest

Digest Extra online

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