“Burning Bright” is more than the theme of Georgia State’s ongoing capital campaign — it is a statement of what we aspire to be, a beacon lighting the way in downtown Atlanta, throughout our state, and around the world.

A single flame, though, no matter how brightly it burns, cannot be seen from the other side of the earth. Just as a series of torch bearers were needed to bring the Olympic flame from Greece to Atlanta in 1996, we must enlist people to carry Georgia State’s flame across the planet, sharing the knowledge they have gained and the talents they have developed. “Burning Bright,” then, refers not just to Georgia State as a single beacon of progress and discovery, but to the students, alumni, faculty and staff who light their own torches with that flame and carry them far and wide.

There is another group that burns just as bright: the generous supporters who have fueled Georgia State’s flame and thus the flames of every person who has lived and learned on its campus. Without those loyal friends, none of those flames could burn as bright. Fortunately, a passion for sharing their resources and making the world a better place burns within each of them, just as it does in the students Georgia State sends out into the world.

In these pages, you will meet some of those supporters and get a glimpse of the many discoveries they have helped to illuminate — and the students they have helped to inspire. There can be no doubt that throughout our university community — in the hearts and minds of students, employees and friends alike — the Georgia State flame is indeed burning more brightly than ever.
Dear Georgia State University Community,

Many people assume that as president of Georgia State University I have a hand in every single thing that goes on here, that I know about every big event before it happens. Yet even I am stunned at what a momentous year this has been.

Who could have predicted, for example, that the Panther football program would earn a bowl invitation in only its sixth year of existence? That our university would be entrusted with the Turner Field property and surrounding area, giving us a canvas for reshaping not only our campus but central Atlanta as a whole? Or that the Burning Bright fundraising campaign would already be more than the way to its goal before the end of 2016?

Some of you may have predicted these amazing achievements—or at least believed they could happen. Believed enough to give generously to our university in the hopes that, together, we could turn daydreams into reality. At Georgia State, we can look beyond what is and imagine what could be because our supporters do the same.

In this report, you will read about several of those supporters. Kay Craigie envisioned a safer, more peaceful world with Georgia State graduates leading the way. John Dyer dreamed of turning success stories like his own—a first-generation college student going on to lead a major corporation—from rarities into the norm. Connie and Ken McDaniel saw a future in which women were on equal footing with men at the highest levels of leadership. And all of them bet on Georgia State to make those visions real.

And there is still amazing potential yet to be unlocked. The Panther Retention Scholarship, for example, is already a model for universities across the country, revolutionizing the way they help students stay on track to graduation. With a major expansion of that program just around the corner, we can further accelerate that revolution and change the lives of even more students.

Who could have predicted all this progress? I am willing to bet some of you did—and Panther Nation is grateful to have you dreaming along with us.

Sincerely,

Mark P. Becker

LETTER FROM PRESIDENT MARK P. BECKER

TABLE OF CONTENTS

3 Letter from President Mark P. Becker
4 Georgia State University Foundation Board
5 Letter from Foundation Board Chair Brad Ferrer
7 Letter from Burning Bright Campaign Committee Chair Parker H. “Pete” Petit
9 John Dyer Helps Students Succeed
12 Kay Craigie Creates The Next Generation Of Counterterrorism Experts
14 Connie And Ken McDaniel Support Each Other And Georgia State
18 New Endowments
20 Financial Highlights
22 Presidents Society
33 Photo Captions and Credits
Georgia State University enjoyed another year of record-breaking results, from graduation rates to funded research to fundraising.

Our sustained fundraising success over the past four years is a point of pride for me as chair of the Foundation Board and as a Georgia State alumnus. The Foundation raised more than $30 million this year, the fourth year in a row we have exceeded this milestone. Your generosity continues to help Georgia State open the door to exceptional opportunities for thousands of students and professors.

Scholarship funding by the Foundation, which contributed to these improved graduation rates, has grown an average of 21 percent annually from $2.9 million in 2011 to $7.6 million in 2016—a record. And faculty and program support grew this year to $12 million, another record. Beyond these financial successes, this annual report tells the story of what those resources have the power to make possible. A growing community of support—alumni, parents, businesses, foundations and friends of the university—has witnessed this success and is investing for an even brighter future.

And perhaps the most consequential action your Foundation took this year was to establish a vision for our Foundation as grand as the university we support. Our goal: by 2040, we intend to build an endowment balance in the top 50 among all research and doctoral public universities in the United States. There are 180 similar institutions in the United States today, and our endowment ranks 120th. A top 50 ranking is difficult to imagine today, but when we consider our professors’ critical research, or our students’ exceptional academic progress, we know this goal is the right one. With your help, we will get there.

With much gratitude for all your support,

Brad Ferrer (B.B.A., Accounting, ’81)
Chief Financial Officer, CNN
Dear Friends of Georgia State University,

I doubt I need to remind any of you what an exciting time this is at Georgia State. From the soon-to-be-completed Creative Media Industries Institute just off Woodruff Park to the Turner Field area, Georgia State is increasing its significance and impact with each passing year.

More important than the buildings, though, is what will happen inside them. One of the reasons I am so honored to serve as chair of the Burning Bright Campaign Committee is that every dollar we raise—indeed, everything Georgia State does—will create opportunities for students and better equip them to make a difference. I have congratulated President Mark Becker many times on Georgia State’s continuing increases in student success rates, yet I doubt I will be able to stop congratulating him anytime soon. The transformations that he and his leadership team have brought about will resonate for years to come, not only at Georgia State but across the country.

It is also a source of pride for me to be working with a dedicated Campaign Committee, a visionary Foundation Board, and an amazingly loyal, generous Panther community. That community is a large and diverse one, including institutions such as the Woodruff Foundation and SunTrust as well as individual donors giving of their own hard-earned money to support the amazing things that are happening here.

Thanks to that community, I am elated to report that the Burning Bright campaign has already raised $243 million of its $300 million goal. It is because of your support that we are achieving so much so quickly and putting Georgia State’s progress into overdrive to give even more students a chance to experience it.

Whatever we decide, we hope we can count on you to continue powering us toward our goals—and to share in our celebration when, not if, we achieve them.

Sincerely,

Parker H. “Pete” Petit (MBA ’73)
Chairman and CEO, MiMedx Group Inc.
Growing up on a farm in Newnan, Ga., John Dyer learned the value of hard work early. He also learned, through his parents’ words of wisdom and the rigorous chores they assigned, that the key to a better life was a college education.
The first in his family to attend college, Dyer earned a B.B.A. in accounting from the State University of West Georgia, as well as an executive MBA from Georgia State University’s J. Mack Robinson College of Business. And, sure enough, he went on to secure that “better life” his parents advocated. Starting at Cox Enterprises in 1977 as an internal auditor, Dyer has held a number of financial and operational positions over the years. He currently serves as president and chief executive officer of the now $18 billion communications, media and automotive services company.

Dyer attributes much of his success to his time in the Executive MBA program, where he says he developed invaluable time management skills and learned from the program’s top-notch professors that “it’s not about having the right answer, but having the right question.”

Wanting other students to enjoy similar success, Dyer set up the John M. Dyer First-Generation Finance Scholarship in 2013. The fund provides critical scholarship support for undergraduate students in the Robinson College’s Department of Finance.

“One of the greatest gifts you can give is to enable people to have the opportunities I’ve had.”

One first-generation student who has benefited from the scholarship is Azhia Brown. She received the Dyer Scholarship and, as a result, was able to stay in school and graduate this past spring with a B.S. in finance. Today she works as a financial analyst at Turner Broadcasting, where she helps manage and allocate the operating budget for CNN News.

“The school prepared me to excel in the business world.”

Like Dyer, Brown attributes much of her success to Georgia State. “Georgia State’s business school is a great school where the professors build you up and you make valuable connections,” she says. “The school prepared me to excel in the business world.”

As for Dyer, Brown is not only grateful to him, but inspired by him as well. “Mr. Dyer was a first-generation student, and look at what he’s done today. If he can do it, I can do it too.”
Craigie earned a B.A. in philosophy from Georgia State in 1968. Following graduation, she earned her master’s and doctorate degrees from the University of Pennsylvania and went on to teach at the University of Maryland, College Park and Cabrini College. Her volunteer career included work with the American Radio Relay League for 29 years, most recently as president.

As a professional and a volunteer, Craigie says the critical thinking skills she developed at Georgia State have been invaluable. Today she is committed to helping other Georgia State students develop these critical thinking skills as well—especially Ph.D. students in Georgia State’s Global Policies Institute, an interdisciplinary effort that examines the causes and consequences of violent extremism.

Toward that end, Craigie established the Craigie International Security Scholars Fund in 2016. The fund provides scholarship support to students whose research closely aligns with that of the institute’s faculty.

In creating the fund, Craigie hopes to help the institute foster the next generation of counterterrorism specialists whose work Craigie believes will create a safer world not only for current generations, but for future ones as well.

“I was fortunate to have received a fellowship for graduate studies, and I want to be able to give something back and help young scholars do work that’s extremely important—not just for me and my family, but for the civilized world,” Craigie says. “I’d certainly encourage other alumni who have the resources, large or small, to find some part of the university that excites them and see what they can do to help.”

Craigie continues to stay involved with Georgia State by serving on the College of Arts and Sciences’ Board of Visitors and its Burning Bright campaign committee—and she says she is looking for additional ways to support an institution that has had such a lasting impact on her life.
Under this guiding principle, Ken, who enjoyed a successful career at Georgia-Pacific, Koch Industries and other companies, eagerly supported Connie as new and better professional opportunities came her way. These opportunities included accounting roles at Ernst & Young, followed by a steady climb up the corporate ladder at The Coca-Cola Company, including division finance manager roles in Thailand and Germany and vice president-level finance and accounting roles at the company’s headquarters in Atlanta.

Connie attributes much of her success to her diligent work ethic; a field (professional services) and company (Coca-Cola) that were supportive of women; and the excellent education and soft skills she gained at Georgia State—which Ken also credits for much of his success.

Both Connie and Ken have a long history of giving of their time, talent, connections and resources stretching all the way back to graduation from the J. Mack Robinson College of Business when they began supporting their alma mater with generous annual gifts. Connie has served on the Robinson College Advisory Board and as an Honors Program Mentor; Ken was involved as a professor of accountancy as well as a faculty advisor for Beta Alpha Psi.

Now retired, the McDaniels are deeply committed to continuing their support of education. Having already established a scholarship in the Robinson College, the couple wanted to do even more for the university.

Connie had been involved in giving her time and connections to support the launch of the Women Lead program, and she and Ken wanted to make a significant impact on this new initiative and on the Robinson College.

An undergraduate leadership program offered by the business school, the Women Lead initiative encourages female students to aspire to leadership positions in their careers. The program’s signature component is the Women Lead in Business course, which offers lectures, guest speakers, corporate visits and mentoring opportunities for students.

“Georgia State is on the forefront of innovation in education.”

Married in 1987, Georgia State University alumni Connie and Ken McDaniel enjoy a union Ken describes as the quintessential partnership: Opportunities that benefit one of them benefit both of them.

Connie and Ken McDaniel: Supporters of Each Other and Of Georgia State University
Over several meetings with Nancy Mansfield, a faculty member in the Robinson College and the Honors College, Ken decided to surprise Connie and endow a Women Lead professorship in their names. Indeed, Connie was surprised and thrilled when Richard Phillips, dean of the Robinson College, announced at an October 2015 Women Lead reception that Ken had established the Connie and Ken McDaniel Professorship fund. The fund creates and endows a faculty role for the Women Lead in Business course.

“I was excited. The Women Lead program really clicked with me,” Connie says. “I know how important it is, particularly for undergraduate women, to get the leadership lessons in that stage of their development, as opposed to later, when most of us entered the workforce.”

Ken concurs, “Georgia State is on the forefront of innovation in education, and I think the Women Lead program is a wonderful example of that. Connie was very fortunate to work for a company that supported women’s initiatives, but you read that glass ceilings are still out there. I hope the program helps shatter those ceilings and gives women the opportunities everyone deserves.”

Nancy Mansfield is incredibly grateful for the McDaniel’s support of the Women Lead program. “The Connie and Ken McDaniel Women Lead Professorship is an enduring way of ensuring that the university will publicly endorse and honor outstanding faculty in perpetuity,” says Mansfield. “It honors the work of faculty who contribute to the mission of Women Lead—to empower undergraduate women to aspire to and achieve leadership roles.”

Furthermore Mansfield says, “The professorship elevates the importance of what we do, it provides a platform for important research, and it sustains the Women Lead program, providing transformative educational experiences for our students and opening doors for women. Connie and Ken’s hearts and minds are committed to unlocking the full potential of our students and placing them on a trajectory for success. The endowed professorship will make sure their legacy continues—and we are most grateful.”

“The gift honors the work of faculty who contribute to the mission of Women Lead”
With gratitude, Georgia State relies on the invaluable support provided by the following new endowments established between July 1, 2015, and June 30, 2016.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Endowment Name</th>
<th>Donors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baker Family Distinguished Student Award</td>
<td>Edward H. and Ilene W. Baker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ken Bernhardt Community Impact Award</td>
<td>Kenneth L. and Katherine S. Bernhardt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frank H. and Karen P. Boykin Recovery Scholarship at GSU</td>
<td>Frank H. and Karen P. Boykin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bruschini Scholarship for Community Service Involvement</td>
<td>Patricia A. Bruschini</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary N. Long Scholarship</td>
<td>Wallace T. Coopwood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Craigie International Security Scholars Fund</td>
<td>George W. Beislwanger Endowed Award</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-South Scholarship</td>
<td>Margaret C. Deborde</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E.D. (Jack) Dunn Research Fund</td>
<td>Robert Gillian Endowed Scholarship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert Gillian Endowed Scholarship</td>
<td>Robert H. Gillian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richard Andrew Grant Scholarship</td>
<td>Richard A. Grant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sue Henderson Athletic Scholarship</td>
<td>Sue Henderson Scholarship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sue Henderson Scholarship</td>
<td>Sue E. and Lisle M. Henderson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Jemel Holloman Memorial Scholarship</td>
<td>Daryl B. Holloman and Glynis V. Williams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leslie Cecilia Jackson Scholarship</td>
<td>Leslie C. Jackson Ph.D.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anderson Family Scholarship</td>
<td>G. Eric and Alison A. Jacobs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cassi Makani Wimmingham Memorial Scholarship</td>
<td>C. David and Elizabeth H. Johnston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. William H. Langdon and Family Scholarship</td>
<td>William H. Langdon Ph.D.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Connie and Ken McDaniel Professorship—Women Lead in Business</td>
<td>W. Ken and Connie D. McDaniel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respiratory Therapy Legacy Endowment Fund</td>
<td>William C. Pate Chair in International Public Relations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lorene C. Pflcher Endowed Scholarship</td>
<td>Lorene C. Pflcher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia State University Physical Therapy</td>
<td>Dominic and Dawn Popelński</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knox D. Porter Endowed Scholarship</td>
<td>Knox D. Porter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas and Wendy Reiman Scholarship</td>
<td>Thomas J. and Wendy W. Reiman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alonzo F. and Norris B. Herndon Human Rights Endowed Scholarship</td>
<td>Rich Foundation Inc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David A. Stonecipher Scholarship</td>
<td>David A. and Nancy B. Stonecipher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timothy Jon Bartness Memorial Fund</td>
<td>Phang-Cheng and Ying-Mei Tai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richard F. Tigler RCB Honors Study Abroad Scholarship</td>
<td>Richard F. Tigler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larry and Gwen Walker Award in Art</td>
<td>Larry M. and Gwendolyn E. Walker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert S. Williford EB Medicine Scholarship</td>
<td>Stephanie A. Williford</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For Fiscal Year 2016
FOUNDATION ENDOWMENT POOL BALANCE

ANNUAL FOUNDATION EXPENDITURES
for the benefit of Georgia State University

FOUNDATION TOTAL ASSETS

Funds Raised

GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION INC.
FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS
For Fiscal Year 2016
The Georgia State University Foundation extends its gratitude to this premier group of individuals and organizations in recognition of their cumulative gifts totaling $1 million or more. Members of our Leaders Circle and their groundbreaking gifts provide fundamental support of the university’s mission as a premier research institution.
Members of the Benefactors Circle have made transformative gifts to Georgia State University totaling $100,000 to $999,999. The university is grateful for the gifts made by these esteemed individuals and organizations.
The Legacy Circle recognizes alumni and friends who have included Georgia State University Foundation in their estate plans. These enduring gifts made by our Legacy Circle members ensure the long-term security and excellence of the university.
The Partners Circle represents those donors whose gifts totaled $1,000 or more between July 1, 2015 and June 30, 2016. These annual gifts provide vital support for Georgia State University.
The donor lists in this publication include gifts made between July 1, 2015, and June 30, 2016. Every effort has been made to ensure all information is accurate. We welcome your feedback. Please contact Kim Cretors, Director of Donor Relations, at 404-413-3424 or kcretors@gsu.edu.

Georgia State University, a unit of the University System of Georgia, is an equal opportunity educational institution and an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer.

A. Jay Schwantz  
Louis B. Scott  
Cyntia D. Solano-Simon  
Cay M. Stricklerford  
Susan H. Stoneham  
David L. and Virginia E. Spoulet  
Harold D. and Tonya N. Skipper  
Barbara Smith  
Breeda D. and Richard W. Smith  
James and Monica A. Smith  
Joseph B. Smith  
Karin K. and Mary H. Smith  
Richard M. and Lynne C. Smith  
Caton Smyre  
Ebenee P. Snow  
Preston Snyder and Ceci M. Fetch  
Stanley H. and Deborah G. Sonenshine  
Chris P. Szosak  
Jesse J. Spikes  
Robert E. and Ann S. Sproule  
James A. and Gail E. Stier  
Trevis L. Stewa  
Jeff and Kathy Stevely  
Michael P. and Donna F. Stevens  
Evan E. and Tracy Shifman  
Heiner Sch  
Barbara S. Sunday  
C. Dwight and Wynn H. Tabor  
Wendy Talos and Jamie Theriot  
M. Brandon Talley  
Anissa Tarnacacua  
Mark E. Tate  
Patricia E. Tate  
Mark C. and Judith G. Taylor  
Ruby E. Taylor  
Scott E. and Carol H. Taylor  
Wallace F. F. Taylor  
Richard J. Terrell  
Susan M. Thomas  
Webb and Arroise C. Thomes  
William K. and Jenene J. Thomas  
J. Pelier Thompson  
Richard F. Tigges  
Dolani L. Todt  
James A. and Laura T. Travolta  
Shawn K. and Joanne E. Trotter  
Jim A. Trefz  
M. Hugh Turner  
W. Richard and Ilonna Tupen  
G. Todd Tyson  
Alonye K. and Joy A. Umogo  
W. Keith and Sandra Valentine  
Arthur and Catherine Vanderberg  
John and Steve Villeneuve  
Erik and Diane J. Vincent  
Steven D. Weaver  
Stanley A. Welker  
Bingham and Swing Wang  
Kurt Wescorner  
Calvin S. and Karen S. Weiers  
Bradford L. Watkins  
Wade P. Weisb  
Honora P. and Susan B. Webb  
James W. and Beth Webster  
Howard J. and Joan W. Weisner  
Donald J. Wett  
James R. and Toyana Weitbey  
Samuel W. Welnern and Jane E. Cronin  
Johan E. White  
Denise C. White and Sarah E. Wynn  
Reid T. Wi  
John F. Whitehead and Deborah T. Maika  
C. Nevile Whiteacre  
Jason N. and Alyson Wiggens  
Andrew J. and Betty S. Wiggins  
Walter Witzynski  
Jason Winks and Stephanie A. Everett  
Dennis C. and Angela Wilks  
Brian A. and Rhya Williams  
Christine A. Williams  
D. Richard Williams  
David H. and Kathleen G. Williams  
John E. and Lisa Williams  
Michael M. Williams  
Richard A. Wines  
Carol K. Wilks and William Newman  
Douglas M. and Shurina W. Winkuk  
Joseph W. Widtman  
Andrew D. and Mary Field Wix  
Thomas C. Wibird  
Deborah A. Wrigg  
Leslie E. Wolf  
John S. and Lani L. Wong  
Robert R. Woodburn  
Calvin R. Wright and Angela D. Dunagan  
Richard T. Wright  
David M. Zewnky  
Zulfi Zekic  
Norman L. and Harnet J. Zaler  
Michelle L. Zuns  
* Deceased

* Deceased