

# Newsroom

March 14, 2013

Georgia Southern University

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# Five Appointed to Herty Advisory Board

MARCH 14, 2013

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Georgia Southern University President Brooks Keel, Ph.D. has named two new members to the Herty Advanced Materials Development Center Advisory Board. The new additions, combined with three previous appointments by Georgia Governor Nathan Deal, will be responsible for providing valuable business and industry expertise to Herty's leadership team.

The two new members include: R. Timothy "Tim" Evans, president of Evans General Contractors and Larry Montague, president and chief executive officer of TAPPI, the world's largest professional organization for the pulp, paper and packaging industries.

"We are excited to welcome both Tim and Larry to Herty's Advisory Board," said Keel. "Georgia Southern University's Herty Advanced Materials Development Center is

a world-class research, development and demonstration facility for the non-wovens industry, as well as the pulp and paper and the emerging bioenergy and biomaterials industries. I am confident that their business and industry expertise will prove to be a valuable resource for Herty moving forward."

On Feb. 15, Governor Deal named the following individuals to the Advisory Board: Phil Jones, director of New Ventures and Disruptive Technologies for Imerys; G. Scott McCoy, a former grain merchandising specialist with White Commercial Corporation and third-generation tree farmer; and Trip Tollison, interim president and chief executive officer of the Savannah Economic Development Authority.

During its 75-year history, Herty has become recognized as a leading new product and process accelerator providing technical, market and development expertise to its clients. Herty is building on its extensive pilot-scale capabilities for prototyping new products and de-risking the commercialization process. Recently, the Center announced a nearly \$2 million investment in Savannah to create the first fully integrated pilot pellet mill in the U.S.

"We are extremely pleased with the depth and experience of the industry and community leaders that Governor Deal and Dr. Keel have selected for our Advisory Board," said Alexander A. Koukoulas, Ph.D., Herty's president and CEO. "Their contributions and leadership will add great value to Herty. I look forward to working with them to support Herty's mission for advancing new technology development and job creation within the state of Georgia."

Located near the Georgia Ports Authority on Brampton Road in Savannah, Ga., manufacturers from throughout the U.S. and Europe seek out Herty for assistance with their materials innovation needs. As a result, Herty continues to not only grow its business portfolio, but expand and enhance economic development in the state of Georgia.

## **Herty Advisory Board Biographies**

### **G. Scotty McCoy**

Scotty McCoy is a third-generation tree farmer from Washington County, Ga. He served as a board member of the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority in Atlanta, Brentwood School in Sandersville, First Federal Savings and Loan in Sandersville, and Chem-Nut, Inc. in Albany. Scotty has worked as a Grain Merchandising Specialist for White Commercial Corporation in Stuart, Fla.

### **J. Philip E. "Phil" Jones, Ph.D.**

Phil Jones is the director, New Ventures & Disruptive Technologies for Imerys. He earned a bachelor's degree in physics from King's College, University of London in 1970 and a Ph.D. in physics (solid-state properties of synthetic kaolins) from the University of London. In 1975, he joined English China Clays plc, which is now a part of Imerys. In 1979, Jones transferred to ECC International's lab in Sandersville, Ga., where he became vice president, Technology. While there he built a Technology Center for studying pigment applications in paper, polymers, paints and ceramics. His work has concentrated on developing and understanding the mechanisms for white mineral pigment performance where pigment characterization and ways of structuring mixed mineral systems have allowed micro and nano- engineering.

### **Larry Montague**

Larry Montague is the president and CEO of TAPPI, the world's largest professional organization for the pulp, paper and packaging industries. TAPPI is a registered not-for-profit, international non-governmental organization of about 14,000 member engineers, scientists, managers, academics and others involved in the areas of pulp and paper. Prior to joining TAPPI in 2006, Montague was from The Newark Group, an integrated global producer of 100% recycled paperboard and paperboard products with manufacturing and marketing operations in North America and Europe, and served as vice president, sales and marketing, responsible for \$185 million in sales. Montague earned his B.B.A. in marketing from the University of Memphis (formerly Memphis State University) in 1977.

### **R. Timothy "Tim" Evans**

Tim Evans is president of Evans General Contractors, which provides comprehensive design/build and general contracting services to corporate, institutional and developer clients. Evans General Contractors is committed to meeting their client's needs and exceeding their expectations by delivering quality facilities, on schedule, at the most competitive prices. The company is headquartered in Atlanta and has offices in Savannah. Tim has served on the board of trustees for Georgia Southern University for the past three years. He has also served on the advisory board for the School of Construction Management. Evans is a part of the Georgia Chamber of Commerce and several other organizations that allow him to involve himself in the surrounding communities. He attended the Georgia State University program for Construction Management and the University of Georgia where he received a degree from the School of Business Administration in 1982.

### **Trip Tollison**

Trip Tollison is the interim president/CEO of the Savannah Economic Development Authority (SEDA). Tollison is the former chief operating officer and vice president of the Savannah Area Chamber of Commerce and Visit Savannah. He received a degree from the School of Public and International Affairs from the University of Georgia. Upon graduation, he served as an aide in Georgia and Washington for U.S. Senator Sam Nunn. Afterwards, he went on to work as an aide to U.S. Congressman Jack Kingston in Washington and in Coastal Georgia. Tollison is active with several community organizations and currently serves on the Board of Directors of USO Savannah, America's Second Harvest Food Bank, the

Rotary Club of Savannah and the Savannah/Chatham Metropolitan Planning Organization. Tollison is also the Honorary Small Wing Commander for the 165th Airlift Wing, Georgia Air National Guard and a graduate of Leadership Savannah and Leadership Georgia.

Georgia Southern University, a Carnegie Doctoral/Research University founded in 1906, offers more than 120 degree programs serving more than 20,500 students. Through eight colleges, the University offers bachelor's, master's and doctoral degree programs built on more than a century of academic achievement. Georgia Southern is recognized for its student-centered approach to education. Visit: [www.georgiasouthern.edu](http://www.georgiasouthern.edu).



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# New Vice President for Business and Finance Named at Georgia Southern

MARCH 14, 2013



Georgia Southern University President Brooks Keel, Ph.D. has named Robert Whitaker, vice president for business and finance. Whitaker will begin his new role on May 1 and will replace Ron Core, Ph.D., who is retiring from the University.

Prior to joining Georgia Southern, Whitaker had served as vice president for finance and administration at Georgia Highlands College in Rome, Ga. since 2008. He was responsible for the leadership, planning and management of the accounting, budget, campus safety, physical plant, procurement and auxiliary functions of the multi-campus, two-year state college of more than 5,500 students.

From 2001-2008, he served as director of business services at Southern Polytechnic State University in Marietta, Ga. where he also served as interim controller and negotiated auxiliary contracts for housing, food service, vending and the bookstore.

Whitaker began his career in higher education as assistant budget director for the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia, and has served as a budget analyst for the Legislative Budget Office and as a health and financial analyst at the Georgia Department of Medical Assistance in Atlanta, Ga. As a complement to his public sector work, he served as controller at PMG.net, Inc. in Atlanta, where he was responsible for the accounting function including payroll, accounts receivable and accounts payable. He also served as director of operations/financial analyst for Cotelligent, Inc. in Branchburg, N.J.

"During the last 13 years, Rob's roles in higher education and participation in system-wide projects and initiatives have allowed him to develop strong working relationships with key University System of Georgia leaders and staff," said Keel. "Not only is he a great leader, but he demonstrated a creative and entrepreneurial spirit during his interviews, both of which will be key to our success moving forward."

"As an alumnus of Georgia Southern, I am excited to return to my alma mater and contribute as a member of President Keel's senior leadership team," said Whitaker. "It is an exciting time to join Georgia Southern and I am looking forward to helping the University to continue to grow as a national research university."

Whitaker is a graduate of the University System of Georgia's Executive Leadership Institute and has served as a chair and member for numerous committees. He is Six Sigma Green Belt certified. He earned a bachelor's in business administration – accounting from Morehead State University and his MBA from Georgia Southern University.

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Congratulations to #GeorgiaSouthern @GSCOSM alumnus Nick Wiley ('83) who was recently named the chief conservation officer of @DucksUnlimited ! [ow.ly/BhVW30hkDJR](https://ow.ly/BhVW30hkDJR)



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