



College of Family and
Consumer Sciences
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

2025 ANNUAL REPORT



UGAFACS



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UGA COLLEGE OF FAMILY
AND CONSUMER SCIENCES

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UNIVERSITY OF
GEORGIA
College of Family and
Consumer Sciences

A message from Dean Zvonkovic

At the heart of everything we do in FACS is our shared commitment to strengthening people and communities. We do this by producing innovative research on families, nutrition, textiles, housing, finances, and more.

We do it by creating unique opportunities for our students to pursue experiential learning, both here and abroad, with an emphasis on investing in communities through creative problem-solving.

And we are embedded in communities across the state through our Extension and outreach efforts, making tangible impacts on the health and well-being of Georgians everywhere.

I'm proud of our faculty, staff, and students for the passion they bring to our college every day, working together with the shared goal of simply making lives better for everyone.

This new format for our annual report showcases the accomplishments of faculty in teaching, research, and outreach. I hope you will find it as impressive as I do!

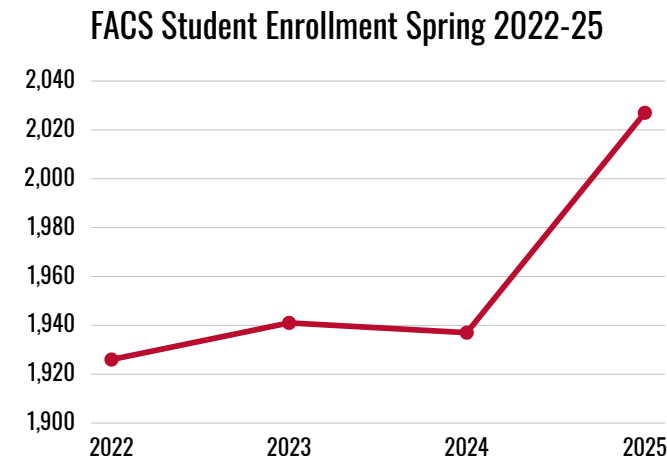
Anisa Zvonkovic
Dean, College of Family and Consumer Sciences



TEACHING

ENROLLMENT GROWTH

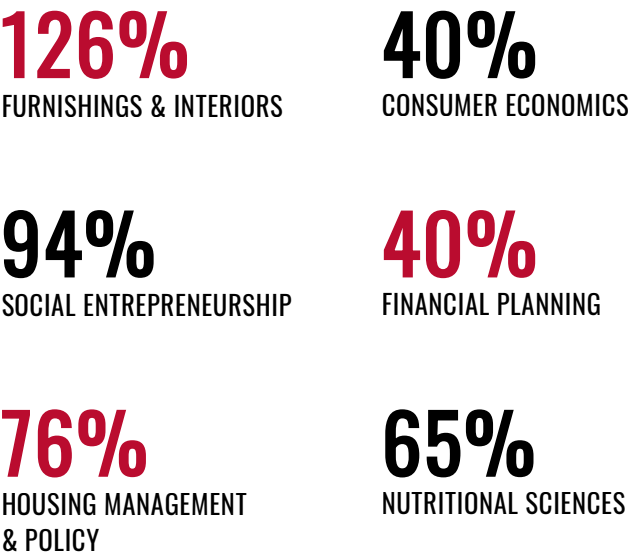
FACS student enrollment continues to grow, with an overall increase of more than 4% from spring 2024 – spring 2025.



STUDY AWAY PROGRAM LOCATIONS



PROGRAM GROWTH SPRING 2022-25



SCHOLARSHIPS

FACS has a large network of generous donors and alumni who feel strongly about supporting our students. This allows FACS majors to dream big and explore a wide variety of academic and study away opportunities they might not otherwise be able to experience.

Receiving the Julia Ann Simpson Elliott Scholarship was such an honor. This scholarship not only provided me with financial assistance but also ignited a greater determination in me to reach my academic goals. One of the most notable effects of this award was the freedom it gave me to dedicate more time to my studies and participate in leadership and professional development opportunities within FACS.

Anna Faye Dupree, '25



STUDY AWAY



ACADEMICS & MERIT

UNDERGRADUATE



GRADUATE



DEPARTMENT-SPECIFIC



RESEARCH IMPACT

Across four departments, FACS research follows human well-being from the cell to the household to the marketplace, spanning maternal and child nutrition, adolescent brain development and financial security to the materials we live in and wear, and more. In 2025 that breadth converged into a single body of work: 206 peer-reviewed publications, \$6M in awards in FY25, and rising national standing built on deep interdisciplinary collaboration.

BY THE NUMBERS

206

peer-reviewed publications

57

cross-disciplinary
publications

196

national & international
presentations

\$5.6M

in expenditures (FY25)

67%

of tenure-track faculty
externally funded

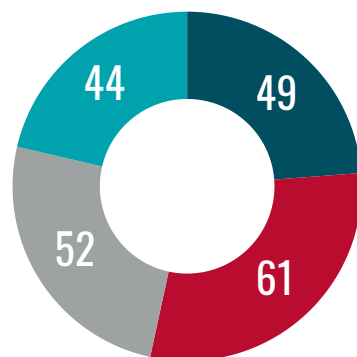
\$6.2M

in awards (FY25)

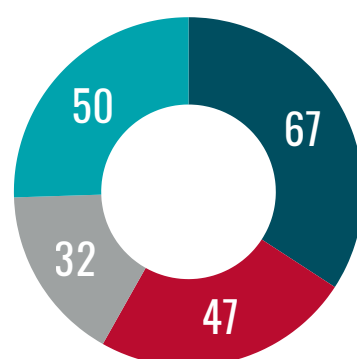
\$23M

in proposals (FY25)

PUBLICATIONS



PRESENTATIONS



● FHCE ● HDFS ● NUTR ● TXMI

SIGNALS OF NATIONAL STANDING

NATIONALLY-RANKED PROGRAMS

(Academic Analytics)

- Dietetics #2
- Nutritional Sciences #13
- Fashion Merchandising Top 10
- HDFS Top 10

40+ EDITORIAL & ASSOCIATE-EDITOR APPOINTMENTS

CARLA SCHWAN

received the National
Extension Association
Food Safety Award

~1 IN 4 FACS PUBLICATIONS CROSSED DISCIPLINARY LINES

ALISON BERG

placed first for
community-engaged
research at an
NIH/NCATS forum

SURAJ SHARMA & SERGIY MINKO

inducted into National
Academy of Inventors as
Senior Members

JOHN GRABLE & LU FAN

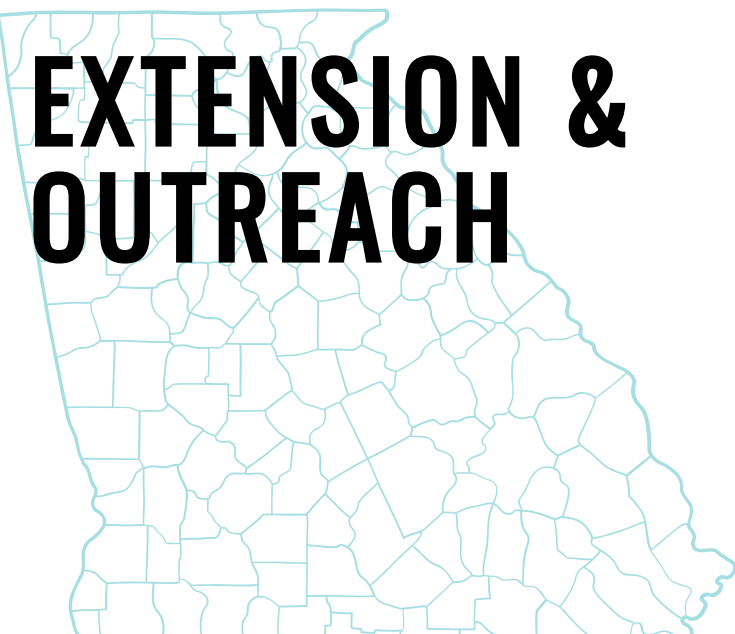
named to world's top 2% of
scientists (Stanford/Elsevier)

KIMBERLY WATKINS

named among "20
People Who Will Shape
Wealth Management
in 2026"

UGA CHARLES B. KNAPP EARLY CAREER SCHOLAR AWARD

given to Yilang Peng



EXTENSION & OUTREACH

Across Georgia's 159 counties, FACS Extension transforms research into practical solutions that improve health, strengthen families, increase financial capability, enhance food safety, and build more resilient communities.

In 2025, FACS Extension and Outreach generated more than **\$8.36 million** in documented economic benefits while delivering evidence-based programs that improved the lives of Georgians in every region of the state.

SIGNATURE PROGRAMS



Georgia Farm Again
20 years of supporting farmers, veterans, and agricultural workers.

108 farmers served | **383** trained | **\$87K** in assistive technology & modifications | **12K+** producers reached



Love and Money Center
Affordable mental health and financial well-being services while training future professionals.

116 clients served | **449** counseling sessions | **225** financial coaching sessions | **106K+** client savings generated



Health Extension
Launched in 2025 to expand statewide access to evidence-based health programming.

20 agents statewide

FOUR AREAS OF IMPACT



HEALTH & WELL-BEING

1.2M
people reached through SNAP-Ed initiatives

313 lbs
lost through Diabetes Prevention Program

\$122,904
projected annual healthcare savings

THRIVING & SOCIAL SUPPORT

435
couples reached through Elevate Couples Georgia

155
Mental Health First Aid participants trained

ASSETS & RESOURCES

2,835
VITA tax returns completed

\$1.13M
saved in tax preparation fees

\$6.3M
returned to households through refunds

SAFE & HEALTHY ENVIRONMENTS

\$760,938
in avoided foodborne illness costs

1,682
radon test kits distributed

BY THE NUMBERS

191,088 face-to-face contacts	2,140 volunteers engaged	11 Extension specialists
4,360 programs delivered	\$8.36M economic benefit	42,496 educational contact hours
59 FACS agents statewide	717 ServSafe® certifications	\$6.07M sponsored funding awarded

ECONOMIC IMPACT FOR GEORGIA

	\$7.4M tax savings and refunds through VITA
	\$43.7M in community housing investments (GICH)
	\$103 PER MONTH amount clients reported to save or gain

DEVELOPMENT & ALUMNI RELATIONS

FY25 FUNDRAISING OVERVIEW

21,498

solicitable alumni

\$2.6M

raised

5,471

GOLD alumni
(graduates of the last decade)

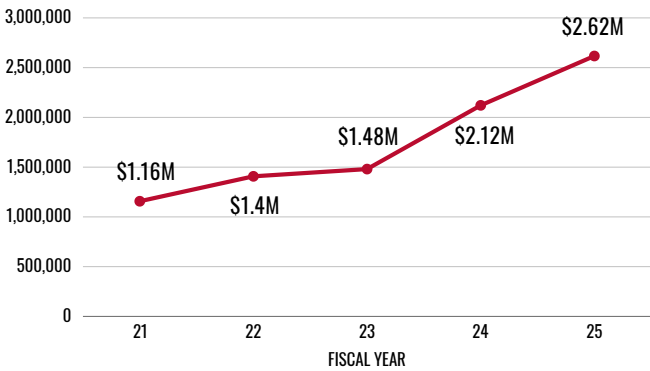
46%

donor retention

1ST PLACE

among schools/colleges during Beat Week

FUNDRAISING GROWTH



NOTABLE GIFTS



We received the first \$1 million outright gift from an individual donor in FACS history. Marilyn Russell Malnati gave to support the Nutritional Sciences Teaching Kitchen and Classroom Renovation.

We also received a \$1 million commitment from the Charles Schwab Foundation Fund for renovation of the Financial Resilience and Education Training Center.



ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT



2025 Alumni Awards
168 alumni and friends attended the event on February 21 at the Athens Country Club, including world-renowned bridal designer and FACS donor Anne Barge Clegg



FACS Family Road Trips
Strategic initiative to strengthen relationships among alumni, staff, faculty, and friends of FACS, fostering professional networking opportunities, enhancing community engagement, and promoting lifelong connections to support the mission and growth of the college

ALUMNI BOARD

The Alumni Board, under the leadership of President Anna Morris, had a productive year focused on enhancing alumni connections and supporting the college’s mission.



16 total members

3 new members

2 annual giving initiatives supported

RECIPE FOR SUCCESS

FACS hosted “A Recipe for Success” with more than 200 guests in attendance. The program featured three FACS alumni cookbook authors: Ivy Odom, Anne Byrn, and Vera Stewart.

The event opened with a fireside chat led by Anna Morris, President of the FACS Alumni Board. She facilitated a discussion with the authors about their careers and experiences as FACS graduates. After the program, guests visited different rooms throughout The Hill, where each author was stationed. Attendees could meet the authors, purchase their cookbooks, have them signed, and take photos.

The event served as a new engagement opportunity for alumni, friends, and community members while highlighting the accomplishments of FACS graduates.

CRESWELL CIRCLE

The Creswell Circle, launched in November 2024, continues to recognize and celebrate the generosity of FACS donors and corporate partners who contribute \$1,500 or more in cumulative gifts during the fiscal year. Named after Mary Ethel Creswell, the first dean of the college, the Creswell Circle not only honors her legacy but also enhances our ability to build meaningful relationships with our supporters. As a token of appreciation, members receive a custom print, a personal letter from the dean expressing gratitude for their support, and special recognition at the Alumni Awards, where Creswell Circle ribbons are added to name tags.

