From: UWG Staff Listserv [ALL-STAFF@westga.edu] on behalf of Dr. Beheruz N. Sethna [bsethna@westga.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, January 12, 2005 10:38 AM
To: ALL-STAFF@westga.edu
Subject: The University of West Georgia

It is now official! A short while ago (Wednesday, January 12, 2005), the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia (USG) voted to approve a name change for the State University of West Georgia. The institution will now be known as the University of West Georgia (UWG).

Rarely have I seen as much consistency of opinion on any issue as I have on the matter of the desired name for our university. Alumni, faculty, staff, students, supporters and friends from the community were all strongly supportive of the change of name to the University of West Georgia. We have actively sought this change since 1996, and are very grateful to Chancellor Thomas Meredith, Senior Vice Chancellor Dan Papp, and the entire Board of Regents for making it possible.

As UWG approaches the centennial celebration of its founding in 1906, this name change reflects the historical maturation of the institution. Established as the Fourth District Agricultural and Mechanical School, it became West Georgia College in 1931 when an act by the Board of Regents designated it as a junior college.

In 1957, the institution was authorized to confer the B.S. degree in education, making it a four-year senior college unit of the USG. In 1967, graduate programs were approved at the masters level.

In 1996, the Board of Regents officially changed the name of West Georgia College to State University of West Georgia, and in 1999, we were authorized to offer UWG's first doctorate.

And, today, we are the University of West Georgia.

This name change may well be the precursor of even better and bigger things to come for UWG.

Costs for implementing the name change will be primarily limited to signage. Estimates total approximately $5,000 for new entrance signs to the campus.

As a cost control measure, I am specifically requesting that departments deplete current stocks of stationery, business cards, etc., prior to printing new supplies; exceptions to this practice requires VP-level approval. However, you certainly may - and indeed are encouraged - to inform your correspondents of the name change.

Best Wishes,

Beheruz N. Sethna

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