

HEADLINES

- [Institute Assists Georgia's First City-to-City Government Consolidation in Decades](#)
- [Customized MAXGOV Broadband Expansion Course Debuts in First Quarter of 2015](#)
- [Clarkesville Downtown Revitalization Efforts Informed through Institute Plan](#)

Read below about these and other stories.

[Institute Assists Georgia's First City-to-City Government Consolidation in Decades](#)

Leaders in the adjacent cities of McRae and Helena worked with faculty from the Institute's Local Government Services Program to create the first consolidated city government in Georgia in more than 90 years. (more)

Did you know?

The updated 2015 edition of *Compliance Auditing in Georgia Counties and Municipalities* is available as a free download.

[Learn more.](#)



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www.vinsoninstitute.org

Upcoming Events

Customized MAXGOV Broadband Expansion Course Debuts in First Quarter of 2015

County and city leaders throughout Georgia are gaining new insight into how Internet tools can improve efficiency and heighten citizen engagement through the MAXGOV broadband expansion course, which the Institute debuted this year. [\(more\)](#)

Clarkesville Downtown Revitalization Efforts Informed through Institute Plan

Leaders in the Northeast Georgia city of Clarkesville are implementing a downtown revitalization plan developed through the Institute's Renaissance Strategic Visioning and Planning (RSVP) collaboration with the Georgia Municipal Association. [\(more\)](#)

Institute Provides Certification Courses for Georgia Clerks and Finance Officers

Hundreds of local government leaders strengthened their professional skills at an educational conference the Institute coordinated in partnership with the Georgia Municipal Clerks and Finance Officers Association and the Georgia County Clerks Association. [\(more\)](#)

Battlefield Park Master Plan Helps Boost Local Tourist Economy

The Kettle Creek Battlefield Association is using an illustrated master plan prepared by the Institute this spring to help secure financial support to develop a Revolutionary War site. Supporters expect the battlefield park will enhance the Wilkes County tourist economy. [\(more\)](#)

Local Government Finance officers Gain Certification through Institute Training

Nearly two dozen finance officers from counties, cities, and local schools around Georgia recently attained Local Finance Officer Certification through the Institute's online and in-person continuing education courses. [\(more\)](#)

Shanghai Leaders Complete Long-Term Training Program Coordinated by Institute

Four Chinese government leaders gave presentations about their experiences in the Institute's six-month Shanghai Executive Training Program, through which visiting scholars work with American government officials and attend UGA courses. [\(more\)](#)

ACCG Annual Conference: April 17–20

Development Authority Training: May 7–8

GMA Annual Convention: June 26–30

Newsworthy Notable



Jennifer Nelson

Public Service Assistant

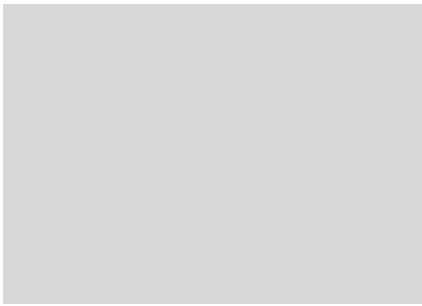
As part of the university's comprehensive statewide economic development outreach effort, Jennifer is coordinating the Institute's training programs serving development authority board members, economic development professionals, and elected officials. She also manages and develops training programs that strengthen governance and leadership skills, enhance planning and community engagement abilities, and expand financial management knowledge. She joined the Institute faculty in January after 16 years of service with the Georgia Department of Economic Development.

Our Partners in Training:



Vinson Fellows Select Policy Issues to Research with Institute Faculty Mentors

The students selected for spring semester's Vinson Institute Fellows Program are researching government capital investments, financial incentives for flood protection, and the effects of gendered language with faculty members Wes Clarke, Shana Jones, and Rusty Brooks. [\(more\)](#)



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