



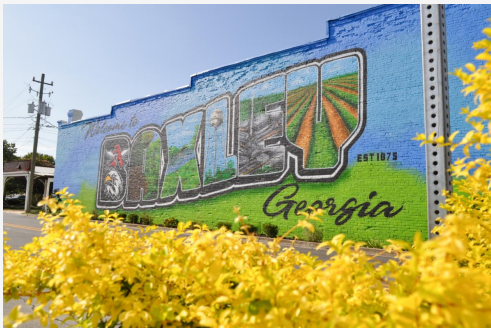
**UNIVERSITY OF
GEORGIA**
Carl Vinson
Institute of Government



CyberArch receives \$500,000 grant to expand cybersecurity

The **UGA CyberArch** program, facilitated by the Institute of Government, received a \$500,000 grant from Google to train and empower more students interested in cybersecurity careers and increase its impact across the state.

[Read more here.](#)



PROPEL growing, honored for economic development

The institute's **PROPEL (Planning Rural Opportunities for Prosperity and Economic Leadership)** program received a nearly \$186,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to expand into three more counties starting in January. The program also received top honors from the University Economic Development Association (UEDA) in October. [Read more here.](#)



Plan revealed to support defense communities

The **River Valley Community Compatible Development (RVCCD) Plan** provides strategic direction aligned with the military mission to protect rural character and support quality of life in communities surrounding the U.S. Army installation Fort Moore. [Read more here.](#)

Historic town benefitting from



strategic vision and plan

Ringgold, a town of nearly 3,500 nestled in the foothills of northwest Georgia, is booming thanks to an influx of grants awarded in part because of a **Renaissance Strategic Visioning and Plan (RSVP)** completed by the UGA Institute of Government in 2017. [Read more here.](#)

IN THE NEWS



WE KNOW GEORGIA

A vital part of UGA Public Service and Outreach, the Institute of Government is leading the way in highlighting the university's impact across Georgia. The "We Know Georgia" campaign showcases how UGA is using its expertise and resources to spur economic prosperity

across the state and uphold its commitment as a land-grant and sea-grant institution. Look for the We Know Georgia arrow for stories of resiliency, entrepreneurship, sustainability and economic prosperity across PSO units. [Learn more here.](#)



Workforce Conference addresses job training, talent

More than 300 participants attended the Innovating **Georgia's Workforce Pipeline Conference** Nov. 14-15 in Athens. Attendees heard compelling research from Institute of Government faculty and learned best practices from leaders in manufacturing, business, education and technology. The conference is a signature event of the recently launched **Georgia Workforce and**

City and county clerks from across Georgia earn certification

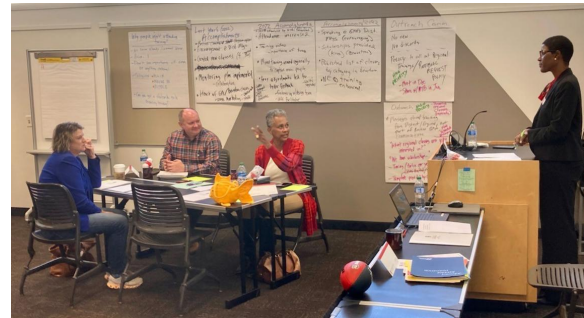


Congratulations to 30 clerks who were awarded certificates during the Georgia Clerks Education Institute in September. The Institute of Government's GCEI program establishes standards and professional goals for city and county clerks. [Learn more about the program.](#)

Professional planning retreat services available

UGA Institute of Government faculty and staff work directly with partners to tailor programs to fit the needs and specific issues concerning governments large and small.

[Schedule a planning retreat today.](#)



Georgia Public Defender Council Leadership Academy launched



The UGA Institute of Government recently launched the Georgia Public Defender Council Leadership Academy. The program is designed to help develop leadership skills among public defenders across the state and create a pipeline for growth in the field.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

UPCOMING EVENTS AND CONFERENCES

Georgia Clerks Education Institute Conference

Feb. 4-6, 2024
Jekyll Island

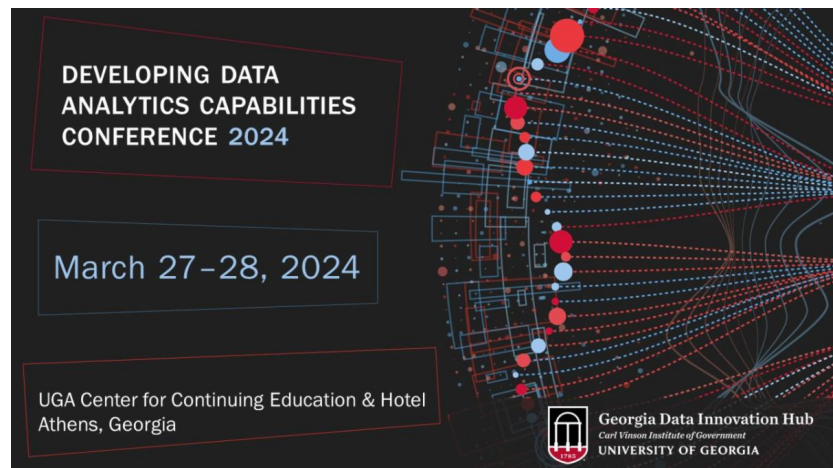
Georgia Association of Zoning Administrators Conference

Feb. 7-9, 2024

[More events here](#)

Register today!

Developing Data Analytics Capabilities Conference slated for March in Athens



Registration is now open for the second annual **Developing Data Analytics Capabilities Conference**, scheduled for March 27-28, 2024. Over two days, attendees will learn about recent innovations in data analytics and network with colleagues in the field. This year's conference will focus on how generative AI and advanced analytics will affect governments. Pre-conference workshops are available to those who want to take a deeper dive before the conference begins. [Register here.](#)

AROUND THE INSTITUTE

PROPEL Rural Scholars visit South Georgia over fall break



UGA students in the **PROPEL Rural Scholars** program made a site visit to Appling County Oct. 26-28. The group met business owners in downtown Baxley, toured a peanut processing plant, and visited a farm. In January, the scholars will work with UGA Public Service and Outreach mentors and stakeholders on research projects to benefit economic growth in rural communities.

Vinson Fellows present final research projects



The **Vinson Institute Fellows Program** is an educational opportunity for UGA undergraduate students interested in state and local government. Students selected for the program learn about the institute's training, applied research and technical assistance initiatives under the tutelage of Institute of Government faculty and staff. During the fall 2023, Sara Anis Ali, Jai Gonzales and Meera Srinivasan (L-R) explored food insecurity and school absenteeism, home-based workers, and surveying hard-to-reach populations under the direction of **Jamil Sewell**, **Taylor Hafley** and **Brian Simmons**, respectively. The students presented results of their research to Institute of Government faculty and staff on Dec. 6.

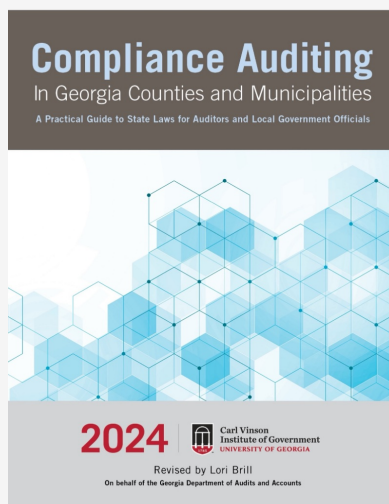
HONORS & RECOGNITION

Crabtree, Lupo honored at PSO appreciation event



Scott Crabtree, operations manager, was honored with a Public Service and Outreach Staff Award for Excellence at an appreciation event Oct. 26. The award acknowledges exceptional job performance, workplace creativity and innovation and commitment to service. Honorees receive a certificate, a cash award and an engraved crystal memento. Faculty member **Mark Lupo** was also recognized for securing a \$500,000 grant from Google to engage students in the UGA CyberArch program. Congratulations to both! [Read more here.](#)

DID YOU KNOW?



The UGA Institute of Government publishes the only guide for conducting a specific local government compliance audit. The guide includes a legal summary of finance-related provisions in the Official Code of Georgia Annotated for cities and counties and a comprehensive compliance checklist. Also included are listings of required audit reports and relevant organizations. Faculty member **Lori Brill** revised the new edition to reflect 2023 legislative changes, and it's available for **free** thanks to the Georgia Department of Audits and Accounts.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

You belong at the UGA Institute of Government!

Come join our team of dedicated professionals committed to excellence in government through training, research and policy analysis. Visit cviog.uga.edu for more information.



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