



RSVP supports \$2 million increase in downtown value

Homerville is transforming with help from the Institute of Government's strategic visioning process, which has helped increase their downtown's value by \$2 million. [Read more here](#)



Data conference addresses impact of AI on government

Timothy Chester, vice president for information technology at UGA, spoke on the practical uses of generative AI at the second annual Developing Data Analytics Capabilities Conference. [Read more here](#)



Workshop highlights defense communities and resilience

Military personnel, resilience experts and researchers learned how UGA is using nature-based solutions to strengthen military installations and their surrounding communities. [Read more here](#)

PROPEL expands to three new rural communities

Crisp, Emanuel, and Marion counties were



added to the roster of communities participating in PROPEL (Planning Rural Opportunities for Prosperity and Economic Leadership), the award-winning rural development program. [Read more here](#)

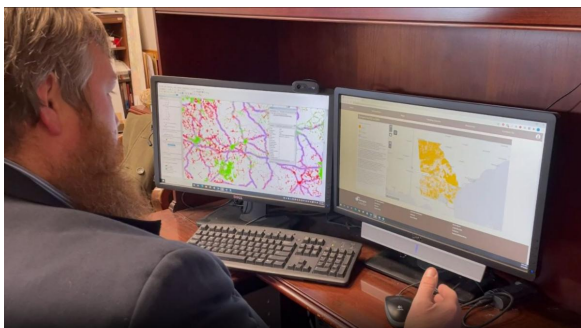
IN THE NEWS

Inaugural Data Analysis and Decision Making certificates issued



Twenty-five participants from state and local governments graduated from the first session of the Data Analysis and Decision Making for Government program this spring. Certificate holders completed 60 classroom hours at the UGA Gwinnett campus and created capstone presentations to share with their organizations. Program participants learn valuable skills regardless of their data experience, from data literacy to public speaking. Seasoned data professionals learn how to package and present data insights to executives, and those with less experience enhance their analytical capabilities. [Learn more here](#)

Broadband access map continues to make a difference



The institute's Georgia Broadband Accessibility Map continues to make a difference for communities across the state. The state of Georgia is now using the map for a broadband challenge process as it prepares to deploy funding from the \$1.3 billion Broadband, Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) program. By making sure the map is as up-to-date as

possible, challenges help BEAD funding go further to make sure more Georgians have broadband access. For more information about the process, visit the Georgia Technology Authority [website](#).

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

UPCOMING EVENTS AND CONFERENCES

Georgia Local Government Personnel Association (GLGPA) Spring Conference

June 4-7
Athens

American Public Works Association Summer 2024 conference

July 8-12
Jekyll Island

[More events here](#)

See you in Savannah!

GMA Annual Convention, June 21-25



UGA Institute of Government faculty and staff will be on site at the Georgia Municipal Association's Annual Convention June 21-25. Through its longtime partnership with GMA, the institute helps elected officials and city managers gain a deeper understanding of effective local governance through continuing education courses. Watch for exciting news about The Harold F. Holtz Municipal Training Institute at the convention!

HONORS & AWARDS

Bivins receives Hill Fellow Award for Distinguished Achievement



Danny Bivins was honored with the 2024 Walter Barnard Hill Fellow Award for Distinguished Achievement in Public Service and Outreach. Bivins' work focuses on partnerships that increase the economic development potential of communities and the state while providing valuable experiential learning opportunities to students. Bivins accepted the award at the 33rd annual Public Service and Outreach Meeting and Awards Luncheon in April. (L-R) Jennifer L. Frum, vice president, UGA Public Service and Outreach; Bivins; Rob Gordon, director, UGA Institute of Government; Jere W. Morehead, UGA president; S. Jack Hu, UGA senior vice president and provost. [Read more here](#)

Students recognized as UGA Student Employees of the Year



Garrison Taylor, a graduate assistant with the Institute of Government's design studio, was named UGA Graduate Student Employee of the Year. Taylor helped create designs for projects to improve small towns and rural communities that have received more than \$3 million in grants. Hannah Brown, a student worker in the CyberArch program, was runner-up for the undergrad award. Sponsored by the UGA Career Center, the awards are determined by a 10-member committee of faculty, staff and students from across campus. Six student workers from the Institute overall were celebrated as part of the Top 100 at a luncheon in April. (L-R) Danny

Four faculty promoted for commitment to service, outreach



JULIA B. HAAS

Public Service Associate;
Government Services
and Research



MELINDA MOORE

Public Service Associate;
Survey Research and
Evaluation Support



JOHN HULSEY

Senior Public Service
Associate; Governmental Training,
Education, and Development



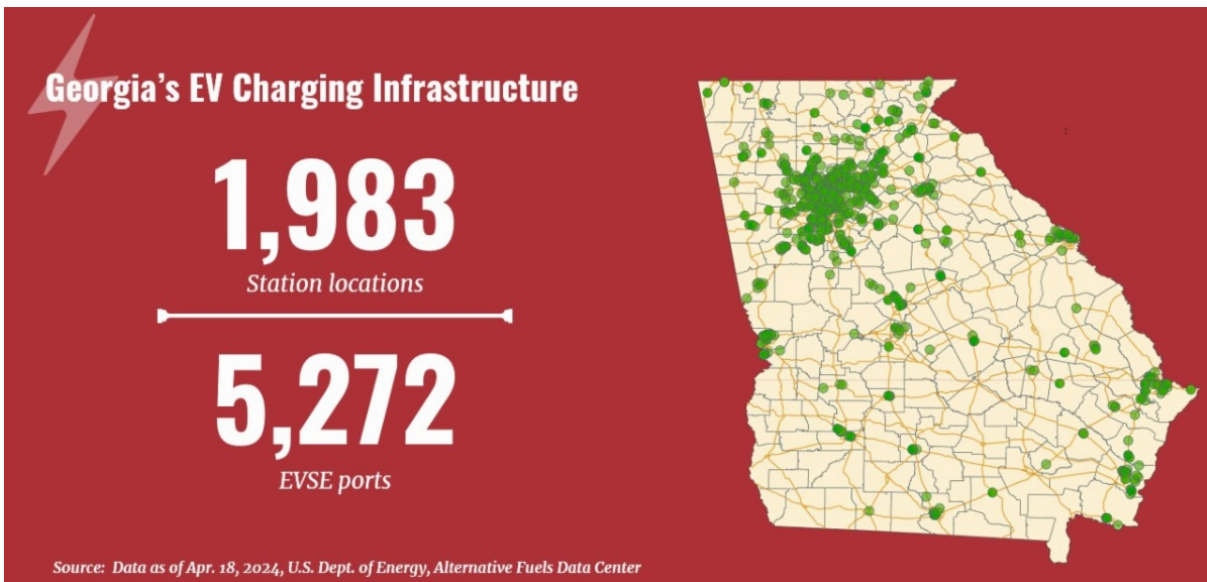
MARA O. SHAW

Senior Public Service
Associate; Governmental Training,
Education, and Development

In March, the UGA Institute of Government announced faculty promotions for Julia B. Haas, Melinda Moore, John Hulseley and Mara Shaw. These faculty members are experts in their fields, and dedicated to serving Georgia and its citizens. Every day, they work to inform, inspire and innovate so governments can be more efficient and responsive to citizens, address current and emerging challenges, and serve the public with excellence. Congratulations! [Read more here](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

UGA leads the way in e-mobility research and analysis



Did you know that the future of transportation is increasingly electric? That's one of the key takeaways the Institute of Government's Asher Dozier gave in his State of E-Mobility address at the university's third annual E-Mobility Summit April 23-24. Of note, Georgia is well-positioned to lead the nation in e-mobility and take advantage of economic development and socioeconomic opportunities that growth in the market is creating.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

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