



For half a century the Institute of Higher Education at the University of Georgia has been an intellectual leader of the first-order in the field of postsecondary education research and scholarship. With its genuinely distinguished faculty and students it continues to be an intellectual center of international renown. On a more personal note, I feel a deep sense of gratitude to the IHE for two reasons. First, it generously and enthusiastically supported Pat Terenzini's work on our first volume of *How College Affects Students*. And second, we were fortunate enough to attract Christopher Morphew from the IHE to the University of Iowa. Not only did Iowa get a fine scholar and colleague in Christopher, we also got a truly outstanding department chair. Congratulations on 50 years of extraordinary achievement and my sincerest wishes for 50 more!

Ernie Pascarella
University of Iowa



It is with the warmest regards that I send congratulations to my colleagues at the Institute of Higher Education at the University of Georgia on the occasion of the Institute's 50th anniversary. In my time in the field of higher education, the Institute has always been well regarded because it has gathered together wonderful scholars and students whose influence is felt widely in the field and at institutions of higher education across the globe. For me, that influence is magnified by the manner in which the people of the Institute approach their work. The kindness and deep caring that institute scholars and students bring to the table is genuine and often infectious. For that, I am extremely grateful.

Best wishes for continued success and influence in the next 50 years!

Thomas F. Nelson Laird
Indiana University School of Education



Congratulations on the occasion of your 50th year as one of the premier higher education programs in the world. During its half-century of service, the Institute of Higher Education (IHE) at the University of Georgia initially began as a resource for the university, state, and region. IHE has continued these valuable lines of service, but has also expanded its role and now serves as a national and international leader in higher education teaching, research, and service to the public good.

I have had the distinct pleasure of visiting IHE on a number of occasions to interact with the students and work on projects of mutual interest with my IHE faculty colleagues. The discussions with the students are always very interesting, and the research undertaken with IHE colleagues is highly rigorous but also conducted with an eye toward being useful to policymakers and practitioners alike.

The field of higher education is certainly better off because of the Institute of Higher Education's role in preparing future leaders, in being of service to the public, and of conducting research that helps inform theory and practice. Again, congratulations on your 50 years of service and best wishes for continued success.

Stephen DesJardins
University of Michigan



My Introduction to Cam Fincher and the Georgia Institute of Higher Education

I started attending ASHE meetings in the late 1970's. At that time, ASHE meetings were 1.5 to 2 days long and the meetings were held at the front end (or the back end, I cannot recall) of the annual meetings of the American Association of Higher Education (the now defunct AAHE). At one of those early meetings, I think it was in the early 80's, I somehow got invited to a gathering in John Smart's hotel room. I confess I was somewhat in awe at in addition to John Smart, Ernie Pascarella, Pat Terenzini, and a few other early career luminaries were in this crowded room.

About half way through evening, two older individuals came in whom I did not recognize. But it was clear others in the room did and that these two men held a position of status among those gathered. We got into a discussion of whether ASHE should meet separately from AAHE. Almost everyone thought ASHE should separate from AAHE and have a longer independent meeting of its own. In retrospect, I foolishly jumped into the conversation and said I thought it was good that the two organizations met together because many scholarly administrators might not otherwise attend ASHE. Very quickly one of the two men who had come in earlier said – "well that's too bad, if they don't come it shows they have not been socialized right by the faculty in their program." Everyone in the room agreed with that statement.

I asked later, who had made that statement. The response was, "You don't know who that was? That was Cam Fincher, the founder of the Georgia Institute." I then heard a good deal more about Cam's career and his impact and from that time on, I too listened carefully whenever he was nearby.

Don Hossler
Director of the Center for Postsecondary Research
Professor of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies
Indiana University Bloomington



Memories of the Institute for Higher Education

Whenever I read about the importance of keeping "good company" I think about the colleagues I met within the Institute for Higher Education (IHE). Being on the old campus side of the university places IHE is a unique and idyllic location. While at the time I was a doctoral student there was not a formal cohort in IHE, there was certainly an informal cohort. A group of us would gather socially after class and stroll to downtown Athens for lunch. We would even meet at the library to study and work on our own research most Saturdays culminating at the end of the day with a football game or an adventure to try a new bar-b-que place around the Athens area (some were definitely better than others).

I can say that this informal cohort was "good company" because we all finished degrees and are fairly successful individuals – that is if you think Deans, Vice Presidents, Executive Directors, and full professors are successful.

Vasti Torres, Ph.D. 1997



“The Institute of Higher Education at the University of Georgia has played an important role within the community of higher education scholars. The faculty within the Institute are well-respected researchers who help shape our understanding of higher education. The speaker series and other events sponsored by the Institute helps promote scholarship throughout the field. I know that my understanding of the future of research and education in the field of higher education was meaningfully advanced through my participation in the 50th anniversary celebration. I hope that the next 50 years at Georgia also contain much success.”

John Cheslock
Director, Center for the Study of Higher Education
Associate Professor, Higher Education Program
Penn State University