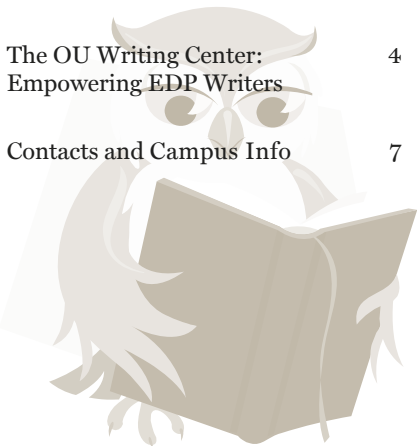


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# OGLETHORPE NIGHT CAP

*An newsletter written and produced by Evening Degree Program students*

MAKE A LIFE. MAKE A LIVING. MAKE A DIFFERENCE.



## TOWN HALL MEETING

THE EVENING DEGREE PROGRAM AND ITS FUTURE:  
WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

**WHO:** All Evening Degree Program students

**WHAT:** A discussion concerning the Evening Degree Program and its future

**WHEN:** Tuesday, March 25, 2008  
7:55 to 8:45 p.m.

Wednesday, March 26, 2008  
7:55 to 8:45 p.m.

**WHERE:** Great Hall, first floor of Hearst

Please come with your questions and comments. The same information will be shared at both meetings.

Please let us know you will be attending; send your name to [evening@oglethorpe.edu](mailto:evening@oglethorpe.edu).

Continue the discussion on Facebook; join the OU Evening Degree Program group located in Oglethorpe's Facebook network.

If you cannot make this meeting, please email or Facebook us your thoughts and questions. We will include your comments in the town hall discussion.

## A Spring Semester in Provence

By R. Barton Palmer, Ph.D.

While university professors are much esteemed by the general public, we customarily reap little in the way of financial reward. Most of us make less than the average osteopath. We rival pastors of small churches in the penury department. The attractions of the profession lie elsewhere. Obviously we enjoy the considerable privilege of teaching the young and their well-motivated elders. Little in life is more exciting, at least for us, than either the give-and-take of classroom discussion or the solitary pleasures of breaking intellectual ground preparing for a new course. But don't get me wrong, teaching is demanding labor. While we don't punch clocks, professors work long hours. And no little tedium is involved in the administrative labors we are obligated to perform, semester in, semester out. Burnout poses a constant threat, as it does in many lines of work. Not surprisingly, some find that the pressures of college teaching are simply too onerous to bear, especially at institutions that expect professors to do research and maintain a professional writing career.

But God in his mercy invented the sabbatical and the residential fellowship as sources of physical and intellectual

*(Continued on page 6)*

# GET TO KNOW

## YOUr Evening Degree Program Community

### Che' Middlebrooks: I Am Many Things

I am many things, but most of all I am grateful for all that I have experienced and done.

Believe it or not I am a native Atlantan and *proud* of it. I was born in and grew up in southwest Atlanta, and then my family moved to Decatur. My

summers were spent in Perry, Georgia, and Nashville, Tennessee, visiting family. There is something about the laidback atmosphere of the South that is really cool, although I could never live in a rural area, not my cup of tea. I've always loved the city lights and the vibe of the city, my city.

Growing up I was taught to appreciate all the rich culture of Atlanta by my parents and my grandmamma especially—GaGa, as she was affectionately called by all of us. Grandmamas are special. I spent many Sundays with her at Wheat Street Baptist Church on Auburn Avenue.

My parents are the *best*. I thank my parents for giving me life and for being my first teachers. I'm a daddy's girl, I'll admit; he taught me the joy of ice cream, and most importantly, he taught me patience. My mom and I have had some rough moments at times, but now that I'm a mom I totally understand where she was coming from, and I love her with all that I am. My mama is the *best* cook in the entire South without a doubt. She makes perfect potato salad and sweet potato pie (which I have finally learned to make myself). From the time I arrived on this planet (which just happens to be January 6, 1970, the Epiphany), I was taught that blackness meant beauty as well as greatness. My family made sure that I knew about the



civil rights movement, not just Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., but everyone from Atlanta that influenced the world. As a little girl I was exposed to art, music and theater. My greatest love of them all is definitely music. My parents have exquisite musical taste. My mama taught me to love Billie Holiday, and my daddy

taught me to love Miles Davis. They made sure that I appreciated jazz.

In the 1970s, when I was a little girl, I went to a small private Lutheran school, and I fondly remember that all of my teachers were kinda 'hippie' like. From them I learned to love the Beatles and disco, and I learned that the world was not just black and white; they taught me to love everybody regardless of color. This is the greatest blessing I've ever received from another person.

I went to Stone Mountain High School, and I believe that's where I found myself.

It was the 1980s, and it was so much fun that I would love to do it all over again. Really! I'm talkin' big fun in the '80s. The music of that decade especially is what stands out in my memories. My teenage years were when I developed my love for Prince, although I've been a devout fan since the tender age of 10. I knew immediately that he was something special. In a span of almost 30 years I have been to hundreds of Prince shows, met him and talked with him, danced with him numerous times; I've even gone to the movies with him

(Continued on page 3)

**"...erase all of the -isms, break free from whatever your phobias may be... and BE NICE."**

### To Our Day Student Friends

By Julie Jarrard

Maybe you've seen some of us around campus or even taken a class with us. We definitely can tell who you are.

You can probably more easily distinguish between day and night. That is, day and night students.

I can spot an 18 year old a mile away, or at least half a quad away. I can smell a day student easily. But I wonder what we look like to you. Like your parents? Older brother or sister? Or just anyone above 25?

I'm an Evening Degree Program student, formerly known as a University College student. The new name—which is only slightly more descriptive than the latter—and its acronym, EDP, sound to me too much like EPT, the early pregnancy test we see on shelves at drug stores. Nevertheless, I just think I'm an Oglethorpe student. Before I came here, I used to call it "night school." That conjures up old reruns of *Welcome Back Kotter*, a la John Travolta, pre-*Saturday Night Fever*, or Melanie Griffith in the movie *Working Girl*, with her "two years of night school" mockingly compared to her coworkers' Ivy League "traditional" day curriculum. Clearly

not in the same league.

But I'll bet we have more in common with each other than expected. We all have to register. Buy books. Worry about tests. Give up some amount of social life (some more than

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# YOUR EVENING DEGREE PROGRAM

## I Am Many Things

(Continued from page 2)

(me and other stalkers). The highlights of all these Prince memories would be the celebrations I have been to in Minnesota at...*his house*; during a show there I gave him purple roses which he in turn gave back to me, needless to say I've made sure that I'm buried with them! I've got lots of Prince tales. I'll end it on this note though, when he's in Atlanta, I *know* that I'm definitely one of his favorites; that's priceless to me.

I love anything purple... it's like an addiction.

I have a beautiful family. I have been married for eight years now... keepin' it real though, my husband takes me to the limit and gets on my *last* nerve most of the time but his heart is golden, and deep down he's a great guy. I have two of the most beautiful daughters in the world. Andie is my heart. She's 19, and to me she is the sister that I never had (I'm an only child). We have a lot of fun together. My baby girl is Sky; she's 7, and she tests me daily. She's a strong-willed little person, what can I say? They are pretty as peaches. I would die for either of them.

I've traveled to many of the states. I believe that you have to travel in order to learn, there's a huge world out there, so I need to get goin'! Before I die I pray that I am fortunate enough to visit Greece and Brazil. I just know that it's beautiful there. I have been to Africa, Spain, Mexico, Canada, the Bahamas, Jamaica and Puerto Rico, but I was always so glad to come home to Atlanta. I'll probably die here.

Of the places I've traveled, if I had to choose a favorite it would definitely be Florida because South Beach is there, my favorite play spot. It's the land of the "beautiful" people. I love the warm climate and beaches there, but more

(Continued on page 5)

*Editor's Note: This issue's Alumni Corner highlights the remarkable success of an Evening Degree Program graduate, Lauren Gay '06, who became the executive assistant to former U.S. President Jimmy Carter in 2006 after graduating from OU. Lauren's other most notable attribute is that she is my best friend from childhood and was most influential in encouraging me to consider the Oglethorpe Evening Degree Program.*

## Flexibility And Quality Made OU a Natural Choice



### ALUMNI CORNER:

#### Lauren Gay

*Night Cap:* What was your major and minor?

*Lauren Gay:* I was a history major and politics minor.

*NC:* What was your best memory at Oglethorpe?

*LG:* Graduation day! I loved my time at OU, but nothing can

describe the emotional exuberance of realizing the goal you set for yourself. I was able to reflect on the great people I'd met, the things I learned, and I was proud of my own achievement and the success of my classmates.

*NC:* Why did you choose to attend Oglethorpe's Evening Degree Program?

*LG:* I really liked that OU is a private university with an excellent reputation for liberal arts education. OU's size, its beautiful campus and the flexibility and quality of the evening program made it an attractive and natural choice for me.

*NC:* What elements of the Evening Degree Program did you like the most?

*LG:* I liked that I was able to continue to develop professionally while finishing my education. I did not want to sacrifice one for the other, and with the Evening Degree Program, I didn't. My professors were excellent, and I learned so much from each of them.

*NC:* What advice can you share with current Oglethorpe Evening Degree students?

*LG:* Keep going. You're getting a wonderful education. Even on days when you wish you could just go home after a hard day's work, it really will be over before you know it.

*NC:* Do you have the same expectations for your future now as when you entered Oglethorpe? When you graduated? Where do you see yourself five years from now?

*LG:* Part of the reason I chose OU to finish my education was to assume the position I now occupy. I don't know about the next five years, perhaps graduate school, but I will remain at The Carter Center. After that, who knows? I would like to stay in nonprofit/humanitarian work, but I'm open to wherever my career takes me, whether that is the UN, publishing or something completely unexpected. I am ready.

# YOUR EVENING DEGREE PROGRAM

## The Oglethorpe University Writing Center: Empowering EDP Writers

By Walena Bryant

*Editor's note: In our ongoing effort to support and strengthen the evening degree community, the Night Cap is highlighting campus resources important to your success and available at times that fit your schedule. In this issue of the Night Cap, Walena Bryant interviewed the director of Oglethorpe's Writing Center, Dr. Jeanne McCarthy, as well as a student tutor, Olivia Rocamora, to gain perspective on what you can expect from this important academic service.*

The purpose of the Oglethorpe Writing Center is to empower students to articulate, develop and support their ideas. The Writing Center offers free one-on-one tutoring sessions with a student writer. The student is trained to assist in all disciplines and levels of the writing process. The student tutors provide constructive feedback and tips for writing improvement. Student tutors can also help with grammar mistakes and proofreading.

*Night Cap:* Tell us a little about your background and how you came to Oglethorpe.

*Oglethorpe Writing Center Director Dr. Jeanne McCarthy:* I completed a Master of Arts degree in English from The University of Texas at Austin in Victorian literature. As a faculty member at Marymount, I worked in the Learning Center where we helped students from all areas work on their writing assignments. When I returned to the Ph.D. program at The University of Texas at Austin, specializing in Renaissance Studies, I worked as a graduate student tutor in the University Writing Center. There, the staff tutored not only English majors working on composition essays or poem analyses, but engineering students and students in the biological sciences, physics majors, psychology majors and business majors.

*NC:* How do you think an evening student could benefit from the Writing Center?

*JM:* I believe that learning to write for an academic audience (an informed, interested, challenging audience) is one of the most challenging things we ask university and college students to do. Giving oneself the time to polish a piece of writing is also when writing is most rewarding. The Writing Center is a place where students engage with one another as academics and learners. It is geared to students who want to and can be good writers, who want to polish their own voice in their writing and who are willing to use the writing process to clarify and take ownership of their thoughts and insights. In a writing center, the focus upon a grade for its own sake can be temporarily suspended and both tutor and tutee's attention can be drawn to the discovery and problem solving that writing invites. The tutoring relationship is, at its best and at its most typical, mutually rewarding. The tutor becomes a better reader and writer simply by engaging with another student's ideas honestly, and the tutee becomes more aware of an audience's needs and of what makes his or her struggle with writing unique or typical.

For evening students, the Writing Center offers another chance, beyond the



Author Walena Bryant talks with Dr. Jeanne McCarthy at the EDP Spring Fling.

classroom, to enter safely the academic community. Whereas so many of us have come to focus on the end result, on finishing and meeting deadlines, the Writing Center gives you a chance to take a breath and enjoy the process of figuring out an answer to a serious question as well. It gives you the space to polish your prose.

*NC:* What services and resources are available to evening students in the Writing Center?

*JM:* For evening students, we can offer some support for using the library and reference materials in addition to helping them recognize and use academic conventions in writing. We have on hand, or access to, a number of reference manuals on APA, Chicago and MLA citation formats; handouts or links to handouts on any number of writing concerns (thesis claims, research writing, argument development, paraphrasing, annotating and reading texts); and, most importantly, tutors who are willing to help you interpret an assignment, brainstorm or handle the less usual citation or documentation challenges. We also have two computers from which we can access various writing center and grammar aids as well as to help direct writers toward sources that may answer their questions.

### Writing Center Schedule

**Monday—Thursday**

**10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.**

The full schedule and complete details about the Oglethorpe Writing Center can be found on the Oglethorpe website at [www.oglethorpe.edu](http://www.oglethorpe.edu), keyword: **writing center.**

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# YOUR EVENING DEGREE PROGRAM

## Oglethorpe Writing Center

(Continued from page 4)

**NC:** Are there any changes or improvements coming to the Writing Center that would be of interest to the evening students?

**JM:** We have been gradually increasing our hours as the demand has risen. We have been trying to determine when students are most likely to use the Center; for that reason, this semester we hope to add tutoring hours on Sundays and several evening shifts.

One improvement we have in mind is to create our own library of handouts that are tailored to the needs of Oglethorpe students. We would like to be able to become a resource for all courses taught at the university. Such materials could answer a number of typical questions students have (such as how to organize a lab report, avoiding passive voice, APA citation formats, etc). I would like to have a greater focus on job and career planning, graduate school applications. These are areas where we could benefit greatly from students who have expertise in the work environment in Atlanta and beyond; it would be wonderful to have the evening students involved in this next phase.

\* \* \* \* \*

**Night Cap:** Olivia, tell us a little about yourself.

**Oglethorpe Writing Center student tutor Olivia Rocamora:** I am a sophomore English and Spanish major from Lawrenceville, Georgia. In addition to the Writing Center, I am a student ambassador for the university and a University Singer. I aspire to be a professor of literature and fluent in Spanish. My honors thesis combines these two loves as I am writing about my grandfather's life. I would love to publish what I write one day as a way of honoring his determination.

**NC:** How and why did you become a peer tutor in the Writing Center?

**OR:** I wanted to become a tutor because many students buy into the lie that

because they are not an English major, they cannot write. I want to convince them otherwise. Students (including myself) easily defeat themselves before they even get started. The Writing Center is a place to discuss and affirm students for their original thought, to let them know that their voice is valuable. Writing is hard for everyone, but I sincerely believe everyone can grow as a writer.

**NC:** What has been your experience working with the evening students?

**OR:** I worked with a few evening degree students last semester, those who came days before their paper was due to bounce off ideas and then again before the deadline grew tremendously near in their writing journey. Success came for those students when they realized that writing is a process, and they treated writing like making pottery. Some came during the "molding" and "shaping" stages (bouncing off ideas); they then returned for the "glazing" stages where I stressed the need of evidence/explication of original ideas, so that such opinions withstand the "fire" of challenge, etc. I sincerely believe the students who did this and who will do this will hand in not only analysis, but art.

**NC:** What do you feel the Writing Center can offer evening students?

**OR:** Articulation, precision, conciseness and clarity in interpreting reading and writing.

**NC:** Are the evening students using the Writing Center? If so, what population is doing so?

**OR:** Honestly, many evening degree students are not using the Writing Center; I have worked with three people. I think many students think they have to have their paper entirely finished before they can come. The opposite is true. Many times, students who simply have the prompt and just need someone to bounce ideas off of end up doing better on papers than students who bring a finished paper in an hour before it is due and want a quick read through.

**NC:** How do you think the Writing Center can help evening degree students in their professional lives?

**OR:** In the professional world, it's crucial to be able to assert one's argument with supporting evidence. This may not be in a paper, but if one desires to climb the "ladder" in a company they will encounter competition. They will need to be able to articulately communicate how their ideas are superior and how they as an individual are qualified for promotions and/or special consideration.

## I Am Many Things (Continued from page 3)

so I love the Cuban cuisine, and I'm a mojito junkie. I could salsa the night away if I'm given the chance. To me, dancing is a necessary ingredient of life.

I was in high school when I realized how much I loved the Spanish language and culture. After high school I decided to major in Spanish at Clark Atlanta University. Then I decided to go into education. I have been teaching for 10 years now, and quite frankly, I need a change of scenery. I absolutely love the children, but I despise the red tape and bureaucracy of the educational system, especially on the elementary level. It's going to be the downfall of our nation if some things don't change real soon. So I guess that's where OU comes in. I decided to continue my education here at Oglethorpe to make a change in my life. Thanks to Professors Cruikshank, Ghosh and King, I believe that I can find my way now. *All* of my professors have inspired me to be the best at whatever road I chose to take, and again I am grateful for them. I can honestly say that Oglethorpe has been an enlightening experience for me.

Words to live by... live and let live, erase all of the -isms, break free from whatever your phobias may be, especially if one of them is xenophobia (get a dictionary if you need to), and *be nice*.

# YOUR EVENING DEGREE PROGRAM

## A Spring Semester in Provence

(Continued from page 1)

renewal. Both forms of released time from teaching can involve foreign travel and an often considerable period (sometimes a full year) with financial support of some kind from the home institution. Sabbaticals, to be sure, are not paid vacations. Universities provide us time off for the mental retooling necessary to maintain peak performance in the classroom, but sabbaticals and fellowships are most often awarded for the completion of research too complex or extensive to be done while teaching. Residency fellowships offer a special kind of opportunity for those on sabbatical: living for a semester or two with a temporary community of diverse academics (and sometimes artists), with room and sometimes paid board, and often a generous stipend for other expenses.

It is my great honor and privilege to have been chosen as one of this spring semester's residency fellows at the Camargo Foundation in Cassis, France, a small town (less than 10,000 inhabitants) nestled on a horseshoe-shaped cove between immense rocky cliffs between the two larger French seaports of Toulon and Marseille. We are about an hour's drive down the coast from Cannes and, passing back through the high ground of the pre-Alps, less than 25 miles from Aix-en-Provence. From my apartment window, as I write this, I am looking out on the harbor and the imposing Cap Canaille, the steepest cliff in continental Europe. The Camargo Foundation is located on the former estate of artist/filmmaker Jerome Hill, who purchased the former five-star hotel in which I currently reside and built a series of buildings nearby, including a lovely replica of a Greek theater and a well-preserved outbuilding where General Napoleon in the late 1790s spent several weeks designing the city's fortifications in expectation of British attack. I am joined here, not only by my wife Carla and son Camden (he is 13), but by 11 fascinating individuals from all over the world: a couple of fellow American academics, as well as a complement of painters, sculptors, visual artists, and those whose creative interests defy easy description. We meet once a week to discuss projects, but otherwise we are left to indulge our intellectual and artistic desires according to rhythms and patterns we alone determine. Quite a change from the rigorously scheduled life I lead at home in the United States.

All the projects have some connection with French culture, and mine is translating a late 14th century French satiric and humorous poem, *Miroir de Mariage* (*Mirror of Marriage*) by Eustache Deschamps into modern English. Freed from other responsibilities, I hope to complete all 12,000 lines by the end of May, when I return to Atlanta. The translation is part of a collaborative book project with a scholar in Melbourne, Australia, who is supplying an edition of the original French (which will appear on the left-hand page) to complement the English version (to be printed opposite, on the right-hand page). Our third collaborator is yet another scholar in New York City, who will

supply a critical introduction to the poem and to the life of its author. The book will be published as part of a larger initiative sponsored by the Medieval Institute.

While in Europe, we will do a considerable amount of traveling. I have been invited to give lectures at the Universities of Mainz (Germany) and Nancy (France) this next week, as well as another series at the University of Lodz in Poland during April. I also will be interviewing director David Cronenberg in Paris in March; he is here overseeing the production of the opera version of his movie *The Fly*.

To see a photo gallery for the foundation, go to [camargofoundation.org](http://camargofoundation.org). We are staying in the building called Panorama.

## Day Student Friends (Continued from page 2)

others) in the pursuit of maintaining or improving our grades. We probably complain about our instructors and praise them just as much; complain about the work but love it just as much. We share some of the same instructors; albeit evening students take our share under the dusk light of Hearst and Lupton Halls. Yes, some go both ways, teach both day and night students. So, are "nontraditional students," which sounds like we are aliens or something, getting the same Oglethorpe experience as you daytime kids? Well, experience is life-based for sure, but I dare say instructors don't care what hour of the day it is, they hold us to the same standard. I think the guts are the same, that is, the meat is of the same animal.

So, if you approach an Evening Degree Program student on campus after you've gone back to your dorm, don't be scared. We only look like zombies when we come on campus. Otherwise, day hours are kind to us. We actually smile and laugh like normal people. The dazed, stressed look with hollowed eyes, speaking for myself, is our other half that comes out after the work day to attend this fine campus. We may look ghostly as we appear here as students at night, but I believe that in the end, at graduation, we all look the same: Oglethorpe University graduates! And more often than not, we're flying into the storm, just like the stormy petrel admired by James Oglethorpe himself.

*Native Atlantan Julie Jarrard is an EDP rising senior, a business-owner and a perfectly normal university student. She studies. She takes exams. She falls asleep in class. When she's not hanging out with her BFF, Tonto the dog, Julie can be seen on campus sniffing out day students.*



**O G L E T H O R P E**  
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(keyword: evening)

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MAKE A LIFE. MAKE A LIVING. MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

## Evening Degree Program Information

### OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Thursday: 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.  
Friday: 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

### CONTACTS

Front Office: 404.364.8383  
Fax: 404.364.8437

Wayne Leon  
Advising and Recruitment  
404.364.8314  
wleon@oglethorpe.edu

Angie Dewberry  
Advising and Curriculum Development  
404.364.8376  
adewberry@oglethorpe.edu



Have a tip for the *Night Cap*?  
Interested in contributing or giving us a piece of your mind?  
Please contact [Julie Benz Pottie](#) to share your views with the evening degree community.

### NEWSLETTER STAFF

**Editor**  
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**Faculty Advisor**  
Dr. Anne Rosenthal

**Staff Writers**  
Walena Bryant  
Rashawn Jones  
Che' Middlebrooks

## Must-Have Campus Information

**Campus Safety: Gatehouse** 404.504.1998  
Campus Safety is available at on-campus extension 1998.

**Business Office: Lupton Hall** 404.364.8302  
Monday, Tuesday and Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.;  
Wednesday and Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

**Career Services: Emerson Student Center** 404.364.8533  
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Wednesday from 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
Other times are available by appointment.

**Counseling Services: Emerson Student Center** 404.364.8456  
The Center for Counseling Services offers individual, group and couples therapy as well as outreach and consultation.  
Please call to make an appointment.

**Financial Aid: Lupton Hall** 404.364.8354  
Monday, Tuesday and Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.;  
Wednesday and Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

**Office of the Registrar: Lupton Hall** 404.364.8315  
Monday, Tuesday and Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.;  
Wednesday and Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

**IT Services: Goodman Hall** 404.364.8518  
[help@oglethorpe.edu](mailto:help@oglethorpe.edu)

The campus computer lab in Goodman Hall is available to students 24/7. The IT Help Desk is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**Oglethorpe Bookstore: Hearst Hall** 404.364.8361  
Monday through Thursday from 9:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Friday 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**The Philip Weltner Library** 404.364.8511  
Monday through Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.,  
Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Saturday from noon to 5:00 p.m. and Sundays from 2:00 to 10:00 p.m.

**Weather Advisory Line** 404.504.1800  
In case of severe weather or other emergencies, Oglethorpe University will use the Weather Advisory Line to communicate appropriate information to our students, including school closings.

## DID YOU KNOW...

...that one of Atlanta's cultural lifelines, Peachtree Street, was likely not named after a peach tree at all, but the Georgia pine? Find out more about Atlanta folklore at [atlanta.net](http://atlanta.net).