



Kennesaw State University African American Male Initiative (AAMI)



Multicultural Students at Kennesaw State University

- Opened in 1966
- Enrollment of approximately 21,000 students
- 3rd largest university in Georgia
- Approximately 2,000 African American students
- Approximately 500 African American male undergraduate students
- Average age of all undergraduate students is 25
- 66% of all students are enrolled full-time (12 credits or more)
- Most students reside in Cobb County

5-Year KSU Multicultural Student Enrollment

Ethnicity/Gender	Fall	Spring	Fall	Spring	Fall	Spring	Fall	Spring	Fall	Spring
	2003	2004	2004	2005	2005	2006	2006	2007	2007	2008
Asian										
Male	239	232	253	227	260	241	264	252	274	283
Female	255	258	270	257	302	306	334	324	329	317
Black										
<u>Male</u>	<u>511</u>	<u>501</u>	<u>496</u>	<u>517</u>	<u>524</u>	<u>528</u>	<u>583</u>	<u>564</u>	<u>575</u>	<u>596</u>
Female	1,127	1,120	1,131	1,134	1,154	1,156	1,212	1,242	1,234	1,235
Hispanic										
Male	158	158	177	174	231	220	217	234	276	257
Female	328	330	365	370	427	407	446	442	472	455
American Indian										
Male	16	19	19	18	23	19	20	15	21	19
Female	24	19	28	27	32	33	38	38	44	46
Multiracial										
Male	131	127	120	127	118	110	116	112	118	122
Female	169	161	145	140	157	148	168	178	183	189
Total Multicultural Enrollment	2,958	2,925	3,004	2,991	3,228	3,168	3,398	3,401	3,526	3,519
White										
Male	4,839	4,719	5,111	4,871	5,302	5,146	5,682	5,491	5,948	5,676
Female	7,792	7,495	7,964	7,608	8,209	7,926	8,628	8,248	8,795	8,466
Undeclared/Unknown										
Male										4
Female										19
Total Undergraduate Enrollment	15,589	15,139	16,079	15,470	16,739	16,240	17,708	17,140	18,269	17,684

Mission of Multicultural Student Retention Services

The mission of Multicultural Student Retention Services (MSRS) is to provide essential resources, services, and opportunities to aid in the retention and academic persistence of historically underrepresented minority students at Kennesaw State University.

Services Provided by MSRS

Multicultural Student Retention Services facilitates academic success for minority students by offering the following resources:

- Cultural Awareness and Resource Center (CARC)
- Sources of Scholarship (S.O.S) Program
- KSU P.E.O.P.L.E. (Professionals Empowering Our Potential Leaders for Excellence)
- Odyssey Peer Mentoring Program
- Making the Grade Workshop Series
- Black History Celebration Committee
- African American Student Alliance
- “KSU Multicultural Report” Newsletter
- KSU African American Male Initiative

University System of Georgia's African American Male Initiative

- University System of Georgia's Board of Regents
- Necessary to address declining enrollment and graduation trends of African American males
- Purpose is to improve recruitment, retention, and persistence of African American males toward graduation
- Funding awarded in November 2005 & April 2008

KSU's AAMI Funding

- Top funded grant with perfect score in 2005 & 2008
- Funded 100% in 2005 & 2008
- Greatest amount of funds received in 2005 for \$30,000 (KSU matching \$30,000), totaling \$60,000
- Though not top funded, still only program funded at 100% in the state
- 2008/2009 funding for \$24,000 (KSU matching \$24,000), totaling \$48,000.

KSU AAMI Purpose

The purpose of the KSU African American Male Initiative is to unite the efforts of KSU faculty, staff and students to focus on increasing enrollment, retention, and graduation rates of Black men at KSU through mentoring, leadership development, and the celebration of academic and leadership achievements.

KSU AAMI Objectives

Objective 1: Develop and maintain comprehensive needs assessment strategies to identify factors influencing retention of KSU African-American males.

Objective 2: Acclimate pre-collegiate and freshmen Black male students to college life and expectations for KSU curriculum and course load.

Objective 3: Increase access to mentors for Black males at KSU to prepare them to mentor Black males in local high schools and middle schools .

Objective 4: To provide opportunities for leadership training, development and celebration of academic achievements of Black males .

Objective 5: To increase dissemination of information to the KSU community about matters affecting enrollment and academic success of Black male students.

Objective #1: Comprehensive Needs Assessment

Maintaining the graduate assistantship position for a Black male, devoted to executing AAMI duties

Purchasing and distributing survey instruments to measure target cohort's academic success trends

Objective #2: Acclimation to KSU & College Life

Offering the KSU Summer Bridge Program, a 4-week academic preparatory program for newly admitted and potential Black male students, including math, writing, science, computer literacy, and study skill workshops. **Target date:** June 2009.

Partnering with University College to offer the AAMI Learning Community KSU 1101, a freshman seminar acquainting students with campus resources and academic survival skills. We propose to reserve one section of KSU 1101 for a Black male learning community, taught by Black male instructors, to empower African-American male students' success through leadership development, including studying the works of historic and contemporary Black intellectuals.

KSU-AAMI Summer Bridge Program: Incentives for Program Participants

- **Small class sizes - only 25 students will be accepted**
- **Free lunches Monday through Thursday**
- **Free Friday Excursion Trips**
- **No cost for books or other academic & co-curricular aides**
- **Acclimation to college life & expectations**
- **Meet other students attending KSU**
- **Priority registration for admitted KSU students**
- **Orientation fee waived for admitted KSU students**
- **Study and life skill development**
- **Easier transition into college life**
- **Experience co-curricular activities & leadership development**

Objective #3: Mentoring

Reviving the KSU P.E.O.P.L.E. (Professionals Empowering Our Potential Leaders for Excellence) mentoring program, pairing KSU students with faculty, staff, alumni and community members with like interests.

Engaging in civic partnerships to allow KSU Black males to be mentored and to serve as mentors

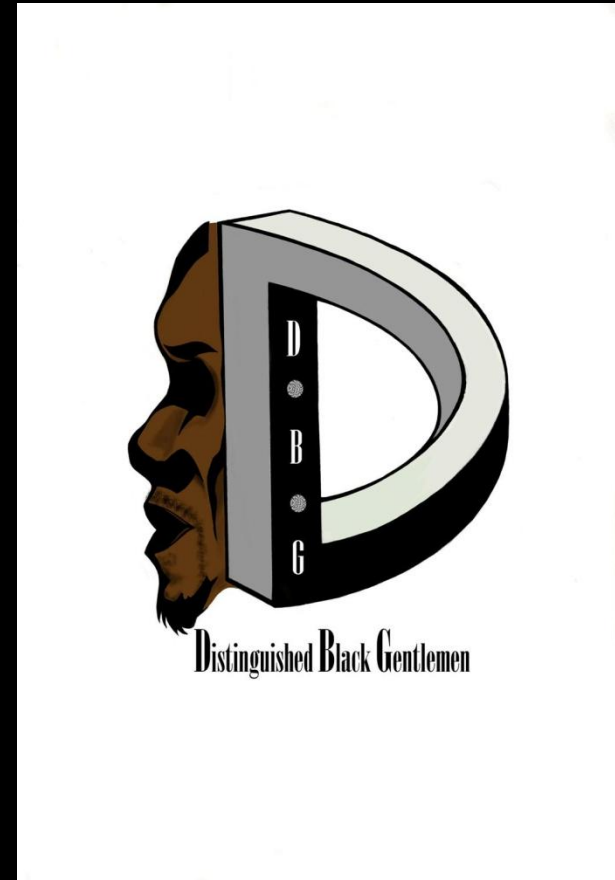
Objective #4: Leadership Training & Academic Achievements

1. Offering a planning/leadership retreat for executive board members of KSU's Distinguished Black Gentlemen;
2. Sending AAMI affiliated students to leadership development conferences;
3. Offering on-campus programs featuring Black male leaders;
4. Purchasing and distributing kente stoles to students to commemorate graduation and completion of the AAMI learning community;
5. Encouraging participation in all interventions and leadership opportunities throughout the university.

Distinguished Black Gentlemen (DBG)

The KSU Distinguished Black Gentlemen are registered student organization. DBG was founded at KSU by 2 African American male students in Fall 2006, in the interest of creating a support system for the African American male population of Kennesaw State University.

The mission of KSU DBG is to foster pride and understanding of the African American males purpose in the collegiate arena and life.



Website: <http://www.kennesaw.edu/clubs/dbminc/>

Ladies of Distinction (LOD)

The mission of the Ladies of Distinction is to create a positive self and outward image of women of color:

- To be positive role models in, and around the community
- To form a life-long sisterhood of unity and love among each member
- To help promote a sense of belonging and togetherness for African American students
- To be a system of support for the African American females at Kennesaw State University

Objective #5: Disseminate Information on AAMI & Active Partnerships

1. USG AAMI Reports
2. Newsletter
3. Website
4. KSU Cabinet
5. KSU Black Faculty Caucus
6. Other Interested Partners

KSU AAMI vs. Others

- 1. Coastal Georgia Community College \$15,500**
- 2. Fort Valley State University \$10,000**
- 3. Gainesville State College \$10,000**
- 4. Georgia College and State University \$22,000**
- 5. Georgia Highlands College \$12,500**
- 6. Georgia Perimeter College \$24,000**
- 7. Georgia Southwestern State University \$10,000**
- 8. Kennesaw State University \$24,000**
- 9. Southern Polytechnic State University \$28,500**
- 10. The University of Georgia \$22,500**
- 11. University of West Georgia \$21,000**



Multicultural Student Retention Services

Contact Us

Multicultural Student Retention Services

1000 Chastain Road, MB 0502

Student Center, Room 262 & 267

Kennesaw, GA 30144

770-423-6443

http://www.kennesaw.edu/stu_dev/msrs/