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# Maureen Short Biggers

Assistant Dean for Diversity and Special Programs  
College of Computing  
Georgia Institute of Technology  
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## Professional Preparation

INSTITUTION AND LOCATION	DEGREE	YEAR CONFERRED	FIELD OF STUDY
SUNY at Geneseo	B.S.	1974	Speech Pathology/Audiology
University of Miami	M.Ed.	1976	College Student Personnel
University of Miami	Ph.D.	1990	Interdisciplinary: Business Management/Psy/Higher Ed Administration

## Appointments

University of Miami	Assistant Dean/Dir of Student Development	1976-78
University of Miami	Associate Dean of Students	1978-83
University of Miami	Director, Advising/Academic Services A&S	1983-90
Mercer University	Director of Freshman Experience	1991-96
Schreiner University	VP Student Affairs and Dean of Students	1998-2000
Jon McRae & Associates	Vice President, Executive Search	2000-2002
Georgia Institute of Technology	Assistant Dean for Diversity, College of Computing	2002-present
Computer Science Teachers Association	Founding Vice President	2004-present

## Relevant Publications

Guzdial, M., Ericson, B., Biggers, M. A Model for Improving Secondary CS Education In *Proceedings of the ACM SIGSCE Conference (SIGSCE 2005)* (St. Louis, MO, USA, February 23-27, 2005). ACM Press, New York, NY, 2005, 332-336.

Biggers, Maureen S. "The impact of a multifaceted, intrusive, psychoeducational intervention on underachieving college freshmen". Retention Dissertation, University of Miami, Coral Gables, FL (1990).

Biggers, Maureen S., editor. "Successful College Student Transitions". Freshman Seminar text for Mercer University, Macon, GA (1992-96).

Biggers, Maureen S., editor. "The Psychology of University Adjustment". Freshman Seminar text for University of Miami, PSY 100 seminar, Coral Gables, FL (1985-90)..

## Honors and Awards

Omicron Delta Kappa Leadership Honorary

## 5 Synergistic Activities

1. *Related NSF grants:* Currently participating in the following NSF-funded collaborative grants: 1) **Collaborative Research: Increasing the Representation of Undergraduate Women and Minorities in Computer Science**, with Susan Horwitz at the University of Wisconsin-Madison; and 2) **A Study of Gender-based Differences and Ethnic and Cultural Models in each of the Computing Sciences** with Xavier University.

2. *K-12 Computing Outreach:* Heavy involvement with teachers and prospective students for computing. In May 2004 Biggers initiated and now coordinates the *Institute for Computing Education at Tech*, a year round outreach program to support computer science teachers in middle and high schools, and which provides summer computing camps for underrepresented students. A formal partnership with the Department of Education and the College of Computing was announced in June 2004, which makes this endeavor possible. Numerous presentations to teachers and students, both formally at conferences, and informally in campus visits and outreach programs. A member of the ACM Steering Committee for K-12 Computer Education, Biggers serves as founding Vice President for the newly created national association for K-12 teachers of computer science, the Computer Science Teachers Association.
3. *Retention Initiatives:* Fall 2005 will mark year four of the GT/Intel Opportunity Scholars Program that integrates computing and computer engineering women and underrepresented minorities (starting in the first year) into the academic community. Each student is assigned a Graduate Mentor and is involved in: 1) paid research with a trained Mentor; 2) intrusive advising to support success; 3) professional development seminars; 4) paid luncheon meetings; 5) early connection to upperclass peer scholar; 6) spring poster session with faculty and Intel reps. Currently with 80 participants, the program is viewed as a model program by Intel, with very high student retention rates.
4. *Conference Organization.* Biggers was a member of the initial planning meeting for the 5th Biennial Diversity and Learning Network for Academic Renewal (Network) conference of the Association of American Colleges and Universities. The conference was held October 21 - 24, 2004. In 2003 she was a participant in the workshop on Women and Minorities in Computer Science, held at the University of Colorado-Boulder, and at the HP Retention Symposium which was devoted to exploring retention issues in intro computer science course; recently attended the CIRTl Forum on *Addressing the Student Learning Experience: Achieving Diversity in STEM Discipline*; Biggers has presented College Student Retention workshops with faculty groups on numerous college campuses in the United States; presented at Georgia State Business and Information Technology Teachers conference in 2003 and 2004; several years of experience in retreats/and workshops in the area of *leadership development* and *mentoring* for graduate and undergraduate students.
5. *Other Programs for Women and Minorities.* Biggers is the co-chair of the Women's Programs in the College of Computing and is advisor to Minorities in Computer Science (MiCS). She coordinates a number of programs with women and minority students that are supported by literature and practice as contributing to increased retention and recruitment.

#### **Collaborators in the Past 48 Months**

Susan Horwitz, University of Wisconsin  
 Marguerite S. Giguette, Xavier University  
 Donna Llewellyn, Georgia Tech  
 Laurie Lankin, Mercer University

#### **Graduate Advisors**

Jack Lohman (University of Miami) Ph.D. advisor; Bernard Black (MEd. Advisor)