



# IDEASBULLETIN

Usery Forum on Leadership  
Inspire! Forum



GEORGIA  
COLLEGE

GEORGIA'S PUBLIC  
LIBERAL ARTS UNIVERSITY

# Dear Friends,

On behalf of Georgia College, we thank you for your support of our Usery Forum on Leadership and Inspire! Forum.

Through our forums, each year, we welcome more than a thousand guests to the university to join together for important conversations on leadership, citizenship, democracy, and public affairs. We rely on our students to shape the agenda and to engage in lively exchange with our guests.

We are very proud of the work we do at Georgia College. With twelve faculty affiliates, we enroll eight hundred GC students in our programs annually and maintain global offerings across four countries. In partnership with more than forty private-sector organizations, governmental organizations, and non-profits, our students generated more than \$104,000 in economic impact last year.

Thank you for your interest and your participation, and we hope to see you at one of our forums soon!

Kind Regards,



**Harold Mock, Ph.D.**

Director of Leadership Programs  
Assistant Professor of History



**Anagha Vivek Ramakrishnan '22**

W. J. Usery, Jr. Fellow

# Our Benefactors

## Margaret Eleyce Ard Usery '72 and husband Melvin

Mr. and Mrs. Melvin and Lisa Usery are the benefactors for the Usery Forum on Leadership.

Mrs. Margaret Eleyce Ard ("Lisa") Usery taught mathematics for twenty-six years and retired from full-time teaching in 2002. She taught both in the middle and high school levels, principally algebra and also geometry and pre-calculus. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree, which she received from Georgia College in 1972. She is a member of the Advisory Board for the John H. Lounsbury College of Education. Along with her husband, Mrs. Usery serves as principals of the Kim Usery Foundation, Inc., a non-profit named for their late daughter, Kimberly.

Mr. Melvin Usery retired with thirty years of service from United Parcel Service, having held domestic assignments in Georgia—Macon, Atlanta, and Savannah—and in Jacksonville, Florida. He also worked internationally with UPS's Canadian operation, UPS Canada Ltd., with assignments in Edmonton, Alberta, and Toronto, Ontario. Shortly after retirement, he was elected to public office and served four years on Florida's Ocean Highway Port Authority with one year as chairman. Mr. Usery is a Rotarian and Farm Bureau Member and has held numerous volunteer and civic positions. He is managing director of family-owned A&U Ranch, LLC, a timber operation and ground transportation consulting business.



*Photo Credit: Kim Usery Foundation*

# W. J. Usery, Jr.

15th U.S. Secretary of Labor

The Usery Forum on Leadership is named for W. J. Usery, Jr. (1923 – 2016), fifteenth United States Secretary of Labor.

Usery served in the cabinet of President Gerald R. Ford, leading the U.S. Department of Labor in 1976 and 1977. A distinguished negotiator with an international reputation for overcoming impasses and creating mutual benefit, Usery mediated some of the most difficult disputes of the twentieth century.

Seen as a formidable but fair negotiator, Usery commanded broad respect in Washington and across the private sector. He received five presidential appointments to national service, from both Republican and Democratic administrations.

Georgia College's Ina Dillard Russell Library features the W. J. Usery, Jr. Leadership Gallery. Secretary Usery's collection at Georgia College's Special Collections spans his career as a public servant and his time in private practice.

The gallery is open daily, and researchers may schedule appointments to consult the Usery Collection. To learn more, please visit [gcsu.edu/usery](http://gcsu.edu/usery).



Learning and teaching others to compromise without forgoing core values became what he saw he could do to make a better nation for all. In time, he did that across the world. To students, I challenge you to learn from the past, incorporate innovative techniques and technology, be an active listener while holding fast to your values. You can learn, and you can make a difference.

—Melvin Usery on his father, Secretary W. J. Usery, Jr.



# Thank You

TO OUR ADDITIONAL SPONSORS



# ABOUT OUR FORUMS

The Inspire! Forum on Leadership is Georgia College's presentation-discussion series on leadership for the public good. Presenters are distinguished executives in private enterprise or hold leadership roles in the public sector and share the university's commitment to leadership for the public good, whether in business, the non-profit sector, or public affairs.

The Userly Forum on Leadership is part of the Inspire! Forum series and is supported by a generous gift by Mr. and Mrs. Melvin and Lisa '72 Userly and from the Kim Userly Foundation. The goal of the series, named for former U.S. Secretary of Labor W. J. Userly, Jr., is to focus on leadership that:

- Brings people together, bridging divides and spanning boundaries,
- Finds value in diverse new perspectives, and
- Showcases innovations in leadership and service, particularly related to creating mutual benefit in civic life.

Presenters discuss:

- Leadership lessons they have learned through their life and work.
- A particular leadership philosophy, model, or concept that interests them.
- A particular cause or issue that motivates them.
- Leadership challenges that we face in the world.
- How to engage effectively with our communities and government.



# Our Presenters

2021



Jane Kim Colouseus



Dr. Rae André



Richard T. Griffiths



Greg Bluestein



Rose Scott



Dr. Dana Winters

Our Usery Forums allow me to interact and ask questions to industry leaders and change-makers from all over the country. I leave each forum with tools and resources to make change in my own field and community.

**Grace Kearney**

Bachelor of Arts Candidate, 2022

The Usery Forums help me to think systematically.

**Lilianna Dunlop**

Bachelor of Arts Candidate, 2023







“Your age doesn't matter, as long as you bring your passion, your time, and your effort.”

**Jane Kim Colouseus**





How do we make  
goodness attractive?

We need to really try  
hard to see every person  
as more than just one thing.

**Dr. Dana Winters**



“Showing your work to the public allows them to evaluate the work you’ve done. They may not like the finished product, but if you show them how you’ve got to that place, you will build their trust.”

**Richard T. Griffiths**

“Our job is to disseminate accurate information, and if there’s something out there that is not, it is our duty . . . to bring accountability to it.”

**Rose Scott**





**Jane Kim Coloseus**

Executive Director

HerTerm

**Jane Kim Coloseus** is a gender equality specialist who works in traditionally male-dominated industries, including the nuclear sector, national security, and politics.

Coloseus is the Executive Director for Her Term, a Georgia-based initiative created to recruit progressive women to run for public office in the Georgia state legislature. She is also the principal of Emzo Consulting LLC, where she works with small businesses and international organizations on diversity and inclusion, women's leadership, and empowerment. Coloseus serves on the Global Communication Committee for Women in Nuclear Global, a professional organization and global network for women working in the nuclear sector. She is also actively involved with Women of Color Advancing Peace and Security and voluntarily supports projects including UN engagement and special programs.

Previously, Coloseus was on loan to the International Atomic Energy Agency by the United States government as a gender equality specialist. In that role, she increased the representation of women through dedicated outreach and talent management initiatives, profiled multiple women in the industry to promote women's work, led internal policy adaptations, and developed workforce balance tracking mechanisms to earn the recognition of a top-performing technical UN organization on gender equality.

Coloseus holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in anthropology and history from the University of Virginia and MSc in government analytics from the Johns Hopkins University.

“MY WORK  
SEEKS TO ANSWER  
WHAT IT MEANS  
TO LIVE TOGETHER  
AND PROSPER  
TOGETHER

Whose perspectives are missing? Whose story is being told, and whose story isn't being told. What are the consequences **when a select group** of individuals . . . gets to decide **what's important and what's not**.

You can make *as much noise as you want* on the outside, but you really **can't drive change** unless you're on the inside.

## JOIN A CLUB;

join an organization. Perhaps start a non-profit yourself.

Why not?



**Dr. Rae André**

Professor Emerita of  
Management and  
Organizational Development,  
Northeastern University

Sustainability Educator and  
Environmental Activist



**Rae André** is a sustainability educator and environmental activist who focuses on working with climate leaders. She promotes sustainability leadership based on the principles that growth is finite, natural capital is priceless, and human progress must be measured in terms of both economics and the quality of life.

An organizational psychologist, André is Professor Emeritus of Leadership and Sustainability and Instructor in the D'Amore-McKim School of Business at Northeastern University in Boston. Her courses promote systemic thinking on climate change and energy evolution. Aimed at high level undergraduates, MBAs, and professionals, they include sustainability for organizations ("weak" sustainability) along with sustainability for the planet ("strong" sustainability). Her work has reached students in a variety of disciplines from management to engineering to the liberal arts.

André received a Ph.D. in organizational psychology from the University of Michigan, a Master of Arts degree in film studies from the University of California at Los Angeles, and a Bachelor of Arts degree (cum laude) in English from Cornell University.

“ FIND A CULTURAL FIT WITHIN YOUR COMPANY . . .  
IF YOU BELIEVE IN STRONG SUSTAINABILITY,  
**WORK FOR A COMPANY THAT BELIEVES IN THAT.**

*We need all the leaders we can get.*

WE MUST ACKNOWLEDGE OUR HUMAN STRENGTHS  
AND WEAKNESSES AS DECISION-MAKERS.”



# Media Literacy and the Future of Democracy

**Richard T. Griffiths**

Vice President and Senior  
Editorial Director (ret.) CNN

**Greg Bluestein**

Political Reporter  
Atlanta Journal-Constitution

**Rose Scott**

Host and Executive Producer  
NPR WABE 90.1 Atlanta



“Showing your work to the public allows them to evaluate the steps you’ve taken. If you show them how you got to your conclusion, you gain trust, even if they don’t like the conclusion.”

—Richard T. Griffiths



“Whether you know it or not, whether you like it or not, everyone in this room is a journalist.”

—Greg Bluestein

“Understand the difference between news media and social media.”

—Rose Scott





**Dr. Dana Winters**

Rita McGinley Endowed Executive Director  
Fred Rogers Center for Early Learning  
and Children's Media

Assistant Professor of Child and Family Studies,  
St. Vincent College

**Dr. Dana Winters** is the Rita McGinley Executive Director of the Fred Rogers Center for Early Learning and Children's Media at Saint Vincent College. Her extensive field research—from interviewing prisoners to shadowing crossing guards, from observing Head Start teachers to developing coaches in early childhood systems—has informed the co-development of the Simple Interactions approach to support children, families, and their helpers.

Dr. Winters describes and affirms the essential and relational practices of professionals across early education and intervention, out-of-school-time learning, healthcare, family engagement, and more. She is an experienced applied researcher who has served as co-principal

investigator and program evaluator for consecutive National Science Foundation-funded early childhood research and intervention projects in the areas of early literacy, social-emotional development, and early mathematical learning. She leads numerous foundation and government project grants to improve early childhood systems and family engagement practices. Dr. Winters serves as a UNESCO Faculty Fellow in Children and Youth Studies, collaborating with faculty around the world in the advancement of empathy development and adult-child relationships across developmental settings. She received a Ph.D. in administrative and policy studies from the University of Pittsburgh.



You know what [Mr. Rogers] would say?

He would say to

*listen first.*



FRED ROGERS REMINDS US THAT

*what's simple and deep  
is far more essential*

THAN WHAT'S SHALLOW AND  
COMPLEX. HOW DO WE FOCUS  
ON WHAT'S SIMPLE AND DEEP  
ABOUT WHAT WE DO IN THE  
SERVICE OF OTHERS?



SOCIAL MEDIA

# Impact

Our Georgia College digital media channels reach a large and diverse audience

 **22K**  
FOLLOWERS

 **9.5K**  
FOLLOWERS

 **38K**  
FOLLOWERS

 **15K**  
FOLLOWERS

Follow us:  
**gcleadcreatively**  
on Facebook

**@leadcreatively**  
on Twitter,  
Instagram,  
and LinkedIn



## Support Our Mission

Our work would not be possible without the support we receive from individuals, companies, and private foundations. We invite you to support Georgia College Leadership Programs as we prepare the next generation of leaders for the public good. Your gifts will help sustain our User Forum on Leadership and Inspire! Forum into the future.

To learn more or to make a gift, please visit [gcsu.edu/leadership/support](https://gcsu.edu/leadership/support).

### Your Partners in Giving



**Dan Lavery**  
Development Officer  
478-445-1236



**Dr. Harold Mock**  
Director of  
Leadership Programs  
478-445-1227





**G**eorgia College's Office of Leadership Programs provides teaching, research, and public service related to leadership, citizenship, democracy, and public affairs. With the support of a distinguished faculty and practitioners, we educate the next generation of Georgia's leaders for the public good. Our programs bring together scholars and students, as well as business leaders, non-profit executives, journalists, and public officials, and offer a trusted forum on citizen-leadership and pressing issues of the day.



GEORGIA'S PUBLIC LIBERAL ARTS UNIVERSITY

Leadership Programs