

Center for Middle Georgia Studies 100 University Parkway, Macon, GA 31206 478.471.3564 mga.edu Macon Cochran Dublin Eastman Warner Robins and online everywhere

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

It is my immense pleasure to welcome you to the Center for Middle Georgia Studies (CMGS). As the Executive Director, I am thrilled to introduce you to our Center, whose vision is to "be a regional and nationally recognized hub for community-engaged scholarship that positively impacts Middle Georgia through collaborative problem-solving and knowledge sharing."

The CMGS embodies the four principles of Middle Georgia State University: stewardship, engagement, adaptability, and learning. Our core values drive us to become a community resource, develop collaborative partnerships, build capacity, increase cultural competence, and positively impact the Middle Georgia region.

To achieve these goals, the Center is dedicated to:

- 1. Conducting customized applied research on regional issues, including economic impact studies, GIS mapping, and benchmarking.
- 2. Preserving valuable artifacts, documents, and oral histories that tell the story of our region.
- 3. Educating the public through professional development, continuing education, regional simulations, symposiums, community forums, lectures, and publications.
- 4. Collaborating with local communities, schools, and other institutions to foster a deeper understanding of the most pressing problems in the Middle Georgia region.
- 5. Serving as a clearinghouse and repository of resources for regional information and data.

Whether you are a longtime resident, a newcomer to the area, or a researcher interested in our region, we invite you to explore the wealth of resources and programming we offer. From our collaborative partnerships, research projects to our engaging public events, there's something here for everyone who shares our passion for Middle Georgia's unique identity and future potential.

I encourage you to visit our center, attend one of our upcoming events, and get involved in our ongoing projects. Your participation and support are vital in helping us fulfill our mission of ensuring a resilient Middle Georgia region for future generations.

Thank you for your interest in the Center for Middle Georgia Studies. We look forward to partnering with you to deepen our understanding of this special place we call home and to work together towards its continued growth and prosperity.



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Warm regards,

Kristie Roberts-Lewis, Ph.D.

Kristie Roberts-Lewis, Ph.D. Executive Director Center for Middle Georgia Studies