



Nathan Deal  
GOVERNOR



Georgia Student Finance Commission  
Georgia Student Finance Authority  
Georgia Higher Education Assistance Corporation  
**GCollege411**

Tricia P. Chastain  
PRESIDENT

For Immediate Release:  
May 1, 2015

Media Contact: Chris Green  
(770) 724-9008

### **Dr. Sarah Beck Hawthorne Elected Vice Chairman of the Georgia Student Finance Commission Board of Commissioners**

ATLANTA – The Georgia Student Finance Commission (GSFC) announced its Board of Commissioners has elected Dr. Sarah Beck Hawthorne Vice Chairman of the Board of Commissioners. Dr. Hawthorne was also elected Vice Chairman of the Boards of the Georgia Student Finance Authority (GSFA) and the Georgia Higher Education Assistance Corporation (GHEAC).

Dr. Hawthorne represents Georgia's 8<sup>th</sup> congressional district and was first appointed to GSFC's Board in May 2013 by Governor Nathan Deal and her term expires in March 2019. Hawthorne is president and founder of AlphaSkills, Inc. She is a former elementary and secondary classroom teacher and administrator. She is the current Executive Director of the Georgia Teacher of the Year Association and Chairman of the Central Georgia Technical College Board of Directors. Dr. Hawthorne also serves on the Communities in Schools of Central Georgia Board of Directors, the executive committee of the Twiggs County Family Connection, the education committee of the Twiggs County Chamber of Commerce, and is the past Chairman of the City of Jeffersonville Downtown Development Authority. She and her husband, Fleming, have one daughter and four grandchildren. They reside in Jeffersonville.

"We are very fortunate to have Dr. Hawthorne serve as Vice Chair. She brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise on education issues to the Board," said Tricia Chastain, President of GSFC.

"I am honored to be elected Vice Chairman, and I look forward to working alongside the members of the GSFC Board, Tricia Chastain and the GSFC staff to continue its mission," said Dr. Hawthorne, newly elected Vice Chairman of GSFC's Board of Commissioners.

#### **About the Georgia Student Finance Commission**

*GSFC is the state agency that administers the HOPE Scholarship and Grant Program as well as other state- and lottery- funded financial aid programs. GSFC also manages the career and college preparation website, GCollege411.org and provides educational services such as free financial aid consultation, default management and financial literacy to elementary, middle and high schools, and postsecondary institutions across the state. Additional information about GSFC products and services is available at [www.gsfc.org](http://www.gsfc.org) or [www.GCollege411.org](http://www.GCollege411.org) or 800.505.GSFC (4732).*