Community Connections, Projects & Status

- Attended Sumter Ferst Foundation planning meeting. Community partners are working to establish a Ferst Foundation branch in Sumter County, including raising sufficient funding to support the endeavor.
- Attended local Small Business Development Center meeting hosted by South Georgia Technical College. Discussions centered on SBDC programs and avenues for including them in the community.
- Attended the monthly Americus Sumter Payroll Development Authority. Invited members to attend the CED Gallery Showing.
- Joined Commissioner Rick Davis for a lunch discussion and update on Archway priorities.
- Joined College of Environment and Design students as they presented designs to the local Judges.
- Attended monthly BOC Department Head Breakfast meeting. Provided update on Archway projects. CED students presented county projects and asked for input.
- Attended Board of Education Work Session. Presented an update of Archway and discussed moving forward with demography study.
- Attended joint intergovernmental meeting with City of Americus and Sumter County elected officials. Provided input on Archway activities and considered future opportunities.
- Hosted CED Gallery Showing featuring designs by Chris and Amanda Thornton.
- Met with GA Department of Community Affairs staff to discuss moving forward with the DCA Communities of Opportunities program.
- Met with Patti Cullen, River Valley Regional Commission Executive Director. Discussed opportunities to work collaboratively.
- Met with David Garriga, Mandy Young, and Wally Summers to discuss development and identification of Economic Development Issues brought forward during listening sessions.
- Attended joint meeting of BOC and Tax Assessors office to discuss adjustments of property assessments.
- Attended meeting with local GA Department of Economic Development and Clint Taylor of GA Power. Discussed methods of marketing and branding Americus to potential clients.
- Attended Americus City Council monthly meeting. A member resigned, one stated he will not run for a second term, and two more are up for re-election.
- Assisted with the City of Americus Block Party for College Students.
- Hosted monthly Executive Committee meeting focusing on Co-Op and Economic Development issues.
- Submitted application for participation in the GA Initiative for Community Housing.
- Assisted with ribbon cutting and reception at Boone Party Recreational Facility. CED student Chris Thornton also attended as landscape design plans were made available for public viewing.
- Attended Dalton/Whitfield public listening session.

Next Steps

- Continue Issue Work Group development.
  - Continue discussion of Economic Development IWG with PDA, SGTC and City of Americus representatives.
  - Continue outreach and identification of participants for Leadership Development IWG.
- Meet with Sumter County School Superintendent regarding demography study possibilities.
• Administer College Town survey to GSW students. Continue developing opportunities for community survey participants (September EC).

**Student Involvement**

**Interns:**

**Name: Katy Carlson**  
UGA Program: MPA  
Partner Org: City of Americus, Sumter County Board of Commissioners  
Focus: Community issues impacting desire to become “college town”.  
Status: Ongoing surveying and feedback.

**Name: Erin Wurtz**  
UGA Program: Health Promotion and Behavior  
Partner Org: Sumter Regional Hospital  
Focus: Communitywide public health issues  
Status: Completed

**Name: Hazel Lewis and Lauren Woodward**  
UGA Program: CED  
Partner Org: City of Americus  
Focus: Eastview Cemetery  
Status: Completed, presented to City on July 13th.

**Name: Chris and Amanda Thornton**  
UGA Program: CED  
Partner Org: City, BOC, GSW  
Focus: CED summer internship focusing on various local projects.  
Status: Completed, Gallery Showing August 11th.

**Name: Dylan Sorenson**  
UGA Program: SPIA  
Partner Org: City of Americus, Sumter County Board of Commissioners  
Focus: Consolidation of local government service.  
Status: Ongoing

**Name: Hazel Lewis**  
UGA Program: SPIA  
Partner Org: City of Americus, Sumter County Board of Commissioners  
Focus: SCPRD Ball Park Vegetation Design, Walking Trail from S Lee Street to SCPRD/Hwy 19.  
Status: Ongoing

**Name: Samantha Stewart**  
UGA Program: Terry College of Business, LLSP  
Partner Org: Sumter County Board of Commissioners  
Focus: Strategic Business Plan for Sumter County Fairgrounds  
Status: Fall '09
Name: Danielle Kraselsky  
UGA Program: Grady College, Hooper Sanford Baldwin & Thomas  
Partner Org: Sumter County Board of Commissioners  
Focus: Marketing plan for SCPRD Gymnastics Program  
Status: Ongoing

Name: Dr. Dave Chatterjee, MIS Class, Team 3  
UGA Program: Terry College of Business  
Partner Org: Sumter County Board of Commissioners, SCPRD  
Focus: Identify/Define Data System for SCPRD  
Status: Fall '09

Name: Dr. Mark Huber, MIS Class  
UGA Program: Terry College of Business  
Partner Org: City of Americus and Sumter County Board of Commissioners  
Focus: One-Stop-Shop Website  
Status: Fall '09