



GEORGIA NETWORK *for*
ELECTRIC MOBILITY
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

GEORGIA NETWORK FOR ELECTRIC MOBILITY

2025

YEAR IN REVIEW

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INITIATIVE**
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LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Georgia Network for Electric Mobility (GNEM) grew out of early conversations between the University of Georgia College of Engineering and Georgia Power, beginning in 2021. That collaboration led to the first UGA E-Mobility Summit in 2022, and in 2023, a \$5 million commitment from Georgia Power formally launched GNEM as a statewide initiative. In 2024, Kia Georgia and Cox Automotive joined as founding members with additional \$1 million endowment gifts, alongside the Georgia Department of Transportation as a core public partner.

I stepped into the role of GNEM's inaugural Executive Director in July 2024 with a clear goal: to build a durable, forward-looking platform that helps position Georgia as a global leader in electric and connected mobility. GNEM is anchored within the University of Georgia and reflects the core values of our land-grant mission, advancing innovation, workforce readiness, and economic development across the state.

Our mission is to accelerate electric mobility innovation and adoption in Georgia by convening academic, industry, government, and community leaders. Through strategic partnerships, applied research, and programs that support talent development and infrastructure planning, we are helping to shape a resilient and competitive ecosystem.



Today, GNEM includes 27 member organizations across the state, including private companies, government agencies, technical colleges, and multiple units within the University of Georgia. This year, we launched the GNEM Think Tank, led by Gabrielle Pierre, our Director for Strategy and Partnerships. The Think Tank is rapidly gaining momentum and garnering statewide, national and global attention for its practical applied research and forward-looking ecosystem insights.

We also awarded seed grants across seven colleges and departments, published two white papers and a technical guide, and hosted our fourth annual E-Mobility Summit in March 2025. The Summit was a clear success as our largest to date, attracting over 250+ attendees, generating strong enthusiasm and alignment around GNEM's renewed vision and mission. We have continued to grow our digital presence, reaching over 20,000 monthly impressions on LinkedIn, and expanded local engagement through the Plug into Georgia program led by Asher Dozier, Associate Director for E-mobility Engagement and the Carl Vinson Institute of Government in partnership with GNEM and Southern Company. That program has now reached more than 150 local leaders in 47 counties through regional workshops and webinars.

We are proud of the foundation we've built and even more excited about the work ahead. On behalf of GNEM's leadership, thank you to everyone who has contributed to our progress through your time, insights, partnership, and trust. Together, we are helping shape Georgia's role in the next chapter of global mobility innovation.



DR. BJORN BIRGISSON
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, GNEM
GEORGIA POWER E-MOBILITY DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR
AND CHAIR, SCHOOL OF ENVIRONMENTAL, CIVIL,
AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL ENGINEERING,

THANK YOU TO OUR FOUNDING PARTNERS



Georgia
Power



COX
AUTOMOTIVE



LETTER FROM THE E-MOBILITY EXECUTIVE COUNCIL CHAIR

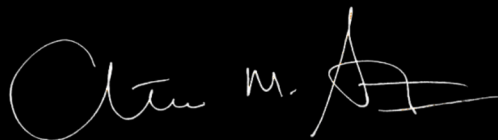


As Georgia continues to emerge as a national leader in electric and future mobility, the University of Georgia remains committed to supporting this momentum through research, public service, and cross-sector collaboration. The E-Mobility Executive Council advances this work by bringing together UGA leaders to explore interdisciplinary approaches that yield the greatest return on investment in electric mobility by our state, our partners, and the institution.

The Georgia Network for Electric Mobility reflects that commitment, bringing together faculty, industry, and state leaders to shape a more connected and resilient transportation future. For GNEM, this year has been a building year. The network has emerged as a trusted platform for insight, partnership, and progress. From publishing actionable research to launching workforce programs and a statewide think tank, GNEM is helping position Georgia to lead not only in manufacturing and infrastructure, but in the ideas and relationships that will drive long-term impact.

As Chair of the E-Mobility Executive Council, I have seen the impact of this model firsthand. GNEM represents a new kind of institution, one rooted in academic excellence and built on creating value for our partners and the public. As a land-grant institution, UGA continues to meet the scale and urgency of this moment for regional economic development, sustainable growth, and global competitiveness.

On behalf of the Council, thank you to everyone who contributed to this year's work. We are proud of what GNEM has accomplished and look forward to continuing our efforts to bolster our standing as a leader in the electric mobility sector.



DR. ALTON M. STANDIFER
CHAIR, E-MOBILITY EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
VICE PROVOST FOR INCLUSIVE EXCELLENCE
AND CHIEF OF STAFF TO THE PRESIDENT

THANK YOU TO OUR 4TH ANNUAL E-MOBILITY SUMMIT SPONSORS



**Franklin College of
Arts and Sciences**
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA



College of Engineering
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA





GEORGIA NETWORK for
ELECTRIC MOBILITY
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

GNEM ENVISIONS GEORGIA AS A WORLD LEADING ECOSYSTEM FOR ELECTRIC AND FUTURE MOBILITY

GNEM'S HISTOR



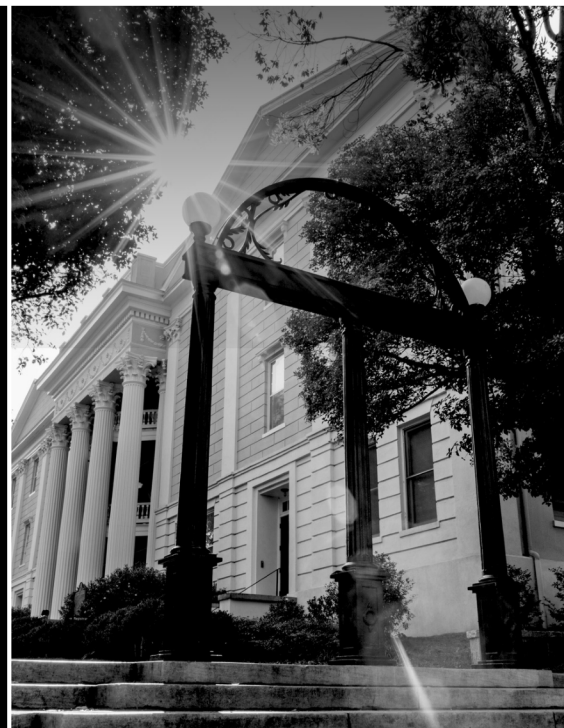
SPRING 2021

GOV. KEMP ANNOUNCES STATEWIDE
INITIATIVE TO ACCELERATE GEORGIA'S
ELECTRIC MOBILITY INDUSTRY



SPRING 2022

GEORGIA POWER DONATES \$250K
MATCHED 1:1 BY THE UGA
FOUNDATION TO ENDOW THE FIRST
PROFESSORSHIP IN
E-MOBILITY AT UGA



SPRING 2022

UGA ANNOUNCES A UNIVERSITY-WIDE
E-MOBILITY INITIATIVE TO SUPPORT THE
STATE IN THIS ACCELERATION INCLUDING
10 PRESIDENTIAL HIRES AROUND THE
UNIVERSITY; TRIGGERING THE FOUNDING
OF GNEM



GEORGIA NETWORK *for*
ELECTRIC MOBILITY

Y AT A GLANCE



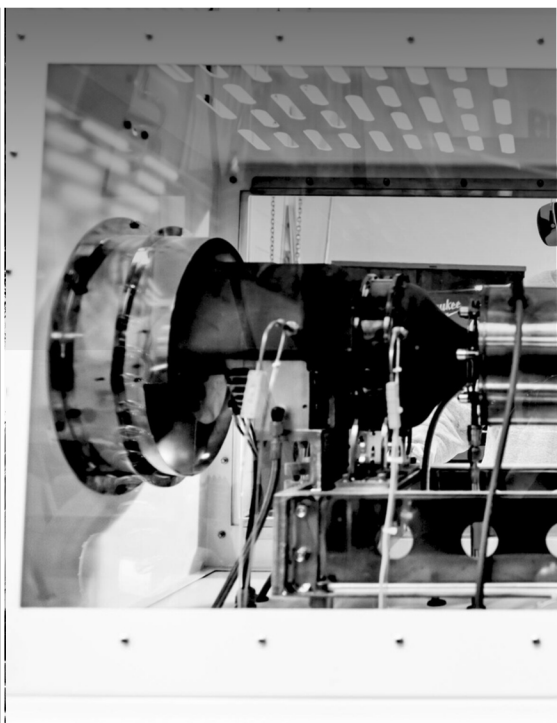
SPRING 2023

**GEORGIA POWER COMMITS \$5M TO
BECOME GNEM'S FIRST FOUNDING
PARTNER**



SPRING 2024

**KIA GEORGIA AND COX AUTOMOTIVE
JOIN GNEM AS FOUNDING PARTNERS
WITH FOUNDING GIFTS**



FALL 2024

**GAMA JOINS GNEM AS A NON-PROFIT
PARTNER/MEMBER**

WHO WE ARE

An industry consortium, public-private partnership network, and think tank

A pan-university initiative embedded across the University of Georgia

WHAT WE DO

Accelerate electric and future mobility adoption through:

Advancing research and development, establishing community partnerships, preparing the next generation of talent

WHY WE DO IT

Cultivating a world leading ecosystem for electric mobility in the state of Georgia



GEORGIA NETWORK *for*
ELECTRIC MOBILITY





GNEM ACROSS THE UNIVERSITY

As part of the University of Georgia's campus-wide Electric Mobility Initiative, the Georgia Network for Electric Mobility (GNEM) was launched with the goal of enhancing research, education, and outreach opportunities in a rapidly developing technological field. GNEM brings together faculty, staff, and students from multiple units (such as the College of Engineering, the School of Public and International Affairs, the Terry College of Business, and the Carl Vinson Institute of Government) leveraging interdisciplinary expertise to address electric mobility from technical, policy, economic, and community perspectives. The initiative is supported by seed grant research funding, including \$2 million over five years, as well as private gifts from founding partner organizations such as Georgia Power, Kia-Georgia, and Cox Automotive to accelerate research, workforce development, policy coordination, and community partnerships statewide.

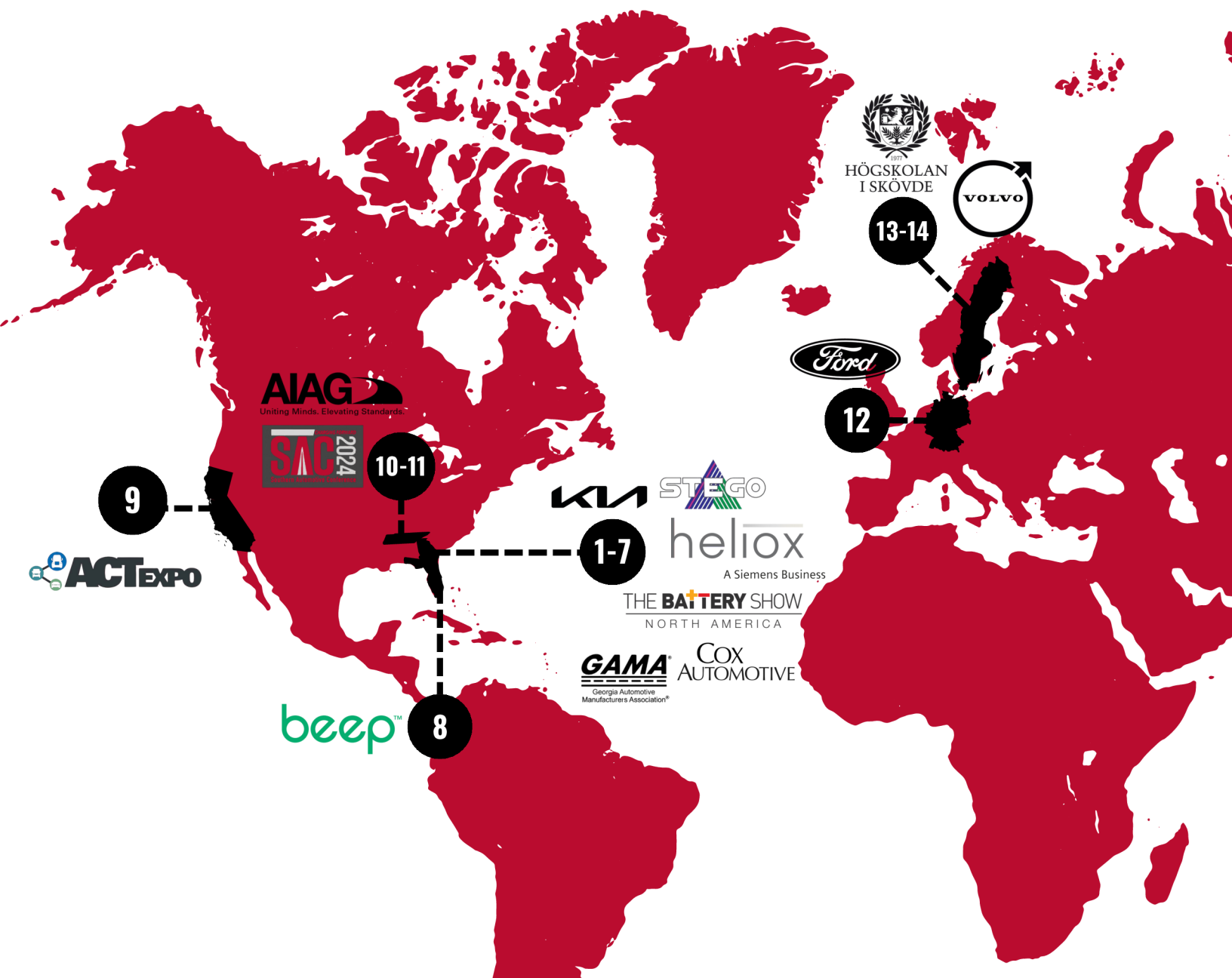
GNEM serves as a statewide coordination hub, promoting innovation in battery reuse and recycling, workforce development, infrastructure planning, and public engagement across Georgia and the region. It supports events such as the Annual Electric Mobility Summit, which convenes industry, government, researchers, and educators to explore infrastructure, workforce, and technological aspects of EV adoption. Through this multidisciplinary, collaborative approach, GNEM is helping position Georgia as a hub for electric and future mobility innovation, ensuring the state benefits economically and equitably from evolving and emerging e-mobility opportunities.



GEORGIA NETWORK for
ELECTRIC MOBILITY
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

Multidisciplinary Research + Industry Partnerships ACROSS UGA, GEORGIA AND BEYOND





GNEM'S GLOBAL INDUSTRY & RESEARCH PARTNERSHIPS



GEORGIA NETWORK *for*
ELECTRIC MOBILITY



1. West Point, GA – Stuart Countess, President and CEO of Kia Georgia led a tour of the Kia-Georgia plant for our GNEM partner group members.
2. Atlanta, GA – Met with Siemens Heliox North America to view showcased charging technologies and discuss policy and partnership opportunities.
3. Douglasville, GA – Participated in and spoke at Georgia Automotive Manufacturers Association (GAMA) meetings; GAMA became an official GNEM member.
4. Atlanta, GA – Participated as a panelist with Cox Automotive at the Battery Show - South, focused on EV battery innovation and supply chain advancements.
5. Atlanta, GA – Met with Hollis Hart, President - Stego to explore capstone project collaborations.
6. Duluth, GA – Attended an EV state-of-the-market update hosted by Cox Automotive, Commissioner Tim Echols, and Cox Cleantech Accelerator.
7. Atlanta, GA – Co-published our second white paper in collaboration with the City of Atlanta on EV fire safety research and policy strategies.
8. Lake Nona, FL – Visited Beep, an autonomous shuttle company, to explore industry and research partnerships.
9. Los Angeles, CA – Attended the ACT Expo, North America's largest commercial clean transportation event (~12,000 attendees).
10. Chattanooga, TN – Engaged with OEMs and suppliers at the Southern Automotive Conference.
11. Chattanooga, TN – Participated in the EV Small Supplier Forum as a keynote speaker/panelist to discuss opportunities for small businesses in the EV ecosystem.
12. Cologne, Germany – Met with Ford's European HQ to discuss transatlantic EV manufacturing and innovation strategies.
13. Skovde, Sweden – Met with Volvo to explore U.S.-based research collaborations and the creation of a research and innovation center at UGA.
14. Skovde, Sweden – Expanded research partnerships with the University of Skovde, including a new Summer School in Mobility and Manufacturing.
15. Chulalongkorn University, Thailand – Developed three mobility research proposals and agreed to collaborate on their new Mobility Test Track.
16. Malaysia – Discussed academic collaborations with UTP and Mitsubishi Motors.
17. Seoul, South Korea – Finalized an MoU with Seoul National University for a dual MS/PhD program in Mobility and a joint research center with UGA.

Multidisciplinary E-mobility Seed Grant Research ACROSS UGA CAMPUS

2023-2025

18

GRADUATE STUDENTS ENGAGED IN SEED
GRANT PROJECTS

14

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ENGAGED IN
SEED GRANT PROJECTS

>11

*Research and seed grants projects representing 7
schools, colleges, and departmental units from across
the university including Public Service and Outreach,
School of Ecology, School of Law*



GEORGIA NETWORK for
ELECTRIC MOBILITY





UGA COLLEGE OF
ENGINEERING, FRANKLIN
COLLEGE OF ARTS AND
SCIENCES, DEPARTMENT OF
CHEMISTRY

Chemical Recovery and Reuse of Lithium Ion Battery Materials for Electric Vehicle Applications, 2023-2024

Researchers: Ramaraja P. Ramasamy, Tina Salguero

This project develops energy-efficient direct recycling methods for lithium-ion cathodes, focusing on NMC materials. The team optimized a two-step process—low-temperature relithiation with eutectic lithium salts and annealing—to restore NMC532 performance to near-new levels. Ongoing efforts aim to upcycle lower-value NMCs and advance scalable, circular recycling solutions.



UGA SCHOOL OF LAW,
SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AND
INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS,
ODUM SCHOOL OF ECOLOGY

GEARSHIFT: Georgia E-Mobility Advancement Research for a Sustainable, Healthy, Innovative, and Fair Transition, 2023-2024

Reseachers: Adam Orford, Emily Bell, Sechindra Vallury

This project explores social factors in e-mobility adoption, including barriers, benefits, and equity. The team analyzed southeastern states' NEVI plan implementation, resulting in a manuscript now under peer review.



UGA SCHOOL OF
COMPUTING AND COLLEGE
OF ENGINEERING

Smart and Collaborative E-Mobility Testbed, 2023-2024

Researchers: Ramvijas Parasuraman, WenZhan Song

This project develops a smart, collaborative e-mobility testbed for networked EVs to improve efficiency, reliability, and sustainability. It targets collaborative route planning and cyber-physical security for electric drive systems. The work has yielded three publications, bridging computer science and power electronics.



UGA COLLEGE OF
ENGINEERING

The Visual Perception for Intelligent Robotic Disassembly of Electric Vehicle Batteries (VIPER-EV Batteries), 2024-2025

Researcher: Beiwen Li

This project advances robotic disassembly of used EV batteries using a vision-based feedback system. The team developed a high-precision vision tool for surface metrology and is now integrating AI-driven component recognition to improve automation and accuracy.



UGA COLLEGE OF
ENGINEERING, CARL VINSON
INSTITUTE OF GOVERNMENT

Alleviating Range Anxiety in Military EV Adoption: Parking Inventory and E-Mobility Assessment in Corridor Communities, 2023-2024

Researchers: Alysha Helmrich, Natalie Bock

This project supports Executive Order 14057 by addressing infrastructure gaps for zero-emission federal fleets. In collaboration with Ft. Benning, the team identified key travel corridors, mapped parking across 16 River Valley counties, and developed metrics to guide charger placement, reducing range anxiety and boosting EV readiness in rural and high-demand areas.



UGA COLLEGE OF
ENGINEERING

Developing an integrated framework for planning and operating a smart and scalable network of EV charging stations, 2023-2024

Researchers: Jidong Yang, Angela Yao

This project funded two graduate students for nine months and covered travel costs. It produced a location modeling framework to promote equitable EV charger access. Key outcomes include a GDOT case study identifying five new charger sites, a dissertation on EV driver behavior, and simulation codes for charging analysis.



UGA SCHOOL OF
COMPUTING AND COLLEGE
OF ENGINEERING

Data-driven Ultra-fast, Reliable, and Low-latency Wireless Communication for E- Vehicles, 2023-2024

Researchers: Haijun Sun, Ramviyas Parasuraman

In collaboration with Ramviyas, this project explores wireless communication to improve EV performance and charging. The team studied reliable communication under high mobility, latency reduction via edge computing, and wireless sensing for better charging alignment in motion.



UGA COLLEGE OF
ENGINEERING

Instrumenting a Living Lab at UGA: Advancing Electric Mobility Through Real-Time Data and Digital Twins, 2024-2025

Researcher: Yunli Shao, Handong Yao, Cami Li

This project develops integrated vehicle and roadside data systems with digital twin simulations. The team is assembling onboard and designing roadside data tools, while refining initial SUMO- and CARLA simulations.



UGA COLLEGE OF
ENGINEERING

Impact of User Behavior on Electric Vehicle Battery Health, 2024-2025

Researcher: Ramaraja P. Ramasamy

This project examines how real-world user behavior affects lithium-ion battery degradation using synthetic test profiles (e.g., partial/full charging, city/highway driving, inactivity). A 16-channel coin cell tester enables electrochemical analysis of fabricated cells to compare electrode performance and validate non-invasive characterization, clarifying degradation pathways.



UGA SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AND
INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, CARL
VINSON INSTITUTE OF
GOVERNMENT, ARCHWAY
PARTNERSHIP

Powering Up Georgia: Developing an EV Readiness Tool for Communities, 2023-2024

Researchers: Natalie Bock, Shana Jones, Sam Perren

This project helps Georgia communities prepare for the EV transition by developing tailored planning resources. In partnership with the Carl Vinson Institute and Archway Partnership, the team created EV charging guides through student-led research. Outcomes include webinars, a local government EV guidebook, and groundwork for future educational efforts.



UGA SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AND
INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, CARL
VINSON INSTITUTE OF
GOVERNMENT

E-VALID (E-mobility: Verification, Awareness, Learning and Information Dissemination), 2024-2025

Researches: Heewon Lee, Julia Dietz

This project is developing an e-mobility best practices repository and an EV toolkit combining public perception with data. Progress includes collecting case studies and analyzing EV-related social media sentiment. These insights will support practical resources to guide stakeholder EV adoption.

ABOUT THE INAUGURAL SUMMER EV EXCHANGE FELLOWS PROGRAM

This program funded 5 graduate and undergraduate students representing 4 universities across the state (Georgia Institute of Technology, Gwinnett Technical College, Georgia State University and Fort Valley State University) to study a 5 interdisciplinary projects with 5 faculty mentors across the University of Georgia (Julia Dietz – Carl Vinson Institute of Government, Dr. Angela Yao – Franklin College of Arts and Sciences, Department of Geography, Dr. Yunli Shao – College of Engineering, Dr. Heewon Lee – School of Public and International Affairs, Dr. Ramviyas Parasuraman – Franklin College of Arts and Sciences, School of Computing). Student projects ranged topics such as gathering and manually annotating demographic data (age, gender, race) from a diverse sample of X users' public posts to create a balanced dataset for AI model validation and creating a mathematical algorithm for electrical vehicle pathway optimization in varying environments. You can find highlights on all 5 of the students who participated in the program on page 44.





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Multidisciplinary Research + Industry Partnership

HIGHLIGHTS RECAP

11

INTERNAL RESEARCH PROJECTS

11 Multidisciplinary e-mobility seed grant research projects awarded across 7 UGA schools, colleges, and departments (2023–2025)

10

R&D AND INNOVATION

New academic and research partnerships pursued or formalized, including Seoul National University, UTP, Mitsubishi Motors, Chulalongkorn University, University of Skövde, and Assar Innovation Institute (Volvo)

3

INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH PROPOSALS

3 New research proposals developed with Chulalongkorn University related to e-mobility and test track collaboration

3

THINK TANK

3 official publications released, including two white papers and one technical guide. The EV Fire Safety white paper brief was co-published with the City of Atlanta and the Mayor's Office for Sustainability and Resilience.

20+

PUBLICATION COLLABORATION

Collaborated with over 20 public and private sector partners as co-authors and contributors to GNEM publications, including technical guides and white papers.

50+

ECOSYSTEM ENGAGEMENT

Held over 50 industry and research partnership conversations to explore potential collaborations, including site visits, virtual briefings, and roundtable participation.

OVER 50 RESEARCH AND INDUSTRY TOUCHPOINTS IN FY25

SIEMENS



Franklin College of
Arts and Sciences
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA



AIAG
Uniting Minds. Elevating Standards.



STÉGO



IAEI *Independent
Alliance of the
Electrical Industry*



ABB E-mobility



**MAYOR'S OFFICE OF
Sustainability
and Resilience**

THE **BATTERY** SHOW
NORTH AMERICA



Carl Vinson
Institute of Government
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA



Cox
AUTOMOTIVE



JACKSON
ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION

beep



LAWRENCEVILLE | ALPHARETTA-NORTH FULTON



HÖGSKOLAN
I SKÖVDE



School of Public &
International Affairs
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA



FORT VALLEY
STATE UNIVERSITY



Terry College of Business
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA



British
Consulate-General
Atlanta



**GNEM THANKS OUR NETWORK ECOSYSTEM
FOR OUR CONTINUED COLLABORATION**



GEORGIA NETWORK for
ELECTRIC MOBILITY
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

Community Engagement ACROSS GEORGIA & BEYOND





GEORGIA NETWORK *for*
ELECTRIC MOBILITY
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA.

**GNEM IS A
PUBLIC-PRIVATE
PARTNERSHIP
NETWORK AND
FUTURE MOBILITY
THINK TANK**

2025 REACH AND RELEVANCE OVERVIEW



THINK TANK

In fiscal year 2025, the Georgia Network for Electric Mobility launched the GNEM Think Tank to provide bleeding-edge insights that push the electric and future mobility industry forward.

THE GEORGIA NETWORK FOR ELECTRIC MOBILITY THINK TANK - DESIGNED TO MEET THE MOMENT.

It serves as a platform for thought leadership, meant to inform action and accelerate progress across fleets, public education, industry, and statewide and regional policy action. Gabrielle Pierre serves as Editor-in-Chief, bringing years of industry experience to guide the Think Tank's development and operations.

Since launch in March, we have published two white papers and are on track to release two to three more by the end of the year, including our upcoming flagship multi-part report, Georgia's Charging Infrastructure Roadmap, and a new series on emerging battery technologies. We are proud to bring GNEM's mission to bear by partnering with a wide range of public and private sector institutions on our white papers, leveraging the full strength of the Georgia Network for Electric Mobility. Our second white paper was co-published with the City of Atlanta and the Mayor's Office of Sustainability and Resilience, and our upcoming multi-part Charging Infrastructure Roadmap is being developed in collaboration with more than ten public sector and industry partners.

PODCAST LAUNCH

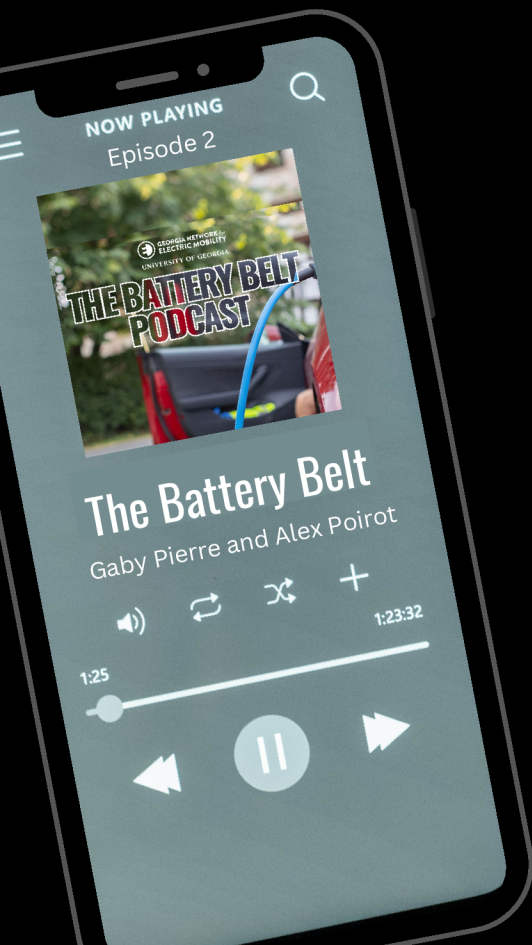
THE BATTERY BELT PODCAST

In FY25, the Georgia Network for Electric Mobility recorded two live episodes of The Battery Belt podcast, a new platform designed to explore the system-level issues shaping the future of electric mobility in Georgia and across the Southeast. These conversations are grounded in the strategic momentum building across the region, as Georgia leads the nation with over 31 billion dollars in e-mobility-related manufacturing investments between 2015 and 2024. They also reflect a broader story of global competitiveness, with neighboring states playing critical roles. Alabama, for example, was the number one automotive exporter in the United States in 2023, with 11 billion dollars in automotive exports alone.



Episode one, The Battery Belt Explained, features Mike Oatridge, CEO of MAGNET, our tri-state research and innovation hub, in a discussion about what it takes to build a globally competitive, domestic EV manufacturing supply chain in the southeastern United States. Episode two, The New Frontier: AI-Enabled Mobility in the Battery Belt, highlights Alex Poirot, Head of External Affairs at Beep Inc., an autonomous shuttle company planning a deployment in Atlanta during the 2026 World Cup.

We were proud to record both episodes live, and after post-production, they will be released on all major podcast platforms. We are also finalizing the next three episodes of season one and look forward to announcing those soon. The Battery Belt is part of GNEM's broader effort to elevate regional perspectives, share cross-sector insights, and strengthen the Southeast's role in shaping the global future of mobility.

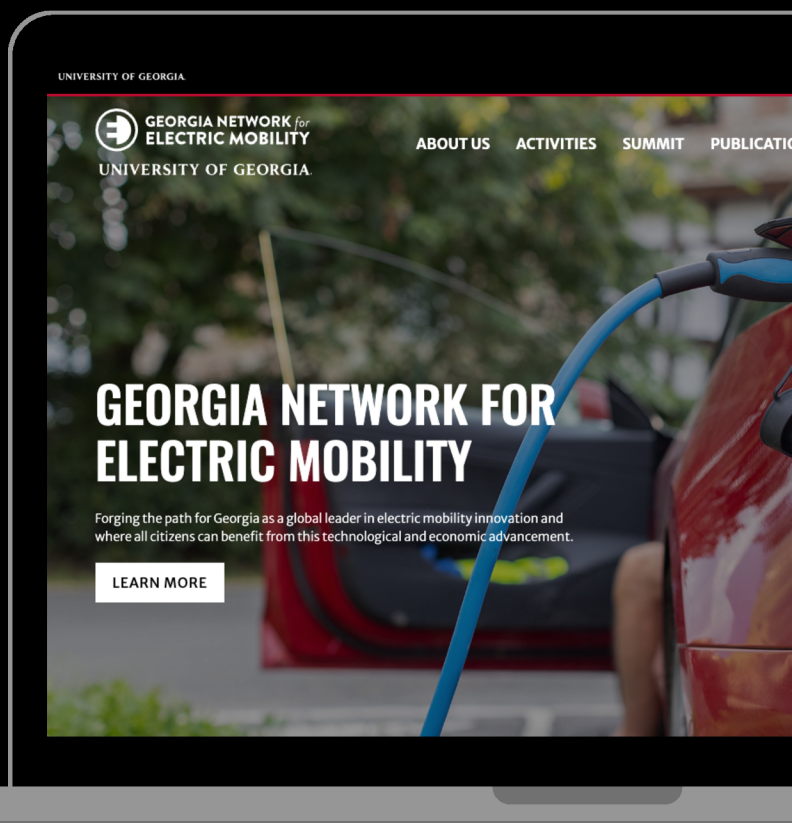


WEBSITE RELAUNCH

EMOBILITY.UGA.EDU

The Georgia Network for Electric Mobility relaunched our website in January 2025 to reflect our updated mission, vision, core activities, and long-term goals. The site serves as a central hub for our latest news, press releases, white papers, and strategic publications. It is designed as a shared resource for partners and stakeholders across the ecosystem, with ongoing updates to ensure timely access to our most current work.

Soon, it will feature dedicated microsites for key initiatives, including our EV fire safety technical guide series, *Demystifying EV Fire Safety*, and our flagship multi-part report, *Georgia's Charging Infrastructure Roadmap*. The website also includes an interactive map of GNEM's growing network, highlighting founding partners, affiliate institutions, Georgia's technical college system, and additional collaborators across industry, government, and research. This platform is part of our broader commitment to transparency, coordination, and long-term statewide impact.



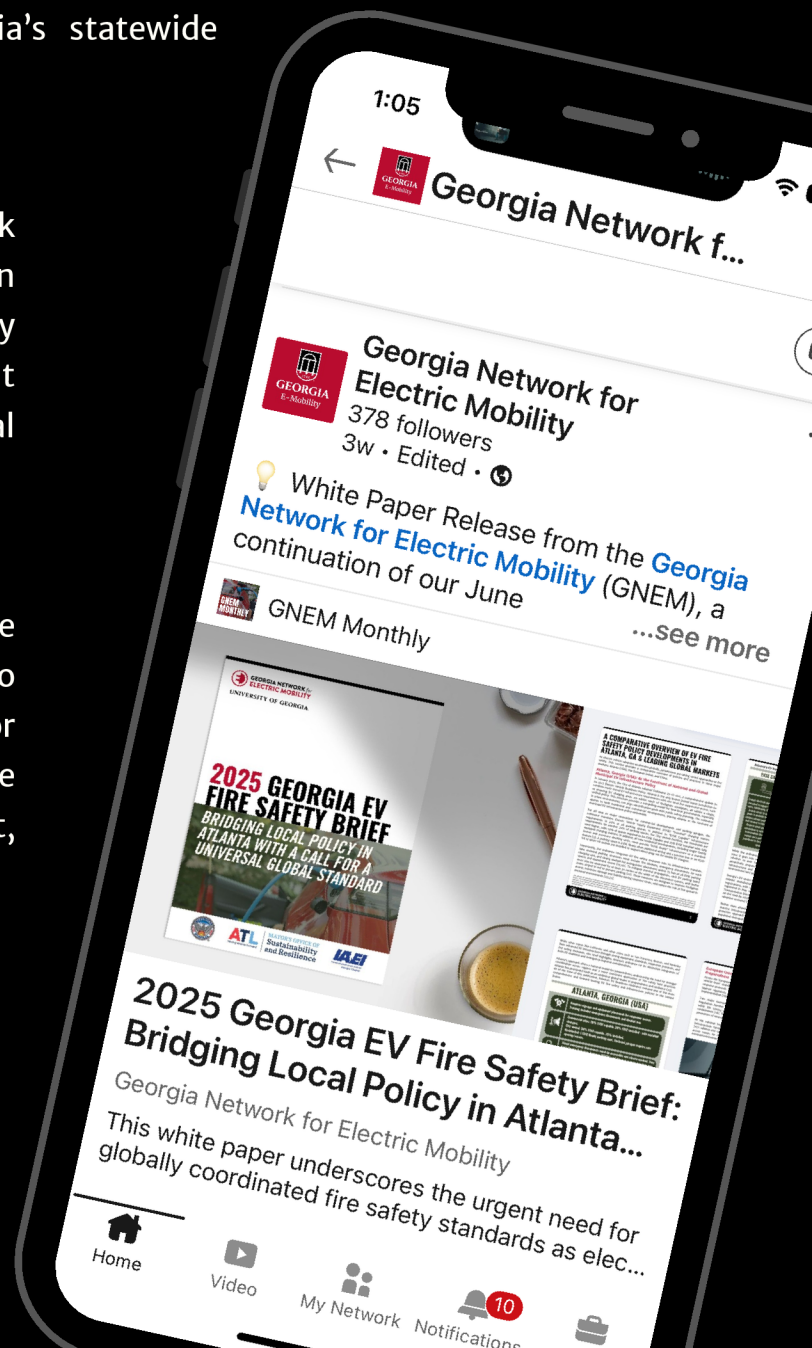
LINKEDIN LAUNCH

@GEORGIA NETWORK FOR ELECTRIC MOBILITY

In the months leading up to and following our fourth annual E-Mobility Summit, the Georgia Network for Electric Mobility launched a focused digital strategy to expand our public voice and strengthen our position as Georgia's statewide platform for future mobility leadership.

In less than five months, the Georgia Network for Electric Mobility has quadrupled its LinkedIn following, averaged more than 20,000 monthly impressions, and sustained a 10 percent engagement rate, significantly above the typical platform average of 2 to 3 percent.

This level of engagement reflects not only the strength and clarity of our content but also growing trust in the Georgia Network for Electric Mobility as a consistent and credible source of insight across Georgia, the Southeast, and the global future mobility community.



PLUG INTO GEORGIA



UNIVERSITY OF
GEORGIA

Carl Vinson
Institute of Government



47

**COUNTIES REACHED
ACROSS GEORGIA**

150

**COMMUNITY AND
GOVERNMENT LEADERS
ACROSS GEORGIA
REACHED**



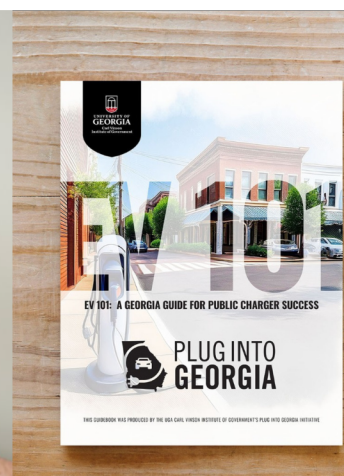
UGA's Carl Vinson Institute of Government, a unit of UGA Public Service & Outreach, in partnership with GNEM and Southern Company, is helping communities understand electric mobility opportunities and challenges through the Plug Into Georgia initiative.

The Plug Into Georgia initiative provides user-friendly tools, educational opportunities, outreach, engagement, and technical assistance to help communities with decision making related to the growth of electric transportation.

By convening subject matter experts and partnerships, offering unbiased, data-informed education, and providing technical support, Plug Into Georgia aims to strengthen connections between the University of Georgia and local communities while helping leaders make informed decisions. [Find more info here](#)

Key Services and Impacts

- Delivered 2 webinars and 3 workshops attended by over 150 government and community leaders from 47 counties
- Developed EV readiness tools and guides to help communities navigate planning, policy, and zoning requirements
- Providing technical support for local EV infrastructure planning, including funding strategies and charger placement
- Offering educational programs and outreach that improve confidence and knowledge in addressing electric mobility challenges



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Plug Into Georgia Survey results show that participants report a significant increase in confidence, knowledge, and comfort in planning for EV adoption in their communities:

80%

Over 80% of respondents believe public interest in EV ownership should have at least a moderate influence on government responsibilities, programs, and policies.

>75%

Most participants expect EV ownership to increase across private, business, and government sectors, highlighting the need for proactive infrastructure and policy planning.

#1 & #2

Economic growth and reduced operating costs are seen as the top benefits of EVs, while range anxiety, limited charging infrastructure, and high upfront costs are viewed as the main challenges to adoption.

100%

All respondents (100%) consider the Carl Vinson Institute of Government a valuable partner, with 86% rating its support as very or extremely valuable.

2X

Post-event surveys show that participants' confidence, knowledge, and comfort in EV planning nearly doubled compared to pre-event responses, underscoring the program's effectiveness.

2025 4TH ANNUAL E-MOBILITY SUMMIT RECAP



More than 250 leaders from industry, government and education gathered in Athens for the fourth annual University of Georgia Electric Mobility Summit on March 13 at the UGA Center for Continuing Education & Hotel. Organized by the Georgia Network for Electric Mobility, the summit highlighted collaborative opportunities to support electric and future mobility adoption and to meet the demands of this growing sector in Georgia and beyond.

This year's summit, "Driving Forward: Innovating Today for the Mobility of Tomorrow," began with remarks from Alton Standifer, vice provost and chair of UGA's Electric Mobility Executive Council, and representatives from GNEM founding partners including Tony Ferguson, Georgia Power Co.'s northeast region director for external affairs; Joe George, Cox Automotive Mobility Solutions Group president; and Stuart Countess, Kia Georgia Inc. president and CEO. The event also featured keynote presentations by Georgia Public Service Commissioner Tim Echols and Georgia Department of Transportation Commissioner Russell McMurry. The full program of events can be found here.



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In his remarks to summit participants, S. Jack Hu, the university's former senior vice president for academic affairs and provost, noted that UGA has made significant investments in e-mobility research and education in recent years. These investments include an interdisciplinary hiring initiative to recruit 10 top faculty members in engineering, public policy, business and public service and outreach and a \$2 million seed grant program launched in 2023 that is driving innovative faculty research in e-mobility.

"We are committed to working alongside industry, government and communities to enhance the quality of life and well-being of Georgia's citizens," said Hu. "I believe one of the most critical roles UGA can fill is to bring together leaders on the front lines of electric mobility in Georgia at events such as this summit, so that we can make new connections, explore new opportunities and build upon the state's growing stature in this promising field.

"GNEM envisions Georgia as a world leading ecosystem for electric mobility innovation, generating high paying jobs and economic growth," said Bjorn Birgisson, chair of the School of Environmental, Civil, Agricultural and Mechanical Engineering, Georgia Power E-Mobility Distinguished Professor and GNEM executive director. "With over \$31 billion in investments, and 38,000 EV-related jobs created in the past decade, Georgia has outpaced even traditional automotive hubs like Michigan, cementing Georgia's leadership in EV innovation and manufacturing. This summit is one of many initiatives strengthening our global presence in e-mobility."





GEORGIA NETWORK for
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Community Engagement HIGHLIGHTS RECAP

150

PLUG INTO GEORGIA PROGRAM

Plug into Georgia program (led by the Carl Vinson Institute of Government) reached 150 community and government leaders across 47 counties via two webinars and three in-person regional workshops. Continued development of local government EV readiness programming, including case study documentation. Notably, Buena Vista broke ground on EV charging infrastructure this year as part of the program's technical assistance.

20K+

LINKEDIN & DIGITAL OUTREACH

GNEM Think Tank's LinkedIn presence reached over 20,000 monthly impressions in FY25, an estimated daily engagement from 500-1,000 professionals. Launched as a core vehicle for research translation, network growth, and public-sector/industry visibility.

10-12%

LINKEDIN ENGAGEMENT RATE

Sustained a 10-12% engagement rate on GNEM's LinkedIn content in Q2, which is significantly higher than the platform average of ~2-3%. This reflects strong relevance and resonance of GNEM's research, strategy, and ecosystem updates.

250+

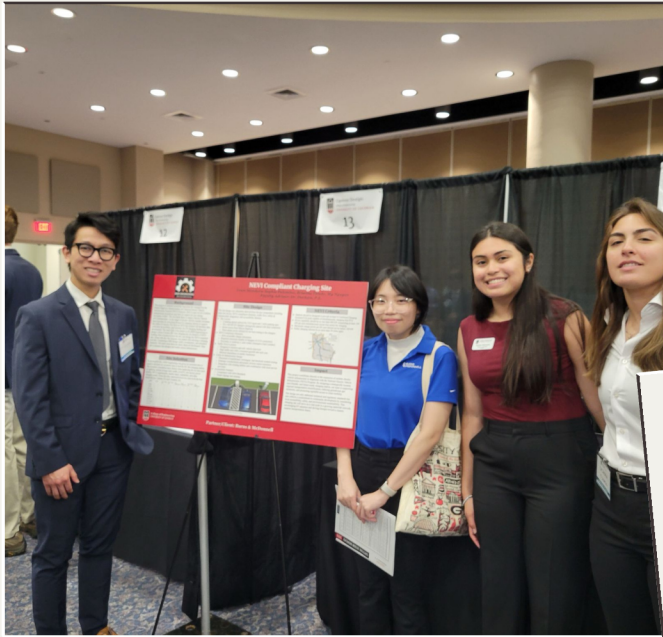
ANNUAL E-MOBILITY SUMMIT

This year's annual mobility summit had GNEM's largest attendance to date with over 250+ participants across 2 days of events



GEORGIA NETWORK for
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Workforce Development ACROSS UGA, GEORGIA



2025 GNEM STUDENT SPOTLIGHTS



2025 has been a banner year for the Georgia Network for Electric Mobility. One of our highlights has been offering a series of undergraduate and graduate research scholarships and fellowships.

These programs were offered both during Spring and Summer 2025, our inaugural Spring Semester UGA E-mobility Scholars, our inaugural GNEM Summer EV Exchange Program Fellows who joined us from several universities around the state and were paired with UGA e-mobility faculty mentors, our think tank Research Fellows who have been supporting our whitepapers, June Demystifying EV Fire Safety Series, and our upcoming multi-part flagship report, Georgia's Charging Infrastructure Roadmap.

The following are face pages recognizing and highlighting all of our FY 2025 GNEM fellows.

E-MOBILITY SCHOLARS – SPRING 2025 AWARDEES



Zongtan Li

*Graduate Student ,
University of Georgia*



Badrinath Balasubramaniam

*Graduate Student ,
University of Georgia*



Donavan Arnold

*Undergraduate Student ,
University of Georgia*

SUMMER EXCHANGE FELLOWS



Nabaa Ahmed

*Undergraduate Student,
Georgia Gwinnett College*



Dylan Jackson

*Undergraduate Student,
Fort Valley State University*



Evan Smallwood

*Undergraduate Student,
Georgia Institute of
Technology*



Mansi Kumar

*PhD Candidate,
Georgia State University*



Jeron Clarke

*Undergraduate Student,
Georgia Gwinnett College*

SUMMER RESEARCH FELLOWS



Remahlia Kormalos

*Undergraduate Student ,
University of Georgia*



Farnoosh Roozkhosh

*PhD Candidate,
University of Georgia*



McKenzie Matthews

*Undergraduate Student ,
University of Georgia*



GEORGIA NETWORK for
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Workforce Development **HIGHLIGHTS** **RECAP**

200+

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

Engaged over 200 students across scholarships, fellowships, research programs, e-mobility certificates, summits, and events. Programs included classroom integration, summer exchanges, and experiential learning through GNEM-hosted convenings.

10

SCHOLARSHIPS & FELLOWSHIPS

Awarded 10 inaugural scholarships and fellowships, including 4 to graduate students and 6 to undergraduates. Inaugural Programs launched: E-Mobility Scholars, Summer Exchange Fellows, and Summer Research Fellows under the GNEM Think Tank umbrella.

18

GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH

18 graduate students participated in multidisciplinary research through GNEM-supported seed grant projects.

14

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH

14 undergraduate students engaged in multidisciplinary research through GNEM seed grant projects.

21

EV CAPSTONE PROJECTS

EV-related capstone projects completed through academic programs in partnership with GNEM since 2023, providing applied learning and industry-relevant experience.

30-50

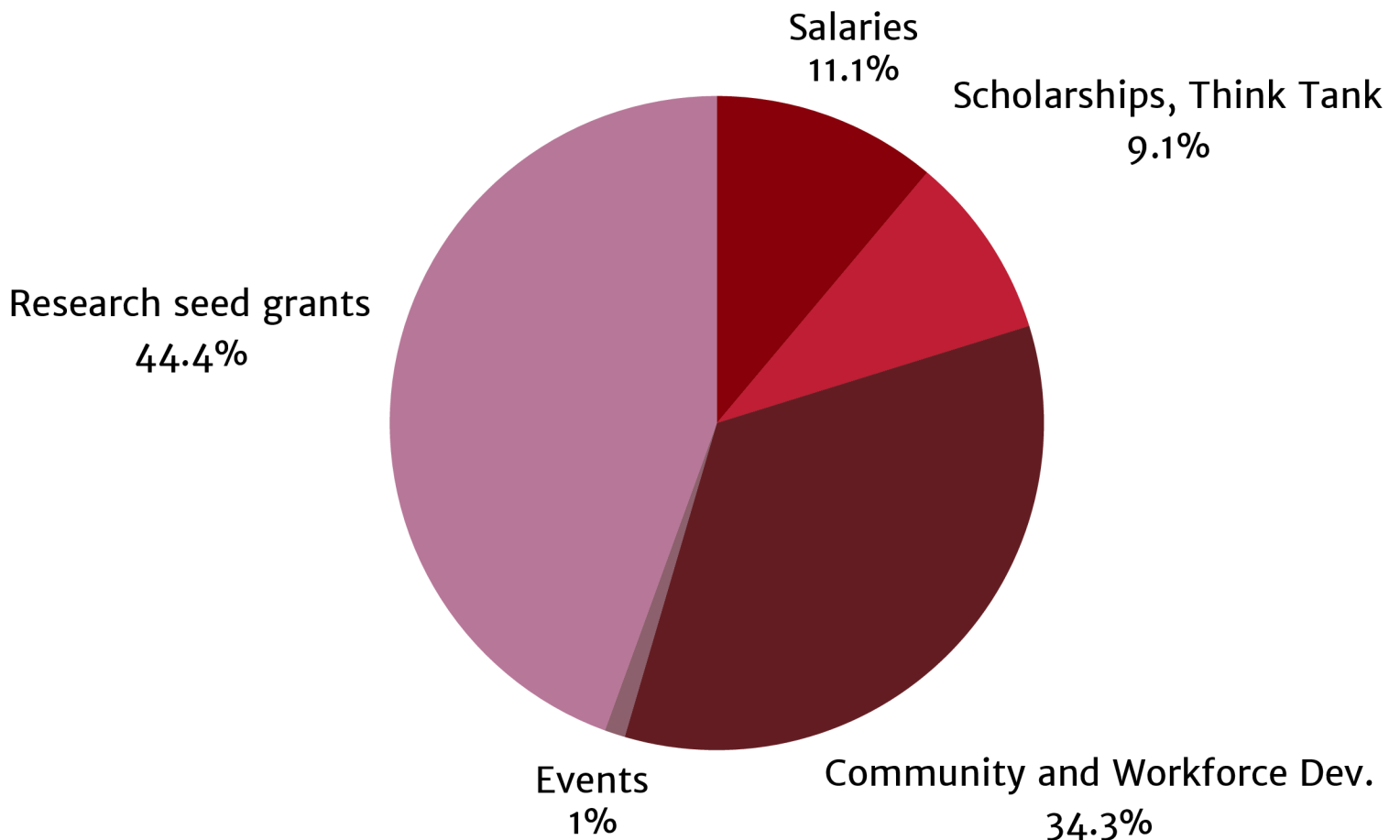
E-MOBILITY CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

50+ students enrolled annually in intro to e-mobility/e-mobility certificate; ~45 students enrolled annually in the Intro to E-mobility class; 18 students graduated since program start in 2023

GNEM FY25 BUDGET SUMMARY



Investing in Impact: GNEM FY25 Budget Actuals



In Fiscal year 2025, GNEM spent approximately \$750,000 on various activities including workforce development, community engagement, salaries, scholarships, fellowships, and think tank activities, events etc. The pie chart above reflects the percentage split across each of our core functions and activities.



CLOSING NOTE

Georgia has firmly positioned itself as a rising global leader in the electric and future mobility economy. The state's strategic location in the southeastern United States, combined with its world-class logistics infrastructure, including deepwater ports, major interstate corridors, and strong freight connectivity, offers a clear competitive advantage in EV manufacturing and distribution. Georgia's expanding power grid further supports the demands of large-scale electric mobility production.



In just one year, the Georgia Network for Electric Mobility has made tremendous progress. It has been a privilege to take what was a new organization in its early stages and help chart a bold and aspirational strategy to become a leading think tank and public-private industry consortium dedicated to advancing electric, connected, and future mobility. Over the past year, GNEM has delivered forward-looking insights, supported and amplified cutting-edge research from the University of Georgia and across the state, and facilitated strategic collaborations in workforce development, community engagement, and infrastructure planning.

We look forward to continuing to build on this foundation and to supporting Georgia's leadership in electric mobility and economic development through this mission-critical work.

GABRIELLE PIERRE
DIRECTOR, STRATEGY AND
PARTNERSHIPS



GABRIELLE PIERRE

*Director, Strategy and
Partnerships*



BJORN BIRGISSON

Executive Director



ASHER DOZIER

*Ass. Director, E-mobility
Community Engagement*



KAYLA BARBEE

*Graphics and
Marketing
Specialist*

MEET THE TEAM



ALTON STANDIFER

*E-mobility Executive
Council Chair*

EMOBILITY.UGA.EDU

For more information on the contents of this report or how your company and/or organization can collaborate with us
please reach out to gpierre@uga.edu

ABOUT GNEM AND THE UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA E-MOBILITY INITIATIVE

The Georgia Network for Electric Mobility (GNEM) was established to advance the State of Georgia's leadership in electric mobility through multidisciplinary research, workforce development, community engagement, and collaborative partnerships. Aligned with the mission of the university, GNEM seeks to foster economic growth, drive technological innovation, and position Georgia as a global leading ecosystem in electric vehicle technology.

GNEM brings together faculty, staff, and students from multiple units (such as the College of Engineering, the School of Public and International Affairs, the Terry College of Business, and the Carl Vinson Institute of Government) leveraging interdisciplinary expertise to address electric mobility from technical, policy, economic, and community perspectives. The initiative is supported by seed grant research funding, including \$2 million over five years, as well as private gifts from founding partner organizations such as Georgia Power, Kia-Georgia, and Cox Automotive to accelerate research, workforce development, policy coordination, and community partnerships statewide.



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