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Dr. Betty L. Siegel

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Interesting Facts

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President Emeritus  
& Distinguished Chair of the  
Siegel Institute

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### **Achievements at Kennesaw State University**

- First woman to head an institution in the 35-unit University System of Georgia
- Longest serving woman president of a public university in the nation
- President of Kennesaw State from 1981-2006
- Under her administration:
  - 4000 students and 15 baccalaureate-degree programs to 18,000 students and 55 baccalaureate and graduate degree programs
  - In 1985, Kennesaw State was named by researchers at George Mason University: "a college on the move" and spotlighted in the book, *Searching for Academic Excellence: Twenty Colleges and Universities on the Move and their Leaders*.
  - In 1991, *U.S. News and World Report* recognized KSU as a "rising star" naming it number one in the South.
  - Fall 2003 Kennesaw State was named by the American Association of State Colleges and Universities as one of the twelve founding institutions included in its program entitled, Foundations of Excellence in their First College Year.
  - Most recently KSU was ranked number 1 out of 25 institutions noted for their learning community programs by *U.S. News and World Report*, and received mention for fits first year freshman experience programs.
- In 2003, the KSU received a million dollar donation to underwrite the work of the RTM Institute for Leadership, Ethics and Character.
  - Endowed *The Betty L. Siegel Endowed Chair of Leadership, Ethics and Character*.
  - Dr. Betty L. Siegel holds *The Betty L. Siegel Endowed Chair of Leadership, Ethics and Character*.

### **Academic Background**

- Area of Expertise- Child Psychology and Administration
- Degrees Received
  - PH.D. from Florida State University
  - Med. from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
  - B.A. in English and History from Wake Forest University
  - Associate of Arts from Cumberland College
  - Post-Doctoral Study in Clinical Child Psychology at Indiana University
  - Honorary Doctorates from Cumberland College in Kentucky, Miami University in Ohio, East Kentucky University, Lynchburg College, Morehead State University, and Southern Connecticut State University.

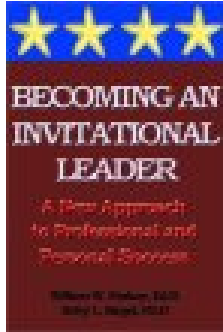
### **Professional Service and Community Service**

- Long time member and former chair of the Board of Directors of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU)
- Serves on the Commission on Women in Higher Education
- Driving force behind the establishment of the Cobb Education Consortium
- Initiated the Northwest Crescent Alliance between three private and three public institutions (Shorter College, Berry College, Reinhardt College, Kennesaw State University, Dalton State College, and Floyd College)
- Serves on numerous community Boards

### **Invitational Leadership**

A nationally known speaker, civic leader, and administrator, Dr. Siegel uses the "invitational model" to espouse methods for strengthening the education and leadership process. She has lectured or consulted with educational, professional, government, and civic groups in all 50 states, Puerto Rico, and nine foreign countries.

- In 1982, along with Dr. William Purkey, founded the International Alliance for Invitational Education, a non-profit organization consisting of professionals from 12 countries who seek to apply the concepts of invitational education to their personal and professional lives.
- 1999 Dr. Purkey and Dr. Siegel created the Center for Invitational Leadership. This center advances the model of invitational education by offering opportunities for professionals to participate in leadership development programs.
- In 2002 Purkey and Siegel wrote, *Becoming an Invitational Leader*.



### Wintering into Wisdom

In 2008, KSU Press released a book by Elizabeth Giddens called *Wintering into Wisdom*. *Wintering Into Wisdom: A Festschrift for Dr. Betty Lentz Siegel* honors the emeritus president of Kennesaw State University with a collection of essays for all leaders, particularly for those who lead educational institutions. The essays by novelist Ferrol Sams, Georgia Senator Johnny Isakson, former President of both Spelman and Bennett Colleges Johnnetta Cole, educational psychologist William Purkey, college freshman advocate Betsy Barefoot, educator Sally Hare, and seven others explore the bases of successful leadership, including its spiritual foundations, its challenges and compromises, and its dependence on personal integrity. These essays describe the lives of leaders from the inside and instruct others in balancing complex professional and personal lives.

