Transforming Communities Across the Southeast

The Partnership for Innovation develops next generation leaders across the state for public service, innovation and technology through programming, experiential learning and mentorship for a more inclusive Georgia.

> "The PIN Summer Internship has allowed me the opportunity to return to and pour back into my local community for the summer all while gaining valuable work experience that will benefit my path after college."
>
> **- Chloe Paulk, Mercer University, 2024 Intern**

The Summer PINternship

The **PINternship** unites a diverse summer cohort of college students from any year, major, and institution type into project teams. These teams partner with local organizations and companies to advance **innovation, technology, and opportunity** within the community. Through its unique **"Pair Model,"** students from different universities are intentionally matched, fostering cross-learning and co-creation by leveraging their complementary skills and expertise. Beyond daily experiential learning at community project sites, PINterns benefit from weekly **professional development and mentorship** programming, connecting them with local experts and enriching their journey.

By the Numbers

- Summer PINternship 2025
  - Total Projects: 51
  - Host Site Organizations: 50
  - 27 Communities Served across:
    - Georgia
    - Alabama
    - Texas
    - Virginia
- Students
  - PINterns: 103
  - Higher Education Institutions: 27
  - College Majors: 63
  - Unique Languages Spoken: 23
  - First Generation College Students: 27
  - Pell eligible: 44%
- Professional Development (PD)
  - Mentorship and PD Sessions: 16
  - In-person Cohort Events: 2

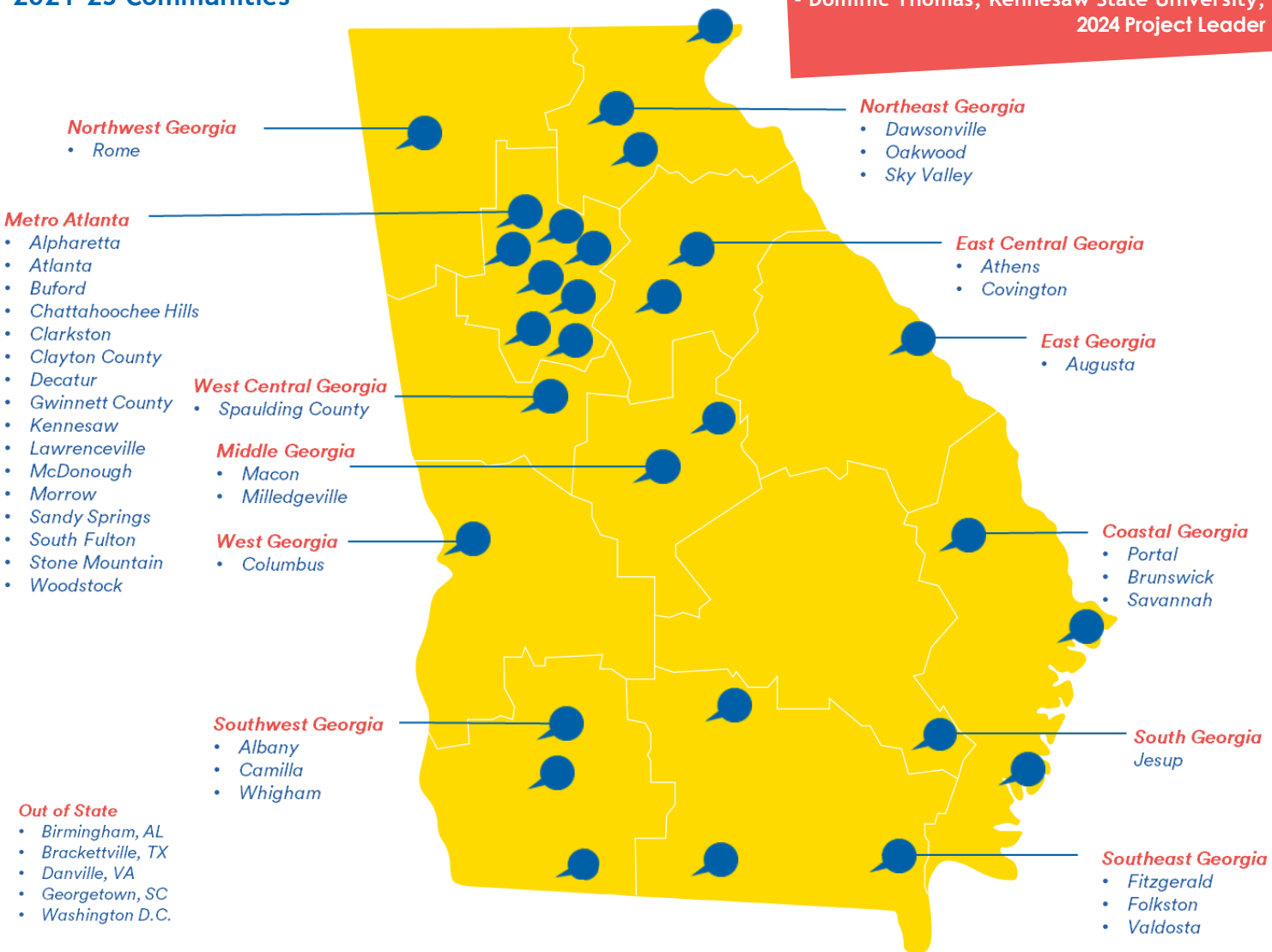
Innovation

- Intern Project Examples in the Following Topic Areas:
  - Holistic approach to mental health crisis response, combining advanced AI, ML, and NLP algorithms with a tailored hardware solution
  - Optimizing new technologies for water quality management and treatment
  - AI-powered tool to track the impact of investments on the racial wealth gap
  - Communicating complex climate information to community, while increasing visual appeal and user interfaces
  - Developed community park designs that are functional, meaningful and sustainable

Impact

- Established Relationships Between Universities, Students and Communities
- Provided direct financial assistance to reduce student loan debt and advocating for policy changes
- Revolutionized education by providing students with engaging, immersive, and effective learning experiences using virtual reality
- Improved STEM students' college experience, leading to higher retention rates and increased diversity in the field increasing social mobility and economic growth
- Created sustainable transportation alternatives over personal use, improving safety, and increasing access to transportation & the overall quality of life for communities
- Advance hybrid manufacturing techniques, create innovative bimetallic structures, and foster the development of skilled professionals in the field of manufacturing

Student Engagement Across the State of Georgia and Beyond

> "PIN makes community innovation possible. We were able to get more done with our partners and create a real, installable software prototype… to enable the partners to really use and understand our innovative tool in order to give rich feedback for further innovation."
>
> **- Dominic Thomas, Kennesaw State University, 2024 Project Leader**

2021-25 Communities