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## The Atlanta University Center's (AUC) Robert W. Woodruff Library's Growing Partnerships and Outreach to Support Its Annual International Games Day

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## The Atlanta University Center's (AUC) Robert W. Woodruff Library's Growing Partnerships and Outreach to Support Its Annual International Games Day

International Games Day (IGD) has always been one of the Atlanta University Center (AUC) Woodruff Library's most popular outreach events. It is the library's event for participation in International Games Month created by ALA's Games and Gaming Round Table. IGD has evolved from an informal small gathering of AUC community members into a broader gaming and e-sports networking event. Historically, community members would come in and wind down with a few or several rounds of Uno, Jenga, cornhole, Connect Four, and even a spades tournament. Now, IGD has transformed into a small-scale "electronics convention" of sorts. In addition to the traditional table/board game and floor game offerings, the library added video game consoles connected to 46-inch flat-panel TVs, Meta Quest 2 virtual reality headsets, G-Code Gaming Truck, and vendors from different parts of the gaming and tech industries to the mix.

The move to transform IGD began in fall semester 2021 (November 9) when the AUC community reopened its physical campuses after COVID-19. For the IGD revival, its planning committee that year chose to run the event differently by adding video gaming and virtual reality (VR) elements. A partnership with Microsoft Game Camp brought in an industry expert, Diversity & Inclusion Lead Christopher Douglas, to speak about gaming internships for

current students and those who just graduated. For faculty collaboration, the principal investigator of Morehouse College's VR Project, "Morehouse in the Metaverse," Dr. Muhsinah Morris, gifted Meta Quest 2 headsets to the library. In the following year, Microsoft continued to be a partner, providing four Xboxes and



Event flyer designed by Kira Livingston, graphic designer and social media specialist

bringing EA Sports' Inclusion and Diversity Program Manager Adetola Egbeleye as a guest speaker, making IGD 2022 (November 10) even more dynamic.

In brief, IGD has transformed to showcase the AUC's growing e-sports and gaming programs

across the campuses. IGD 2023 (November 9–10) had significant growth in both sponsorships and attendees. The IGD committee decided to split the event into two days: Day 1 for gaming activities and Day 2 for guest speakers. The rationale was to keep activities and guest talks separate in order to not interfere with each other based on past feedback. There were over 192 AUC community members and visitors who attended across both days. Feedback for IGD 2023 was overwhelmingly positive with nothing less than a three on a five-point scale (view the [Feedback](#) page for more information). The IGD committee for 2023 consisted of Patrice Williams (team leader), Bryan Briones, Naylah Daniels, Kira Livingston, Donovan Rimpsey, and Jamal Ware, with an honorable mention to Andrea Jackson Gavin.

To learn more about the AUC Woodruff Library's IGD events and programming, visit <https://research.auctr.edu/international-games-day>.

### **About the AUC Robert W. Woodruff Library**

The library supports the teaching, learning and research missions of institutions of higher education that comprise the world's largest consortium of Historically Black Colleges and Universities: Clark Atlanta University, Interdenominational Theological Center, Morehouse College, and Spelman College. As the "center of the Center," the AUC Woodruff Library is the intellectual and information hub of the Atlanta University Center.

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