

## Fall 2021 at Georgia College

Georgia College has been guided by the University System of Georgia (USG) as we prepare to welcome new and returning students to our beautiful campus. All 26 institutions will provide learning continuity through a face-to-face instructional approach without social distancing. No institution may change the overall modality of their instruction.

Though not required, everyone is encouraged to wear a mask/face covering while inside campus facilities and to get vaccinated against COVID-19. For more information on the above guidance, plus student life, events and gatherings, student health services, guidance on COVID-19 and more, visit [COVID-19 & Fall 2021 Resources](#) on the GC website.

## GC HIPs Implementation Team

Georgia College nominated four faculty to participate in a second-year initiative by the USG focusing on High Impact Practices (HIPs). This is part of a state-wide effort to provide experiential learning opportunities at institutions during the 2021-2022 academic year. The four GC faculty are: Damian Francis, Joy Godin, Angela Criscoe, Olha Osobov.

## Congratulations!

**Sallie Coke, PhD, Nursing**, *Advanced Nursing Education Workforce (ANEW) Yr 3*, HRSA (Health Resources and Services Administration), \$670,458

**Holley Roberts, EdD, Academic Affairs**, *USG STEM IV Initiative – Year 3*, University System of Georgia, \$75,000

**Veronica Womack, PhD, Rural Studies Institute**, *SARS-CoV-2 Vaccine Information Equity and Demand Creation Project (CoVIED, Center for Global Health)*, \$37,881

**Sequena Stanton, School of Continuing and Professional Studies**, *YES - Lakeview Academy and YES - Oak Hill Middle School*, U.S. Department of Education, \$350,000 (each location)

## COVID-19 Information

Georgia College will join The White House and the U.S. Department of Education *COVID-19 College Vaccine Challenge*. Participating colleges commit to taking three key actions to help get their campus communities vaccinated: (1) engaging every student, faculty, and staff member; (2) organizing their college communities; and (3) delivering vaccine access for all. Some of the guidance received from the USG includes:

- COVID-19 vaccines offer safe, effective protection and we urge all students, faculty, staff and visitors to get vaccinated either on campus or with a local provider.
- Though not required, everyone is encouraged to wear a mask or face covering while inside campus facilities.
- No student, faculty or staff member should be treated differently based on their COVID-19 vaccination status.
- Students should not be asked about their vaccine status and be segregated in a classroom or from other instructor-student interactions (e.g., office hours, group work, field trips, labs, etc.) based on their vaccination status.
- Students may be required by off-campus partnering organizations to wear masks and/or be vaccinated as a condition of participation in experiential learning opportunities such as study abroad programs, externships and delivery of medical services.
- Any change in modality for a class due to isolation or quarantine requires the approval of the Department Chair, the Dean, and the Office of the Provost. A change in modality is subject to an end date and is correlated to isolation or quarantine timelines.

## Inaugural New Chairs Academy

The first annual 'New Chairs Academy' offered training and professional development opportunities for new and interim department chairs and associate deans. Coordinated by Drs. Jordan Cofer and Holley Roberts, the New Chairs Academy had 12 participants. The academy featured workshops on Assessment, Progress and Planning, *GC Journeys*, Promotion and Tenure, Scheduling, and Budgeting. The group also learned leadership principles from Dr. Dorman, Dr. Spirou, and had a Q&A with the Deans. The new department chairs will continue in a mentorship program and development with the Council of Chairs. Dr. Libby Murphy, who will be starting her second year as department chair of World Languages and Cultures said, "I found it enormously helpful, and I really appreciated having this time to interact with other new chairs and to meet face-to-face with so many colleagues from across campus."

### Curriculum Updates

At its August 10, 2021 meeting, the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia approved the following:

- The establishment of a Bachelor of Science in Data Science
- Terminations of the Bachelor of Science in Athletic Training, Bachelor of Science in Outdoor Education, and the RN-BSN Nursing

### Centers of Excellence in Nursing Education

The Georgia College School of Nursing was named a Center of Excellence by the National League for Nursing (NLN) in the category "Enhance student learning and professional development." Formal recognition will take place at the [NLN Education Summit](#) in September 2021.

### New Faculty Orientation

The 2021 New Faculty Orientation took place August 2-5, 2021. The Center for Teaching and Learning's approach sought to engage incoming faculty with hands-on activities to help prepare them for their first week of classes. CTL invited a variety of speakers from around campus to share interactive activities to introduce or expand the knowledge of our instructors on the importance of such topics as Communicating with Your Students, Starting Strong, Creating an Inviting First Day of Classes, Facilitating Interaction Using Technology, Higher Order Questioning, Learning Assessment, and Interactive Learning with GeorgiaVIEW. Other presentations focused on *GC Journeys*, discussing what it is and how faculty members can get involved. The orientation wrapped up with a team-building activity.

### Conferring the Title of Emeritus

Emeritus/Emerita status is a title conferred by the university president, at her/his discretion, on a retired administrative officer or retired faculty member for honorable and distinguished service to Georgia College & State University, and must comply with Board of Regents policy.

The 2021 updated policy and process information can be found in the [GC Policy Manual](#). To nominate a person, use the GC Signatures form [Emeritus/Emerita Recommendation](#).

### Upcoming Events

**August 13** | *First Year Convocation* | 9:00a-10:00a |  
Centennial Center

**August 13** | *GCReads* | 1:00-2:15 and 2:30-3:45

**August 12-15** | *Weekend of Welcome* | Click [here](#) for  
information

**August 16** | Classes begin