

Action Required for SACSCOC Reaffirmation

The Office of Institutional Research and Effectiveness is tasked with working through a 'practice run' of faculty qualifications/credentials ([see explanation here](#)) for our upcoming 2024 Reaffirmation with SACSCOC. While we are currently in very good standing with this Standard, a critical task is at hand. Faculty members must update their Education tab (i.e. degree information) in Faculty Success (formerly Digital Measures). This tab is under General Information. All faculty must complete this requirement **ASAP**.

QEP Update

Based on the GC campus community votes, three final topics for GC's next QEP have been identified:

- Adulting 101: Bobcats RISE (Ready and Informed for Success and Excellence);
- Bobcats FIRST (Focusing on Inner Resilience & Skills to Thrive);
- Empowering Bobcats: Digital Research and Information Literacy at Georgia College (Locate - Create - Evaluate - Communicate)

Once the final topic is identified, a QEP Design and Implementation Team will work throughout fall 2022 and spring 2023 to fully develop goals and outcomes, design curriculum and programming, identify resources and best practices, and write the QEP assessment plan. The QEP proposal will be finalized during summer 2023 and will be submitted to SACSCOC in December 2023.

University Strategic Plan

The Strategic Plan Steering Committee completed the FY21 Annual Report. Information and reports can be found on this [website](#). The 2016-2021 Strategic Plan cycle has ended and the committee is already planning for the next cycle, including working on identifying aspirational institutions to model aspects for GCs new strategic goals. These institutions may exhibit unique strengths or differentiators that, if adapted successfully, could help shape the trajectory of success that Georgia College currently enjoys.

Congratulations!

Dr. Veronica Womack, Executive Director, Rural Studies Institute (RSI), CGHI Vaccine Access and Training (VAT) Project, Center for Global Health Innovation (HRSA funding), \$67,711.

The RSI's focus for the VAT Project is the African American population within the target service area. Collaborative organizations include faculty and/staff partners from Kentucky State University, Tuskegee University, Augusta University Medical College of Georgia, and the Federation of Southern Cooperatives who will serve as community partners. Members of these organizations will assist in identification and hiring of suitable Community Healthcare Workers within their respective communities and will serve as key points of contact linking RSI and the VAT Project to communities.

Post-Tenure Review

The Office of the Provost submitted the *Georgia College PTR* document to the USG for review. On April 8, 2022 we received feedback which was shared with the PTR Task Force and presented to FAPC. The University Senate approved the document on April 22.

Upcoming Key Dates

- Graduate Commencement: Friday, May 6th, faculty check-in at 6:15 PM
- Undergraduate Commencement for Colleges of A&S and Education: Saturday, May 7th, faculty check in at 8:15 AM.
- Undergraduate Commencement for Colleges of Business and Health Sciences: Saturday, May 7th, faculty check in at 1:15 PM
- Final grades for all Spring 2022 courses are due on Wednesday, May 11th, by 9:00 AM.

2021-2022 Academic Affairs Unit Updates

The May 2022 issue of the *Provost Notes* includes end-of-year updates from numerous units in the Office of Academic Affairs. The reports below focus on accomplishments and progress on key projects during the 2021-2022 academic year.

College of Arts and Sciences

- **Collaboration and Partnerships:** Collaborated with the College of Business to redesign the Legal Studies certificate to include courses from our programs and initiated discussions between the Department of World Languages and the College of Business to incorporate our curriculum into that of business majors.
- **Aquatic Sciences Center:** Launched the ASC in 2021-22. Dr. Andrei Barkovskii, Biology, will be the center director. Established a revenue sharing process to help fund the ASC into the future.
- **Digital Humanities Collaborative:** Along with the Russell Library, launched the digital humanities collaborative. Under the guidance of Dr. Elissa Auerbach, Art, the collaborative has reached out to digital humanities experts for workshops, created and funded faculty/student project initiatives, had the first student DH showcase at the undergraduate research symposium, and established a web presence to highlight its work.
- **Important New Hires:** Hired a new permanent associate dean, Dr. Winston Tripp, and a new Chair of the Department of Chemistry, Physics, and Astronomy, Dr. Sayo Fakayode.
- **Student Diversity Recruitment:** Due to a large gift to the college, created a cohort system to provide four-year annual scholarships of \$2,000 for eight underrepresented students. The first three members of this cohort began in August 2021. Five more will begin in August 2022.
- **NASM Reaccreditation:** Working on reaccreditation efforts with the National Association of Schools of Music and the American Music Therapy Association.
- **Summer Scheduling:** Strengthened summer scheduling guidelines to better accommodate student demand so as to maximize summer revenue for professional development funding.
- **COAS Advisory Board:** Reassessing our board structure in order to maximize its effectiveness. We hope to implement recommendations in Fall 2022.

John H Lounsbury College of Education

- Goal: Continue the COE's efforts to increase diversity in our undergraduate programs through transfer partnerships with Baldwin County School District, Central Georgia Technical College, and Georgia Military College.
 - The agreement with Georgia Military College is complete and the agreements with Baldwin High School (BHS), Central Georgia Technical College (CGTC), and Georgia Military College (GMC) are near completion.
- Goal: Develop an online teaching endorsement/certificate and provide the initial offering in Fall 2022 Semester.
 - The online teaching certificate successfully completed the GCSU governance process and PSC approval.
- Goal: Realign Early Childhood Education, Middle Grades Education and Special Education undergraduate programs to meet the USG 120-hour rule.
 - The realignment of our three undergraduate programs is complete.
- Goal: Continue the CAEP Phase-in Plans for Advanced Level Program Assessment.
 - The Employer survey, Advanced Programs Disposition Assessment, and Qualitative study of Advanced Program Completers are all underway.
- Other Accomplishments:
 - A graduate certificate in Education and Equity has been approved.
 - The COE continues to be recognized as "exemplary" by the Professional Standards Commission.
 - The COE continues to focus on the teacher pipeline issue. From 2017 to 2021, undergraduate enrollment went from 398 to 425 which is reflected in going from 6.6% to 7.6% of total GCSU enrollment. Graduate enrollment went from 360 to 506 or 32% to 43% of GCSU total graduate enrollment.

J. Whitney Bunting College of Business

- **Goal 1: Achieve Reaffirmation of AACSB and ABET Accreditations**
 - We received positive affirmation in February 2022 for our AACSB accreditation. The initial feedback from the October 2021 visit by ABET was positive and we anticipate final word on reaccreditation in August.
- **Goal 2: Review and Revise Personnel Policies**
 - The faculty voted on April 29, 2022 in favor of changes to faculty qualifications and workload policies that ensure our scholarly expectations are more aligned with our mission as a public liberal arts university and with the teacher-scholar model. A review and revision of the Tenure/Promotion policy, in addition to the instrument used for annual evaluation and PTR, will occur in Fall 2022.
- **Goal 3: Enhance and Expand CoB Participation in GC Journeys**
 - Prof. Jehan El-Jourbagy, Assistant Professor of Business Law and Ethics, was appointed as a CoB GC Journeys Fellow and has worked closely with faculty to better understand needs, expectations, and interests. Additionally, we set aside funds for a teaching innovation grant to support HIPs and were successful in receiving funds from Academic Affairs for a state-wide leadership tour of Georgia for ten of our students to visit with corporations, small businesses, and non-profits across the state.
- **Goal 4: Explore Curricula Innovation & Enrollment Growth**
 - Our BS in Finance proposal is under review by the BOR and scheduled to be considered at their May 2022 meeting. We continue to have conversations with colleagues across campus on possible collaborations including in areas of global commerce, a cross-college minor in legal studies, a program in arts management, and a social science research undergraduate certificate.
- **Goal 5: Investigate the Development of a Center for Innovation**
 - Dr. Nicholas Creel, Assistant Professor of Business Law and Ethics, is finalizing a proposal to establish a Center for Innovation. Space has been identified in the College of Education to house the Center. If approved, we anticipate this inter- and multidisciplinary Center to go-live in Summer 2022.

College of Health Sciences

- **COHS Diversity Officer:** Toyia Barnes, Office Manager for the School of Health and Human Performance, has agreed to serve as the first COHS Diversity Officer starting July 1, 2022. This position will work with the COHS Inclusive Excellence Committee to implement our college's diversity action plan and will liaise with the GC Chief Diversity Officer to assure alignment with the university's plan and initiatives.
- **The Center for Health and Social Issues (CHSI)** now has three community collaboratives where students, faculty, and a new research fellow have been engaged in conducting needs assessments, pop up health clinics, mobile food pantry, and awareness activities focused on breast and lung cancer, diabetes, and AIDS. Shannon Gardner, a VSU MS in Social Work student, provided a Community Partnership Clinic during her internship with the center.
- **Endowed Scholarships:** Emily Boewadt, COHS Donor Engagement Officer, secured two endowed scholarships to be awarded to undergraduate/graduate students in the COHS with a preference for underrepresented students.
- **Leadership Certification:** Dr. Daniel Czech, Associate Dean of COHS, conducted two leadership certifications for faculty and staff. Sixteen individuals met weekly during Fall 2021 to achieve Level I emotional intelligence leadership certification while 14 met weekly during Spring 2022 to achieve Level II resiliency leadership.
- **Faculty Research:** The COHS created a faculty research seminar where faculty and administration worked collaboratively to submit 3 papers to peer reviewed journals.

Ina Dillard Russell Library

- The library successfully created and developed a minor in Information Studies. The first round of courses will be offered in Spring 2023.
- Enhancements in the library management system to improve budget tracking, reporting, and turnaround time for library materials requests are ongoing.
- The library offered new library workshops and programming that covered topics related to virtual reality, 3D printing/modeling, instructional support, streaming media, GALILEO, the university's institutional repository, the faculty expertise gallery, text mining, and reference management.
- An arrangement of the Paul D. Coverdell Senate and Peace Corps Papers is in progress.
- The library completed a redesign of its website and changed its overall website architecture to improve navigation and access.
- Processing of the following collections is ongoing: GC Department of Theatre and Dance, Flannery O'Connor Review files, Seventh Circles Project's initial interviews, Dr. Thomas F. Armstrong book donation, and Dr. James W. Mimbs book collection
- The library investigated ways to improve its physical space through accessibility and wayfinding. As a result, the library successfully integrated a way-finding tool for our physical library resources and relocated its physical course reserves to a more accessible location.

John E Sallstrom Honors College

- Positioned Honors admissions recruiting earlier in the annual cycle—starting with an October round of application review—to compete more effectively in new/emerging markets.
- Developed a regular mix of face-to-face and virtual events for Honors admissions recruiting, starting with a new virtual event in July 2021 and alternating back and forth between on-campus gatherings like Honors Preview Day and virtual events like a Dec. 2022 Holiday Panel.
- Facilitated regular utilization of the Doris C. Moody seminar room for faculty presentation/book discussion/film discussion sessions and Eta Sigma Alpha events. The stains on the floor tell the story of how often the space was used!
- Opened the anatomical model learning lab in the Humber-White House.
- Piloted an Honors alumni mentoring program. The forthcoming Honors newsletter will feature a story on one of the first mentoring pairs.
- Utilized technologies like Zoom to engage alumni in Honors programming through the Legends of Honors series.

Office of Grants & Sponsored Projects

- Between July 1, 2021 and April 30, 2022, OGSP assisted faculty (21), staff (9), and students (2) submit 32 proposals to external agencies. Six of the faculty were submitting their first external grant proposal on behalf of Georgia College.
- Six additional proposals are in the development phase with submission deadlines prior to June 30th.
- The office purchased and is implementing new grants management system, Amplifund.
- The office reviewed and updated the policies and procedures which govern grants and sponsored activity across campus.

Office of Institutional Research and Effectiveness

- **QEP Topic Selection:** Through a yearlong process, the OIRE gathered broad-based input for possible topics for GC's next QEP. Through campus wide voting, the topic was narrowed to 3 themes. The final QEP topic will be announced in May 2022 and be implemented from fall 2024 to spring 2029.
- **CPR:** The process for Comprehensive Program Review (CPR) was reviewed and redesigned this year. The new reporting format allows for a wider range of data analysis and reporting, and allows academic programs more flexibility in areas on which to focus and highlight.
- **New Data Dashboard:** The IR team created a new Diversity Dashboard that can be found on the OIRE website. This dashboard provides a breakdown of ethnicity/race, gender, full or part time status, and employee category for the Georgia College workforce and students by level.
- **RAC-IRP State Meeting:** The IR team hosted the spring meeting for the Regents Advisory Committee for Institutional Research and Planning (RAC-IRP) at Georgia College. Participants visited campus from all over the state, representing each of the USG institutions.

International Education Center

- 48 new international students came to Georgia College, representing 35 separate nations. Fully 13 came through the U.S. State Department.
- International education staff were awarded four “Caught You Caring” awards. Susie Ramage was awarded the 2022 Bobcat Outstanding Service to Students Award.
- IEC staff mentored former GC internationals to three successful U.S. graduate school placements that included full-ride scholarships, graduate assistantships, and one Fulbright USA scholarship. Additionally, one student is a UK Chevening scholarship finalist, with another under consideration for a Nelson Mandela Foundation scholarship.
- International’s “GC Global” newsletter continues to spread the GC brand internationally. The November issue – with news of the SEMAU conference and an MIUSA newsletter piece about a Pakistani GC student – was read by an estimated 1,000 readers on six continents and was circulated within the State Department.
- Several new exchange and collaboration agreements are in-process, including a high-potential agreement with the Hebrew University (HU) of Jerusalem. HU is considered Israel’s premier university.
- Approximately 150 GC students will have studied abroad this year, including 15 studying full-time abroad for a semester or more, and nearly 100 on faculty-led programs.
- GC’s internationally-noted Border-Free initiative had another strong year. From biology, business, and climate, to creative writing and social challenges, GC students had real-time access to experts, global thought, skills, and experience without the need for travel.
- Work is proceeding on a domestic equivalent of study abroad; a potential paradigm changer following in the footsteps of Border-Free GC.

School of Continuing and Professional Studies

- **Academic Outreach**
 - We have hosted 138 events (virtual, hybrid, and many in-person!) with over 3,000 participants to date. Last year (FY21) we hosted 69 events and served 2755 participants.
- **Afterschool Achievement**
 - The Georgia College High Achievers Program was granted a continuation for their grant in the amount of \$185,000 for FY23 for a one-year cycle. The YES Program reached phase 3 of the grant reward process for OHMS. Grant totals \$350K each year for a 5-year cycle.
- **Communities in Schools**
 - Awarded \$75,000 *Community Transformation Grant* for 20 students at the Early Learning Center who have an incarcerated parent. The focus is to deal directly with decreasing the effects of trauma and preparing the student for a successful Kindergarten experience while supporting their family. Awarded \$85,000 Reaching Rural Communities Grant that focuses on decreasing the barriers to healthcare by providing all our local schools with telehealth equipment, nursing assistants and outreach events for parents throughout the Baldwin County community.
- **Continuing and Professional Education**
 - Angela “Angie” Woodham has been hired to serve as the next Director of Continuing and Professional Education. Angie joins us from University of Florida and brings a significant amount of experience in development and implementation of professional post graduate programs, student services, and higher education leadership. She will begin on June 1, 2022.
- **Historic Museums**
 - Andalusia received the designation of National Historic Landmark (NHL) by the National Parks Service (NPS).
 - The construction of the Interpretative Center at Andalusia is now underway.
- **Production Services**
 - Increase in revenue through partnerships with Baldwin County Schools, Georgia Military College, and Putnam County Schools. The revenue generated supports students who provide production services to Georgia College events.

Transformative Learning Experiences

- **The Office of Transformative Learning Experiences** will work to support underrepresented student success.
 - *GC Journeys* and the Office of the Provost are working with LIFE Mentorship to support the Diverse Scholars initiative.
- *GC Journeys* as part of a grant, will use High-Impact Practice champions to support CbEL, Capstones, and Internships.
 - As part of the Gates Foundation Grant, Drs. Sevcik, McClure, and Criscoe served as champions for CbEL, Capstones, and Internships. They led faculty programming, communities of practice, designed assessments, and even curricular experiences in these areas.
 - *GC Journeys* hosted the *GC Journeys* Symposium, and awarded project mini-grants, as well as planning/implementation department mini-grants.
- **The Office of First Year Experience** oversaw 30 sections of TREK, a redesign of First Year Academic Seminar and will support the First Year Academic Seminar Redesign Pilot program.
- **Andalusia Institute** and **Rural Studies Institute** applied for and received multiple grants to support their missions. Both institutes will seek further grant funding, while continuing to expand their sponsored programming to grow an external audience.
- **The Center for Teaching and Learning** convened five faculty working groups and created five rubrics, called Frameworks for Success, that will be released in Fall 2022. Each framework can be used to start and improve a high impact practice.
- **The Leadership Office** served more than 800 students through its programs in 2021-2022. It will start the process of applying for external designations while deepening its affiliate programs.

The Graduate School

Goal 1: Student Success

- Regularly met with Graduate Coordinators and Deans to explore growth potential and capacity for growth in graduate programs and the needs of a changing professional market for graduate education.
- Strategically utilized communication touchpoints through the use of The Graduate School's CRM, Radius to support Graduate School applicants from application to enrollment.
- Received increased funding for Graduate Research Grants and all applicants were able to be funded this year.
- Made changes to the Graduate Research Poster Exhibit to include Works in Progress so that all graduate students could have the opportunity to showcase their research.
- Began collaborations with Undergraduate Research leaders to establish collaborative events to showcase research across the university.
- Highlighted graduate student successes in university communications.
- Offered the first Writing Workshop in collaboration with the Writing Center to support students in honing their writing skills at the graduate level.

Goal 2: Cultivate an engaged graduate community

- In collaboration with University Communications, expanded marketing activities related to building the brand of The Graduate School at Georgia College.
- Offered a virtual networking event and other virtual professional development opportunities for graduate students.

Goal 3: Recruitment

- In collaboration with college efforts, increased support for targeted marketing and recruitment strategies.
- Provided regular data to college leadership and graduate coordinators to monitor the admission funnel yield.
- Worked with colleges to review any barriers for admission.
- Increased touch points and communications with current undergraduate students through text, email, MAX billboard, classroom visits, and pre-commencement ceremony video.
- In collaboration with the College of Business, exploring memorandums of understanding with undergraduate serving institutions to build a pipeline to related graduate programs.
- Collaborated with the School of Continuing and Professional Studies to market online graduate certificate programs.

Enrollment Management

- **Admissions**
 - Received a record number of freshman applications for Fall 2022.
 - Completed over 150 school visits, college fairs, and virtual events during the 2021-2022 recruitment cycle. Over 2,800 contacts were made with prospective students.
 - Completed the first phase of a full integration between CRM Slate and Banner systems.
- **EM Communication**
 - Delivered branding email campaigns to over 77,000 students to generate interest in Georgia College for students entering in fall 2023 and 2024.
- **New Student Programs**
 - Hosted over 3,100 prospective students during daily campus tours, a 68% increase of on-campus guests.
 - Conducted a variety of events geared toward prospective students and their guests:
 - Fallfest was hosted on October 16th, 2021. 205 students attended this event.
 - 87% of students who attended Springfest chose to attend Georgia College.
- **Financial Aid**
 - Administered \$8,418,478 in Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) to students in 2021 and 2022. These funds assisted needy students who were impacted by the Coronavirus pandemic.
 - Successfully implemented automated checking of federal course program of study rules using Banner and Degreeworks data.
 - Hosted our annual President's Scholarship Competition with the highest participation from our faculty and staff in school history.
- **Registrar's Office**
 - Returned to in-person commencement ceremonies, with a 325-member December graduating class and 1,636 students eligible to participate in one of three ceremonies in May 2022.
 - Produced ("Are You Ready to Register?") campaign to encourage students to register for fall classes that included emails, postcard, video message, and yard signs.
- **Academic Advising**
 - Maintained a 4-year graduation rate of over 50% for the second year in a row.
 - Opened the Help Hub, a drop-in center for academic advising, to assist students with general questions.
 - Transitioned students back to in-person advising appointments at the Advising Center in Lanier Hall.
 - Began the implementation of Civitas, GC's retention management software, in the academic advising center.
- **Testing Center**
 - Has already proctored 1,400 tests for students with learning accommodations, 475 legislative exams, 550 senior exit exams, and 165 TEAS exams for application to the Nursing program this academic year.

University Senate

- Continue to advise the university administration, review, and recommend policy, and provide representatives to various university-wide committees, task forces, and search committees.
 - Fully met. Senate made several policy recommendations; provided representation for university committees, task forces, etc.
- Continue to review and assess the scope, size, and structure of university Senate standing committees.
 - Fully met. No changes to committee structure
- Improve communication and connections to the greater campus community through transparency, building trust, and encouraging participation.
 - Fully met
- Find opportunities to help promote campus safety and internet security.
 - No new opportunities identified
- Support any effort to mitigate the COVID pandemic.
 - Fully met. Provided screening clinics for COVID-19 and flu shot clinics, organized by Dr. Fowler
- Advocate for faculty, staff, and students
 - Ongoing
- Unify the collective senate voice
 - Ongoing