

From Provost Spirou

Dear Colleagues,

The 2021 - 2022 academic year marked the 25th anniversary of Georgia College & State University's designation as the state's public liberal arts university. After spending the past year celebrating this milestone and focusing on how a liberal arts education benefits our students, we now turn our attention to the future and how we can continue to achieve a higher level of excellence in the next 25 years.

In the coming year, we will embark upon the development of a new strategic plan. This process comes at a pivotal moment, as President Cathy Cox provides new perspective and direction for our core competencies and opportunities for growth and improvement.

Following a 2020 - 2021 landmark year for grant awards, Georgia College saw many accomplishments across our campus. Our external funding continued growing and included the receipt of a federal grant that will allow us to promote literacy and writing skills within our local school system. Beyond the exceptional work of our faculty, our students have excelled in many ways, such as being named the winner of the 2021 ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge Award and our Georgia College Bobcats ranked first in the Academic Success Rate among Division II schools that received the NCAA's President's Award for Academic Excellence. Our National Scholarships Office continued to support our students, and this year their efforts resulted in several Fulbright semi-finalists, a Newman Civic Fellow, and the university's first-ever Goldwater Scholarship recipient. These are just a few examples of how we exceeded expectations while navigating our way through the pandemic.

As the world changes, we are adapting with it and finding ways to incorporate innovation and technology into our educational enterprise. For example, we started a 3rd nursing cohort in the College of Health Sciences, opened a Maker Space in the College of Education, our business college has transitioned to the College of Business and Technology, and in the College of Arts and Sciences we have created a new Aquatics Science Center, and launched a Digital Humanities Collaborative. In addition, the Academic Innovation Task Force has begun its work and we recently announced the formation of the Center for Innovation.

The 2022 - 2023 academic year promises to be an exciting time for Georgia College, as our dedicated faculty and staff continue to offer our students the highest-quality liberal arts education. For more information on 2021-2022 at GC, click [here](#).

Sincerely,

Dr. Costas Spirou
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Congratulations!

Dave Bachoon, PhD,
Biological and Environmental Science, *Implementation of a Water Quality Restoration Strategy at San Juan Bay Estuary and the Rio Grande de Loiza Estuary Contributing Zone*
University of Puerto Rico,
\$25,000.

Andrei Barkovskii, PhD,
Biological and Environmental Science, *Georgia Sea Grant-Emerging V. campbellii and V. harveyi pathogens: detection methods and their validation*
University of Georgia/US Dept of Commerce, \$9,993.

Josie Doss, DNP, School of Nursing, *Holistic Healthcare for Victims of Sexual Violence in Georgia (ANE-SANE),* HRSA,
\$488,561 (Year 1).

Ernie Kaninjing, PhD, Health & Human Performance
Utilization of an Implementation Science Approach to Develop and Evaluate a Systems Strengthening Intervention for Clinically Localized Prostate Cancer Management in a Low Middle Income Country in Sub-Saharan Africa, Ahmadu Bello University/Pfizer, \$8,029.

John Swinton, PhD,
Economics and Finance, *Minority Youth and Business,* Council on Economics Education, \$4,000; Small Business Development Center, \$8,500.

Faculty Contracts 2022-2023

Georgia College is continuing the OneUSG electronic faculty contract distribution system. The OneUSG e-contract eliminates delays with physical mail delivery systems, and provides a fast and convenient system for everyone involved in the process. On June 30, an email message containing instructions was sent by Neil Jones (HR) to the contract eligible recipients notifying them about the full-time faculty contract process. The electronic contract is available in the same system that houses your pay statements, W-2's etc. The due date to respond to the contract is July 20, 2022.

Limited term one-year faculty and part-time faculty are an important part of our University instructional team as well. Following Board of Regents – University System of Georgia policies, limited term one-year faculty and part-time faculty employment agreements are covered through the Offer/Acceptance letter and the Part-time Faculty Teaching Agreement (GC Signatures – DocuSign).

New faculty will not have access to the OneUSG System until August when their employment begins. New faculty employment agreements are also confirmed through the Offer/Acceptance letter process.

Digital Humanities 2022-2023 Faculty Fellows

Congratulations to the inaugural cohort of faculty fellows from its new joint initiative of the College of Arts & Sciences and the Ina Dillard Russell Library. Fellows will pursue projects that aim to advance innovative digital humanistic scholarship at Georgia College. The 2022-2023 fellows will be:

- Dr. Ruben Yepes Muñoz, Assistant Professor of Art History, Department of Art

Project Title: "Art and Covid-19 Crisis in Latin America"

- Dr. Craig Pascoe, Professor of History, Department of History & Geography
- Dr. James Hill "Trae" Welborn, III, Associate Professor of History, Department of History & Geography

Project Title: "Keepers of the Flame Fan the Flames of Change: A Digital Oral History Project on Georgia Women in Barbecue"

For descriptions of their projects, visit the [Digital Humanities Collaborative website](#).

August Faculty Events

New Faculty Orientation

Monday, August 1: 8:30-2:00
Tuesday, August 2: 9:00-12:00 and 1:00-4:00
Wednesday, August 3: 8:30-2:00
Thursday, August 4 (HR): 8:00-4:00

Making Excellence Inclusive Day

Tuesday, August 9, 2022

Welcome Back Faculty Breakfast

Thursday, August 11: 9:00-11:00

Assessment Day: August 10, 2022

The Office of Institutional Research and Effectiveness (OIRE) will hold 2 SMART assessment sessions for academic program assessment coordinators. The sessions will be at 9:00 and 11:00 am. The sessions will be brief with individual follow-up as needed. Please plan to attend one of the two sessions. *Attendance is required.*

A session covering core assessment will be held at 10:00am for anyone teaching in the core during fall 2022 or spring 2023 or anyone who is interested in learning more about the procedures and practices of core assessment here at GC.

Sessions are virtual. Links will be sent via email in early August. Contact cara.smith@gcsu.edu for more information.