



June 2026 Provost Notes

Congratulations to these External Grant Recipients!

PI: Dr. Sujani Gamage with Dr. Ronald Okoth and Dr. Simeco Vinson – College of Arts & Sciences/Academic Affairs

Project Title: *Affordable Learning Georgia Transformation Grant*

Sponsor: University System of Georgia

Awarded Amount: \$15,000

PI: Dr. LaTeshia Warren with Dr. Janet Turner - College of Education

Project Title: *Affordable Learning Georgia Continuous Improvement Grant*

Sponsor: University System of Georgia

Awarded Amount: \$8,000

PI: Dr. Katie Simon – College of Arts & Sciences

Project Title: *Flannery O'Connor's Literary Legacy at GCSU*

Sponsor: Modern Language Association

Awarded Amount: \$10,000

PI: Dr. Dominic DeSantis - College of Arts & Sciences

Project Title: *Recording of habitat use, movement patterns, and thermal ecology in Eastern Diamond-backed Rattlesnakes*

Sponsor: Department of Natural Resources

Awarded Amount: \$15,000

New Faces, New Places

Please join us in welcoming Dr. Amit Ghosh as the new Dean of the J. Whitney Bunting College of Business & Technology as of June 1. Dr. Ghosh brings an impressive record of leadership, academic excellence, and a deep commitment to student achievement, faculty development, and innovation. We are excited about the vision, expertise, and energy he will bring to this important role and look forward to the positive impact he will have on our college and university community.



We are pleased to welcome Dr. Loleta Sartin as Dean of the John H. Lounsbury College of Education, effective June 15, 2026. Throughout her career, Dr. Sartin has demonstrated a passion for educational excellence, collaborative leadership, and preparing future educators for meaningful impact in their communities. Her dedication to advancing teaching, learning, and student success makes her an outstanding addition to our university leadership team. We look forward to the innovative ideas, strategic direction, and commitment to excellence she will bring to the College of Education as it continues to grow and thrive.



Congratulations to both Dr. Amit Ghosh and Dr. Loleta Sartin and welcome to the team!



Dr. Donovan Domingue has been appointed as Interim Chair of the Department of Chemistry, Physics & Mathematics.

Dr. Simplice Tchamna-Kouna has been appointed as Interim Assistant Chair of the Department of Chemistry, Physics & Mathematics.



Summer Orientation

In June, the Office of New Student Programs is hosting four of six Summer Orientation events for incoming freshmen, as well as Orientation for the Bridge Scholars Program (BSP). June Orientation dates are the 2nd, 3rd (BSP), 4th, 9th, and 11th. Additionally, there will be two Summer Orientation events for incoming freshmen in July, which will take place on July 21st and July 23rd. Transfer students will attend orientation on July 22nd. Currently, there are 1,864 students registered for all Orientations. During orientation, students and their guests will have the opportunity to hear from a variety of departments, meet with staff from their respective majors, explore campus, and learn about various organizations and clubs at Bobcat Marketplace. Students will also spend time in breakout groups with their Orientation Leaders, where they will begin to build relationships with their peers and gain a sense of belonging as a part of the Bobcat family. Thank you to all faculty, staff, and administrators who make this experience so special.



Lilly Conference Fellowship

Congratulations to Dr. Christina Gillespie for being selected as GCSU's Lilly Conference Fellow. She will attend a conference during the 2026-2027 academic year. The mission of ITLC Lilly Conferences are to provide a forum to share and model a scholarly approach to teaching and learning that reports quality student learning outcomes while promoting professional development of faculty. This fellowship is funded by the Chandler M. Tagliabue Faculty Learning Endowment.

Summer Undergraduate Research Funding

MURACE is pleased to support 13 undergraduate researchers from 4 departments to receive MURACE's Summer Research Funding, almost doubling the number from last year (N=7). These students will work on their research with their faculty mentor full-time for 7-10 weeks over the summer. Their names, departments, and faculty mentors are listed below.



- Brian Wirth, Biological and Environmental Sciences; Faculty Mentor: Dr. Arnab Sengupta
- Erin Young, Economics and Finance; Faculty Mentor: Dr. Brooke Conaway
- Jonas Barfield, Chemistry, Physics and Astronomy; Faculty Mentor: Dr. Donovan Domingue
- Sarah Carter, Biological and Environmental Sciences; Faculty

Mentor: Dr. Bruce Snyder

- Abigail Todd, Health and Human Performance; Faculty Mentor: Dr. Kelly Massey
- Elias Aufderheide, Biological and Environmental Sciences; Faculty Mentor: Dr. David Weese
- Josefa Tchamna Kouna, Biological and Environmental Sciences; Faculty Mentor: Dr. Samuel Mutiti
- Noah Rodriguez, Biological and Environmental Sciences; Faculty Mentor: Dr. Shychi Chen
- Cade Geiger, Biological and Environmental Sciences; Faculty Mentor: Dr. Kasey Karen
- Samuel Kinney, Economics and Finance; Faculty Mentor: Dr. Calvin Mudrow
- Sophie Marie Morgan, Biological and Environmental Sciences; Faculty Mentor: Dr. Christine Mutiti
- Sarah Serrano, Biological and Environmental Sciences; Faculty Mentor: Dr. Andrei Barkovskii
- William Ratajczak, Biological and Environmental Sciences; Faculty Mentor: Dr. Michelle Moyer

Mentored research and creative activities are a key part of Georgia College & State University's commitment to transformative learning. While many students participate during the academic year, summer often provides the best opportunity for intensive, rewarding full-time work with their faculty mentors without the commitment of a regular semester.

For more information about Summer Research Funding opportunities, please visit:

<https://www.gcsu.edu/murace/summer-research-funding>

Email murace@gcsu.edu if you have any questions.

Summer Academic Support Services

Summer academic support services remain available for students through the Writing Center, the Learning Center, and the Leadership Academy.

The Writing Center is open throughout the summer and ready to assist student writers. Recent website updates, completed with support from University Communications and student staff, have improved access to WOnline appointment scheduling, making it easier for students to connect with writing support.

The Learning Center is also operating this summer with a strong team of peer tutors providing free academic assistance for many STEM, economics, and finance courses. Tutors are paired with specific classes and offered support in person, virtually, or through a hybrid format to meet student needs.

The Leadership Academy will begin enrolling its first-year students this summer. The GCSU Leadership Academy is an eight-month program for first-year students.

HIPS Summer Institute

As a part of the HIPS Summer Institute, four faculty members are being mentored by two experienced faculty members in designing their courses with a mentored undergraduate research focus.



- Dr. Caley Smith, Assistant Professor; Philosophy, Religion, and Interdisciplinary Studies, Dr. Tsu-Ming Chiang
- Dr. Alexandra Berglund, Assistant Professor; Professional Learning & Innovation, Dr. Tsu-Ming Chiang
- Dr. Kelly Massey, Associate Professor; School of Health & Human Performance, Dr. Kasey Karen
- Dr. Matthew Milnes, Associate Professor; Biological & Environmental Sciences, Dr. Kasey Karen

CUR Fellow Award: Dr. Tsu-Ming Chiang will be honored for her leadership and service as a role model for those involved in undergraduate research. Dr. Chiang will attend the ConnectUR in-person conference June 22 through 24 to accept the award and present on a panel.

The 15th annual Georgia Undergraduate Research Conference (GURC): MURACE will host GURC 2026, a state-wide conference on November 6-7, 2026 at Georgia College & State University. The preparation is underway to welcome student researchers from across the state to present their research and creative works to peers, faculty, and administrators. Please encourage students to participate. Submission forms are due September 28, 2026 and can be found at gcsu.edu/murace.

Do you prefer

Beach vacation

Mountain vacation

Loading...

 Voting ends in 19 days

 Votes are anonymous and results are private



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