



**OFFICE OF
THE PROVOST**
GEORGIA COLLEGE & STATE UNIVERSITY

September 2026 Provost Notes

Congratulations to these Award Recipients!

Dr. Lindee Morgan - Executive Director - Sandra Dunagan Deal Center for Early Language & Literacy

Project Title: Georgia Reads Community Award

Sponsor: Georgia Office of Student Achievement

Awarded Amount: \$50,000

Sequena Stanton – Afterschool Achievement - School of Continuing and Professional Studies

Project Title: YES Program: Lakeview Academy - FY'27 Award (FY'25 Cohort) Year 3 of 5

Sponsor: Georgia Department of Education

Awarded Amount: \$350,000

Sequena Stanton – Afterschool Achievement - School of Continuing and Professional Studies

Project Title: YES Program: Oak Hill Middle School - FY'27 Award (FY'23 Cohort) Year 5 of 5

Sponsor: Georgia Department of Education

Awarded Amount: \$315,000

Office of the Provost Leadership: Investing in Leadership Excellence

In alignment with the pillars found in GSCU's Imagine 2030 Strategic Plan, the Office of the Provost is committed to investing in professional development for leadership excellence.

Dr. Holley Roberts will participate in the 2026-2027 American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU) Academy for New Provosts (ANP). Participation in the ANP Academy provides an opportunity for provosts in their first-year or two to connect with national experts and



accomplished provosts, engage in a mentoring partnership with experienced provosts, and develop a supportive community of provosts. Participants acquire core knowledge and learn strategies that will help them succeed as a new provost and strengthen their leadership skills while assessing and reflecting on their own leadership strengths and areas for growth.

Dr. Mandy Jarriel has been selected to participate in the University System of Georgia's 2026-2027 Executive Leadership Institute (ELI). This program is a comprehensive 120-hour development program facilitated by leading experts in leadership. Scholars will enhance their leadership skills to prepare for potential high-level advancement within the System. Participants are required to commit to approximately 120 hours of their time over an eight-month period in group learning formats, independent study, teleconferences, and action learning. ELI components include group learning sessions, assessments, cross mentoring, reflecting, and job shadowing. Each scholar will be assigned to a senior executive to shadow to gain valuable work experience at their institution or other institutions within the System.

Dr. Kevin Bucholtz will participate in the 2026-2027 American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU) and American Academic Leadership Institute (AALI) Becoming a Provost Academy (BAPA) for experienced associate provosts who aspire to become a provost. BAPA is a leadership development program tailored to the distinctive needs of aspiring provosts to help prepare experienced academic administrators for provost/vice president for academic affairs positions in public higher education.

Academic Affairs Small Grants Program

The call for research grant proposals for the Fall Round opened September 1st, 2026, with a deadline of September 15th, 2026, at 5:00 p.m. (EST).

Applicants should refer to the [guidance provided by Academic Affairs](#) and review the [Faculty Research Grant Rubric](#), the [Creative Endeavors Grant Rubric](#), and the [Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Grant Rubric](#) for more information.

Once the applicant has their materials ready to submit, please log into [GeorgiaVIEW/D2L](#), click on the Self-Registration menu option, and find the Academic Affairs Small Grant Application course.

Be sure to complete self-registration for the course. Submission instructions and forms to upload materials are in the course announcements.

Grant Amount: Up to \$5,000

Application Opens: September 1st, 2026

Application Closes: September 15th, 2026, at 5:00 p.m. (EST)

Winners Announced: October 11th, 2026

Award Lasts Until: May 1st, 2027

For assistance, contact the Center for Teaching and Learning at ctl@gcsu.edu or call (478)-445-2520.

Community-Based Engaged Learning Grants

The call for CbEL grant proposals for the Fall Round I opened September 1st, 2026, with a deadline of September 15th, 2026, at 5:00 p.m. (EST).

Once the applicant has their materials ready to submit, please log into [GeorgiaVIEW](#), click on the Self-Registration menu option, and find the CbEL Grants Program course.

Be sure to complete the self-registration for the course. Submission instructions and forms to upload materials are in the course announcements.

Grant Amount: Up to \$1,000

Application Opens: September 1st, 2026

Application Closes: September 15th, 2026, at 5:00 p.m. (EST)

Winners Announced: October 11th, 2026

Award Lasts Until: May 1st, 2027

For assistance, contact the Center for Teaching and Learning at ctl@gcsu.edu or call (478)-445-2520.

Open Educational Resources

Faculty interested in applying for an Affordable Learning Georgia (ALG) grant should submit their intent to apply form to the Office of Grants and Sponsored Projects (OGSP) no later than September 21st, 2026.

Application review and feedback from OGSP is available between September 24th, 2026 - October 1st, 2026; final documents are due to OGSP on October 2nd, 2026.

For more information, please contact Paula Knight, library champion for ALG at paula.knight@gcsu.edu or call (478)-445-1693.

Fall 2026 Student Success and Retention Series: Early Alerts

Faculty and Staff are invited to attend the first installment of the Fall 2026 Student Success and Retention Series. This session will be offered as a mini-series that will provide an overview of the Early Alert process, explain how it supports timely intervention, and explore best practices for identifying and referring students who may need additional support.

Available Sessions:

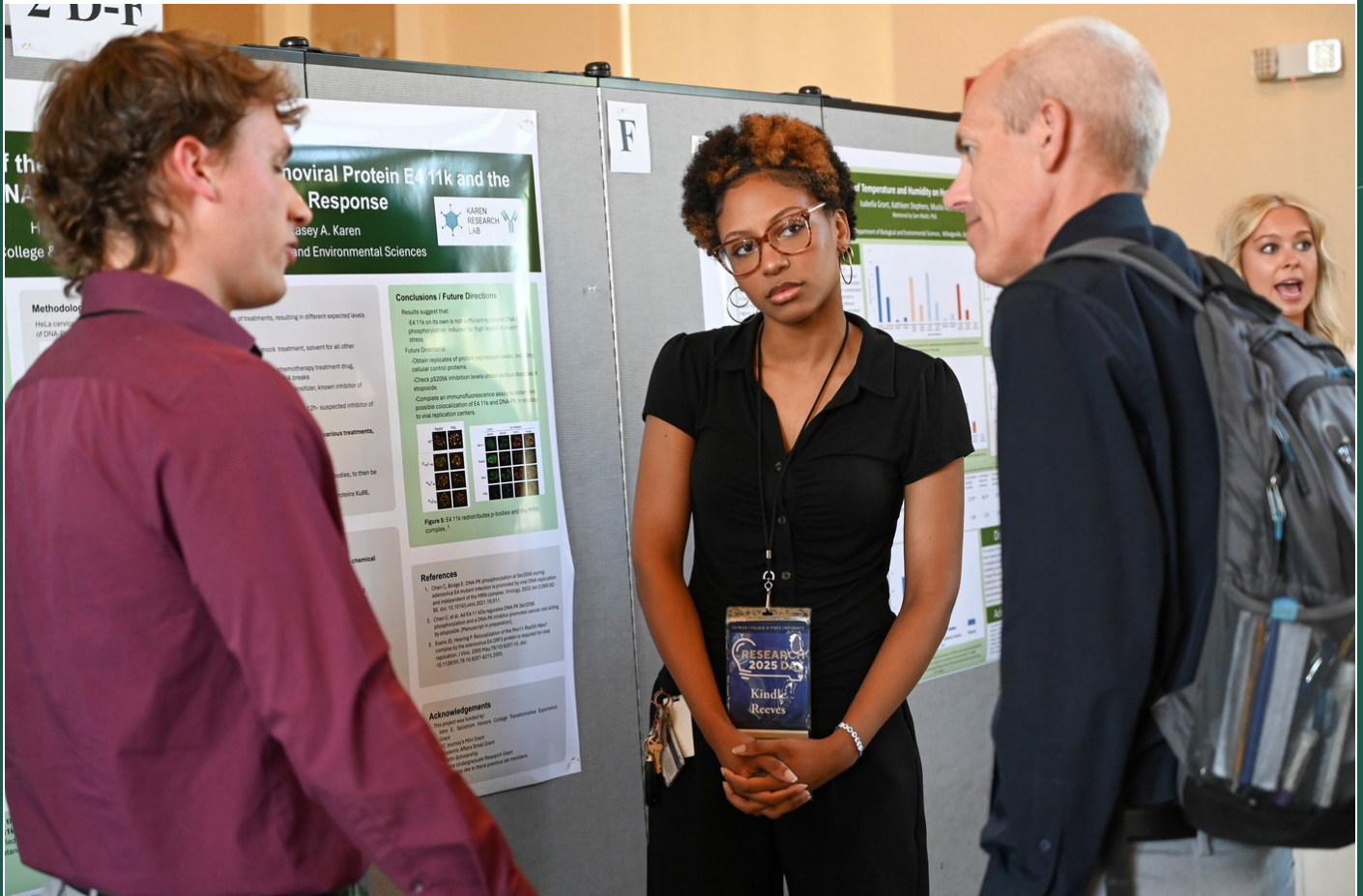
September 22nd, 2026, at 12:00 p.m.

September 23rd, 2026, at 9:00 a.m.

Faculty and staff may attend the session that best fits their schedules.

To register for a session, please fill out the Fall Student Success and Retention Series Early Alert form [here](#).

For more information, please contact Dr. Lauren Easom at lauren.easom@gcsu.edu.



Faculty Fellows Leadership Academy Program

The Faculty Fellows Leadership Academy Program will provide a selected group of current faculty with dedicated time to develop and hone leadership skills and gain a deeper understanding of the challenges and opportunities confronting higher education. The program will specifically focus on leadership concepts individuals face in academic administration.

This year's program begins in November 2026 and runs through May 2027. Fellows will attend monthly meetings where they will learn from senior administrators on campus as well as visiting speakers from academia, business, and other fields. Participants will be GCSU faculty who hold the rank of associate or full professor who represent all colleges and the library and/or academic administrators with faculty status. A selection committee will review the submissions and make recommendations to the Provost.

Applicants should submit materials to Rhonda Griffin, Office Coordinator for the Office of the Provost (rhonda.griffin@gcsu.edu) by Wednesday, September 30th, 2026. The application materials should include:

- a) a letter not to exceed two pages presenting evidence of interest in academic leadership, experience in academic governance or administration to date, and what the nominee hopes to accomplish with the support of the program;
- b) two letters of recommendation; one of which needs to be from an immediate supervisor. Each recommendation letter is limited to one page in length;
- c) a current C.V. or resume.

The Faculty Fellows Leadership Program is administered by the Office of the Provost. More information about the program can be found at the Faculty Fellows Leadership Academy [website](#).

Questions about the program may be directed to [Dr. Mandy Jarriel](#) or [Dr. Liz Speelman](#).

Professional Leave

The purpose of [Professional Leave at GCSU](#) is to refresh and reinvigorate tenured faculty members; to improve through appropriate activity, the academic qualifications and teaching competence of the faculty; to encourage productive scholarly research; and to stimulate contributions of high caliber in the future that will enhance the stature of both the individual and the University.



Applicants must complete the [Professional Leave Application](#) and, if approved, recipients will be asked to complete the [Faculty Leave of Absence](#) (for HR purposes). Attached are the rubrics that will be used at the college and provost's level of review.

The application deadline is October 15th, 2026.



College Review Rubric_ ProfessionalLeave_9.2025.pdf

[Download](#)
97.6 KB



Advisory Committee Rubric Professional Leave.pdf

[Download](#)
119.6 KB

Check Out the AI @ GCSU Website

The [AI @ GCSU website](#) has officially launched! The new website showcases how Georgia College & State University is leading the way in Artificial Intelligence (AI) by approaching AI as an opportunity to enhance teaching, learning, and discovery while preparing students to responsibly navigate and shape an AI-driven future.

Additional AI resources and information on AI [tools](#), AI [literacy and best practices for faculty](#), and AI [policies and procedures](#) can be found [here](#).



USG Copyright Policy

The University System of Georgia is committed to respecting [the rights of copyright holders](#), complying with copyright law, and recognizes that the exclusive rights of copyright holders are balanced by limitations on those rights under federal copyright law, including the right to make a fair use of copyrighted materials and the right to perform or display works in the course of face-to-face teaching activities.

The [USG Copyright Policy](#) facilitates compliance with copyright law, and where appropriate, the exercise in good faith or full fair use rights by faculty and staff in teaching, research, and service activities.

The Russell Library supports this policy by displaying copyright notices on copiers and printers in the library, offering tools and resources to faculty and staff, and by providing workshops, consulting services, and training. [The USG Fair Use Checklist](#) is a tool that allows faculty and staff to perform a rigorous fair use analysis.

For more information regarding [Fair Use](#) and [Copyright](#), please visit the Russell Library Resources page [here](#).

This issue of the Provost Notes includes goals from units in the Division of Academic Affairs. This year's goals align directly with one or more pillars from GCSU's [Imagine 2030](#) Strategic Plan.

Division of Enrollment Management

- The Office of Admissions will exceed Fall 2026 freshman and transfer application totals and successfully enroll a strong, well-qualified incoming class for Fall 2027. (*Distinguish*)
- Graduate Admissions will drive graduate enrollment growth statewide through a strategic recruitment plan, targeted digital marketing, and focused communications. (*Distinguish*)
- Expand graduate recruiter engagement with undergraduates and outreach events; strengthen undergraduate-to-graduate pathways in partnership with GCSU colleges. (*Distinguish*)
- Continue partnering with area high schools (including Early College) to host FAFSA nights, helping parents and students complete the FAFSA. (*Engage*)
- Host annual Financial Literacy Events. (*Engage*)
- Monitor first-year campus-wide adoption of Modern Campus Curriculum governance processing. (*Innovate*)
- The National Institute for Student Success (NISS) engaged with GCSU during the last academic year and identified four first-year support strategies that the university will implement this academic year. (*Innovate*)
- The Career Center will strengthen employer and graduate-program partnerships to connect students with employment, internship, and continuing education opportunities facilitating 4 or more graduate school events annually with Graduate Admissions and 2 or more employer site visits annually. (*Innovate*)
- Improve the institution's use of Slate across Undergraduate and Graduate Admissions and Student Success with a focus on automating communications to streamline outreach and reduce manual burden on staff. (*Innovate*)
- Redesign campus events for distinct, non-overlapping purposes, offering new value at each touchpoint to encourage repeat visits and deeper connection to GCSU. (*Innovate*)

School of Continuing & Professional Studies

- **Continuing & Professional Education** will launch a non-credit certificate in partnership with an academic college, add an on-demand certificate to its portfolio of GCSU created certificates, and deliver an enhanced summer camp experience showcasing the university. (*Advance, Innovate*)
- **Academic Outreach** will develop a summer internship integrating STEM and informal education, evaluate on- and off-campus partnerships to identify strengths and growth opportunities, and expand Thirst for Knowledge through new community collaborations, launching two new training programs. (*Distinguish, Innovate, Empower*)
- **Afterschool Achievement** will collaborate with all four colleges to engage service-learning students in strengthening collaboration among internal and external partners, while pursuing continued GaDOE funding for the YES Program at OHMS (\$1.6 million over five years, with roughly \$100,000 annually in indirect funds to the university) and sustaining the High Achievers career speaker series. The YES Program will provide service-learning opportunities for approximately 40 GC Journey students. (*Engage, Advance, Innovate*)

- **Communities in Schools Milledgeville Baldwin County (CISMBC)** will partner with Baldwin County School District to evaluate year-end data on program effectiveness, implement an evidence-based literacy curriculum strengthening the Site Coordinator Model in K-5 schools, and engage GCSU students as mentors for local public-school students. *(Engaged, Innovate, Empower)*
- **Historic Museums** will increase gift shop sales by 20%, launch one new community program, and submit reaccreditation materials for the Old Governor's Mansion. *(Engage, Distinguish)*
- **Adult Learner Services** will partner with The Graduate School and Student Affairs to host one event connecting adult learners to the campus community. *(Engage)*

Office of Grants and Sponsored Projects

Pillar I: Innovate

Strengthen institutional research infrastructure, compliance, and external funding capacity to support innovation, scholarship, and student success.

- Provide at least three grant development workshops or informational sessions for faculty and academic leaders to increase awareness of grant submission processes and strengthen grant readiness.

Pillar I: Innovate

Enhance the comprehensive research compliance framework that promotes responsible stewardship of externally funded projects, ensures alignment with federal, state, USG, and institutional requirements, and supports a culture of accountability, integrity, and excellence in sponsored programs.

- Review, update, and communicate all major sponsored programs compliance policies and procedures, provide guidance and training to relevant stakeholders, and implement processes that support compliance with federal, state, USG, and institutional requirements for externally funded projects.

Pillar IV: Engage

Foster a culture of collaboration, transparency, and engagement in sponsored programs across the university.

- OGSP will communicate funding opportunities, grant awards, research accomplishments, and sponsored project activities through university communication channels to increase campus awareness and engagement in sponsored programs.

Office of Institutional Research and Effectiveness

- Align courses in D2L with Planning & Self Study to assist assessment coordinators in writing SMART reports. *(Innovate)*
- Revamp the OIRE website to be more compliant with new ADA guidelines. *(Distinguish)*
- Collaborate with faculty and department chairs on data needs for assessment reporting and specialized accreditation requirements. *(Engage)*
- Collaborate to host the second annual Assessment Day in the spring, with the goal of expanding participation. *(Engage)*

The Graduate School

Pillar I: Innovate

The Graduate School will strengthen graduate education by supporting innovative academic and co-curricular experiences that enhance student success, engagement, and professional growth.

- Expand professional development opportunities in collaboration with campus partners
- Increase awareness of academic support resources
- Promote research and scholarly engagement
- Partner with key campus units to develop data-informed retention strategies that improve recruitment, persistence, and degree completion.

Pillar III: Empower

The Graduate School will advance graduate student well-being by increasing awareness and utilization of academic, professional, and wellness resources.

- Expand access to campus support programs
- Develop a centralized Graduate Student Resource Hub
- Establish peer-support networks that foster connection, belonging, and student success.

Pillar IV: Engage

The Graduate School will strengthen engagement among students, alumni, and campus partners.

- Enhance graduate student programming
- Develop a Graduate Student Advisory Board
- Collaborate with Alumni Services to connect current students with alumni through mentoring, informational services, and career-focused initiatives.

Transformative Learning Experiences

- GC Journeys, working with the Department of Psychology and School of Health and Human Performance, will expand assessment and better capture the impact of Undergraduate Research and Community-based Learning. (*Innovate*)
- MURACE will organize and expand the offerings and activities of Research Day with classes on the day now being reassigned. (*Innovate*)
- MURACE and GCSU will be hosting the 2026 Georgia Undergraduate Research Conference on November 6th, 2026, - November 7th, 2026. (*Engage*)
- The Learning Center will identify ways to manage increased student demand and deliver innovative programming and bootcamps to meet the academic needs of the students. (*Empower*)
- The Writing Center will work specifically with the College of Education to develop writing-enhanced experiences embedded into the curriculum and aligned with disciplinary learning outcomes in addition to its ongoing tutoring, training, and outreach operations. (*Empower*)

- Bring a standardized onboarding and advising process for all outbound study abroad students through the GCSU Global Passport, a centralized platform that guides students through a consistent sequence of pre-departure milestones-including application submission, health and safety training, visa and travel guidance, and orientation-paired with defined advising touchpoints so every student receives the same quality and consistency of support regardless of which advisor manages their case. (*Innovate*)
- Renew our GCSU exchange partnerships with university partners across the world, focusing on developing and deepening partnerships that offer mutual benefit. (*Engage*)
- Achieve operational excellence through process mapping and continuous improvement, establishing clear staff accountability and delineating responsibility for project and task completion, and practicing sound fiscal stewardship of the Center's budget. (*Distinguish*)
- Maximize the effectiveness of our scholarship dollars by using data on student need and participation outcomes to guide award allocation, ensuring funds are directed toward students who need them most and who will benefit most from the study abroad experience. (*Advance*)



College of Arts & Sciences

One or more of the three college-wide goals for AY27 have been embraced by all 12 departments in the college, incorporated as part of their Imagine 2030 Goals.

1. Connections Curriculum (*Innovate 1b, Distinguish 1a*)

Modernize and diversify academic offerings to meet regional workforce needs, strengthen student outcomes, and differentiate the College in a competitive enrollment market by building a more flexible cross-college curriculum that emphasizes the strengths of the Liberal Arts and enables students to graduate with multiple majors.

Priorities:

- Build a shared curricular architecture across programs.
- Develop curriculum through structured program workshops for a Fall 2027 pilot.
- Close the gap between double-major declarations and completions through advising and degree-mapping support.

2. Graduate Enrollment (*Innovate 2d*)

We will sustainably grow graduate enrollment by aligning programs with regional demand, strengthening the student experience, and building a stronger recruitment-to-completion pipeline.

Priorities:

- Grow graduate headcount and credit-hour production year over year.
- Diversify the graduate portfolio to reduce reliance on any single program.
- Strengthen graduate recruitment, advising, and retention infrastructure within programs.
- Build a stronger undergraduate-to-graduate pipeline within the College.

3. Community Engagement (*Engage 2b*)

Position the College as an essential civic, cultural, and economic partner in the region-strengthening town and gown relationships and generating reciprocal value for students and community members.

Priorities:

- Develop sustained partnerships with regional civic, cultural, and economic organizations.
- Create opportunities for student involvement in community-facing work.
- Increase the College's visibility as a cultural and intellectual resource for the region.

J. Whitney Bunting College of Business & Technology

- Work collaboratively on an updated and revised CoBT strategic plan for 2028-2030 in alignment with Imagine 2030. *(Innovate)*
- Prepare for the upcoming AACSB and ABET accreditation reports. *(Innovate)*
- Recruit 3 administrators and at least 7 full-time faculty to enhance the academic vitality of CoBT. *(Distinguish)*
- Collaborate with The Graduate School and other university constituents to increase enrollments in some of the graduate programs. *(Innovate)*
- Continue to focus on student success initiatives by enhancing their professional development, technical skillsets, and workforce readiness. *(Engage)*
- Work with University Advancement to engage with untapped alums for long-term advancement and fundraising targets. *(Innovate)*

College of Health Sciences

- The CoHS continues its efforts to foster interdisciplinary research teams. One joint paper and presentation was created and published in 2024 but more needs to occur in this area. We hope to bring back Dean's Dollars to support an initial feasibility investigation on relevant research topics. *(Innovate)*
- We continue to work towards adding an advanced practice nurse to the mobile health unit to offer some additional primary care to our preventative efforts in the community. *(Engage)*
- We hope to develop a pathway for a dual BSN degree coupled with a BS in public health. This could help retain some students who decided against nursing or otherwise do not meet entry criteria. *(Distinguish)*
- Naming opportunities for schools, centers, and the college remain a long-range goal. *(Engage)*
- This year, we also seek one new foundation or healthcare entity to seek new funding and/or support from. *(Innovate)*

John H. Lounsbury College of Education

- Strengthen program visibility through sustained social media engagement, a reviewed and updated JHLCOE website, redesigned recruitment materials for district outreach, and coordinated external communications highlighting outcomes and impact. *(Distinguish, Advance)*
- Expand internal and external engagement through student voice, shared faculty and staff leadership, and relationships with alumni, the Leadership Board, businesses, and community

supporters, measured by involvement, philanthropic support, and community-facing activities compared with 2025-2026. *(Engage, Empower, Advance)*

- Strengthen the implementation of our collegewide Quality Assurance System aligned with GaPSC, CAEP, and stakeholders' expectations, including measures, responsibilities, assessment schedules, and processes for using data to improve programs and innovate. *(Distinguish, Innovate)*
- Review the graduate portfolio with program faculty and develop improvement proposals for at least 50 percent of programs, considering credit for prior learning, Double Bobcat pathways, workforce needs, and statewide distinction. *(Innovate, Distinguish, Advance)*
- Increase total graduate enrollment in Fall 2027 compared with Fall 2026 through P-12 district pipelines, superintendent and human resources engagement, district outreach, coordinated recruitment with Graduate Admissions, and retention efforts. *(Innovate, Engage, Advance)*
- Complete a review of processes and roles and implement a One College operating model that aligns human and financial resources with shared priorities, streamlines reporting and services, and improves efficiency and responsiveness. *(Innovate, Empower, Engage)*

Ina Dillard Russell Library

- To support student success, library faculty will mentor undergraduate students to disseminate their research and creative endeavors at student research conferences, professional library/archives conferences, and exhibitions. *(Distinguish)*
- To increase usage of campus resources that support health and wellness, the library will curate and promote physical and virtual collections of library materials on mental health and wellness. *(Empower)*
- To promote wellness, belonging, and community connections among faculty, staff, and students, the library will host bi-monthly networking sessions. *(Empower)*
- To prepare students for the opportunities and challenges of an evolving society, the library will provide instruction and programming on AI literacy and research basics, with an emphasis on reaching first-year students, transfer students, and graduate students. *(Advance, Engage)*
- To better understand faculty perceptions of Open Educational Resources, the library will apply for an Affordable Learning Georgia Research Grant or conduct independent research study. *(Innovate)*

John E. Sallstrom Honors College

- Host the 2027 Georgia Collegiate Honors Conference, which will bring honors students from across the state to GCSU and will provide opportunities for students to present their scholarship/creative work. *(Engage, Goal 3, Outcome b)*
- Organize and execute a fall break program in Birmingham and Montgomery, AL to explore the history and culture of these communities. *(Innovate, Goal 1, Outcome d)*
- Award at least 50 students with Honors credit waivers for studying abroad, internships, undergraduate research experiences, and/or national scholarship applications. *(Innovative, Goal 1, Outcome c)*
- Facilitate the engagement of Honors students with the Milledgeville/Macon Habitat for Humanity office by organizing at least five build days for Honors students. *(Engage, Goal 2,*

Outcome b)

- Launch the National Scholarships Faculty Fellows program to support the National Scholarships Office in mentoring students for national/international scholarship programs.
(Engage, Goal 1, Outcome a)

Which is the better Fall flavor?

Pumpkin

Apple

Loading...

 Voting ends in 42 days

 Votes are anonymous but results are public



Office of the Provost

<https://www.gcsu.edu/provost>

Contact:

academic.affairs@gcsu.edu

(478) 445-4715

Campus Box 024

Milledgeville, GA 31061



GCSU

GCSU



GCSU