

Provost Notes

Georgia College & State University

July 2016

Georgia College Study Abroad Enrollment Hits New High

During the 2015-2016 academic year, Georgia College set a new record for the number of students enrolled in study abroad programs. The last enrollment record was in the 2007-2008, prior to the economic recession. Three hundred fifty-six students, or six percent of the undergraduate student body (national average is 1.5 percent of undergraduates), participated in various formats including those that were GC faculty-led programs, USG collaborative programs, and semester or yearlong experiences at our partner programs on six continents.

The majority of students traveled abroad with Georgia College faculty during the summer of 2015, which positioned GC as leading the national trends in faculty-led education abroad. According to the Institute of International Education (IIE), sixty-two percent of US undergraduates participated in short-term, study abroad last academic year. Georgia College's participation rate is closer to eighty percent. In addition, Georgia College is tied with Augusta University as the third highest for sending participants to the University of System of Georgia (USG) campus for study abroad, falling behind the University of Georgia and Georgia Tech.

Study abroad is recognized at Georgia College as an important aspect of the Liberal Arts Renewal project (LARP) and the five-year strategic plan. Approximately, fifteen percent of Georgia College undergraduates have at least one overseas learning experience prior to graduation. At the end of a five year period, GC aims at sending thirty percent of the student body abroad prior to graduation.

Congratulations



Sallie Coke, Ph.D., School of Nursing, College of Health Sciences on receiving a HRSA Advanced Education Nursing Traineeship (AENT) Award in the amount of \$349,837. The purpose of the AENT Program is to increase the number of advanced education nurses trained to practice as primary care providers and/or nursing faculty to address the faculty shortage that inhibits schools from educating the number of nurses needed to meet demand. The Georgia College grant funds will pay the costs of the tuition, books, and fees of 32 students for their last two semesters in the Family Nurse Practitioner program. In return, the students have agreed to work in a health care shortage area of Georgia for at least two years after they graduate. This grant supports the GC School of Nursing graduate program focus on serving rural or vulnerable populations.

RECENT GRANT RECIPIENTS

Sandy Baxter, Communities in Schools (CIS)
Expansion Support for CIS
\$25,000

James Payne, College of Business
Minority Youth and Business Program
Koch Foundation
\$5,000

Sandy Webb, College of Education
STEAM Ahead!
\$31,304

Important Dates for Faculty

August 1-5	Department and Collegiate meetings may be scheduled
August 8-9	New Faculty Orientation (all day)
August 9	University Senate Governance Retreat (all day)
August 10	New Faculty Human Resources Orientation 9:00 – 11:00 AM;
August 10	College Assessment Planning 9:00 – 12:00; College wide meetings 1:00 – 5:00 PM
August 11	President's Welcome Back Breakfast, 9:00 AM – Magnolia 12:00 – 5:00 PM Department Meetings
August 12	First Year Convocation, 9:00 – 10:30 AM – Centennial Center
August 12	College-based Common Reader discussions, 10:45 AM - 12:30 PM, Places to be determined & announced by colleges
August 15	Fall Semester Classes Begin

WebEx Videoconferencing: The faculty and student use of WebEx Videoconferencing at Georgia College is rapidly increasing. Instructors can integrate WebEx in their classroom and many graduate programs employ this tool to deliver coursework and improve teaching and learning. Faculty can also record lectures and make them available to students. From March 2016 to May 2016, IT documented 32 recordings with 476 students viewing them. For more information, please contact SERVE.

2016-2017 Provost Fellow: Beauty Bragg, Ph.D., Department of English and Rhetoric, College of Arts and Sciences joined Academic Affairs as the 2016-2017 Provost Fellow. Dr. Bragg will focus on student retention projects, and other assignments that include supporting department chairs' initiatives and SRIS. Her primary location will be in the Center for Student Success, but Dr. Bragg will also spend time in the Office of the Provost.

HERI Faculty Survey: Georgia College will participate in the 2016-17 HERI (Higher Education Research Institute) Faculty Survey. The HERI Faculty Survey is designed to provide institutions with actionable information on important and timely faculty issues. Topics covered include: pedagogical practices; faculty goals and expectations for students; research and service activities; sources of stress and satisfaction; and the connection between classroom learning and practices in the local and global community.

Summer Reading Program for Class of 2020: The Summer Reading Program provides new students and their classmates an opportunity to share a common intellectual experience. This year, Georgia College's summer assignment for the class of 2020 is *This I Believe*. This compilation of essays features eighty contributions by individuals who share the core beliefs and values that guide their lives. The submissions express not only what they believe, but also how they arrived at those conclusions. It is a powerful representation of diverse perspectives that offers a glimpse into the power and complexity of the human experience. The First Year Convocation is scheduled for August 12th from 9:00 – 10:30 AM at the Centennial Center, with the College-based Common Reader discussions from 10:45 AM - 12:30 PM. As the recipient of the 2016 Excellence in the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Award, **Cynthia Alby, Ph.D.,** Department of Teacher Preparation, College of Education, will serve as the Convocation Speaker.