

Provost Notes

Georgia College & State University

July 2018

GCReads: New Common Reading Experience for First -Year Students

The First-Year Common Reader Committee is pleased to announce a new approach to the common reading for first-year students! This year, instead of a book, first-year students will select an essay from twenty-eight, thought-provoking essays that reinforce the values of Georgia College and explore current topics and ideas, including leadership, justice, liberal arts, diversity, technology, language, health and wellness, sustainability, history, creativity, and the responsibility of the artist, and others.

Students will be asked to read the essays stored on a first-year reading web page (<http://libguides.gcsu.edu/GCReads>), choose one essay that is of special interest to them, and come to campus during the Week of Welcome prepared to discuss that essay in a one and one-half hour “micro seminar” of twenty-five students. Each seminar will be led by a member of the GC faculty. These micro seminar discussions will allow faculty to engage early with a small group of students to discuss a topic about which students have an expressed interest. The micro seminars will also allow faculty to model for students what a college seminar requires: close reading; engaging, civil discussion; and reflective writing.

The micro seminars, *required* for first-year students to attend, will be held on Friday afternoon, August 17th, in classrooms in the Arts and Sciences Building. The Week of Welcome Committee has set aside time for two GCReads seminar periods between 2:00pm-3:30pm and 3:30pm to 5:00pm. Academic advisors and other volunteers will swipe students in to record their attendance.

We are excited about this new first-year reading program for our students. It supports the values of a liberal arts education and the kind of early intellectual and social engagement between faculty and students that we want to foster at GC. The program will also provide an archive of essays that faculty can use throughout the year in other classes to support and reinforce the value of the first-year common reading program.

Overarching Goals for GCReads

- To create a common reading experience through well-written, thought-provoking essays that increase student awareness of and engagement in current issues;
- To promote an academic mindset that involves engaged reading and critical thinking;
- To provide an introduction to the expectations of a liberal arts education
- To foster early student-to-student and student-to-faculty connections among the first-year class.

Faculty are encouraged to sign up by contacting Dr. Carolyn Denard, Associate Provost for Student Success (carolyn.denard@gcsu.edu).

Congratulations!

Sallie Coke, PhD, Interim Associate Dean, College of Health Sciences

ANEW - *Administrative Supplement Health Resources and Services Administration*, \$153,635. In recognition for her great work and successful grant management, HRSA has awarded Dr. Coke supplementary funding (non-competitively) to support additional primary care Advanced Practice Registered Nurse training curriculum, with a special focus around mental health, substance use disorder, access and treatment, proper pain management including proper opioid use. Health outcomes and use of telehealth as appropriate are also part of this funding support.

Sandy Baxter, Executive Director, Communities in Schools

CIS Model - Paid Tutors, *Community Foundation of Central Georgia*, \$15,000. This funding is to increase the number of students in Baldwin County Schools who receive tutoring from the CIS staff and volunteers.

The **GC National Scholarships Office** produced two Fulbright semi-finalists (Hungary and Spain) and one Fulbright finalist (South Korea). In addition, it garnered the school's first recipient of the Boren Scholarship, propelling Georgia College towards national preeminence.

GC Grants for FY18

Georgia College completed the fiscal year with \$2,368,642 in grant awards. This represents a 47% success rate as of June 30 and an 18% increase in submissions from the previous year. This success is due to the hard work of our faculty, staff, and the GC Office of Grants and Sponsored Projects.

Department Chairs Leadership Development Series

The *Fall 2018 Department Chairs Leadership Development Series* will be held at the University Banquet Room from 4:00-6:00 PM.

September 20th USG Initiatives
International Education

October 30th Area B of the Core Curriculum
Oversight of Online Course/Program Delivery

November 27th Managing and Evaluating Staff
Course and Program Approval Process
(Workflow)

SRIS for May and June

The overall response rate for the May-June and June SRIS was 47%; 42% in June and 52% in May-June.

The overall response rate by college for both terms was:

COAS 42.7%
COE 43.7%
COHS 48.5%

Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia Reminders

During the April 2018 BOR Meeting, the University System of Georgia approved numerous revisions to the BOR Policy Manual. New versions of changes in two areas are included below:

8.2.18 Personnel Conduct

8.2.18.1 Ethics Policy

The University System of Georgia (USG) is committed to the highest ethical and professional standards of conduct in pursuit of its mission to create a more educated Georgia. Accomplishing this mission demands integrity, good judgment, and dedication to public service from all members of the USG community.

While the USG affirms each person's accountability for individual actions, it also recognizes that the shared mission and the shared enterprise of its institutions require a shared set of core values and ethical conduct to which each member of the USG community must be held accountable. Furthermore, the USG acknowledges that an organizational culture grounded in trust is essential to supporting these core values and ethical conduct.

The following Statement of Core Values and Code of Conduct are intended to build, maintain, and protect that trust, recognizing that each member of the USG community is responsible for doing his or her part by upholding the highest standards of competence and character.

For full policy, see <https://www.usg.edu/policymanual/section8/C224?highlight=8.2.18>

8.2.18.2 Conflicts of Interest and Conflicts of Commitment

8.2.18.2.1 Conflicts of Interest and Appearances of Conflicts of Interest

Each University System of Georgia (USG) employee shall make every reasonable effort to avoid actual or apparent conflicts of interests and also the appearance of a conflict of interest. An appearance of a conflict exists when a reasonable person would conclude from the circumstances that the employee's ability to protect the public interest, or perform public duties, is compromised by a personal, financial, or business interest. An appearance of conflict can exist even in the absence of a legal conflict of interest. USG employees are referred to State Conflict of Interest Statutes O.C.G.A. § 45-10-20 through § 45-10-70 and institutional policies governing professional and outside activities.

For full policy, see: <https://www.usg.edu/policymanual/section8/C224?highlight=8.2.18>