

Provost Notes

Georgia College & State University

May 2017

Faculty Award Winners

The Office of Academic Affairs would like to congratulate once again the following for their commitment and contributions to our students:

Excellence in Scholarship and Creative Endeavors:

Dr. Ken McGill, Department of Chemistry, Physics, and Astronomy

Excellence in the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning:

Dr. Brooke Conaway, Department of Economics and Finance

Excellence in Service:

Dr. John Swinton, Department of Economics and Finance

Excellence in Teaching:

Dr. Betta Vice, Department of Teacher Education

Laurie Hendrickson McMillan Award:

Dr. Donnie Williams, Department of Management

Inclusive Excellence:

Department of Theater and Dance

Department/Program Excellence:

Department of Information Systems & Computer Science

Congratulations!

Dave Bachoon, PhD, Biological and Environmental Sciences received an additional \$4,500 to perform fecal source tracking on ten (10) samples for the Implementation of Pataula Creek Watershed Management Plan River Valley Regional Commission/EPA (see April *Provost Notes*). This will help support a summer research experience for an undergraduate student in the field.

Chavonda Mills, PhD, Interim Associate Dean, College of Arts & Sciences has been accepted to participate in AASCU's Emerging Leaders Program. The program is designed for early to mid-career professionals and faculty leaders.

Institutional Review Board (IRB) Update

The function of the Institutional Review Board (IRB) is to safeguard individuals' well-being in all research projects involving human participants. Under the leadership of Dr. Tsu-Ming Chiang, COAS, the IRB has transformed with a new governing system, a new submission system (irb-portal.gcsu.edu) and the first approved Policy and Procedure documents. Vice Chair, Dr. Whitney Heppner, COAS, will assume the role of IRB Chair, and Dr. Sallie Coke, COHS, is the new Chair-Elect. After nearly 25 years of serving the IRB, Dr. Chiang will be departing as the IRB Board continues to develop new initiatives. The Office of Academic Affairs would like to acknowledge the commitment and contributions of the current IRB Board members:

College of Arts and Sciences

Angel Abney, Associate Professor of Mathematics
Carrie Cook, Associate Professor of Criminal Justice
Jennifer Green, Assistant Professor of Mass Communication
Ashley Taylor, Assistant Professor of Psychological Science
Dana Wood, Assistant Professor of Psychological Science

College of Health Sciences

Flor Culpa-Bondal, Associate Professor of Nursing
Sallie Coke, Associate Professor of Nursing
Kevin Hunt, Assistant Professor of Health & Human Performance

College of Business

William Miller, Associate Professor of Management
Doreen Sams, Professor of Marketing

College of Education

Carol Christy, Professor of Education
Linda Bradley, Associate Professor of Education
Sandra Webb, Associate Professor of Education

Community Representative

Noris Price, Superintendent of the Baldwin County School District

Qiana Wilson, Director of Legal Affairs
Chris Ferland, Assistant VP of Institution Research
Tsu-Ming Chiang, Professor of Psychological Science; IRB Chair

2016-2017 Academic Affairs Unit Updates

The May 2016 issue of the *Provost Notes* includes end-of-year updates from numerous units in the Office of Academic Affairs. The reports below focus on accomplishments and progress on key projects during the 2016-2017 academic year.

Information Technology

1. In the Information Security area, GC was rated third in maturity for USG's bi-annual Information Security Program Review, ranked in the top 5 campuses as part of USG Critical System's Audit, set the USG standard for payment card industry security, achieved 100% compliance in developing departmental security plans and experienced a 95% completion rate (one of the highest rates in the USG) on our annual information security training program.
2. In the Technology Support Services area, GC introduced an all new Paw Printing system supporting the emailing of documents for printing, deployed a total of 434 new machines for faculty, staff and student computing, completed a total of 4,858 work orders, saw the virtual Thundercloud use exceed 100 users per day and TSS's Serve Helpdesk won GC's The Bright Idea Award for Process Improvement.
3. Network Services replaced and reconfigured the core switches, firewall and data center networks, rebuilt and expanded coverage for the GC Secure and Guest wireless networks for both the campus, housing and all large venues, established multiple redundancy for campus telephone services, increased Internet bandwidth for both campus and housing networks.
4. System Administration implemented a business continuity infrastructure for critical systems in collaboration with West Georgia, re-organized GC's web development support in collaboration with University Communications while establishing a new website infrastructure. System Administration also revised and refreshed both Unify and MyPassword functionality, increased virtual application services, and in collaboration with the Operations, Planning and Budget area launched the highly successful GC Signatures.
5. Enterprise Applications installed, tested and placed into operation the critical systems software for the University of West Georgia business continuity site in addition to installing new infrastructure and software for Degree Works, integrated customer relationship software for graduate admissions, and new parking and student success systems. Enterprise Applications also upgraded the Oracle database software and infrastructure and created demo sites as part of a collaborative effort with Enrollment Management in the migration to a new Banner 9 version.

University Library

1. The library transitioned the entire publishing process for the student research journal, the *Corinthian*, to an online process using our institutional repository, The Knowledge Box. Between August 2016 and April 2017, downloads from the *Corinthian* increased 83%.
2. The library's special collections and archives secured a commitment from the Honorable Floyd L. Griffin, Jr. to receive his papers and other materials. Mr. Griffin served as the first African American mayor of Milledgeville from 2002-2006, and in 1994 was the first African American state senator since Reconstruction to be elected to the Georgia Senate from a rural, majority-white district.
3. The library expanded and diversified its primary resource collection by providing digital access to the *Atlanta Daily World* newspaper and the Slavery in America and the World: History, Culture & Law database, a collection of well-known legal materials on slavery in the United States and the English-speaking world.

Institutional Research

1. The *Georgia College IR Fact Book* was recognized as the Best Fact Book (second year in a row) by the Southern Association for Institutional Research. For the first time, the GC IR Website was recognized by the same organization as the Best IR Website.
2. Supported the completion of APR and Progress and Planning of all academic and non-academic units.
3. Completed over 100 ad hoc data requests and revamped the IR and Assessment website.
4. Completed an investigation of the portfolio system released to Georgia College by the USG.
5. Developed and distributed an analysis that investigated factors to enrollment by using propensity score analysis.
6. Merged the GC QEP into the Office of Institutional Research and Effectiveness.

College of Health Sciences

1. The Faculty of the College of Health Sciences developed and approved a written document “Non-tenure Track Faculty Appraisal Guidelines” which defines role expectations as well as procedures for peer and administrative review of Lecturers and Senior Lecturers within the College.
2. USG/BOR approval of proposed new COHS programs included Nursing- Post Graduate Certificates (Psych/Mental Health Nurse Practitioner and Nursing Education), M.S. in Athletic Training, B.S. in Public Health, and Global Health Studies Minor. Several other curricular modifications were completed in the B.S. in Exercise Science, MMT, BMT and the MA in Art Therapy.
3. Completed the HSB 3rd Floor Renovation Phase I, creating 9 faculty office spaces and transitioned the Wellness Programs and the Wellness Center Building Management from the College of Health Sciences to the GC Student Affairs Division effective July 1, 2017 (Health Services and the Student Health Clinic will continue to operate under the supervision of the COHS).
4. The College of Health Sciences has significantly increased the number of service-learning focused study abroad experiences offered as well as the numbers of student and faculty participating with international study abroad programs in Belize (all Health Sciences students), Honduras (MSN/DNP and UG BSN students), Germany (BMT or MMT students), Philippines (UG nursing and public health students), and Tanzania (nursing students). The College is currently planning study abroad programs to Australia and to the United Kingdom while continuing to pursue UG nursing student exchange programs with two universities in Sweden.
5. The College continues to increase the number of internal and external grants submitted by COHS in support of academic, community outreach, and research programs. COHS faculty procured \$615,000 in external grant funds and \$52,000 in internal grants in 2016. Additionally a \$1.4 million grant proposal was submitted in January, 2017 to HRSA to improve health outcomes in rural GA through extensive investment in Nursing Education to prepare advanced practices nurses for work in underserved and unserved rural areas of GA.
6. COHS graduate student enrollment increased by 8.6%.

College of Arts and Sciences

1. The College Advisory Board has been brought to a threshold of maturity with about fifteen members, representing all college divisions, increased diversity, and with a clear mission and bylaws. Virtually all Board members are donors at the Presidential level; several have funded endowed scholarships. The Board had been successful in meeting fundraising goals for the College Excellence Fund to the point that we were able, under the leadership of the Interim Associate Dean to develop criteria for and offer the first Dean’s Excellence Scholarships with the aim of recruiting several high achieving applicants with first-generation status or substantial unmet financial need. Scholarship recipients include high school students from Washington County, Jones County, and Georgia College Early College.
2. Since the GC Foundation Board’s offer to match scholarship endowment funds in celebration of GC’s 125th anniversary, about a dozen new scholarships were endowed with more in the works and on the way. The Board is raising about \$15,000 per year.
3. College faculty have worked steadily to increase summer school enrollments through on-line undergraduate classes. The resulting increase in faculty development funds has paid off in significant increases to the per capita allocation and enabled the college to develop and implement a college-wide at-large faculty grant program. This year, twenty faculty grant proposals received funding; approximately \$40,000 in at-large grants were awarded.
4. Certificates in Film, Geographic Information Systems and Sustainability have all been developed and approved.

College of Business

1. The College of Business BBA and Master’s programs successfully reaffirmed accreditation from AACSB – the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business.
2. The BS in Computer Science received initial accreditation from ABET - the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology.
2. Donors provided four new scholarships for College of Business students during this academic year.

College of Education

1. The College of Education redirected resources to deactivate the low-enrolled Master's of Education (MEd.) in Secondary Education and replace it with a MEd. in Curriculum and Instruction. The Specialist of Education (Ed.S) in Secondary Education is being replaced with an Ed.S in Teacher Leadership. Both of these new programs are relevant to the wider pool of PreK-12 teachers as a pay step. The College also redesigned the Educational Leadership program into a Tier I (MEd.) and Tier II (Ed.S) program per our new state accreditation rules. The Middle Grades Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) was placed in an online format and we have already experienced strong student interest in this program. The Secondary MAT was also approved to be offered online and is planned for a fall 2017 start.
2. The College of Education continued its efforts in the community outreach/support arena and worked closely with the Division of Finance and Administration to establish the Montessori Academy at the Early Learning Center which is set to begin on August 2nd. The College of Education also continued the Professional Development School relationship with Baldwin County and provided local oversight for Early College.
3. The start of the 2016-2017 academic year signaled the beginning of a new organizational structure which now includes two fully-functioning academic departments, (1) Teacher Education, and (2) Professional Learning and Innovation.
4. The College of Education continued the successful *Diversity Speaker Series* with a film and three major speakers. Under the direction of Mr. Emmanuel Little, the Call Me MISTER program continues to grow.
5. Under the leadership of the COE Development Officer, the College of Education has been successful in creating a COE Advisory Board and significantly increasing donations.

Office of Enrollment Management

1. The Registrar's Office produced more than 8,748 transcripts, provided 3,799 wait list notifications to students, articulated transfer credit for 683 admitted transfer students and articulated credit for 798 incoming freshmen with AP, dual enrollment, and IB credit.
2. The Financial Aid Office administered and disbursed over \$69,000,000 in financial aid to over 6,300 unduplicated students.
3. Between January 1, 2016 and December 31, 2016, there were 24,021 guests (parents and students) registered for campus tours. In addition, there were 50 special group tours scheduled throughout the year.
4. During Fall season, Admissions interacted with 12,501 students at large group information session, high school visits and college fairs. This includes 5,157 students from diverse backgrounds, and 989 students from outside of Georgia.
5. Fall 2017 indicators show a 4% growth in Freshman applications, and 19% increase in deposits, 34% increase in registered students, and 26% in housing. The Fall 2017 Class will be comprised of approximately 1,450 students, including those who begin with the Summer Bridge Scholars Program.

Graduate Studies

1. Updated the GC Graduate Studies website by improving the navigation and making it appealing to prospective students.
2. Enhanced the graduate student application process by using Hobsons Radius software.
3. Expanded the Graduate Research Grants program.
4. New graduate student enrollment increased by 10.8% (Fall '15 to Fall '16).
5. In response to graduate enrollment declines, redirected resources from Warner Robins to the Macon Academic Center and to the Milledgeville Campus.

Grants and Sponsored Projects

1. Georgia College reached an all-time high in annual grant awards, currently at \$2.86 million but will continue to grow before June 30th.
2. Grant submissions were higher from the previous year, surpassing the \$6.5 million mark (\$5.8 million in FY16). The College of Arts and Sciences saw a significant increase in submissions from \$1,228,478 (FY16) to \$2,685,289 (FY17). Additional increases were observed in the College of Health Sciences and Extended University.
3. The Office of Grants and Sponsored Projects supported the very successful 6th Annual Southeast Preeminent Regional Research & Creative Endeavors Conference held at GC.
4. The Office of Grants and Sponsored Projects hosted two NSF and one NIH USG grant writing retreats that have resulted in two grant proposals and two pre-proposals. Georgia College faculty were joined by faculty from West Georgia, North Georgia, and Georgia Southern.
5. The Office of Grants and Sponsored Projects worked with the Baldwin County School District to secure a replacement grant for the ending YES awards to improve much needed services to our K-12 students. The grant which will start July 1 is worth \$1,645,000.

International Education

1. The International Education Center (IEC) developed and launched its 5-year strategic plan with the goals of increasing study abroad and international student enrollments. The long-term goal is to send 25% of GC graduates abroad at least once prior to graduation by 2022. The IEC currently sends close to 15% of its students abroad before graduation. An international student recruitment and market study will be completed by June 30, 2017. Recommendations for targeting five undergraduate student markets will be made to Academic Affairs and Enrollment Management.
2. The IEC awarded 120 study abroad scholarships in April for student experiences in the summer and fall of 2017. These scholarships came from the following endowments: Virginia Weir Fund, the Elizabeth Chandler Minter Scholarship, the Guy H. Wells Memorial Scholarship, the Wellington Study Abroad Scholarship, and the Semple-Morraty Memorial Scholarship fund. Student applications were reviewed by the Education Abroad Committee.
3. The International Education Center awarded Dr. Debby MacMillan (COHS) a faculty development grant to develop a health science study abroad program in England. She plans to travel to England in the fall of 2017. This funding was recommended by the International Faculty Development Grants committee.
4. Two international students were awarded scholarships from the Global Scholars Fund. This endowment supports international students with the costs of study at Georgia College after their first year on campus. Global Scholars Fund student awards are based on merit and need. The scholarship monies for the two students are allocated for next academic year. Student applications and nominations were vetted by the International Student and Scholars Committee.

The Center for Student Success

1. The Academic Advising Center completed a pilot of the new SSC Campus advising platform that will be implemented by other Center programs and introduced to faculty this summer and fall.
2. The Honors Program completed a program evaluation by reviewers from the National Collegiate Honors Council to ensure that we continue to offer first-rate Honors programs to Georgia College students. This year, the National Scholarships Office, after only two years of program-building, had twenty-one applicants for national and international scholarships and four national winners: a Woodrow Wilson Teaching Fellowship, a Peace Corps Award to Cambodia, and two Fulbright Scholarships.
3. The Learning Center received a \$120K STEM Grant from the USG to support advanced training and development for students who serve as leaders in the Supplemental Instruction Program. With its new move to Russell Library, the Testing Center was able to accommodate approximately 25% more students for legislative, accommodations, and special-exam testing.
4. The Leadership Programs office is pleased to announce that Harold Mock, Georgia College graduate ('06) and PhD candidate at the University of Virginia will join Georgia College in July as Director.
5. The highly popular summer Bridge Scholars Program will, again, have capacity enrollment of promising first-year students.
6. The Center for Student Success completed a Senior Progression Pilot this year, designed, using a proactive advising model, to ensure that all students eligible for graduation in 2017 were on track to meet requirements by graduation deadlines.

Strategic Initiatives

1. Facilitated the university's strategic planning process, a year-long project that resulted in the development of succinct, tightly focused, and clear mission and vision statements, and a set of strategic goals and initiatives designed to move the university toward preeminence as a public liberal arts university.
2. Applied for and subsequently coordinated a U.S. Army War College Eisenhower Program visit. This program not only brought prestige to the university, but it also benefitted Georgia College students and the broader community by opening a dialogue with high ranking U.S. Army War College students.

Extended University

3. Extended University enjoyed its highest grossing year in sales and services revenue with \$1,391,747 generated in FY16. FY17 is on pace to easily surpass this record.
4. Ten Extended University grant requests were funded in FY16 for a total of \$1,701,433. FY17 totals are not yet available.
5. In FY16, Extended University served 45,459 people throughout the community, state, and the southeast.