

Provost Notes

Georgia College & State University

May 2020

Tenure and Promotion Recipients

Georgia College recently approved the promotion of 22 faculty members for their excellence in teaching, scholarship/creative activities, and service to the university, community and/or profession. The university would also like to announce that 11 faculty members earned tenure. All promotions and tenured statuses become effective with the start of the 2020-2021 contract year:

College of Arts & Sciences

Alex Blazer – Promotion to Full Professor
Alesa Liles – Tenure & Promotion to Associate Professor
William Risch – Promotion to Full Professor
Dana Gorzelany-Mostak – Tenure & Promotion to Associate Professor
Brantley Nicholson – Tenure & Promotion to Associate Professor
David Johnson – Promotion to Full Professor
Guy Biyogmam – Tenure & Promotion to Associate Professor
Hauke Busch – Promotion to Full Professor
Kristina Dandy – Promotion to Full Professor
Natalie King – Promotion to Senior Lecturer
Matthew Forest – Tenure & Promotion to Associate Professor
Owen Lovell – Tenure & Promotion to Associate Professor
Peter Rosado Flores – Tenure & Promotion to Associate Professor
William McClain – Tenure & Promotion to Associate Professor
TeaYoun Kim-Kassor – Promotion to Full Professor
Jeffrey MacLachlan – Promotion to Senior Lecturer

College of Business

Roberta Gorham – Promotion to Senior Lecturer

College of Education

Marcia Peck – Promotion to Full Professor
Robert Sumowski – Tenure & Promotion to Associate Professor

College of Health Sciences

Sarah Handwerker - Tenure & Promotion to Associate Professor
Krystal Canady - Tenure & Promotion to Associate Professor

Congratulations!

Jordan Cofer, PhD, Associate Provost of Transformative Learning Experiences *Scaling High Impact Practices (HIP) - Mini Grant*, National Association of System Heads, \$5,000.

Sandy Baxter, Executive Director of Communities in Schools, *Reaching Rural Communities – Planning Grant*, CIS-National Office, \$23,150.

GC Journeys & CTL Present: "Incorporating Transformative Experiences into the Classroom"

- **Who:** Full-time faculty members (space is limited to 20 participants)
- **What:** A workshop series on incorporating transformative experiences (high impact practices) into a course
- **When:** 2-5pm on June 1, 3, 8, and 10 with a "sharing out" session on July 30
- **Where:** On line!
- **How:** Register using this [link](#) by May 11th

Everyone who completes the course will receive \$300 in professional development funds from the Associate Provost of Transformative Learning Experiences, as well as a **Transformative Experiences Faculty Certification** for leading a Transformative Experience/High Impact Practice.

Inaugural Dean of the Honors College

Georgia College welcomes Dr. Brian Newsome as the inaugural Dean of the Honors College. Dr. Newsome will join the university on July 1. For more information see the [Front Page announcement](#).

2019-2020 Academic Affairs Unit Updates

The May 2020 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 2019-2020 academic year.

College of Arts & Sciences

- **Visiting Endowed Scholars:** Anthropologist *Dr. Marisa Ensor*, Georgetown University, visited as Coverdell Fellow in Fall 2019; she taught a course on conflict resolution, based on her United Nations work in Africa. English Professor *Dr. Michael Lackey*, University of Minnesota, Morris, was the visiting Newell Scholar in Spring 2020; he taught a course on biofictional writing.
- **Program Development:** The college developed and will house certificates in Data Science, Asian Studies, Leadership Studies, and Global Foodways Studies.
- **Capital Projects:** After finalizing architectural plans, the university broke ground on the new Integrated Science Complex in February, which will bring modern labs to the college and mid-century design to campus. Also, in February, much fanfare accompanied the rededication of Terrell Hall, which will house the Department of Communication. A necessary HVAC revision of Porter Hall began in April 2020.
- **Development:** Partnering with Alumni, the college held a donor cultivation event in Savannah in February. The college completed a \$500,000 gift from *Dr. and Mrs. Barry Darugar* to create an endowed visiting writer's program. *Harlan T. Archer* funded a significant scholarship for math majors.
- **Personnel:** The college hired an interim associate dean, Dr. Carrie Cook, and chairs for the Department of Government & Sociology and World Languages and Cultures. Faculty hires included: Art, Biology, Communication, Creative Writing, English Literature, and Music.
- **Awards:** *Dr. Hasi Mahabaduge*, Physics, won a USG Felton Jenkins Hall of Fame Faculty Award. *Dr. Stephanie McClure*, Sociology, named Faculty Mentor of the Year by the Institute on Teaching and Mentoring. Students in World Languages and Music won Fulbright Teaching awards for Colombia and Czech Republic, respectively. Psychological Science major *Kendyl Lewis* was named Truman Scholarship finalist.

J. Whitney Bunting College of Business

- Enrollment in the BBA is up nearly 6% during the past three fall terms. The BBA-MIS has seen the most dramatic increase in enrollment, with 65% growth in the past five years and now over 200 majors. Between the years 2015 and 2019, the CoB has gone from 275 to nearly 350 freshmen business majors at summer orientation.
- Graduate Program Rankings: The most recent *U.S. News Ranking for Best Online Programs*, released January 14, 2020, ranks two, GC CoB online graduate programs.
 - The Georgia WebMBA® at Georgia College is a Top-50 program nationally (#40). It is the top ranked online MBA among universities in Georgia.
 - The Master of Logistics and Supply Chain Management program is a Top-20 program nationally (#17) among other, non-MBA, Best Online Master's Business Programs.
- The CoB successfully completed 10 faculty searches during the 2019-2020 Academic Year.
- 27 of 41 (66%) of the endowed CoB student scholarships were funded during the past 5.5 years of the capital campaign that ends in May 2020. Additionally, during the most recent three-year period, CoB donors have funded a speaker series (\$10,000), established a department-level operating fund, and provided a \$57,000 estate gift to establish a CoB discretionary fund.
- Dr. Micheal T. Stratton is the new Dean of the CoB, effective July 1, 2020. He has served at the University of North Carolina-Asheville since 2010. Dr. Stratton was head of the Department of Management and Accountancy since 2014 and was responsible for a successful reaccreditation in 2019.

John H. Lounsbury College of Education

- **Primary goals** for the academic year included a continued focus on graduate programs in order to build sustainable enrollment in the remaining lower-enrolled graduate programs and develop additional endorsement options based on regional need:
 - Added a fully online MED in Middle Grades Education and a MED Early Childhood education to the already established blended programs. Both are slated to begin in 2021.
 - Implemented the Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) certificate in support of the new Professional Standards Commission endorsement. All of the courses are developed and currently being offered. Additionally, the PBIS certificate courses are now integrated into the MED in Special Education.
 - Developed a Computer Science Endorsement program to meet regional needs for K-12 teachers who are teaching in this area. This has been submitted to both the Professional Standards Commission and the USG for approval. The first course of the four courses will be offered in the fall 2020 and will be 100% online.
- **Other significant accomplishments:**
 - Beginning the educational doctorate in Curriculum and Instruction in the summer of 2019.
 - Recognized as one of a few institutions that were rated in the highest category of “exemplary” on the *Professional Standards Commission’s Professional Program Effectiveness Measures (PPEM)*. These measures look at areas such as standardized content tests, national pedagogy assessments, program satisfaction of students, employer satisfaction of graduates, and principal observations of graduates.
 - Received multiple grants for a total of \$5,360,000 to train middle grades teachers, create a maker space, integrate dyslexia awareness into programs, explore bringing students with disabilities to Georgia College, and to further support the Call Me MiSTER program.
 - Continuing our iPad initiative to provide all incoming juniors with an iPad to use to develop skills in teaching with technology.
 - Continued the social justice dialogue series by bringing in a nationally known expert in culturally relevant pedagogy, Dr. Gloria Ladson-Billings.
 - Continuing to exceed the national and state trends in teacher production. Nationally the number is down by 35%. The USG Teacher Education program completers from 2014 to 2018 is down by 32.82%. In comparison, GC undergraduate completers from 2014 to 2018 percentage is *up* 14.63% and our MAT programs continue to grow.
 - Finally, we held four virtual awards ceremonies for the graduating undergraduate cohorts.

College of Health Sciences

- Developed and awarded three Collaborative Research Grants totaling \$4,313.
- Schools of Health and Human Performance and Nursing began development of faculty workload policies
- The Center for Health and Social Issues (CHSI) is expanding their reach into multiple communities in Milledgeville through a new 5-year strategic plan, \$200,000 grant application, newly revised website, and a new marketing video. The CHSI also received \$4,000 in external funding.
- Raised more than \$10,000 for student scholarships.
- Was awarded over \$1 million in external funding.
- Established the first two academic affinity groups at GC (one for SHHP and one for SON).
- Public Health major was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship.
- Launched the MS in Athletic Training and 2 new tracks in the MSN program: Women’s Health and Psychiatric Mental Health.
- Received pre-accreditation approval for the Certified Nurse Midwifery program.
- MSN and DNP programs were recognized in Top 150 nursing program by *US News & World Report*.
- Hosted the Martha Colvin Lecture Series.
- Faculty accomplishments: 24 journal articles published; 1 book authored; 1 edited book chapter; 50 presentations; 4 new terminal degrees; 2 promoted & tenured; 12 awards; 1 reviewer of 2 journals.
- Multiple clinics and community education workshops offered.

International Education Center

- Launched its innovative “GC Global” newsletter, targeted at the international market and now being used in English acquisition classes abroad. Available in over forty languages in the online version, the newsletter is read on five continents beyond North America.
- Following last year’s world-wide webinar for the State Department on “International Students with Disabilities,” partnered again with State for a webinar on liberal arts in the U.S.
- Held the second annual Passport Fair in collaboration with the Atlanta Passport and the Department of State. Over 30 GC students, faculty and staff, plus members the local community and region participated.
- Proposed/piloted global (border-free) study abroad with DeMontfort University in the UK. A collaboration of several Georgia College entities, as well as DMU’s Office of Equality and Diversity and the DMU Business School, students connected via a synchronous video platform to discuss the intersection of race and political leadership.
- Prior to COVID-19, International had slated a record number of faculty-led summer Study Abroad programs, plus an expected overall SA participation of nearly 300 students.
- Maintained progress, despite significant negative headwinds affecting international recruitment, welcoming 64 international students from fully 29 nations, including several new to GC.
- Successfully recertified F-1 and J-1 programs by the U.S. government.

The Graduate School

- Graduate student enrollment was strong for fall 2019. The fall headcount was 1,186 – a 14.48% increase above fall 2018 enrollment and 21.27% above fall 2017.
- The Graduate School hosted the first Graduate Student Mixer in the fall at the Historic Mansion. A second mixer was held in spring in the Donahoo Lounge.
- The Graduate School awarded seven Outstanding Graduate Assistant Awards. Those selected received a \$200 cash award, certificate and pin.
- Although cancelled, participation in the 3rd Annual Graduate Research Poster Exhibit was the highest ever for the spring event. 27 participants represented Athletic Training, Biology, Criminal Justice, Music Education, and Public Administration. With the assistance of the GC Library, the posters will be included and referenced in the “Knowledge Box”.
- The Graduate School awarded 8 Graduate Research Travel Grants to students to present at professional conferences in Biology, English, and Creative Writing. Total funding awarded: \$2,103. Unfortunately, many of the conferences were cancelled due to COVID19. Students impacted were invited to reapply.
- Graduate admissions applications have not been impacted by COVID19. In-take of applications has been consistent throughout the year.

Office of Grants and Sponsored Projects

- The 2019-2020 academic year has been a record-breaking one for Georgia College and the Office of Grants and Sponsored Projects.
- Between July 2019 and April 2020, we set a record for externally funded projects: \$3.79 million year to date, a 22.4% increase for all of last fiscal year. A significant amount of our submitted grant applications, 32 percent, were from first-time applicants hailing from a wide range of disciplines.
- We have had two new collaborations with community institutions.
 - We worked with the Ocmulgee Judicial Circuit, which covers Baldwin, Greene, Hancock, Jasper, Jones, Morgan, Putnam, and Wilkinson counties, to apply for Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) funding to expand their substance abuse and mental health diversionary courts.
 - We also partnered with the Twin Lakes Library System to apply for funding from the Institute of Museum and Library Sciences (IMLS). The proposed project is an effort to electronically preserve the history of Central State Hospital for research and educational purposes.

Division of Enrollment Management

Office of Admissions

- Increased total freshmen applications for Fall 2019 from the previous year by 2%, while increasing actionable applications by 1% to 4,416, Increased total minority applications by 6% over the previous year while increasing actionable minority applications by 10%.
- Enrolled a class of 1,481 entering freshmen for Fall 2019 including the Summer Bridge students. The class profile demonstrated an increase in high school GPA from 3.55 to 3.58. Enrolled minority freshmen increased by 13% over the previous year, including a 28% increase in Hispanic students and 6% increase in African American students.
- Through the Director of the Welcome Center, *AdmitHub* was implemented to provide 24/7 support for specific high school student questions both through the GC website and responsive text messaging.
- Implemented a robust social media plan and virtual events to recruit students when physical visits were not possible.
- Worked with the Provost to implement 2 articulation agreements with other USG institutions to promote the increase of transfer students, one with Georgia Highlands College and the other with Gordon State College.

Office of Financial Aid

- Collaborated with multiple department on campus to establish a *Swipe Out Hunger* program, which assists students experiencing food shortage.
- Implemented *Campus Logic* which is a system for students and parents to submit verification documents for review and processing, allowing students to upload documents reduce the usage of paper.
- Underwent a comprehensive student eligibility audit performed by representatives from the Georgia Department of Audits. The outcome of this audit resulted in no findings.
- Offered a multitude of services to students designed to keep them educated and informed on student loan statuses. Georgia College's draft student loan default rate for FY 2017 has dropped to 2.7%, the lowest in our history. National default rates typically remain above 10%.

Office of the Registrar, Academic Advising, Testing

- Completed training and successfully implemented the classroom management component of *25Live*. Successfully assigned classrooms for the Spring 2020 using the *25Live Optimizer* with an 83.47% utilization rate.
- Ensured campus use of USG required no cost and low-cost textbook attributes.
- Successfully implemented *USG Goes Global* and *Georgia FinTech Academy* programs and updated *Georgia Film Academy* schedule offerings.
- Began the transition of including the Advising Center and Testing Center into the Enrollment Management operations to provide consistent services for Georgia College students.

Ina Dillard Russell Library

- In collaboration with IT and Facilities Planning, the library was actively involved in the renovation process of the heavily used Library Instruction Room 241 into an active learning classroom to meet the teaching and learning objectives of Georgia College.
- Held two community history harvest days and hosted two workshops teaching participants how to preserve and care for family records, through a National Endowment for the Humanities "Common Heritage" grant. This community outreach endeavor resulted in the digitization of approximately 100 items documenting African American history in Milledgeville. A new Community Engagement Archivist was also hired.
- Worked in tandem with IT and GALILEO to move to OpenAthens, an authentication service that allows end-users on and off-campus access to subscription-based electronic resources. OpenAthens allows single sign-on access, via UNIFY, and eliminates the need for the previously used GALILEO password.

Office of Transformative Learning Experiences

GC Journeys

- Created a GC Journeys committee to help solidify policies
 - Created a student handbook; operational definitions for experiences.
 - Participated in National Assessment on quality of high impact practices
 - Tracked participation in GC Journeys for 2018-2019.
- Communicated GC Journeys
 - Led workshops on essential skills and transformative experiences.
 - Led info sessions.
 - Started GC Journeys monthly newsletter.
- Partnered with MURACE for GC Journeys Undergraduate Research Department Award.
- Received national Grant for GC Journeys.

The Learning Center

- Received CRLA Level 3 recertification.
- Added off-site tutoring as part of the STEM IV grant.

The Writing Center

- Created synchronous and asynchronous online tutoring.

First Year Experience

- 100% completion for Summer 2019 Bridge Scholars Program.
- Added First Year Guides as peer mentors for First Year students.

Leadership

- Added Leadership program in Nursing.
- Added Leadership program with COAS.

Center for Teaching and Learning

- Expanded programming for face-to-face and online faculty development.
- Created faculty learning communities for high impact practices and online teaching.
- Created modules in accessibility/universal design for courses.
- Created repository in GeorgiaView.

Mentored Undergraduate Research

- Launched undergraduate research conference online.
- Co-organized and brought students to Posters at the Capitol.
- Hosted Research Round and Faculty Symposium.

Extended University and Strategic Initiatives

Extended University

- Generated \$1,169,378 in Sales and Services revenue and attracted almost \$1.5 million in grant funding. Afterschool Achievement received 21st Century grant funding to provide academic support to students in the Georgia College YES Program—Lakeview Academy for five years at approximately \$350,000 per year. Also received \$170,000 in DHS funding for High Achievers Program.
- Served 32,346 people through 426 Continuing Education courses, 165 Academic Outreach programs, Communities In Schools services, the YES and High Achievers programs, and Historic Museums tours and events.
- Communities In Schools (with funding from the federal Wraparound Baldwin grant) opened the “Bee Well” Federally Qualified Healthcare Center in the Early Learning Center.
- Production Services provided technical support for 200+ events, meetings, and/or productions on the GC campus and, an additional 75+ events at other settings outside GC.
- Historic Museums received several new donations including Governor Joseph E. Brown original desk chair, Governor Howell Cobb’s Turkey Platter, and a large collection of photographs from the family of Flannery O’Connor. Restoration at Andalusia progressed including stabilization work within the main house, installation of a new turn lane and entrance, and completion of the first phase of archeological digs at the site. The museums also completed successful exhibits on the Mansion’s grounds, the Carver School, the O’Connor Hat Collection, and Flannery’s experience with lupus.

Strategic Initiatives

- Successfully chaired the search for a new Dean of the College of Business. Chaired the search for a new Associate Provost and Director of The Graduate School (relaunch in the future).
- Co-chaired the Strategic Planning Steering Committee.

Institutional Research and Effectiveness

- Created a new data dashboard which is published and available for use, which contains demographic information on faculty and staff, workforce trends and details, hires and departures, and faculty promotions. The dashboard is located under the resource tab on the IR website: irout.gcsu.edu.
- Won “best printed report” (Best Fact Book) from the Southern Association of Institutional Research (SAIR). This is the fifth year in a row GC has been awarded this honor.
- Successfully submitted GC’s SACSCOC 5th Year Interim Report and QEP Impact Report in March
- Completed GC’s participation in the VALUE Institute with AAC&U. This alternative approach to assessment uses samples of student work which are scored by certified VALUE Institute faculty and other educator scorers for external validation of institutional learning assessment.