

# Provost Notes

Georgia College & State University

November 2018

## Graduate Studies Renamed The Graduate School

Graduate Studies will be renamed The Graduate School. This will reflect the value of graduate education both internally and externally and will be consistent with practices across higher education and amongst peers and aspirant universities. There will be no organizational changes to the unit name change since the current administrative structure and format will be maintained.

The presence of a Graduate School at GC is not new since the university operated a Graduate School during the 1990s and 2000s. The institution enjoyed the highest graduate enrollment during that period (1,113 students in 2000) under the leadership of a Graduate Dean. In the latter part of the 2000s and early 2010s, a decentralized model was pursued which relied on colleges and academic departments leading various efforts in graduate enrollment. Unfortunately, enrollment declines followed reaching to a low of 822 students in 2013, a drop of 26.15%.

Since 2013, the university embraced a different approach with the appointment of a Director of Graduate Studies, reporting to the Provost. This helped centralize once again the administrative functions and responsibilities and crafted a new coordinated vision for graduate education. During this period, GC made progress on various fronts including the creation of the Graduate Council that serves curriculum approval and policy related functions in graduate education; a Graduate Coordinators Committee; a graduate studies web page allowing for a central presentation of our efforts with information about all GC programs, including graduate program ranking distinctions; and the Graduate Research Grants program. The development of new programs, including two doctorates (DNP and EdD), and the shift of existing programs from on campus to hybrid or fully online formats and a strategic review and realignment of tuition waivers and graduate assistantships better meets the needs of students. Campus Management (formerly Hobson's) Radius is now used to improve communications with prospective students; and, in collaboration with University Communications, there is an annual execution of a graduate branding campaign to coordinate advertising and promotional efforts. Graduate Studies moved to a dedicated space in McIntosh; and recently launched a new Graduate Retention Initiative.

As a result of these changes and the continuous commitment of our Georgia College faculty and staff, the Fall 2018 graduate enrollment increased to 1,031 students (over 25% since Fall 2013), reaching one of the highest in the history of the university.

## Congratulations!

**Ken McGill, PhD, Chair, Chemistry, Physics and Astronomy** awarded the 2018 Francis G. Slack Award by the American Physical Society - Southeastern Section, in recognition of creating and expanding the physics program at GC.

**Sandy Baxter, Executive Director of Communities in Schools** awarded \$498,076 for *Wraparound Baldwin*, U.S. Department of Education. This comprehensive plan is aimed to serve primary (K-2) schools in Milledgeville-Baldwin County and has three major goals: (1) increase services through the consortium, (2) increase literacy in K-2 students, and (3) increase parent engagement with the school system.

**Sequena Moon, Manager, High Achievers Program** awarded \$120,000 for *High Achievers Afterschool Program*, GA Department of Human Services. This unique, highly-structured, and comprehensive youth development program is designed to help young people reach their full potential. Activities are scheduled after school, on school holidays, during spring break, and occasionally on weekends, and summers.

**Holly Croft, Digital Archivist, Ina Dillard Russell Library** awarded \$8,407 for *A New Digital Repository and Annotated Bibliography for Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT)*. GDOT will utilize this annotated bibliography of all archived research reports.

**Rachel Pope, Senior Health Educator, Student Affairs** awarded \$10,599 for *GOHS Young Adult, Governor's Office of Highway Safety*. The Youth and Young Adult Highway Safety grant will seek to reduce the amount of high-risk drinking on our campus as well as to educate the campus about highway safety.

## Recently Approved Courses, Programs, Modifications, Changes

### General Education Committee

- GC1Y: Music and Conflict
- GC1Y: The Promise and Peril of Technology
- GC1Y: From Brown and Gold to Green and Blue: The History of Georgia College
- GC1Y: Thinking Through Religion
- GC2Y: World Englishes
- GC2Y: The Real World? Documentary in the Netflix Era
- GC2Y: History of Religions
- ENGL 2130: American Literature

### University Curriculum Committee

- Add Minor in Public Health
- Add Minor in Outdoor Education
- Change in Program of Study and New Course Proposal: B.S. in Special Education

### Graduate Council

- Online delivery of Special Education MAT (in addition to face-to-face)
- New course: MUED 5820
- Deactivate courses: ENGL 5468, 5673, 5935, 6050, 6055, 6855

### Student Participation in Voting

According to the University System of Georgia, students should be participating in election through voting. Hence, **4.1.3 Student Voting Privileges:** Students are encouraged to vote in all federal, state, and local elections. A student whose class schedule would otherwise prevent him or her from voting will be permitted an excused absence for the interval reasonably required for voting (<https://www.usg.edu/policymanual/section4/C327/>).

### Relocation of the GC Writing Center

The Writing Center has relocated to the Arts & Sciences building in room 2-56. This is a free service available to all undergraduate and graduate students. Consultants assist writers in the writing process, from brainstorming and organization of projects to revision and polishing. For assistance, please stop by, call 478-445-3370, or email [writing.center@gcsu.edu](mailto:writing.center@gcsu.edu).

### The Office of the Provost Welcomes Two New Staff Members!

As the new Special Assistant to the Provost, **Tracy Norris** (Room 307C) will serve as the liaison for all academic deans and direct reports to the Provost while managing the Academic Affairs office staff and implementing and monitoring all relevant policies and procedures. She will also serve as a member of the Academic Leadership Team and the Council of Deans.

**Lisa Castillo** (Room 307E) with Facility Reservations has been scheduling events at Georgia College since January of 2002. Lisa will be involved with the implementation of 25Live as the university moves forward with the use of that system. Her contact information is [lisa.castillo@gcsu.edu](mailto:lisa.castillo@gcsu.edu) and ext. 2749.

### Georgia College 2018-2019 Faculty Salary Review Task Force

The Task Force membership includes Provost Brown (ex officio), Susan Allen (ex officio), Craig Turner (ex officio), Robert Blumenthal, Sallie Coke, Neil Jones, John Swinton (Senate Representative), and Russ Williams.

#### Committee Charge:

- Recommend acceptable salary ranges for each discipline and rank for all full time faculty. These ranges are to assist in the attraction and retention of highly qualified faculty in our attempt to become a nationally preeminent public liberal arts institution. Among other factors, we are to use information from approved aspirational schools (as determined by the BoR/USG, the GCSU Cabinet, and relevant accrediting bodies) to develop our recommendations.
- Fully document all work done.
- Create a philosophy to guide future salary reviews.

The committee held meetings on October 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>, November 5<sup>th</sup>. For more information about the *GC Faculty Salary Review Task Force* including the committee minutes, please see <http://www.gcsu.edu/provost/faculty-salary-review-task-force>