

Front Page News Story Archive

March 2020



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News Stories Posted Monday March 2, 2020



Georgia College undergraduates shine at 2nd Annual 'Posters at the Capitol'

[GC Journeys](#) : Monday March 2, 2020

Six students—with majors in chemistry, music therapy, physics and psychology—represented themselves and Georgia College in February at the 2nd annual "Posters at the Georgia State Capitol."

The undergraduates were among 54 students from 15 colleges and universities statewide, who participated at the Georgia State Capitol building in Atlanta. University President Dr. Steve Dorman was there for support, along with other administrators and professors. Multiple members of the state House and Senate stopped by to see research posters, along with lobbyists and legislative staffers.

"The 2020 [Posters at the Georgia State Capitol](#) was a great success," said Dr. Doreen Sams, professor of marketing and coordinator of Georgia College [MURACE](#) (Mentored Undergraduate Research and Creative Endeavors).



(Left to right) Front row: Catheryn Boyd, Ashley Newkirk, Megan Andrews, Madeline Drives, Amelia DuBose. Middle row: Dr. Doreen Sams, Bo Cavender, Johnny Grant, Dr. Hasitha Mahabaduge, Omar Odeh. Back row: Dr. Jordan Cofer, Robin Lewis and Katie Whipple.

Sams thanked her Capitol co-chair Robin Lewis, who is also director of Georgia College's Office of Grants and Sponsored Projects. In 2018, she and Lewis came up with the idea for the state event, modeled after the popular "Posters on the Hill" held every year in Washington D.C. by the [Council on Undergraduate Research](#) (CUR). The state event has been adopted by [Georgia Undergraduate Research Collective](#) (GURC) and included a wide range of projects from accounting, biomedical technology and environmental engineering to health communications, political science and education.

Johnny Grant, Georgia College Director of Economic Development and External Relations, is one of the project's "greatest champions," Sams said. He told House and Senate members about the exhibit and encouraged them to stop by. She also applauded the work of the steering committee—which included members from Georgia Southern University, the University of North Georgia and University of West Georgia.

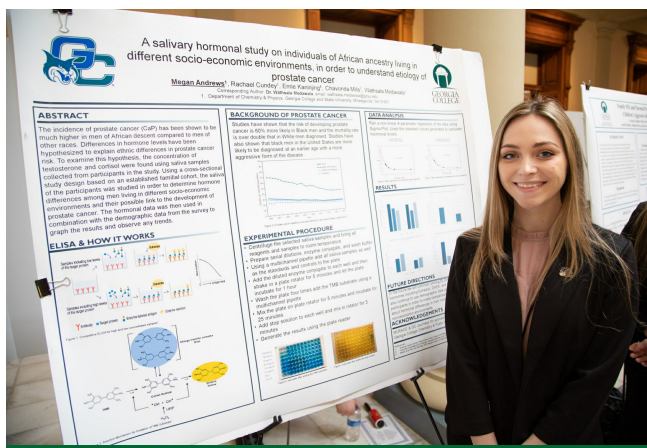
The six Georgia College undergraduates at the Capitol this year were:

- Senior [chemistry](#) major Megan Andrews of Covington, Georgia, who is studying prostate cancer in men of African descent. This population is disproportionately affected by the disease. She's working with three Georgia

College Chemistry and [Public Health](#) professors, along with the state Department of Public Health, to determine how socioeconomic status affects onset of this particular cancer. The professors are Dr. Wathsala Medawala and Dr. Chavonda Mills, who helped with chemistry and hormonal data, and Dr. Ernest Kaninjing, who helped design the project.

- Senior Ashley Newkirk of Woodstock, Georgia, who used [music therapy](#) to help a first-grade student with autism increase his ability to follow directions, communicate and be more social. Working with Katie Whipple in [Creative Arts Therapies](#), Newkirk used various musical interventions, including instruments and dance, to promote social interaction between the boy and his peers.
- Senior [physics](#) major Bo Cavender of Brooks, Georgia, who helped build a portable solar charging station that tracks the sun to generate energy as a power source for cell phones and laptops anywhere on campus. Cavender works with Dr. Hasitha Mahabaduge in the Condensed Matter Research Group. As a mentor, he said Mahabaduge knows when to step back and when to offer advice.
- Sophomore physics major Catherine Boyd of Columbus, Georgia, who determined whether solar panels could improve the battery performance of golf carts. This involved hooking solar panels up to golf cart batteries and measuring voltage and current. She worked with Mahabaduge too, learning how to analyze data and present research.
- Senior [psychology](#) majors Madeline Drives of Johns Creek, Georgia, and Amelia DuBose of Thomasville, Georgia, who are studying aggression levels in children, perceived by parents and teachers, and how this connects to socioeconomic status. They are working with Dr. Tsu-Ming Chiang, who helped spark their interest in research.

Andrews said undergraduate research is “the most impactful experience” she’s had at Georgia College. Boyd said she didn’t expect to have so many research opportunities in college and feels “very blessed to have had the opportunity to present” at the Capitol. Drives, too, said if someone had told her she’d be doing so much research in college, she would’ve thought they were “crazy.” She feels her research time at Georgia College has been a “truly amazing experience.”



Senior Megan Andrews

“Posters at the Georgia Capitol” is selective. Due to limited space, only 42 of 78 projects were accepted from private and public institutions throughout Georgia.

Applications go through a blind-review process with faculty reviewers statewide.

“

I’m so proud of our students. This was an amazing opportunity for students to present their research to legislators, lobbyists, university administrators and members of the general public. We definitely saw an increase in foot traffic this year and, because of the stiff competition, I think the projects that were accepted were all very strong.

- Dr. Jordan Cofer, associate provost for Transformative Learning Experiences

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“I’m so proud of our students,” said Dr. Jordan Cofer, associate provost for Transformative Learning Experiences. “This was an amazing opportunity for students to present their research to legislators, lobbyists, university administrators and members of the general public. We definitely saw an increase in foot traffic this year and, because of the stiff competition, I think the projects that were accepted were all very strong.”

Music therapy instructor Katie Whipple echoed that sentiment. The audience is what makes this event unique. Legislators get to “see the relevance of higher education in a time where student debt load and work readiness are big issues,” she said. The Capitol gives students a chance to communicate their ideas and findings in laymen terms. It’s a critical skill to be able to explain the importance and relevance of their work to people outside their field, Whipple said, especially to politicians who make decisions on funding and support.



Senior Ashley Newkirk and Creative Arts Therapies Instructor Katie Whipple.

“Legislators may not necessarily be part of the traditional academic community,” she said. “But they may be the ones helping us make governmental changes, based on what we and our students find through research.”

Assistant Professor of Physics Dr. Hasitha Mahabaduge also considers the Capitol a unique place for student research. It’s a more-relaxed setting than most

conferences, he said, and allows students to focus on presentation skills, rather than be too technical with details. Students “were excited to see President Dorman at the event,” he added. “It was a validation for our students and their hard work.”

Perhaps Cavender summed it up best with his advice for underclassmen.

“

Being involved with research here at Georgia College has given me opportunities that would not otherwise have been possible. Students should be inclined to participate in research for the opportunities that it grants. There are many different research groups on campus, which all vary in their level of involvement and area of focus, allowing anyone to participate ... If undergraduate research seems like it requires students to have an excellent understanding of their area of study or that it's going to take up a lot of time, you are mistaken. Many of the concepts I was taught in the classroom were solidified while doing research. Undergraduate research provides students with an excellent way to get introduced to research and also get to know your professors, which is why you should get involved.

- Senior physics major Bo Cavender

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Dr. Hasitha Mahabaduge with sophomore Catherine Boyd and senior Bo Cavender.

News Stories Posted Tuesday March 3, 2020



Junior double-major Kendyl Lewis named Truman Scholarship Finalist

[University Communications](#) : Tuesday March 3, 2020

Kendyl Lewis has the heart of a public servant. The Georgia College junior not only started an organization on campus to help students with food insecurity, she's also championed the initiative in the community.

Couple her service with her stellar academic record and double majors in psychology and economics, and you see why she's been named a finalist for the coveted Truman Scholarship.

“

“I had one of those moments where you realize you've worked so hard and to actually get the good news like this— I was in shock,” she said about being named a finalist. “At the same time, it just felt like such affirmation of the work that I have been doing, not that I'm looking for that, but it just made me realize that people do notice, and it's making an impact.”



This year 773 students applied for the scholarship named in honor of President Harry Truman. Lewis is one of 190 finalists who will participate in an in-person interview to determine the scholarship recipients.

“I would say it’s the top public service scholarship that helps pay for graduate school,” said Lewis. “I really love the mission of the Truman scholarship because it creates this network of individuals to help the next generation of public service leaders.”

Between 55-65 scholarships are awarded each year by the Truman Foundation. Award recipient receive \$30,000 for graduate school. Students must have an extensive record of campus and community service, be committed to a career in government or the nonprofit and advocacy sectors, have good communication skills and possess a strong academic record with likely acceptance to the graduate school of the candidate's choice. Lewis is a prime example of those.

Leadership experience is also taken into account, something Lewis has focused on developing during her time at Georgia College. She is president and founder of the university’s student organization Swipe Out Hunger, part of a national organization that works to end student hunger.

“Kendyl's long track record of working to combat food insecurity by leading important efforts on campus - like Swipe Out Hunger - and also by serving as a Zero Hunger Intern in Washington D.C., have demonstrated that she is going to truly be someone who changes the way that this country works to feed all of its citizens,” said Anna Whiteside, assistant director of the Honors Program and National Scholarships coordinator.

Swipe Out Hunger helps raise awareness about food insecurity and aids students who struggle with hunger.

“My motivation for starting Swipe Out Hunger was that weren't really any readily available resources for students struggling with hunger at Georgia College, and I wanted there to be a way for students to receive assistance in a way that wasn't stigmatizing or a shameful experience for them,” said Lewis.

“It just seemed senseless to me that I had paid for



this meal plan and wasn't fully utilizing it, but there might be another student in one of my classes that can't afford a meal plan, and they really would value those swipes more than I do."

The group has established ways for students to apply for meal assistance without having to have a consultation with financial aid and without having to disclose any of their financial records.

"We accomplished this through working with Sodexo, and basically showing the need that students have, and students are interested in helping out other students," she said. "So based on that they were able to donate 500 swipes, which essentially came from swipes that have been wasted by students in previous semesters."

"We've also worked with the George College Foundation for their "A Seat at the Table" scholarship. We do fundraisers for that, and the scholarship goes to students struggling with hunger as well."

She continues to keep the conversation going even outside the organization, hosting Times Talks, promoting awareness at events and finding fun ways to engage with the campus so students can learn about food insecurity. Now she's even taken the conversation off campus to meet the community's need.

"I've been working with a community member who is very passionate about food recovery in the Baldwin County school system," she said. "We've worked to design a plan where Baldwin County Schools can recover unused food from their cafeterias to send home with students over the weekends to meet their needs."

Lewis' involvement on campus also includes the Council of Student Ambassadors and Student Government as well as Leadership Programs and the Honors Program.

"I've been involved with all the Leadership Programs offered on campus, and I'm currently in the GEM (Georgia Education Mentorship) program," said Lewis.

"Leadership Programs have really just given me a foundation for a lot of the other work I'm doing on campus. I don't think I could have done everything I've done with my food insecurity work, if it weren't for the support from leadership programs."

"The community aspect provided through the Honors Program has been amazing. I've been able to connect with Honors students that care about the same issues as me. They have provided me with a community that helps me in all aspects of my life."

Through her journey at Georgia College, faculty and staff have been there to support and encourage her. Dr. Harold Mock, director of leadership programs, provides her with "a well-rounded perspective" and has shown her what she's capable of; Dr. Chris Clark, professor of economics, "really pushed" in her classes;

and Dr. Kristina Dandy, associate professor of psychology, advised Lewis for her research and is a “great role model.”

Over the next year, Lewis plans to continue her involvement on campus in Swipe Out Hunger and engage in independent research on food insecurity. After graduation her goal is to pursue a public policy master’s degree.

The winners of the Truman Scholarship will be announced in mid-April.

News Stories Posted Thursday March 5, 2020



Mentors' leadership touched alumna's life, guiding her toward success

[College of Health Sciences](#) : Thursday March 5, 2020

From the moment Dr. Joy King, '09, '15, '17, was in high school, she discovered she liked science. Early on, King had always shown a strong compassion for others. Combined, these traits helped guide her to become a family nurse practitioner (FNP), serving as a lead provider for CVS Minute Clinic for the Southeast region while landing a seat as the director of Nursing Practice and Advocacy on the Georgia Nurses Association (GNA) for 2019-21.

"The fact that I really like science, and I've always been compassionate opened the gateway to my career," she said. "At first, I asked myself, 'Okay, do I want to be a nurse or a doctor?' And a family nurse practitioner is a mesh between the two."

During her junior year in high school, King was exposed to different medical programs at various universities, but Georgia College drew her in.

"From my high school career forward, I decided becoming a family nurse practitioner was what I really want to do," she said. "And, George College was the

perfect university for this. Its reputation is so good. It's number one in the state right now for undergraduate nursing. So, choosing to attend this university was really a no brainer for me."

Her role is broad. She diagnoses, treats and re-evaluates patients. More importantly, she enjoys educating her patients to help prevent them from developing chronic conditions. ☒

"I just make sure my patients take care of themselves by eating right and getting physically active at least 30 minutes a day to make sure, down the road, they don't develop high blood pressure, diabetes, high cholesterol and other things," King said.



Dr. Joy King

She wants to ensure wellness is a huge part of her patients' health.

"That's where my heart is," King said. "I get the best of both worlds—I get to treat patients medically, as well as holistically. I don't just look at the diagnosis. I look at the overall picture of what's really going on in their life to see where we can fix the issue and move forward."

Georgia College professors helped lay the groundwork in preparing King for her career by teaching her discipline and time-management skills that she still uses today. They also taught King how to talk to patients by getting to know them and not just treating them.

"In almost in every lecture, our professors drilled into us to treat our patients holistically," she said. "They intertwined this with everything else. I feel like that was a huge part of how I practice as an FNP now instead of just saying, 'These are your symptoms,' we say, 'What's been going on in the background of all of these symptoms that led you to this clinic?'"

The best part of King's job is being able to identify with her patients.

“

"Even though there were so many tears shed, I'm thankful to them for all the hard conversations we had and for believing in me when I absolutely did not

believe in myself," she said. "I don't know where I would be without them."

- Dr. Joy King

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“I always try to find common ground with my patients, so they feel like they're talking to an actual person instead of just telling me what's wrong with them,” she said. “I'm human. I love interacting with and developing a relationship with my patients. Many of them will come back and thank me because they're better. I just enjoy making a difference.”

King joined the Georgia Nurses Association as a student and has maintained membership during her 10 years as a registered nurse (RN) and advanced practice nurse. She also served as the chair of the Bylaws Committee and is a member of the Nominating Committee. In her current role as the director of Nursing Practice and Advocacy, she drew from the time-management and organizational skills she learned from Georgia College to come up with a timeline for the Georgia Legislative Session.

“For the next two years, while I'm in this office, I'm going to try to get a lot of things on our agenda passed,” King said. “Much of it deals with nurse practitioners in advanced practice. Georgia is one of the most restrictive states for what nurse practitioners can do. We can't order imaging. If you need to come to the hospital and get a CT scan, and I was taking care of you, I would have to get my physician to order it for you, unless it's an emergency. I feel like this is a delay of care.”

King and other GNA members and students delivered their platform for 2020-21 to their legislators when they participated in a Nurses Legislative Day at the Capitol.

“I really feel like I have an obligation to the nurses in Georgia to make sure that I help in some capacity to further our profession,” she said. “I feel like it's my duty.”

King recently told a group of nursing students at Georgia College that her professors had considerably influenced her road to success.

“My Undergraduate Nursing Advisor Dr. Sapp said that she was not going to let me give up on me that easy,” King said. “I still stay in contact with Dr. Colvin, who believed in me when I did not, and taught me psychology is in every aspect of nursing. Dr. MacMillan always pushed me along the way. Whenever I felt discouraged, she was always giving me little pearls of wisdom to keep me going. Dr. Coke, was my cheerleader, when I pursued my doctorate. That woman has brought me to tears. She taught me to be meticulous in everything I do.”

Tenacity is the most important tenet she learned from her professors. That still

resonates with her today.

“Don't give up,” she said. “There were so many times I thought, ‘This is not my cup of tea here.’ Always make sure that you have a really good positive circle with people who are going to support and encourage you and ensure your goals, whether they are nursing, dentistry or practicing law. Nothing in life is going to be easy. But, having those people in your corner who are going to look out for your best interests is so important.”

King considers those four professors as leadership role models.

“Even though there were so many tears shed, I’m thankful to them for all the hard conversations we had and for believing in me when I absolutely did not believe in myself,” she said. “I don't know where I would be without them.”



Dr. Joy King speaks to GC nursing students.



Campus updates on Coronavirus

[University Communications](#) : Thursday March 5, 2020

April 13, 2020- 4:17 p.m.

Recognizing the unique situation we are facing with COVID-19 and the shift to fully online classes, Georgia College has decided to extend the last day to drop with a W grade through Friday, April 24. If you would like to pursue this option, you may use your Unify/PAWS account to make this change to your schedule.

I strongly encourage you to speak with your academic advisor and your instructor before making a decision to drop a class. You will want to consider the impact of dropping a course not only in terms of your gpa, but also its potential effect on completing degree requirements, finishing prerequisites, and completing requirements for admission to certain major programs. Your instructor can provide valuable feedback for you on ways you can improve your performance in class, give you an objective evaluation of your current status, and guide you toward additional resources. Both can provide assistance and tips on managing the shift to online courses.

Dropping a class may also have implications on your financial aid eligibility (including HOPE). You should contact the Financial Aid Office if you have any questions or concerns about your aid eligibility. Their contact information is 478-

445-5149 or financialaid@gcsu.edu.

I am also available and would be glad to review your options with you. Please take advantage of all of your resources at this time. All of the Georgia College faculty and staff are committed to helping you succeed, especially during these unusual times.

A. Kay Anderson
Assistant Vice President for Enrollment Management
and University Registrar

April 9, 2020- 10:25 a.m.

Students,

As we prepare to issue the pro-rated refunds for Housing, Meal Plans, Mandatory and Course Fees, it is imperative that your information is current. **If you are due a refund**, there are two options for delivery: Direct Deposit or Paper Check. We strongly encourage you to sign up for Direct Deposit, if you are not already signed up.

To access your funds faster, please enroll in Direct Deposit using the following instructions:

1. Log into Unify
2. Click the PAWS icon
3. Select the Student Account Center tab and proceed to the Student Account Center
4. Select the Electronic Refunds link on the right side of the page
5. Click the Set Up Account button and follow the on screen instructions

Please note, refunds will no longer be available for pick-up at the Business Office

If you do not sign up for Direct Deposit, your refund check will be mailed to the current address on file. Please follow the instructions below to ensure your account has the most up-to-date address listed.

1. Log into Unify
2. Click the PAWS icon
3. Select the Personal Information tab
4. Select View Addresses and Phones to view current address on file
5. Select Update Addresses and Phones to update with current address

If you have any questions, feel free to contact the Business Office at 478-445-5254,

or by email at businessoffice@gcsu.edu.

Sincerely,

GC Business Office

April 2, 2020- 1:35 p.m.

Georgia College and the University System of Georgia's 26 institutions will continue to deliver instruction remotely during May and summer semesters, with only limited exceptions.

We are tentatively planning to return to normal on-campus operations for the fall semester should guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Georgia Department of Public Health allow it.

In the interim, we have been asked to continue their current telework and flexible work strategies for faculty and staff. Georgia College, overall has remained open, with only minimal staff physically on-site to ensure continuity of certain services.

We continue to prioritize the safety of our students, faculty and staff as we do our part to help stem the spread of the coronavirus in Georgia and fulfill our mission to graduate our students in these challenging times.

Sincerely,

Steve M. Dorman

President
Georgia College & State University

March 31, 2020 - 11:03 a.m.

Greetings Bobcats!

As we have transitioned to online instruction, I wanted to let you know that all of the offices within Student Life are here to assist you throughout the remainder of the semester. Here is some important information about programs and services that you can continue to access even though you are not on campus:

The Career Center-The Career Center will be providing students with the following

career services in a virtual environment:

- Workshops: Resume Writing 101 and 102; Networking 101, and Internship Search
- Resume, Cover Letter and Curriculum Vitae Review
- Job and Internship Search Assistance
- Graduate and Pre-Professional School Assistance
- Career and Major Exploration
- Mock Interviews

To register for a workshop or make an appointment, students can call the Career Center.

Phone: 478-445-5384

Web: <https://www.gcsu.edu/career>

Counseling Services- Counseling Services staff are meeting with students via telephone and video conferencing for counseling and psychiatric appointments. To schedule services, students may email their counselor or call 478-445-5331. Students are also invited to access self-help resources through our free online library of engaging, interactive programs for support with anxiety, depression, insomnia, communication and more by logging in with their Bobcats email.

Contact information:

Phone: 478-445-5331

Email: counseling.services@gcsu.edu

Web: <https://www.gcsu.edu/counseling>

The Cultural Center- The Cultural Center will have office hours on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 1:00-2:00pm via Webex as a means for students to drop in if they have questions and to offer support. To access office hours, search for meeting number 614 089 469 and enter the password: COfficehour2020. This should allow you to enter the personal meeting room once granted access, or you will be sent to a waiting room.

Each week, we will also host various virtual programs for students to connect with us (and each other), such as Ted Talk Tuesday's, Wellness Wednesdays and a series of events called Keep Calm and _____ on. Through the remainder of the semester, we also hope to host a movie viewing event and a virtual poetry slam. I will also be virtually meeting with our student groups to continue communication with them. At the end of the semester, the Cultural center will join in with the rest of the Programs team to honor the seniors that have been involved with the

Cultural Center via Recognition Week. We hope to have a special portion of our website dedicated to them.

Phone: 478-445-8155

Email: CulturalCenter@gcsu.edu

Web: <https://www.gcsu.edu/culturalcenter>

Georgia College Athletics- Georgia College Athletics continues to engage with our student-athletes. Although we have no games or practices, our coaches and student-athletes communicate in a variety of ways on a regular basis. Our website and our social media sites provide content showcasing our student-athletes.

GC Athletics Website

<https://gcbobcats.com/landing/index>

GC Athletics Instagram

<https://www.instagram.com/gcbobcats/>

GC Athletics Twitter

<https://twitter.com/GCBobcats>

GC Athletics Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/GCBobcats>

GIVE Center- The GIVE Center is providing virtual programs and events to our students, student volunteers and service leaders. We are also providing multiple online trainings for our volunteers, service leaders, and student staff members. April is Volunteer Appreciation Month and we will be doing lots of recognition throughout the month to recognize how our student volunteers are making an impact in our community. Lastly, The GIVE Center staff is continuing to offer support to our student volunteers, service leaders and community partners on a regular basis. For more information about GIVE Center programs, please check GC Connect.

Phone: 478-445-5700

Email: kendall.stiles@gcsu.edu

Web: <https://www.gcsu.edu/give-center>

Office of the Dean of Students - The Office of the Dean of Students serves as a

clearinghouse for student concerns. Student concerns range from behavioral and physical health issues to student conduct concerns. The Office of the Dean of Students works with the CARE Team, Student Conduct, Counseling Services, and Student Health Services. All operations are fully online and ready to serve students. Please call or email using the information below to request an online appointment.

Contact information:

Phone: 478-445-2090

Email: dos@gcsu.edu

Web: <https://www.gcsu.edu/dean-students>

Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life- The Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life is currently hosting virtual recognition week in honor of Greek Weekend and graduating seniors. Please feel free to follow us on social media to join in on the fun.

Facebook: Georgia College Fraternity & Sorority Life

@GCOFSL(<https://www.facebook.com/GCOFSL/>) and on Instagram: Georgia

College FSL (https://www.instagram.com/gc_fsl/)

Phone: 478-445-2960

Email: ofsl@gcsu.edu

Web: <https://www.gcsu.edu/fsl>

The Outdoor Center- The Outdoor Center will be sending out a daily dose of information through https://instagram.com/outdoor_gc and Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/OutdoorGC/>). There will be a day dedicated to each of the following topics: our amazing student staff (and graduating seniors!), previous and future trip photos and videos, cool gear and how to maintain it, and submissions from our students about their adventures. We are looking forward to hearing about unique ways that our students have been and still are adventuring!

Phone: 478-445-5786

Email: outdoor@gcsu.edu

Web: <https://www.gcsu.edu/outdoor>

Parent and Family Programs- The Office of Parent and Family Programs continues to engage families of GC students through social media and e-mail newsletters. Families will receive information on supporting the transition to e-learning,

developing routines, identifying anxiety and depression, fighting boredom, and promoting total wellness for students through this crisis. Interactive social media posts and events will encourage families to network and build community together. Families can continue to reach out via phone or e-mail with questions.

Phone: 478-445-8566

Email: emily.jarvis@gcsu.edu

Web: <https://www.gcsu.edu/parent>

Student Activities and Organizations- The office of Student Activities and Org will send out the Virtual Programming Digest every Monday that will outline the various online programs that students can engage in. This digest will be sent via GC Connect and will hit the inbox of every student. We will also continue to work with all of the registered student organizations to prepare for the SABCprocess.

Student Disability Resource Center- The Student Disability Resource Center will continue to assist students with accommodations for courses. Our website provides links and resources that may be helpful, along with the steps to take to become registered with our office. Meetings are conducted with students via WebEx or phone calls. Student can continue to make appointments through Unify (same as Academic Advising and Career center) or they can just call at 478-445-5931 and disability@gcsu.edu.

Phone: 478-445-5931

Email: disability@gcsu.edu

Web: <https://www.gcsu.edu/disability>

Student Health Services- Student Health is continuing to offer appointments via telehealth, utilizing our remote electronic medical record access and WebEx or phone call advice. Students needing an appointment can call 478-445-5288. We are also engaging in social media to offer “Tips of the Day” for healthy habits associated with nutrition, sun care, sexual health, and healthy hygiene. For more information, visit: <https://www.gcsu.edu/studenthealth>

Phone: 478-445-5288

Email: student_health_services@gcsu.edu

Web: <https://www.gcsu.edu/studenthealth>

Wellness and Recreation Center- The Wellness and Recreation is currently offering various online Fitness and Intramural esports programs. Go to <https://www.instagram.com/gcwellnessrec> each week to access the weekly virtual fitness schedule. Go to www.imleagues.com/gcsu to see what gaming leagues are currently being offered.

Phone: 478-445-7777

Email: wellness.recreation@gcsu.edu

Web: <https://www.gcsu.edu/wellnessrec>

The Women's Center and LGBTQ+ Programs- The Women's Center and LGBTQ+ Programs is offering a range of programs, community building opportunities, and training this week. Each week we will have a updated newsletter that includes all our offerings for the week. This is the link to this week's - newsletter: <https://www.smore.com/9y80z>. All of our programs and events have also been added to GC Connect.

Phone: 478-445-8519

Web: <https://www.gcsu.edu/womenscenter>

Please stay safe!

Shawn Brooks, PhD
Vice President for Student Life

March 28, 2020 - 10:10 a.m.

Dear Students

Welcome back to the Spring 2020 semester!

Classes will resume on Monday, March 30th and will be delivered online/remotely until the end of the semester. Please know that the Georgia College faculty and staff are prepared and stand ready to support your education so that you can successfully complete the remainder of the academic term.

You are probably already familiar with GeorgiaView/D2L, the GC Learning Management System. Please check the following [Navigation Guide Video](#)

[Library](#), which provides instructions for its use. In addition, a dedicated webpage, [GC Keeps Learning](#), has been designed to serve as a central location with resources, links, and information. We believe this portal will be useful and allow you to quickly access relevant information as we embrace this online learning environment.

To assist you with your online learning experience, here are some useful tips:

- Online courses provide flexibility. However, **your work must be completed within the timeline** provided by your instructor.
- **Time management** is critical when it comes to online courses. You may find this video on [Time Management for Online Students](#) helpful. Remember to keep track of major assignments, factor in prior commitments, allot yourself a certain amount of time for each task, and create a weekly schedule that you will follow. Be sure to identify a **dedicated study space**. This will help you remain organized. Completing your work consistently in a designated location, will encourage you to establish a routine.
- Be sure to **actively participate in online activities**. It is important that you check your course announcements and updates frequently. For example, some course requirements may involve commenting on a discussion board or posting a question. Be sure to familiarize yourself with these expectations. Remember that online courses are developed around the concept of collaboration and interaction. Faculty will encourage you to engage in the online experience. I encourage you to check often and **communicate with your professors**.
- Like you, your fellow students may have inquiries about assignments or projects. Reach out to them as you prepare for an exam, email your professor and be proactive in asking for help. Consider employing [Student WebEx](#) to collaborate with others. **Utilize the network of classroom peers and university resources** (University Library, Learning Center, Writing Center, Advising Center, etc..) to maximize your success. Don't be afraid to ask questions.

If you have any questions, please use the following:

- GeorgiaViewSupport: [Center for Teaching and Learning](#)- 8:00am-5:00pm(478-445-2520) (ctl@gcsu.edu)
- Password Issues: [SERVE HelpDesk](#) (478-445-7378 or via email: serve@gcsu.edu)
- 24/7/365 Assistance through Knowledge Base: [GeorgiaView Knowledge Center](#) or Help Center Agent (1-855-772-0423)

If for any reason a student has difficulty with the online technology or has challenges with internet service availability in a specific area of the state, please be

sure to reach out to our [Serve Help Desk](#).

We want you to be successful and stand ready to support your academic journey. For additional resources and information, please be sure to visit [GC Keeps Learning](#) (also on [Instagram](#)). New material and information will be posted there frequently.

I wish you a productive remainder of the Spring 2020 semester. Please remember that Georgia College is here to assist you during these unprecedented times!

Go Bobcats!

CostasSpirou, PhD

Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

March 28, 2020 - 10:10 a.m.

Dear Faculty Colleagues,

I would like to thank you for your hard work in preparing for your courses to be offered online/remotely on March 30th. We are ready to deliver 1,565 courses, which is 100% of our Spring 2020 offerings. This is very impressive as it reflects your commitment, creativity, flexibility, and “can-do” attitude. I am deeply appreciative of your efforts and willingness to make quick adjustments, always keeping our students in mind. They are at the center of all that we do during these challenging times. As I am sure you all know, the health and safety of our faculty, staff and students are of paramount importance. Please consider some suggestions below as we move forward with the upcoming transition:

- Remember that our students, unless they have special permission due to extenuating circumstances, must stay away from campus as they complete the Spring 2020 semester. They, like all of us, are anxious and under pressure during this unprecedented time. There is uncertainty about employment opportunities, job offers, internships, summer plans, etc. Your flexibility, patience, empathy and support are essential during this last portion of the semester.
- Online instruction is a dynamic process. We know that it is an iterative process that continuously improves upon itself over time and after each successive semester. I know how difficult this is on many of you – particularly those that might feel frustrated in trying to perfect your online teaching in such

a short period of time. Consider that simplicity is often more successful than complex and elaborate designs.

- Everyone is stressed, anxious, and under a lot of pressure from multiple perspectives. Now more than ever, we need to support and take care of each other through encouragement and understanding. If you can encourage or assist a colleague, please do so!
- Be sure to communicate with your students frequently. Keep in mind that they are taking multiple online courses. For many of them, this may be the first time they have learned using remote methods. Use of GeorgiaView/D2L for communications allows for clustering of all course related material in one place. This will help our students keep track of assignments and course expectations.
- Remember that ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) accommodations apply in an online/remote environment as well. Please be aware that some students may be in need of extra assistance.

As a way of providing continuous support to faculty, we have assembled many online resources in a single online portal: [GC Keeps Teaching](#). We have also created a similar portal for student-specific information: [GC Keeps Learning](#). Additionally, the Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL) has organized two **Webinars** for next week and will be maintaining a **GC Online Learning Community** site for faculty to ask questions and exchange ideas with each other. Think of it as if you were going to lunch with another faculty member and wanted to pose some questions about teaching. Please contact CTL for registration information.

Thank you again for your continuous efforts during these very challenging times. Feel free to contact your Department Chair, College Dean, or myself if we can provide any assistance.

Best wishes for a successful remainder of the Spring 2020 term!

Sincerely,

CostasSpirou, PhD

Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

March 27, 2020 - 9:46 a.m.

Dear Georgia College Colleagues:

Words cannot express my thanks and gratitude to the faculty and staff of Georgia College over the last few days. I am so proud to report that our faculty have quickly mobilized under the leadership of the deans and department chairs, and Provost Spirou reports that 100% of our courses are ready to go online Monday morning. This is no small feat, and I thank the faculty for working through your spring break to make this happen for our students. Thanks also to our Center for Teaching and Learning staff and our IT staff for being ready to help faculty transfer their work during this period.

Let me also thank our diligent staff who continue to process paperwork, answer student and parent phone calls, help students move out of residence halls, and move the work of the university forward from your workstation at home. I know many of you had to rapidly learn about our web and phone conferencing platforms (I know I did!) and still continued your work. Thank you for your dedicated customer service and friendly approach to your work!

I also know that many of you are having to balance work, caring for your children, and taking care of a different set of demands when everyone is together all day long. Thank you. You continue to manifest that Georgia College “can do” state of mind, and I so appreciate that. You continue to work hard and provide service to our students, faculty and staff – albeit in a different way. I cannot thank you enough.

Starting Monday, our students will be actively pursuing their coursework again – online, until the end of the semester. There will be questions about technology and getting connected. There will be questions about bills and refunds of fees. And there will be plenty of questions about student life. I know that again, you all will rise to the opportunity of meeting these needs as well.

Like many of you, I am paying close attention to the news and receiving updates on the global situation we find ourselves in. Many of you are anxious and looking for clarity and answers. I wish I could provide them, and I wish there was a clear path forward. As yet, there is not. But, I hope you take comfort knowing that we are embarking on this journey together with resoluteness and resolve. I know that as a community - together - we will overcome these hardships, and we will emerge stronger and better prepared.

We are currently working to launch a more robust and improved version of Front Page. This will allow us to submit information about upcoming events and stay connected to activities happening within our campus community – such as joining a live yoga class or taking a virtual tour of one of our museums. In addition, a GC United web portal is being created to showcase many of these events and announcements to our community. More to come by the end of next week – so stay tuned!

While we work distantly, I encourage you to continue to look after each other – your families, your neighbors and your colleagues. Please avoid crowds as we all work together to “flatten the curve.” Pick up the phone and call a friend for support and encourage one another. And please reach out if you need someone to talk to.

Thank you for all that you do for Georgia College! Stay safe and be well.

With Bobcat Pride,

Steve M. Dorman
President

March 22, 2020 - 6:05 p.m.

Dear Students:

Thank you for your patience as we develop a refund plan to prorate relevant fee charges that will not be utilized for the remainder of the academic year. We sincerely regret our inability to fully meet your on-campus service needs due to the devastating effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The reimbursement plan will utilize March 16 as the last day of service for the services funded by all related fees. Using this date, there are seven weeks remaining in GC's 17-week semester. The approved plan allows for reimbursements that provide for prorated fee refunds for housing, dining, athletics, student activity, health/wellness, parking/transportation, and certain course-related fees.

We hope to start the refunds as soon as logistically possible and our goal is to have all relevant refunds completed by April 16. We ask that you make every effort to set up direct deposits. If you haven't already done so, please login to Unify, select PAWS then select the Student Account Center tab to enroll for direct deposit. For questions, please contact GC Business Office at 478-445-5254 or email businessoffice@gcsu.edu. Remember, **direct deposit is the most efficient way to receive your refund**. If your direct deposit profile is not established, GC will mail your refund check to the address on file in your student account.

Additional details on relevant refunds:

- Housing refunds will be based on the type of housing contract agreement utilized this semester. We have contracts ending in May, June and July and

each contract will be reimbursed accordingly. The housing programming fee will be refunded for the remainder of the semester.

- Dining contract reimbursements will be prorated according to individual meal plan service agreements, using the effective date of March 16 for calculating unused meals. All balances remaining on 100 and 25 block-meal plans will be reimbursed as well.
- Course related fees are uniquely different and will be refunded based on an unused portion of the fee.
- GC's mandatory fee structure is tiered based on the number of credit hours taken and the type of fee. All prorated refunds will be based on the relevant applicable tier associated with each student and the related fees that apply. The refunding prorations are based on a factor of 41%, using 7 weeks for proposed refunds out of a 17 week semester. Additionally, each mandatory fee has been analyzed to determine if a certain percentage needs to be netted out due to continuing online or telephonic service delivery, on-going operational obligations, and/or building debt-service obligations. Refunds of this nature have not yet been experienced in the student account enterprise system platform; we are working diligently with the system office to ensure that all refunds can be viewed in an itemized format within your personal student account. Should this not be possible, our GC Business Office staff will always be available to explain your bill.
 - Athletic Fee, \$181 full fee: 34% of the mandatory athletic fee supports student scholarships that are still being utilized, so this amount will be netted out of the refund.
 - Health Fee, \$95 full fee: 63% of this fee supports running the Student Health Clinic and 37% supports Wellness programming. Staff continue to work in the Clinic answering phones and assisting anyone that may need help, so this amount will be netted out of the refund.
 - Parking & Transportation, \$75 full fee: \$10.50 of the Parking and Transportation Fee supports a PPV parking lot debt-service obligation, so this amount will be netted out of the refund.
 - Access/ID Card, \$9 full fee: The cards are still being used, and will be used over the summer and again in the fall.
 - Student Activity Fee, \$133 full fee: \$42 of the fee supports a building debt-service obligation, so this amount will be netted out of the refund.
 - Wellness Center Fee, \$175 full fee: This is a fee that entirely supports the debt-service obligation of the Center and will not be refunded.
 - Technology Fee, \$68 full fee: This fee will be used through the remainder of the semester to support the transition to digital and online instructional delivery and thus will not be refunded.

Thank you again for your patience and understanding as we continue to serve you. Respecting protocols for social distancing during this health crisis, GC continues to work with skeletal crews and teleworking. Please know that we remain committed to supporting student success. If you have additional questions regarding your

fees, the best way to contact us is:

GC Business Office

Phone: 478-445-5254

Email: businessoffice@gcsu.edu

Sincerely,

Steve M. Dorman

President

Susan C. Allen

Vice President for Finance & Administration

March 22, 2020 - 4:25 p.m.

Dear Georgia College Students:

This afternoon, the Baldwin County Board of Commissioners declared a state of emergency in Baldwin County due to confirmed cases of the COVID-19 virus. The declaration includes provisions that prevent social gatherings of 10 or more people. It also includes a curfew that will be imposed on non-essential travel from the hours of 10:00 PM to 6:00 AM. Work-related and emergency travel situations are exempted from this declaration.

As we begin the transition to online academics, we also need to make sure we are practicing the art of "Social Distancing." Social distancing is a term applied to actions that can be taken to stop or slow down the spread of COVID-19. This virus is a highly contagious illness that is spread by close contact with others. It is of the utmost importance to do everything we can to help bring the pandemic to a quick conclusion.

There are a number of things you should be avoiding including: group gatherings both indoors and outdoors (including pool areas), concerts, theaters, athletic events, retail stores, workouts at gyms, visitors in your house, and mass-transit systems to name a few. Do not change your behavior to avoid contracting COVID-19, rather, act as if you have the virus and change your behavior to avoid infecting others.

The safety and well-being of all members of our campus community is our top priority. Tackling this situation will require each of us to do our part to stop the spread of COVID-19.

Please take care of yourself and others by practicing social distancing.

Warmest regards,

Shawn Brooks, PhD
Vice President for Student Life

March 18, 2020 - 9:15 a.m.

Subject: Message from President Dorman to Georgia College Employees

Dear Colleagues:

The unprecedented nature of the COVID-19 pandemic means that we all have to accept a certain amount of ambiguity and uncertainty as we move forward. Online classes will start for our students on March 30 for the remainder of the semester. Similarly, faculty members are preparing to finish the semester with online learning and the GC Housing Office is communicating with students about moving out of the residence halls in the next week. In an effort to follow CDC guidelines and to prevent large crowds from forming, the move out process will occur in a staggered manner. We will make every effort to accommodate any student who is unable to return home, or who cannot find housing elsewhere.

The Georgia College campus will remain open with limited services to ensure business and learning continuity through the end of this semester. Therefore, we strongly encourage all staff to remain off campus and to work by telecommuting or flexing your time. Not all staff will be able to telework, so please consult with your supervisor about these options. The Office of Information Technology has created WebEx accounts for many employees to make communications easier. Other solutions do exist and we encourage individual offices and departments to make decisions that best serve their individual work and operational needs.

Let me take this opportunity to thank all of you for your dedication and service to our students and campus community. Your support for each other and for our students and faculty members is essential. Thank you for your patience and flexibility as we approach a quickly changing and evolving set of circumstances.

We will inform the campus as soon as more information emerges regarding future work plans. Please know that the health and safety of the entire Georgia College community is our prime concern at this time.

Please check our website for the latest information on this rapidly unfolding situation.

Please follow CDC guidelines and stay safe!

Sincerely,

Steve Dorman
President
Georgia College

March 17, 2020 - 11:00 a.m.

Dear Students:

In the interest of all students, the University System of Georgia (USG) announced a decision to move all instruction to an online format for the remainder of the semester. Georgia College will be closing all on-campus housing facilities, including West Campus Apartments, with minimal exceptions for students unable to return home, or who cannot find housing elsewhere.

Following guidance from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) regarding social distancing and in an effort to prevent large crowds, the move out process will occur in a staggered manner in multiple batches. Therefore, students are not allowed to return to campus until they receive permission from Georgia College. You will receive specific instructions regarding when you will be allowed to return to campus to retrieve your belongings from residence halls. Students must follow those instructions. We will make every effort to accommodate those students who are unable to depart campus.

On Wednesday, March 18, University Housing will release information regarding move-out procedures via email to all on-campus students. Students will be assigned a specific time for move out over the next week. To maintain student safety, it will be critical that students do not arrive on campus before their scheduled time. University Housing will provide instructions for rescheduling for those students who are unable to meet the move-out appointment.

In addition to the closure of on-campus housing, please note the following:

- Classes will resume via online instruction on Monday, March 30.
- The USG will be providing guidance to campuses regarding refunds for housing, dining, and other services. Students should wait for Georgia College to contact them.

- The Georgia College campus remains open with minimal staffing to ensure business and learning continuity.

Thank you for your patience and understanding during this unprecedented time. With your help, we will ensure the collective safety of our entire campus community.

Kind Regards,

Steve M. Dorman
President
Georgia College & State University

March 17, 2020 - 8:24 a.m.

Faculty update from Provost Spriou

Dear Faculty Colleagues,

As Georgia College prepares to move to online instruction for the remainder of the 2020 academic term, I would like to share with you the information below:

1. Following the current two week USG required pause, we will begin the delivery of courses via online on **Monday, March 30th**.
2. We will return to the semester as scheduled. Faculty should incorporate any missing work from the week following Spring Break into the remainder of the semester.
3. As you organize your material and prepare to launch your online courses, please utilize the faculty support services available at the [Center for Teaching and Learning](#). The staff in CTL are ready to assist your efforts (478-445-2520-ctl@gcsu.edu).
4. Please continue to monitor the Georgia College website on COVID-19 found [here](#).

Thank you for your commitment to supporting our students during these unprecedented times!

Costas

March 16, 2020 - 8:00 p.m.

Message for Faculty, Staff and Students:

Dear Colleagues and Students :

We just received guidance from the University System of Georgia that Georgia College, along with other institutions in the system, will move to online instruction for all courses for the remainder of the semester. This situation is very fluid and evolving rapidly. More information will be released with additional details as soon as possible. The full message from the University System of Georgia is below:

Georgia College Moves to Online Instruction for Remainder of Semester For Immediate Release

March 16, 2020

Contact: Aaron Diamant, aaron.diamant@usg.edu

The University System of Georgia (USG) has decided that Georgia College, along with all 26 institutions, will move to online instruction for all courses for the remainder of the semester with extremely limited exceptions. This action comes following last week's decision to suspend instruction for two weeks to ensure business and instructional continuity, and to allow further state assessment of COVID-19.

Students are not allowed to return to campus until they receive permission from their institution, which will be forthcoming soon.

Additionally, residence halls will be closed, with minimal exceptions for students unable to return home, or who cannot find housing elsewhere. Students will receive specific instructions from campus leaders regarding when they will be allowed to return to campus to retrieve their belongings from residence halls. Students must follow those instructions. For those students who are unable to depart campus, we will make every effort to accommodate these students.

The University System of Georgia will be providing guidance to campuses on refunds for housing, dining, and other services. Students should wait for Georgia College to contact them.

Georgia College will remain open, with minimal staff physically on-site, to ensure continuity of certain services.

In the end, we want to ensure that our faculty, staff and students are safe; that we do our part to help stem the spread of the coronavirus in Georgia; and that we fulfill our mission to graduate our students even in the face of these challenging times.

Thank you for your patience and understanding as we go through this unprecedented time. Please continue following the guidance from the CDC to protect your health and the health of your family.

Sincerely,

Steve M. Dorman
President
Georgia College & State University

March 14, 2020 - 10:40 a.m.

Faculty Update from Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs Costas Spirou
on Keep Teaching USG

Dear Faculty Colleagues,

Please find below a communication from the USG that includes a resource page to prepare for transitioning to online instruction.

My thanks to everyone for your extraordinary efforts during these challenging times as we work together to support our students!

Thank you again and have a good weekend!

Costas

Good morning,

The distance learning team here at USO has created a resource page https://www.usg.edu/keep_teaching_usg designed to guide faculty toward helpful resources and contacts to prepare for a transition to online instruction. This

includes many of the resources from your institutions together with other useful tools and quick-guides all in one place.

Many many thanks for all who worked so diligently to bring this together. Of course we will add to the site as other resources become available.

Please feel free to distribute on your campus.

Best Wishes

Tristan

Dr. Tristan Denley
Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Chief Academic Officer
University System of Georgia
tristan.denley@usg.edu

March 13, 2020 - 10:00 a.m.

Greetings Students!

As you prepare for an extended Spring Break, I am reaching out with good wishes for a safe, healthy and restful time away. Please stay safe and pay close attention to CDC guidance about measures to take care of yourself and your loved ones.

In addition, as you head out, I strongly encourage you to take your books and learning materials with you. Please continue to check the Georgia College web site for important updates.

Have a good time and take good care.

Kind regards,

Shawn Brooks, PhD
Vice President for Student Life
Georgia College & State University

March 12, 2020 - 7:45 p.m.

Message for Students:

Subject: Temporary Suspension of Instruction

Dear Students,

The safety of our students is a top priority for Georgia College. Therefore, we are asking all students to depart campus by the end of the day on Friday, March 13, 2020 and to remain away from campus until March 29, 2020. At this time, students are not being asked to move out of their residence halls for the remainder of the semester. Georgia College will accommodate students who are unable to leave campus.

While students are away from campus, Georgia College faculty and staff will be finalizing online instruction modules and business continuity plans. State officials will continue to assess the current situation regarding coronavirus (COVID-19) in Georgia.

Please check our [website](#) for the latest information as well as the [USG's website](#). Additional information will be posted as this situation continues to unfold.

Sincerely,

Steve Dorman
President
Georgia College

March 12, 2020 - 7:45 p.m

For Faculty & Staff:

Message from the President: Online Instruction and Business Continuity

Dear Colleagues:

Pursuant to the USG's directive earlier today, and effective Monday, March 16, 2020, Georgia College will temporarily suspend instruction for two weeks to allow

time for university faculty and staff to finalize their business continuity plans and online instruction modules. State officials will continue to assess the current situation regarding coronavirus (COVID-19) in Georgia.

Students are being asked to depart campus by the end of the day on Friday, March 13 and to remain away from campus until March 29. At this time, students are not being asked to move out of their residence halls for the remainder of the semester. Georgia College will accommodate students who are unable to leave campus.

Please check our [website](#) for the latest information as well as the [USG's website](#). Additional information will be posted as this situation continues to unfold.

Sincerely,

Steve Dorman
President
Georgia College

March 12, 2020 - 11:40 a.m

Wellness and Recreation Center Update

Dear Campus Community,

Late yesterday afternoon, we came to understand that a community member who stated they had recently traveled to Italy had used the Wellness and Recreation Center. Although the individual is asymptomatic, out of an abundance of caution, the Center was closed immediately and we contacted the Department of Public Health. We were advised to conduct a routine cleaning of the facility and to reopen. The individual has been contacted and informed they may not use the WRC until further notice.

Please know the health and safety of our students is always our top priority.

Britt McRae, MN, NP-C
Director, Student Health Services

March 10, 2020 - 4:46 p.m.

Campus community update from President Dorman on coronavirus and springbreak travel.

Dear Campus Community:

With Spring Break approaching, many of us will be taking a well-deserved break from campus. We continue to monitor the Coronavirus outbreak very carefully and want everyone to be safe and healthy upon their return to campus.

Please keep in mind the following if you are planning to travel during Spring Break or anytime thereafter:

- Check the travel information on the [Centers for Disease Control](#) (CDC) and [State Department](#) websites and talk with your family and travel companions to make a wise decision about travel plans.
- The CDC has urged everyone to avoid traveling to or through any of the [locations](#) with a Level 3 or Level 4 travel health notice.
- Consistent with guidelines from the CDC and the Georgia Department of Health, anyone traveling to, from or through a Level 3 or higher travel designation cannot return to campus until they have been asymptomatic for a period of 14 days from the date of entering or reentering the United States. These self-quarantined travelers must follow CDC and local health authority guidelines prior to returning to campus in an effort to keep everyone safe.

Guidelines for self-quarantine from the CDC include:

- Washing dishes, clothing, and bedding regularly.
 - Limiting the sharing of household items like drinking glasses, plates, utensils, bedding, towels, and clothing.
 - Regular cleaning of all high-touch surfaces including tables, countertops, doorknobs, keyboards, tablets, bathroom fixtures, television remotes, and phones.
 - Frequent hand washing.
 - Limiting contact with others in the home, including pets.
 - Restricting activities outside the home except for appointments with a medical professional for evaluation.
-
- Please note that the status of countries or regions identified by the CDC as having an elevated health risk may change while you are traveling and thus could affect airport or other travel procedures. Please pay attention to ongoing guidance and information from the CDC and the State Department websites for the latest updates.

- The State Department has [recently alerted travelers](#) of an increased risk of infection of COVID-19 in a cruise ship environment.
- ***At this point in time we are not transitioning to an online format for current instruction.*** We do encourage all faculty members to prepare for online instructional delivery should unfolding circumstances require this approach to accommodate our students. Similarly, we encourage all students to prepare for the possibility of an online learning environment by accessing their GeorgiaView/D2L accounts.
- For all students, faculty and staff: if you are traveling in any capacity (international or domestic), whether for university business or personal travel, we have created an online travel registry. We encourage everyone to register their travel through our online [Travel Registry Form](#). You may be required to use your Unify credentials.
- If anyone experiences symptoms consistent with the coronavirus, please take all necessary precautions by self-isolating and seeking medical attention from your primary care provider or other appropriate health care facility.

The safety of our entire campus is our highest priority. For more information on the coronavirus, including guidance, resources and campus-specific announcements, please refer to our [website](#). We will be updating the site regularly.

Thank you for staying informed on this rapidly evolving situation.

Steve M. Dorman

President

Costas Spirou

Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs

Britt McRae

Director, Student Health Services

March 10, 2020 - 8:50 a.m.

Faculty update from Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs Costas Spirou on D2L training sessions

Dear Faculty Colleagues,

As we prepare, due to the uncertainties of the COVID-19, the Georgia College Center for Teaching and Learning has scheduled three sessions this week to assist faculty to create online resources for their courses. These can include developing a module, organizing a discussion board, setting up a quiz/exam, and uploading your syllabus. Specifically:

1. Wednesday, March 11, Noon to 12:50 p.m.
2. Wednesday, March 11, 2:00 to 2:50 p.m.
3. Thursday, March 12, 2:00 to 2:50 p.m.

All sessions will take place at 376 Ina Dillard Russell Library (CTL Classroom).

I encourage all faculty members to be proactive in preparing for all contingencies, including the delivery of online education.

To sign up for this program, please click on the [Registration Link](#).

Thank you,

Costas

March 9, 2020

Faculty update from Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs Costas Spirou on COVID-19 preparedness

Dear Faculty Colleagues,

As we further our preparations to provide students with continuity in learning, due to the uncertainties surrounding the ongoing Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) situation, I would like to share with you some useful information and resources:

1. Please familiarize yourself with the following [resource](#) from the Center for Teaching and Learning to access materials on GeorgiaVIEW (Brightspace by D2L) which is Georgia College's Learning Management System. You will find

D2L interactive tutorials, quick guides, open educational resources for teaching and learning, as well course design insights, grade book build, video assistance and other services. I would suggest that each of you work to develop a sample module by using your home equipment. This will allow you to simulate a potential situation should the need arise.

2. In addition, USG eCampus has produced an online training course for USG faculty titled *Rapid Guide to Teaching Online in D2L*. It is a condensed triage-style training that focuses on the basics of online access, communication, quizzes, and assignment submissions. There will be a companion training for students as well as a basic D2L LMS template that faculty can use. Contact the **Center for Teaching and Learning** if you are interested in accessing this resource.
3. Other USG institutions have developed resources on ways to access and prepare for remote instruction. For example Georgia State University has created the following [website](#). The *Chronicle of Higher Education* also published a resource which you can find [here](#). Contact the **Center for Teaching and Learning** for more information on this and other USG material.
4. For D2L technical support:
 - **Center for Teaching and Learning** (478-445-2520-ctl@gcsu.edu) Hours: 8 a.m. – 5 p.m., Monday – Friday (Location: Library 3rd Floor, Room 375).
 - Password Issues: **SERVE** Email or 478-445-7378.
 - **GeorgiaVIEW Knowledge Center** (<https://d2lhelp.view.usg.edu/s/>) provides 24/7/365 assistance through Knowledge Base or Help Center Agent (1-855-772-0423).
 - Staff members from the Center for Teaching and Learning will be happy to assist you with D2L and teaching support. Feel free to contact any of the following staff members:

Jim Berger, CTL Director (jim.berger@gcsu.edu)

Laura Mender, Systems Analyst (laura.mender@gcsu.edu)

Jaclyn Queen, Instructional Designer (jaclyn.queen@gcsu.edu)

Barbara Szyjko, Instructional Technology Staff Specialist
(barbara.szyjko@gcsu.edu)

Simeco Vinson, Instructional Designer Specialist (simeco.vinson@gcsu.edu)

Thank you,

Costas

March 6, 2020

Message to faculty from Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Costas Spirou on Coronavirus

Dear Faculty Colleagues,

The USG Office of Academic Affairs provided guidance on precautions regarding the ongoing COVID-19 situation. The uncertainties around how this virus might spread requires us to be flexible and prepare for a wide range of circumstances to meet the needs of our students. Georgia College will be providing updates at <https://www.gcsu.edu/coronavirus> as additional information becomes available.

As you know, all faculty at Georgia College are assigned a D2L account which will assist to provide continuity in learning. Prepare to utilize this resource in case courses need to be delivered online should students be under quarantine. This can include “asynchronous” discussions, video conferencing, independent learning activities, and consideration for alternative plans for lab and clinical course requirements. Faculty, staff and students who traveled to countries at a Level 3 or higher designation are **required** to remain home as they self-monitor for 14 days prior to returning to campus. Additionally, all instructions for quarantine or isolation must be followed. The Georgia College Center for Teaching and Learning (<https://www.gcsu.edu/ctl>) is prepared to provide assistance if you need to employ an online format to meet the academic needs of our students.

Once again, please monitor the Georgia College site for updates and thank you for your continued commitment to serving our students!

Thank you,

Costas

March 5, 2020

Message from President Dorman to the campus community on Coronavirus

Dear Campus Community,

I know that as a campus community we are all concerned about the coronavirus and its impact. Please know that Georgia College places the highest priority on the safety of everyone on campus, and we are closely monitoring the situation as it unfolds. We are coordinating efforts closely with the University System of Georgia and are reviewing guidance from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) as well as the Georgia Department of Public Health.

We have created a website (<https://www.gcsu.edu/coronavirus>) that provides the latest updates on the coronavirus as it relates to our campus. It includes additional information and resources on how to prevent the spread of coronavirus. This webpage will be updated as additional information becomes available.

We are committed to doing all we can to keep our students, staff and faculty safe.

Sincerely,

Steve Dorman
President
Georgia College

News Stories Posted Monday March 9, 2020



FULBRIGHT

Record-breaking: Nine Georgia College students named semi-finalists for Fulbright Scholarship

[General Institution](#) : Monday March 9, 2020

Fifteen, the most Georgia College students ever, applied for U.S. Fulbright Scholarships this year and more than half were named semi-finalists.

Nine Fulbright semi-finalists is the largest number in the university's history.

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These nine students represent the best and brightest at Georgia College, mentored by our amazing faculty and staff. It's a true testament of their excellence that they've been recognized as Fulbright semi-finalists. We are exceptionally proud of the work they've done while here on our campus and look forward to seeing the impact they will continue to have on the world through their future endeavors.

- Dr. Costas Spirou, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs

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In 2017, four Georgia College students were named semi-finalists. This year, eight

undergraduates and one graduate student claim the title. They represent a diverse pool, coming from all colleges at the university.

All Fulbright semi-finalists will now be reviewed by officials in proposed host countries, who'll select roughly half to one-third as "finalists" - the Fulbright term for recipients. Final status should be announced from embassies in countries the applicants chose no later than June.

Selection for the [Fulbright U.S. Student Program](#) is rigorous. They receive about 12,000 applications a year. In the U.S., about 1,900 grants are awarded annually in all fields of study in over 140 countries. More than 360,000 Fulbright recipients have participated in the program since its inception in 1946.



Anna Whiteside

"Is nine unusual? Yes," said Anna Whiteside, assistant director of the Honors Program and coordinator of the National Scholarships Office at Georgia College. "To have over half be successful—we've never had that percentage of our applicants make it to the semi-finalist stage. So, that is a huge improvement for us as a university."

"As a smaller university—in particular a public university that

is fairly new to having students apply to Fulbright—having nine semi-finalists is a pretty significant number," she said.

Semi-finalists are:

- Senior special education major **Jasia Clark** of Hull, Georgia, who's hoping for an English Teaching Assistantship to the Czech Republic
- Senior English major **Makhalath Fahiyim** of Brooklyn, New York, who applied for an English Teaching Assistantship to South Korea
- Senior **James Fortwengler** of Alpharetta, a chemistry major and math minor, who's vying for a chemical engineering study grant to get his master's at University College Dublin in Ireland
- Senior music major **Madison Graham** of Louisville, Georgia, who's also hoping for an English Teaching Assistantship to the Czech Republic
- Senior management major **Julian Lopez Hanson** of Gainesville, Georgia, who'd like an English Teaching Assistantship to Cyprus
- Senior **Megan Sandal** of Peachtree City, with double majors in psychology and sociology, who applied for an English Teaching Assistantship to Malaysia

- Senior Laura Swarner of Buford, Georgia, with double majors in English and theatre, who's hoping for an English Teaching Assistantship to Bulgaria
- Senior Amara Tennessee of Roswell, with double majors in public health and world languages, who applied for an English Teaching Assistantship to Colombia
- Third-year graduate student Jennifer Watkins of Thoreau, New Mexico, who's trying for a creative writing research grant to Italy

Whiteside begins talking to students about the U.S. Fulbright and other national scholarships in their freshman year. It takes several months to a year to get an application ready. She helps students navigate Fulbright's different programs and keeps them informed of deadlines and informational webinars.

Whiteside also helps students improve their personal essays by reading multiple drafts and making suggestions for added details and striking the right tone. Then, she and a group of Georgia College professors conduct scholarship interviews. These interviews can be intense with difficult questions, but they help students clarify goals and vision.

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I'd like to think that, after they finish the process, not only are they feeling more confident about themselves, in general, but also about their ability to put together any kind of application moving forward. A big part of what I do and what faculty do is help students see the reality of what they've accomplished.

- Anna Whiteside, coordinator of Georgia College's National Scholarships Office

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“I'd like to think that, after they finish the process, not only are they feeling more confident about themselves, in general, but also about their ability to put together any kind of application moving forward,” Whiteside said. “A big part of what I do and what faculty do is help students see the reality of what they've accomplished.”

As a special education major, Jasia Clark values community service and volunteering. If she gets an English Teaching Assistantship, Clark hopes to work with three Czech charities: Czechia Against Poverty, the Tereza Maxová Foundation and People in Need. She welcomes the unease that comes with living abroad and looks forward to getting a new perspective when learning about Czech culture.

“It is a true blessing,” Clark said about becoming a semi-finalist. “But, if I am completely honest, it is still a bit of a shock. I know there were many applicants for the competition. So, to be chosen as a semi-finalist is truly an honor.”

“Fulbright provides the opportunity to take my love of teaching to a new realm,” she said. “The world is filled with an array of cultures and backgrounds and, to be an effective teacher and leader, it is my duty to be as competent as possible, so that I can provide culturally-responsive instruction. Being placed in a country with cultural values different from my own, will provide me with this needed experience.”



Makhalath Fahiyim

Makhalath Fahiyim graduated with a degree in English in December 2019. In addition to teaching and developing lessons, the Fulbright would allow her to work on a community-engagement project involving a series of dance workshops.

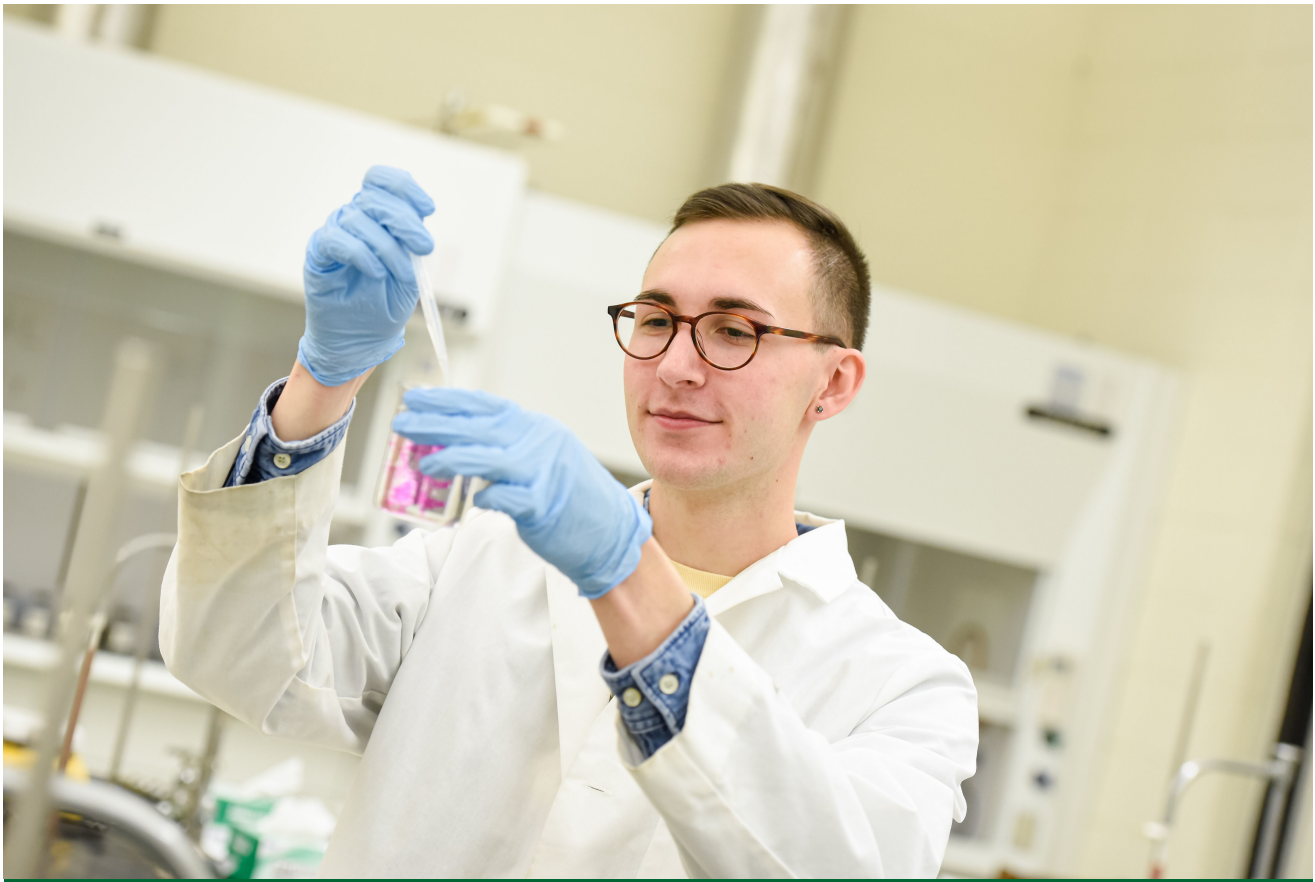
“The application was a process full of many rewrites and multiple drafts,” Fahiyim said. “But it helped me identify what I felt I could bring to the program. I am

very much indebted and grateful to Anna Whiteside for her assistance during the application process. Her feedback helped me to really hone in on the aspects of my application that would help me stand out.”

Later, Fahiyim plans to earn dual masters in English and library science at the University of South Carolina. She’d like to work in a public library system or school library, where she can apply her knowledge of literacy and ESL (English as a Second Language) learning.

James Fortwengler used his past undergraduate research at Georgia College and multiple summer REUs (Research Experiences for Undergraduates) to help him become a Fulbright semi-finalist. He hopes to get his master’s in nanomaterials chemistry by studying one year in Dublin, Ireland. This would greatly aid his research later in life on renewable energy generation and energy storage.

“I’m shocked and happy. I wasn’t expecting to make it this far,” Fortwengler said, “but I think it’s thanks to the great mentorship at Georgia College, both from the chemistry department as well as from Ms. Whiteside. Without her help, I wouldn’t have made it this far.”



James Fortwengler

Whether he becomes a recipient or not, Fortwengler intends to pursue graduate school, then get a Ph.D. in materials chemistry. Someday, he'd like to work with renewable energy technologies at the U.S. Department of Energy. The Fulbright would help him gain valuable knowledge needed to pursue these dreams, as well as open "a tremendous amount of doors around the world to work on collaborative research."

After studying abroad with the Georgia College Jazz program, Madison Graham wanted to return to the Czech Republic. Fulbright was a perfect opportunity to do this. When he's not teaching English, Graham would volunteer at a Basic Art School, the primary venue for art education in the Czech school system. He also plans to join a Czech performing ensemble and explore the country's rich culture.

"While studying abroad in the Czech Republic last summer," Graham said, "I had several opportunities to observe parts of the Czech education system, particularly the approach to music education. I was impressed by the size of music programs in the country, as well as the depth of knowledge that is taught there."

He hopes to work in arts education, after getting a master's degree. The Fulbright would help him add diversity and a global perspective.

"As a musician," he said, "the opportunity to live in the heart of the Western music

tradition is quite exciting.”

A business management student, **Julian Lopez Hanson** wants international experience and to immerse himself in a new culture. Heading to the Island of Cyprus would enable him to spend free time volunteering with local Cypriot NGOs (non-governmental organizations).

Last summer, Hanson traveled in the Netherlands and Europe. He now wants to fully occupy himself in a new culture and community by sharing the English language.

“I’m very happy to have gotten this far in the competition. I’m an optimist, and I’m confident in my chances at being awarded the grant—knock on wood,” Hanson said. “If I’m not awarded the grant, no worries, because I’ll have an even stronger application for next year.”

The communication skills learned in Cyprus, with its array of peoples and cultures, would prove invaluable in the future. Hanson hopes to work as a nonprofit consultant.

Megan Sandal believes her background in psychology and sociology will help her adjust to the Eastern-Pacific culture of Malaysia. She plans to teach English, centered around artistic expression, and start an art club.

“I see it as a mutually beneficial experience that will help me grow as a learner,” Sandal said. “Being an educator allows the teacher to learn as much as the student.”

“I haven’t wanted to celebrate this accomplishment too much,” she said, “because being a finalist is the ultimate goal. Until I get that notification, I will be holding my breath.”

In the future, Sandal wants to go to graduate school for behavioral pharmacology, then get her Ph.D. to help people who suffer from drug dependence and abuse. Malaysia has decriminalized drug abuse. Sandal looks forward to gaining insight from its government policies.

Laura Swarner is passionate about storytelling and hopes it’ll help Bulgarian students develop their English language skills and become fluent. She also looks



Madison Graham

forward to studying the country's art and architectural styles.

"I am really honored and humbled to be considered," Swarner said. "I am also very grateful to my mentors in the theatre department, who encouraged me with everything that I'm doing this year, and the people who wrote my recommendations and Anna and the National Scholarships Office."

"I have felt very supported throughout this whole process," she said, "and I cannot thank everyone enough."

Swarner hopes to get her master's in scenic design and work as an artist telling stories that "are important and relevant to the modern world and help shift perspectives."

Amara Tennessee, lived in Ypane, Paraguay, for nearly a year after high school, where she worked as a medical volunteer and solidified her Spanish. She sees the Fulbright as "an amazing opportunity to travel and share my culture," while learning about Columbia. Tennessee hopes to host a program on health behavior and attitudes there, while teaching English.

"There is very little representation of African-American women globally," she said, "and I feel as if I can serve as an introduction to an underrepresented group of people."

In the future, Tennessee hopes to work in global health, reducing the incidence of chronic disease through health education and programming. Eventually, she wants to go to graduate school and, ultimately, empower people to improve their health.

Graduate student Jennifer Watkins loves to travel. That's one of the reasons she applied for the Fulbright. It'll also give her the chance to work on something "close to my heart," her family history. When Watkins first thought of applying, her focus ideas were vague. Whiteside helped her zero in on a proposed project and keep her on track.

As a recipient, Watkins would spend a year in Italy doing research for a book, telling the story of her two great-grandmothers and their immigration journey to New Mexico in the early 1900s.

"Family history has always been of interest to me," Watkins said. "I also think that women's stories often get lost when we talk about immigration. There are lots of books already written about the men who came to America. Though it is a bit selfish to want to tell my own family story, I think the story of these women might resonate outside of my own family."

In the future, Watkins hopes to travel more with the Peace Corps, an organization

she volunteered with three years before coming to Georgia College.

News Stories Posted Tuesday March 10, 2020



Selfless deeds lead to mother-and-son scholarships

[Theatre & Dance, Department of](#): Tuesday March 10, 2020

A passion for helping others through the arts at Georgia College runs in Paul Guy Accettura's family. His mother, Mabel, "Mabs" sacrificed her own needs by placing others first. She was also a strong advocate of education and the arts. So much so, that Paul provided a scholarship for students enrolled in the Georgia College Theatre and Dance Department.

Now—during her birth month of March—Paul and his wife, Dr. Karen Berman, theatre chair and artistic director of theatre and dance celebrate Mabel's life of 91 years and fond moments they shared.

Mabs grew up near London, England, and came to the United States when she was just 21 years old—just after the end of WWII—to marry Guy Accettura, an Italian American U.S. soldier, whom she met while volunteering for the United Service Organization in London during the war.

Mabs raised five children in the suburbs of Chicago, Illinois, and Northern New Jersey, while her husband worked. Although he was a successful businessman, the family lived frugally in modest homes. Mable never bought anything for herself. Instead, she focused her energy on caring and providing for her family.

Paul wanted to give the scholarship as a tribute to immigrants who have come to the United States, since both of his parents immigrated to this country and believed in, and lived, the American dream and gave so much to all of their children.

“Because she was the wife of a fairly-prominent person, my mother never got any accolades,” said Paul. “She spent her whole life taking care of her five children and gave us everything we needed.”

Later, Mabel became an avid tennis player and a strong supporter of education and the arts. She was also very supportive of her five children and daughter-in-law, Berman.

Mabel began supporting universities, because Berman was involved in higher education.

For nearly 12 years, Paul has heeded his mother’s example by giving to Georgia College as a volunteer for the Department of Theatre and Dance.

He retired as a federal tax attorney in Washington, D.C. after 32 years, specializing in exempt organizations like universities, hospitals and political campaign



Mabel “Mabs” Accettura



Mabel “Mabs” Accettura with her children, including Paul (center).

committees.

"The best part of my work was that I was serving the public interest," he said. "I was involved in decision making that was for the public good."

Paul also chaired the Equal Employment Opportunity Committee of the Office of Chief Counsel, IRS and won an award for embracing diversity.

"Back then, most of the attorneys were white, and the secretaries were almost all black," he said. "So I said, 'Something's wrong here.' I thought, let's have the secretaries get paid for paralegal training through the Chief Council's Office and, then, hire them as paralegals, which gives them a higher salary."

"I've been very fortunate in this life," he said. "And, a lot of people haven't been, so I've tried to help change that."

Paul inherited his mother's British personality, and he also believes in and tries to model her support for education.

"She was a very warm and selfless person," he said. "I don't ever remember a single moment where she said, 'No I can't do that, because I'm going to go to the movies.' She never did anything for herself. Almost no one gets that. She was always there, and she would never have a moment where she wouldn't listen and talk to you."

Mabs' kindness helped shape Paul as a person.

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" hope the scholarship recipients have a life where they're happy, creative and love what they're doing. I would also like for them to help others through theatre or something creative that helps other people—through stories they tell, which is what theatre is all about—educating people for the greater good."

- Paul Accettura

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"She never said a bad word about anybody," said Paul. "I've always felt that's the way I should be. And, I've always appreciated her for that."

He has a memory of Mabel telling others that they must have gumption to get through life. That's what helped prompt this scholarship. Paul thinks the most valuable aspect of scholarships is acknowledging students for their work.

"I think a college degree from a strong liberal arts school, like Georgia College, really gives them a leg up that's almost essential," Paul said.

His wife agrees.

"You want to create perseverance for them," said Berman. "There've been studies about grit. And you want to give those funds to say, 'We believe in you. You're going to do it.'"

Since Paul's mother and father were children of the Great Depression, they saved, because they thought the financial market would see a torrential downturn. They never bought 'things' but never scrimped when it came to university donations. Paul hopes to honor that legacy with a scholarship.

"Let's connect the kids to education," Paul said. "There are a lot of students coming to Georgia College, who are struggling to get here—not just because of their grades, but because their families have never gone to college, so the parents didn't encourage it."

To offset this, Paul offers the "Mrs. Mabel Accettura Endowed Theatre Scholarship" for Georgia College theatre students in financial need. He wants his mother's passion for education to live on in students who can't afford college.

"I hope the scholarship recipients have a life where they're happy, creative and love what they're doing," Paul said. "I would also like for them to help others through theatre or something creative that helps other people—through stories they tell, which is what theatre is all about—educating people for the greater good."

To learn how you can encourage students by providing a scholarship for the Department of Theatre and Dance, contact Bob Preston, senior engagement officer, College of Arts and Sciences at 404-493-5723 or bob.preston@gcsu.edu.

News Stories Posted Wednesday March 18, 2020



Georgia College Operational Plan: March 18 - May 2, 2020

[President, Office of the](#) : Wednesday March 18, 2020

Dear Campus Community,

Thank you for your continued patience and understanding as we face this unprecedented and ever-changing challenge before us. I appreciate your flexibility and adaptability as we move forward. This guidance covers university operations through the end of the current academic semester. I ask you to please be patient regarding what happens next. Rest assured that we are trying to provide as much information as we can, when we can. But also know that things change rapidly and we are trying to adjust as circumstances require.

Our primary concern is the health and safety of our students, faculty and staff. So, please know that all decisions are being made with that in mind.

Students, faculty and staff are urged to check the university home page regularly

for updates. Additional campus messages are posted on [Front Page](#). Additionally, we ask you to check the updates from [CDC](#), [Georgia Department of Public Health](#), and the [State Department](#) as you make decisions to protect your personal health and make travel plans.

Here are some operational guidelines for the remainder of the semester:

SELF-QUARANTINING

Consistent with guidelines from the CDC and the Georgia Department of Health, anyone traveling to, from or through a Level 3 or higher travel designation cannot return to campus until they have been asymptomatic for a period of 14 days from the date of entering or reentering the United States. Those self-quarantining must follow CDC and local health authority guidelines.

- Guidelines for self-quarantine from the CDC include:
- Restricting activities outside the home except for appointments with a medical professional for evaluation.
- Limiting contact with others in the home, including pets.
- Frequent hand washing.
- Regular cleaning of all high-touch surfaces including tables, countertops, doorknobs, keyboards, tablets, bathroom fixtures, television remotes, and phones.
- Limiting the sharing of household items like drinking glasses, plates, utensils, bedding, towels, and clothing.
- Washing dishes, clothing, and bedding regularly.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS & INSTRUCTION

Georgia College will move to online/remote instruction for ALL courses for the remainder of the semester, effective March 30, 2020. In this interim suspension between now and March 30, faculty are preparing to teach their courses in an online/remote format. Staff from the Center for Teaching & Learning (478-445-2520) (ctl@gcsu.edu) are currently available for faculty to consult with regarding transitioning their teaching to a March 30th start of the total online format. Faculty should develop the remainder of their semester materials to be taught away from campus.

ACADEMIC ADVISING: Academic Advisors are available Monday-Friday from 8:00 am - 5:00 pm via email at advising@gcsu.edu, telephone at 478-445-2361, and video chat by appointment.

STUDY ABROAD: We have cancelled all study abroad courses for the remainder of

the semester and for the Summer. Students and faculty involved in these courses will be notified.

SACSCOC: SACSCOC has been notified of all changes that this emergency is requiring of us and we are operating in accordance with standards they have promulgated to ensure accreditation standards.

RESEARCH LABORATORIES: Personnel needed to maintain core research functions at minimal levels for maintenance of research facilities, lab safety, research animals, etc. should continue to do so. However, please notify the dean of your area regarding your presence on campus.

ON-CAMPUS OPERATIONS

Offices and departments should be operating according to their business continuity plan. With that in mind, most faculty and staff are telecommuting or working in flextime arrangements. Supervisors should do everything possible to be flexible with staff in arranging for at-home work until the end of the semester. Supervisors should establish routines for remote operations and online check-in meetings as appropriate. On campus operations should be reduced to a minimum to allow only for the following:

- Maintain students in campus residence halls who cannot move out due to international status, lack of access to housing, etc.
- Provide limited dining to support students who are still on campus.
- Public Safety personnel as needed to provide public order and safety.
- IT support services to maintain our ERP systems, core academic support systems, email, and other systems as needed to support operations.
- Personnel needed to maintain core institutional functions at minimal levels such as research facilities, lab safety, research animals, etc.

IT SERVICES: IT services will be available to consult with students, faculty and staff that are experiencing difficulty during this time. Please note, however, that most IT employees will be working remotely with limited staff on campus. You may continue to utilize the services of SERVE via telephone at 478-445-7378, by email serve@gcsu.edu or complete the online form on our [website](#).

HUMAN RESOURCES: Employees who need HR assistance during this time should contact HR by phone at 478-445-5596 or email at hr@gcsu.edu. Limited staff will be available at the HR office. Searches that are in progress may decide to postpone their activities for the semester. If searches go forward, committees should utilize electronic forms of communication for search committee deliberations and candidate interviews. No non-essential travel will be authorized

and group assembly is not desirable at this time. The employee assistance program (EAP) vendor, KEPRO, is available 24/7 as a resource. EAP Counseling sessions are confidential and can be done remotely via HIPAA compliant platforms. Supervisors are encouraged to be as flexible as possible with work from home assignments including, but not limited to:

For those employees with specific technical skills, provide opportunities to brush up on specific job requirements or take an online certification course for your area of expertise.

- Professional development – find specific online classes related to the department, TedTalks, Lynda.com, YouTube topics and have the employee watch and then provide a short essay about how it applies to their job duties and responsibilities.
- Assign a special project(s). These might be things that have been “on the radar” but have not yet had time or resources assigned due to other priorities. For example, developing a new function-specific training program for your department to help cross-train staff.
- Review departmental policies to make sure they are current.
- Develop or review standard operating procedures and identify opportunities for process improvements.
- Continue conducting regular online work.
- Complete annual performance reviews as needed.

MAIL SERVICES: To support social distancing efforts, Mail Services will not be performing the usual daily route. The GC Mail Services Office window, located in the MSU, will be open every Wednesday from 11:00 a.m to 2:00 p.m. for departments to secure their mail if needed. If your office needs a special pick-up or delivery, please contact us at 478-445-2273. Students leaving campus housing should go their local USPS or to the USPS website to complete mail forwarding requests of their mail.

REGISTRAR’S OFFICE: The Registrar’s office will be open with limited staff, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m., available by email at registrar@gcsu.edu or by phone at 478-445-6286. Registration will remain open during the suspension of instruction. Wait list notifications will be released beginning Monday, March 30. Transcript ordering instructions are available [online](#). The electronic transcript option is strongly encouraged.

BUILDING ACCESS: An assessment of physical security (buildings locked down, card-only access, etc.) is underway and related public safety measures have been taken to secure campus in light of reduced staffing. Buildings that are closed include signage to that effect. Access to a closed building may be provided by contacting Public Safety at 478-445-4400.

LIBRARY: The Library is closed to the public. Faculty, staff and students may access SERVE, Center for Teaching & Learning, Disabilities Services and the Learning Center located in the building by swiping their Bobcat card at the entrance closest to the College of Arts and Sciences building. The Library staff are available by email at circ@gcsu.edu or by phone at 478-445-4047.

CAMPUS EVENTS & ACTIVITIES: In keeping with CDC guidelines regarding crowds and social distancing, all events for the remainder of the Spring Semester have been cancelled. This includes events such as intercollegiate athletics, intramural athletics, scheduled performances, scheduled student group activities, advancement events, and any use of our campus by external entities during this time.

TRAVEL: No non-essential travel by students, faculty or staff will be approved for the remainder of the semester.

COMMENCEMENT: In keeping with the CDC guidelines regarding crowds and social distancing, the Spring 2020 commencement activities as we have held them in previous years are cancelled. We do not make this decision lightly, nor do we want to diminish all that our students have achieved. We are working on creative, alternative ways to celebrate students' accomplishments, and we are grateful for the commitment and dedication our students have shown in the face of extraordinary times. Students will be able to graduate, consistent with academic standards, but the face-to-face ceremony will be cancelled. We are looking into alternative delivery mechanisms and other ways that might allow us to celebrate the accomplishments of our students. More details will follow.

ADMISSIONS OFFICE: The admission review and acceptance process for Fall 2020 will continue. Recruiters will contact prospective students and applicants regarding admission, housing and POUNCE during this time. Admitted student receptions and Glimpse sessions have been cancelled and staff are utilizing virtual opportunities to engage applicants. The office will be open with limited staff, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m., available by email at admissions@gcsu.edu or by telephone at 478-445-1283 or 1-800-342-0471.

REGISTRATION: Registration for summer and fall courses is open now. Students should consult with their advisors as needed and register as usual through the PAWS Portal.

STUDENT SERVICES

ACADEMIC & CAREER ADVISING: Academic Advisors are available Monday-Friday from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm via email (advising@gcsu.edu), telephone (478-

445-2361), and video chat by appointment. Career Service Advisors will maintain their current appointment schedule and can be contacted by phone (478-445-5384) or video chat by appointment. Appointments may also be made via UNIFY.

HOUSING: All students have been notified of their need to move out of Georgia College residence halls and apartments. To be consistent with CDC advice regarding crowding and distancing, a plan has been developed by housing for an orderly and 'staggered' move out that will start Friday, March 20 and will end Friday, March 27. Students will be provided with appointment times to move out. It is important that students only arrive at their scheduled appointment times as these are systematically arranged to decrease the likelihood of crowds to prevent disease transmission due to crowding. Every effort will be made to accommodate students who cannot move out due to extenuating circumstances.

FINANCIAL AID: The Financial Aid Office will be open with limited staff, Monday through Friday, 8:00 am through 5:00 p.m. and available by email at financialaid@gcsu.edu or by phone at 478-445-5149.

STUDENT FEES AND REFUNDS: The University System of Georgia will work with Georgia College to review the impact of this situation on mandatory fees as well as housing, dining and other fees to determine which should be maintained and which should be refunded on a pro-rated basis. This assessment will take into account the impact on Title IV and state financial aid programs. Students will be notified by the university when a determination is made and a plan is developed regarding fees.

STUDENT HEALTH & COUNSELING SERVICES: Student Health (478-445-5288) and Counseling Services (478-445-5331) are preparing to continue to provide services via telephone and other limited in-person services as required.

DISABILITY SERVICES: Accommodations for students with disabilities must still be granted in an online learning environment. For faculty who need assistance, please follow the instructions provided by the Center for Teaching and Learning. Students should consult with their faculty member regarding individual needs and challenges. For more assistance contact Disabilities Services at 478-445-5931.

DINING: Residential dining (The MAX) and all retail dining locations will be closed for the remainder of the semester. Every effort will be made to accommodate any students needing to remain on campus due to extenuating circumstances but will mostly consist of delivery and distributed food stations to avoid clustering and achieve social distancing. For questions about dining, contact Auxiliary Services at 478-445-1976.

ATHLETICS: Team events and practices have been cancelled in accordance with the Peach Belt Conference. Student athletic scholarships will be maintained for the

remainder of the semester.

SHUTTLES: Shuttles will be suspended for the remainder of the semester. For questions regarding shuttles, parking or transportation please call 478-445-RIDE.

BOOKSTORE: Barnes & Noble at Georgia College will offer online services only for the remainder of the semester. Provisions for the return of rental books will be made. More information will come at a later date. For further information regarding the bookstore call 478-445-TEXT.

INNOVATION STATION: Innovation station will offer online services only for the remainder of the semester. For information regarding innovation station call 478-445-TECH.

BOBCAT CARD OFFICE: The Bobcat Card office will be closed for the remainder of the semester. For information call 478-445-CARD.

VETERANS STATUS: The State of Georgia is working to address the required Department of Veterans Affairs waiver as it relates to the GI Bill recipients and change in instructional format.

TESTING CENTER: Open Monday through Friday, 8:00 am to 5:00 pm., available by email at gctesting@gcsu.edu or by phone at 478-445-5016.

This plan is effective immediately and is current as of March 18, 2020. Further changes may require us to alter or change these directives. Should that be required you will receive additional guidance which may supersede this memo.

Sincerely,

Steve M. Dorman
President
Georgia College & State University

News Stories Posted Wednesday March 25, 2020



Homeschooling tips for working parents

[College of Education](#) : Wednesday March 25, 2020

[youtube embedcode="k7mfxu-Jnrl" style="left"][/youtube]

Dr. Chris Greer, professor of instructional technology, gives some useful tips to juggle homeschooling their children while also working.

Here's some helpful links he references.

- ABC Mouse: <https://www.abcmouse.com/>
- Scholastic Learn at
Home: <https://classroommagazines.scholastic.com/support/learnathome.html>
- California Department of Education
Resources: <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/he/hn/appendix1.asp>

News Stories Posted Thursday March 26, 2020



Baby's health condition spurs fight for Gracie's Law

[Alumni](#) : Thursday March 26, 2020

Just over a year ago, Gracie Joy Nobles was born with Down Syndrome and a hole in her heart. It was her fight for life that inspired her parents Erin Nobles, '06, '13, and David Nobles, '06, to use their leadership skills to push a House Bill (HB) bearing their daughter's name through state legislation. If this bill becomes a law, it would enable Georgians with disabilities to be placed on the organ transplant list.

After Gracie was born, she developed congestive heart failure and stayed in the hospital for 17 days. During that time, Erin and David endured many sleepless nights and emergency room visits.

At three months of age, she underwent surgery to fix her heart. Gracie recovered and went home.

Gracie, Erin and grandmother

Gracie's grandmother shares a moment with Gracie while Erin Nobles looks on.

“It was like living a nightmare,” said Erin. “She was so sick and frail during that time in her life.”

For about four months, the Warthen, Georgia, couple kept a bag packed in the car—just in case.

“It was a very unstable time in our life,” said David. “You really couldn’t live from day-to-day. It was by hour-to-hour and minute-to-minute, because Gracie could be fine one minute and then overloaded with fluid the next. Then, we’d have to go back to the hospital.”

Erin, a nurse practitioner, had to quit her job to care for Gracie, while David worked as a community supervision and field training officer with the Georgia Department of Community Supervision.

The couple began to think about the consequences if Gracie had needed a transplant, she wouldn’t have been able to get one, as she has Down Syndrome because, Georgia law doesn’t allow for disabled residents to be placed on the organ transplant list.

Erin and David researched the situation and discovered Evie’s Law. Enacted in 2019, this law enables Louisiana residents with disabilities to get on the organ transplant list. They contacted Evie’s father for guidance and began the legwork for what would become Gracie’s Law to end organ transplant discrimination among Georgians with disabilities.

In 2019, David contacted State Rep. Rick Williams (R-Milledgeville), who stated he would introduce Gracie’s Law to the Georgia House of Representatives during the 2020 legislative session. The legislation, cosigned by State Rep. Mack Jackson (D-Sandersville), was introduced and assigned as HB 842.

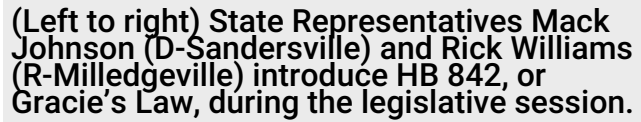
Thrown into the legislative process, Erin and David, quickly realized they could apply the leadership skills they learned at Georgia College to fight for Gracie’s Law.

“Being in nursing at Georgia College and a member of Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing, you really are trained to be a leader,” Erin said. “It’s expected that you’ll be one when you graduate. That was ingrained in us. Although, I never thought of myself being a leader in this area. When I envisioned leadership, I thought of maybe being a charge nurse. This was totally on another playing field.”

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(Left to right) State Representatives Mack Johnson (D-Sandersville) and Rick Williams (R-Milledgeville) introduce HB 842, or Gracie's Law, during the legislative session.

Although David never saw himself as a leader, he managed to earn a 2010 leadership award at work.

"I just see myself as taking authority over a situation, as it arises, as in Gracie's Law," he said. "You don't always see the purpose of what you're being taught until it manifests later."

On Jan. 29, the Nobles and university doctoral nursing students Angie Childre and Kimberly Griffin attended the Georgia Council for Developmental Disabilities' Advocacy Day at the capitol in Atlanta to advocate for Gracie's Law. The couple told their story to a crowd of about 100 people. Childre and Griffin also helped educate state legislators about the need for the law.

"That was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity," said Erin. "We got to meet so many amazing people, who were ordinary citizens like us. And, to be able to see our representatives announce Gracie's Law with such enthusiasm was just phenomenal."

The couple has documented their journey on their Facebook Page, titled "Gracie's Law." They understand how their story might impact others. Their daughter wasn't supposed to live but is alive and well today, because of the great care she received. The Nobles want to pay it forward and help others with disabilities.

"I just never saw us in a role like this, but the fact that we're here, I couldn't be more grateful that this House Bill is getting the attention that it deserves," said David. "This law could potentially save lives."

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"My hope for this day is that these young, impressionable college students will

have a seed of hope planted into them,” Erin said. “because one thing David and I learned is—you can go from hearing someone else’s story to living your own story in a matter of a blink.”

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David Nobles shares a laugh with Georgia College nursing students, as Erin Nobles listens to their questions regarding Gracie and Gracie's Law.



Ways to excel in online learning

[College of Education](#) : Thursday March 26, 2020

[youtube embedcode="yVT86d04rD4" style="right"][/youtube]

Dr. Chris Greer, professor of instructional technology, provides some tips for students to succeed in an online learning environment.

Baby's health condition spurs fight for Gracie's Law

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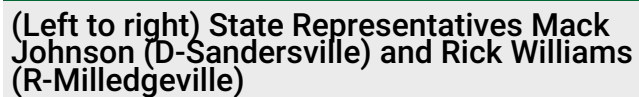
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(R-Milledgeville) savor the victory of Gracie's Law getting passed as a House Bill.



(Left to right) State Representatives Mack Johnson (D-Sandersville) and Rick Williams (R-Milledgeville)

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News Stories Posted Monday March 30, 2020



SGA President Amelia Lord encourages students

[Student Organizations & Clubs](#) : Monday March 30, 2020

[youtube embedcode="Kis1k5QvBm0" style="left"][/youtube]

Student Government Association (SGA) President Amelia Lord speaks to students about the transition to online learning and encourages students to stay engaged in their campus organizations.

News Stories Posted Tuesday March 31, 2020



Veronica Womack and the Rural Studies Institute: Putting small communities and Georgia College on the map

[Rural Studies Institute](#) : Tuesday March 31, 2020

Georgia College's innovative Rural Studies Institute was established in January. As Dr. Veronica Womack settled into her new role as its executive director, the coronavirus was raging in China. Now a global pandemic, it has sent billions of people home to work remotely by computer—giving more urgency and meaning to Womack's work.

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The current crisis emphasizes some of the most difficult challenges of living in rural places. As we retool our educational systems for online learning, those rural communities with limited access to broadband will have an enormous hurdle to overcome, in order to participate.

“In addition,” Womack said, “many rural communities have few hospitals and emergency care services. So, during a world pandemic, they are vulnerable. Many people who live in rural places are in the hard-hit service economy. For recovery in these communities, they will need assistance.”

Before the crisis, Womack was already following the right formula. However, the COVID-19 pandemic has helped spotlight inequalities and challenges in rural America. The pandemic has “given rural America an amplified voice,” Womack said. Issues she’s been talking about for decades, like lack of broadband Internet, are now apparent for all to see.

Rural areas also need infrastructure of roads, bridges and water/sewer systems. They need funding to build up their communities with employment “that allows for thriving, not just surviving,” Womack said. To navigate the 21st century successfully, rural residents need to be retrained and given new tools and skills. In addition, young people need jobs and entrepreneurial opportunities to keep them from leaving rural hometowns for the city.

The Rural Studies Institute is meant to fill in these gaps, and Womack is the perfect person for the job. A vivacious outspoken academic, Womack grew up in rural Alabama and made a career researching the Southern Black Belt region—a conglomerate of more than 300 impoverished counties overlooked by policy makers but never far from her mind.



Dr. Veronica Womack

The Institute will produce research and community-building models to resuscitate and strengthen rural life in Baldwin County, Georgia and nationwide.

“There’s some question as to what would a liberal arts college do with a rural institute? Well, a lot,” Womack said.

“A lot of people would love to live in rural places. When you think about the quality of life that we have here—it’s not bad quality. People like the slow pace, and the

fact that you don't spend hours of your day in traffic and that our environment is still relatively pristine," she said. "But there are things that would make it better. There are a lot of challenges, and I don't think they're just in Georgia or the south. If you go around the country, you'll hear people discussing the challenges of living in rural places right now."



Dr. Womack speaks with Farmer Howard James. (Photo by Suhyoon Cho.)

The idea for a Rural Studies Institute was conceived in 2012, when Dr. Steve Dorman became university president. He asked for proposals that would identify transformational ideas. Womack was a part of a group with Provost, Dr. Costas Spirou, Johnny Grant from external relations and representatives from each college.

The group envisioned an institute to address disparities in four areas: health, economic opportunity, education and the environment. Because of Georgia College's unique mission, rural location and community-based engaged focus, the group decided the Institute could go beyond the agriculture focus of land-grant institutions to highlight all needs in rural communities.

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“We felt we could lead the solutions on disparity issues,” Womack said. “We’re talking about moving communities forward, finding best practices and developing models that can be replicated all over the place.”

Her concern for rural people and black farmers garnered national attention. In April 2016, Womack was invited to address the United Nation’s 18th Session of the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent in Geneva, Switzerland. In 2017, she received a \$150,000 seed grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to examine implementation of public policy in the rural South. Recently, she received an additional \$75,000 from USDA to continue that work. Her research is also funded by the Robert W. Johnson Foundation to study resilience and health in rural communities.



Womack's book.

Womack was featured in a New York Times opinion piece called, “Something Special Is Happening in Rural America.” She was interviewed for a radio podcast called “The Homecomers” that was covered by National Public Radio. Last year, Womack was also quoted in the national weekly magazine, The Nation. More recently, Womack was a panel member for a discussion on rural politics in a Wall Street Journal video. She is presently a fellow for the Southern

Economic Advancement Project (SEAP), sponsored by the Roosevelt Institute, where she’s studying the Delta Regional Authority (DRA) and its impact in the Black Belt region.

Often research is only focused on deficits of rural places, like the Black Belt or Appalachia. But Womack also sees a resilience within these communities, a pride of community and culture, and a people who’ve survived many hardships. The Rural Studies Institute will help identify barriers to economic viability and seek solutions that are reflective of a community’s needs.

“I grew up in the Black Belt,” Womack said. “I learned ordinary people could make a difference – that you didn’t have to settle in whatever circumstance you find yourself. That we can make a difference in our own lives and in the lives of others.”

By partnering with local communities, Womack said she’ll listen to residents and document their wisdom and stories—while also offering the knowledge and expertise found at the university level. Using both, she believes a more comprehensive and beneficial plan for development can be developed.

Womack's vision for the Rural Studies Institute includes:

1. Building a body of literature, knowledge and understanding about rural communities. She will do this by collaborating with existing campus experts and tapping networks of national experts. Womack will use traditional research and community-based approaches to engage rural communities and Georgia College students

2. Creating a podcast to highlight rural storytelling. This is the internship focus of senior English major, Jonesha Johnson.

3. Focusing on strategic planning efforts, relationship building, funding and technical assistance for rural communities and community-based organizations.

4. Offering workshops for rural leaders and residents. Workshops are scheduled to begin in Fall 2021 and will be free.

The Institute will also look to the future by developing student leaders, who'll be the policy makers and CEOs of tomorrow. As such, they'll need to understand the needs of rural Americans.

"How do we build the capacity of rural places to engage in a 21st-century economic development engine?" Womack asked. "The greatest thing we can do is to tap the expertise of the people who live here."

"That's why I really like the approach with Georgia College's Rural Studies Institute of highlighting community assets, so we utilize the expertise and technical assistance from agencies that work on rural issues," she said, "but we also leverage that with the body of knowledge that already resides right here in our rural communities."



Womack with Farmer James. (Photo by Suhyoon Cho.)



And the beat goes on: Music Department streams concert online

[Music, Department of](#) : Tuesday March 31, 2020



Dr. Owen Lovell practices on his grand piano at home.

Quitting is not a word in Dr. Owen Lovell's vocabulary, and canceling concerts is taboo. As a concert pianist, he's played through broken thumbs, broken hands and scorpion stings. He's missed family funerals and skipped hospital visits to play on stage.

So, it's no surprise the coronavirus couldn't stop Lovell's March solo concert. He streamed it live on Facebook.

“

As a faculty member whose primary training is in performance, I've never had a reputation for canceling concerts, and that's not about to start now—especially now. My family and friends can attest to how extremely and inflexibly I have taken the old mantra, 'The show must go on.'

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“As a faculty member whose primary training is in performance, I’ve never had a reputation for canceling concerts, and that’s not about to start now—especially now,” said Lovell, assistant professor of music.

“My family and friends,” he said, “can attest to how extremely and inflexibly I have taken the old mantra, ‘The show must go on.’”

Lovell believes it sets a “bad precedent” for students, if professors don’t keep their musical commitments. Several hundreds of hours go into preparation to produce a memorized concert performance, he said.

With music’s ability to release dopamine—a ‘happiness’ chemical in the brain—it may be more important than ever for cooped-up people to enjoy concerts. “Exhibition,” was streamed live from Facebook in March.

“

The live streaming project with Dr. Lovell came out our need to provide a sense of normal in a very rapidly changing situation.

- Dr. Don Parker, music chair.

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“This sends the positive message to our students, campus and community that we are here to assist and continue providing the needed cultural connection in these uncertain times. The music department will continue to seek opportunities to keep GC united,” Parker said.

Sometimes change can be a good thing, Parker added. Modifications to the program this semester “led to some amazing presentations and performances.”

Because “Exhibition” is a solo concert, it was easier to air online in a world abiding by social distancing. The show aired live from Lovell’s Lake Sinclair home in Baldwin County. He played on a recently tuned 7-foot 6-inch Schimmel K230 semi-concert grand piano and streamed live from his living room with an A/V setup.

“When I really get cranking on it, you can probably hear the piano outside the house – it’s has a lot of power when played forcefully,” Lovell said.

The “energy” from the audience is lacking, and that’s the downside of an online concert. The musician doesn’t hear applause. When the concert was finished,

Lovell said he thanked viewers for tuning in and walked away, “grabbed a glass of water and checked my email, as if nothing happened.”

But there are positives, too. More people can tune in to online performances from anywhere in the world. The sick and homebound have equal access. Parents can enjoy the concert, without worrying about young children causing disruption. It’s also possible more people are listening.

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Concert poster

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Life for everyone has changed since COVID-19. Lovell had to cancel a summer festival in northern Italy this summer, where he’d been invited to teach. Interacting with students long distance is also an adjustment. Piano teaching is based on three hundred years of tradition and one-on-one lessons.

To overcome this, Lovell has repurposed his piano studio classes to be web conferences, where students can share coping stories, motivate each other and perform piano pieces online.

“I desperately miss teaching my students on campus, and I’m saddened to not be able to share the raw power and virtuosity that the “Exhibition” program displays, in person,” Lovell said.

“But it’s important for us to adapt at this critical moment,” he said, “to share the arts, education, and entertainment with our local community and beyond.”



Georgia College provides medical supplies to combat COVID-19 statewide

Public Safety : Tuesday March 31, 2020

Georgia College has answered the call in providing medical supplies to aid in the fight against COVID-19 across the state of Georgia. These critical supplies will be used by the Department of Public Health (DPH) and the Georgia Emergency Homeland Security Agency (GEMA) in areas around the state.

“We had a request come from our system office to assess the supplies we have and start conducting inventory,” said Director of Georgia College Public Safety Brett Stanelle. “We started in our Emergency Management team, and we branched out into other units around campus to see what aid we could provide.”

“

Doing our part to deliver aid during this time of crisis is critical in combatting COVID-19 across the state— but it’s also just the right thing to do.

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The call for critical medical supplies came from the University System of Georgia (USG) and requested all Public Safety and emergency management personnel to collect medical supplies that are typically used for everything from research and campus maintenance to nursing programs and on-campus health clinics.

"Doing our part to deliver aid during this time of crisis is critical in combatting COVID-19 across the state— but it's also just the right thing to do," said President Steve Dorman. "I'd like to thank all departments at Georgia College for acting swiftly to collect supplies from across campus that will now be distributed by GEMA throughout the state to Georgia's front line medical care workers in dire need."



Georgia College provided two ventilators.

Departments and offices around Georgia College aided in taking stock of their equipment and pulling supplies to be redistributed. Among those that provided supplies was the Departments of Biology and Chemistry, the Schools of Nursing and Health and Human Performance, the Student Health Center and Facilities Operations. Supplies that were provided includes:

- 115 assorted size containers of hand sanitizer
- 28 face shields
- 650 shoe covers
- 440 pairs of safety glasses/goggles
- 87,377 nitrile/vinyl gloves
- 2 medical ventilators

Dr. Lisa Griffin, director of the School of Health and Human Performance, helped find the supplies within her area. The School donated hand sanitizer and gloves.

"We believe it is essential for all of us to step forward and do what we can humanly do during any time of crisis," said Griffin. "We are proud that GC is getting involved and reaching out asking academic areas for assistance in this time of uncharted

waters for our nation and state."



Public Safety delivered the aid to a staging area on Friday, March 27.

Ventilators have become key in combatting the deadly disease, but the supply of those not in use is dwindling. Georgia College provided two medical ventilators, which the Georgia Department of Natural Resources picked up this past Saturday, March 28—their first stop that day to collect 14 around the state. In total, USG institutions provided 38 ventilators.

"We unfortunately have Georgians who are in need of assistance— and it's not just Georgia. We're seeing this crisis have global impacts," said Stanelle. "The USG and Georgia College wanted to make sure we did our part, especially given the current state of instruction. We knew we had equipment sitting in store rooms that had equipment that could be used for the greater

good.

Public Safety delivered the medical supplies on Friday, March 27 to a staging area overseen by the Georgia Department of Transportation. These supplies will be transferred throughout the state to places the DPH and GEMA deem most in need.