

# Front Page News Story Archive

September 2022



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# News Stories Posted Friday September 2, 2022



## NFL assistant coach strives to keep players achieving their dreams

[Health & Human Performance, School of](#): Friday September 2, 2022

Corey Campbell, '16, shifted his studies from biology to exercise science in graduate school at Georgia College & State University. And he's glad he did. Campbell now lives his dream job as the assistant strength and conditioning coach for the Carolina Panthers.

Campbell played football at the University of Georgia. That's also where he earned his bachelor's degree in biology. But it was the transition to exercise science in graduate school that put him on track to work for the National Football League (NFL) team.



**Corey Campbell listens to a player during a preseason game against the New England Patriots.**

“When I came to Georgia College, I knew about the human body from a physiological standpoint, but there was a lot I didn't know about exercise science outside of me being an athlete,” Campbell said.

Then, Campbell met Dr. Mike Martino, professor of exercise science and exercise science program coordinator.

“I look at my start at Georgia College as the foundation of my career,” he said. “I can't thank Dr. Martino enough.”

Early on, Martino told Campbell's class that they had to dive in and apply what they learned in the classroom to the real world.

“I appreciate him for being tough on me, believing in me and giving me the confidence and opportunities for what I love to do,” Campbell said. “At first, it was like being thrown into the fire, but I can't say enough about how much better of a coach that made me.”

When Campbell worked as a graduate assistant at Georgia College, Martino gave him the freedom to work with athletes and apply what he learned in a real-world setting. Campbell enjoyed coaching basketball, baseball and softball athletes so much that he knew that's what he wanted to do.

Every day, Campbell uses the concepts he's learned from Martino on the job. These include developing strength and conditioning programs, applying various periodization schemes, understanding biomechanics and clearly communicating how those things come into play when creating athlete training programs. He also learned how to assess the pros and cons of his programs and adapt them to better suit each athlete's needs.



Corey Campbell

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**It's a lot, but it's super rewarding, because the players push themselves to be the best for us. They know we have their best interests in mind. We just want to help them and see them do well so they can live out their dream.**

**- Corey Campbell**

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“Working as a graduate assistant was a huge takeaway for me,” Campbell said. “When I began my profession, my experience weighed heavily on me. It was a critical point in my career, and I think that experience is a true testament to where I am today.”

Campbell spends a significant amount of time training the Carolina Panthers during the off-season, doing organized team activities (OTAs) and in preseason training camp.

But, the most exciting part of Campbell's work happens on game day.

“I love seeing the players go out on the field and push their abilities to the limit,” Campbell said. “We understand the amount of work they put into their performance. Fans just see these guys play on Sunday.”

On game day, the team begins preparing for the game around 8 a.m. Afterward, Campbell is available for players who want soft-tissue work and stretching. Then, they make their way from the hotel to the stadium, where the weight rooms are open for players who want to get some explosive movements in, or “neuro charge” to awaken their nervous system.

Around two hours before kick-off, Campbell goes into pregame management mode, giving rookies a dynamic warmup, meeting with veteran offensive and defensive players and then putting all players through an early dynamic warmup. The last tasks before kickoff include helping players with any individual or positional needs that they believe best helps them prepare to play.



Corey Campbell interacts with a player during training camp.

“You essentially have to be a jack of all trades on game day,” he said.

Once everyone is back in the locker room, the coaches manage the time, making sure team members are ready to go back onto the field.

Campbell and other strength and conditioning coaches space out on the field and echo calls, making sure players understand where they’re going and what they’re doing. If any player needs some extra work, they’ll do that, as well.

During the game, Campbell helps with hydrating and fueling the team, tracking the number of repetitions and with special teams, always asking himself, “How can I help these guys continue to perform at a high level?”

Postgame, Campbell makes sure all the players get back in the locker room for their game debriefing. He also ensures they’re physically okay.

“It’s a lot, but it’s super rewarding because the players push themselves to be the best for us,” he said. “They know we have their best interests in mind. We just want to help them and see them do well so they can live out their dream.”

Day-in, day-out, Campbell has goals for the players to perform at the highest level.





Corey Campbell walks on the field during practice.

“Our job is to prepare them for whenever they have an opportunity,” Campbell said. “Whatever that opportunity is, we want them to be ready for it.”

Campbell has to be flexible and find ways to overcome challenges with the players.

“The player may say, ‘Well, coach, I don’t back squat,’ or ‘Don’t put a bar on my back, because I can’t load my spine.’ So, it’s up to us to figure out a different strategy where we can achieve the same goal, but in a mode that the athletes can perform at,” Campbell said. “It’s a bit of give and take.”

Open communication is vital to the players’ success.

“The more you have those open lines of communication, the better it is with the athletes, because at the end of the day, they want to know you’re helping them and have their best interests in mind,” Campbell said. “It’s not just ‘what I say goes,’ it’s a fluid dynamic we have to work through.”

The more the coaches work with the players, the stronger the relationships become.

“Football is these players’ career,” Campbell said. “It’s a very interesting dynamic, because as much as I coach them, I value their feedback, because that’s going to

help me coach them better.”

Ultimately, he just wants to see the players thrive in their football career.

“Watching these guys play successfully, and to know I played a part in that,” Campbell said, “not for the credit or notoriety, but for the simple fact that these players trust me enough to allow me to coach them is what I enjoy most.”

For more information about the [Athletic Training M.S. visit the program website.](#)

For more information on our graduate programs, [visit The Graduate School website.](#)



## **Women in Politics: panel discussion motivates next generation of engaged citizens**

**Government & Sociology, Department of**: Friday September 2, 2022

*Story, photos and video developed by University Communications*

A week after the United States recognized the 102nd anniversary of women gaining the right to vote, Dr. Victoria Gordon, the Paul D. Coverdell visiting scholar, impaneled a group of current and former, female elected officials to rally engagement in the political process and reflect upon the state of equality within U.S. civil society.

The Women in Politics panel included Milledgeville Mayor Mary Parham-Copelan, Georgia College & State University (GCSU) President Cathy Cox and Baldwin County Solicitor General Skye Gess. Panelists shared their experiences campaigning for and serving in elected office, and stressed the importance of all citizens—regardless of sex, age, race, gender, ability and political leaning—actively participating in the democratic process.



Image of the stage with the moderator and three guests and the crowd at the Women in Politics panel discussion at the Magnolia Ballroom.

Panel moderator, Gordon, scheduled the conversation to coincide with Women’s Equality Day, the annual commemoration of the 1920 adoption of the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution, which prohibits the states and the federal government from denying the right to vote on the basis of sex.

Over a century after women gained access to the ballot, panelists described a political environment in which equality is obtainable, but not yet the reality.

“We no longer have to take the back seat as women,” said Parham-Copelan. “We are able to come to the forefront now and be whoever you want to be, at whatever position you desire.”

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**We are able to come to the forefront now and be whoever you want to be, at whatever position you desire.**

**- Mary Parham-Copelan**

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Panelists talked about the growing infrastructure for recruiting female candidates,



connecting them to the funding necessary to run a campaign and supporting them once they've taken office.

And all panelists agreed those networks of support will benefit current and future generations of women seeking to fulfill their leadership potential.

Each panelist credited family members, educators, mentors, friends, faith leaders and volunteers who pushed them beyond self-imposed boundaries, diminished expectations and fear of the unknown to aspire to public service through elected office. And they urged everyone in attendance to be that support network for someone who considers running for office.

"We need to encourage one another—not put one another down," Parham-Copelan said. "Encourage one another that they can do—'yes, you can do this, let's get behind you, and make sure you have everything that you need.'"

But despite an equal opportunity to participate, each panelist shared personal experiences about the barriers women face in running for political office.



Women in Politics panelists Cathy Cox, Skye Gess and Mary Parham Copelan

Gess described her dismay at being told that her appearance would favor her in an election.

"I was caught very off guard," she said. "I'm accomplished. I have a law degree. I've prosecuted murder and aggravated assault cases. I want to be recognized for my accomplishments and because I am the best person for the job."

Gess said her experience speaks to the way our society judges female candidates in superficial ways.

"I lived in a fishbowl during that 2020 season," she said. "My hair had to be put in place, and I had to be in the right outfit, because it's something that people will judge [about] a woman who is running for an office that a man doesn't necessarily have to deal with."

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**I want to be recognized for my accomplishments and because I am the best**

**person for the job.**

**- Skye Gess**

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Cox, who served two terms in the Georgia House of Representatives and held statewide office as the first woman to be elected Georgia Secretary of State, said a reoccurring theme in her political career was being underestimated because she was a female candidate. She credits a small part of her early success to the fact that some people could not reconcile the idea that a woman would ever represent the rural, Southwest Georgia district that elected her to the state legislature in 1992.

Nevertheless, she persisted because she believes voters want to elect representatives who not only share their political beliefs, but who also know the struggles they’ve faced and the misperceptions they’ve overcome.

“It matters so much for people to see diverse people holding office, because they get used to seeing only one kind of person holding an office and they just get it in their mind that that’s the only one who can do that job,” Cox said. “So, if anything, I hope that I helped to open that door to an array of people to hold that, and lots of other, offices.”

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**We need your perspectives now, not 20, 30, 40 years from now.**

**- Cathy Cox**

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Underlying all things said during the Women in Politics panel was the importance of exercising the right to vote, establishing the practice of voting in every election, holding candidates accountable for the promises made on the campaign trail and being willing to engage directly in the political process to ensure every community benefits from the elected representation it deserves.

“We need your perspectives now, not 20, 30, 40 years from now,” Cox said. “So start being involved and know what is happening around you, and that can be a natural pathway to running for office and building a network of friends who will be happy to help you on your campaign.”

Panel moderator Gordon is the Paul D. Coverdell visiting scholar. Learn more about panels and activities Gordon will facilitate during her Coverdell semester on the [Constitution Week website](#). Contact her at [victoria.gordon@gcsu.edu](mailto:victoria.gordon@gcsu.edu).

[Women in Politics Panel Discussion.](#)

# News Stories Posted Wednesday September 7, 2022



## College of Business and Technology's first projects showing innovative momentum

[College of Business & Technology](#): Wednesday September 7, 2022

In an explosion of energy, the J. Whitney Bunting College of Business and Technology (CoBT) has directed their initiatives to focus academic innovation and spur positive societal impact.

Already gaining ground on their goals, the college launched two new degree programs and opened the Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship this fall.

"The J. Whitney Bunting College of Business and Technology community joins together to prioritize and deliver a preeminent business education for the public good," said College of Business and Technology Dean, Dr. Micheal Stratton. "The strategic directions underscore our core values and mission to develop agile business professionals and socially responsible citizen leaders who embrace intellectual inquiry."

Announced in August, the college named their 2022-2027 Strategic Plan “Lighting a Path for our Future: Business and Technology Education for the Public Good.”

It stands on two major directions—academic innovation and positive societal impact—with specific projects to accomplish under each. Their key initiatives for academic innovation will be to develop and implement a B.S. in finance, expand and enrich high-impact practices, and ensure graduates are learning industry-standard technologies.

“A comprehensive review of the core business curriculum is underway this academic year to assist CoBT faculty and academic leaders in identifying opportunities to even further align the student learning experience with employer expectations,” said Dr. Tanya Goette, CoBT associate dean.

Action has already been taken in this direction, as a new B.S. of Finance was added to the curriculum this fall. This fall, the CoBT also introduced a B.S. in data science. This innovative curriculum emerged as part of an interdisciplinary collaboration with the College of Arts and Sciences.

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**Both degree programs reinforce the critical role of a contemporary liberal arts education in workforce development; learning across disciplines and infusing technology will prepare students as nimble, productive citizens for careers today and in the future.**

**- Dean, Dr. Micheal Stratton**

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“Both degree programs reinforce the critical role of a contemporary liberal arts education in workforce development,” Stratton said. “Learning across disciplines and infusing technology will prepare students as nimble, productive citizens for careers today and in the future.”

The new finance degree doesn’t require most core business classes, and instead puts students on the fast-track to targeted finance topics. With a lot of flexibility for students, the degree program allows 30 credit hours of elective exploration into other CoBT courses and/or complimentary areas of study across Georgia College like non-profit management, math, or political science.

“Our well-designed finance program based on the liberal arts foundation is very challenging, in which students will develop their knowledge and analytical skills that are critical to their future success in the financial industry,” said Dr. Leng Ling,

professor of finance and coordinator of the degree.

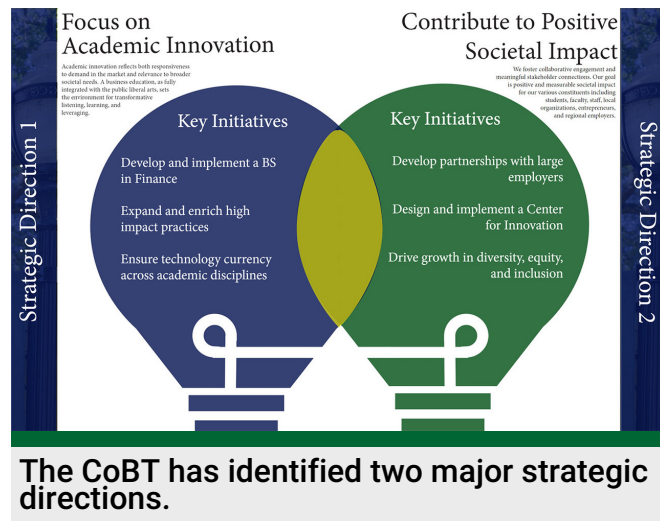
With concentrations in either financial technology or financial analysis, the degree program is designed to set students up for success in their careers.

“We want to help our students to have very good job prospects and be in line with industry trends,” said Dr. Isarin Durongkadej, assistant professor of finance and champion of the major.

Senior finance and economics double-major, Lauren Moskowitz, is one of about 15 students to have joined the program already.

The college has key initiatives for contributing to positive societal impact, as well. They plan to further develop partnerships with large employers and drive growth in diversity, equity and inclusion.

Already open for business, they will also develop and grow their Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship, an interdisciplinary resource for students, faculty and wider community.



The center will serve as a library and laboratory for the business-facing needs of students and the community. It will be the site of an entrepreneurial incubator for student and community businesses with low-cost resources and expert guidance.

“We’re a purpose-built administrative arm of the university that looks to maximize economic impact, whether it be through students building community or outreach to the community,” said Nicolas Creel, assistant professor of business law and director for the Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship. “We can be the arm that helps connect people in the community to grants and other resources to stir up as much economic activity as we can.”

[View the J. Whitney Bunting College of Business and Technology Five Year Strategic Plan.](#)

To view the whole plan, [visit the college's page on Issuu](#). It’s clear the college is making strides in their strategic objectives. The CoBT Strategic Management Committee, including members of the CoBT Leadership Team, will review and access progress toward goal achievement biannually, and additional action steps

may emerge over time.

**“We strive for excellence in all aspects of our mission,” Stratton said. “The strategic directions and initiatives, along with associated action steps and goals, outlined in our plan affirm our commitment to learner success and meaningful, positive impact for the communities that we serve.”**





## Award heralds GCSU's entry into international research consortium

[Mentored Undergraduate Research and Creative Endeavors \(MURACE\)](#) :  
Wednesday September 7, 2022

Georgia College & State University (GCSU) is growing its reputation as an institution focused on undergraduate research.

“At orientation, I had a student in criminal justice come up and say that GC Journeys was the reason she chose Georgia College,” said Jordan Cofer, associate provost for Transformative Learning Experiences. “And then I had the parents of a biology student come up and tell me they're so excited about undergraduate research. They wanted to know all the opportunities that are available. They wanted to go see the lab. We're getting that reputation.”

It's not just prospective students who are taking note.

Georgia College has joined the Vertically Integrated Projects (VIP) consortium and recently won an award for interdisciplinary collaboration in undergraduate research from this international research organization.

The [Vertically Integrated Projects consortium](#) is a group of over 40 universities operating in 13 countries across the globe. The consortium promotes and supports



projects that sustain long-term research activities.

This summer, Georgia College joined the University of Georgia and Georgia Southern University in winning the Innovation in Partnership Building Award at the VIP Consortium's 2022 Annual Meeting. Georgia College received the award for cultivating a group of multi-year, interdisciplinary research projects that bring people together to tackle societal challenges, explore innovative technology and develop new understanding and knowledge.



GCSU English Professor Dr. Jennifer Flaherty, second from right, accepted the Innovation in Partnership Building Award on behalf of the university at the VIP Conference in Atlanta.

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**Vertically-integrated projects help [student researchers] make that connection to their team—to start as a freshman or sophomore and continue for two or three years.**

**- Hasitha Mahabaduge**

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The award recognizes the environment of collaboration Georgia College researchers foster across [multiple research projects](#). By recruiting talented student researchers from different colleges and departments, Georgia College researchers benefit from a variety of perspectives at project conception, a larger skill set when designing and facilitating research and a greater reach when communicating the



Dr. Hasitha Mahabaduge

results.

The research teams that helped Georgia College win the award amplify those attributes by following the [VIP model](#) of inviting undergraduate students to dedicate themselves to projects over multiple years. Through sustained involvement, student researchers have the opportunity to participate in a project from ideation to dissemination and benefit from closer relationships with their peer researchers and faculty mentors.

“Most of the time we do undergraduate research in senior year—it might be a kind of capstone experience,” said Hasitha Mahabaduge, associate professor of physics and director of Georgia College’s VIP program. “Vertically-integrated projects help them to make that connection to their team—to start as a freshman or sophomore and continue for two or three years.”

Mahabaduge said Georgia College’s liberal arts mission provides an ideal foundation for VIP projects because it encourages students to engage the issues they’re passionate about with the curiosity to explore the topic in ways that are not confined to a single discipline.

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**It shows the importance of having different minds go into these areas and explore them, so that you can make it accessible to people, regardless of the industry.**

**- Erin Dickman**

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He thinks Georgia College’s early success in VIP is due to Georgia College promoting long-term, interdisciplinary projects for years.

The institution formalized its commitment to undergraduate research through the creation of the [Mentored Undergraduate Research and Creative Endeavors \(MURACE\) program](#). MURACE seeks to foster creativity and critical thinking by

encouraging mentor-mentee relationships between undergraduate students and faculty members and providing funding for research opportunities across campus.

One of the research projects that contributed to Georgia College's entry into the VIP consortium and to winning the Innovation in Partnership Building Award involves the development of solar technology.

In 2019, Mahabaduge worked with a group of undergraduates to apply ongoing research in solar cell technology to the development of a solar-powered charging station with the expressed purpose of generating interest in the technology among students at Georgia College. But what started as an in-house endeavor took on institution-wide involvement when the project was selected as Georgia College's entry into the inaugural Georgia InVenture Prize competition.

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**Our students stand out because they've had these really unique experiences ... It's so much more engaged than if it was just theoretical.**

**- Jordan Cofer**

The InVenture competition invited teams of college and university students to develop and pitch innovative products and services to a panel of judges in hopes of taking home the coveted Georgia InVenture Prize Cup.

Georgia College’s [Luma Project](#) team included students from physics, marketing and liberal studies. The team tailored the technology to the application, created an eye-catching design for the charging station and developed a marketing plan for the pitch to InVenture judges.

Liberal studies graduate Erin Dickman, ’19, joined the Luma Project team to help develop the brand identity for the InVenture competition entry. She described her experience of working with the team of interdisciplinary collaborators as liberating.

“It was so exciting to hear different minds that are outside of your normal field contribute, add and enhance an entire piece of work,” she said. “It shows the importance of having different minds go into these areas and explore them, so that you can make it accessible to people, regardless of the industry.”

The Luma Project didn’t win the InVenture Prize Cup, but the entire team learned the potential of reaching out beyond their comfort zones and organizational silos to put together a team capable of success.

Experiences students gain by participating in these vertically-integrated, multidisciplinary research projects better prepare them for the work environment they’ll encounter after graduation.



Dr. Jordan Cofer with the Innovation in Partnership Building Award on GCSU’s Front Campus.

“Employment is less about major than it’s ever been—a lot of employers are no longer looking at specific majors,” Cofer said. “Our students stand out because they’ve had these really unique experiences; they’ve been able to disseminate the research; and they’ve got the communication skills so that they can go out and talk about them. It’s so much more engaged than if it was just theoretical.”

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**It's really an honor to help take Georgia College to the next level.**

**- Hasitha Mahabaduge**

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And Georgia College's focus on developing the skills to communicate success contributed directly to our institution's entry into the VIP Consortium. Mahabaduge said consortium organizers at Georgia Tech recruited Georgia College to join after he and student Catherine Boyd made a presentation during the closing plenary at the National Conference on Undergraduate Research [presentation](#) for winning the [2020 Award for Undergraduate Research Accomplishments](#) from the Council on Undergraduate Research.

Mahabaduge knew it was not just an invitation to share in the combined knowledge of the different member institutions, but a chance to elevate Georgia College's ambitions as an institution that excels at undergraduate research.

“It's really an honor to help take Georgia College to the next level,” Mahabaduge said. “Once we set up a VIP Team, they add Georgia College's name to that list of consortium members around the world, so I think it literally places our name on the map at an international level.”

And to be recognized at the outset of its VIP journey with an award highlighting Georgia College as an institution that's developing the environment to enable future success and the generation of impactful knowledge is validation of efforts that are bearing fruit.

“It is someone from the outside putting a stamp on us and saying ‘what you're doing is right, what you're doing is appreciated,’” he said.

[You can learn more about Georgia College's Vertically Integrated Projects program on the VIP website.](#)







## Extensive, external conservation to begin at Georgia's Old Governor's Mansion

[Georgia's Old Governor's Mansion](#) : Wednesday September 7, 2022

Beginning Sept. 6, 2022 and continuing until Dec. 31, 2022, conservationists and tradesmen will conduct preservation work on the exterior of Georgia's Old Governor's Mansion.

As a part of the project, preservationists will erect scaffolding around the Mansion to enable the application of a lime wash to the stucco exterior; the painting of shutters and trim; and other exterior conservation work. Mansion staff expect to continue offering tours and conducting programming without interruption. Any disruption to regular operations, should they occur, will be posted on the Mansion's [social media](#) and [website](#).

"All programming will continue, as the interior will not be affected," said Matt Davis, director of Historic Museums. "We invite the public to view the work as we complete it, and we thank the university administration for their support of this project and their ongoing support of the work of Historic Museums."

The Mansion's exterior façade is a lime-based stucco, applied in a manner that creates the illusion of masonry. 70% of the façade is original to the building's completion in 1839. Every 10 years, weathering contributes to an overall fading and

streaky, variable vibrance.

The museum invites all members of the public to witness conservation in action as preservationists work to complete this project. Staff at the museum will answer any and all questions during their tours.

Holiday tours will occur as scheduled, though some exterior displays may be limited this year due to the project.



Georgia's Old Governor's Mansion with scaffolding erected ahead of conservation work.

Georgia's Old Governor's Mansion is open to the public for guided tours, and is fully ADA accessible with elevator access to all levels of the house.

Tours begin on the hour from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday, and 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., Sundays. The last tour of the day begins at 4 p.m. The mansion is closed Mondays, holidays, the week before Thanksgiving and the week after Christmas.

Additional information can be found at <https://www.gcsu.edu/mansion/tours>.



# News Stories Posted Thursday September 8, 2022



## **GCSU student receives selective, national scholarship from Charles Schwab**

[Economics & Finance, Department of](#): Thursday September 8, 2022

One of twelve winners nationwide, senior finance and economics double-major Lauren Moskowitz has received Charles Schwab's Registered Investment Advisor (RIA) Talent Advantage (RIATA) Student Scholarship.

In its second year, the scholarship provides student winners \$10,000 for the 2022-2023 academic year and matches them with a senior advisor for mentoring. The scholarship is supposed to decrease financial barriers for students, advocate diversity and widen the talent pool within the RIA industry. Moskowitz's mentor will be someone who started their own firm on Wall Street.

According to Charles Schwab, 586 students across 54 national universities applied this year. The students chosen for the scholarship are vetted by RIA firm leaders serving on Schwab Advisor Services' Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI) Advocacy Board.

“I applied not thinking I would get it at all, because it’s 12 people from the entire nation for a massive company,” Moskowitz said. “It was more disbelief rather than excitement for me. I go to a small school. We didn’t have a finance major at the time and I just got a scholarship and mentorship program with a dream company.”

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**It was more disbelief rather than excitement for me. I go to a small school. We didn’t have a finance major at the time and I just got a scholarship and mentorship program with a dream company.**

**- Lauren Moskowitz**

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She’ll use the scholarship to take the financial burden of expenses off her parents, and complete an independent study with Dr. Isarin Durongkadej, associate professor of finance. She’ll also use it to complete a certificate in Certified Financial Planning. The courses she’s taking will cover topics from estate planning, investments and taxes to basic economic and real-world information.

Upon graduating, Moskowitz has accepted a job offer with Goldman Sachs, which she’ll work for in Atlanta, Georgia. One day, she said, she hopes to make it to New York City, New York.

But Moskowitz couldn’t tell you why she was chosen for the scholarship; her work speaks louder than words.

A part of Georgia College & State University’s (GCSU) delegation at the Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) Institute Research Challenge, Moskowitz helped her team advance to the second round of sub-regional competition in the global contest.

They competed against contestants from 25 universities across Georgia, Alabama and South Carolina including Auburn, Clemson and Mercer Universities.

“I’m very proud of her in many ways. She is a real leader,” said Isarin Durongkadej, assistant professor of finance and a mentor to Moskowitz. “Leadership is a skill that could be hard to build because it requires sacrifice and sympathy. She works hard and understands people around her and she is always full of energy to learn or try something new.”

She also helped jumpstart the finance major at Georgia College, serves as the President of the Finance Club and interned with Goldman Sachs over the summer.

While there, she met interns from across the nation, and partnered with a mentor for nine weeks. She interned in executive financial management and had the opportunity to work with CEOs and CFOs of large companies.

“After this summer, I know I want to go into financial planning, and I feel like I’m finally getting the foot in the door to places where I want to be,” Moskowitz said. “I love numbers and I love office life. That’s not for some people, but I get excited by challenges, and in this industry each client is a different story and unique challenge. You’re never going to get bored.”

Moskowitz stresses that anyone can attain what she’s worked toward.

“I always want to see how far I can push myself, because that’s how you grow as a person,” Moskowitz said. “People will come up to me and ask my advice, and for me that’s cool because I’m just another student here. I’m making an impact on people’s lives that I haven’t even met yet, and helping them get to those steps I’ve taken.”

“For myself and for anyone, I stress to just try,” she said, “even if you don’t think you have a shot at it. Go for it, because you could get it, and it could open a million doors for you.”

[Visit the J. Whitney Bunting College of Business and Technology's Finance B.S. page](#) to learn more about the degree program.



Lauren Moskowitz.





# News Stories Posted Friday September 9, 2022



## In remembrance of the lives lost on September 11, 2001

[University Communications](#) : Friday September 9, 2022

In remembrance of those whose lives were taken and in solidarity with the families and communities who still experience that loss, we continue to pray for healing.

We honor the sacrifices of the first responders and service members who have committed to serve on 9/11 and the many years since.

So that we always remember those we lost and those who served, we recognize this day and reflect on the values that bind our nation together.

On Sunday, September 11 and Monday, September 12, Georgia College & State University will ring the carillon at 8:46 a.m., 9:03 a.m., 9:37 a.m. and 10:03 a.m. to commemorate the lives lost during the attacks on the World Trade Center, the Pentagon and the hijacking of United Flight 93.





# News Stories Posted Monday September 12, 2022



## GCSU nursing and teaching programs highly rated in new 'Best Colleges' rankings

[University Communications](#) : Monday September 12, 2022

Georgia College & State University continues acquiring accolades as a top-ranked institution in the region and country.

The 2023 U.S. News & World Report Best Colleges list designated Georgia College's School of Nursing as the top, public undergraduate nursing program in Georgia.

"Media organizations like U.S. News & World Report consistently reaffirm what Georgia College students, parents and alumni already know: our institution offers an exceptional and contemporary public liberal arts education and prepares our students for successful careers," said Cathy Cox, president of Georgia College & State University. "Georgia College's reputation for academic excellence and transformative experiences ranks with the best in higher education and will continue to attract top students who want the unique, challenging learning environment we offer."

Additional insight from the "Best Colleges" report includes Georgia College ranking seventh on the list of top public schools in the South—rising two spots from last

year's ranking. This is the fourth year in a row Georgia College has led all other Georgia institutions in this category.

The guidebook lists Georgia College 22<sup>nd</sup> in the Best Regional Universities in the South, leading all other public, Georgia universities in this criterion. Best Regional Universities are not ranked nationally, but rather against their peer group in one of four geographic regions – North, South, Midwest and West.

Georgia College ranked 12<sup>th</sup> in the category for undergraduate teaching universities in the South, earning top honors for University System of Georgia institutions in that segment.

The ["Best Colleges"](#) guidebook is made up of a wide variety of data on assessments by peers and counselors, retention rates, faculty resources, student selectivity, financial resources, graduation rate performance and the alumni giving rate.

The Princeton Review also recognized Georgia College on its ["2023 Best Colleges: Region by Region"](#) list for the 16<sup>th</sup> consecutive year. The university is a member of the elite group classified as the "Best Southeastern" colleges and universities.

Georgia College was distinguished by The Princeton Review for its "excellent academics" and student reports on their campus experience. The university is one in only 23 percent of national four-year colleges to be featured on their website.



# News Stories Posted Thursday September 15, 2022



## Coverdell Scholar draws attention to 19th Amendment and civil discourse

[Government & Sociology, Department of](#): Thursday September 15, 2022

*Story and photos developed by University Communications.*

After 15 years in public administration and 16 years teaching the subject—Dr. Victoria Gordon retired. But she wasn't idle long.

Gordon turned quickly around and applied for the chance to be Georgia College & State University's 2022 Paul D. Coverdell Visiting Scholar. It was the perfect opportunity to focus on her favorite teaching subject, "Women in Politics," a topic she only taught five years before retiring.

In those years, she helped spearhead Western Kentucky University's 100th



Dr. Victoria Gordon

celebration of the 19th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, which gave women the right to vote. That celebration deepened her interest.

“That, in turn, led me to wanting to continue to focus on the importance of the 19th Amendment in my teaching and service responsibilities,” Gordon said, “and it’s a nice tie-in to my Coverdell Visiting Scholar duties this semester at Georgia College.”

“Everybody has been so wonderful to work with here,” she said. “Everyone I’ve reached out to for help has been more than generous with their time, because this is not a one-woman show.”



Gordon, left, with Milledgeville Mayor Mary Parham-Copelan and a student.

Her passion for women’s rights was evident early in the semester. Gordon and Women’s Studies Professor Dr. Sabrina Hom took a group of students to a Milledgeville City Council meeting to hear the mayor proclaim the importance of the 19th Amendment.

Although the vote was won in 1920—Gordon’s students today are still fascinated and proud.

“That excitement was real and put textbook material into practice for them,” she said. “The students saw their government taking action and affirming the importance of women. I wish I could bottle that excitement. They may not recall the fight to vote or directly identify with it— but they can learn how exciting it is to exercise their right to vote.”

Recently, Gordon moderated a panel discussion in Magnolia Ballroom, featuring women who served in public office. Sponsored by Georgia College’s Department of Philosophy, Religion & Liberal Studies, the panel featured Mary Parham-Copelan, first woman mayor of Milledgeville; university president and former Georgia Secretary of State Cathy Cox; and Skye Gess, Baldwin County Solicitor General.





Gordon, left, with GCSU President Cathy Cox and Baldwin County Solicitor General Skye Gess for a panel discussion on women in politics.

In addition to teaching a “Women in Politics” course this semester, Gordon will also speak to a meeting on learning and retirement in September.

She’s working on several other projects that will be open to the public:

- **Constitution Week**—Next week, Georgia College presents its annual Constitution Week. During the Constitution Week concert, starting at 6 p.m. Monday in Magnolia Ballroom, Gordon will give a lecture on “Journey to the Vote.” She was instrumental in securing Thursday’s academic speaker, Dr. Lynne Ford from the College of Charleston, for a talk on “Women and Politics” at noon in the Pat Peterson Museum Education Room at Heritage Hall. State Rep. Stacey Evans will speak at that event too.
- **“Unbought”**—At 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 19, in the Pat Peterson Museum Education Room at Heritage Hall, Gordon is sponsoring a musical and theatrical performance by Core Ensemble. It’s about three African American women: journalist and women’s suffrage activist Ida B. Wells; Sally Hemmings, the enslaved who bore six of Thomas Jefferson’s children; and the first African American congresswoman from New York, Shirley Chisholm, who ran for U.S. President in 1972.
- **An exhibit**—Various artifacts from Western Kentucky University on women politicians will be displayed beginning Sept. 19 through the end of the semester at Heritage Hall. Called “Journey to the Vote,” the exhibit will include political bumper

stickers and buttons; replicas of flags used for women's suffrage in parades and marches; and posters. There'll be a pink pantsuit purchased by a woman to wear when voting for Hillary Clinton for U.S. President. Gordon will give a gallery talk on the items in October.

"The exhibit will be a hodgepodge of artifacts that will hopefully inspire some young women here to research all about Georgia women and politics," Gordon said.

Throughout her different events, Gordon is focusing on the theme of civil discourse. She can't explain why or when political discussions became so divided and full of rancor in America. But Gordon suspects one answer may be social media. Hiding behind anonymity makes some people more brazen and offensive, she said.

Gordon's trying to understand the issue better, as she moves through her semester as the Coverdell Visiting Scholar. She's researching organizations and approaches that will help campuses and communities promote healthy conversations about politics. Gordon hopes to form an initial faculty focus group to prepare others how to engage in difficult topics.

Her background as a city clerk and her years of teaching human resources management, as well as public and local government administration, prepared Gordon for this moment.

She's been a grant writer and penned numerous municipal and public affairs articles, book chapters, research reports and two books: "Participatory Budgeting in the United States: a Guide for Local Government" and "Maternity Leave: Policy and Practice." Gordon's won scholarships and awards. Most recently, she received the Kentucky Historical Society's 2020 Educational Programming Award.



Students listen to a recent panel discussion moderated by Gordon.

Her expertise is now being harnessed and utilized to share the history of women in politics.

"First, the history of women in politics, or the lack thereof, makes it of interest to me," Gordon said. "Second, the tortuous journey to the vote for women was just fascinating to me. Finally, teaching a subject matter gives you a whole other vantage point when you delve into a subject."

Gordon was quoted recently in an article in the Louisville, Kentucky, Courier Journal about Women's Equality Day, an annual celebration on Aug. 26. Society's recognition of women in history is important but—like Gordon told the newspaper and reminds her students—the fight for equality is not over.

The 19th Amendment has been around more than 100 years, but Gordon says young women still need to carry the torch, recognize the hard work done before and struggle forward with respectful dialogue.

"It's important that those in decision-making positions at the local, state and federal level include women's voices. Better decisions are made when we consider a variety of options in policy making," Gordon said.

“

**My message to all students in all classes is we must respect our differences that exist and respect the differing opinions we have, and my overall hope is that students exercise their right to vote and not take that right for granted.**

**- Dr. Victoria Gordon**

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# News Stories Posted Friday September 16, 2022



## Green crab whiskey: Alumnus saves marine life one bottle at a time

[Health & Human Performance, School of](#): Friday September 16, 2022

How can we help diminish the effects of the invasive European Green Crab species that have disrupted marine life along the northeast Atlantic coastlines?

Bottle them.

“Green crabs are an invasive species in New Hampshire and other parts of the East Coast,” Will Robinson, ’12, said. “In these areas, there have been big programs that encourage people to eat them.”

As a product developer with Tamworth Distillery in New Hampshire, Robinson decided to make Crab Trapper® whiskey out of these pesky predators. He perfected the idea with the help of the University of New Hampshire’s (UNH) Sea Grant, which paired him with Biologist Dr. Gabriela Bradt.

“The program helped me do some preliminary research on using green crabs as a

food source, working with the FDA on approval and sourcing crabs,” he said. “Our owners were looking to use a wild ingredient.”

Tamworth Distillery sees itself as a test kitchen in the liquor world. Some of Robinson’s products have sold across the globe.

“Part of what we do is experiment by finding unique ways of doing things that have not been done before by using distinctive ingredients that have not been used before,” he said. “So, I have a lot of creative freedom in my job.”

According to Tamworth Distillery’s publicists, the total hit count for the stories about its Crab Trapper® whiskey is in the billions. One such news story by [Forbes](#) delves more into curbing the green crab population.

Robinson also appeared on NBC Nightly News and was interviewed on National Public Radio (NPR).

To make Crab Trapper®, Robinson starts with a four-year-old bourbon reserve. He obtains, cleans, processes, boils and slow simmers green crabs, until they’re thoroughly cooked. He separates the liquid from the solids to reserve this crab stock. Then, he fortifies the mixture with the company’s neutral-grain spirit.

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**There's a lot of chemistry and math involved with this process. We have to make decisions based on our own taste and smell. We hope that transfers well, because smell and taste are very subjective. The entire process is fascinating, challenging and fun to me.**

**- Will Robinson**

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Will Robinson's creation.



What sets Tamworth Distillery apart from others are several laboratory glass vacuum stills that allow Robinson to distill the product under a vacuum. The process lowers the temperature of the liquid to preserve delicate flavor and aroma molecules.

“I work under a flavor chemist,” he said. “We make our own botanical infusions. The resulting distillate carries over the aromas and flavors from the infusion. Then we compound that distillate and blend it with whiskey.”

To curb the crab flavor, Robinson also makes a spice blend distillate that contains coriander, mustard seed, dill seed, bay leaf, paprika, allspice, clove and cinnamon. The result is mixed with the bourbon base and pure White Mountains water to obtain the desired alcohol content.

“It’s a very intense process,” Robinson said. “We do everything by hand here and are very craft oriented. It’s wonderful to work as a creator in this industry.”



Will Robinson is beside a pot still in Tamworth Distillery.

Green crabs first emigrated from Europe in the ballast of merchant ships over 200 years ago. Colder water temperatures once kept their numbers low, but now that estuaries aren't freezing, green crab numbers are exploding. Each crab can

consume up to 40 scallops, oysters and other types of crab in a day. These little green interlopers are having a disastrous effect on New England's ecosystems and local seafood industries.

Making Crab Trapper® is one way Robinson and the company are innovating and helping the environment.

"It's really interesting to discover a new product," he said. "We work with a lot of ingredients in ways that have never been done before. I'm always researching. I could find absolutely nothing on anyone who's ever tried to distill the essence out of a crab. So, it was new ground."

He began working on Crab Trapper® in January and had a working blend completed by April.

Robinson enjoys learning new things in his profession.

"There's a lot of chemistry and math involved with this process," he said. "We have to make decisions based on our own taste and smell. We hope that transfers well, because smell and taste are very subjective. The entire process is fascinating, challenging and fun to me."

He uses his master's degree in outdoor education administration from Georgia College & State University daily. But, it was Georgia College's interdisciplinary approach—exemplified in classes with Dr. Lee Gillis, chair of the Department of Psychological Science and Dr. Jude Hirsch, former chair of the Department of Kinesiology—that really set the bar for Robinson's work at Tamworth Distillery.

"We learned to work with others closely and have self-awareness, group awareness and situational awareness," Robinson said. "When you're taught to lead a group of individuals into a risky environment, there are a lot of things you have to cover. I found that many of those skills we learned are directly transferrable to the real world."



# News Stories Posted Wednesday September 21, 2022



## **New Nursing Scholars Program funds aspiring, local nurses**

[Nursing, School of](#) : Wednesday September 21, 2022

*Story and Photos by University Communications.*

With their first five scholars in tow, the College of Health Science (COHS) School of Nursing (SON) has kicked off the Lettie Pate Whitehead (LPW) Nursing Scholars Program.

With four-year-long funding, the cohort-based program for qualified nursing students at Georgia College & State University (GCSU) will provide a full scholarship to recipients; including tuition, fees, housing, meals, textbooks, nursing program fees and one funded, healthcare-related study abroad.



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**We're targeting students from middle and central Georgia for our region's healthcare needs. We want to train the next generation of nurses, and we don't want financial need to be a barrier to excellent students.**

**- Dr. Sheri Noviello**

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“The COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated the shortage of nurses in our state and nationwide,” said Dr. Sheri Noviello, dean of COHS and current coordinator for the program. “We're targeting students from middle and central Georgia for our region's healthcare needs. We want to train the next generation of nurses, and we don't want financial need to be a barrier to excellent students.”

Students in the program who retain admission requirements are also guaranteed admission into SON's competitive [Bachelor of Science in Nursing program](#).

“This scholarship program will allow us to continue to recruit the most qualified students into our stellar nursing program,” said Josie Doss, interim director of SON. “It is an opportunity to grow the number of well-qualified nurses in Central Georgia by providing opportunities to those who may otherwise have had financial restrictions.”

The program is funded by the Lettie Pate Whitehead Foundation, a scholarship program which provides funding for “deserving female students with financial need.”

This support empowers scholars to match the first-in-class education of Georgia College's nursing program with a tailor-made certificate in leadership and public affairs through [The Office of Leadership Programs](#).

“We want Georgia College nurses to provide leadership in the communities they serve,” said Harold Mock, director of Leadership Programs. “In good times and in bad, we look to nurses to provide leadership in our institutions, in community life, and in making decisions.”



**Hannah Pelt of Macon, Georgia, one of the five scholars.**



**Kaitlyn Neesmith of  
Macon, Georgia**

With current funding, five students have been selected for this year's award, with about 20 students anticipated within the next four years. The students selected were the first five applicants who declared nursing as their major and met the standard for "financially needy," based on students' FAFSAs.

According to the Lettie Pate Whitehead Foundation, students receiving aid must be female, self-identified as Christian, financially needy and a resident of Georgia.

All eligibility requirements, applications and other information can be found at the [Lettie Pate Whitehead](#)

[Nursing Scholars Program website.](#)

Hannah Pelt of Macon, Georgia, said the scholarship has changed her life.

"It was a sign that I'm supposed to be a nurse," Pelt said. "It wasn't easy growing up. I never thought I'd be able to go to college and pay for it."

"This scholarship has pushed me to put in my all," she said, "and when I get that degree in my hand, and I'm able to help people, it'll all be worth it."



**Madison Townsend  
of Warner Robins,  
Georgia.**

# News Stories Posted Monday September 26, 2022



## Passion for cancer research drives GCSU public health professor to pursue external funding

[Grants & Sponsored Projects, Office of](#): Monday September 26, 2022

Being awarded a grant your first time applying is rare. Dr. Ernie Kaninjing, assistant professor of public health at Georgia College & State University (GCSU), doesn't let that stop him from pursuing external funding for his research on disparate prostate cancer outcomes among African immigrant men in the United States.

"Be persistent. It doesn't happen overnight," Kaninjing said. "A lot of my successful grant proposals have taken years and years of work. You have to be dedicated. You have to be in it for the long haul."

The need for Kaninjing's research is clear: In the U.S., Black men are 1.5 times more likely to be diagnosed with prostate cancer than their white counterparts. Kaninjing's passion for eliminating those disparities motivates him to seek out external grants. He credits his rigorous doctoral training and time management skills for the ability to work on several different grant proposals at the same time.

The National Institutes of Health awarded the professor funding through their [Geographic Management of Cancer Health Disparities Program](#) in 2017 for a pilot study. The pilot funding allowed him to collect and analyze preliminary data and show his ability to recruit and work with African immigrant men in the U.S. for future grant proposals. It laid the groundwork for his current grant with the Department of Defense focusing on the social determinants of African immigrant health.



Dr. Ernie Kaninjing

According to Kaninjing, being passionate about the issue you're addressing in your funding proposal is a must for researchers at GCSU. He suggests giving yourself ample time to complete a proposal; collaborating with colleagues who possess strengths in areas where you're lacking; and consulting with colleagues familiar with your grant mechanism of choice to solicit critiques on your proposal.

Don't get discouraged by rejection, the Kaninjing advises. Take heed to what reviewers find encouraging or positive about your proposal, he says. If their feedback doesn't make sense, another grant might be a better fit.

"I wouldn't encourage anyone who's not able or willing to submit their work for scrutiny to apply for research funding," he said. "When grant reviewers give you a reason for their critique, listen to that critique, see if it makes sense, adopt it if it makes sense, and make changes where required... Be willing to take constructive criticism. Reviewers are trying to help you fine tune your ideas."

Kaninjing identifies grants that match his needs by interacting with funders at conferences and webinars in his field. The [Office of Grants & Sponsored Projects \(OGSP\)](#) also alerts him to grants that might be a good fit. He says the OGSP supports him tremendously with not only finding grants but also with building budgets, reviewing drafts, submitting proposals, and administering sponsored projects.

"During the proposal submission process, there's many pieces you could miss, and I really count on the OGSP to help me with the administrative pieces. It lets me focus on the science and getting different reviewers to critique my proposal," Kaninjing said. "They've also been really helpful with setting a deadline a week before a proposal is due to make sure we go through all the paperwork. Grants require quite a bit of administrative work, especially federal grants. Thankfully, I'm

in a situation where I don't have to worry about that because I rely on the OGSP to help me."

The OGSP can help you, too, put all the pieces of your grant proposal together. Contact us at [grants@gcsu.edu](mailto:grants@gcsu.edu) to get the ball rolling.

*Denechia Powell contributed this article to Front Page on behalf of the Office of Grants & Sponsored Projects.*



# News Stories Posted Tuesday September 27, 2022



## Georgia College & State University selected to help close equity gap

[General Institution](#) : Tuesday September 27, 2022



Alternate Text

Georgia College & State University (GCSU) has been chosen as one of 19 colleges and universities nationwide to participate in an equity-gap initiative to level the playing field for historically-underrepresented students in education.

Equity gap refers to disparities in educational outcomes among minority populations. Closing this gap means moving beyond race, socioeconomic status and ethnicity or physical and mental disabilities to guarantee student success.

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation recently announced a multi-year initiative to help educational institutions close this gap. In

the next five years, it will fund \$100 million to six recipients, including the [American Association of State Colleges and Universities](#) (AASCU), to participate in the [Student Success Equity Intensive](#) (SSEI).

“

**We’re committed to bringing more diversity to our campus. As a public liberal arts institution, we are in a unique position—with small class sizes, one-on-one mentorship and great support systems—to help underrepresented students thrive and complete their degrees. Through this program, we will learn how to do so much more.**

**- President Cathy Cox**

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In turn, AASCU chose 19 “equity-driven” institutions from rural, urban and suburban areas to play a vital role in SSEI’s collaborative and transformational experience. The application process was highly competitive. GCSU and the University of North Georgia were the only two selected in Georgia. Other designated institutions are in Texas, Colorado, Nevada, Oregon, Kentucky, New York and Guam.

“It’s a privilege to be selected for this innovative effort that will enable us to learn best practices and rely on data to assure all students can succeed here,” said President Cathy Cox. “Georgia College & State University is dedicated to providing opportunity and ensuring success for all students—especially for our underserved student populations.”

“We’re committed to bringing more diversity to our campus. As a public liberal arts institution,” Cox said, “we are in a unique position—with small class sizes, one-on-one mentorship and great support systems—to help underrepresented students thrive and complete their degrees. Through this program, we will learn how to do so much more.”

Each college or university is tasked with creating a team of campus leaders “to learn promising practices to close equity gaps and ... to ensure that race and income are no longer predictors of success,” according to information released by AASCU.

This cohort of schools can accelerate the closing of their



equity gaps for minorities by utilizing specific and customized support from AASCU, which includes peer-to-peer learning sessions across institutions. They'll have access to resources like online modules and webinars and will receive support from experts in data analytics, equity, advising and strategic planning.

"We are thrilled to have GSCU participate in the Student Success Equity Intensive," said Terry Brown, Vice President for Academic Innovation and Transformation at AASCU. "Their deep commitment to closing equity gaps to ensure that race and income are no longer predictors of student success, and their innovative approach to integrating this work across all areas of the university made them a great fit for this groundbreaking initiative."



# News Stories Posted Friday September 30, 2022



## Suspects apprehended after Forensics Night fun

[Science Education Center](#) : Friday September 30, 2022

*Story and Photos by University Communications.*

Thunder is safe, and his kidnapers are in custody.

Thanks to a team of dedicated crime scene investigators, the Forensics Night mystery is solved.

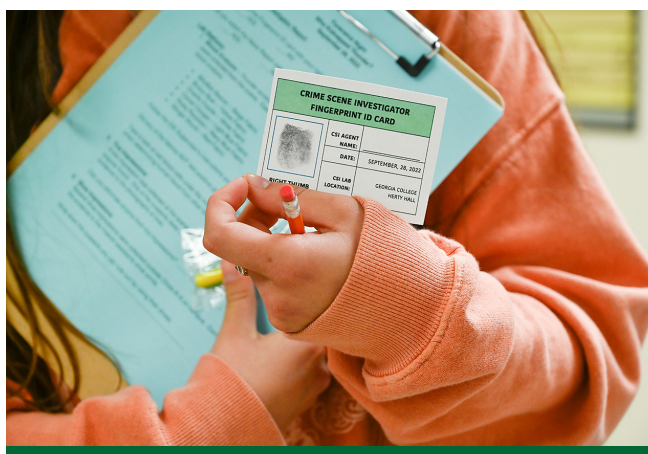
Volunteer investigators of all ages collected trace evidence of tire tracks, blood samples, shoe prints, uniform scraps, fingerprints, paw prints and fur. They processed it through a series of five forensic lab stations to narrow the suspect pool and help Georgia College & State University (GCSU) Public Safety catch the kidnapper.

Under the guidance of faculty and student volunteers in the new GCSU forensic chemistry lab, community members got the chance to complete actual forensic analysis—like the Kastle Meyer test.

“Forensics Night was designed to celebrate National Forensics Science Week and promote our new forensic chemistry program at Georgia College,” said Dr.

Catrena Lisse, professor of chemistry and director of the Science Education Center. “So, they were exposed to technology that they would use in a real crime scene lab.”

The experience in the lab was energetic, welcoming and fun for all ages. Lisse and a group of students came up with the idea for Forensics Night after the creation of GCSU’s forensic chemistry concentration last year.



Honorary investigators were fingerprinted and given identification cards.





Everyone was welcome to become a forensic investigator for the night.

The program is the first of its kind in Middle Georgia and has the potential to open new interdisciplinary pathways, exposing students to criminal justice, law, biology, genetics and more.

“I’ve always been interested in forensics,” said senior chemistry major and Science Education Center volunteer, Liam Newsome. “I was really excited

when I heard that we were actually going to have a program dedicated to that.”

“I’ve been very involved in setting up this entire event,” he said, “and I’m very excited to share this with the community and Georgia College.”

After their guided evidence analysis and crime scene investigation, most participants identified the true culprit.

Brutus Bear and his assistant kidnapped Thunder, and GCSU Police Chief Brett Stanelle apprehended them both.

Case closed.

Welcome home, Thunder!