

GEORGIA COLLEGE

CONNECTION

THE MAGAZINE FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS | WINTER 2020



THE COLONNADE

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THE SPECTRUM LEGACY

Just one year after the first published edition of the Colonnade, the annual yearbook Spectrum made its debut at Georgia College. First published in 1917, Spectrum wasn't produced annually until 1926.

The ties of Spectrum and the Colonnade are tightly wound. The first edition of Spectrum was edited by Margaret Meaders, who came back to Georgia College nearly a decade after the publication to teach English and journalism. Similar to the Colonnade, Spectrum was an outlet for the student voice, as the publication was edited and produced by students throughout its life.

Inside Spectrums, which spans from 1917 to 1989, depictions of life on campus, student information, and updates on campus were commonly spread throughout. It became even more common for students to work on both publications, as they kept an ear to the ground to all things Georgia College. The first editor-in-chief of the Colonnade, Anna Elizabeth Branch, also worked on the first edition of Spectrum, acting as business manager to the annual. This would become the norm for students who wished to record their time here at the university, and by doing so, created publications that would become lasting, historical context of their time.

For more information on the history of
The Colonnade, see page 10.

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MORIAL



Remembering Baldwin County veteran through new memorial at Georgia College

Georgia College hosted a special Veterans Day Ceremony in November honoring those who served while also debuting a new memorial in honor of a fallen Baldwin County resident.

As part of the refurbishment of the War Memorial at the corner of W. Hancock and Wilkinson Streets honoring local service members who perished in World War I, World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War, the university added the new Wars of Iraq and Afghanistan memorial and flame basin.

The new monument was donated and installed by Dyer Construction, Inc.

"I hope, as visitors and citizens pass by this Veterans Memorial,

they are reminded of the ultimate sacrifice so many men and women made to secure for us the blessings of liberty," said Johnny Grant, director of economic development and external relations at Georgia College.

Family members, including the widow and three children of Staff Sergeant Alex French, IV — the only name inscribed on the new monument — were on-hand for the ceremony.

French, 31, was killed in Khost, Afghanistan Sept. 30, 2009, when enemy forces attacked his National Guard unit with an improvised explosive device (IED). He was the only soldier from Baldwin County to die in the Wars of Iraq and Afghanistan.



Nursing student receives Congressional Award for service and personal development



It started when she was just 13-years-old. Junior nursing major McKenna Yearick took on a challenge that few Americans have and now is recognized as one of the outstanding servant leaders in the nation.

Yearick completed the qualifications for the Gold Medal Congressional Award. That means she completed 400 hours of volunteer service as well as 200 hours of

both personal development and physical fitness while also planning and executing a five-day expedition.

"The whole program is designed — and it may seem like a negative connotation, but it's positive — to help kids grow up. Truly it's made me so much more responsible and mature because I was always working toward a goal," said Yearick.

Because Yearick achieved the highest-level Gold Award, she will be honored in June 2020 at Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C. Members of Congress will present the awards to their constituents at a distinguished ceremony.

Although she started the program as a young teenager, her involvement at Georgia College helped give her the final push to complete the program.

She worked as a community advisor for University Housing, is in the Honors Program, serves as a Young Life leader at Georgia Military College, gives her time for community service in multiple ways, and still finds time to follow her two passions — nursing and travel.

Her goal is to one day utilize her nursing skills and global studies minor to help in international missions — continuing her enthusiasm of service.

GEORGIA COLLEGE EARNS HIGHEST RANKING ON NEW GAPSC EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAM MEASURES OF EFFECTIVENESS

New state ratings for teacher preparation programs recognized Georgia College as an "exemplary" provider.

Georgia College earned a Level 4 rating on the 2019 Teacher Preparation Program Effectiveness Measures (PPEMs) published by the Georgia Professional Standards Commission (GaPSC). This level is above the expected level of performance for effectively preparing future teachers and is the highest rating awarded.

"Georgia College has a long history of excellence in teacher preparation dating back to its establishment as Georgia Normal and Industrial College in the late 1800s," said Dean Joseph Peters, John H. Lounsbury College of Education. "The exemplary rating of our programs is confirmation that the tradition of



providing excellent teacher education continues to this day."

The PPEMs evaluate educator preparation programs using measures collected during candidates' time in the program, such as certification assessments required by the state, and measures collected following completion

once candidates are in the classroom, such as classroom observations by supervisors and surveys of employers and newly-employed teachers.

Only five public colleges and universities across the state received the highest rating, and Georgia College was among those.

First-ever GC Giving Challenge raises over \$31,700 for campuswide support



Georgia College held its inaugural Giving Challenge in September. The 48-hour online giving campaign asked alumni, faculty, staff, parents, and friends to join together and make an impact on our students by making a gift to six projects that support learning at the university. This initiative brought in more than \$31,700, exceeding the goals set for most areas.

"The GC Giving Challenge was a combined effort between the GC Foundation and the colleges and departments to raise funds for priorities across campus," said Julia Sweeney, assistant director of advancement marketing. "We partnered with units throughout campus and hand-selected projects that aligned with the deans' priorities and supported the mission of Georgia College."

These projects include Call Me MiSTER scholarships, College of Arts and Sciences scholarships, College of Business student travel, the Heritage Fund, nursing study abroad scholarships, and library technology.

"Support during the Giving Challenge is a great way for the GC family to show its commitment to preeminence and to our students' ongoing success. One measurement of a great university is the financial support it receives from alumni and friends," said Vice President for University Advancement Monica Delisa. "Thank you. Your philanthropic support will make a tangible difference in the lives of our students."

To learn more, visit <https://crowdthunder.gcsu.edu/g/givingchallenge>.

GRANT AIMS TO TACKLE ASSAULT NURSE EXAMINER SHORTAGE



Of the more than 80,000 registered nurses in the state, few are trained in the specialized care of the victims of domestic violence and sexual assault.

The Georgia College School of Nursing is helping to bridge that gap.

The Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANE) campus-based training program, funded by an \$803,000 grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), began in the fall of 2018. It covers the cost of classroom and clinical training, professional organization membership, certification, and continued education for nurses.

Only 20 of these grants were awarded nationwide, with Georgia College being the only organization in the state to receive these federal funds.

"The long-term impacts of domestic violence and sexual assault can be severe," said Dr. Josie Doss, associate professor of nursing and writer of the grant. "Research indicates having well-trained medical professionals with an understanding

of the neurobiology of trauma can reduce the long- and short-term consequences."

Georgia College has worked with multiple organizations across the nation and the state to identify trainees. Currently, 16 nurses have completed didactic and clinical skills SANE training with another 21 currently enrolled. After the completion of clinical practice hours, students have the option to become certified by taking an exam demonstrating advanced competency in the field.

***The ANA-SANE training program is supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of an award totaling \$803,000 with 100 percentage financed with non-governmental sources. The contents are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by HRSA, HHS, or the U.S. Government. For more information, please visit [HRSA.gov](https://www.hrsa.gov).

JAZZ BAND

celebrates 50 years of Jammin'



Georgia College's Jazz Band celebrated its 50th year with a special jazz concert in November, bringing full circle a special time in history that embraces the lives of three campus band leaders, scores of talented students and alumni, and an unrelenting music that continues to evolve, entertain, and groove.

At age 78 and retired, Dr. Jim Willoughby is credited with starting the university's first jazz band in 1969. Willoughby worked at Dublin High School before coming to Georgia College as band director and woodwind instructor. He stayed 28 years.

One of the first things Willoughby did was start a jazz band, which wasn't offered at many Georgia schools at that time. Fifteen students with little experience formed the first ensemble.



Dr. Todd Shiver took over as director of bands in 1990. The instrumental music program continued to witness tremendous growth under Shiver. By the time he left to be chair of music at Central Washington State University, the jazz band had increased in membership.

Shiver credits this success to Willoughby, who played a major role in promoting jazz education in Georgia public schools. Shiver himself attended one of Willoughby's state jazz clinics in Milledgeville, when he was a high school student from Albany.

Dr. Cliff Towner, director of bands, came to Georgia College in 2011 from

Morningside College in Sioux City, Iowa. As band director, his goal has been to bridge the gap between old and new forms of jazz — a link that honors the past 50 years — while looking to the future. He gives a nod to older jazz fans, while introducing the funky sound to a new crop of listeners.

"The jazz band is a close-knit, hard-working ensemble, and they are a joy to work with," Towner said. "I believe this balance that I try to achieve with every concert keeps the die-hard jazz fans coming, while also attracting new members to our audiences."

Georgia College listed as Top Public Regional University by U.S. News & World Report

The 2020 U.S. News & World Report Best Colleges rankings list Georgia College as a "Top Public School." Designated ninth in the south, Georgia College was the highest-ranked Georgia institution in this category.

The 2020 Best Colleges guidebook shows Georgia College as 20th on the Best Regional Universities in the south list — up from 28th last year.

Georgia College was also named a top undergraduate teaching school — fourth in the south, and the university was ranked the fourth most innovative school in the region — the highest-ranked public

university in the state in both categories.

The J. Whitney Bunting College of Business was listed nationally on the top "Undergraduate Business Programs" list.

Georgia College was also recognized in the top 10 Best Colleges for Veterans and as a "Best Value" regional university in the south by U.S. News.

Costas Spirou named new provost and vice president for academic affairs

Newly-named Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Costas Spirou is no stranger to the educational offerings and opportunities provided through a Georgia College education.

Spirou first joined Georgia College in January 2013 as the chair of the Department of Government and Sociology and a professor of sociology and public administration. In August 2015, Spirou became the senior associate provost for academic affairs and director of The Graduate School. Twice, he served as interim provost.

Now in his permanent role as provost, he's focusing on ways to continue to strengthen the academic experience for students and challenge each of them to think independently and lead creatively in all their endeavors.

During his time at Georgia College, Spirou has led efforts to restructure several administrative units to create the Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL) and worked on the development of a revised curriculum approval process. He was also an American Council on Education (ACE) Fellow between 2017 and 2018 at the Georgia Institute of Technology.

Spirou has also been the recipient of numerous grants and has written scores of opinion editorials and media contributions. In doing so, Spirou has been an outstanding ambassador for Georgia College; and he has effectively advocated for our



unique liberal arts approach during multiple conferences, presentations, media interviews, and through his affiliations with various professional associations and editorial boards.

Before coming to Georgia College, he held academic appointments at numerous universities including as a visiting fellow at the Institute of Latino Studies of the University of Notre Dame (2009-2011) and a research fellow at the Center of Cultural Understanding and Change of the Field Museum in Chicago (2005-2010).

He received his Ph.D. from Loyola University of Chicago, his master's with distinction from DePaul University, and his bachelor's from Franciscan University.

Georgia College's Music Department brings joy of music to local children

Music students in the piano and strings programs at Georgia College exude an upbeat, cheerful energy when describing their work with local elementary students. For undergraduates, these public outreach programs put dreams of teaching music or using music as therapy into perspective. They are a reality check, so-to-speak.

And — for youth in Wilkinson and Putnam schools — Georgia College's music outreach means getting lessons and using instruments that would otherwise be cost prohibitive.

"This is a real opportunity for some of these kids," said Dr. Owen Lovell, assistant professor of music and creator of the university's new piano program, Bobcat Keys. "The educational and behavioral benefits of music lessons for school-age children are well documented. Realizing these benefits is more difficult in some rural central Georgia counties, because access to a qualified teacher and suitable practice instruments can be hard to find."

Five college students teach 10 pupils from Wilkinson County every Tuesday in Georgia College's piano studio. Youngsters practice during the week on four digital pianos, loaned last summer to Wilkinson Elementary School by the university.

Bobcat Keys closely mirrors music's other public outreach program, Putnam Strings. Two string students work with Georgia College's artists-in-residence, Michele Mariage Volz and the Kazanetti String Quartet of Atlanta. On Tuesdays, they teach violin to 20 pupils at Putnam Elementary School.

"We want to provide a service that will have long-term benefits for all involved. We aim to lead efforts to connect with the community in a way that only music can do, providing our students with greater awareness of the struggles and needs around them. We want to continue developing programs that service our region in Middle Georgia," Music Chair Dr. Don Parker said.



Elevator Pitch competition brings lasting benefits for students

Twenty students competed in the final round of the bi-annual Elevator Pitch competition for the J. Whitney Bunting College of Business. What started with nearly 500 participants ended with five students being named the top winners and receiving cash prizes.

An elevator pitch gives a quick synopsis of your background and experience. The rationale — it's something you should be able to present during a brief elevator ride.

"From all the research I've done, we have the nation's largest singular Elevator Pitch competition in terms of the number of students who participate," said Dr. Renée Fontenot, professor of marketing and coordinator of the competition.

The students who made it to the final round showed they have both poise and professionalism — helping them get noticed by business leaders. The winner took home \$500.

"This was my first time competing in the Elevator Pitch. It was a great experience that forced me to be pushed out of my comfort zone, and I am better for it," said first-place winner

Daniella Vivas, who is a mass communication major with a minor in marketing.

"Participating in this competition will help boost my confidence the next time I am speaking with industry professionals."

The second place winner Dane Wiggins, a junior management major, won \$400. Sophomore management major Gabriella Sposato placed third and won \$300. The fourth place winner was senior marketing major Lauren Holtakers, who won \$200. Fifth place was sophomore marketing major Holley Leech, who was awarded \$100.

"GEICO became the corporate sponsor five years ago," Fontenot said. "Though the first round is judged by business professionals and recruiters from a variety of companies, the final round is exclusively judged by GEICO representatives. GEICO sends 10 judges for the final competition that includes a networking luncheon. With 20 competitors, each student is seated next to a GEICO representative, giving them meaningful exposure after the pitches have been made."



THE POWER OF PRINT:

HOW THE COLONNADE HAS GIVEN VOICE TO STUDENTS FOR 94 YEARS

When Pate McMichael took over as advisor to the Colonnade, there was one lesson he wanted to impart onto the students helming the newspaper: the power of the past.

"I was very passionate about getting the archives digitized," said McMichael. "It had been partially digitized over the years. We found those files and got them in better shape. We worked with Special Collections to get all issues from 1975 to 2006 online."

"It helped because now we can say, 'Ok, go read the clips,'" he said. "To a young reporter, that's invaluable. It gives them a fresh perspective of the university and helps them find new stories."

The editions the staff worked hard to

digitize live in the archives of Special Collections. Some of the copies are thinner than paper-thin and delicate to the touch. The first edition of the student newspaper sits with boxes of other editions — editions that span the Colonnade's more than 94-year-old past.

"It's almost like honoring them and all the hard work that's come before me," said current Editor-in-Chief Amy Lynn McDonald about leading the newspaper in 2019. "We're going to keep that spirit alive, and we're going to make it work for the time we live in."

The Colonnade's first issue was published July 20, 1925, led by Editor-in-Chief Anna Elizabeth Branch. The headline above the fold reads: "The Colonnade, first college paper at G.S.C.,

makes debut. One thousand copies of first edition." It was 50 cents for a subscription per semester at the still all-women's institution.

The legacy of the Colonnade has been entrusted to generations of students at Georgia College. Students have served as staff writers, editors, photographers, designers, advertisers, and editor-in-chiefs for close to 95 years. The newspaper was the first publication on campus that was dedicated to the student voice and campus interests. McDonald said its mission remains the same: news for students, by students.

"I love the Washington Post's tagline 'Democracy Dies in Darkness,'" said McDonald. "Because there's a very large difference between choosing to close

your eyes and then being put in the dark. I want the Colonnade to turn on the light for students."

"Our campus deserves to know what's happening and they deserve to hear it from students that don't have an angle," she said.

Over the years, the Colonnade has taken the pulse of campus and community issues. Early in its origins, the newspaper began publishing content that went uncensored or reviewed by faculty. In the late 1930s, students' published concerns over why men were always asked to read the devotional exercises during chapel instead of women, especially considering it was a women's university. Articles popped up in 1940s editions about President Roosevelt's next move in World War II and was Flannery O'Connor's go-to publication for her cartoons. In the late 1960s, the newspaper grappled with how society was changing and the enrollment of male students. Now, the newspaper is tackling those same stories that happen around campus, the Milledgeville community, and nationwide.

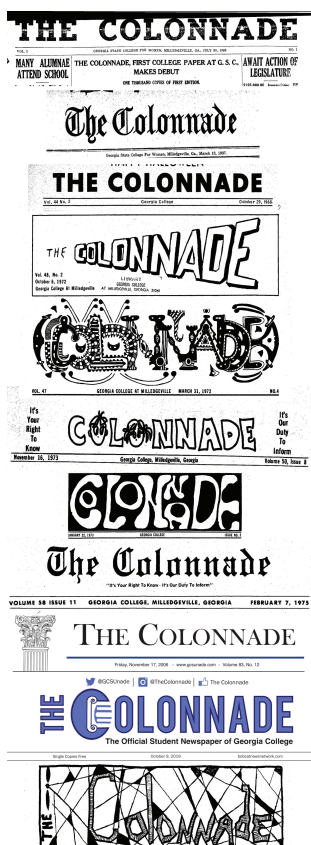
"It's their paper. That's the part I try to make clear to them. They're not really student journalists. They're real journalists. They're going to face consequences when their stories don't pan out or when they treat people poorly," said McMichael.

McDonald has learned the same lesson, and she tries to lead by example for the next group of students that will come after her.

"As long as you are reporting ethically and upholding our ethical standards and publishing — you're a journalist," she said. "But with that comes the responsibility of acting like a professional and understanding that you're still

learning. That's the beauty of the Colonnade."

McDonald said she earned her journalism chops by breaking stories and working on strict deadlines. When the campus was hit by a wave of misfortune and tragedy last year, resulting in a Georgia Military College student's death, an outbreak of norovirus, and the home that housed several Theta Chi fraternity members catching fire — she was the writer pumping out stories. She said she's leaving Georgia College this May with more than what her courses taught her.



"I'm coming out of Georgia College with leadership experience, financial management skills, and so much more that will help me in my career," McDonald said. "I've learned more in that basement office of the Maxwell Student Union than I feel I have in the classroom."

Over the years, the Colonnade has become an award-winning newspaper. It's garnered the General Excellence award several consecutive years in the statewide Georgia College Press Association's (GCPA) Better Newspaper Contest, had stories place in the regional Southeast Journalism Conference, and recently had a writer earn an honorable mention at the National College Media Association conference.

McMichael said students don't necessarily come to the Colonnade with hopes of becoming a journalist. Some are looking to go into marketing, strategic communication, public relations, or even broadcasting. But, during their time at the newspaper, they learn much more.

"If nothing else, they're just taking good solid writing, teamwork, and communication skills away from their time with the paper," said McMichael.

In the span of its long life thus far, the Colonnade has undergone changes — a constantly evolving masthead, redesigned logos, reinvigorated focus on investigative journalism, and the advent of technology giving way to a website and social media presence.

But the students behind the newspaper are what have kept it alive — through university tensions of co-education and integration, the elation of campus elections won and lost, how a college tackles grief and recovery — they've detailed it all, on the record.

"When I think about coming back to campus, I think about having a daughter one day and telling her about this place," McDonald said. "I'll be talking about the newspaper and how it helped me become who I am."

Emmy Award-winning journalist keeps community informed and safe

Douglas “Adam” Hammond, ’08, has always been a leader, especially in his community. The leadership experience he gained from Georgia College laid the foundation of his career and helped launch it as a co-anchor at News Channel 5 in Nashville, Tennessee.



Hammond's profession as a news anchor has whisked him from newsrooms in Milledgeville and Macon, Georgia, to Memphis, Tennessee, to Denver, Colorado, and currently into the heart of Nashville.

Hammond specializes in legal reporting and has always had an interest in politics. He also covers many crime and political stories. All of his Georgia College professors were special to him. However, the late Associate Professor Jennifer Hammack's criminal justice classes made a profound impact on him.

"I thought they were so interesting," he said. "I still use a lot of the things I learned in her classes every day. When it comes to covering crime and knowing about the law and legal process, she made learning so fun, and it is so relevant to my life."

"My classes at Georgia College really gave me a deeper understanding of not only how the government works, but the legislative process and criminal justice policy," he said. "I use those fundamentals every single day."

Hammond recently won an Emmy. He attributes this win to the experience he received at Georgia College. He was an ambassador, providing prospective students and their families with "dinner table" tour information. And the Georgia Education Mentorship program taught him how to be a leader. In 2008, Hammond was named Mr. Georgia College.

"The education I received at Georgia College has been a building block in my life," he said. "I could not and would not have had any of these opportunities without the great experience I got there. I was able to be a student leader. And I'm very thankful for that, because that's played into so many aspects of my life including my Emmy nomination."

Being an anchor on the student newscast at Georgia College allowed Hammond to tap into his creative side. His communication classes helped him learn broadcast writing, which he says is "the most important factor in my field."

Each day, it's Hammond's mission to give viewers at home a look inside their community.

"It's a great honor for me to have the opportunity to help people start their day in a positive and informed way," Hammond said.

"The reason I wanted to go into journalism was so I could teach people what was going on in their community, and how they can make a difference in it," he said. "I get a front-row seat to all the issues facing them. That's how I, as a citizen and a reporter, can step in and help transform their surroundings."

About six years ago, Hammond covered a story in Northern Mississippi about an 11-year-old boy who was killed in a standoff by his father. The boy's mother had died of cancer, and his custodial father was mentally ill.

"I was on the ground there and did some investigating on the case. I discovered many failed steps, which left him in his father's custody despite red flags," Hammond said. "It just seemed like this could've been prevented. It was the simplest thing to do. I felt action should be taken, based on the information I had gathered from my journalistic investigation."

He collaborated with lawmakers in Mississippi to pass the Andrew Lloyd law — named after the boy who was killed. The law adds a layer of protection for children, who are in the custody of their mentally ill parents.

"It's added more checks for the hospitals and doctors," Hammond said. "Because of that additional protection, there's no telling how many children will be saved. This is something that's going to outlast my career, and it's going to be around a lot longer than me. I'm just very thankful to be a part of his legacy."

Hammond's career to that point in time, in addition to his work in the creation of the Andrew Lloyd law, was recognized by Georgia College in 2015 when he was the recipient of the Outstanding Recent Alumni Award.

Hammond also covered a mass shooting in April 2018. Four people were killed at a Waffle House in Nashville, Tennessee. That morning, he covered the shooting and the manhunt for the suspect that followed. The incident made national news, winning Hammond's morning team an Emmy for its coverage.

Hammond's sense of serving the public doesn't stop there. He's also active in Rotary International, his church, and his hometown high school in Oconee County.

An unwavering work tenet is the key to his success.

As a junior, Hammond began his career as a production assistant at Fox 24 (WGXA-TV) in Macon. He rolled the teleprompter, operated the studio camera, wrote stories, and perfected graphics for the broadcast. He shot, wrote, and edited his own stories. Within a year, he'd been promoted to the evening anchor role, and from there he journeyed to bigger news markets.

"Always do more than you're required to do and be willing to work as the low man on the totem pole at first," Hammond said. "I had to set some goals and work relentlessly toward them."

"You just have to be willing to work hard for your goals and not give up," he said. "Because it's all going to pay off in the end."





Stripping away the paint

**Terrell Hall renovation restores
building's character**

When all was said and done, there were 28 layers of paint stripped off the central staircase of Terrell Hall. What remained was the original base color that had been stained and varnished nearly 90 years before.

"So now when people walk in, they just say, 'wow,' because they see that wood stairwell," said Michael Rickenbaker, university architect. "The woodwork is just special. It was lost in all that paint. We could see it, but we couldn't appreciate it until our contractors did such a great job stripping the paint off."

The work on Terrell Hall began in early 2018 and received a top to bottom renovation. According to Rickenbaker, the 1908 dormitory, which was later converted to office space, still had many of its character-defining elements. The original windows were reconditioned and installed, most of the office doorways and floors were intact and could be preserved and, based on old drawings, they were able to rebuild the entrance doorways of the building.

"The kind of work that we do is transformational. This is another example of a building that had become kind of ho-hum and its character was hidden," said Rickenbaker. "But now it's just spectacular. Particularly with bringing the wood back and getting the daylight back into the building. It's striking."

With any historic renovation, there's large efforts to bring the structures into the modern era. Terrell Hall now has centralized heating and air, its entire electrical system was reconditioned, and the utilities were replaced.

"You want to preserve the beauty and history of the building, but you need to bring it up to today's standards and quality," said Rick Ruark, associate director for Facilities Planning. "But you can do both. There's some really good bones in this building."

The focus of campus and most of Facilities Planning's renovations is focused on underutilized and unused buildings. When taking a look at Terrell, one of the largest goals was to turn the unused basement, only accessible from the exterior, into a useable space.

"We have a lot of focus on what are the character-defining elements and how do you preserve them, but also have a building that will meet the needs of a very different program," said Rickenbaker. "We didn't need a dormitory. We were building a great facility that later became the Department of Communication."

Terrell Hall is now equipped with several small classrooms, collaborative spaces that support student programs and projects, a large screening room and debate room, offices, a large work area for student media dubbed the "war room," and a TV studio that is located on the fourth floor.

"A lot of what we lean on is history. Whether it's the history of Milledgeville or of Georgia College. You'd lose that if we didn't approach renovations the way that we do," said Ruark. "If we were to just tear these down and build anew — you'd lose that. I want people to see how Terrell looked when it was new. That means more than having a nice shiny new floor that doesn't squeak or a perfectly flat wall."





TERRELL HALL RENOVATION CONSTRUCTION

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CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE

\$63,200

TOTAL NEEDED TO REACH GOAL



\$29,936,800

CURRENT DOLLARS RAISED

As of Dec. 31, 2019, the total raised for the campaign was

\$29,936,800

out of \$30,000,000.

Join us as we seek to raise the additional \$63,200 needed to meet our goal by June 30, 2020.

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LOVE AND CROSS COUNTRY

JOSH AND HEATHER HOLLAR



With Valentine's Day right around the corner, it only seems appropriate to check in with a pair of Bobcat alumni who met while they were members of the Georgia College Cross Country program.

Josh Hollar, '11, '13, and Heather (Raines) Hollar, '12, '13, both took winding paths to where they are now, but couldn't be happier about their lives together.

"Dating really never crossed our minds for the first three years," said Heather. "I honestly thought he was kinda not really my type. I think he thought I was too preppy. Then he got his hair cut, and I was like 'okay!' The coach took us to San Francisco for spring break our junior year, and I guess it was good timing."

"That's when the sparks flew," added Josh, "in San Francisco."

Both Josh and Heather ran for Head Coach Dr. Joe Samprone for their entire careers. Samprone was a former professor for the college and always took to coaching with a more holistic approach than just running-specific outcomes.

The team would typically run in one special race a year in a historic location.

While on those trips to Boston, San Antonio, San Francisco, and the like, the team would also visit historic sites and take in different cultures.

"He taught us a lot about running but also a lot about life," added Josh. "The trips were great experiences."

"We loved him from the start," Heather said of Coach Samprone. "We still keep up with him to this day. Especially being away from your parents at college, it's almost like he was a parent to us. We still love to travel now because of what he taught us. Even though traveling can be expensive, and it can be a hassle with two young kids, it's totally worth it to be together as a family for the memories. That's what we remember most from college, the experiences together with teammates."

Josh graduated with a degree in mathematics in 2011, taking a job as a ninth-grade algebra teacher at Northeast High in Macon. With the State of Georgia Teacher of Promise in 2011-12, Josh went to night school at Georgia College's campus in Macon to pick up his Master of Arts (MAT) in teaching.

Heather was a mass communication graduate with a focus in public relations, and after completing internships in event planning, decided she was interested in a career in teaching as well. She completed the one-year MAT program in Secondary Education while serving as a graduate assistant for the Bobcat Cross Country team and coach Samprone. Heather's first job in teaching came at Westside High in

Macon, delving into the subjects of British and American Literature.

Then came a move to Greenville, South Carolina, as both two-time GC graduates got jobs in teaching at the very first place they interviewed. Josh taught math for three years at Southside High before moving to a position with Edward Jones Investments as a personal financial advisor four years ago. Heather took a position as English Language Arts (ELA) teacher in seventh grade at Palmetto Middle School and has remained there ever since.

Heather also ran into a familiar Bobcat face in Greenville. When a position opened up mid-year at Palmetto Middle School for her teaching partner in ELA, Heather knew 2010 GC Middle Grades Education graduate Whitney Sturtevant Sand was in the area. Sand interviewed that afternoon, took the job, and the two have now worked together for three years.

Since leaving Milledgeville, the Hollar family has expanded to four members, with four-year-old Isaac and two-year-old Asher starting to pick up mom and dad's love for outdoor adventure in Greenville and nearby Asheville, North Carolina.

Running continues in the blood for the Hollars, as Josh served as cross country



coach when he taught at Southside High in Greenville, taking a team that had just two runners in his first season to a 20-member squad just three years later. Heather also runs an informal "Teacher Fit Club" for her colleagues at Palmetto Middle, getting together each day after school to show her fellow teachers a way to fit in exercise in what can be a very demanding day.

The duo recently ran in a 5K, and Heather was quick to mention she beat her husband, a two-time All-Peach Belt Conference (PBC) honoree.

"We recently ran a 5K and I beat Josh," said Heather. "But he was pushing a double stroller... I say 'a win is a win.'"



STUDENT PROFILE



Mass communication student overcomes hurdles to thrive at Georgia College

Senior Brighton Sandt is bursting with energy. He has a positive outlook and easy smile. But, unless he's chosen to tell you, you'd never know about disabilities that could've derailed college and limited his options.

Sandt has severe dyslexia and ADHD (Attention Deficit and Hyperactivity Disorder). Growing up in Savannah, he was educated at a school for children with special needs. In time, he felt restricted and wanted more. He knew he'd have to work especially hard to break free and go to a regular high school and college.

"Having disabilities, it gives me an almost irrational drive to succeed," Sandt said. "I want to acknowledge that I've worked hard and I want to continue working hard to change people's mind about disabilities because, really, you can do anything you set your mind to."

In the early years at Georgia College, Sandt took advantage of disability services. That support enabled him to do well academically and participate in multiple extracurricular activities. Sandt is currently director of entertainment at GC Miracle and a member of the comedy troupe, Armed Farces. He was also an event planner and public relations officer for WGUR student radio and social chairman of his fraternity ATO (Alpha Tau Omega).

He joined GC Miracle freshman year and despite being nervous — everyone already knew each other — he stuck with it and made friends.

Sandt started off on GC Miracle's

special events committee. His outgoing, easy manner made people-oriented tasks a snap. By his sophomore year, Sandt was the special events committee assistant. During his junior year, he was on its executive board. They raised \$12,000 as a committee last year. During his tenure, they also implemented a new event on campus — a bachelor-style auction called, "Miracle Man."

True to his inquisitive nature, Sandt wanted to branch out and try something new this year. As GC Miracle's entertainment director, he makes events fun by designing activities, games, and playlists for music.

"I wanted to get experience on the active side, as well as the planning side," he said. "I enjoy brainstorming. How can I get people to stay at events? How can I increase attendance? How can I get people to fall in love with this organization I love so much?"

Sandt also joined Armed Farces without knowing anyone. He'd been in a few high school musicals and was the costume assistant for Georgia College's production of "Stick Fly." The improv team meets Wednesday evenings at Blackbird's Coffee Shop in Milledgeville. Sandt would "hang out" there by himself. Eventually, he was asked to sit with others. Then, he was invited to practices and, finally, he was performing onstage.

"I was terrified and caught off guard," Sandt said. "With improv, you have to think on your feet, and the acting situations are constantly changing.

But I push myself to get out of my comfort zone and explore as much as I can."

This driven nature, along with Sandt's courses and activities, prepared him for a paid internship last summer. He wrote press releases and created media bios at Gulfstream Aerospace's corporate communications department in Savannah. Sandt thinks his experience with Armed Farces gave him an edge. A woman there had also done theatre. When she held a crisis communication workshop last summer, she asked Sandt to teach an improv game for the group's leadership development. Crisis management is a lot like improv, he said.

The internship helped Sandt realize he doesn't want to write press releases for a living. His dyslexia complicated things, and he dreaded making spelling errors. But the experience did help Sandt "chill out." He now knows it's OK to make mistakes and learn by them.

In the future, he'd like to work behind-the-scenes in public relations — doing account and project management. He wants to be active, not sit behind a desk all day.

But wherever he ends up, Sandt is confident of finding success. The skills he developed in college — broadcasting, graphic design, and video editing — have tailored him for victory.

"Georgia College has prepared me for life," Sandt said. "It's given me an outlet to practice and hone my skills, and it taught me to fight for myself."

THE MANY TALENTS OF

Dr. James Schiffman

GETTING TODAY'S
JOURNALISM STUDENTS
READY FOR
TOMORROW'S
NEWSROOM

Dr. James Schiffman's life is a fascinating tale of traveling and taking chances — a journey that ultimately took him to Asia and remote U.S. regions, then to jobs at the Wall Street Journal and CNN.

With Georgia College's multi-media, digital-first, collaborative newsroom set to open this year in renovated Terrell Hall — the associate professor of communication now steers a new generation of young journalists into a brave, if uncertain, future.

"The change just continues, good and bad," Schiffman said. "Journalism is in a lot of turmoil. We're in the middle of a revolution with the collapse of newspapers and the collapse of classified advertising. Newspapers, as we know them, are failing all over the place."

"I remain optimistic that journalism will reinvent itself," he said. "I'm really excited to get back into Terrell. We have an opportunity to transform student media here into something that it hasn't been before."

Schiffman went to Cornell University in Ithaca, New York, majoring first in engineering, then getting a degree in

economics. He started a master's program in economics at the University of Colorado, but dropped out. He was drifting; looking for an interest. Then U.S. President Richard Nixon went to China —sparking a passion in Schiffman for news, history, and Asian affairs.

"I remember picking up the newspaper and reading the newspaper and thinking I can at least do this. I want to be the first American correspondent in China," he said. "Imagine telling people that in 1973. They thought I was crazy. Kind of a lunatic."

Nixon's China trip spurred Schiffman back to the University of Colorado for a master's in Chinese history. While there, he wrote for the school newspaper and spent time in Taiwan, learning the language and writing for the Hong Kong Standard. He arrived home in the mid-1970s, during a deep recession. News jobs were scarce.



"It was right after Watergate," Schiffman said. "Everyone in the world wanted to be a journalist. I was competing with all these journalism school graduates, and I'd never taken a journalism course in my life."

He found a job in the advertising department of a small newspaper in Centralia, Washington. Then, Schiffman landed a position at another small daily in Sterling, Colorado. In the mornings, he'd shoot and develop pictures and, in the afternoons, report the news.

That job quickly led to a staff reporting position with United Press International (UPI) in Cheyenne, Wyoming. Most bureaus reprinted news from daily newspapers, but Schiffman's did original reporting. He covered the entire state, plus capitol legislation and court news. He even covered U.S. Vice President Dick Cheney's first run for the House in 1978.

But Schiffman's heart yearned for Asia. He accepted a journalism fellowship with Gannett Foundation at the University of Hawaii, then went back to UPI as a reporter in their Hong Kong bureau, covering commodities and shipping. From there, Schiffman worked for the Asian Wall Street Journal as a reporter and bureau chief, spending four years in South Korea.

All this experience finally put Schiffman right where he originally wanted to be: in China.

For two years, he worked as a correspondent in Beijing, but it proved to be "a really tough place to work" in the late 1980s. Journalists lived in guarded, diplomatic compounds under surveillance. Schiffman returned to the United States a year before the massacre at Tiananmen Square.

He worked for the Wall Street Journal in Atlanta, then went to CNN in 1990 as a writer during the Gulf War. Schiffman moved quickly from writer/editor and copy editor to editor. When Ted Turner expanded CNN's International Network, Schiffman worked there as a copy editor, senior copy editor, and chief copy editor. He was with CNN 21 years.

Not wanting to "be the old guy in the newsroom," Schiffman decided to go back to school. He earned a Ph.D. in communication at Georgia State University and came to Georgia College in 2012.

Schiffman now tells stories of travel and reporting to a new wave of journalists. He teaches a newscast class every semester, along with shooting for news, international media systems, history of broadcasting, and interviewing/listening.

When he arrived, the university already had a student television station, called GCTV. Schiffman changed the format to live news. Students renamed the program GC360.

"We do everything live and that's tricky," he said. "There's no fixing anything. Once you start, you're live until you're not live and, if something goes wrong, you just have to handle it. You have to think fast on your feet."

It's not easy preparing workers for a changing industry. The internet is causing many newspapers to fold and others to rethink how news is packaged. Attention spans are shortening, and popular apps like TikTok sport ever-shorter videos.

Despite these challenges, Schiffman sees an uptick in the numbers of students pursuing journalism. A writer is a writer, he said. They'll always adjust to the medium. Students have the advantage of youth. The young go out and do whatever it takes to realize their dreams, regardless of obstacles.

Basic principles of journalism don't change, he remarked, and students must continue to work hard. But, now, they must also adapt and be multi-skilled entrepreneurs.

Terrell Hall's state-of-the-art newsroom includes a production studio and radio station, where students have the tools to practice modern, digital-first journalism. Student media organizations will be able to collaborate and publish news first to online platforms. They'll also be able to produce a newspaper, broadcast television and radio newscasts, and experiment with innovative news delivery.

Schiffman hopes the Terrell newsroom will make Georgia College 'the' place to go for journalism in Georgia. He believes the collaborative learning environment will give journalists a leg-up in today's unpredictable landscape.

"I tell my students I'm a living example of the idea that you may be doing a job you never conceived of when you started out," Schiffman said. "Nobody could conceive of CNN when I started journalism. Nobody."

Hall of Fame



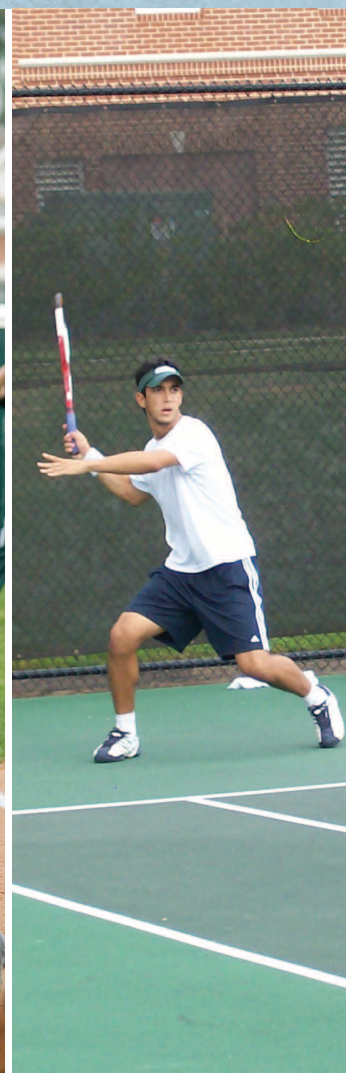
Georgia College Tennis standout **Erick Siqueira** and Georgia College Softball star **Mandy [Chandler] Sibilsky** were honored with induction into the Georgia College Athletics Hall of Fame at a ceremony on Saturday, Nov. 2 at the Magnolia Ballroom.

Siqueira and Sibilsky, both graduates of the class of 2009, were inducted by their respective coaches at the ceremony, Georgia College Tennis Coach Steve Barsby and Georgia College Softball Coach Ginger Chaffinch.

Siqueira, a member of the Men's Tennis team from 2006-2009, became the 11th tennis alumnus to enter the Hall. Siqueira was the only Peach Belt Conference (PBC) Player of the Year in school history for GC Men's Tennis and was honored All-PBC in both singles and doubles for his final three seasons. Siqueira was also a three-time Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA) All-American in singles.

Sibilsky, a key piece of the 2006-2009 Bobcat Softball teams, joined three fellow softball alumni in the Hall of Fame. The most decorated pitcher in GC Softball history, Sibilsky ranked first in strikeouts, shutouts, wins, and innings as well as fewest walks per game in her time at Georgia College. She also holds the Peach Belt career mark in strikeouts with 1,207 and posted four no-hitters in her career. Sibilsky, a complete student-athlete, was both an All-American and Academic All-American in her career.

Siqueira and Sibilsky join the select group of Bobcat greats who have made a profound impact on Georgia College Athletics.



ALUMNI WEEKEND 2019





ALUMNI AWARDS CEREMONY AND ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME INDUCTION

Eight individuals recognized during ALUMNI WEEKEND

Several Georgia College alumni and friends gathered at the Alumni Awards Ceremony Nov. 2, during Alumni Weekend. The event honored seven alumni and one friend for their accomplishments and service to others in their communities.

Dr. Helen Matthews Lewis, '46, was awarded the Alumni Heritage Award, which recognizes an alumna who, in four or more decades of service, has exhibited ideals that best exemplify the standards of Georgia College.

Lewis founded Appalachian Studies and served many decades as one of its most influential leaders. She accomplished this through her scholarship on issues affecting the Appalachian population, including: social and environmental justice, rural community development, the empowerment of women, improved access to health care, opposition to strip mining, and a comparative cultural study of coal workers in Appalachia versus Wales, United Kingdom.

Her life's mission for social justice began when Lewis worked on Georgia College's yearbook with classmate Flannery O'Connor and participated in interracial activities sponsored by the campus YWCA. Then, she moved to Atlanta to become involved with the "Children's Crusade"—a statewide effort to register young Georgia voters.

Later, Lewis — a sociologist and university lecturer — lived with her husband among the Appalachian coal fields of Virginia. This is where she saw injustice and economic inequality among local coal miners.

"I became concerned about how the area of the state, which produced the greatest wealth, could be the poorest part of the state," said Lewis.

This inspired her to research and learn more about the Appalachian coal fields. Lewis developed a rural social work program, which included the first Appalachian studies courses, intended to transform students into leaders.

In 2010, she addressed the lack of clean water for Appalachians. Water sources have been used as garbage dumps, industrial development, and in other contaminating ways.

"I think water resources are a problem everywhere," Lewis said. "The right to clean water must be included in the rights of individuals and all living organisms."

Coreda Shaw, '58, received the Alumni Service Award, granted to alumni who have demonstrated the most service in recent years to the university and the Alumni Association.

She has touched the lives of countless high school students through her service and scholarships. Shaw has supported Georgia College philanthropy since 1988, and during that time, became engaged with the Georgia College Early College program, where she coaches high school students on career planning, college selection, and locating financial aid.

Shaw offers the endowed Jeffares Educational Scholarship for Call Me MiSTER and Henry County College of Education students and multiple \$1,000 scholarships for Early College students enrolled at Georgia College.

For more than 40 years, Shaw worked as a guidance counselor in Henry County, assisting students with college applications. She continues her good works by speaking to high school students in her community about becoming successful, applying to college, and finding financial aid. She has conducted sessions for high school students and their parents and taught the senior ladies class in her church. For 10 years, Shaw served on the Henry County Youth Leadership Program Board where she helped 10th grade students build leadership skills and learn more about their county. She continues to seek 11th grade students to represent the local American Legion Unit and Auxiliary and attend Georgia Boys State and Girls State.

Shaw's purpose in life is to help students.

"Usually, I work with students on their study skills to make sure they learn how to make a plan and follow through with it," she said. "I also teach them to give to others. I do this by example and always tell them when I give students scholarships to help them with college, I expect them to come back and help somebody else one day."

"It's why I'm here," Shaw said. "Long ago, I thought I would never teach school, then I taught as a substitute teacher one day and realized that's where I was supposed to be."

Now, Shaw wants students to follow in her success.

"If they find their purpose, they'll never have to work again," she said. "Work has always been fun for me. Henry County paid me to work for them 46 years, but I never worked a day in my life."

Howard "Leon" Hoover, '81, was granted the Alumni Achievement Award, which applauds his professional excellence.

Since 2003, Hoover has been the executive director of Harvest Time Encounters (HTE), supporting organizations that rescue and rehabilitate child soldiers, sex slaves, and other at-risk children, as well as adults.

Previously, Hoover was the market information technology director for Physicians Regional Medical System (PRMS), where he combined information technology departments between two campuses, stabilized infrastructure, and closed vulnerability gaps. His implementation of a Cerner/Medhost solution set was the most successful the organization has completed to date.

As chief information officer at Hendry Regional Medical Center (HRMC), Hoover was recognized with an award for pushing HRMC to the top 10 percent of hospitals and achieving Meaningful Use Stage 1 (data capture and sharing). In this way, he attained charity pricing from Microsoft for the hospital.

Later, Dell produced a case study to highlight technologies Hoover implemented to position HRMC to compete for years to come. This led Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society (HIMSS) Analytics to recognize HRMC as one of 900-plus hospitals to have attained Stage 6 in the HIMSS Electronic Health Records (EHR) Adoption Model.

Previous to that, Hoover was director of information services for the former West Tennessee Division of Methodist Healthcare in Memphis.





Ted Smith was the Honorary Alumnus recipient. This award is given to individuals who have rendered remarkable service to Georgia College through work with the Alumni Association.

Smith served as a trustee on the Georgia College Foundation Board for 18 years. He also served on the Fundraising Committee, LLC II and V Boards, and the Executive Committee.

Smith earned his degree in civil engineering from the Southern Institute of Technology. He serves as president, CEO, and owner of Arcilla Mining & Land Company, LLC and Arcilla Trucking.

Over the past few decades, Smith's company received notable awards, including the Presidential Lifesaving Award for saving a man's life from electrocution. The honor was bestowed by former President Jimmy Carter. His business was recognized as the Wilkinson County Business of the Year three times and received the National Sentinel Safety Award for having the safest mining company in the U.S. Smith also served on the Georgia Mining Association Board for 14 years and was chairman of the Board of Directors at Georgia Southern University for three years.

"Georgia College, under Dr. Dorman's

leadership, has become a very special place," said Smith. "The university's reputation is wonderful not only statewide, but also on a national and international basis. To be a part of Georgia College's success with the nursing, educational, and business programs is very fulfilling."

He holds Georgia College students in high regard.

"My hope for all Georgia College students is that their dream careers happen and that the education they received here helps them live a fulfilled and wonderful life," Smith said.



The Honorable Peggy Harris Walker, '74, was conferred the Ethel Rae Mozo-Stewart Alumni Community Service Award, which honors the spirit of community volunteerism among graduates.

In addition to her professions as a teacher, law clerk, attorney, law professor, associate juvenile court judge, and juvenile court judge — she has spent her career working to end domestic violence

in Georgia by serving as a member of the Rotary Club, past president and board member of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, vice chair and acting chair of the Georgia Child Fatality Review Program, and former chair of the Georgia Commission on Family Violence.

"What I learned at Georgia College was the power of connection that has served me throughout my career," she said.



Margaret "Megan" Moss, '12, received the Outstanding Recent Alumni Award. It recognizes notable alumni who have graduated within the past decade and are successful in their careers, while showing promise for continued achievement.

After receiving her Bachelor of Arts in Early Childhood Education from Georgia College, she obtained a Master of Education in Learning and Teaching from Harvard Graduate School of Education.

Moss worked as an independent contractor for Google, an evaluation consultant for Charles Sposato Graduate School of Education, a tutor for the Emily

Krzyzewski Center, and a teacher at Maureen Joy Charter School and Pines Elementary School.

Today, she is a manager for Teacher Leadership Development at Teach For America Nashville-Chattanooga, Tennessee, where she trains, supports, and develops teachers who teach K-12 grades in charter schools.

"I most enjoy getting to know my teachers and deeply connecting with them to know their needs and areas for support," Moss said. "While I miss doing this with the kids I taught in the classroom, it's exciting to know that this step outside of the classroom has a larger impact on students as I develop teachers

in our schools."

She feels leadership skills are essential in today's society.

"We are in a world that is rapidly changing," Moss said. "Leaders seek to understand, have high expectations for themselves and others, continually ask questions, and act with humility."

Her community endeavors include volunteering at the Nashville Humane Society, previously holding a seat on the Harvard Graduate School of Education Admission Advisory Council, and serving as vice president of the Georgia College Nashville Alumni Chapter.

Class Notes

2010s

(1) **Victoria Marie Vanhuss, '15**, a second-year graduate student majoring in historic preservation in the University of Georgia's College of Environment + Design, has been named a 2019 ARCUS Leadership Program fellow. She will receive fully-funded access to this program over 15 months to develop and strengthen her leadership skills and knowledge via 25 faculty-guided online courses in leadership theory and practice, as well as in-person networking and training opportunities. She is one of 27 new ARCUS fellows, who kicked off their experience Oct. 10, 2019, during PastForward — the National Trust for Historic Preservation conference.



1

(2) **Ryan Ashley, '14, '15**, and **Julie Coppedge, '15, '16**, became engaged July 11, 2019, at the Atlanta Botanical Gardens. Ashley and Coppedge both received their undergraduate degrees in business administration and graduate degrees in accounting. While their paths didn't cross often at Georgia College, they began dating in the fall of 2016 while working together in Atlanta. Their wedding date is set for Nov. 14, 2020, at the Payne-Corley House in Duluth, Georgia.

Georgia College is excited to announce the addition of the Young Alumni Council (YAC) and the Middle Georgia Alumni Chapter (MGC) to the Georgia College Alumni Affinity Groups Chapters and Friends Program. The YAC is open to alumni and friends 35 years old and under while MGC is open to all alumni and friends in the Middle Georgia region. For questions or information on how to join, please email affinity@gcsu.edu.

If you are an alumni member of the School of Nursing or School of Health and Human Performance, we are looking for alumni members who may be interested in serving on the Executive Committees for their alumni affinity groups. More information about the committees can be viewed in the Affinity Group Handbook, located at <https://www.gcsu.edu/alumni/alumni-affinity-group>.

If you have any additional questions or would like to nominate yourself or someone else to serve, please email affinity@gcsu.edu.

Please submit your news for Class Notes at:
gcsu.edu/alumniclassnotes



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In Memoriam

Tommie Fenn Kelley	Myrtle Hartley Shields, '48	Vera Hemphill Williams, '61
Frances Reid Stauffer*	Martha Phillips Cheney-Payne, '49	Faye Mixon Palmer, '62
Josephine Forrester Williams, '18	Patricia McCollough Flynt, '49	Josephine King, '63
Sarah Gurley Sewell, '25	Mary Forbes Koenig, '49	Anne McMichael Brown, '65
Camilla Herring Edwards, '27	Reba Black, '50	Joann Byington Deloach, '66
Blanche Cockrell McDonald, '27	Eleanor Hambrick Gaskins, '50	Patricia Adams, '69
Helen Perkins Adair, '29	Jane Grier Peloubet, '50	Nancy Mackey Moss, '69
Ray Ivey Phelps, '30	Waunelle Boone Terry, '50	Penny McMillan Brown, '70
Lucille Harris Adams, '31	Barbara Gresham Twilley, '50	Ruth Uhler Meler, '72
Golden Locke Coffey, '37	Elizabeth Goins Cook, '51	Gladys Wacaser Blackmon, '73
Willie Sumner Hutchinson, '37	Sarah Hartley Doster, '51	Jennifer Widener Knighton, '74
Malisse Strange Bolton, '38	Gwendolyn Gatewood Marler, '51	Cathy Gober Monroe, '74
Wilma Knox Mattox, '39	Betty Akin McDaniel, '51	Barbara Juanita Sawyer Claxton, '75
Lilla Barrow Davis, '41	Madge McDaniel, '51	Debra Foskey Hemphill, '75
Lena Kay Duke, '41	Margaret White Webb, '51	Kaye Britt Blackmon, '76
Valeria Wolfe Lewis, '41	Claire Lockett Hall, '52	Kaye Britt Blackmon, '76
Eloise Helm Bailey, '42	Eliza Moxley Jackson, '52	Henry Pope, '76
Ann Stubbs Garriss, '42	Frances Hart Lee, '52	Richard Summerour, '76
Alice Ashmore Gilmore, '42	Sue Hall Royal, '52	Robert Herrington, '78
Nellie Bennett Holbrook, '42	Mary Bradbury Huddleston, '53	Roger Roper, '80
Jessie Lambert Pritchard, '42	Bertie Sargent McDonald, '53	Wiley Fowlie, '82
Jeanette Mitchell Wingate, '42	Grace Paul Cook, '54	Alice Foster Haught, '81
Cora Hayes Dennis, '43	Jacqueline Howell Edenfield, '54	John Jackson, '82
Julia Champion Ricks, '43	Jean Stewart Ellis, '54	Iris Meadows Quave, '82
Helen James Salvatore, '43	Edith Hanson Gunnels, '54	William Smith, '82
Billie Bradley Scheneebeli, '43	Mildred Landrum Lamb, '54	Michael Radcliff, '88
Cornelia Stenbridge Lawson, '44*	Mary Cannon Sutton, '54	James Wyatt, '88
Elizabeth Crowder Oliver, '44	Martha Proctor Vinson, '54*	Martha Kingery, '89
Dorothy Stone Reeves, '44	Harriett Dixon Cook, '55	Martha Lokey Lovett, '89
Sadie Bankston Flanigan, '45	Louraine Gilmore Brooks, '56*	Mary Wrighton, '90
Ruth Thrasher McCormick, '45	Louise Lunsford McCommons, '56	Tommie Fowler, '91
Jane Lancaster Davis, '46	Mary Harden Stone, '56	Barbara Price Green, '91
Georgia Harvey Jordan, '46	Joyce Barineau, '57	Sara Holden, '91
Aileen Tye Williams, '46	Marian Culpepper Galt, '57	Swain Lewis, '91
Betty Anderson Bradley, '47	Linda Hand Albertson, '61	Laverne Turner, '91
Inez Sheffield Lewis, '47	Johnnie Blackwell, '61	Hubert Dobson, '92
Dorothy Miller Sears, '47	Dorothy Johnson Morgan, '61	William Robinson, '92
Sarah Jane Wollison, '47	Sue Sanders Morrow, '61	Michael Vullo, '93
Valla Overstreet Clifton, '48	Virginia Hendrix Slade, '61	Britain Treadway, '02
Sara Purvis Johnson, '48	Marialice Tatom, '61	Sharon O'Brien Driver, '03
Nell Pullen, '48	Katherine Wright Whitman, '61	Conan Santamaria, '10
		Morgan Weekley, '19

*Denotes alumni of Peabody School.

This list recognizes deceased alumni that the university has been made aware of as of Dec. 10, 2019.



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First-generation college student turned dean gifts easy-to-give scholarship



Dr. Sheri Noviello, dean of the College of Health Sciences, knows first-hand the good scholarships can do, only because she did without them. As a first-

generation college student, her parents didn't have the funds to support her education or know where to turn for scholarships. However, with the financial help of student loans and assistance from her sister for two quarters, Noviello persevered. Now, she wants students who are in a similar financial position to succeed at Georgia College by offering a scholarship through a gift of her University System of Georgia (USG) basic supplemental life insurance.

"It really doesn't cost me anything to be able to give back," she said. "We just don't have \$25,000 lying around, because we've got to pay mortgages, rent, and college tuition for two of our sons. This

provides an opportunity to give back without having to have that money up front."

"If you have the ability to help a student, why wouldn't you gift it?" she asks. "As a USG employee benefit, you have basic life insurance of \$25,000. It really is of no cost to you to give back to someone in the future."

Being a first-generation college student played a big role in Noviello's decision to offer a scholarship.

Noviello knew she wanted to become a nurse since she was eight years old. Her parents were very encouraging and pushed her and her siblings to do their best in life to reach their goals.

"I want to be a part of helping to support students who might have found themselves in a similar situation that I was in," Noviello said.

Knowing that scholarships exist is not a given when you're a first-generation

college student.

"My parents did not have the knowledge to research scholarships," she said.

"First-generation college experience is much different than someone who has parents, grandparents, and great grandparents who went to college."

Noviello thought the scholarship creation process was very easy. She estimates she spent around 10 minutes on it, and those 10 minutes proved worthy.

"If you believe the great impact that a GC education has on our students, then why not set up a scholarship to support those students who may need a little help in accomplishing their goal?" Noviello asked. "The GC impact will live on much longer than any tangible item you could have purchased with that same amount of money."

If you would like to support future GC students through a legacy gift like Noviello, please contact Dan Lavery at 478-445-1236 or dan.lavery@gcsu.edu.