Georgia College earns highest rating as a state educator preparation program for fourth year

Georgia College’s John H. Lounsbury College of Education earned a Level 4 rating on the 2021 Teacher Preparation Program Effectiveness Measures (PPEMs) published by the Georgia Professional Standards Commission (GaPSC). Level 4 is labeled “exemplary” and is the highest rating available. The Level 4 ranking is above the desired level of performance for effectively preparing future teachers. This marks the fourth year in a row Georgia College has received the highest rank.

“Our exemplary rating is a tribute to our faculty who are dedicated to student success and set a high bar for our students,” said Dr. Joe Peters, dean of the College of Education. “It also reflects the exemplary work of our teaching and leadership candidates who can rise to the coursework and field experience challenges set by faculty.”

The PPEMs evaluate educator preparation programs using measures like certification outcomes required by the state and measures collected once candidates are in the classroom, including observations by supervisors and surveys of employers as well as newly employed teachers. The primary purpose of the PPEMs is to guide educator preparation programs detailed information they can use to improve.

“At GaPSC, the needs of our students in Georgia come first. In order that they can receive the quality education they deserve, it is imperative that their teachers be effectively prepared,” said Mont Arthur, GaPSC Executive Secretary. “The 2021 measures are consistent with prior years, and even reflect the targeted improvements made by many EPPs, in spite of the challenges faced by programs, teachers and students alike over the last year and a half.”

PPEMs are used to provide the public with information on educator preparation programs, especially those thinking of pursuing a career in education. PPEMs align with two of the state standards that program providers must require to continue preparing future Georgia-certified educators.

Georgia College’s John H. Lounsbury College of Education

For more information on the College of Education, visit gcsu.edu/education.

The PPEM ratings of all Georgia educator preparation program providers are now available at gapsc.gov/EducatorPreparation/ ppeems.aspx. For more information on the University of Georgia, visit uga.edu/artsandsciences/science.

Local students participate in Georgia College’s ‘Day in the Lab’

Georgia College’s Science Education Center hosted 57 middle school teachers Thursday, Nov. 11. Professors and students guided youth through various types of chemical reactions, giving them a sense of what it’s like to major in science.

“It is my hope we can build a better relationship with our local middle school students to keep them excited and interested in science,” said Dr. Catrena Lisse, chemistry professor and director of the Science Education Center. This is the second year the university has held the chemical workshop. The goal is to give Georgia College Early College 8th-grade students “a real laboratory experience with undergraduates majoring in STEM fields (science, technology, engineering and math).” Lisse said.

Middle school students were accompanied by their teacher, Tyrisha Harris. They are currently studying about chemical reactions, like synthesis and decomposition. Youth learned how to make carbonic acid using only water and their exhaled breath (carbon dioxide). They’ll also investigated a “beautiful blue solid” by mixing two liquids together.

The 8th graders also toured university labs and learned about the diversity of undergraduate research being done at Georgia College. About five college students and three professors conducted tours and helped with lab experiments.

For more on the Science Education Center, visit gcsu.edu/artsandsciences/science.

Starting ceramic art students will be having their annual flower/vase show in Ennis Tuesday, Nov. 16, through Friday Nov. 19.

Students used traditional Chinese glazes, such as celadon, on their GC’s signature stoneware clay body using regional iron-rich clays to develop the objects.

A $5 donation is encouraged. All proceeds benefit music scholarships or the GC Department of Music through GSU Foundation, Inc.

For more information, please email music@gcsu.edu or call 478-445-8289.

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