

GEORGIA COLLEGE

# CONNECTION

THE MAGAZINE FOR  
ALUMNI AND FRIENDS

SUMMER 2022





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## CONNECTION

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## Art professor creates mural in downtown Macon

◀ For Abraham Abebe, creativity runs through his veins. With his skills, he can take a blank canvas and turn it into something both beautiful and meaningful.

From mid-December 2021 to mid-January 2022, he worked most days from sun-up to sun-down installing a mural on Macon-Bibb County Transit Authority's (MTA) Historic Terminal Station. Abebe braved the cold and wind as he worked through both Christmas and New Year's Day to complete "The Spirit of Macon."

He scheduled the work between his semesters of teaching at Georgia College. Abebe is an associate professor of art and graphic design.

"This was a great opportunity for me to have this kind of experience so that I can teach the techniques, the process, and the ups and the downs of creating a mural for my students," he said. "I hope they will be able to learn from my experience and also do things like this in the future when they get the opportunity."

He based the design on the connection between the MTA and the community. Along one side, the mural features an MTA bus with recognizable historical and modern buildings in Macon. It turns the corner to include several birds, a mosaic, and sun.

"The MTA bus is a central element to bring the community together. I used it as a symbol to highlight its significant contribution," Abebe said. "I also used birds as a conceptual element to reflect service of excellence, progress, and achievement."

MTA was awarded the funds for this project through a Downtown Challenge Grant from the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation and the Peyton Anderson Foundation.



## English major named Georgia College's Academic Day Representative

Ellen Yeudall embodies what it means to be a stellar student. Her dedication, highest scholastic achievement, and devotion to service was noticed by the University System of Georgia (USG) which identified Yeudall as Georgia College's 2022 Academic Recognition Day representative.

The senior English major has a concentration in literature and minor in theatre. She graduated in May with a 4.0 GPA. She's a member of the Honors College; non-fiction editor of Georgia College's literary magazine, "The Peacock's Feet;" and secretary of Eta Sigma Alpha, the student honors association. In addition to being a Spanish tutor, Yeudall's done several literary papers and won multiple honors, including the Rising Star Award from the Department of World Languages and Cultures and the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival award.

"Ellen has presented her research at the Mentored Undergraduate Research and Creative Endeavors (MURACE) conference, served as dramaturg for 'The Revolutionists,' and crafted a dynamic senior thesis," said Dr. Brian Newsome, director of the John E. Sallstrom Honors College. "I would add that Ellen is also a warm and giving individual. At Honors Convocation in the fall, for example, she came early to set up and stayed late to clean up. This spirit of generosity is a hallmark of GC students, and Ellen exemplifies this spirit at its best."



Each year, the USG asks each member institution to select an Academic Recognition Day representative — the graduating senior who best exemplifies outstanding academic achievement. To make this selection, a committee "examines not only GPA but also academic awards, evidence of scholarship or creativity, and diversity of intellectual pursuits," Newsome remarked.

"My experience at Georgia College has definitely helped me grow as a person," Yeudall said. "I've been able to take a diverse array of classes that allow me to understand the world from new perspectives and still be able to fuel my creativity through my work."

Yeudall received a letter of commendation from the USG's chancellor, along with signed resolutions from the Georgia House of Representatives. She was honored, along with other academic representatives, at a Board of Regents meeting and luncheon Feb. 8.



## Andalusia Farm is America's newest National Historic Landmark

► Georgia College celebrates its second National Historic Landmark (NHL) — Andalusia Farm — home of American famed author Mary “Flannery” O’Connor, ’45.

Georgia’s Old Governor’s Mansion was the campus’ first NHL, receiving this recognition in 1973. This designation has been awarded to a small number of campuses in the U.S., and is carried by less than three percent of America’s historic sites.

“There are campuses across the country that have National Historic Landmarks, but this is a rarity in Georgia to have two in a town of our size and capacity,” Matt Davis, director of Historic Museums at Georgia College, said. “It’s an accomplishment we can all be very proud of.”

After more than 12 years of preparation work, the initial step toward Andalusia becoming a National Historic Landmark took place Sept. 2, 2020, when Georgia College addressed the National Historic Landmark Advisory Committee.

“We had up to 30 minutes to state our case,” Davis said. “Dr. Evelyn Causey, who worked with the former foundation to submit the nomination form, and I were allowed to present on the historical significance of the site along with representatives from the National Park Service. Based on the unanimous vote of the committee to approve our nomination, I think everyone agreed that Andalusia was worthy of this designation.”



Following the National Historic Landmarks Committee’s approval, the consideration of Andalusia Farm as a National Historic Landmark (NHL) went before the National Park System Advisory Board on Sept. 17, 2020, for consideration and approval. The Board recommended the designation of Andalusia Farm as an NHL. It was then sent to the U.S. Secretary of the Interior, who designated it as an NHL on Jan. 27, 2022.

Davis recognizes the staff and the board of trustees of the previous Andalusia Foundation, who did much of the initial work on this.

“We appreciate the family of Flannery O’Connor, because they were very instrumental in working on that process, as

well,” Davis said. “I also recognize my current staff, who’ve helped complete this process.”

O’Connor’s home serves as a reminder of who she was and the lives she touched with her writing.

“We are so pleased that Flannery O’Connor’s home has gained national attention through this distinction,” Georgia College President Cathy Cox said. “A notable figure in the literary world, her creative works continue to impact many of our students and aspiring authors throughout the world. We are honored to be able to preserve this pivotal part of Flannery’s legacy here at Georgia College.”



## Senior psychology major Anne Elise Beals named Truman Finalist

◀ For Anne Elise Beals, service work was never a choice. Rather, it was the chance convergence of a lifetime of interests that lead her to being named a finalist for this year’s Truman Scholarship.

“Being a psychology major,” she said, “and always analyzing the way that people think and why we interact socially the way that we do — it’s that mixed background, that liberal arts education, that’s helped me to combine my interests.”

Beals’ passion for working with LGBTQ+ youth to prevent homelessness and incarceration and her work for the Women’s Center led her to the attention of her philosophy professor, Dr. James Winchester, who suggested that she might be a good candidate for the Truman Scholarship.

Only 189 students, pulled from 126 institutions from across the nation, have been recognized as Truman finalists. Although she was not named a winner, Beals is among some of the highest achieving public servants in the world.



## Dr. Brooke Conaway earns Felton Jenkins, Jr. Hall of Fame Faculty Award

**Innovative. Tough.  
Approachable. Passionate.**

► In her nomination, these were the words students and colleagues used to describe Dr. Brooke Conaway, associate professor of economics and 2022 recipient of the University System of Georgia (USG) Board of Regents Felton Jenkins, Jr. Hall of Fame Faculty Award.

Conaway is the fourth Georgia College professor in five years and the second in her department to earn this award. At Georgia College for the last 12 years, she also received the Georgia College Excellence in Teaching Award in 2021.

“Teaching is my favorite thing, but the interaction you get with students, the lightbulb moments — that’s wonderful,” she said. “Working with amazing students and seeing them do something I don’t think I could’ve done at their age, that’s the best part of the job.”

She doesn’t stop at dedication to her profession. Conaway is working to reshape the typical perception of the field of economics, one student at a time.

Conaway challenged that view of economics in her former student Julia Fox, ’16, who, at one point, hated economics. After attending Conaway’s classes, Fox went on to minor in economics and uses what she learned in her career.

“It was also important to me to see a young, vibrant woman in economics,” she said. “It can appear as a really inaccessible field, and she made it seem accessible,” she said.

In addition to changing the path of students’ lives, Conaway wants to be the best professor she can be.

“The fact that my research surrounds teaching is not an accident, because teaching is what I love best,” Conaway said. “I guess I’ve just been trying to get better at it over the years. It’s stuff I would’ve done anyway, not to win awards, but what I wanted to do to be a better professor.”



## Georgia College receives federal grant for writing and literacy outreach in Baldwin Schools

A nearly \$400,000 grant will help promote writing and literacy skills for youth in Baldwin County schools. Georgia College has been awarded funds for a new Writing for Success program from the Department of Education.

The program will include a combination of workshops, one-on-one consultations, and peer advising for K-12 students at their schools.

“Georgia College is committed to supporting our community and is dedicated to fostering the success of students in our local public schools. This program draws from our liberal arts mission to develop creative problem solvers, skilled communicators, and engaged citizens,” said Dr. Costas Spirou, Georgia College’s provost and vice president for Academic Affairs.

Many rural school districts in the state struggle with adequately preparing students with the skills they need for successful careers. Initiatives like the Writing for Success program aim to address these challenges and offer participants an opportunity to develop

the skills to improve their academic performance and overall career readiness.

“We hope to spark passions and spur opportunities for students as we work to promote greater literacy. Our community and the state will benefit from students who are better prepared to communicate and succeed in their futures — whether they go directly to college or to careers,” Executive Director of the Andalusia Institute Dr. Irene Burgess said.

“Who knows. Some students may even follow in the footsteps of famed authors Flannery O’Connor and Alice Walker who called this area home,” she said.

Georgia College will work with local educators and administrators to assess the district’s needs and the needs of their students. Once those are identified, facilitators will formulate programming to meet those needs. Programming could include training for teachers, hands-on engagement for students, or enrichment activities.

Georgia College is grateful to Sen. Raphael Warnock for advocating for this initiative.



## Leadership of first-year program recognized for outstanding work

► Transitioning from high school to college can be tough. Everything about life changes — from where you live to who you live with, what you eat, and how you spend your time.

To help make that transition a bit smoother, Georgia College created dedicated programming, courses, and support through the Office of First-Year Experience.

At the helm as director since its inception in 2019 is Dr. Erin Weston. She was recently recognized by the National Resource Center and Cengage as one of 10 Outstanding First-Year Student Advocates. She received the award at the 41st Annual Conference on The First-Year Experience in Orlando, Florida, in February.

“It was very surprising,” Weston said. “It’s sometimes hard to see the impact of what you’re doing. To be recognized, especially on a national level, for a lot of the changes that we’ve made these last couple of years, it was exciting.”

The award recognizes and rewards individuals across the nation who are advocates involved in high-impact practices for first-year student success.

“The rich tradition of this award includes more than three decades of recognizing the outstanding work that takes place making immeasurable impact on the lives of first-year students,” said Jennifer Keup, executive director of the National Resource Center, in a press release. “It’s an absolute honor to add 10 more names to the list of esteemed colleagues who have previously received this honor.”

Weston’s recognition with this national award shows her work and Georgia College’s innovations are getting noticed.

“I think what’s nice about it is that it shows that some of the risks and new ideas that we’ve tried are being recognized by our national organization as being good practice,” Weston said.



## Three Georgia College students named Fulbright semi-finalists

▲ Three Georgia College seniors majoring in early childhood education, communication, and art were named Fulbright semi-finalists. They join a growing number of semi-finalists in recent years from Georgia College.

If selected as finalists, their travels will take them to South Korea, Greece, and Argentina. Roughly one-third to half of all semi-finalist applications are accepted as ‘finalists,’ the term used for Fulbright Scholarship recipients. Final status should be announced no later than June.

The university’s 2022 Fulbright semi-finalists are: Annabelle Erb, a senior early childhood education major from Johns Creek, Georgia; Anagha Ramakrishnan, a senior communication major and English minor from Marietta, Georgia; and Maya Whipple a studio art major with a minor in Spanish from Gordon, Georgia.

“I am very proud of the hard work that not only these semi-finalists put into their application but all that our applicants demonstrated in applying to the Fulbright Scholarship Program,” said Anna Whiteside, coordinator of Georgia College’s National Scholarships Office.

“The Fulbright Scholarship provides wonderful opportunities for our alumni to learn more about the world and how to engage as respectful global citizens,” she said.

Selection for the Fulbright U.S. Student Program is rigorous. About 12,000 apply each year. In the U.S., about 1,900 grants are awarded annually for all fields of study that take place in 160 countries. More than 400,000 Fulbright recipients have participated in the programs since its inception in 1946.





## Georgia College online graduate programs nationally recognized by U.S. News & World Report

▲ Several Georgia College graduate programs received national recognition in the recently published “Best Online Programs Rankings” for 2022 from U.S. News & World Report.

The highest-ranked in the state, the university’s online graduate nursing programs ranked 29th in the nation. These programs include the Master of Science in Nursing with track options of Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP), Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PMHNP), Women’s Health Nurse Practitioner (WHNP), Nurse Educator (NE), and Nurse Midwifery. Post-Master’s certificates in these concentrations are also offered for MSN-prepared nurses seeking certification.

The online master’s degrees in business (non-MBA) were listed 41st nationally — the second-highest ranked in the state. That includes Georgia College’s Master of Logistics and Supply Chain Management and Master of Management Information Systems.

The Master of Business Administration (Georgia WebMBA™) at Georgia College was also recognized among the best in the country ranked at 69th — the second-highest ranked public university in the state. The program allows professionals to earn an MBA completely online without interrupting their work and personal lives.

Also recognized were the online graduate education programs, including Educational Leadership, Teacher Leadership, and the Master of Arts in Teaching, among others.

“The continued recognition of our online graduate programs as top tier in the state and the nation shows the exceptional quality of the education provided through the programs,” Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Costas Spirou said. “This would not be possible without the dedication of the faculty and staff who work within each program to ensure each student receives a high-quality education.”

## Students learn about Ukrainian strife in real time

▲ Dr. William Risch’s students learned about history as it unfolded during the spring semester.

For weeks, threat loomed until finally Russian forces invaded Ukraine — a country that has endured more than its share of war, dominance, and struggle for identity.

“I wish things had taken a different path, because war exhausts people. They become embittered,” Risch said.

Students in Risch’s Modern Eastern European class were in the best position to learn about this crisis. Their professor is an expert on the often-rocky relationship between Ukraine and Russia. In 2011, Risch published a book on the Western Ukrainian city of Lviv after the death of Soviet dictator Joseph Stalin. He recently received a fellowship from George Washington University to finish a second book on events leading to the Donbas War in 2014.

Risch also taught for a year at Omsk State University in Russia. He spent two years working on his dissertation in Lviv, Ukraine, and another two years teaching at Lviv National University.

Students in Dr. Steven Elliott-Gower’s National Security Policy class also learned about Eastern Europe but from a different

perspective. They drew upon the Ukrainian crisis to play a simulation game called “Russia, NATO, and the Baltic States.” It involved a hypothetical buildup of 100,000 Russian troops on the border of Latvia, a NATO country neighboring Russia.

In the game, Russia claims to be concerned about the rights of ethnic Russians living in Latvia. But its real motives are similar to what happened in the Ukraine, Elliott-Gower said.

Students act as various U.S. officials to avert invasion and reduce tensions. They’re drawing up economic and financial sanctions and reviewing possible deployment of NATO troops.

“This was a very teachable moment,” Elliott-Gower said. “The Russia-Latvia simulation the students played has many similarities to the real-world Russia-Ukraine crisis.”

“Students weighed the pros and cons of a series of diplomatic, economic, and military measures to deter Russian aggression. In the process,” he said, “they learned valuable leadership lessons about the complexity of foreign policy decision making.”

Both professors guided students to make sense of the situation between Russia and Ukraine, the maneuvering of weapons, and failed attempts at diplomacy.





## Georgia College joins international alliance of research teams

▲ Georgia College has joined a prestigious international consortium of VIPs — faculty and students who formed research teams across all disciplines by joining an organization and website called Vertically Integrated Projects (VIP) Program — a model for experiential learning.

Joining the consortium puts Georgia College's name on the world stage. It adds new emphasis on undergraduate and graduate research and helps students improve their communication, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills.

"This is about making a bridge and enabling collaborations among departments and disciplines. This makes sense at a liberal arts university," said Dr. Hasitha Mahabaduge, associate professor of physics and director of the new VIP program.

The original VIP program started in 2001 at Perdue University, then centralized at Georgia Institute of Technology (GA Tech) in 2009. More than 45 universities

“ ”

THIS IS ABOUT  
**MAKING A BRIDGE  
AND ENABLING  
COLLABORATIONS**  
AMONG DEPARTMENTS  
AND DISCIPLINES.

Dr. Hasitha Mahabaduge

worldwide are part of the consortium, which won the 2019 ABET Innovation Award for spreading this approach to “engineering” education — recognized as transformational.

Most universities involved with VIP do engineering research. Georgia College is among the first to join as a liberal arts institution — and therein lies a chance to “shine,” Mahabaduge remarked.

“We, as a designated liberal arts institution, bring our own flavor,” he said. “Now, let’s bring it together and give it more purpose

and intention. Be something new, but not necessarily entirely new. Let’s take advantage of what’s already happening, give it more structure, and do things in a more uniform way.”

This fall, students will be able to earn academic credit by joining VIP and participating in a long-term, project-based learning course. Teams may include 15 to 20 students. Faculty may not be able to give one-on-one guidance to all members of a research group, according to Mahabaduge. But upperclassmen will give personal attention and training to younger students who, in turn, will train and mentor others. Being able to interpret and teach complex material is a valuable skill.

VIP is a chance for different disciplines to research together — a hallmark opportunity for Georgia College as the state’s designated public liberal arts institution.

Graduating with VIP research experience makes students more competitive in the job market, according to statistics. VIP also eliminates inequality with gains for all races, ethnicities, and underrepresented minorities, Mahabaduge noted.





# LISTENING IN ACTION

President Cathy Cox acts on community engagement

Campus spoke, and President Cathy Cox listened.

In her State of the University Address, Cox touched on her three-tiered vision for Georgia College: pushing the limits, embracing the university's mission, and relationship building.

So far, she's making good on her promise to build relationships — and community — by diving headfirst into Baldwin County schools, commerce, and local events.

"When our community sees the university taking an interest in them — and in programs that address the needs of our community — they see the benefit of having a state university in their midst," Cox said.

"I am personally looking forward to the many opportunities to further engage our extended neighborhood and build more bridges with the many communities that we serve in and around Baldwin County."

When she first arrived on campus in October 2021, Cox kicked-off what would be 24 listening sessions. During the tour, she visited with every department on campus and allowed anyone willing to share their thoughts on opportunities for the university.

Almost unanimously, she heard that Georgia College should be a more involved member of the community that cradles it.

"I heard that Georgia College ought to be more actively engaged in our community

and participate in local programs and activities that would make our campus more welcoming to our neighbors," Cox said. "One of the unfortunate effects that COVID had was to put certain constraints on our ability to connect with important community stakeholders, and I hope to renew the relationships we have historically enjoyed."

She acted first by participating in the Milledgeville Christmas Parade. She also accepted invitations to join local civic organizations, which she encourages all campus members to do.

And she's built steadily from there by greeting City of Milledgeville officials, the Baldwin County Board of Commissioners,





and Baldwin County Sheriff and GC alumnus, Bill Massee. She's also visited Georgia Military College (GMC), hosted the Braves World Champions Trophy Tour, and curated events on campus for community members, faculty, staff, and students.

By meeting with Dr. Noris Price, superintendent of Baldwin County Schools, and reading to elementary classes at GMC Prep School, Cox is gaining insight into education in the area, and how the university can best interact with all the local educational institutions in the area.

"One recent example of the ways in which we are forging closer ties with our local schools is the recent federal grant we

received for our 'Writing for Success' workshops," she said. "This is a program that will involve close collaboration between Georgia College, through the Andalusia Institute, and Baldwin County Schools to improve writing skills and creativity for students in the communities we serve."

In March 2022 alone, Cox spoke with the Sandersville Rotary Club on serving Middle Georgia economically, and she attended a meet and greet event at The Brick hosted by Milledgeville Main Street. There, over 21 downtown businesses were represented to welcome Cox and her husband, Mark Dehler, to town.

"I want Milledgeville and Baldwin County to see that we are excited about being a part

▲ President Cox attends a meet and greet event hosted by Milledgeville Main Street at The Brick.





of this community,” Cox said. “I am grateful that our ‘town-gown’ relationships are solid, and I want to find ways to strengthen them over the coming months and years.”

She’s invited campus to be ambitious and think big as it works to shape the university’s direction, especially as a new strategic plan is developed.

In her inaugural State of the University address, Cox said she was hopeful to deepen the university’s commitment to the liberal arts, and she was excited to use the strategic planning process to evolve creativity and inspire innovation that will prepare GC’s students to work in a complex and changing world.

She’s challenged the campus to identify aspirational schools for best practices as the strategic plan moves forward. At the same time, campus leadership is working to develop a new quality enhancement plan

(QEP), which is designed to improve an aspect of student learning and success. In her November 2021 President’s Report to Faculty Senate, Cox remarked that the development of the QEP “gives an institution an opportunity to address significant needs on a campus with dedicated resources and attention — and according to the SACSCOC directive, the plan must focus ‘on improving specific student learning outcomes and/or student successes.’”

Cox also noted the process of developing the plan “might be an opportunity for us to address elements of student success from outside the traditional academic pathways.” And she charged campus to “think about the many things that play into student success here in a broad fashion and come up with a QEP that best addresses a significant need.”

Additionally, GC is preparing to start a master-planning process, a once-a-decade planning process required by the USG to

evaluate the university’s physical campus and facilities. In doing so, Cox hopes to evaluate the nexus between the GC campus and downtown Milledgeville.

Her actions encourage campus to follow in her footsteps and take a more active interest in Georgia College’s host community, in addition to their interest in the university’s endeavors. That way, she remarked, the community can grow deeper bonds as the university works together to address its needs.

Moving forward, Georgia College will be taking a closer look at how some of the best universities around the nation are delivering an outstanding liberal arts education while at the same time centering on student success and engagement with the communities they serve.

In Cox’s own words: “Together, let’s find out what’s possible and go after it!”





I WANT MILLEDGEVILLE AND BALDWIN COUNTY TO SEE THAT WE ARE EXCITED ABOUT BEING A PART OF THIS COMMUNITY.

- PRESIDENT CATHY COX







# Leaders in Residence

honored to help students navigate toward leadership





In 2018, through a generous gift from YKK Corporation of America, the Alex Gregory Leader in Residence Fellowship was established. Seated in the Georgia College Office of Leadership Programs, it brings highly experienced leaders to the university for an extended period to share their expertise in leadership with the campus community. The first three individuals to be honored with the fellowship just happened to be highly successful Georgia College alumni.

“The fellowship honors E. Alexander ‘Alex’ Gregory, Jr., ’78, ’79, a leader so gracious in his wisdom and insight, and creates a permanent place at Georgia College for those willing to invest in the next generation of leaders for the public good,” said Dr. Harold Mock, director of Leadership Programs and assistant professor of history. “It provides our leaders in residence an opportunity to work with, teach, and mentor our students.”

“A once-in-a-lifetime opportunity” is how Gregory feels about sharing his corporate world experiences with Georgia College students through the Alex Gregory Leader in Residence program.

Established in his name, the retired chairman, CEO, and president of YKK Corporation of America and inaugural fellow, discussed with students topics ranging from business ethics to global logistics.

“I tried to bring the real world into the classroom,” he said. “Learning about corporate culture is important for students.”

Gregory led YKK through a period of unprecedented transformation as American manufacturers faced pressure to move operations overseas and scale for global competitiveness.

“We are a living example of a corporation that was able to survive by meeting with employees to get their thoughts and sharing with them details about the crisis that affected us all,” Gregory said. “There was a strong need for shared sacrifices, as we patiently tried to work our way out of the situation.”

After 40 years with YKK, he sees the value of making decisions that can turn a corporation around through teamwork. Gregory cited this example in the classroom to show how positive leadership can help a company survive and thrive.

“Alex Gregory is the most selfless leader I’ve ever met,” said Bishop Bryant, a Bachelor of Science candidate and member of the class of 2022. “One concept I learned from him that will impact me when I begin my career is the importance of communication within my team and with others around me. Understanding your team’s values and concerns are necessary to make their opinions feel respected and heard.”





Chamberlin, '82, especially following in the footsteps of one of her strongest mentors, Gregory. As founder/principal of Genius Team and SnyderRemarks, Chamberlin coaches, consults, and speaks with leaders in her "day job."

Some of her favorite parts of the fellowship were teaching students "How to Change the World" and emceeing the Leadership Programs for Women Conference. In both of these, Chamberlin experienced students linking leadership theory with real-life practices and real-life leaders.

"Genie's class has made me more intellectually curious," said sophomore Vivian Cassaniti. "I always left class feeling supported, encouraged, and more capable to solve problems and help others around me."

For Chamberlin, who holds a doctorate in higher education, college students have always held a special place in her heart.

"I learn so much from the students sharing their stories and asking questions," she said. "When we all opened up, they learned not only about truly strong leaders' vulnerability, but also a lot about their own selves. I love to see the light bulbs go on in students' minds."

Chamberlin emphasized that service matched with academic advancement is vital to the GC living-learning experience.

"They're not separate," she said. "At GC, students learn how to do life."

Through her leadership and mentorship, Chamberlin hopes students can cultivate their skills to think independently and lead creatively.

"In the opportunities that Harold Mock and his team offer through GC Leadership Programs, critical thinking is woven through it all," she said. "We spent a lot of time on seemingly contradictory concepts and how to align conversation. That does not mean we have to agree."

"Leaders need to have engaging and real conversations, showing curiosity about others and their genius," Chamberlin said. "These students get that, and I'm thrilled to be on campus among them. I'm convinced our students, the GC everyday leaders in residence, are going to change our world — just like Alex Gregory."

As a mentor in the Georgia Education Mentorship Program and as leader in residence, Gregory has mentored scores of Georgia College students.

"I feel like I'm doing something worthwhile if I can have a positive impact on students' lives," he said.

Pamela Booker, '97, succeeded Gregory, serving as leader in residence from 2019 until 2021. Recently retired as assistant vice president for human resources at AT&T, Booker relished the new challenge of teaching and mentoring students.

Booker taught two classes: "How to Change the World" and "Transforming the Leader in You," where she integrated her experiences from the corporate world, as well as volunteerism.

"It was such a rewarding experience, developing the 'Transforming the Leader in

You' course and then delivering it," Booker said. "I especially enjoyed recognizing and pulling out leadership skills students already had inside of them."

"Pam has left her impact on me inside and outside of the classroom," mass communication major Grace Kearney said. "From inspiring me in the classroom to exercising my leadership skills to helping me prepare for interviews, Pam Booker is the definition of servant leadership."

Booker describes her experience as "humbling."

"Students trust me enough to take guidance from me on how to handle professional situations," she said. "I thought, 'wow, they're hearing me.' That was exceptionally rewarding. Maybe I'm making a difference."

Serving as the current leadership in residence fellow is an honor for Dr. Genie Snyder





# ALUMNI WEEKEND

Nov. 3-5, 2022

A schedule of events and  
registration information will  
be announced in the  
upcoming months.

.....

Are you interested in holding a class  
reunion or event during Alumni Weekend?

Contact [trejuan.johnson@gcsu.edu](mailto:trejuan.johnson@gcsu.edu) for more information.



# EVERYONE WINS

## Visiting scholars program strengthens university

Few things make an impact as great as the university's visiting scholar programs.

Periodic academic visitors — whether long- or short-term — are a boost for everyone involved. Visiting scholars participate in the productive activities of a new department, Georgia College faculty are exposed to novel ideas and fresh perspectives, students interact with people who are prominent in their fields, and the university gains heightened national recognition.

“The purpose of scholar programs is to provide our students, faculty, colleges, and departments with opportunities for visitors to interact with and allow them the opportunity to engage in ways that would expand and enrich the student and faculty experience,” said Dr. Costas Spirou, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs.

“The concept is accepted as being a very important approach to strengthening the academic community,” Spirou said, “bringing in individuals who have different experiences and perspectives. This collaboration with faculty adds a whole new dimension to university life.”

This year, the provost's office filled a gap in Georgia College's history of bringing academics to campus. The missing element was a short-term visiting scholars' program.

Lengthier endowed programs were already well-established, running for either a semester or academic year. Most notably are the Paul D. Coverdell Visiting Scholar and Martha Daniel Newell Scholar programs.

The Coverdell position was revised in 2019 to attract policy scholars within humanities and the social sciences, such as anthropology, political science, public administration, and history. Formerly, the position was called the Paul D. Coverdell Chair in Policy Studies — held 10 years by Professor of Political Science and Public Administration Dr. Roger Coate. During that decade, Coate brought in a number of distinguished speakers from around the world to provide co-curricular programming for students. Many were connected to the United Nations.









# THIS IS AN IMPORTANT PIECE

TO OUR ENDEAVORS AND QUEST FOR  
*academic excellence.*

Dr. Costas Spirou



The Newell Scholar position was created in 2011 for long-term visitors from any academic discipline in the College of Arts and Sciences (COAS). The first Newell Scholar in 2013 was Dr. Caitlin O'Connell-Rodwell from Stanford University's School of Medicine. Her research focused on communication between elephants, and how their societal groups are formed and maintained.

"I remember it like it was yesterday," Spirou said. "She spoke to students about her work and how elephants interact with each other in a social environment. Now, Georgia College has been exposed to this research and expertise. That expands the academic horizons of our students and allows our faculty an opportunity to interact with a leading scholar."

Finding the right preeminent scholar is a lengthy process. COAS runs national searches for Coverdell and Newell scholars

and offers them housing on West Campus. These scholars teach only one course, leaving time to develop their own research and host public activities for the community. Georgia College faculty and students benefit from exposure to new research, often getting a chance to contribute to scholarly endeavors.

"Georgia College is a relatively small institution and our various programs cannot cover all the specialties contained within the academic disciplines. A visiting scholar can temporarily fill a gap in departmental coverage for at least a semester," said Dr. Eric Tenbus, dean of COAS.

Another endowed position on campus is the Alex Gregory Distinguished Fellow in Leadership program. It brings highly experienced groundbreakers and forerunners for extended stays on campus to share expertise with the next generation of leaders. In addition to endowed appointments,

Georgia College sponsors ongoing residency programs to expand opportunities on campus. The music department works with the Kazanetti String Quartet of Atlanta to provide individual and group sectional support for the university's String Orchestra and related chamber groups. A few years ago, the English Department established the Darugar Scholar in-residence program to provide students and faculty opportunities to engage and learn from nationally recognized writers.

The missing link in Georgia College's guest programming was short-term engagement, Spirou said. His office created a new visiting scholars' program to fill the void. In the spring of 2022, three experts came for weeklong visits.

Former Olympian Butch Reynolds was the first provost scholar to come. In early February, he worked directly with students





and faculty in the College of Health Sciences. He told them about substance abuse and ethics in exercise science, detailing obstacles he overcame to become the fastest runner in the world.

In March, Dr. Peter Cardon spent a week with students and faculty in the Department of Information Systems and Computer Science. A professor of clinical business communication at the University of Southern California, Cardon shared his deep interest in information technology and how artificial intelligence influences communication.

In April, Distinguished Research Award winner Dr. Douglas Walker was hosted by the economics department. A former Georgia College faculty member, Walker is currently an economist at the College of Charleston in South Carolina. He talked to students about the socioeconomic impacts of gambling.

Shorter visits are easier to accomplish and finance, Spirou noted. They're also more convenient for guests, who can't be away from their institutions and families for long.

Whether visiting or endowed scholars come for a week or a year — they all greatly supplement life on campus.

Scholars not only participate in department activities but they broaden perspectives by giving public lectures and presentations, hosting workshops and seminars, teaching classes and holding discussions. These interactions raise awareness and promote the university.

"The big picture is to allow our academic community to interact with colleagues from other universities or those who bring different perspectives to study at Georgia College," Spirou said. "The more we can engage our university community in these

interactions, the more it allows us to build our understanding and update, to great extent, the work that we're involved in."

In the future, Spirou would like to expand the provost's scholar program and increase their numbers from three visitors to four or five per year. He'd also like to bring more international scholars to Georgia College for different viewpoints and cultural perspectives.

"This is an important piece to our endeavors and quest for academic excellence," he said. "The more we do in this area, the better it is for our university and academic community and, honestly, I think it goes beyond the academic community. These interactions are not just for faculty and students but the community too. It brings vibrancy to the intellectual environment here on campus and in Milledgeville."



## The Heidi Samprone Women's Athletics Leadership Luncheon *impacts students for life*

Twelve female student-athletes attended the Heidi Samprone Women's Athletics Leadership Luncheon in February. They heard from top women administrators at Georgia College and learned what it takes to grow as a leader.

Dr. Sheri Noviello, dean of the College of Health Sciences, described the volatility of health care and what it takes to be a leader.

"You don't have to be in a position of authority to be a leader," she said. "I truly believe that each one of you — sooner or later — must ask yourself, 'Where am I leading others?'"

After Noviello transitioned from a trauma nurse to an administrator, she applied lessons learned from her nursing career to her current role. Noviello cited what nurses do with each patient: They assess, plan, implement, and evaluate the plan. She encouraged students to apply this regimen to a future leadership position and life experiences.

Dr. Holley Roberts, associate provost for Academic Affairs and director of the Graduate School, stressed the importance of perseverance and patience. By saying "yes," to opportunities in her career, she landed a larger leadership position where her impact is stronger.

She suggested opening the door for other female leaders and those whom they will mentor.

"I think the best attributes you can have as a leader are communicating often and having empathy and compassion," Roberts said. "Then, be an advocate for someone. Tie in these opportunities, because they will build up to something you never even dreamed of."

Georgia College President Cathy Cox closed the luncheon by challenging the student-athletes to use their experiences to go forward in their careers, weighing the risks against the benefits.







## THE ABILITY TO TAKE RISKS STOOD OUT TO ME, BECAUSE YOU NEVER KNOW WHAT DOORS MIGHT OPEN FOR YOU.

- CASSIDY "CASSIE" MARKLE

"Those risks opened a lot of doors for me in life and gave me enriching life experiences I never would have expected because I said 'yes' to an opportunity or experience that was off-the-wall to other people," Cox said. "I hope you will do the same. I'm proud of the way you represent Georgia College. I look forward to following all of your successes."

Senior Emma Fleming (tennis) was intrigued by learning to say "yes" to good opportunities.

"Oftentimes, we don't want to take the risk of an opportunity that's been handed to us because the thought of failing," she said. "I was really encouraged by these women's personal experiences. I learned to not be afraid to take the risk."

Fleming also realized she doesn't have to be in a leadership role to be a leader.

"As a nurse, I'll provide leadership qualities that are essential parts of a team to function

efficiently," she said. "Good teamwork leads to better patient care, and that all starts with how the team is led."

Senior Cassidy "Cassie" Markle (basketball) aspires to become an athletic trainer and won't sidestep potential risks.

"The ability to take risks stood out to me, because you never know what doors might open for you," she said.

Now, Markle won't be afraid to land the job she wants.

"Being invited to this luncheon means there's value and a focus on molding young women to move into leadership," Markle said. "This is a huge honor, because I aspire to be one of those women."

Senior Harper Vick (basketball) thought the speakers' messages were amazing. Like

Fleming, she doesn't want to limit herself due to a fear of failing.

"I've failed multiple times in my athletic career, but I've picked myself back up and overcome those moments," Vick said. "I will take the same mindset into the real world by not limiting myself in opportunities. I'll push myself to strive for everything I desire."

She wants to apply the aspects she learned to her profession as a physical therapist. These include persevering through difficult times and treating her patients, coworkers, and superiors with respect

Vick believes there should be more women in leadership roles.

"I am honored to have attended this luncheon," she said. "I want to follow in the speakers' footsteps as I leave Georgia College and embark on the real world."



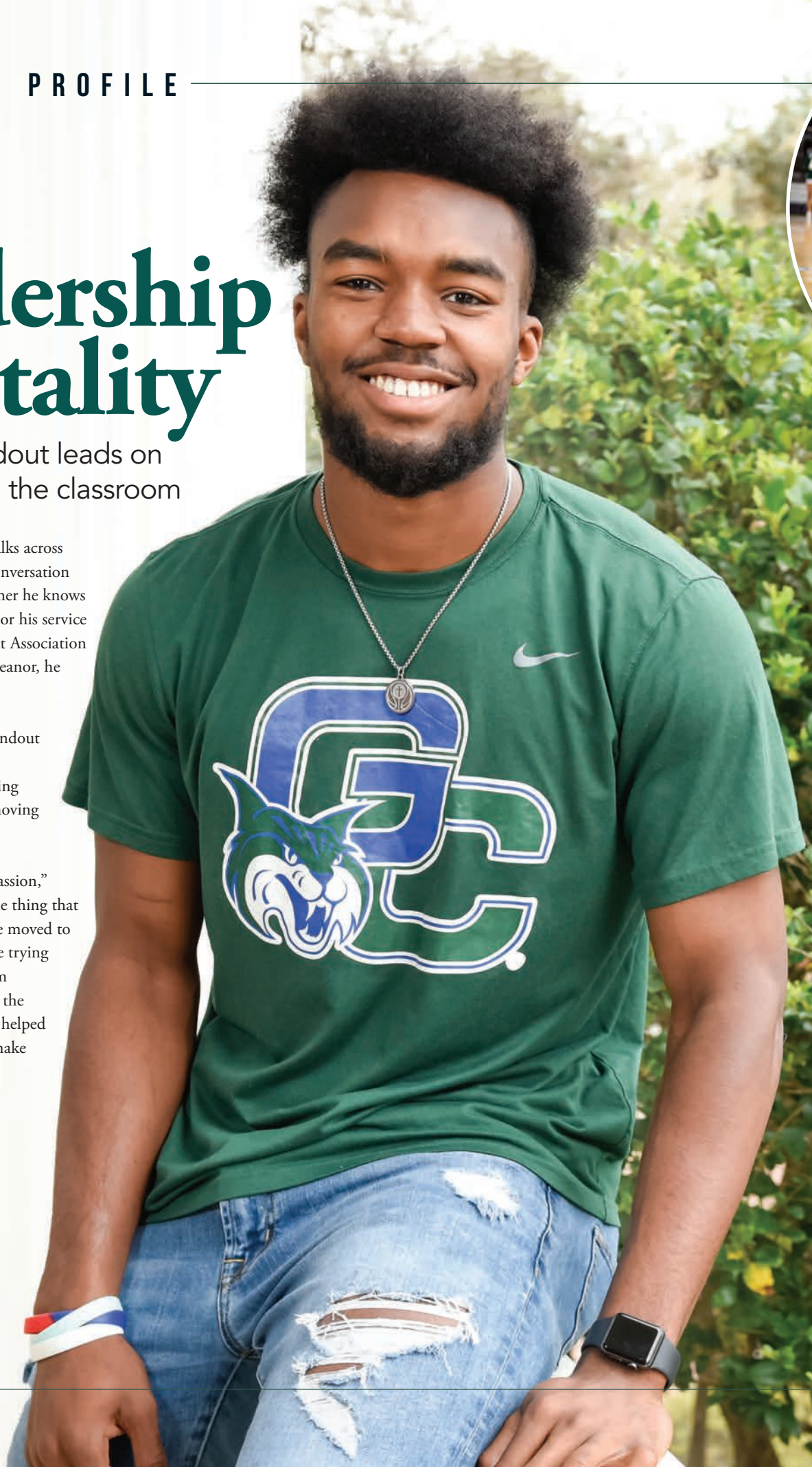
# Leadership Mentality

Basketball standout leads on the court and in the classroom

As senior Wesley Simpson walks across campus, he can strike up a conversation with anyone he passes. Whether he knows them through classes, sports, or his service with the Student Government Association (SGA), with his friendly demeanor, he never meets a stranger.

The economics major and standout basketball player credits his outgoing personality to growing up in a military family and moving frequently.

“I would say basketball is a passion,” Simpson said. “Sports was one thing that helped me make friends as we moved to each different location. You’re trying to come and fit in, going from playing recess to rec sports in the community. Basketball really helped me get to know people and make friends.”







As his skills grew on the court, Simpson saw how basketball could open doors for his future through collegiate play. Since joining the Bobcat Basketball team, he's been a leader and major contributor to the team's success.

"I am extremely proud of Wes and all of his accomplishments on and off the court," former Head Basketball Coach Mark Gainous said. "He exemplifies what a student-athlete should be. What sets Wes apart is his positive attitude, relentless work ethic, and outgoing personality. I could coach another 20 years and not have another young man that is as well-rounded as Wes Simpson."

Among his many accolades on the court, some of the most important to him are those tied to academics. These include being named twice to the CoSIDA (College Sports Information Directors of America) Academic All-District team, as well as being a two-time D2ADA (Division 2 Athletics Directors Association) Academic Achievement Award winner.

"Those are big awards for me, because they show I'm doing both athletics and academics at a high level. I take pride in that, and it's something that I work towards all the time," he said. "I would definitely say we have an athletic program that puts a lot of emphasis on student athletes being students first."

Simpson is intentional about giving 100% both in his sport and his classes.

"Watching Wes play basketball is a clear indication of how he approaches everything in life," Associate Professor of Economics Dr. Brooke Conaway said. "Even when the game is not going well, even when there's so much work to be done, even when he's playing hurt, he does not quit. He does not reduce his effort; instead, he somehow finds more to give during those times."

An economics major came naturally for Simpson. He took a test in high school to help guide his career path, and it clearly pointed to the economics and finance field.

"I would say that we have the best department as far as professors go on campus," Simpson said. "They have been

super supportive, super understanding of my schedule with basketball, and that's just allowed me to want to give them the most that I can when I am in the classroom and make them proud with my assignments."

Along with his work in class and basketball, he served as SGA's co-director for Athletic Affairs. In this role, he promoted athletic events and worked to bridge the gap between athletes and other students.

His dedication and work on campus also led to his appointment as a student trustee for the Georgia College & State University Foundation.

"I serve as a member of the finance committee," Simpson said. "I picked the sector that I was most interested in and thought finance would fit the best."

He's been involved in several big projects through his service as a student trustee, but he calls this involvement in the Athletics Week of Giving Campaign "the most impactful."

"When Athletics Director Wendell Staton was talking [to the Foundation Board] about the needs of athletics, I was in the meeting and was able to talk a little bit about my experience," Simpson said.

"I think that opened some eyes to the things that we are lacking in our athletics department," he added. "The Athletics Week of Giving turned out to be super successful, so it was really cool to be a part of that."

He plans to stay connected to Georgia College and to future generations of students even as his time here as a student winds down.

As for his future, Simpson is not quite sure what next year will look like for him.

After earning his bachelor's degree, he plans to pursue graduate school. And due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, he has one more year of eligibility for basketball. But no matter what he chooses to put his efforts toward, he trusts it will all work out — just like it did for him to end up at Georgia College in the first place.

"I really believe this is the spot that I was destined to be at this point in my life," Simpson said. "I honestly didn't know what Georgia College was coming out of high school. But visiting and seeing the family atmosphere here in the athletics department and in the economics department, it has truly been a great experience in all aspects."



SPRING 2022  
AT GEORGIA COLLEGE





THINK INDEPENDENTLY. LEAD CREATIVELY.





# HOMECOMING

## 2022









# dance DIVINE

Newell Scholar imparts an appreciation of indigenous sacred dance

The love of dance runs deep for Dr. Carla Walter. It's not only the aesthetic value she enjoys, but how it allows people to express their feelings and emotions and connects them to the world around them.

As the Martha Daniel Newell Visiting Scholar for the Spring 2022 semester, Walter taught Global Perspectives of Indigenous Dance and Religious Histories.

"Students learned to analyze a culture's sense of being as it's related to indigenous dance," said Walter. "We looked at locations from Egypt to Australia to Mesoamerica to Tibet and over to the Polynesian Islands and more. The students were shown a worldview."

As a GC2Y course required for all sophomores, students from a variety of majors were attracted to the unique opportunities the class had to offer.

"I'm a computer science major, so this is completely out of my field," said sophomore Preston Jeans. "I think the most interesting thing is, as a very analytical person, I am wired as a very high-stress person. This course taught me to take a break and look at things in a more critical way — taking a step back."

Throughout the semester, student groups researched specific dances, then presented them to the class.

"It's been very interesting understanding how cultures view dance as a way of healing and in a religious aspect like praise or even for ceremonies like funerals," said sophomore Kelsey Foster, a music therapy major. "It's been really fascinating to understand the deeper meaning and connection that dance has with individuals and other cultures."

Foster and her group researched the evolution of Irish dance and the Whirling Dervishes, a form of meditation attributed to Jalaluddin Rumi, the famous Sufi Muslim mystic and poet.

"Each group picked two dances. For our presentations, we talked about the history of the dance, the religion that goes into it, and then we presented the dance for our class to learn," said sophomore Hallie Thompson, music education major.

The dances came from a variety of cultures and many different time periods in history.

"One of the learning objectives for the course was to be able to assess the impact that indigenous dances have on culture and



“The big religions have all tried, but dance is resurfacing because of the power it has for humanity, in terms of helping people with all kinds of human circumstances — transitioning and rituals, rites of passage and death, and questions about living.”

Dr. Carla Walter





how that impact changes over time,” Walter said. “I think the students had a great time learning, and they will embrace dance as an important scholarly contribution.”

Walter received a Bachelor of Arts in economics from the University of California, Riverside and a Master of Business Administration from California State University, San Bernardino. Research for her Doctor of Philosophy focused on dance history and theory.

She has published several books including “Sacred Dance Meditations: 365 Globally Inspired Movement Practices Enhancing Awakening, Clarity, and Connection;” “Arts Management: An Entrepreneurial Approach;” and “Dance, Consumerism, and Spirituality.”

“When I was writing my book, ‘Dance Consumerism and Spirituality,’ I had the opportunity to review some emergent sources

of biblical texts that were not included in some editions of the Bible,” she said.

She found dance was often eliminated during the early translations of the Bible. This piqued her interest.

“I started looking at different cultures, and I found that a lot of these major religions — Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism — most of them did a systematic silencing of sacred dance at different points in time,” said Walter.

“The big religions have all tried, but dance is resurfacing because of the power it has for humanity, in terms of helping people with all kinds of human circumstances — transition and rituals, rites of passage and death, and questions about living.”

She hopes her students and the campus community take away a new appreciation for the art of dance through her time as the



Newell Scholar. She remains in Milledgeville and leads Dance in the Spirit, LLC, a professional ballet company dedicated to teaching and performing the aesthetic of dance and spirituality through classical ballet, praise, and healing with dance.

The Martha Daniel Newell Visiting Scholar program was established in 2011 with an endowment from Martha Daniel Newell, ’42. The Newell Visiting Scholar program promotes the liberal arts mission by bringing to campus eminent scholars from the arts, humanities, social sciences, and physical sciences — the disciplines at the heart of our liberal arts mission.



# CLASS NOTES

Please submit your news for Class Notes at:  
[gcsu.edu/alumni/classnotes](https://gcsu.edu/alumni/classnotes)

## 1960s



**Nancy Jay, '68**, happily announces her marriage to Weronica Ankarorn Aug. 31, 2013, in Gothenburg, Sweden, with Weronica's extended family in attendance. At Georgia College, Nancy was an art major who was active in campus life, including serving as GC's first Student Government Association president after the college became coed in 1968. She is retired from over 40 years of teaching college-level drawing and painting. Nancy and Weronica, both artists, continue to exhibit their work in the U.S. and Sweden.

## 1980s

**Richard "Rick" Eisel, '80, '97**, recently retired after a nearly 40-year career in the financial services industry. The apex of his career was the decade he spent as national credit leader for a division of GE Capital. Subsequently, he was senior vice president/senior credit analyst at Cadence Bank, a multi-state regional bank. He retired from that position.

Rick and his wife, **Dr. Charlotte Stallworth Eisel, '81**, are most proud of their two daughters, who are smart, strong, successful, and independent women who've embarked on their personal and professional journeys. The couple enjoys spending time with their grandchildren and traveling the world. Rick also gets a kick out of sitting on his front porch, hollering at kids to get off his lawn.



**Beverly Cullars Samuel, '82**, and Alyssa Samuel, a mother and daughter duo, wrote "Make New Friends," a children's book targeted to elementary students. The book tells a story of diversity, equity, and inclusion in a fun way as Ava, a friendly girl, starts her first day at a new school. Readers will enjoy learning about the different backgrounds of Ava's new friends, and they will appreciate the important lessons the book has to offer. "Make New Friends" was inspired by their family's life experiences in school, work, and community.

## 1990s



**Dr. Fred Stinson III, '93, '97**, has held various prestigious positions since receiving his Master of Science in Psychology from Georgia College. He worked at Community Mental Health in Dublin, Georgia, for 12 years. Stinson also worked with the Laurens County Drug Court program for 10 years. He earned his Doctoral degree in Psychology from Capella University in 2015. Stinson has been the clinical director at Preferred Treatment Center in Dublin for 12 years and adjunct psychology professor at Middle



Georgia State University for 11 years. He's the author of three books, a licensed professional counselor since 2013, master addiction counselor since 2003, certified clinical supervisor since 2003, and consultant for ProTech Consulting.

As a paraplegic for 47 years and through the guidance of the late Dr. Helen Hill of Georgia College Student Services, Stinson has championed others through the development of resilient factors. He was a family contestant on Family Feud in 2017 and has enjoyed many "sweet spots" in both his career and scholastic life.

"Viva GCSU," Stinson said.

## 2000s



**Jay Davis, '00**, Bachelor of Music Education, was recently elected to serve as vice president for all state events for the Georgia Music Educators Association. He will begin his term July 2023. Davis is the director of Bands at Houston County High School.

**Dr. Laura Lindenberg August, '03**, was named curator at the Stanlee and Gerald Rubin Center for the Visual Arts at The University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP) in March 2022. August will take curatorial leadership of the Rubin Center's exhibitions program, bringing substantial expertise and a collaborative approach to exhibition-making that both complements the Rubin Center's trajectory and provides an opportunity to expand and deepen the university's commitment to exploring contemporary art and its place in the world. August is an innovative thinker with an

international network and a strong history of artist-centered work. She'll work closely with UTEP's Department of Art to propose exhibitions that complement material being taught across the curriculum and provide multiple points of entry for students developing careers in the arts.

**Brandon Lee, '06, '09**, was promoted in March 2022 to GS-14 supervisory branch chief for the Ordnance and Explosive Branch of The Army Corp of Engineers. He started his career with the U.S. Air Force at Robins Air Force Base upon completing his MBA. Brandon resides in Huntsville, Alabama, with his wife **Melissa Wessinger Lee, '06, '07**, their son, Landon (10), and daughter, Madison (8). Having met during their freshman year at Georgia College, the couple will celebrate their 15th wedding anniversary in June.



**Brandon Barth, '07**, was promoted in July 2021 to division chief with the Flower Mound, Texas Fire Department (FMFD). FMFD has seven stations and is located in the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex. While attending Georgia College, Brandon worked for Baldwin County Fire Rescue from 2005 to 2011. He's married to **Elizabeth Williams Barth, '08**. The couple has one daughter, Alyssa.

## 2010s

**Jared Williams, '10**, was sworn in as district attorney of the Augusta Judicial Circuit in December 2021. He is the first African American man to hold the office in Augusta, Georgia.



**Kristin Lukich, '11, '15**, married Andrew Berkowitz at Biltmore Ballrooms in Atlanta. The bridal party included Maid of Honor **Katelyn Benson, '15**, and Bridesmaids: **Alaina Totten, '15, Emilee Hart, '15, Emma Swendsen Bensimon, '15, and Savanna Zeigler, '15.**

Kristin and Andrew happily reside in New York City. Kristin first visited the city and fell in love with it during the Georgia College Honor's Program cultural trip in 2014 led by Dr. Steve Elliott-Gower.

**Erin Peavy Scroggs, '12**, graduated Dec. 13, 2021, from Georgia Southern University with her Ed.D. in curriculum studies.



**Graylon Haynie, '13, '14**, married Conner McLeod in Dahlonega, Georgia, Oct. 30, 2021. The wedding was attended by several GC alumni. The groom's party consisted of Bobcats **Patrick Fuller, '13, Eric Steinberg, '12, Bobby Dunn, '13, Chris Hornibrook, '12, and TJ Moats, '12.** Graylon and Conner reside in Canton, Georgia, and both work in supply chain for Georgia-Pacific.



# CLASS NOTES

## 2010s



**Olivia Bartholomew Clark, '14**, and her husband, Brennan, welcomed their little Bobkitten, Lily Taylor, Dec. 14, 2021. She loves bath time, walks at the park, and playing with her dog, Gus.



**Allison Gordon, '14**, married **TJ Cornay, '13**, October 2021 in Atlanta, Georgia. They were surrounded by fellow Bobcats and look fondly back at their time at Georgia College.



**Kayla Albright, '14** and Justin Whitley were married Dec. 11, 2021 in Fort Valley, Georgia. The wedding party included several Georgia College alumni, including **Lindsay Rozier, '14**, **Kaitly Radney, '14**, **Allison Lones, '14**, **Rachel White, '14**, and **Brittney Perry, '14**.

Kayla and Justin are travel Emergency Room registered nurses and live in Gray, Georgia. Kayla is pursuing her Doctor of Nursing Practice degree with a Family Nurse Practitioner specialty at the University of Alabama at Birmingham.



**Kaitlin Forbes Card, '17**, married **Brett Card, '15**, in November 2018 and welcomed their first child, Emma, in September 2021.



**Caitlin McBee, '18**, and **Todd Marquis, '17**, are getting married December 2022 in Atlanta, Georgia. Marquis earned a B.A. in marketing and was a member of Kappa Sigma Fraternity. McBee earned a B.A. in mass communications and was a member of Alpha Omicron Pi.



**Juliana "Julie" Rebello, '19**, married **William "Will" Borgognoni, '18**, Feb. 19, 2022, in Marietta, Georgia. The wedding party included **Brendan Morton, '18**, **Zach Strahl, '19**, **Taylor Lynn, '19**, and Win Reid. Will's brother and best man, **Kyle Borgognoni, '09, '10**, officiated their wedding. Julie's college best friend and former roommate, **Danielle Holmes, '19**, caught the bouquet at the reception.

"We were so happy to celebrate our wedding day with so many fellow Bobcats and people who've loved us through every season of our lives," Julie said. "Will and I met at Georgia College in April 2017. I am blessed that we've spent the last five years together."

Julie earned a degree in marketing and is a marketing coordinator at Polytron, Inc. Will has a degree in environmental science and is an environmental laboratory manager at Advanced Industrial Resources. The couple lives in Roswell, Georgia.



# *In Memoriam*

Mary Ivey Brooks*	Marlan Berenthien Platt, '55	Suzen Holder Middleton, '70	Pearlie Stone, '78
Teresa Gilman Brown*	Pat Pettigrew Simpson, '55*	Janice Nordan, '70	William Goodner, '79
Katie Chalker	Olive Maddox Joyner, '56*	Gilbert Oakley, '70	Myrtle Barnes Jones, '79
Ernest Curl	Betty Rogers Nederveen, '56	Bobby Pope '70	Robert Waddell, '79
Anthony Potre	Margaret Calhoon, '57	Rosemary Turner, '70	Dwight Bunn, '80
Bernard Rubin	Carol Schultz Gardner, '57	Linda Moye Walker, '70	Jonathan King, '80
Annie Wright*	Mildred Kennedy Masters, '57	Cherry Dupree, '71	Patricia Kent Smith, '80
James Yarbrough	Jean Cheeley McElmurray, '57	Marjorie Jennings, '71	Charles Thompson, '80
Lucy Woods Barber, '31	Mattie Waller, '57	John Lancaster, '71	Vernon Wright, '80
Louise Conoly Bunting, '31	Sue Bell Channell, '58	Marvin Sculati, '71	Robert Bales, '81
Myna Houze, '31	Margaret Davis Repzynski, '58	Donna Collins Boyajian, '72	Barbara Cowan Brown, '81
Ellanorah Baker Jiles, '31	Lougene Carnes Loehr, '59	Mary Burdsal, '72	Clarence Duke, '81
Ernestine Johnson Gudzik, '42	Louise McClain Melton, '59	Deborah Green, '72	Gerald Maerz, '81
Sara Osborn Ray, '42	Dolores Allgood Bailey, '60	Gerald Edmonson, '72	Annie Moore, '81
Sara Dial Ramsay, '43	Tracy Smith Coyle, '60	Burnice Martin Leady, '72	Benjamin Watson, '81
Mildred Ennis Simpson, '43*	Alice Teague Johnson, '60*	Nancy Fisher Patton, '72	Juanette Prescott Nelson, '82
Iris Brown Collins, '44	Evelyn Richardson Sheets, '60	Robert Stevens, '72	Bob Beeland, '83
Mary Murchinson Pulliam, '44	Sarah Mathis Crawford, '61	Martin Allman, '73	William Harmon, '83
Elizabeth Powell Tabor, '44	Mary Byrom Hunter, '61	David Foster, '73	Frederick Ohlandt, '83
Bobbie Roberts Allen, '45	Linda Kitchens Schultheiss, '61	Jerry Jarrell, '73	Walter Schubert, '83
Clara Redd Cox, '45	Patricia Williams Davis, '61	James Martin, '73	Donald Wendt, '83
Martha Johnson-Phillips, '45	Sara Youngblood Richardson, '62	Joseph Polhill, '73	Manfred Wickman, '83
Alma Dixon Moore, '46	Nancy Williams Fabbri, '63	Trenna Bates Barrs, '74	John Bossom, '84
Virginia Mathis Sheppard, '46	Carla Williams Hall, '63	Jennifer Grimsley, '74	Peggy Bussiere Young, '84
Mary Godbee Vinson, '46	Rose Nelson, '63	Larry Worsham, '74	Thomas Goggins, '85
Catherine Leathers Hartley, '48	Lola Crosby Owens, '63	Robert Brunton, '75	Daniel Sweat, '85
Mildred Wood Landrum, '48	Shelbie Carter Townsend, '63	Michael Fortson, '75	Raymond Huff, '86
Margaret Gheesling Trawick, '48	Dollie Cobb Bullard, '64	Milas Helms, '75	Carter Nipper, '86
Helen Dowis Brown, '49	Nancy Edlund, '64	Richmond Johnson, '75	David Roberts, '86
Shirley Steele Dalton, '49	Gwendolyn Perkins Frazier, '64	George Lightfoot, '75	Jeffrey Engle, '88
Martha Bowden Darsey, '49	Judith Foster Liss, '64	Merrill Morris, '75	James Kelley, '88
Doris Glazier Martin, '49	Reedy Nobles, '64	Cathern Pirrman Norris, '75	Jose Mendez, '88
Margaret Fountain Zorn, '49	Mary Rogers, '64	Edward Peterson, '75	Bert Peters, '88
Frances Hearn, '50	Daniel Bolt, '65	Linda Rieck, '75	Michelle Jabaley Coyle, '89
Eleanor Hurst, '50	Elaine Gilson Haney, '65	Dorothy Bigelow Rowntree, '75	Steve Strouble, '89
Ramona Altman Lariscy, '50	Yvonne Bryant, '66	Danny Slaughter, '75	Anthony Peavy, '90
Carolyn Newton Martin, '50	Phyllis Andrews Carpenter, '66	Jimmy Anderson, '76	Howard Underwood, '90
Huanne Aiken Burnett, '51	Shirley Lee Heard, '66	Roger Hunter, '76	Jennifer Spires Holmes, '91
Lura Moore Williams, '51	Sarah Brannen Monin, '66	Craig Justice, '76	Mildred Donnelly, '92
Nancy Elton Henry, '52	Oleada Dunn Warren, '66	Frances Swint Lattimore, '76	Daniel Self, '93
Maureen Miller Jagers, '52	Sara Miller Birdsong, '67	Thomas Williams, '76	John Hoogacker, '94
Alice Means Touchton, '52	Dorma Smith Perry, '67	Margaret Ethridge Allman, '77	Molly McMeans Griffith, '96
Vivian Funderburk Dodson, '53	Norma Smith, '67	Kelsie Baldwin, '77	Sherrie McDaniel Owen, '96
Isabel Trawick Myers, '53	Trudy Hudson Parker, '68	Jerry Chesnutt, '77	Barry Daniels, '97
Mary Maxwell Bugg, '54	Elizabeth Williams, '68	Kenneth Hall, '77	Tina Prince, '97
Peggy Felder Chaney, '54	Janet McElroy Windham, '68	Bunny Crawford Hatchett, '77	Willie Reynolds, '97
Nellene Davis Ethridge, '54	Dinah Cutter Brown, '69	Kathy Lambert Stanley, '77	Lisa Carter Albrycht, '98
Eunice Knight, '54	Albert Kitchens, '69	Mary Ann Johnson Aycock, '78	Carey Brown, '99
Charlotte Warren Stembridge, '54	Trulye Moore, '69	Vicki Nepote Bolton, '78	Beverly Held, '99
Jane Adams Edmonds, '55	Raphael Goldstein, '70	Thomas Ivey, '78	Robert Miller, '99
Dorothy Cochran, '55	Kenneth Hawthorne, '70	Sandra Webb Marchant, '78	Laurie Allen, '00
Barbara Ellerbee Grace, '55	Mary Johnson, '70	Annie Lucky Monroe, '78	April Bronson Brown, '00
Sarah Robison Gryder, '55	Kenneth Keene, '70	Frank Patman, '78	Sandie Todd Albritton, '10
Betty Carr McWhorter, '55	Margaret Carr McCarty, '70	Mary Pavlich, '78	Rossie Wiggins, '10

\*Denotes alumni of Peabody School.

This list recognizes deceased alumni that the university has been made aware of since April 27, 2022.





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## There's no denying the value of the study abroad program

Dr. Dwight Call was key to shaping Georgia College's International Education Center into what it is today. He served as director of the center for 15 years — in the mid '90s, until the early 2000s — working with international students, faculty, and study abroad programs. He recently received the Hemphill-Sallstrom Faculty-Staff Honors Award, recognizing retired faculty and staff who have contributed outstanding service to the university.

Call knows the value that comes with living abroad. He's quite worldly himself, having traveled to every continent except Antarctica. Call has worked in Africa, Australia, Japan, and Switzerland.

He especially enjoyed when students came to him, seeking advice about going on a two-or-three-week study abroad program. Call would guide students to the program best suited for them.

"After we talked a while, the students got excited about going abroad for a semester

or a year, which is a much greater experience for them," Call said. "It's not just a vacation or a 10-day trip to Paris. It's an opportunity to live and get to know people there."

He also enjoyed working with faculty who developed most of the study abroad programs.

Call believes in the value of study abroad so much that he's made a gift in his will to the International Scholars Fund. His gift is designated for students studying abroad or coming from Africa.

"An international experience is the best part of a liberal arts education," Call said. "It provides students the opportunity to see the world differently and in a more expansive way."

To learn how you can make a bequest to support the liberal arts mission at Georgia College, contact Dan Lavery at 478-445-1236 or [dan.lavery@gcsu.edu](mailto:dan.lavery@gcsu.edu).