



Bobcat CALENDAR

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Tuesday

28

3:30 p.m. Women's and Gender Studies Symposium Keynote Speaker Constance Bailey will talk about "I Got My Peaches Down in Georgia: Foodways and Sexuality in the U.S. South" in Peabody Auditorium.

4-6 p.m. Spring 2023 Farmer & Artisan Market on Front Campus.

5-9 p.m. GCSU Baseball vs. Valdosta State at John Kurtz Field.

7:30 p.m. GCSU Orchestra concert "Classical Masterpieces" in Russell Auditorium.

Wednesday

29

9 a.m.-5 p.m. GCSU Research Day at various spots on campus.

1 p.m. Ruben Yepes Munoz will speak on "Affecting the Conflict: Art, Film, and War in Columbia" in Peabody Auditorium.

Thursday

30

Friday

31

1-4 p.m. GCSU Women's Tennis vs. Lander at Centennial Center Courts.

6-10 p.m. GCSU Baseball vs. N. Georgia at John Kurtz Field.

7:30 p.m. GCSU Music Department and Bands present "Beware the Ides of March" concert in Russell Auditorium.

Saturday

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1:30-4:30 p.m. GCSU Men's Tennis vs. Lander at Centennial Center Courts.

7:30 p.m. GCSU's three Choral Ensembles present "Music of Our Time" concert at First Baptist Church, Milledgeville.

Elementary Science: GCSU holds 5th Renewable Energy Day

About 65 first and second graders recently attended Georgia College & State University's 5th Renewable Energy Day at Centennial Center.

Physics students demonstrated the power of sun, wind, water, biofuel and other sustainable energy sources for youngsters.

It was the university's first Renewable Energy Day since the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Even if they cannot fully comprehend the ideas of climate change or global warming, it's important to expose children at very young ages to these topics," said Dr. Hasitha Mahabuduge, associate professor of physics.

"We've seen how they light up when watching demonstrations related to different renewable energy technologies," Mahabuduge said.

"Georgia College students do a great job presenting these ideas at a level first and second graders can understand," he said. "It's a win-win situation for both parties and, most importantly, a win for our planet earth."

Students from Lakeview Primary and Midway Hills Primary Schools in Milledgeville rotated between several instructional and engaging demonstrations lasting 15 minutes each. There was also lunch, a video, a craft and closing activity.

Experiments included:

- Making solar cells using raspberries and blackberries
Using popsicle sticks and paper cups as spinning wind turbines
Watching waves move plastic tubes coiled in a wire, bobbing magnets up-and-down to generate an electrical current

- Creating a microbial fuel cell, where naturally-occurring electrochemical processes of anaerobic bacteria break down food into energy

- Games that demonstrate the electric grid and how solar cell works

Georgia College students from Mahabuduge's renewable energy class, GCSU Physics Club and Office of Sustainability helped organize the event and assisted with activities.

The day closed with elementary students signing a banner, pledging their commitment to conserve energy.



Marketing professor wins 2023 Felton Jenkins Jr. Faculty Award

College of Business & Technology (CoBT) faculty member to receive this award in the last five years. Assistant Professor of Economics Dr. Brooke Conaway won last year and Economics Professor Dr. Chris Clark in 2019.

"That's some serious representation at the state level for our college," Schwartz said. "It was a real honor to win this. It was also wonderful, along the way, to hear such enthusiastic support from my students and colleagues."

"Everyone here tries really hard to bring our A-game to the classroom and to impact our students," she said, "so to have that recognized not just at the university-level, but also by the USG, was very cool."

At Georgia College & State University, students in the athletics department have frequently proclaimed Schwartz Most Influential Professor. In CoBT, she won the Student's Choice award three times.

Winner of the 2022 University Excellence in Teaching Award, as well, Schwartz was the automatic nominee for this year's Felton Jenkins Jr. Hall of Fame Award. Dr. Costas Spirou, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs, formally nominated Schwartz. She then competed for the recognition with faculty from other USG state universities.

In the nomination package, Schwartz was praised for her ability to create original coursework, integrate real-world experiences in her classes, offer stellar research opportunities and generate partnerships with off-campus organizations.

But it's her ability to make students feel valued that stands out.

In his nomination letter, Spirou quoted a former student who said of Schwartz: "Thank you for going out of your way to help me through my undergraduate experience. You were the first professor I had who actually told me that you believed in

my ability to succeed."

"Dr. Schwartz's visionary and compassionate leadership, innovative teaching and course design and commitment to student success are worthy of the highest praise," Spirou wrote. "Dr. Schwartz is an excellent teacher with an impressive record of success. Her devotion to teaching is evidenced by her innovative pedagogies, impressive research portfolio and commitment to student learning beyond the classroom."

At Georgia College, Schwartz teaches sports marketing, consumer behavior, marketing research and LGBTQ+ marketing. The LGBTQ+ course is unique, built from scratch and not found at other universities across the nation.

In the nomination, Dr. William Donohoe, chair of management, marketing and logistics, noted students often mention Schwartz as one of their favorite professors.

Annual GCSU Research Day is Wednesday, March 29

GCSU Research Day is this Wednesday, March 29, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Nearly 500 participants are expected for the annual Student Research Conference at Georgia College & State University.

Faculty, undergraduates and graduate students will share their research and creative endeavors with campus and the community.

Oral presentations, posters and performances from all disciplines will be present, including Women's and Gender Studies, Graduate Studies and Digital Humanities.

Activities include all-day poster exhibits in Magnolia Ballroom; a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) panel at 10 a.m. in Peabody Auditorium; a speech and debate

scrimmage at 3 p.m. in Arts & Sciences room 2-72; a wellness picnic and resource fair on Front Campus at noon; and all-day oral

presentations by students around campus.

For more information, call 478-445-8721.



Grant funds oral history project



Dr. Stephanie Opperman, associate professor of history at Georgia College & State University, won a grant of nearly \$150,000 from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) for a faculty/student project collecting oral histories on the life and works of alumna and author Flannery O'Connor.

The funds were part of \$28.1 million in grants awarded recently by NEH for more than 200 humanities projects nationwide. These were given for initiatives at colleges and universities, conservation research, innovative digital resources and infrastructure projects at cultural institutions, according to the NEH website.

"We are excited to interview community members who lived in Milledgeville during the heart of O'Connor's writing career (1951-1964)," Opperman said.

"We hope to learn more about experiences with class, gender, race, disability, the Cold War, religious beliefs, commercialism and old/new South mythologies in 1950s rural Georgia," she said. "Given that the grant is centered on student engagement, we are also looking forward to what our undergraduates produce in collaboration with the community."

The endeavor, titled "Collecting the Past," will take three years to complete. It'll include related podcasts and videos, as well as oral histories about O'Connor.

The project team will begin interviews in spring 2024.

Did you know?

Dr. Arnab Sengupta, assistant professor of biology, and his students recently set up new equipment at Georgia College & State University's Integrated Science Complex. The instrument, an "Illumina iSeq next-generation sequencer," will boost the department's capacity to conduct cutting-edge biotechnology research on campus.

Next-generation sequencing (NGS) reads individual building blocks that make a DNA molecule.

NGS has a number of different applications. It'll be utilized by multiple labs for hands-on training in NGS sample preparation, instrument operation and data analysis. The instrument will prepare students for advanced research and rewarding careers in the biotechnology industry and biomedical sciences.

The easy-to-operate iSeq 100 system will be incorporated into teaching courses like Molecular Biotechniques, while providing highly-impactful NGS training to a large number of students.