

2025-2026 UNIVERSITY SENATE
MINUTES FOR THE 24 APR 2026 MEETING
University Senate Officers: Presiding Officer Stephanie Jett,
Presiding Officer Elect Joyce Norris-Taylor, Secretary Alex Blazer

ATTENDANCE

Members	P denotes Present	A denotes Absent	R denotes Regrets
Andrew Allen-R	Hedy Fraunhofer-P	Joyce Norris-Taylor-P	Cara Smith-A
Alex Blazer-P	Desaree Henriquez-P	Amy Pinney-P	John Marshall Smith-R
George Cazacu-P	Shantee Henry-P	Kelly Prior-A	Will Smith-P
Mikkel Christensen-P	Sabrina Hom-P	Frank Richardson-A	Rob Sumowski-P
Cathy Cox-P	Stephanie Jett-P	Holley Roberts-P	Amy Sumpter-P
Nicholas Creel-P	David Johnson-P	Suzanna Roman-Oliver-R	John Swinton-P
Angela Criscoe-P	Mehrnaz Khalaj Hedayati-P	Peter Rosado-A	Natalie Toomey-P
Holly Croft-P	Hasitha Mahabuduge-P	Ezra Ryall-A	Winston Tripp-P
Jamie Downing-P	Nadirah Mayweather-A	Matheson Sanchez-P	Eryn Viscarra-R
Helen DuPree-P	Jonathan Meyer-A	Lamonica Sanford-A	Talecia Warren-P
Jennifer Flory-P	Bekir Mugayitoglu-P	Kimberly Scott-R	Aric Wilhau-P
Matthew Forrest-A	Christine Mutiti-P	Serena Semere-P	
Brad Fowler-P	Laura Newbern-P	Arnab Sengupta-P	
Guests	Role on University Senate or Position at the University		
Angel Abney	Professor of Mathematics and Chair of the University Curriculum Committee		
A. Kay Anderson	Assistant Vice President for Enrollment Management and University Registrar		
Jim Berger	Director, Center for Teaching and Learning		
Kevin Bucholtz	Associate Provost for Student Engagement and Academic Excellence		
Chris Clark	Professor of Economics and CAO Designee to the 2025-2026 FAPC		
Rhonda Griffin	Administrative Assistant of the Office of the Provost and Administrative Assistant of the 2025-2026 University Senate		
Kim Muschaweck	Associate Professor of Teacher Education and Parliamentarian of the 2025-2026 University Senate		

CALL TO ORDER Stephanie Jett, Presiding Officer of the 2025-2026 University Senate, called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA A consent agenda was available as an item of business listed on the meeting agenda and read as follows.

1. **AGENDA/MINUTES**

- a. University Senate Meeting Agenda (24 Apr 2026)
- b. University Senate Meeting Minutes (27 Mar 2026)

A **MOTION** to adopt the consent agenda was approved by voice vote with no proposed extractions, no further discussion, no dissenting voice, and only voting members of the university senate eligible to vote.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS There was no new business.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT — PRESIDENT CATHY COX

1. TENURE AND PROMOTION

- a. 21 GCSU faculty members recently received promotions with 5 also earning tenure. All promotions and tenured statuses become effective of the 2026-2027 contract year. Congratulations to each of you for your service and dedication to our students and to Georgia College & State University!
- b. **College of Arts & Sciences**
 - i. Abraham Abebe – Promotion to Full Professor
 - ii. Bruce Synder - Promotion to Full Professor
 - iii. Hasitha Mahabaduge - Promotion to Full Professor
 - iv. Christina Smith - Promotion to Full Professor
 - v. Sara Doude - Promotion to Full Professor
 - vi. Alesa Liles - Promotion to Full Professor
 - vii. Jessica Wallace - Promotion to Full Professor
 - viii. James Wellborn - Promotion to Full Professor
 - ix. Sabrina Hom - Promotion to Full Professor
 - x. Ashley Taylor - Promotion to Full Professor
 - xi. Diana Young - Promotion to Full Professor
 - xii. Bryan Hall - Tenure and Promotion to Associate Professor
 - xiii. Mariana Stoyanova – Promotion to Senior Lecturer
- c. **College of Business & Technology**
 - i. Gongbing Hong - Promotion to Full Professor
 - ii. Yu-Hsiang "John" Huang - Tenure and Promotion to Associate Professor
 - iii. Ania Rynarzewska - Tenure and Promotion to Associate Professor
- d. **College of Education**
 - i. Andrea Christoff - Tenure and Promotion to Associate Professor
 - ii. Natalie Toomey - Tenure and Promotion to Associate Professor
 - iii. Miriam Jordan - Promotion to Senior Lecturer
- e. **College of Health Sciences**
 - i. Monica Ketchie- Promotion to Full Professor

2. LEGISLATIVE AND BOARD OF REGENTS UPDATE

- a. At last month’s meeting, I reported to you that the Georgia Senate had passed a version of the FY27 state budget that included a surprise cut of \$123 million to the University System of Georgia. We were pleased that the final negotiated version of the budget reduced that cut to \$34 million, and the budget now awaits signature by Governor Kemp.
- b. You may recall that the initial cut started with reasoning from the Senate Appropriations Chairman, who said he believed that online instruction costs less than in-person instruction and now that some 30% of the USG’s credit hours are earned through online instruction, a reduction in formula funding was in order. The initial cut would have meant a cut to Georgia College of \$1.8 million. In the final budget, the reduction in formula funding to Georgia College will be just over \$525,000.
- c. On the positive side, however, the Board of Regents at their April meeting approved a 1% tuition increase for the 2026-2027 academic year, and that will generate new tuition revenue for GCSU and most other USG institutions in an amount sufficient to cover the legislative cut to the formula funds. The Georgia Senate also approved a Senate Study Committee to review the 1983 formula by

which the USG is funded, and Chancellor Perdue said he welcomed the opportunity to discuss and update the formula.

- d. The Board of Regents also approved changes in some mandatory and elective and special fees, which for GCSU included some increases in selected course fees and in the athletic fee that is charged to students. The athletic fee increase will support the addition of track and field, which is the spring season complimentary sport to fall cross-country that we already sponsor. It will be led by the same coach, Alexander Bruno, with the addition of an assistant coach.
 - e. In the Regents' allocation of the overall formula funding, GCSU saw an uptick based on the strong enrollment we had two years ago (remember two-year lag in funding). We anticipated new funds of approximately \$3.4 million and received just over \$4 million.
 - f. In other actions during the Board meeting, Chancellor Perdue announced that he will retire at the end of this calendar year. The USG indicated that a national search will be conducted for a new chancellor with former Chancellor Dr. Stephen Portch and retired Georgia State President Dr. Mark Becker consulting with the search firm.
 - g. The Chancellor also put the brakes on requests by several state colleges who had sought approval to add master's degrees, and perhaps some state universities who sought to add doctorate degrees, while their graduation rates for bachelor's degrees were lagging. He asked the BOR Academic Affairs committee to study this before these requests were granted, framing the discussion in terms of "mission versus ambition."
 - h. The Chancellor thanked the Governor and the Legislature for creating and funding the first significant needs-based scholarship program for Georgia this year, called the DREAM Scholarship, with \$325 million to be used to create an endowment for ongoing scholarships. Additional funds are to be raised particularly from the corporate community to expand this endowment, he said. Other details are to be forthcoming.
 - i. Reminder that earlier in the legislative session, the amended FY26 budget was passed which included \$5 million in renovation funds for A&S building and a \$2K bonus for state employees. That \$2,000 bonus is being paid out this month.
3. **SAVE THE DATES**

Midnight Breakfast

Monday, May 4, 2026

9:45 p.m. - The MAX

Spring Graduate & Undergraduate Commencement Ceremonies

Centennial Center

College of Health Sciences

Wednesday, May 13, 2026, at 2:00 PM

Speaker: Dr. Keisha Callins, COHS Leadership Board; Physician/Professor – Mercer Medical School

College of Education

Wednesday, May 13, 2026, at 7:00 PM

Speaker: Holly Witcher, '01 BS Early Childhood Education; Special Education Teacher, White County, Ga., Schools

College of Business & Technology

Thursday, May 14, 2026, at 10:00 AM

Speaker: Dilanka Seimon, '03, BS Economics; Chief Commercial Officer, BKV Corporation, Houston/Denver

College of Arts & Sciences

Thursday, May 14, 2026, at 3:00 PM

PROVOST'S REPORT — PROVOST HOLLEY ROBERTS

1. PROVOST'S OFFICE UPDATES

- a. **SHARED GOVERNANCE** Special Thanks to Dr. Stephanie Jett, Kimberly Scott, and Serena Semere for their shared governance leadership this year.
- b. **NATIONAL RECOGNITIONS** this academic year: 11 students and 2 faculty have received national awards or scholarships this year.
- c. **FRESHMAN CLASS OF 2026 UPDATES** – As of April 24, 2026 we have received a record number of applications at 10,060 which is a new record! We currently have 7,405 completed applications, 5,226 admits, 1,812 student deposits, and 1,726 potential freshman who have paid their housing deposit. 140 Students are confirmed for the Bridge Scholars Program.
- d. **COLLEGE OF EDUCATION DEAN SEARCH** A national search for the next dean of the John H. Lounsbury College of Education has begun and is supported by the search firm, Academic Search. The search co-chairs are Dr. Indiren Pillay and Dr. Lyndall Muschell. Three finalists will be on campus April 28, 29, 30th. Please watch Front Page for complete schedules beginning on Monday. The new dean will start on July 1, 2026.
- e. **POSTHUMOUS DEGREE PROCEDURE** has been updated and approved by Executive Cabinet on April 23, 2026
- f. **ELECTRONIC TENURE & PROMOTION WORKSHOPS** The Office of Academic Affairs and CTL held two eT&P Workshops on April 20th and April 21st with over 40 attendees.
- g. **PUBLIC SYLLABI** As a reminder, Fall 2026 course syllabi must be publicly available through Simple Syllabus at the time of fall registration, which began March 9, 2026. These due dates are firm and must be adhered to consistently. All syllabi that are publicly posted should be consistent with the information provided to students once the class begins. Syllabi can be updated in Simple Syllabus if needed.
- h. **EDUCATION ABROAD AND STUDY AWAY** In summer 2026, we will operate twelve short-term Education Abroad programs and three domestic Study Away programs, serving approximately 274 students.

2. COLLEGES AND LIBRARY

- a. **COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES**
 - i. **Aquatic Sciences Center** The Aquatic Sciences Center held a research symposium on April 20th, that showcased students' work in hydrology, aquatic ecology, microbiology, etc.
 - ii. **Department of Art** The Art Department hosted an Earth Day Spring Art Party on 22nd April, with Pottery Not Plastic.
 - iii. **Department of Music** Music Department hosted *Taking Flight*, a program presented by Music Therapy and The Life Enrichment Center, on April 23rd.
 - iv. **Department of Philosophy, Religion, and Interdisciplinary Studies** On April 28th, the Department of Philosophy, Religion, and Interdisciplinary Studies will hosting a Special Talk with Robert Bernasconi, "Whither Humanity? What May I Hope For?" at 2pm in the A&S Auditorium

- b. **COLLEGE OF BUSINESS & TECHNOLOGY**
 - i. **Executive in Residence** Sam Rauschenberg, Achieve Atlanta's Vice President of Growth & Impact, was the COBT's Executive in Residence April 20-22, meeting with faculty, classes, student groups and giving a campus-wide presentation.
 - c. **COLLEGE OF EDUCATION**
 - i. **Award Winners** Congratulations to the JHL COE award winners:
 - 1. Excellence in Teaching: Dr. Alexandra Berglund
 - 2. Teaching Excellence for Program: Middle Grades Education Program
 - ii. **Dean Search** The JHL COE Dean Search is currently underway. The search is being co-chaired by Dr. Lyndall Muschell and Dr. Indiren Pillay. As part of the process, three candidates will have on-campus interviews on Tuesday, April 28, Wednesday, April 29, and Thursday, April 30.
 - iii. **The Teach in the Peach Statewide Educator Signing Day** in Atlanta (which recognizes those committing to a career in education) will be Tuesday, May 5th at the College Football Hall of Fame and throughout the state in school districts.
 - 1. Approximately one dozen incoming GCSU freshmen will be in attendance in ATL at the College Football Hall of Fame.
 - iv. **Senior Send-Off** JHL CoE will host a Senior Send-Off event on Wednesday, May 6th.
 - d. **COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES**
 - i. **The College of Health Sciences and Center for Simulation and Translational Research** has received a grant from the USG and Department of Community Health to train nurses in simulation. The total award will be \$6 million over 5 years.
 - ii. **Dr. Monica Ketchie, Dr. Karen Schwartz, and Dr. Sallie Coke** have a manuscript that has been accepted for publication in the *Journal of Midwifery & Women's Health*, one of the most respected journals in the field of women's health and midwifery. Their article, "Exploring the Experiences of Newly Certified Midwives and Women's Health Nurse Practitioners in Medically Underserved Populations," is expected to appear in the July 2026 issue.
 - iii. **Center for Simulation and Translational Research** This summer, the Center for Simulation and Translational Research will complete its final application for full accreditation with the Society for Simulation in Healthcare and, file for recognition with the International Nursing Association for Clinical Simulation in Learning.
 - e. **UNIVERSITY LIBRARY**
 - i. **Extended Hours** To better support student success Russell Library will offer extended hours during finals. For a detailed schedule, visit <https://gcsu.libcal.com> or text HOURS to 478-845-3057.
 - ii. **New Library Database** Faculty, staff and students now have access to the *Augusta Chronicle Historical and Current Collection* (1792-present) at <https://libguides.gcsu.edu/augustachronicle>.
3. **SCHOOLS AND HONORS COLLEGE**
- a. **THE GRADUATE SCHOOL**

i. **Graduate Student Withdrawals & Graduate Student Retention Efforts**

1. The “Come Back Strong” re-enrollment communication plan to encourage graduate students to update their graduate admissions and enroll summer ‘26 or fall ‘26 is in progress. The communication plan includes outreach to spring ‘26 withdrawal students and fall ‘25 withdrawal students who did not re-enroll spring ‘26, or graduate in fall ‘25, and were not academically dismissed.
2. Graduate & Professional Student Appreciation Week 2026: The appreciation week was held April 13 – 17, 2026. Planned activities and events included a free drop-in breakfast on the Parks Hall front porch, a Bobcat Prize Pack Giveaway to four graduate students, and The Graduate School’s Annual Spring Reception.

ii. **Research Day – Graduate Research Submissions** The total number of graduate student submissions for Research Day 2026 was 33.

b. **HONORS COLLEGE & NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS**

i. **Honors College**

1. At the Research Day Kickoff Keynote Address and Saladin Scholars Awards Ceremony on April 14, twelve Honors College students received Saladin Scholarships: Sarah Breen, Maggie Creekmore, Charlotte Freymann, Savannah Givens, Andrea Guider, Alyssa Jones, Alexis Keeney, Kanchan Laul, Alina Pishock, Sam Samiya, Emma Stowers, and Abby Todd. This number of scholarships is the largest ever awarded.
2. On April 23, the Honors College hosted its Awards and Graduation Banquet to recognize recipients of the college’s Annual, Endowed, and Transformative Experience scholarships and to bestow regalia on its 75 May/August graduates.
3. 2 GCSU Students, Paola Martinez (Senior, Elementary Education and Spanish) and Jonathan "JD" Caulley (Senior, English) have been awarded Fulbright Scholarships for the 2026-2027 academic year. Paola has been awarded an English Teaching Assistantship for Spain, and JD has been awarded an English Teaching assistantship for Belgium
4. 1 GCSU student, Amber Stubbs (Biology MS) has been awarded a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship. Sydney Irons (GCSU '25, Environmental Sciences) was named as an honorable mention.

c. **SCHOOL OF CONTINUING AND PROFESSIONAL STUDIES**

i. **Executive Director’s Office** The School of Continuing and Professional Studies Collaboration Award Winners were Facilities Reservations and Exchange Bank.

ii. **Academic Outreach**

1. Science Camp: The Great Outdoors: An academic day camp for rising 3rd – 9th graders in will be held in June
2. Regional Library Summer Reading Programs: To complement the Summer Reading program theme of “Unearth a Story,” Academic Outreach will be offering hands-on programming in libraries in the

middle Georgia area. This will be a half-day camp for 5- to 12-year-olds.

3. If interested in academic field trips for Fall 2026 and Spring 2027 semesters, contact Ruth Eilers at ruth.eilers@gcsu.edu to collaborate and get involved.

iii. **Continuing & Professional Education**

1. Bobcat Explorers is a reimagined summer experience. This year the experience combines traditional summer camp elements, such as swim-time and daily recreation, with specialty content taught by qualified instructors, coaches and university experts. [Register now](#)
2. The Depot Meeting space is now available to be reserved. Visit [CPE's website](#) for information and the reservation form.
3. In partnership with Eric Johansen, GCSU's Chief Human Resource Officer, we will soon be offering Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM) Test Prep Certification classes.
4. For more information contact Angie Woodham, Director of Continuing & Professional Education at angie.woodham@gcsu.edu

4. **OFFICES AND PROGRAMS**

a. **ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT**

- i. **The Office of Financial Aid & Scholarships** has notified selected scholarship recipients of their awards for the 2026-2027 academic year.
- ii. **First Destination Survey** Please encourage spring and summer graduates to complete the First Destination Survey sent to their school email, as their feedback helps us strengthen career support and track post-graduation outcomes.

iii. **Career Center Save the Dates**

1. Fall 2026 Part-Time Job Fair - Wednesday, Aug. 26
2. Fall 2026 Career & Graduate School Fair - Wednesday, Sept. 16

iv. **Spring Commencement**

1. Four spring commencement ceremonies
 - a. Commencement (College of Health Sciences) Wednesday, May 13, 2026 2 PM
 - b. Commencement (College of Education) Wednesday, May 13, 2026 7 PM
 - c. Commencement (College of Business and Technology) Thursday, May 14, 2026 10 AM
 - d. Commencement (College of Arts and Sciences) Thursday, May 14, 2026 3 PM
2. This will be the first time we have held ceremonies during the workday. All offices should remain open from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. on these days.
3. Additional information will be distributed by the Registrar. Detailed information on the ceremonies is also available at <https://www.gcsu.edu/registrar/spring-commencement>.

v. **Spring Final Grade Deadline**

1. Spring 2026 final grades are due by Monday, May 18, 2026, at 9 a.m. The Registrar will send directions to all instructors via email.

2. Please be sure all your grades are entered on time, including any incomplete or in progress grades that are due at the end of the spring semester.
 - vi. **Junior Day** took place on April 18. We welcomed a record-setting 245 high school juniors to campus to explore GCSU and its academic programs.
 - vii. **New Student Orientation** Registration for new student orientation is open. Orientation will take place June 2, June 3 (Bridge Scholars Program), June 4, June 9, June 11, July 21, July 22 (Transfer Orientation) and July 23. 1,191 students are currently registered—a 22% increase in registrations from this point in time last year.
 - viii. **The Office of Admissions** received a record-setting 10,060 freshman applications for fall 2026, a 16% increase over the prior year. For the fourth consecutive year, freshman applications closed on April 1, further affirming GCSU's standing as a highly sought-after and selective institution.
- b. **STUDENT ENGAGEMENT AND ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE**
- i. **The Writing Center**
 1. **Student Support** Continuing spring semester tutoring across all modalities, including individual in-person appointments, drop-in hours, online consultations, and asynchronous feedback. Summer session support is planned to accommodate working and online students, with hours scheduled to include midday, evening, and Saturday availability.
 2. **Workshops & Programming** Hosted Pizza & Tutoring Night event April 22nd (Library 241).
 3. **Research Day** Successfully coordinated GCSU Research Day poster competition, sponsored by the GCSU Bookstore. Each winning team received a \$100 Barnes & Noble Gift Card.
 - a. Graduate winner: Muzila Nchimunya, Megan Martin, and Meekness Kapaala for their poster "Impacts of Neighborhood Type, Geology, and On-site Sanitation Systems on Groundwater Quality." Mentored by Sam Mutiti.
 - b. Undergraduate winner: Brian Writh and Nathan Choi for their poster "Translational Control of Pro-Apoptotic PUMA via mRNA 5' End Regulatory Elements." Mentored by Arnab Sengupta.
 4. **Writing-Enriched Curriculum** Ongoing collaboration with College of Education continuing through end of semester. Proposal in development for Phase 1 and Phase 2 expansion; potential symposium pending approval.
 5. **Professional Leadership** Continuing SWCA presidency (began February 2026). *Writing Center Administrators as Campus Leaders* (University Press of Colorado/Utah) on track for June 2026 publication. Dr. Bracewell and co-editors selected as workshop leaders for the Thomas R. Watson Conference, November 2026, University of Louisville.
 - ii. **The Learning Center**

1. **Spring Supplemental Instruction (SI)** sessions will continue to be held through the last day of spring semester classes, May 6th
2. **Drop-In Academic Support** The Learning Center will continue to be open for drop-in academic support through Finals
3. **Summer Tutors** Summer classes will be supported with tutors (via online support) for biology, chemistry, physics, and math classes
4. **Fall Supplemental Instruction (SI)** The Learning Center currently has 4 SI openings (1 chemistry, 1 math, and 2 nursing) for fall '26 and are actively recruiting for those gaps
5. **Staff Training** On April 10th, approximately 100 LC student staff attended the last all staff training and celebrated 32 LC graduating seniors with a banquet to conclude the evening
6. **Math Jeopardy** All seven of the GCSU Math Jeopardy team members, who won the sectional tournament this spring, are tutors or SI leaders with the LC
7. **New Tutor and SI Leader Training** will be held on Sunday, August 16th to be ready for the first week of fall semester
- c. **MENTORED UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH AND CREATIVE ENDEAVORS**
 - i. **GCSU's 4th Annual Research Day** – celebrate Student Success
 1. Held on April 15th, 2026.
 2. Featured more than 280 presentations (134 posters and 147 oral presentations) from over 20 academic disciplines and GC Journeys. With classes reassigned, attendance grew over 15% to close to 800 student attendees this year.
 - ii. **Georgia Undergraduate Research Conference (GURC) 2026**
 1. Will be hosted by GCSU on November 6 and 7
 2. Submission due date: September 28 (Monday), 2026
 3. Please check [MURACE website](#) for further information.
 - iii. **Summer Research Grants**
 1. The deadline for applications: due April 22, 2026
 2. The recipients will be announced: May 1, 2026
5. **CENTERS AND INSTITUTES**
 - a. **CENTER FOR TEACHING & LEARNING**
 - i. **HIPs Summer Institute** Accepting Applications until May 1 <https://tinyurl.com/GCSUHIPS2026>.
 - ii. **SRIS Help** Increase Response Rates to above 65%. SRIS Available to students from now until May 6th.
 - iii. **Active Learning 101** Registration now available <https://tinyurl.com/GCSUReg>
 - iv. **Awareness** The Center for Teaching & Learning will soon release a resource to aid faculty in making course materials compliant. Review the project at <http://my.gcsu.edu>: Click Departmental Content in the top menu then search for/select the Digital Accessibility Portal tile. An email address (accessibility@gcsu.edu) has also been established to field questions relating to digital accessibility.
 - b. **SANDRA DUNAGAN DEAL CENTER FOR EARLY LANGUAGE AND LITERACY**

- i. **Georgia Reads Community Awardee Summary Report** Completed the Georgia Reads Community Awardee Summary Report and evaluations following the ten communities' \$25,000 awards
- ii. **Community Coalition Grants** Awarded 11 Community Coalition Grants for FY26 totaling \$147,965.41.
- iii. **Department of Early Care and Learning Training** Provided the last training in a series to 29 staff members from Georgia's Department of Early Care and Learning (DECAL).
- iv. **GC1Y** Hosted Dr. Betsy Short's GC1Y, "Growing Up with Literature," at the Deal Center with a Q&A.
- v. **Dr. Lindee Morgan** was invited to serve on the Professional Standards Commission Task Force to draft the rule for the new Literacy Coaching Endorsement.
- c. **FLANNERY O'CONNOR INSTITUTE FOR THE HUMANITIES**
 - i. **Newsletter** The April issue of the FOIH newsletter can be found here: <https://app.smore.com/n/78gvu3-flannery-o-connor-institute>
 - ii. **Laidlaw Fellow** In June of 2026, FOIH will host Justice Yoo, a graduate student in English at U.C. Berkeley, as the 3rd annual Laidlaw Fellow. Yoo will be working on O'Connor-related material in Special Collections for his dissertation project focused on the grotesque in Southern Literature.
 - iii. **Paid Internships** We are proud to offer four English students paid internships for the fall of 2026, for work with O'Connor's literary legacy. Depending upon student interest, interns will work in Special Collections, at the *Flannery O'Connor Review*, at Andalusia Farm, and with the Digital Humanities Collaborative.
 - iv. **Dr. Katie Simon**, FOIH Interim Executive Director, was interviewed by Fiona King for WMGT in Macon as part of an America at 250 series focused on Georgia, with an episode on Flannery O'Connor: <https://www.41nbc.com/georgias-american-journey-andalusia-flannery-oconnor/>.

STAFF COUNCIL REPORT — KIMBERLY SCOTT, CHAIR

- 1. **OFFICERS** We elected our FY 27 officers for Staff Council that will take their seats on July 1, 2026.
- 2. **EMPLOYEE APPRECIATION** May 19, 20, 21 is Employee Appreciation- dates and activity advertisement coming soon.
- 3. **ELEVATE U**
 - a. May 28th. Elevate U conference in Peabody Auditorium from 8am until 2pm- This is our Staff Development Conference and registration is open!
 - b. This dynamic half-day experience is designed with STAFF in mind. Come enjoy two energizing group sessions and four engaging breakout sessions focused on building skills, sparking new ideas, and supporting your professional growth. Plus, lunch is being provided, giving you even more time to connect, collaborate, and recharge with colleagues from across campus. We will also have some fabulous giveaways provided by Barnes & Noble. Whether you are looking to sharpen your skills, explore new perspectives, or simply reconnect with fellow team members, ElevateU is a fantastic opportunity to invest in yourself and your future.

- c. Register here: [Registration for ElevateU Conference](#).

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION REPORT — SERENA SEMERE, PRESIDENT

1. **REGISTERED STUDENT ORGANIZATION** Funding decisions will be made next week.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. **ACADEMIC POLICY COMMITTEE (APC)** — NATHAN BEDSOLE, VICE-CHAIR, FOR ANDREW ALLEN, CHAIR

Officers: Chair Andrew Allen, Vice-Chair Nathan Bedsole, Secretary Eryn Viscarra

- a. **MEETING** APC had a meeting scheduled for 3 Apr 2026 from 2:00 p.m. to 3:15 p.m.
 - i. **No Report** APC had no business to conduct, so its meeting was cancelled.
2. **ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE POLICY REVIEW COMMITTEE (AIPRC)** — BRAD FOWLER, CHAIR

Officers: Chair Brad Fowler, Vice-Chair Andrew Allen, Secretary TBD

 - a. **POLICY REVISION** The original policy was passed at the beginning of the year in accordance with USG policy and guideless. The USG reviewed all institutions' policies in January and provided feedback. The committee needs to coordinate with Human Resources and Legal Affairs on potential revisions. The policy will be updated for the next academic year.
 - b. **QUESTIONS**
 - i. Question: Will the policy include teaching students about AI use, for instance using AI to complete assignments?
 - ii. Response (AIPRC Chair): No, the policy only mentions the fact that the Bobcat Code and Academic Dishonesty Policy have modified the plagiarism definition to include AI use.
 - iii. Response (PO): Faculty will receive guidance soon on how to create and share AI policy in their syllabi.
3. **BELONGING AND INCLUSION POLICY COMMITTEE (BIPC)** — HEDWIG FRAUNHOFER, CHAIR

Officers: Chair Hedwig Fraunhofer, Vice-Chair Javier Francisco, Secretary Maria Gordon

- a. **DISABILITY TRAINING** In the April 3 meeting of BIPC, committee member Nancy Mizelle updated the committee on steps taken towards the implementation of faculty and staff training as previously recommended by the Student Disability Resource Center. She noted that the Council of Chairs moved the discussion of training implementation to its then- upcoming meeting, the last meeting of the academic year.
- b. **CIVILITY AND COLLABORATIVE EFFECTIVENESS POLICY** BIPC then continued its discussion of the desirability of a civility and collaborative effectiveness policy. Committee members examined existing GCSU policies and continued to debate pros and cons of an additional policy, including the potential need for an institutional anti-bullying policy. After the meeting, committee member and GCSU Human Resources Director Eric Johansen emailed to members a draft for an anti-bullying policy as the basis for future discussions.
- c. **QUESTIONS**
 - i. Question: Would bullying be classified under incivility?

- ii. Response (Chair): Civility goes beyond bullying.
 - iii. Response (Provost): While faculty are already subject to the USG ethics policy, the intent of the policy is to be proactive. The point of the policy is to maintain a professional environment.
 - iv. Comment: This policy should be moved to FAPC.
 - v. Question: Does this policy involve all employees? Why should it be moved to FAPC?
 - vi. Response: FAPC needs to review and recommend faculty evaluation policy.
4. **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF UNIVERSITY SENATE (ECUS) — NICHOLAS CREEL, CHAIR**

Officers: Chair Stephanie Jett, Vice-Chair Joyce Norris-Taylor, Secretary Alex Blazer

a. **RECAP OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS FROM 2025/2026 US**

- i. We worked more closely and intentionally with staff, through partnering with Staff Council and Monica Starley.
- ii. Pretty close to the entire University worked together to get the public syllabi and public CV policies implemented on our campus
- iii. The AIPRC worked diligently over the summer, when most faculty were off contract, to develop and passed the first version of our institutional AI Policy. Huge kudos to them, under the direction of their chair Dr. Brad Fowler, for their continued hard work!
 - 1. ECUS likely needs to add an HR representative to the committee as the USG is expanding the policy beyond just academics
- iv. Passed our Modified Operations Policy through a joint effort involving the Provost's office, the Director of Institutional Effectiveness (Cara Smith), FAPC, and RIPC
- v. FAPC worked to revise our Faculty Evaluation Policies to allow for noteworthy to be defined at the department and college level
 - 1. Start of the conversation, not the end!
- vi. Revised our Academic Feedback Policy to make sure our students get substantive and formative feedback prior to the midpoint of the semester thanks to APC and their work with the Registrar
- vii. Also through APC's work with the Registrar, we started the conversation surrounding revisions to our Course Withdrawal Policy
- viii. APC also revised our Distance Education Policy to define Regular & Substantive Interaction.
 - 1. Shout out to CTL, specifically Dr. Jim Berger, for their assistance with that policy!
- ix. And FAPC also lead the charge to revise our Professional Leave Program Policy, clarifying the application process, evaluation criteria, and expectations upon return.
- x. We also have started some really good conversations in BIPC surrounding faculty training on student accommodations through the Student Disability Services Office.
 - 1. Additionally, we started some VERY preliminary discussions on how to incorporate collegiality in conversations surrounding faculty evaluations and incorporating bullying into our policies surrounding harassment and workplace violence.

- xi. SAPC has championed and centered student voices throughout the year, using their position to advocate for student needs
- b. **NOTE FROM PO** I just want to take a minute to say that I am proud of the work we have done together this year. We have navigated some major challenges together. I sincerely appreciate your effort and dedication to shared governance. It doesn't always feel like we've made a difference, but through our work and the work of shared governance in all its forms on campus, we are shaping the future of this institution. We used our voices to advocate for progress that benefits the University as a whole. I also want to thank you all for working with me this year and allowing me to represent you and this institution in ROOMS THIS FIRST-GENERATION GIRLIE FROM RURAL SOUTH ALABAMA NEVER DREAMED SHE'D SEE. IT has been an honor and a privilege. I hope I have represented you well. From the bottom of my heart, thank you.
- c. **INFORMATION ITEMS**
 - i. Department Name Change Proposal: Chemistry, Physics, Astronomy, and Math
 - ii. Department Name Change: From Philosophy, Religion, and Liberal Arts to Philosophy, Religion, and Interdisciplinary Studies
 - iii. Clarification added to the University Senate Handbook
 - 1. Just clarification on the process, no changes to any procedures.
 - 2. Reminder, though, that any requests to administration should come from ECUS, specifically, the PO, to keep lines of communication open between chairs of standing committees and ECUS and to streamline the flow of information to admins.
- d. **UNIVERSITY SENATE BUDGET AND FOUNDATION UPDATES**
 - i. State Account: \$3,977.00
 - ii. Foundation Account: \$721.67
 - iii. Donation Account: \$64.17
- 5. **SUBCOMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS (SCON) — JOYCE NORRIS-TAYLOR, CHAIR**
Officers: Chair Joyce Norris-Taylor, Secretary Alex Blazer
 - a. **2026-2027 SLATE OF NOMINEES** The slate will be voted upon at the University Senate organizational meeting.
- 6. **FACULTY AFFAIRS POLICY COMMITTEE (FAPC) — JENNIFER FLORY, CHAIR**
Officers: Chair Jennifer Flory, Vice-Chair Sabrina Hom, Secretary Amy Sumpter
 - a. **FACULTY COMPENSATION BENCHMARKING AND ACADEMIC AFFAIRS DATA REQUEST**
 - i. Jennifer provided an update on follow-up requests sent to Academic Affairs seeking data previously requested but not yet provided. The current data request focuses on part-time faculty compensation, overload pay, coordinator compensation, summer salary practices, professional development resources, and merit raises.
 - ii. The committee discussed the status of these data, initially requested in Fall 2024, noting that the Provost's Office has neither provided the information nor said that the data are unavailable. Members emphasized that access to these data would support clearer definitions of faculty responsibilities and help in finding and addressing equity concerns across units.
 - b. **PROFESSIONAL LEAVE CREW** The Professional Leave Crew shared its updates via email on April 3. The committee acknowledged this work and thanked the

crew for its efforts and conclusions. In addition, Sabrina presented a slideshow summary to Senate on April 24. [How GCSU Measures Up \(Raw Information\)](#).

c. **FACULTY WORKLOAD POLICY**

- i. The committee reaffirmed its direction to continue work on faculty workload policy and discussed a targeted clarity update to the PPPM Faculty Workload Policy. The first proposal involved adding an explicit link to the College of Business and Technology (CoBT) workload policy, along with a brief explanation that CoBT teaching minimums may differ due to documented non-teaching workload components, including accreditation requirements. The intent was to increase transparency and ensure that policy reflected current practice.
- ii. The committee recommended that Jennifer draft proposed language, consult with Tanya Goette for feedback, and then circulate the language to FAPC for review. Following later discussion at an ECUS meeting, the recommendation shifted toward making the language less specific to CoBT and instead more generally applicable to accreditation-driven workload adjustments across units. Jennifer recommends that FAPC take up this item in Fall 2026.

d. **ITEMS ON THE HORIZON**

- i. We discussed potential confusion in tenure and promotion language referencing “excellence” and its relationship to Likert scores (4–5), and the possibility of minor revisions removing direct references to Likert score thresholds. We had previously removed policy text where “noteworthy” referred to specific Likert scores (4-5) since the USG removed these references. Jennifer inquired about this in the following ECUS meeting. The Provost and Presiding Officer saw intentionality with leaving the “excellence and effectiveness” referring to 4 and 5 on the Likert scale with reference to teaching and recommended against any changes.
- ii. Other concerns raised included faculty retention, faculty/staff capacity (e.g., increased CTL requests with fewer staff), and pressures in contexts where lecturers do not have to do service.

e. **QUESTIONS**

i. **Professional Leave Crew**

1. Question: Are the Carnegie Mellon research type categories linked to professional leave?
2. Response (Provost): Yes, professional leave counts toward our institution’s research expenditure.

7. **RESOURCES, PLANNING, AND INSTITUTIONAL POLICY COMMITTEE (RPIPC) — TALECIA WARREN, CHAIR**

Officers: Chair Talecia Warren, Vice-Chair Brad Fowler, Secretary Natalie Toomey

- a. **Campus Cats** RPIPC is uncertain if a cat policy is needed. The Oconee Human Society is willing to do Trap Neuter Release for campus cats. The committee will contact Dan Nadler to ask if this is allowable. Two remaining questions are what happens when students feed cats during the academic year but leave for summer and what happens if a student gets injured trapping a cat. If we do create a policy, it must align with the City of Milledgeville policy, which says that if you feed a cat you own it and must get it fixed.

- b. **Campus Corner** Emily Jarvis is considering the expansion of Campus Corner to West Campus. Issues include card swipe accessibility and location.
- 8. **STUDENT AFFAIRS POLICY COMMITTEE (SAPC) — AMY PINNEY, CHAIR**
Officers: Chair Amy Pinney, Vice-Chair Serena Semere, Secretary Cara Smith
 - a. **WELLNESS DAY** We wrapped up old business which included a discussion of Wellness Day and further steps on student mental health.
 - b. **UWILL AND THE BOBCAT CODE** We revisited UWill and the Bobcat code.
 - c. **ANNUAL REPORT** Most of our time was spent on input for the annual committee report.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/INFORMATION ITEMS

- 1. **UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE (UCC) UPDATE — ANGEL ABNEY, CHAIR**
 - a. **UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE March 27, 2026**
 - i. **Action Items**
 - 1. None (No quorum)
 - ii. **New Business**
 - 1. First reading of the Revision of the Bylaws—but no vote because No quorum
 - iii. **Information Items**
 - 1. College of Arts & Science
 - a. **New Course Proposals—None**
 - b. **Modification of Existing Courses**
 - i. Department of Communication. RHET 1110. Fundamentals of Public Speaking. Change course to COMM instead of RHET. Effective Fall 2026.
 - ii. Department of Communication. RHET 3005. Service Learning. Course Deletion. Effective Fall 2026.
 - iii. Department of Communication. MSCM 3301. History of American Journalism. Change course number to COMM 3380 and remove MCM 3306 as a prerequisite. Effective Fall 2026.
 - iv. Department of Communication. RHET 2210. Small Group Communication. Change course to COMM 2320 instead of RHET 2210. Effective Fall 2026.
 - v. Department of Communication. MSCM 2932. Practicum 2. Change course to COMM 2932 instead of MSCM 2932 Add Prerequisite of COMM 2931. Effective Fall 2026.
 - vi. Department of Communication. RHET 4940. Independent Study. Delete Course. Effective Fall 2026.
 - vii. Department of Communication. RHET 4980. Study Abroad. Delete RHET version of the Course. Effective Fall 2026.
 - viii. Department of Communication. MSCM 2201. Media Literacy. Change course to COMM 2100 instead of MSCM 2201. Effective Fall 2026.

- ix. Department of Communication. MSCM 0001. First Year Academic Seminar. Change course to COMM instead of MSCM. Effective Fall 2026.
- x. Department of Communication. MSCM 4402. Senior Career Development. Change course to COMM 4900 instead of MSCM 4402, Pre-Requisite Change—from 4 MSCM courses to 4 COMM Courses, & Catalog Description Change. Effective Fall 2026.
- xi. Department of Communication. MSCM 3375. Documentary Filmmaking. Change course to COMM 3445 instead of MSCM 3375 & Pre-Requisite Change—Remove MSCM 3306 as a Pre-requisite. Effective Fall 2026.
- xii. Department of Communication. MSCM 3362. Crisis Communication. Change course to COMM 3010 instead of MSCM 3362 Pre-Requisite Change—Remove MSCM 3306 as a pre-requisite. Effective Fall 2026.
- xiii. Department of Communication. RHET 3355. Documentary Research Methods and Ethics. Change course to COMM 3443 instead of RHET 3355. Effective Fall 2026.
- xiv. Department of Communication. MSCM 4503. Enterprise Journalism Capstone. Change course to COMM 4929 instead of MSCM 4503 & Pre-Requisite Change—Change to COMM 3310 and COMM 3900 or COMM 3910. Effective Fall 2026.
- xv. Department of Communication. MSCM 3335. History of Documentary. Change course to COMM 3440 instead of MSCM 3335. Effective Fall 2026.
- xvi. Department of Communication. MSCM 2931. Practicum 1. Change course to COMM 2931 instead of MSCM 2931. Effective Fall 2026.
- xvii. Department of Communication. RHET 0001. First Year Academic Seminar. Change course to COMM 0001 instead of RHET 0001. Note: Both the MSCM 0001 and RHET 0001 should use the RHET 0001 description. Effective Fall 2026.
- xviii. Department of Communication. MSCM 3372. Critical Analysis of the Media. Change course to COMM 3020 instead of MSCM 3372 & Pre-Requisite Change—Remove MSCM 3306 as a prerequisite & Catalog Change. Effective Fall 2026.
- xix. Department of Communication. MSCM 3356. University Media Service MSCM. Delete Course. Effective Fall 2026.
- xx. Department of Communication. MSCM 2205. Professional Media Writing. Change course to

COMM 2200 instead of MSCM 2205 & Pre-Requisite Change—Keep ENGL 1102 with C or better Add Co-requisite of COMM 2931. Effective Fall 2026.

- xxi. Department of Communication. MSCM 3379. Media Around the World. Change course to COMM 3150 instead of MSCM 3379 & Pre-Requisite Change—Remove MSCM 3306/COMM 3910 as a prerequisite. Effective Fall 2026.
- xxii. Department of Communication. RHET 3320. Intercultural Communication. Change course to COMM 3050 instead of RHET 3320 & Pre-Requisite Change—Change pre-req. from RHET to COMM 1110. Effective Fall 2026.
- xxiii. Department of Communication. MSCM 3365. Journalistic Writing/Reporting. Change course to COMM 3310 instead of MSCM 3365 & Pre-Requisite Change—remove MSCM 3306/COMM 3910 and MSCM 2205/COMM 2200 as pre-reqs. Effective Fall 2026.
- xxiv. Department of Communication. MSCM 3373. Propaganda. Change course to COMM 3030 instead of MSCM 3373 & Pre-Requisite Change—Remove MSCM 3306/COMM 3920 as pre-req. Effective Fall 2026.
- xxv. Department of Communication. MSCM 3318. Writing for Film & Television. Change course to COMM 3220 instead of MSCM 3318 & Pre-Requisite Change—Remove MSCM 3306/COMM 3910 as pre-req. Effective Fall 2026.
- xxvi. Department of Communication. MSCM 3300. Mass Media Law & Ethics. Change course to COMM 3100 instead of MSCM 3300 & Pre-Requisite Change—Remove MSCM 3306/COMM 3910 as pre-req. Effective Fall 2026.
- xxvii. Department of Communication. MSCM 4510. Film/TV/Audio Production Capstone. Change course to COMM 4938 instead of MSCM 4510 & Pre-Requisite Change—COMM 3900 & COMM 3210 are now listed as the pre-reqs. Effective Fall 2026.
- xxviii. Department of Communication. RHET 3215. Interpersonal Communication. Change course to COMM 3720 instead of RHET 3215. Effective Fall 2026.
- xxix. Department of Communication. RHET 3210. Communication in Organizations. Change course to COMM 3040 instead of RHET 3210, Pre-Requisite Change—Pre-req is COMM1110 instead of RHET

- 1110, & Course Title Change to Organizational Communication. Effective Fall 2026.
- xxx. Department of Communication. MSCM 4960. Internship. Change course to COMM 4700 instead of MSCM 4960. Effective Fall 2026.
 - xxxi. Department of Communication. RHET 3000. Persuasion. Change course to COMM 3700 instead of RHET 3000. Effective Fall 2026.
 - xxxii. Department of Communication. MSCM 3326. Feature Writing. Change course to COMM 3330 instead of MSCM 3326 & Pre-Requisite Change—Remove MSCM 3306/COMM 3910 as pre-req. Effective Fall 2026.
 - xxxiii. Department of Communication. MSCM 3352. Writing for Advertising & PR. Change course to COMM 3210 instead of MSCM 3352 & Pre-Requisite Change—Remove MSCM 3306/COMM 3910 as pre-req. Effective Fall 2026.
 - xxxiv. Department of Communication. RHET 3051. Argumentation and Debate. Change course to COMM 3730 instead of RHET 3051. Effective Fall 2026.
 - xxxv. Department of Communication. RHET 4500. Rhetorical Criticism. Change course to COMM 4600 instead of RHET 4500 & Pre-Requisite Change—Add COMM 2300 as a pre-req. Effective Fall 2026.
 - xxxvi. Department of Communication. RHET 3310. Performance Studies. Change course to COMM 3800 instead of RHET 3310. Effective Fall 2026.
 - xxxvii. Department of Communication. RHET 2315. Voice for the Public Speaker. Change course to COMM 2330 instead of RHET 2315. Effective Fall 2026.
 - xxxviii. Department of Communication. MSCM 3371. History of Broadcasting/Digital Media. Change course to COMM 3390 instead of MSCM 3371 & Pre-Requisite Change—remove MSCM 3306/COMM 3910 as a pre-req. Effective Fall 2026.
 - xxxix. Department of Communication. COMM 3500. Qualitative Research Methods. Change course number to COMM 3900 instead of COMM 3500. Effective Fall 2026.
 - xl. Department of Communication. MSCM 3368. Multimedia Broadcast Journalism. Change course to COMM 3318 instead of MSCM 3368 & Pre-Requisite Change—remove MSCM 3306/COMM 3910 as a pre-req. Effective Fall 2026.

- xli. Department of Communication. MSCM 3376. Advocacy Journalism. Change course to COMM 3370 instead of MSCM 3376 & Pre-Requisite Change—remove MSCM 3306/COMM 3910 as a pre-req. Effective Fall 2026.
- xlii. Department of Communication. MSCM 4501. Strategic Campaigns Capstone. Change course to COMM 4959 instead of MSCM 4501. Effective Fall 2026.
- xliii. Department of Communication. MSCM 3367. Non-Fiction Storytelling. Change course to COMM 3340 instead of MSCM 3367 & Pre-Requisite Change—remove MSCM 3306/COMM 3910 as a pre-req. Effective Fall 2026.
- xliv. Department of Communication. RHET 4999. Undergraduate Research. Change course to COMM 4969 instead of RHET 4999 & Course Title Change to Communication Studies Capstone. Effective Fall 2026.
- xlv. Department of Communication. MSCM 4406. Documentary Seminar. Change course to COMM 4949 instead of MSCM 4406. Effective Fall 2026.
- xlvi. Department of Communication. MSCM 3374. FCC/Broadcast and Digital Media Regulation. Delete Course. Effective Fall 2026.
- xlvii. Department of Communication. MSCM 3323. Publication Editing. Change course to COMM 3350 instead of MSCM 3323 & Pre-Requisite Change—remove MSCM 3306/COMM 3910 as a pre-req & change MSCM pre-req to MSCM 3365/3310. Effective Fall 2026.
- xlviii. Department of Communication. RHET 3315. Personal Narrative. Change course to COMM 3810 instead of MSCM 3315. Effective Fall 2026.
- xlix. Department of Communication. RHET 3100. Informative Speaking. Change course to COMM 3710 instead of RHET 3100. Effective Fall 2026.
 - 1. Department of Communication. RHET 3325. Storytelling Analysis and Performance Change course to COMM 3820 instead of RHET 3325. Effective Fall 2026.
 - li. Department of Communication. MSCM 3346. Advanced Film & TV Production. Change course to COMM 3420 instead of MSCM 3346 & Pre-Requisite Change—Remove MSCM 3306/COMM 3420 & Keep MSCM 3318/COMM 3410. Effective Fall 2026.
 - lii. Department of Communication. RHET 4950. Special Topics. Delete Course. Effective Fall 2026.

- liii. Department of Communication. MSCM 4950. Special Topics. Change course to COMM 4950 instead of MSCM 4950. Effective Fall 2026.
- liv. Department of Communication. MSCM 3320. Media Management. Change course to COMM 3422 instead of MSCM 3320 & Pre-Requisite Change—remove MSCM 3306/COMM 3910 as a pre-req. Effective Fall 2026.
- lv. Department of Communication. MSCM 3350. Radio Operations. Change course to COMM 3435 instead of MSCM 3350 & Pre-Requisite Change—remove MSCM 3306/COMM 3910 as a pre-req. Effective Fall 2026.
- lvi. Department of Communication. MSCM 3343. Media Design. Change course to COMM 3600 instead of MSCM 3343 & Pre-Requisite Change—remove MSCM 3306/COMM 3910 as a pre-req & Change pre-reqs. MSCM 3365 or MSCM 3352 to COMM 3310 or COMM 3210. Effective Fall 2026.
- lvii. Department of Communication. MSCM 3347. Undergraduate Research. Change course to COMM 3450 instead of MSCM 3347 & Pre-Requisite Change—remove MSCM 3306/COMM 3910 as a pre-req. Effective Fall 2026.
- lviii. Department of Communication. MSCM 3313. Introduction to Podcasting. Change course to COMM 3431 instead of MSCM 3313 & Pre-Requisite Change—remove MSCM 3306/COMM 3910 as a pre-req. Effective Fall 2026.
- lix. Department of Communication. MSCM 3360. Branding in Digital Media. Change course to COMM 3520 instead of MSCM 3360 & Pre-Requisite Change—remove MSCM 3306/COMM 3910 as a pre-req. Effective Fall 2026.
- lx. Department of Communication. MSCM 3353. Public Relations Planning. Change course to COMM 3610 instead of MSCM 3353 & Pre-Requisite Change—remove MSCM 3306/COMM 3910 as a pre-req & keep pre-req. of MSCM 3352/COMM 3210. Effective Fall 2026.
- lxi. Department of Communication. MSCM 3341. Media Interviewing/Listening. Change course to COMM 3425 instead of MSCM 3341 & Pre-Requisite Change—remove MSCM 3306/COMM 3910 as a pre-req. Effective Fall 2026.
- lxii. Department of Communication. MSCM 3345. Film & TV Production. Change course to COMM 3410 instead of MSCM 3345 & Pre-Requisite Change—remove MSCM 3306/COMM 3910 as a pre-req &

Keep MSCM 3318/COMM 3220. Effective Fall 2026.

- lxiii. Department of Communication. MSCM 3311. Audio Production. Change course to COMM 3430 instead of MSCM 3311 & Pre-Requisite Change—remove MSCM 3306/COMM 3910 as a pre-req. Effective Fall 2026.
- lxiv. Department of Communication. MSCM 3357. Preproduction. Change course to COMM 3427 instead of MSCM 3357 & Pre-Requisite Change—remove MSCM 3306/COMM 3910 as a pre-req. Effective Fall 2026.
- lxv. Department of Communication. MSCM 3351. Principles of PR & Advertising. Change course to COMM 3510 instead of MSCM 3351 & Pre-Requisite Change—remove MSCM 3306/COMM 3910 as a pre-req. Effective Fall 2026.
- lxvi. Department of Communication. RHET 3390. Forensics Practicum. Change course to COMM 3990 instead of RHET 3390. Effective Fall 2026.
- lxvii. Department of Communication. MSCM 3361. Campaign Principles. Change course to COMM 3620 instead of MSCM 3361 & Pre-Requisite Change—remove MSCM 3306/COMM 3910 as a pre-req & Keep MSCM 3352/COMM 3210. Effective Fall 2026.
- lxviii. Department of Communication. MSCM 3378. Pitching for Multiple Screens. Change course to COMM 3455 instead of MSCM 3378 & Pre-Requisite Change—remove MSCM 3306/COMM 3910 as a pre-req. Effective Fall 2026.
- lxix. Department of Communication. MSCM 3364. Advertising Planning & Buying. Change course to COMM 3530 instead of MSCM 3364 & Pre-Requisite Change—Change the pre-req from MSCM 3306 to COMM 3910.
- lxx. Department of Communication. MSCM 4502. Film/TV/Audio Production Capstone. Change course to COMM 4938 instead of MSCM 4502 & Pre-Requisite Change—Change pre-reqs from MSCM 3306 & 3318 to COMM 3900 & 3210. Effective Fall 2026.
- lxxi. Department of Communication. MSCM 4980. Study Abroad. Change course to COMM 4980 instead of MSCM 4980. Effective Fall 2026.
- lxxii. Department of Communication. MSCM 4940. Independent Study. Change course to COMM 4940 instead of MSCM 4940. Effective Fall 2026.

- lxxiii. Department of Theatre & Dance. THEA 3100. Theatre History 1. Pre-Requisite Change—remove THEA 2150 as a pre-req. Effective Spring 2027.
- lxxiv. Department of Theatre & Dance. THEA 4930. Performance Practicum. Pre-Requisite Change—remove THEA 2930 as a pre-req. Effective Spring 2027.
- lxxv. Department of Theatre & Dance. THEA 4210. Advanced Lighting Design. Pre-Requisite Change—remove THEA 2210 as a pre-req. Effective Spring 2027.
- lxxvi. Department of Theatre & Dance. THEA 3110. Theatre History 2. Pre-Requisite Change—remove THEA 2150 as a pre-req. Effective Spring 2027.
- 2. College of Business & Technology
 - a. **New Course Proposals**
 - i. Department of Information Systems & Computer Science. Data Science Program. DATA 1302: Advanced Python Programming. Effective Spring 2027.
 - ii. Department of Information Systems & Computer Science. Data Science Program. DATA 3690: Data Structures & Algorithms. Effective Spring 2027.
 - iii. Department of Economics & Finance. FINC 3137: Uncertainty & Gambling. Effective Spring 2027.
 - b. **Modification of Existing Courses—None**
- 3. College of Education
 - a. **New Course Proposals—None**
 - b. **Modification of Existing Courses—None**
- 4. College of Health Science
 - a. **Double Bobcat Pathway**
 - i. Department of Health & Human Performance. Double Bobcat Pathway available for Kinesiology—Physical Education MAT. Effective Fall 2026
 - b. **New Course Proposals—None**
 - c. **Modification of Existing Courses—None**
- b. **GRADUATE COUNCIL**
 - i. **March 27, 2026**
 - 1. **No Quorum**
 - ii. **April 3, 2026**
 - 1. **Old Business**
 - a. Maximum allowable credit overlap between graduate programs? More to come.
 - 2. **Action Items**
 - a. **College of Arts & Sciences**
 - i. None
 - b. **College of Business & Technology**
 - i. A&BL and IS&CS

1. Combined Master of Accountancy (MAcc) and Master of Management Information Systems (MMIS)
2. (Discussion above-no voting currently- will revisit)
- c. **College of Education**
 - i. None
- d. **College of Health Sciences**
 - i. None
3. **Information Items**
 - a. EDIT 6264 Children's Literature in the Media Center; Course Title Modification
 - i. Updated Course Title: Children's Literature in the School Library
 - b. EDIT 6254 Operation of the Library Media Center; Course Title Modification
 - i. Course Title Update: Operation of the School Library
 - c. EDIT 6263 Information Technologies in the Media Center;
 - i. Course Title and Catalog Description
 - ii. Course Title Update: Information Technologies in the School Library
 - iii. Course Description Update: Principles, methods, and applications involved in the use of information technologies in the school library, focusing on the use of computers and technology in automating operations such as circulation, maintenance, and collection evaluation.
 - d. EDIT 6256 Information Sources & Services in the Media Center; Course Title Modification
 - i. Course Title Update: Information Sources & Services in the School Library
 - e. EDIT 6960 Internship & Capstone – Library Media; Course Title Modification
 - i. Course Title Update: Internship & Capstone - School Librarianship
 - f. EDIT 6268 Selection of Library Media; Course Title Modification
 - i. Course Title Update: Selection of School Library Resources
 - g. EDIT 6262 Young Adult Literature in the Media Center; Course Title Modification
 - i. Updated Course Title: Young Adult Literature in the School Library
 - h. EDIT 6231 Research for Library Media/Instructional Technology; Course Title and Catalog Description Modification
 - i. Course Title Update: Research for Instructional Technology/School Librarianship

- ii. Course Description Update: This course focuses on research methodologies with special attention on areas relevant to instructional technology and school library professionals. Content throughout the semester will examine current research-based best practices, evaluation of resources for accuracy, bias, validity, relevance, cultural context, ethical use, and dissemination of research. The course will culminate in development of research proposals aimed at effective use of research and subsequent data to enhance school practice, policy, and overall learning and professional development improvement efforts.

- i. Double Bobcats: Exercise Science or Public Health

c. **GENERAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE (GEC) March 13, 2026**

- i. **Core-Related Course Proposals**

- 1. None

- ii. **GC1Y/2Y Proposals**

- 1. New section proposals

- a. GC2Y: In Quest of the Heroic (tabled since August 2025)

- b. GC2Y: Writing the World (tabled since August 2025)

- i. Committee agreed to ask for final revisions prior to April meeting. If none presented, application will be denied with encouragement to resubmit in Fall26

- iii. **New Business**

- 1. Proposed Bylaws Changes—Changes introduced and read; voting to take place at April meeting

- iv. **Old Business**

- 1. Development of GC Learning Outcomes for Areas P, A, and S—GEC will review area I outcomes in Fall 2026 and further discuss in April meeting
 - 2. Potential development of GCxY “non-sections” that could be taught by any faculty on campus—First Draft of Syllabus presented and read for further discussion at April meeting. Discussion of adopting USG Learning Outcomes overall in lieu of GCSU Learning Outcomes.
 - 3. Develop process for review of existing GCxY sections—Introduction & first read of process and further discussion planned for April meeting.

2. **SENATE REGONITIONS** — **STEPHANIE JETT, PRESIDING OFFICER**

- a. **CERTIFICATES** Stephanie Jett awarded to Senators Completing their Terms of Service, Standing Committee Officers, and Standing Committee Members

OPEN DISCUSSION Stephanie Jett invited open discussion from the floor. There was none.

ADJOURN

- 1. **ATTENDANCE AND THE SIGN-IN SHEET** Stephanie Jett requested that each individual present at the meeting sign the university senator attendance sheet or guest sign-in sheet on their way out if they hadn’t already signed in.

2. **NEXT UNIVERSITY SENATE MEETING** is scheduled for Friday, 24 Apr 2026 at 3:30 p.m. in Arts & Sciences 272.
3. **MOTION TO ADJOURN** As there was no further business, a motion to adjourn was made, seconded, and approved. The meeting was adjourned at 3:18 p.m.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

1. *Supporting_DepartmentProgramNameChangeProcedure_2018-03-02.pdf* The university procedure to supplement the ECUS Report.
2. *Supporting_FAPCProfessionalLeaveReport.pdf* The FAPC professional leave report to supplement the FAPC Report.
3. *Supporting_GovernanceCalendar_2026-27_FINAL.pdf* The 2026-2027 Governance Calendar to supplement the ECUS Report.
4. *Supporting_ProposalDepartmentConsolidation_2026-04-06.pdf* The department consolidation proposal to supplement the ECUS Report.
5. *Supporting_ProposalDepartmentNameChange_2026-03-31.pdf* The department name change proposal to supplement the ECUS Report.