REPORTS FROM PRESIDENT COX AND PROVOST SPIROU
15 OCTOBER 2021 MEETING OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

1. **NO REPORT**

PROVOST'S REPORT

1. **REVISIONS TO POST-TENURE AND ANNUAL REVIEW** At the October 2021 BOR (October 12-13) meeting, the Regents approved the Board Policy Revisions Post-Tenure and Annual Review (BOR Policy 8.3). The next step will be to work on the implementation. A USG Provost meeting is scheduled for October 27-28 at Columbus State University.
2. **FALL 2021 SRIS CRITICAL DATES**
    a. Departments: Mark courses to be surveyed in Banner by October 6th.
    b. Faculty: Objective Selection Form opens on October 15th.
    c. Students: SRIS begins on November 16th.
    d. Faculty: Complete Objective Selection Form (OSF) by December 6th.
    e. Students: Complete course survey(s) by December 6th.
    f. Deans, Chairs, and Faculty: Survey results available by December 16th.
3. **FACULTY SEARCHES** A number of faculty searches are taking place across the institution.
4. **ADMINISTRATOR SEARCHES** The College of Arts and Sciences Associate Dean candidates recently visited campus and the College of Business Associate Dean search is underway.
5. **COLLEGE OF BUSINESS STRATEGIC PLAN** The CoB is in the process of creating their 2021-2026 strategic plan. The strategic planning task force is hosting focus groups with various stakeholders to get input.
6. **BUDGET HEARINGS** The Academic Affairs Budget division meeting was on October 1. The university budget hearing will be held on October 27.
7. **ACCREDITATION VISITS** ABET virtual visit is scheduled to start on October 17. We just completed visits earlier this month from CAEP (COE) and NASM (COAS).
8. **SACSCOC** As part of our preparation for the SACSCOC 10-year reaffirmation, Georgia College must identify a new Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP). The topic of the QEP is chosen collaboratively by university stakeholders including faculty, staff, students, and external constituents. We plan to work through the topic selection process this fall and spring and expect to have a topic chosen by May 2022. To learn more about a quality enhancement plan, the requirements, and the process, and to see examples and additional resources, please plan to attend one of these virtual informational sessions this semester. They are open to ALL faculty and staff, and everyone is strongly encouraged to attend at least one.
    a. Campus-wide Informational Sessions/Open Forums (virtual):
        i. Friday, October 1, 10:00 am
        ii. Thursday, October 14, 2:00 pm
        iii. Wednesday, November 3, 11:00 am
        iv. Monday, November 15, 3:00 pm
    b. College/Departmental Meetings:
        i. College of Arts and Sciences: Friday, October 8, 2:30
        ii. College of Education: Friday, October 15, 2:00
        iii. College of Business: Friday, October 15, 2:30
        iv. College of Health Sciences:

1. School of Nursing, TBA
2. School of Health/Human Performance, Friday, October 15, 3:00

c. Administrative and Student Support Department Meetings
   i. Staff Council, October 19. 3:00
   ii. SGA Student Forums
      1. TBA, to be held Fall 2021 semester

d. Community Stakeholder Sessions
   i. TBA, to be held Fall 2021 or Spring 2022 semesters

e. Please direct any questions to Cara Smith at (478) 445-3530 or cara.smith@gcsu.edu. Minutes from each meeting will be recorded and posted to the QEP website. Video recordings will be made of each of the open forums and posted to the website.

9. **HONORS COLLEGE STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES (OCTOBER 2021)**
   a. October 1st, 3:00pm, Humber-White 206 "Navigating Challenging Conversations 101" (Melissa Gerrior and Jennifer Birch)
   b. October 4th, 12:00pm, Humber-White 206 "Using Your Honors Credentials to Advance Your Career" (Dr. Sandria Stephenson)
   c. October 7th, 5:30pm, Humber-White 206 "Book Discussion: The Ten Best Days of My Life" (Dr. Jennifer Flaherty)
   d. October 8th, 3:00pm, "Zoom Honors Academic Advising Session" (Michelle Johnson)
   e. October 14th, 6:00pm, "Zoom Legends of Honors: I Fell Asleep in a Meeting and They Made Me an Administrator: Leadership Lessons along the Way"
   f. October 19th, 12:30pm, Humber-White 206 "Campanology Under COVID-19" (Dr. Remi Chu)
   g. October 28th, 5:30pm, Humber-White 206 "Book Discussion: Jose Saramago's Blindness" (Dr. Alex Blazer)
10. **NATIONAL CYBERSECURITY AWARENESS MONTH** The USG joins thousands of organizations across the country to emphasize the importance of cyber-safety at work and home. Throughout October, the system office and its institutions will conduct training campaigns and special programs to emphasize ways USG employees can help identify and prevent threats to our organizations.
11. **HELP A REPORTER OUT** University Communications recently began a subscription to a service "Help a Reporter Out" (HARO), where GC can link opportunities in the media with our faculty members based on their expertise. Relatedly, University Communications worked closely with the University Library to create a Faculty Expertise Database.
12. **HONORS COLLEGE CONVOCATION** The Honors College Convocation was held on October 2, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. in Magnolia Ballroom. First-year Honors students will be inducted into Eta Sigma Alpha (the Honors student association).
13. **UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH** The second issue of *Undergraduate Research* journal is now available. The paper submission deadline for Vol. 2(1), Winter 2022 is December 1st, 2021.
14. **THE UNIVERSITY RETENTION COMMITTEE** started its work with representatives across the institution. The Committee is chaired by Joel Robinson, Sr. AVP for Enrollment Management; Brian Newsome, Dean of the Honors College; and Chris Ferland, AVP for Institutional Research and Effectiveness.

15. **SPRING TEXTBOOK ADOPTIONS** are due 11/22/2021. Instructors can input course materials in the new Adoptions and Insights Portal (AIP).
16. **THE PROVOST'S VISITING SCHOLARS PROGRAM** is intended to enrich the learning experiences of faculty and students within the context of an academic department/school. The initiative will allow academic departments/schools to invite domestic scholars for a week-long visit (Sunday to Friday). Applications are due October 15th, 2021 for the Spring 2022 academic term.
17. **THE FACULTY RESEARCH GRANT REVIEW COMMITTEE** worked with the CTL and completed its work with Round I grants, and the following faculty received support for their projects (total of $35,510):
    a. **Faculty Research Grants**
        i. Name: Dr. Hasitha Mahabaduge
        Department: Chemistry, Physics, & Astronomy
        Title: Design and Fabrication of a Smart, Passive Greenhouse
        Amount: $5,000
        ii. Name: Dr. Richard Adams
        Department: Biological and Environmental Sciences
        Title: Harnessing artificial intelligence, evolutionary biology, and robust undergraduate training to solve an apparent paradox of evolutionary inference
        Amount: $5,000
        iii. Name: Dr. Jennifer Piazza-Pick
        Department: Music
        Title: Whistling Hens: Creating an Equitable, Sustainable Future for Women Composers
        Amount: $5,000
        iv. Name: Dr. Tsu-Ming Chiang
        Department: Psychological Science
        Title: Helping Parents Provide Emotional Coaching to Children in Pandemic Times
        Amount: $3,270
        v. Name: Dr. James Daria
        Department: Government and Sociology
        Title: The Garinagu in Georgia: Garifuna Migration, Displacement, and Diaspora from Central America to the US Southeast
        Amount: $4,975
        vi. Name: Dr. Gregory Glotzbecker
        Department: Biological and Environmental Sciences
        Title: Curation of the Georgia College Fish Collection
        Amount: $3,344
        vii. Name: Dr. Chika Unigwe
        Department: English
        Title: Leaving Meshach
        Amount: $5,000
    b. **Inclusive Excellence Grants**
        i. Name: Mr. Matt Forrest
        Department: Art
        Title: Enhancing literacy through art practice within Baldwin County
        Amount: $3,921

18. **CALL FOR PROPOSALS: 2022 USG TEACHING & LEARNING CONFERENCE**. The event has been re-formatted to allow you to first engage in on-demand and asynchronous material, then elaborate on what you learned via guided group discussions, and finally, an option to connect in person with your colleagues and peers at one of four regional events. For more information about the 2022 USG Teaching & Learning Conference please see link.
19. **POSTDOCTORAL TEACHING FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM** In an effort to advance the academic mission of Georgia College, the Office of the Provost will support the launch of a Postdoctoral Teaching Fellowship program. The GC Teaching Postdoctoral Fellowship is an innovative ten-month faculty program focusing on contributing to Georgia College's mission of teaching excellence, while affording the recipients an opportunity to develop and hone their own teaching practice in a dynamic and engaging liberal arts environment. The Postdoctoral Fellows will hold a ten-month academic appointment at the rank of Lecturer, and actively participate in both the life of the department and the broader university.
20. **THE OCTOBER 2021 GRADUATE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER** is now available here.
21. **CURRICULUM UPDATES** At the October 2021 BOR meeting, the USG approved the termination of the following degrees:
    a. Bachelor of Art with a major in French
    b. Bachelor of Art with a major in Spanish
    c. Master of Art with a major in History
    d. Master of Education with a major in Kinesiology
22. **GC'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LIBERAL ARTS MISSION** The Office of the Provost is organizing a number of events during the 2001-2022 academic year to celebrate GC's 25th Year Anniversary of the Liberal Arts mission designation. Specifically:
    a. Office of the Provost- October 15, 2021
        i. Georgia College Retiree Association Presentation (The Value of a Liberal Arts Education)
    b. Office of Transformative Learning Experiences- October 29, 2021
        i. GC Journeys Symposium
    c. John H. Lounsbury College of Education-November 9, 2021
        i. The Value of Liberal Arts in Preparing Teachers & Leaders as Architects of Change
    d. College of Health Sciences - January 27, 2022
        i. 25 Years of Liberal Arts in the Health Sciences
    e. John E. Sallstrom Honors College – February 16, 2022
        i. Honors and the Liberal Arts
    f. J. Whitney Bunting College of Business- March 10, 2022
        i. Business Education and the Public Liberal Arts: COPLAC Faculty Perspectives
    g. J. Whitney Bunting College of Business- March 22, 2022
        i. Georgia College Executives Forum: Business Education for the Public Good
    h. J. Whitney Bunting College of Business- March 23, 2022
        i. Milledgeville-Baldwin County Chamber of Commerce Eggs & Issues: The Liberal Arts Means Business.
    i. University Library – April 4-May 4, 2022
        i. An Exhibit Honoring the 25th Anniversary of GC's Liberal Arts Mission
    j. College of Arts and Sciences- April 6, 2022

i. Celebrating the College of Arts and Sciences: The Heart of the Liberal Arts at Georgia College

k. Office of the Provost – April 6, 2022
   i. Provost Summer 2021 Research Fellow Panel

23. **THE GEORGIA COLLEGE COLLEGIATE MIDDLE LEVEL ASSOCIATION CHAPTER** held a summit on October 8th. The theme was "Creating a Culture of Connectedness," and Georgia Supreme Court Justice Verda Colvin was the keynote speaker.
24. **THE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION MAKER SPACE** was unveiled in Kilpatrick Hall. The equipment includes tools such as 3D printing, 3D scanning, laser engraving, sublimination printing, circuit cutter and heat press, sewing and embroidery machines, virtual reality headsets, drones, robotics, a computer assisted music keyboard, and a camera/video with lights and a green screen. Contact Diedra Monroe, (478) 445-5479, to schedule a visit.
25. **FARM TO TABLE EVENT** The College of Business with the Office of Sustainability is organizing a Farm to Table Event including a farmers' market and ticketed dinner in late October.
26. **BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN FINANCE** The College of Business is currently developing a new BS in Finance degree. Our goal is to begin the program in Fall 2022, pending review and approval by the BOR.
27. **OPEN EDUCATION RESOURCE (OER) WEBINAR** with David Harris, Editor in Chief at OpenStax will be held on October 19 at 2:00 p.m. As a part of Georgia College's participation in the AAC&U Institute on Open Education Resources, David Harris, Editor in Chief at OpenStax, will lead a webinar on October 19 at 2:00 p.m. The webinar will be instructive for faculty, librarians, and other stakeholders who are interested in learning more about supporting student success through the provision of affordable textbook alternatives. For more information, contact Shaundra Walker, Library Director, and AAC&U OER Institute Team Lead for Georgia College, at shaundra.walker@gcsu.edu or (478) 445-0987. Register in advance at https://gcsu.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJcqceGhqTojHd0Uh4ZLBZaMqRvWiw1aQEaB
28. **FALL 2022 FRESHMEN EARLY ACTION ADMISSION DEADLINE** is October 15. We anticipate the first round of freshmen admits will post in mid-November.
29. **FALLFEST** The Office of Admissions is expecting nearly 200 students (plus guests) on Saturday for Fallfest.
30. **HIGHER EDUCATION EMERGENCY RELIEF FUNDING** GC Financial Aid Office has currently administered approximately $5 million in Higher Education Emergency Relief Funding (HEERF III) to eligible students. These funds are to assist students who have been affected by the Coronavirus. Students still have the opportunity to apply for funds by visiting GC Financial Aid website.

31. **REGISTRATION FOR SPRING 2022** will begin on Monday, October 25. Please encourage students to register at their first available opportunity.
32. **FALL COMMENCEMENT** will be held on Saturday, December 11, with the processional beginning promptly at 12:45 p.m. As part of our return to normal, this will be a traditional ceremony. Faculty are invited to attend the ceremony and the outdoor reception afterward. The registrar will send additional information about the ceremony to faculty early next month.

33. **ENROLLMENT** The 1,507 first year class is the largest in the history of the university (1,481 in 2018). Graduate School enrollment for Fall 2021 is 1,177, which is a 7% decrease from fall 2020, and less than 1% decrease from fall 2019.
34. **THE GRADUATE SCHOOL FALL** Marketing of The Graduate School is in full swing with billboards on I-20, I-75 and 441 in Milledgeville. Other marketing activities include the following: social media advertising with Facebook and Instagram, targeted display based on keyword searches across all search engines, etc.
35. **GRADUATE WRITING GROUP** Collaborations are underway with the Library and Writing Center to develop and provide a Graduate Writing Group. The purpose of the group would be to provide community, accountability, support, and focused work time (in-person/virtual) for graduate students working on academic writing projects. The group is anticipated to form in Spring 2022.
36. **GRADUATE STUDENT ORGANIZATION** The Graduate Coordinators are working on the development of the first Graduate Student Organization. The plan is to launch the RSO at the beginning of spring semester 2022.
37. ***MOBILITY INTERNATIONAL USA*** Georgia College and the International Education Center (plus the Disability Resource Center) were featured in a recent online publication of *Mobility International USA* (MIUSA), a non-profit advancing disability rights globally. For more information please see https://www.miusa.org/resource/tipsheet/pakistan.
38. **UNIVERSITY LEARNING CENTER** Drop in tutoring visits at the University Learning Center are up 20% from last year, fall semester, during the same time frame.