

**REPORTS FROM PRESIDENT COX AND PROVOST SPIROU
20 OCTOBER 2023 MEETING OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE**

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

1. **UNIVERSITY BUDGET FORUM** The FY 2025 **University Budget Open Forum** will be held on Thursday, October 26, 2023, from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. in the Pat Peterson Museum Education Room. As a part of our commitment to shared governance and transparent decision making, all campus community members are encouraged to participate. The deans from each of the colleges will present their funding priorities for the coming budget year. Following the deans, the vice presidents will present. This forum is open to the university community and provides an opportunity for understanding the funding needs across the university.
2. **BOARD OF REGENTS UPDATE**
 - a. At the October meeting of the Board of Regents, the Regents approved two policies related to personnel matters and benefits that I wanted to bring to your attention.
 - b. First, Policy 6.10.1 which pertains to the Smoke-Free Campus Policy was modified to include in the definition of “smoking” language which also prohibits “smoking devices which create an aerosol or vapor or the use of any oral smoking devise for the purpose of circumventing the prohibition of smoking in this policy.” In other words, any kind of “vaping” is also now prohibited under the Smoke-Free Campus Policy.
 - c. The second policy change related to leave time for voting. During the 2023 legislative session, the General Assembly passed Senate Bill 129 (sponsored by our Milledgeville Senator Rick Williams) which changed the current law, which had provisions for an employee to request time off to vote on election day, to now request leave time up to two hours for voting either on an advance voting day or the final election day. The new USG policy (under Policy 8.2.7.7) states that “voting leave” will be provided pursuant to Georgia law.
 - d. The Regents also adopted changes to the Core Curriculum, Policy Manual Section 3.3.1, and I’ll let Dr. Spirou cover that in his report.
 - e. In Capital Projects planning, the Regents do have our Herty Hall renovation project on the list of FY25 Capital Project Requests to the Governor’s office for construction phase funding – so we hope we will have smoother sailing this year as that project continues.
3. **PERSONNEL UPDATES** We anticipate being able to announce next week our new Vice President for University Advancement and our new Director of Public Safety, both of whom we expect will start work on December 1. Thanks to all of you who participated in the search processes for both important positions.
4. **UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF GEORGIA EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE (ELI)**
 - a. The Executive Leadership Institute is a comprehensive 120-hour development program facilitated by leading experts in leadership. The program targets emerging leaders within the University System of Georgia who have a combination of experience, education, and core leadership competencies. ELI is designed to develop high-potential leaders, equipping them with the skills needed to ensure leadership excellence across the USG.

- b. Ms. Jen Yearwood, Assistant Director for Talent Management in the GCSU Office of Human Resources, has been selected to participate from Georgia College & State University. The ELI program requires approximately 120 hours of the scholar's time. Jen's mentor will be Ms. Julie Harris at Shared Services. Jen will spend 40 hours on their campus shadowing and learning all that she can. We are excited for Jen, and we are looking forward to the new ideas she will be bringing back to campus in the near future.
5. **OPEN ENROLLMENT**
- a. USG Open Enrollment will be open to benefit-eligible employees October 23 – November 3, 2023. Enrollment in benefits for the 2024 plan year will take place via OneUSG. This year is considered an active open enrollment; all employees will be required to login and complete the certification of tobacco use and working spouse (if applicable). If employees do not login and take the required action during Open Enrollment, they will default to the status that results in a surcharge. This year, the respective surcharges will remain \$150 per month. Even if employees have zero interest in making any changes to their current coverage, it is vital that they login to complete their respective certification(s). The Office of Human Resources' Benefits Team will be available to assist employees with Open Enrollment questions in the Library, Room 302 on several different occasions throughout the two weeks of Open Enrollment; specific dates they will be available are listed below and the schedule will also be circulated via FrontPage as Open Enrollment approaches. Contact benefits@gcsu.edu for questions or more information.
 - b. At the August 8, 2023 Board of Regents' meeting, the Regents approved health plans for the coming year that will increase employee premiums in 2024. A summary of the approved plan design changes and premiums are available on the [USG Benefits website](#).
 - c. The Office of Human Resources' Benefits team will be available for Open Enrollment assistance in the Library, Room 302 on the following days:
 - i. Monday, 10/23: 11A-1P
 - ii. Wednesday, 10/25: 11A-1P
 - iii. Friday, 10/27: 11A-1P
 - iv. Tuesday, 10/31: 11A-1P
 - v. Thursday, 11/3: 11A-1P
 - vi. Friday, 11/3: Please contact benefits@gcsu.edu or call (478) 445-5596 to schedule an appointment with the Benefits Team in their office (Wooten-Garner House) on this date.
 - vii. It is highly recommended that employees NOT wait until the last minute to complete their Open Enrollment elections. Often, the OneUSG system lags during the final days as there is a significant increase in web traffic across all 26 institutions in the USG, and wait times when calling the Benefits Call Center (1-844-587-4236) are longer toward the end of Open Enrollment as well.
6. **ETHICS AWARENESS WEEK** Ethics Awareness Week is scheduled for November 6-12, 2023. The purpose of this week is to remind everyone in the university system of our shared ethical values and expectations so that these are incorporated into our day-to-day

decisions. Ms. Rhonda Fowler, Chief Audit Officer, is coordinating various in-person and virtual activities for the week. I hope you will join us on Monday, November 6 at 8:30 a.m. in the Magnolia Ballroom for Eggs & Ethics! Details to other events for the week can be find by clicking [here](#).

7. **SAVE THE DATE!**



- a. ***Fallfest II***
Saturday, October 21, 2023
Front Campus
<https://www.gcsu.edu/admissions/fallfest>
- b. ***Open Enrollment***
October 23 – November 3, 2023
- c. ***University Budget Forum***
Thursday, October 26, 2023
9:00 a.m. – Noon
Pat Peterson Museum Education Room
- d. ***Special Presentation to Faculty/Staff by Georgia Chamber CEO Chris Clark***
Friday, November 17, 2:00 p.m.
Location TBD
- e. ***Hanging of the Greens***
November 30, 2023
5:00 p.m.
Front Campus
- f. ***Tacky Holiday Sweater Gathering***
Friday, December 15
3:00PM
Location TBD
- g. ***Winter Commencement***
December 16, 2023
1:00 p.m.
Centennial Center

PROVOST’S REPORT

1. **COLLEGES AND LIBRARY**

a. **COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES**

- i. **Department of Art** Chair Matthew Forrest has won the prestigious Georgia Art Education Association Higher Education Award for 2024.
- ii. **Department of Biology and Environmental Sciences** GC Journeys worked closely with the Department of Biology and Environmental Sciences to bring “Science for Georgia” to campus for a free science

- communication workshop on Friday, October 20th from 10:00am-3:00pm in the Health Science Building.
- iii. **Department of Government and Sociology** The Criminal Justice faculty are working on a community-engaged juvenile delinquency prevention initiative this semester, and they are raising funds for recreation scholarships for local youth who need financial assistance to register for and participate in Baldwin County recreation sports. They are tabling at 2 First Fridays (October and November) and having a family fall festival on October 25th. All proceeds will go to these scholarships.
 - iv. **The Department of Philosophy and Liberal Studies** recently engaged with donors to the Veetraag Vigyaan and Bhagwan Sumatinath Jain Endowment to generate scholarly funds totaling \$500,000
 - v. **Digital Humanities Collaborative**
- b. **COLLEGE OF BUSINESS AND TECHNOLOGY**
 - i. **Middle Georgia State University MOU** The CoBT is celebrating the signing of a MOU with Middle Georgia State University, specifically for accounting majors to enroll to the GCSU MACC program.
 - c. **COLLEGE OF EDUCATION**
 1. **The John H. Lounsbury Distinguished Lecture** will be held this year on February 8, 2024, with Dr. Peter Johnston, Professor Emeritus professor at the State University of New York at Albany. His research and writings focus on children’s learning and teachers’ teaching and his publications include *Opening Minds: Using Language to Change Lives*; *Choice Words: How Our Language Affects Children’s Learning*; and *Engaging Literate Minds, K-3: Literacy Teaching That Grows Children’s Social, Emotional, and Intellectual Lives*.
 - d. **UNIVERSITY LIBRARY**
 - i. **Innovative Circulating Technology** Russell Library is pleased to announce expanded access to innovative circulating technology for students. To view the catalog of available items, visit <https://gcsu.libcal.com/reserve/technology>.
2. **SCHOOLS AND HONORS COLLEGE**
 - a. **THE GRADUATE SCHOOL**
 - i. **Career and Recruitment Fairs** The Graduate School and graduate program partners in the College of Business and Technology and the College of Education have been traveling the state to promote GCSU graduate programs at various career and graduate recruitment fairs. Some institutions visited include Dalton State College, Georgia Gwinnett College, Middle Georgia State University, and Wesleyan College. The Graduate School also participated in the Career Center’s annual Grad Fest on October 12th.
 - ii. **Fee Waiver** The Graduate School is currently running an application fee waiver campaign for new graduate admissions applicants through November 1. The promotional offer is highlighted as a button on the main GCSU web site, The Graduate School website, and the Graduate Admissions web page.

- iii. **Table Talk** To enhance graduate student and faculty engagement, The Graduate School has acquired access to Table Talk for graduate teaching assistants.
- b. **HONORS COLLEGE**
 - i. **The Honors College Convocation** took place on September 30th and inducted the largest first year class in Eta Sigma, the GCSU Honors Student Association.
 - ii. **The Honors College NYC Program** took place on October 6th to 10th. The Honors GC2Y on Underworlds and Afterlives course explored cultural resources related to the theme of the class.
- c. **SCHOOL OF CONTINUING AND PROFESSIONAL STUDIES**
 - i. **Academic Outreach**
 - 1. **Adopt-a-Stream Chemical Training** Academic Outreach is organizing an Adopt-a-Stream Chemical Training (Saturday, October 21, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00). Registration information can be found here: <https://givepul.se/qel9d6>
 - 2. **GCSU Thirst for Knowledge Water Education Day** is Saturday, October 21, 12:00 – 3:00 p.m. Hands-on activities and information on water and water quality will take place on the front campus and at Herty/ISC. Students can sign up to lead a session (email ruth.eilers@gcsu.edu or samuel.mutiti@gcsu.edu).
 - ii. **Continuing & Professional Education** [Registration is open](#) for the Wonders of Greece program until February 1, 2024. Information Session on Thursday, November 16 at 12 p.m. [Zoom](#) – Visit the [website](#) for more details.
 - iii. **Communities in Schools** On October 26th, Communities in Schools Milledgeville Baldwin County is sponsoring the annual Read for the Record Day in the Baldwin County Schools to bring awareness to the importance of strengthening literacy skills in every grade. New this year, we will include a group of Baldwin County High School students who will be reading at the Primary Schools.
 - iv. **The Department of Production Services** team supports many small and large events both on-and-off campus at a variety of venues throughout each week every year. To request services for a Georgia College event, please complete the [request form](#).
 - v. **The High Achievers Program (HAP)** is collaborating with Academic Outreach to facilitate science activities and a local business Provisional Counseling Services to facilitate wellbeing activities for participants attending the HAP. YES at LVA and OHMS serve over 200 students. For more information about the Afterschool Achievement success see the [High Achievers newsletter](#), [LVA newsletter](#), and [OHMS newsletter](#).
 - vi. **Historic Museums** is presenting “Dueling Cultures, Damnable Legacies: Southern Violence and White Supremacy in the Civil War Era” by Dr. Welborne on October 25 at 6:00 p.m. in the Old Governor’s Mansion State Dining room. Death After Dark Tours are filling up. A few tickets are still available on October 27 at 6:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

- vii. **The School of Continuing & Professional Studies** is collaborating with Alumni Relations in providing a GCSU Alumni Lifelong Learning Series. The first event was a live webinar with Dr. Brent Evans, “Developing a Financial Plan.” If you would like to share an idea for this series, please contact Angela Criscoe (angela.criscoe@gcsu.edu) or Nadirah Mayweather (nadirah.mayweather@gcsu.edu).
3. **OFFICES AND PROGRAMS**
- a. **GC JOURNEYS**
 - i. **Family Weekend Panel** GC Journeys hosted a student panel during Family Weekend to highlight students participating in experiences such as Undergraduate Research, REUs, Study Abroad, Internships, and Leadership programs.
 - ii. **High Impact Practices** Following an effort to improve student participation in GC Journeys, we have observed an increase of 30.61% in the number of courses tagged in HIPs for Fall 2023.
 - b. **THE LEADERSHIP PROGRAMS**
 - i. **Usery Forum** The Leadership Office hosted Jane Kidd, the 2023-24 Alex Gregory Leader-in-Residence, for the Usery Forum on October 16th.
 - c. **MURACE**
 - i. **Family Weekend Showcase** MURACE hosted an undergraduate research showcase during family weekend with over 20 students presenting posters.
 - d. **OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS**
 - i. **Adopt an Admit** The Office of Admissions plans to restart the *Adopt an Admit* mentor program again for diverse freshmen students who will be admitted for the fall 2024 term. We will be seeking faculty and staff volunteers to mentor these new admits. Please keep a look out for our formal announcement in November.
 - ii. **Fallfest II** will be held on October 21, 2023 and 209 students are registered to attend. This is the first occasion that interest levels have led GCSU to host two fall preview days.
 - iii. **Freshman Applications** As of October 16, 2023, the Office of Admissions has received 4,066 freshman applications for the fall 2024 term. This is an increase of 8% over fall 2023 and an increase of 53% over fall 2022, when we were last test required.
 - iv. **Freshman Early Action Admissions** decisions will be released before the Thanksgiving holiday.
 - v. **President’s Scholarship Competition** On Friday, December 8, Georgia College & State University will host the President’s Scholarship Competition (PSC). At PSC, approximately 100 outstanding freshmen applicants for Fall 2024 will be invited to campus to compete for merit-based scholarships. This is a scholarship competition but also a prime opportunity to recruit academically talented students to GCSU. This event is extremely important as we work to meet our enrollment goals and attract the best and brightest students. We are in need of at least 40 of our fantastic faculty members to serve as interview judges for this event. The interviews will begin at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, December 8 and will

conclude around 3:30 p.m. Judges will be invited to join the students and parents for lunch that day at 11:45, but lunch is optional. Prior to the event, we will provide detailed information for each faculty judge to simplify the process for them – including an informational video about judging and portfolios containing student credentials. Please consider serving as a judge for the competition by completing the form here: <https://admissions.gcsu.edu/register/pscjudge2023>.

e. **OFFICE OF GRANTS & SPONSORED PROJECTS**

- i. **Grant Workshops** The Office of Grants and Sponsored Projects (OGSP) will be hosting two workshops for the Limited Submission Competition for the National Science Foundation (NSF) Enabling Partnerships to Increase Innovative Capacity (EPIIC) Grant. Dr. Kimberly Eck, Associate Vice President of Research at Emory University will deliver opening remarks on Monday, October 23, 2023, at 11:00 AM for the NSF EPIIC Workshop. GCSU will select 1 team of 3 people to represent the university and Middle Georgia.
- ii. **University System of Georgia RACR Meeting** OGSP will host the first in-person meeting for the University System of Georgia (USG) Regents Advisory Committee on Research (RACR). This gathering will focus on the ways in which each university within the system play a unique role in developing a culture of research across the state.

f. **OFFICE OF INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH AND EFFECTIVENESS**

- i. **Retention and Graduation Rates** The final retention rate reported to the USG for students who entered GCSU in Fall 2022 is 84.4%. This is an increase of 4.3% over the previous year. Additionally, the Office of Institutional Research and Effectiveness reported 49.9 four-year and 61.5 six-year graduation rates. In the next couple of weeks, we expect that the USG will formally report enrollment and retention data for all 26 institutions of higher education.

g. **OFFICE OF THE PROVOST & ACADEMIC AFFAIRS**

- i. **The 2024 Constitution Week** was very successful with hundreds of students participating in the various sessions.
- ii. **Dashboards** Academic Affairs is developing several dashboards to assist us in better understanding our programs while integrating data in decision making. The USG has also developed an Academic Affairs METRICS dashboard which is accessible to GCSU academic leaders.
- iii. **Imagine 2030 Strategic Plan** As the university engages in the implementation of the Imagine 2030 Strategic Plan, the Office of the Provost is working closely with colleges to support the various strategic directions. A meeting with the Extended Council of Deans is scheduled for November 1, 2023.
- iv. **Website Update** The Office of the Provost has launched an update of the Academic Affairs web pages.

4. **CENTERS AND INSTITUTES**

a. **ANDALUSIA INSTITUTE**

- i. **Book Discussion** The Andalusia Institute is hosting a book discussion on Flannery O'Connor's letters on October 26th, register [Here](#).
 - ii. Writing for Success The Andalusia Institute is hosting several events in the Fall as part of the 'Writing for Success' project and the upcoming 'Oral History.' For a full calendar, see the [Andalusia Institute October Newsletter](#).
- b. **CENTER FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING**
 - i. **AI Programming** The next AI series focuses specifically on writing instruction and is scheduled for Wednesday, October 25 at 2:00pm in CTL 376.
 - ii. **Notes from CTL** The October 3rd issue of *Notes from CTL* is available [here](#).
 - iii. **University System of Georgia Regents Advisory Committee Meeting** The Center for Teaching and Learning recently hosted the University System of Georgia RAC Meeting, bringing CTL Directors and from around the state and Academic Affairs staff from the USG onto GCSU's campus.
 - iv. **Workshops** The Center for Teaching and Learning is offering several workshops for faculty.
- c. **EARLY LEARNING CENTER**
 - i. **Montessori Academy** Enrollment at the Montessori Academy is currently 98 students. The Academy currently employs seven Student Workers and the Georgia College Nursing Students have begun observations. A GCSU Music therapy student has begun working with students in seven different classrooms. A Georgia College Empathy Study began last month and is off to a great start. Eight GCSU students are participating.
- d. **THE INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION CENTER**
 - i. **Dr. Edwin G. and Sue P. Speir Endowment** The Office of International Education and University Advancement hosted a special ceremony honoring former president Dr. Ed Speir celebrating the establishment of the Dr. Edwin G. and Sue P. Speir Endowment for the International Education Center and the dedication of the newly refurbished conference room which will bear Dr. Speir's name as a tribute to his remarkable contributions.
 - ii. **International Festival** The International Club along with the Office of International Education and many GCSU offices and student organizations hosted the annual International Festival on Wednesday, October 18th with entertainment performed by international students, games, free GCSU swag, etc.
 - iii. **International Student Enrollment** GCSU has a total of 50 international students enrolled this semester from 30 different nations. This year there are 27 new students from 20 different nations. Six students come to GCSU from the State Department from the following countries – Cambodia, El Salvador, Georgia, Mongolia, Pakistan, Uzbekistan.
- e. **SANDRA DUNAGAN DEAL CENTER FOR EARLY LANGUAGE AND LITERACY**

- i. **Psychometric Review of the Universal Reading Screeners** The Sandra Dunagan Deal Center for Early Language and Literacy presented the recently completed Psychometric Review of the Universal Reading Screeners approved by the Georgia Department of Education to the Georgia Literacy Council on Tuesday, October 17th at Kennesaw University.
 - f. **WRITING CENTER**
 - i. **AI Use** The Writing Center has been working to align with Elon’s “AI Use in The Writing Center: Considerations for Faculty and Students”: <https://www.elon.edu/u/academics/writing-excellence/ai-and-writing/ai-use-in-the-writing-center/>.
- 5. **UNIVERSITY COMMITTEES AND TASK FORCES**
 - a. **QUALITY ENHANCEMENT PLAN** This semester we are marketing GCSU’s new Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) *Bobcats FIRST*, which will focus on student emotional health and mental and physical wellbeing. We have held three pop-up events for students this month including a tent event on front campus and tabling at Midterm Mashup. Student response has been very positive and enthusiastic. We will continue to spread the message of the QEP to the students all semester. Additionally, we will be visiting department and unit meetings to host QEP information sessions and events for faculty and staff.
- 6. **CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS**
 - a. **GEORGIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES**
 - b. **THE GEORGIA UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH CONFERENCE** will be held on Nov 11th at Valdosta State University. GCSU has 54 students accepted into the conference, which is believed to be the largest number that we’ve had accepted at a conference GCSU is not hosting.
 - c. **USG TEACHING & LEARNING CONFERENCE** The 2024 USG Teaching & Learning Conference is scheduled for April 15-16th. The theme is “Building Bridges, Navigating Changes in Higher Education” and proposals are due by November 3, 2023.
- 7. **ACCREDITATION**
 - a. **PUBLIC HEALTH** The CoHS is working on CEPH (Council on Education for Public Health) accreditation for our BS degree in public health.
 - b. **COMPUTER SCIENCE**
 - c. **MUSIC**
 - d. **MUSIC THERAPY**
 - e. **PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION**
- 8. **CURRICULUM**
 - a. **CORE CURRICULUM** On October 4, 2023, the Board of Regents approved a request by the University System of Georgia to amend Board policy 3.3.1 Core Curriculum, effective immediately, with full implementation by Fall 2024. The key amendments relate to (1) changing the nomenclature of core curriculum areas, and (2) include a system-wide learning outcomes and career-ready competencies. Rather than using Area A1, A2, B, etc., the core IMPACTS stand for:
 - Institutional Priority (previously, Area B)
 - Mathematics & Quantitative Skills (previously, Area A2)

Political Science & US History (previously, Area E)
Arts, Humanities & Ethics (previously, Area C)
Communication in Writing (previously, Area A1)
Technology, Mathematics, & Sciences (previously, Area D)
Social Sciences (previously, Area E)

Regarding implementation, the next steps are for (1) the University Registrar to work on technological modifications (Banner, Degree Works, Program Maps, Catalogs, etc.), and (2) update the Required Syllabus Statement to ensure that this change is integrated appropriately (Academic Policy Committee).

- b. **DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE PATHWAY** The College of Health Sciences is working on a proposal for a Bachelor of Science in Nursing to Doctor of Nursing Practice pathway.
 - c. **ELEMENTARY EDUCATION MAT** The College of Education is preparing/updating the curriculum for the Elementary Education MAT program.
 - d. **INFO 3456 MOTHER NATURE VS. CULTURAL HERITAGE** As a part of its new Information Studies minor, during the Spring 2024 semester, Russell Library will offer a new Information Studies Course, INFO 3456 Mother Nature vs. Cultural Heritage (T/TH 9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.). This course will look at how the environmental shifts around us affect our cultural heritage sites and how sites are responding – or choosing not to respond. The course will also cover the topics of disaster preparedness and response.
 - e. **SOLAR POWER CERTIFICATE** Continuing & Professional Education is partnering with the College of Arts & Sciences, the College of Business & Technology, and Grants & Sponsored Projects to launch a new Solar Power Certificate non-credit certificate program in Spring 2024. The department will handle course registration, marketing, grades, transcripts, as well as issuing the CEU's and certificates for the program. More information about this program will be forthcoming.
9. **FACULTY**
- a. **FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS**
 - i. **Academic Affairs Grants (Round I)** The recipients of the Academic Affairs Grants (Round I) are
 1. **Dr. Indiren Pillay**
Biological and Environmental Sciences
\$4,944.50 for *Effects of Soil Chemistry on the Distribution and Genomic Diversity of Actinobacteriophages in Central Georgia*
 2. **Dr. Chris Clark**
Economics & Finance
\$1,465 for *Estimating the Effect of The HOPE Scholarship on College Tuition*
 3. **Helen Dupree**
Health & Human Performance
\$5,000 for *The Body Project: An Assessment of Program Impacts on Eating Disorder Behaviors among College Students*
 4. **Dr. Sunita Manian**
Philosophy, Religion, and Liberal Studies

\$5,000 for *Interview of Key Informants Working with Trans Men in India*

5. **Dr. Miriam Jordan**

Teacher Education

\$1,000 for C-bEL focused *Science Take Out*

- ii. **Affordable Learning Georgia**
 - iii. **Collaborative Research Grant**
 - iv. **Community-Based Engaged Learning Grant**
 - v. **Faculty Research Grants**
 - vi. **GC Journeys Project Mini Grants** GC Journeys has been awarded two project mini grants: Dr. Damian Francis & Dr. Carrie Cook. To apply for a GC Journeys project mini grant to support transformative experiences, go here: https://gcsu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_erqDJJa3A5UCMmi.
 - vii. **Inclusive Excellence Research Grant**
 - viii. **Professional Leave**
 - ix. **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 allows academic departments/schools to invite domestic scholars for a week-long visit (Sunday to Friday). Each Scholar will contribute to the life of the academic department and enrich the student experience. The Provost Visiting Scholars are:
 - 1. **Department of World Languages and Cultures** *Dr. Laurenz Volkman*, University Professor and Chair of the Institute of English and American Studies, Friedrich Schiller Universität, Jena (Germany).
 - 2. **Department of Art** *Lincoln Cushing*, Instructor, College of Environmental Design, UC Berkeley; Consulting Archivist, Oakland Museum of California; Founder, Docs Populi (Archives).
 - 3. **College of Education** *Dr. LeAnne Salazar-Montoya*, Assistant Professor, Educational Policy and Leadership, UNLV.
 - x. **Women's Leadership Faculty Fellows Program**
 - xi. **Research Grant Initiative for Implementation Research to Improve Early Language and Literacy Outcomes** The Sandra Dunagan Deal Center recently announced a Research Grant Initiative for Implementation Research to Improve Early Language and Literacy Outcomes. Applications submission is open until 5:00pm on November 27, 2023. This grant initiative offers grants up to \$50,000.
- b. **ADMINISTRATOR AND FACULTY SEARCHES**
- i. **Chair of the Department of Teacher Education** The search for the Chair of the Department of the Teacher Education is currently underway with finalists visiting campus in the next few weeks.
 - ii. **Dean of the College of Education** The search committee for the next Dean of the College of Education invited three finalists for campus visits.

10. **CALENDAR**

- a. **SPRING REGISTRATION** Registration for the Spring 2024 semester begins on Monday, October 23. This year, the earliest registration date for students on the USG Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) has been moved up a month; these students may registrar beginning on Monday, November 27.