

**REPORTS FROM THE 17 OCTOBER 2025
MEETING OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE**

PRESIDENT’S REPORT— CATHY COX, PRESIDENT

1. BOARD OF REGENTS UPDATE

- a. The Board of Regents held their October meeting on the campus of Georgia State University earlier this week.
- b. The Board approved a Memorandum of Understanding between GCSU and Georgia Military College for joint law enforcement protection, when needed. This agreement had been under review for about a year by the Attorney General’s office because it didn’t fit the standard MOU agreement with “local law enforcement” agencies.
- c. The Regents heard a detailed presentation on “strategic reserves,” or what we have previously called “carryforward” funds that are generated from various fees, sales and service accounts, and indirect costs associated with grant funds. These funds are allowed to be held over from one budget year to the next under a specific state law that is up for renewal in the upcoming legislative session and the USG has been taking steps to help the General Assembly understand the importance of these funds to all of our operations. We are required to report annually to the USG on the balances we have in any “strategic reserve” funds and describe in detail the purposes for which they will be used.
- d. Here at GCSU, we reported just over \$5.9 million in all our “strategic reserve” funds combined for the last fiscal year. We use these funds for multiple purposes – buying specialty equipment, funding positions in areas like Continuing and Professional Education, planning for big-ticket technology replacements, and so forth. If you don’t have a designated purpose for holding the funds, you are supposed to spend them down. As a system, the USG has more than \$500 million in all 26 institutions’ “strategic reserve” accounts and 84% of the funds are at the four R-1 universities plus Kennesaw State and Georgia Southern.
- e. The Regents also got the unofficial report on USG enrollment for the fall, showing that more than 380,000 students are enrolled at all 26 institutions (East Georgia and Georgia Southern are expected to be formally merged with the SACSCOC Board meets in December, bringing the USG number of institutions down to 25). The 380,00+ number is more than 17,000 higher than last fall, or a 4.6% increase. The USG also showed a 7.9% increase in all degrees awarded for FY25 – a total of 82,607; that increase was about 4% in undergraduate degrees and 15% increase among graduate degrees.

2. OPEN ENROLLMENT

- a. USG Open Enrollment will be open to benefit-eligible employees October 27 – November 7, 2025. Enrollment in benefits for the 2026 plan year will take place via OneUSG. USG benefits are centered around you to help you balance your health, work, and financial well-being goals. Review your options and enroll by **November 7**. This is an active enrollment year, which means you are required to take action if you want healthcare coverage for 2026 Open Enrollment. Visit

the [USG Benefits Website](#) to learn more. Be sure to complete your certifications to avoid tobacco and working spouse surcharges!

- b. The Office of Human Resources' Benefits Team will be available to assist employees with Open Enrollment questions on several different occasions throughout the two weeks of Open Enrollment; specific dates they will be available will be circulated via FrontPage as Open Enrollment approaches. Contact benefits@gcsu.edu for questions or more information. The Benefits Fair took place in the Magnolia Ballroom on Wednesday, October 8th from 10:00 AM-12:00 PM. We had 19 vendors present and more than 160 employees attended.
 - c. At the August Board of Regents' meeting, the Regents approved health plans for the coming year. A summary of the approved plan design changes and premiums are available [here](#).
 - d. 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 OneUSG Connect - Benefits Call Center (1-844-587-4236) are longer toward the end of Open Enrollment as well.
3. **ETHICS AWARENESS WEEK**
- a. **Ethics Awareness Week** is scheduled for November 3-9, 2025. Ethics Awareness Week is sponsored by the USG each year to reinforce our collective commitment to an ethical culture and our shared values and expectations. Georgia College & State University, along with the other 25 USG institutions and the University System Office, hosts activities throughout the week to raise awareness of the importance of an ethical culture and our shared Core Values: Integrity, Excellence, Accountability, and Respect. Our Internal Auditor, Rhonda Fowler, is coordinating the following in-person and virtual activities for the week.
 - b. **Monday, November 3** Staff and Faculty are invited to Heritage Hall from 12:30 pm to 1:00 pm to meet our General Counsel, Charles Norton, and Staff Council Representatives. At 1:00 pm in the Pat Peterson Museum Education Room (Library 211), there will be a live stream of USG Chancellor Sonny Perdue's presentation on *Leading with Integrity in a Complex World* featuring Jimmy Blanchard, retired Chairman and CEO of Synovus. **Please RSVP through this link**. A live stream link will also be posted on the Ethics Awareness Week webpage.
 - c. **Tuesday, November 4** Food Waste Challenge at the MAX 11:00 am - 1:00 pm. The Office of Sustainability will be in the lobby of the MAX to raise awareness on food waste and encourage students to submit their guess on how many pounds of food waste is collected in a 24-hour period. They will also explain how their volunteers transform this waste into compost for the West Campus Community Garden. Winners will be awarded with prizes on Thursday.
 - d. **Wednesday, November 5** Campus Shred Event, 9:00 am - 3:00 pm, provides an opportunity for faculty and staff to purge items in accordance with the **USG Records Retention Schedule**. Records destruction should be a routine practice for all departments. For more information, refer to the

resource page or contact your department's **Record Retention Campus Contact**.

- e. **Wednesday, November 5** Students are invited to “Build Your Own Bobcat” using recycled materials from 4:30 pm – 6:30 pm with the location TBD. Sustainable Smoothies will be provided with tips on how to use produce and fruit that may be past its prime. This is a drop in event, but an RSVP is encouraged to help plan for supplies. [Please RSVP through this link](#).
 - f. **Thursday, November 6** Prizes will be awarded to the winners from Tuesday's Food Waste Challenge at the MAX 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm.
 - g. **Friday, November 7** The USG virtual presentation Ethics & Compliance Best Practices Panel will be 10:00 am -11:00 am featuring Dr. Robert Scott, President, Albany State University speaking on *The Compliance Catalyst: Leadership that Shapes Culture*. A live stream link will be posted on the Ethics Awareness Week webpage.
 - h. For more information, including RSVP links and Live Stream link, please visit <https://www.gcsu.edu/audit/ethicsawarenessweek>.
4. **SAVE THE DATES**
- a. ***Athletic Alumni Weekend***
Tonight – Athletic Hall of Fame event
Tomorrow Alumni Tent (Saturday, Oct. 18 – in front of Old Courthouse)
 - b. ***FYI – Hosting Georgia Senate Study Committee on Affordability of Higher Education (open to public)***
Next Wednesday, October 22, 2025, 12:30 – 4:00 p.m. – Pat Peterson Museum Education Room
 - c. ***Faculty & Staff Fall Festival***
Thursday, October 23, 2025
5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Front Campus
 - d. ***FYI -- Lake Sinclair – Every 5 years: Drawdown of the Lake begins Oct. 25; refill commences Dec. 1***
 - e. ***Open Enrollment***
October 27 – November 7, 2025
 - f. ***Ethics Awareness Week***
November 3-9, 2025
<https://www.gcsu.edu/audit/ethicsawarenessweek>
 - g. ***Hanging of the Greens***
December 4, 2025
5:30 p.m.
Front Campus
 - h. ***Winter Commencement***
December 13, 2025
1:00 p.m. Centennial Center
Speaker: Dr. Laurie Peebles

PROVOST’S REPORT — HOLLEY ROBERTS, PROVOST

1. **PROVOST'S OFFICE UPDATES**

- a. **PUBLIC CV POSTING** Brian Watson and his team are currently creating the template based on the required components in Simple Syllabus. This template will be much like the current syllabus template in Simple Syllabus. Trainings are being developed for faculty. All CV information must be in Simple Syllabus by the beginning of classes for Spring Semester, January 12, 2026. The required components include: 1.) All institutions attended and degrees or credentials earned; 2.) Institutional directory information, such as office address, office phone number, institutional email, and the faculty member's institutional website, if applicable; 3.) Statement of teaching and research interests; 4.) Recent publications or scholarly output; 5.) Any additional institutional requirements. The link for the public will reside with the Simple Syllabus tag on all GCSU webpages.
- b. **PUBLIC SYLLABI POSTING** All education and Core IMPACT courses syllabi for spring semester should be in Simple Syllabus by Monday, October 20, 2025. Full implementation of all classes at the university will be fall 2026.
- c. **PERSONNEL UPDATES**
 - i. College of Business & Technology – The search committee has evaluated candidates and will soon hold virtual interviews.
 - ii. College of Education – A dean search will begin January 1, 2026.
 - iii. International Education – Dr. Harold Mock will serve as the Interim Assistant Vice President for International Education until June 30, 2026.
- d. **LOCKSETS ON CLASSROOM DOORS** Public Safety and Facilities are currently working to install locks or mechanical security devices to allow doors to lock from the inside for all classrooms.
- e. **RECORDS RETENTION FOR CLASSROOM RECORDS** Based on an internal audit, it was determined that we cannot assure compliance with the USG Records Retention schedule. Deans and Associate Deans are examining how their colleges are managing course and class records. GeorgiaView is our official learning management system and provides the capabilities to maintain appropriate records.
- f. **COUNCIL FOR PUBLIC HIGHER EDUCATION** CPHE Board of Directors adopted a set of accreditation standards, and those standards (which are very similar in form and substance to the draft standards) have been [posted to the CPHE website](#). Work on an evidentiary guidance document continues.
- g. **PROVOST'S NOTES** Starting in November, the Provost's Notes will include new or modified academic policies that have been approved and implemented through Senate.
- h. **NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR STUDENT SUCCESS INITIATIVE** The University is still engaged with NISS to review areas of improvement to promote student success. The next step is to complete the Campus Stakeholder Interview, which should occur between November 11-13.
- i. **GRADUATE EDUCATION TASK FORCE** As we create actions steps to meet the strategic goal of increasing graduate enrollment, the Provost will appoint a Graduate Education Task Force in the next couple of weeks. The group will focus on graduate programming, market needs, and distinctive attributes to our graduate programs that will stand out in a competitive market.

- j. **MOMENTUM REPORT** Dr. Bucholtz and Dr. Chris Ferland are working to complete the Momentum Report that is due to the USG on November 14, 2025.
 - k. **LIBRARY FLOORING UPDATE** The contractors have nearly completed the flooring installation on the 2nd floor. Any remaining areas that are in scope on the second floor will receive cork flooring, which is currently in port, but unable to be cleared by customs due to the government shutdown. Installation is therefore TBD. While the cork flooring installation is on hold, the contractors have shifted focus to the flooring in the stairwells. They are working on the stairwells. Directional signage will be in place at both stairwell locations. An elevator is available near both stairwells, providing alternative access
 - l. **CORE IMPACTS SURVEY** The Core IMPACTS survey will be distributed on November 10, 2025 assessing the career competencies. The survey is brief (3 minutes), asking students to indicate the extent to which their courses (thus far) have helped them develop and feel more confident in the ten career competencies highlighted in the Core IMPACTS courses. GC2Y faculty will also be sent information requesting 3-5 minutes of class time to have students take the survey as an additional measure for completion. GC2Y classes are the focus course given that we have been asked to survey students in the semester during which they *attempt* their 45th credit hour.
2. **COLLEGES AND LIBRARY**
- a. **COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES**
 - i. **Music**
 - 1. Music Rehearsal Hall ribbon cutting ceremony was held on Friday, Oct 10th.
 - 2. Saturday Oct. 18th @ 7:30 p.m. Russell Auditorium: Raphael Fusco with the GCSU Choral Ensembles.
 - ii. **English** Visiting Writer series presents a Reading and Book Signing of our own Kerry Neville, author of Momma May Be Mad. Nov 5th in Museum Education Room @ 6:30pm.
 - iii. **Biological & Environmental Sciences** 9th Annual William Harvey Address by Dr. Mark Quinn, Radiation Oncologist: Precision Radiotherapy for Prostate Cancer. Thursday Oct. 23rd @ 7:00 pm in Max Noah Recital Hall.
 - iv. **Aquatic Sciences Center**
 - 1. Annual Symposium: Oct. 15th and Tanyard Creek Cleanup: Oct. 17th.
 - 2. Join the ASC on Saturday Oct. 18th at Deep Roots Festival for Water Education Day. 11 to 2pm on Front Campus.
 - v. **Art** New faculty Exhibition by Kris Johnson and Griffin Allman runs until Nov 7th @ the Underwood Gallery Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, 12:30 – 4:30pm. Reception on Oct. 23rd @ 5:00 – 6:30pm.
 - vi. **Communication (and School of Continuing & Professional Studies)** 50th Anniversary of WGUR Celebration and a keynote address by Frank Howell: Friday Oct. 17th.
 - vii. **Artober Evening Celebrating the Arts** Oct. 29th @ 5:00-7:00 pm in Ennis Hall: Departments of Art, Communication, Music, and Theatre &

Dance will offer hands-on demos and more, culminating in a Silent Auction.

- viii. **Psychological Science** Thursday, Oct. 23rd at 2:00 pm in Magnolia Ballroom: A Conversation with Meg Jay, PhD – a developmental psychologist who specializes in Twentysomethings.

b. **COLLEGE OF EDUCATION**

- i. **Ongoing Partnership with the Deal Center** Reading Clinic at Lakeview Primary School: “Since September of 2024, the Deal Center has trained Georgia College & State University students on reading instruction based in science of reading research. Those educators, within an afterschool program at Lakeview, have been leading small groups of students who are struggling to read.” *This fall’s cohort represents the second group of freshman and sophomore pre-education students to complete the preparation and begin their work at Lakeview Primary this week.*
- ii. **Simulation Software** Drs. Good and Reynolds continue to use simulation software with graduate students in their Educational Leadership program. These graduate students, many who are aspiring principals and superintendents, use simulations to enhance their communication and problem-solving skills. The CoE intends to expand the use of simulation software programs with undergraduate students.
- iii. **Conference** Association for Middle Level Education: 19 senior middle grades teacher candidates will present at the AMLE Conference in Indianapolis in November.
- iv. **JHL CoE Student Leadership Council** Launching the council this fall, along with two faculty sponsors, “To develop student leaders as JHL College of Education student ambassadors by fostering community engagement, promoting educational opportunities, and building leadership capabilities that advance the teaching profession and their development as Architects of Change.”

c. **COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES**

- i. **School of Nursing** School of Nursing Honduras Study Abroad is scheduled October 18 - November 1

d. **COLLEGE OF BUSINESS & TECHNOLOGY**

- i. **The CoBT Executive Advisory Board** will meet the morning of Nov. 7th in Atkinson Hall.
- ii. **Executive Forum** On November 17th, Executive Forum with the topic Small Business Marketing Masterclass: Scalable frameworks to tailor to your business. The speakers will be Lou Childs, Nick Goebel & Lauren Goebel.
- iii. **The CoBT Holiday Party** will be Dec. 12th for faculty, staff, family, and board members.

e. **UNIVERSITY LIBRARY**

- i. **International Open Access Week** To celebrate International Open Access Week 2025 (October 20-26) the library will share a series of social media posts and educational materials as well as a featured Times Talk on October 22 at noon, that will highlight this year's theme of "Who owns our

knowledge?" The panel of faculty and librarians will discuss the value of open access materials and their impact on teaching and research.

- ii. **The Flooring Replacement Project** in the library is nearing completion. For updates, visit <https://libguides.gcsu.edu/flooring-project>

3. **SCHOOLS AND HONORS COLLEGE**

a. **THE GRADUATE SCHOOL**

- i. **Graduate Retention Efforts** Withdrawal Students: The Graduate School is currently reaching out via email and phone to graduate students who withdrew either before or after the start of the Fall 2025 semester. This outreach encourages students to update their admission term to Spring or Summer 2026, connect with the appropriate service department(s) for assistance, connect with their academic advisor for advisement, and prepare to register for classes when Spring 2026 registration opens on October 27, 2025.
- ii. **Graduate Research Travel Grants** Fall 2025 Cycle: Applications are being accepted for the Fall 2025 cycle of Research Travel Grants.
- iii. **New Graduate Student Leadership Role:** The Student Government Association (SGA) established a new cabinet position focused on graduate student representation. Ms. Evie Depetro, a Master of Science in Biology student, has been appointed as the Director of Graduate Affairs.
- iv. **Administrative Graduate Assistantships**, AY 2026-2027: Non-academic offices that wish to request an Administrative Graduate Assistant for AY 2026-2027 should complete the Administrative Graduate Assistant Request Form on or before Dec. 15, 2025.
- v. **Grad Connect – Virtual Chat Series** The Graduate School has hosted three virtual chat sessions. The next virtual chat is scheduled for Wednesday, October 29, 2025, in partnership with Bobcats First, and will focus on a wellness-related topic.

b. **HONORS COLLEGE & NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS**

i. **Honors College**

- 1. On Tuesday., Nov. 4th at 6:00 PM, GCSU alumnus Cameron Kline (2015, History), an attorney at Freeman, Mathis & Gary LLP, will deliver a Zoom-based presentation on “Land Use & Zoning: An Examination of the Local Government Process in Georgia.” He will focus on the ways that citizens can get involved with their local governments when development projects are under consideration. *All students and faculty are welcome to attend.* [Please register via GC Connect.](#)
 - 2. The printed edition of [Honorable Mentions](#), the Honors College’s annual newsletter, was release shortly before Senior Preview Day. The electronic edition is available via the embedded link. Please enjoy reading about the accomplishments of our students and alumni!
- ii. **National Scholarships Office** 17 GCSU students submitted applications for this year's Fulbright Scholarship competition, a record for the university.

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

i. **Afterschool Achievement**

1. Afterschool Achievement is seeking to partner with the GCSU academic colleges **to support GCSU service-learning students** and to provide supplemental programs to youth during afterschool times 3:30-6:30 pm. If you are interested in partnering, please contact Sequena Stanton, Director of Afterschool Achievement at 478.445.5613.
2. The students in the **High Achievers Program** collaborated with various campus and community outlets to prepare students to excel in a globally connected workforce. These collaborations include: The YES Program at LVA, Speakers Bureau guest speakers: Detective Marquita Driskell, Dr. Michael Snowden, Dr. Kaninjing, Ms. Cynthia Edwards, Dr. Nicholas Creel, Jennifer Birch. Creative writing: Elissa Williams, GCSU Grad Assistant. GCSU Tours: Library Museum and Governors Mansion. Baldwin Parks & Rec. Academic Outreach. Tree Top Training. Mark the Magic Man. The High Achievers also collaborated with Midway Hills Primary School to provide donations for their food pantry. The High Achievers donate canned goods as their “entry tickets” to attend High Achievers Program field trips. More of the HAP activities this month can be viewed on the newsletter tab in the [High Achievers Newsletter](#). The HAP can also be followed on Facebook at "Georgia Achievers". To sign up as a guest speaker for the High Achievers Program, please email Program Coordinator, Mr. Kenneth Daniels at kenneth.daniels@gcsu.edu or contact Mr. Daniels at 478.445.8509.
3. The **YES Programs** at LVA is providing serving learning opportunities to approximately 60 Georgia College students through partnership with: College of Education, Pre-observations (Instructors Cox and Killebrew), G2Y w/ Dr. Short, Phi Alpha Delta members. Beginning in August, both programs have provided academic and enrichment services to over 250 3-8 grade youth in Baldwin county. For more information about the YES program, please contact Sequena Stanton at 478.445.5613. More about YES at LVA can be viewed in the [LVA newsletter](#), and more about YES at OHMS can be viewed in the [OHMS newsletter](#).

- ii. **Academic Outreach** October 14-18 will be Water Education Week! Academic Outreach is partnering with the Aquatic Sciences Center to bring a variety of activities including a symposium on October 15, water themed activities with OHMS SAGE program on October 16, Stream Monitoring on October 16 (sign up here: <https://givepul.se/git0n4>), a cleanup of Tanyard Creek on Friday, October 17, and Saturday, October 18 will be our Water Education Day. Students will showcase activities for the community. Reach out to Ruth Eilers (ruth.eilers@gcsu.edu) to

collaborate and get involved. This is the GCSU Thirst for Knowledge event.

iii. **Communities in Schools Milledgeville Baldwin County**

1. Communities In Schools was awarded \$15,000 from Robins Financial Credit Union to support the purchase of basic needs for students in Baldwin County Schools.
2. Ashley Copeland, Director of Community Engagement, began her 2-year term as CISMBC Board Chair on July 1, 2025. Ms. Copeland brings a wealth of knowledge about the community, GCSU Volunteers, and best practices to this role. Contact Courtney Bentley, courtney.bentley@gcsu.edu to volunteer and get involved.

d. **CONTINUING & PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION**

- i. **Supplemental Pay Pre-Approval** Continuing & Professional Education would like to thank Human Resources for including their inclusion in the Supplemental Pay Pre-Approval overhaul process. With the sunset of ECARS, and CPE's superuser status in that system, it was beneficial to be included in the creation of this new process. Any faculty or staff that work with CPE programs will soon see new communication about this process.
- ii. **Ed2Go** All GCSU employees have access to our Ed2Go catalog at a discount. If interested in continuing your education in something fun and new, or developing new skills, checkout the catalog here: <https://www.ed2go.com/gcsucorp/>. For more information contact Angie Woodham, Director of Continuing & Professional Education at angie.woodham@gcsu.edu

e. **HISTORIC MUSEUMS**

- i. **Register now** to participate in Georgia's Old Governor's Mansion **Death After Dark Tours** which will be on Friday, October 24, 6 p.m., 7 p.m., 8 p.m. Tours fill quickly.
- ii. **The Andalusia Interpretive Center** is OPEN and construction is underway to increase parking. Tours are offered Tuesday – Saturday, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. and Sunday, 2-4 p.m.

4. **OFFICES AND PROGRAMS**

a. **ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT**

- i. **Virtual Open House** The Office of Graduate Admissions will host a virtual open house for potential students on November 5th and November 12th, 2025.
- ii. **Early Action** The Office of Admissions completed a successful Early Action cycle and is on track for a record number of applications for fall 2026. Early Action decisions will be released in mid-November.
- iii. **Financial Aid Day** The Financial Aid Office celebrated Financial Aid Day on October 15, 2025. The Financial Aid team hosted a table on front campus with trivia, fun and prizes from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The team emphasized at the tabling event the new FAFSA priority deadline of March 1, 2026, which will be used for need-based scholarships and financial aid.

- iv. **Outreach** The Registrar's Office and Academic Advising Center completed outreach with students who had unsatisfactory grades at midterm. Students were strongly encouraged to meet with their instructor prior to deciding to drop or continue enrollment in those courses. Students were also connected with appropriate resources, including the Learning Center, the Writing Center, and the Language Resource Center.
- v. **Registration for the Spring 2026** semester will begin Monday, October 27th at 7:00 a.m. The Registrar's Office and the Academic Advising Center will open at 6:45 a.m. on Monday, October 27th through Thursday, October 30th. Advisors will also be in the library on Thursday morning to support our first-year students as they register for the first time.
- vi. **Senior Preview Day** (formerly Fallfest) was held on September 20th and had record-setting attendance with 377 students! Huge thanks to everyone who helped make the event both successful and meaningful for our visiting students and families.
- vii. **President's Scholarship Competition** GCSU's annual President's Scholarship Competition will be held on December 5th, preceded by a reception at the Old Governor's Mansion on December 4th. This event is a key opportunity to recruit high-achieving students and support enrollment goals.
- viii. **New Student Programs** will host several major recruitment events in the Spring: Admitted Student Day (formerly Springfest) on March 7, 2026, Junior Day on April 4, 2026, and Sophomore Explore Day.
- ix. **Student Success and Retention Series** The Office of Student Success will host their next Student Success and Retention series session on October 23rd. The event will give an overview of Fall 2024 First Year Retention Data and include a sophomore student panel. All faculty and staff are invited to attend the event on October 23rd at 12 p.m. in the Pat Peterson Museum Education room.
- x. **Academic Success Workshops** The Office of Student Success will host Academic Success workshops on Test Taking on October 28th at 5 p.m. in A&S 240, October 29th at 6 p.m. in A&S 240, and October 30th at 7 p.m. in A&S 240.
- xi. **The Career Center** will host the event "Legislative Internships: Lunch & Learn" on November 16, 2025, at 12 p.m. in 140 Lanier Hall.
- b. **STUDENT ENGAGEMENT AND ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE**
 - i. **The Writing Center** The Office of the Provost, Academic Affairs, and the Writing Center are hosting Dr. Chris Anson, Distinguished University Professor at NC State and nationally recognized expert in Writing Across the Curriculum, for a series of faculty workshops on October 23rd. Sessions will address effective writing assignment design, supporting student writers across disciplines, and responding to AI in student writing.
 - ii. **MURACE**
 - 1. Research Day (RD) 2026 will be held on April 15, 2026 – Please mark the date! Classes will be reassigned with GC Journey

showcase. The Research Day submission link will be launched before the pre-registration date on 10/25.

2. Student Undergraduate Research Circle (SRC), a student-led organization supported and advised by MURACE will have their next meeting on October 22nd (Wed.) from 4:00 - 5:30 PM in Pat Peterson Museum Education Room.
3. Georgia Undergraduate Research Conference (GURC) will be held on November 7th-8th, 2025 at Oxford College. GCSU will host in 2026 and 2027. We have had 57 students as authors and co-authors submitted their abstracts. At least 19 undergraduate research projects were accepted to present.

iii. Leadership Programs

1. On Friday, October 17th, GCSU Leadership Programs will host TEDxGeorgiaCollege. Learn more and get tickets at tedxgeorgiacollege.com.
2. On Tuesday, November 11th, from 5 to 6:30 p.m., GCSU Leadership Programs will host the Usery Forum on Leadership featuring Walter M. Deriso, Jr., Founding Chairman and Director, Atlantic Capital Bank and Atlantic Capital Bancshares, Inc. Learn more and register at ideas.leadcreatively.org.

iv. Rural Studies Institute

1. The Rural Studies Institute will host its third Rural Changemakers event on April 9, 2026.
2. The Rural Studies Institute in partnership with Georgia Tech's Center for Sustainable Communities Research and Education (SCoRE) will host two community fellows as part of the Southeast Community Energy Futures Academy (SCEFA) Pilot Program, a regional program in GA, AL, LA and MS.
3. The Rural Studies Institute has an open call for internship and practicum students

v. The Learning Center

1. Excel Bootcamps: approximately 600 students successfully completed the Certificate of Completion for the 2-hr interactive workshop. The workshop offers students basics of Excel with practice problems and data sets to support prerequisite knowledge needed for upcoming assignments. Sessions are offered weeknights at 6p and 8p and Fridays at 2p at beginning of each semester.
2. Algebra Review Workshops: several core math, physics, and chemistry courses require students to be confident and practiced with their algebra skills; the Learning Center offers review sessions for students enrolled in the faculty identified courses. To cover the content, review sessions are held over 2 days, for 2-hour sessions throughout the first five weeks of the semester; more than 120 students participated in the review sessions early this semester.
3. Supplemental Instruction (SI) support requests have been reviewed and we are diligently recruiting, interviewing, and matching SI

leaders to faculty partners for spring. We anticipate 50-55 leaders for the 80+ sections requesting this support for their students.

4. SI Coaches hosted 10 SI Info sessions for student candidates who are interested in becoming an SI leader for the spring '26 semester.
5. Student staff leadership positions are being filled with a wonderful slate of accomplished tutors, SI leaders, and workshop facilitators to replace our leadership team members who are graduating.
6. The LC and QEP team tabled for several hours on front campus to help students manage their stress with a 5 senses activity and study tools

5. **CENTERS AND INSTITUTES**

a. **CENTER FOR TEACHING & LEARNING**

- i. **Core IMPACTS** October 24, 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.: Core IMPACTS - What is it? How does it apply to me? How is it being effectively integrated by other instructors? (CTL Classroom)
- ii. **Enhance Your Teaching Kaltura** November 4, 2pm to 3 pm: Enhance Your Teaching with Kaltura: Creating, Storing, and Sharing Videos (CTL Classroom)
- iii. **Peer Feedback on Teaching** Now Open! 10/13 through 11/7
- iv. **USG Teaching & Learning Conference Call for Proposals** Now Open! - https://www.usg.edu/teaching-and-learning-excellence/teaching_learning_conference

b. **SANDRA DUNAGAN DEAL CENTER FOR EARLY LANGUAGE AND LITERACY**

- i. **Professional Learning Workshops** The Deal Center staff delivered two professional learning workshops for the Georgia Awards Grantee Mini-Conference held at the Georgia Municipal Association.
- ii. **Tutoring Program** Launched the second year of the Reading Clinic, a tutoring program in which 23 GCSU students were trained in instructional practices rooted in the science of reading and deployed them to an afterschool reading support program housed at Lakeview Primary School in Baldwin County to service roughly 100 K-2 students.
- iii. **Strategic Planning Meeting** Dr. Lindee Morgan and Dr. Paige Pullen co- led a day-long strategic planning meeting for the Georgia Literacy Plan, and a draft of the plan was delivered to Governor Kemp.
- iv. **GOSA Unified Literacy Coaching Standards** The Deal Center hired six contractors for the GOSA Unified Literacy Coaching Standards project.

c. **FLANNERY O'CONNOR INSTITUTE FOR THE HUMANITIES**

- i. ***Everything Rises Must Converge*** Thursday, November 13th at 6:00 pm in Magnolia Ballroom: Karin Coonrod, of Yale University on campus for a film screening of her adaptation of Flannery O'Connor's "Everything that Rises Must Converge," which was performed on the stage in Milan. Coonrod and one of the lead actors, Stacey Scott, will participate in a Q and A panel after the screening.
- ii. **October Newsletter** available here: <https://secure.smores.com/n/2wvc1-flannery-o-connor-institute>

STAFF COUNCIL REPORT — KIMBERLY SCOTT, CHAIR

1. **CHRISTMAS PARADE** Staff Council is registering GCSU in the Milledgeville Christmas parade and is making a final call for help in planning, day before decorating, and day of help from Staff Council, Senate, and SGA. An email will also be sent to the campus asking for participation. The parade is December 7th at 3pm. If you would like to help, please reference the sign-up sheet shared by Dr. Jett.
2. **MENTORING STAFF PROGRAM** Staff Council is developing a new Mentoring Staff Program designed to foster growth, connection, and engagement among employees. Once finalized, the program will be rolled out to campus. Additionally, new staff will soon begin receiving a welcome email introducing them to Staff Council and highlighting key opportunities to get involved in our Bobcat community.
3. **UPCOMING EVENTS**
 - a. **Staff Appreciation Soccer Game** 11/5/2025, at 5 pm. The Staff Council will be handing out popcorn to staff and families we will also have a raffle for attendees!
 - b. **Ethics Awareness Week** 11/3/2025-11/9/2025. Participate in a week of engaging events, including educational sessions and a Shred Cycle Day to safely dispose of confidential documents.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION REPORT — SERENA SEMERE, PRESIDENT

1. **NEW SENATORS** Since our last meeting, SGA has continued making great progress this semester. We recently appointed four new senators, which leaves us with just three open seats, one senior seat and two at-large seats. If you know any students who may be interested in getting involved with SGA, please send me their name and email. I'd love the opportunity to connect with them. We're really excited to be so close to full capacity.
2. **STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS** Our senators have been working hard to support student organizations through additional funding and advocacy. We recently funded the International Club for their upcoming International Fest, and we've been working with departments to begin drafting resolutions. Some current discussions include departmental merchandise in the bookstore and new sustainability efforts to make GCSU a more environmentally friendly campus.
3. **PROFESSIONAL CLOTHING DRIVE** Earlier this month, we co-hosted the Professional Clothing Drive with the Office of Sustainability, and it was a huge success, over 200 students attended, and we closed out the event with very few donations left over. I want to thank all faculty, staff, and administrators who supported or donated to that initiative.
4. **STUDENT AFFAIRS POLICY COMMITTEE** In the spirit of shared governance, we had the opportunity to host the Student Affairs Policy Committee during our Senate session on October 3rd. They shared great insight on how SAPC supports students, and we had a productive discussion about ways to strengthen collaboration. We also have several SGA members serving actively on university and departmental committees, ensuring student voices are represented across campus.

5. **INTERNATIONAL FEST** Next week, SGA will be participating in International Fest with a hot chocolate and coffee bar, and we'll also be at the Bobcat Boo Bash passing out candy to students and community members.
6. **CABINET** Our Cabinet has been busy as well. Our Director of Graduate Affairs has been collaborating with graduate coordinators and contacting students to develop a more comprehensive understanding of graduate student needs. Our Director of Ethics Week has been working closely with Rhonda to plan and prepare for Ethics Week next month. And our Director of Service Advancement has been coordinating service projects for SGA to engage with the community in a hands-on way that reflects our commitment to service.
7. **STUDENT CONDUCT BOARD** Lastly, our Student Conduct Board is fully active this semester, with several SGA members receiving training from the Conduct Office and reviewing the Bobcat Code.
8. **OVERALL** SGA remains committed to representing the student body, fostering collaboration, and strengthening our shared governance efforts across the university.

ACADEMIC POLICY COMMITTEE — ANDREW J. ALLEN, CHAIR

1. **OPERATING PROCEDURES** The Academic Policy Committee adopted operating procedures for the 2025-2026 school year.
2. **COMMISSION FOR PUBLIC HIGHER EDUCATION** The Academic Policy Committee also discussed the proposed accreditation standards of the Commission for Public Higher Education and assembled thoughts to send to ECUS for communication to the University System of Georgia.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE POLICY REVIEW COMMITTEE — BRAD FOWLER, CHAIR

1. **NO MEETING, NO REPORT**

BELONGING AND INCLUSION POLICY COMMITTEE — HEDWIG FRAUNHOFER, CHAIR

1. **NO WRITTEN REPORT**

FACULTY AFFAIRS POLICY COMMITTEE — JENNIFER FLORY, CHAIR

1. **INFORMATION REQUEST FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS: FACULTY COMPENSATION**
 - a. Draft request reviewed regarding compensation for part-time lecturers, lecturers, program coordinators, faculty overload, summer salary, faculty development allocations, and 2025 faculty merit raises
 - b. Concern raised about confidentiality of merit raise recipients.
 - i. Committee recommends requesting scores and metrics only, not identifying information such as department.
 - ii. Additional categories for coordinators suggested: program type, size, credit-hour generation, FTE.

- c. Department identifiers were removed from the draft request.
 - d. Questions remain about eligibility criteria and IFR metrics used for merit raises.
2. **FACULTY EVALUATION POLICIES AND PROCEDURES / USG “NOTEWORTHY”**
- DEFINITION**
- a. BOR confirmed “noteworthy” now includes 3s on a 1–5 Likert scale.
 - b. Discussion points:
 - i. Should “noteworthy” minimums be 3 in three categories (as on IFRs) or align with USG tenure standards (two of three: teaching, service, scholarship)?
 - ii. Definition of “insufficient” (1 or 2).
 - iii. Number of categories to be used (three vs. five, with student success and faculty development).
 - iv. Anonymous poll indicated majority support for requiring teaching as one area of noteworthiness. ECUS-SCC agreed that we should not propose removing teaching from the required noteworthy categories.
 - v. Lecturer promotion timeline: USG allows after 3 years; current policy is 6 years. ECUS-SCC suggested a compromise of 4 years.
 - vi. Likert scale edits: removal of language equating “noteworthy” with 4 or 5.
 - vii. No votes taken; issues will return for action after ECUS feedback.
3. **FACULTY WORKLOAD POLICY**
- a. Discussion of workload inequities and proposal for a Faculty Workload and Professional Leave Working Group.
 - b. Request originated from concerns about removal of double-sections in COAS (Fall 2026). However, broader concerns have been identified beyond COAS.
 - c. FAPC will revisit at October 31 meeting; invited faculty leaders (Adam Wood, Alex Blazer, Stephanie Jett) to join discussion.
4. **POST-TENURE REVIEW REWARDS**
- a. USG requires linking positive post-tenure review outcomes to recognition/reward.
 - b. Academic Affairs is exploring options.
 - c. Academic Affairs has done an audit on faculty initiatives and potential redirection. They will take any ideas. Maybe we should add this to the professional leave ad hoc group.
5. **PROFESSIONAL LEAVE AD HOC COMMITTEE**
- a. Committee membership confirmed: Jamie Downing, Jehan El-Jourbagy, Jennifer Flory, Sabrina Hom, Bekir Mugayitoglu, Suzanna Roman-Oliver, Amy Sumpter, Winston Tripp, Aric Wilhau
 - b. Will review current policy, procedures, and rubric for alignment with USG policy and equity across colleges.
 - c. Work to begin later this semester and continue into spring.
6. **OTHER BUSINESS**
- a. Question whether staff are making similar edits to their evaluation process.
 - b. Clarification: Staff evaluation processes are separate and not subject to the same Likert scale revisions.

RESOURCES, PLANNING AND INSTITUTIONAL POLICY COMMITTEE — TALECIA WARREN, CHAIR

1. NO WRITTEN REPORT

STUDENT AFFAIRS POLICY COMMITTEE — AMY PINNEY, CHAIR

1. **SGA MEETING** We spent our meeting on October 3rd attending the SGA meeting, 2:00, The Dogwood Room, 3rd floor of the Student Activities Center. We introduced ourselves and discussed the collaborative relationship between SAPC and SGA.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS — JOYCE NORRIS-TAYLOR, CHAIR

1. NO WRITTEN REPORT

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF UNIVERSITY SENATE — STEPHANIE JETT, CHAIR

1. **PUBLIC SYLLABI: BOR 2.8.1 POSTING OF PUBLIC SYLLABI**
 - a. CORE and all Education courses (not just CoE) must be posted in Simple Syllabus by **Monday, Oct 20th**
 - b. March timeline for ALL courses
 - c. The only things that are required to be posted in Simple Syllabus before registration are as follows:
 - i. Auto-Populated Fields of the Simple Syllabus Template:
 1. Course Prefix, Number, and Name
 2. Semester and Academic Year
 3. Course Description
 4. Course Learning Outcomes (as approved)
 5. Academic Honesty/Integrity Statement
 6. Core IMPACTS Statement (if applicable)
 - ii. Faculty-Populated Fields of the Simple Syllabus Template:
 1. Required Course Materials: Textbooks (with ISBNs), articles, lab supplies, equipment, course packs, etc.
 2. Grading Policy: Clear explanation of how final grades will be determined, including weighting or point distribution.
 3. Attendance Policy
 - d. You CAN make changes/additions to Simple Syllabus after posting, it just requires another approval from your chair.
 - e. They are pulling CRNs from Banner now, which will mean that there is no way to have multiple sections in an XLS course shell with only one syllabi anymore
 - i. Easiest way to know your tasks for the semester is to access the Simple Syllabus Dashboard through MyGCSU under Service Apps
 - f. I found out from Alison Shepherd that **you cannot copy custom components if they are set to PRIVATE**

- i. Set to public BEFORE you submit for approval then you can copy them over to another course and turn them back to private
- 2. **PUBLIC CV: BOR 2.8.2 POSTING OF PUBLIC CURRICULUM VITAE**
 - a. By January 5th
 - b. Anyone teaching a course, including adjunct faculty and grad students!
 - c. The university is working with Simple Syllabus to develop an easy template to use to do this.
 - i. Prep and keep a Word doc that covers the first 4 bullet points in anticipation then cut-and-paste directly from their Word doc.
 - ii. “They can use their best judgment on the term recent (maybe last 5 years?)” – from CoAS Dean
- 3. **PUBLIC SAFETY UPDATES FROM THE ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP TEAM:** Chief Hardin gave an extensive update on Public Safety.
 - a. He stressed that while their primary role is educational and public safety, they are fully trained to become rapid response teams that are “fully SWATed up” if the need arises.
 - b. They replaced and increased the number of cameras we have on campus.
 - c. They fixed/added more alarms and panic buttons.
 - d. We are replacing the phones in classrooms.
 - e. Locks have been replaced around campus
 - f. Public Safety is fully staffed with 21 officers
 - g. AEDs and Stop-the-Bleed kits in every building
 - h. More patrol vehicles and “The Beast” atv thing
 - i. Body cameras
 - j. Active assailant options
 - i. Looking into locking classroom doors from the inside or another device that will do that automatically that might be cheaper than replacing the locks
 - ii. Looking into “shot spotter” tech that can triangulate gunfire, type of weapon, how many shooters, etc.
 - iii. System that ties into cameras that can automatically detect a weapon and large crowds in areas there normally aren’t large crowds
 - k. He stressed they want to take appropriate action to keep campus safe without over-reacting and paying for more than we actually need
 - l. Reminded everyone that we should all download the RAVE Guardian app
 - m. Can add crisis response training to courses, department meetings, etc.
 - n. Major revisions to access to Parks Hall are coming soon
 - i. Likely key card swipe entry and someone to buzz you in to higher floors
 - o. Campus Carry conversation: **Key exceptions and prohibited areas**
 - i. Section 16-11-127.1 (as modified by HB 280 and preserved under SB 319) lists specific places on campus where even lawful weapons carriers may **not** carry a concealed handgun. Some of these include:
 - ii. **Classrooms or spaces with dual-enrolled high school students**
Any room or space being used for classes in which high school students are enrolled (e.g., a college course with dual-enrolled high school

students) is off-limits. [FindLaw Codes+3UGA Police+3Kennesaw State University+3](#)

iii. **Faculty, staff, or administrative offices**

Offices (or suites) occupied by faculty, staff, or administrators are excluded. [University of Georgia Registrar+4Kennesaw State University+4UGA Police+4](#)

iv. **Rooms where disciplinary hearings are conducted**

Spaces used for student/faculty disciplinary proceedings (or grievance hearings, etc.) are excluded. [UGA Police+3University System of Georgia+3Kennesaw State University+3](#)

v. **Buildings or property used for intercollegiate sporting events / athletic venues**

Any real property or buildings used for athletic events, e.g., stadiums, arenas, etc., are always excluded (not just during events). [University System of Georgia+3University of West Georgia+3Kennesaw State University+3](#)

vi. **Student housing complexes (dormitories, Greek housing, etc.)**

Student housing facilities (including fraternity/sorority houses) are off-limits. [East Georgia State College+3University System of Georgia+3Kennesaw State University+3](#)

vii. **Preschool or childcare spaces**

Rooms or spaces designated for preschool or childcare on campus are excluded (particularly if they are behind controlled access). [UGA Police+3UGA Police+3University System of Georgia+3](#)

viii. **Rooms used for classes related to a “college and career academy” or “specialized school”**

Some rooms used for specialized or vocational high school-level instruction on campus are excluded.

ix. **Spaces used for Health Services or Counseling.**

4. **PRESIDING OFFICER MEETINGS WITH DEANS/DIRECTORS**

a. **PURPOSE**

- i. Identify any college-specific concerns needing Senate input
- ii. Share current Senate initiatives and opps for collab

b. **COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES**

- i. Discussed the need for better communication about student disciplinary procedures and code (e.g., we are supposed to report all incidents of academic dishonesty even if we don’t want to take disciplinary action)
 1. Suggestion to give Dez Henirquez and/or Jenn Graham time in department or college meetings
- ii. Reaffirmed that the term “seniority” needs more clarification in professional leave policy
- iii. Dean’s advisory committee revamping their bylaws and procedures
- iv. 4950s should go through C&I as a new course if they have been taught more than a couple of times/are taught consistently

c. **COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES**

- i. Outside Activity Policy (BOR 8.2.18.2 Conflicts of Interest, Conflicts of Commitment, & Outside Activities)

1. Some specialties (e.g., nurse practitioners) have to work a certain number of hours to maintain credentials, but they have received some push back on it interfering with their jobs at GCSU (e.g., they are moonlighting)
 2. Working with Provost's office to have a better understanding between certification needs and this policy
- ii. Center operations (e.g., Center for Health & Social Issues, Mobile Health Clinic)
 1. In many cases, may need to be full-time directors or at least more course releases for directors as they are having trouble staffing the mobile health clinic, for instance.
- d. **COLLEGE OF EDUCATION**
 - i. Communication of policies that are modified and/or passed by Senate to the rest of the campus community needs improvement
 1. Spoke with Provost yesterday in our meeting about that and she plans to add to the Provost's notes, but newsletter and Frontpage announcements have shown promise
- e. **LIBRARY**
 - i. More education about what they do! It's so much more than books!
 - ii. Wants to look into duplication of efforts across campus (e.g., makers spaces) to see if there can be more collaboration
 - iii. It's Open Access Week next week (Oct 20-24)
 - iv. To celebrate International Open Access Week 2025 (October 20-26) the library will share a series of social media posts and educational materials as well as a featured Times Talk on October 22 at noon, that will highlight this year's theme of "Who owns our knowledge?" The panel of faculty and librarians will discuss the value of open access materials and their impact on teaching and research.
 - v. Potentially working with RPIPC on policy regarding coverage of publication costs?
- f. CoBT scheduled for Monday, Oct 27th at 11 am with their Leadership Team
5. **AI POLICY**
 - a. Sent to USG by the October 1 deadline.
 - b. Checked on the status of it in the PPPM and it's there!
 - c. Next steps: work with campus community to get procedures worked out (e.g., training).
6. **MODIFIED OPERATIONS POLICY**
 - a. It's in the PPPM!
7. **COMMISSION FOR PUBLIC HIGHER EDUCATION ACCREDITATION STANDARDS**
 - a. New draft of revised standards are back, so we should be able to see them soon.
8. **POST-TENURE REVIEW**
 - a. No tenure revocations have happened due to PTR yet
 - b. Stressed that tenure revocation is a year long process that begins with a terminal letter indicating that it's your final year on contract
9. **RECORDS RETENTION**
 - a. We're out of compliance...5 years for academic records

- b. Ethics Week next week will include training on records retention with Rhonda Fowler!

UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE UPDATE — ANGEL ABNEY, CHAIR

1. **UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE September 26, 2025 Meeting**
 - a. Did not meet—No Action Items
 - b. Information Items
 - i. College of Arts & Sciences
 1. Department of Art. Modification of Existing Course: ARTS 2810: From Renaissance to Mod World. Catalogue Description Change. Effective Spring 2026.
2. **GRADUATE COUNCIL September 12, 2025 Meeting**
 - a. Did not meet—No Action Items
3. **GENERAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE September 19, 2025 Meeting**
 - a. Action Items
 - i. GC1Y/2Y Proposals
 1. GC1Y: Cultural Dance Perspectives (revisions pending review)
 2. GC2Y: In Quest of the Heroic (pending revised submission) – awaiting revisions
 3. GC2Y: Writing the World (pending revised submission) – awaiting revisions
 4. GC2Y 2000: Climate Politics section title change to “Environmental Politics” - request rescinded by originator
 - ii. CORExplore Proposals
 1. No proposals submitted
 - b. Informational Items
 - i. New Business
 1. Development of GC Learning Outcomes for Areas P, A, and S – development will begin Fall 2025
 2. It was reported that Academic Policy Committee has questions related to approval of GC1Y and GC2Y courses. Suggestion was made to invite Dr. Jarriel to upcoming meetings
 3. Tasks stemming from Spring 2024 syllabus audit findings
 - a. Review of GCxY Course Proposals for consistency with Core Impacts (Learning Outcomes and Career-Ready Competencies) (early Fall 2025)
 - b. Potential development of GCxY “non-sections” that could be taught by any faculty on campus (late Fall 2025)
 - c. Develop process for review of GCxY sections (pilot in Spring 2026)
 - d. GC1Y / GC2Y course proposals for new courses or modifications of existing courses need to be revised in Curriculog to reflect Core IMPACTS requirements. Revisions will be reviewed by the Committee chair prior to submission to Modern Campus.