

**2020-2021 University Senate
Minutes for the 26 Feb 2021 Meeting**

University Senate Officers: Presiding Officer Hauke Busch, Presiding Officer Elect Catherine Fowler, Secretary Alex Blazer

- PRESENT (43)** Abraham Abebe, Jamie Addy, Justin Adeyemi, Susan Allen, Kevin Blanch, Alex Blazer, Linda Bradley, Hauke Busch, Krystal Canady, Rodica Cazacu, Laura Childs, Benjamin Clark, Paulette Cross, Steve Dorman, Brad Fowler, Catherine Fowler, Gail Godwin, Nathan Graham, Sabrina Hom, John Jackson, David Johnson, Julian Knox, Leng Ling, Catrena Lisse, Bryan Marshall, Stacey Milner, Lyndall Muschell, Christine Mutiti, Amy Pinney, Gennady Rudkevich, James Schiffman, Liz Speelman, Costas Spirou, Susan Steele, Mariana Stoyanova, Katie Stumpf, Rob Sumowski, Jessica Swain, John Swinton, Ashley Taylor, Jennifer Townes, Jessica Wallace, Jiaqin Yang, Diana Young
- REGRETS (2)** Robert Blumenthal, Hank Edmondson
- ABSENT (4)** Jolene Cole, Maxwell Harley, Karl Manrodt, Stacey Milner
- GUESTS (10)**

Name	Role on University Senate or Position at the University
A. Kay Anderson	Assistant Vice President for Enrollment Management and University Registrar
Cindy Bowen	Director of Operations, Information Technology
Shawn Brooks	Vice President for Student Life
Shea Council	Administrative Assistant of the 2020-2021 University Senate
Carolyn Denard	Associate Vice President for Inclusive Excellence and Chief Diversity Officer
Lee Fruitticher	Associate Vice President for Finance & Administration
Paul Jahr	Chair, Retiree Association Executive Council
Susan Kerr	Chief Information Officer
Sara Stallings	Director of University Events and Protocol
Monica Starley	Special Assistant to the President

CALL TO ORDER: Hauke Busch, Presiding Officer of the 2020-2021 University Senate, called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

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

1. **AGENDA/MINUTES**
 - a. University Senate Meeting Agenda (02/26/2021)
 - b. University Senate Meeting Minutes (01/22/2021)

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. **MOTION 2021.ECUS.001.B PROPOSED REVISIONS TO UNIVERSITY SENATE BYLAWS (DIVERSITY COMMITTEE)** On behalf of the committee, David Johnson, Past Presiding Officer and ECUS member, presented the motion “To approve the proposed revisions to the University Senate Bylaws as outlined in the supporting documents.”
 - a. **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS** Supporting documentation was available in the online motion database: <https://senate.gcsu.edu/motions/proposed-revisions-university-senate-bylaws-diversity-committee-01082021>.

- i. *USBylaws_2021-01-15.docx*: A Word document containing a copy of the proposed bylaws revisions.
 - ii. *USBylaws_2020-01-15.pdf*: A pdf document containing a copy of the proposed bylaws revisions.
 - iii. *Summary of Revisions – Diversity Committee (21-1-15).docx*: A document summarizing the bylaws revision recommendation.
- b. **CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION**
 - i. The history of Bylaws Revisions (Diversity Committee) is contained in the 16 Oct 2020 Minutes (ECUS Committee Report), 20 Nov 2020 Minutes (ECUS Committee), and 22 Jan 2021 (New Business).
- c. **DISCUSSION** For the second reading of the proposed bylaws revision, David Johnson called for questions, but received none.
- d. **SENATE ACTION**
 - i. A **MOTION** to the previous question was made, seconded, and **APPROVED** by electronic vote with University Senators eligible to vote (32 yay, 0 nay).
 - ii. Motion 2021.ECUS.001.B was **APPROVED** by electronic vote with only voting members of university senate eligible to vote (33 yay, 1 nay, 2 abstain).

ANNOUNCEMENTS/INFORMATION ITEMS

1. **University Senate and Information Technology Governance**— **SUSAN KERR, CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER**
 - a. **ADVISORY COMMITTEES** The University System of Georgia business manual requires all institutions to have information technology governance. IT has set up a new structure that makes recommendations to Executive Cabinet. Committee governance affords accountability, transparency, and stakeholder buy in with purchases, projects, and initiatives. There are multiple advisory committees that start soon; and we ask for representation from University Senate on most committees. An example of an IT issue that might be sent to an advisory committee involves the license of two video conference platforms, Webex and Zoom, during the pandemic. After the pandemic, a committee may decide whether to limit the institution to one license. More information is available at <https://gcsuedu.sharepoint.com/sites/ITSTAFF/Governance> (see supporting document).
2. **STUDENT MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT** — **SHAWN BROOKS, VICE PRESIDENT FOR STUDENT LIFE**
 - a. **CONTEXT** The strain student mental health resources at colleges and universities around the country is unparalleled. Therefore, the USG developed a comprehensive plan for all 26 institutions which includes short- and long-term support. The \$11.5 million initiative is financed by Governor Kemp’s emergency fund from the CARES Act.
 - b. **COMPONENTS** The initiative includes three components (see supporting document).
 - i. Mental Health Resources
 1. Christie Campus Health (24/7 psychiatric and clinical services)
 2. website (<https://gcsu.edu/gcmentalhealth>)
 3. toll free number for students that is answered by student navigators to determine the best counselor with whom to connect the student callers
 4. Wellness Hub (desktop website and smartphone apps)
 - ii. Strategic Planning
 1. GC is partnering with Jed Campus/Jed Foundation, in a four-year program, to help develop a long-term strategic plan for addressing student mental health.
 - iii. Mini-Grants

1. Out of the \$11.5 million in mental health resources, \$1.75 million has been set aside for mini-grants for individual institutions. GC has applied for three mini-grants:
 - a. Technological resources
 - b. Counselor education
 - c. Hiring a part-time counselor
- c. **QUESTIONS** When Dr. Brooks invited questions, several were forthcoming.
 - i. Question: Is this one-time funding? Answer: Yes, Governor Kemp had money left over from the CARES Act and asked Chancellor Wrigley if there were any projects for which it could be used.
 - ii. Question: Have the resources been utilized? Answer (SGA President Graham): Yes, I used it and enjoyed the convenience of phoning for resources at 10:00 at night, outside of normal business hours. The service is informative. Answer (Dr. Brooks): I receive all utilization data.
 - iii. Comment: SGA is spreading the word about the new resources through digital posts. Counseling appointments are full, and students cannot wait 2-3 weeks for services. This was a problem before the pandemic, but it is exacerbated now. Faculty should send students in need to the service.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT — PRESIDENT STEVE DORMAN

1. **ONE-TIME STATEWIDE \$1,000 EMPLOYEE SUPPLEMENT** All full-time state employees earning less than \$80,000 per year will receive a one-time \$1,000 bonus. Chancellor Wrigley announced that the University System of Georgia (USG) would provide this bonus to all eligible USG employees. Additional details provided by the USG include:
 - a. The \$1,000 one-time supplement will be paid to all employees who are regular, full-time, benefit-eligible and active on February 15, 2021, with a standard workweek of 30 hours or more and salaries below \$80,000. Part-time and temporary employees are not eligible.
 - b. If an employee transfers from one institution to another between February 15 and March 31, the hiring institution will be responsible for the supplement payment for that employee.
 - c. Pending any unforeseen processing challenges, Shared Services Center (SSC) will automatically include the supplement payment for eligible employees in the March 26 payroll run for non-exempt employees and March 31 for exempt employees.
2. **COVID-19 VACCINATIONS** Thank you to everyone that participated in the voluntary and anonymous COVID vaccination survey over the last couple of weeks. The COVID-19 vaccine currently is *not* available from Georgia College to our faculty and staff. GC employees in Phase 1A+ (e.g., healthcare workers, adults 65+ and their caregivers, as well as first responders in law enforcement, fire personnel, etc.) may be able to acquire the vaccine at other locations (<https://dph.georgia.gov/covid-vaccine>). However, we understand that our employees will be eligible once the Georgia Department of Public Health (DPH) transitions from Phase 1A+ to Phase 1B. Of course, vaccines will not be available immediately upon transition to Phase 1B but will depend on the timing of vaccines distributed to the state of Georgia. As soon as more information is available, we will share it with the campus community.
3. **UPDATED COVID-19 EMPLOYEE DECISION PATH** A revision was made to the Employee Decision Path for COVID-19 that can be found at <https://www.gcsu.edu/sites/default/files/documents/2021-02/2021%20Decision%20Path%202200px.pdf>. Employees are now expected to notify their supervisor if they are symptomatic, have been directly exposed, or believe they may have been indirectly exposed. **Supervisors are to contact HR and not the employee.** HR will contact the employee as needed.

Student Health services will no longer serve as the point of contact for employees who have been indirectly exposed. In every instance, the supervisor will notify Employee Relations (x5932 or x4236 via phone, or employeerelations@gcsu.edu via email) and provide the employee's name and contact number. If you have any questions about the Decision Path, please contact Employee Relations at x5932, x4236, or employeerelations@gcsu.edu.

4. **2020 AURA AWARD** Congratulations to Dr. Jordan Cofer, Dr. Dee Sams, and all involved in the successful submission to the Council on Undergraduate Research. Georgia College was chosen as a recipient of the *2020 Award for Undergraduate Research Accomplishments (AURA)*. The communication noted: *“Georgia College and State University’s achievements as a leader in undergraduate research set your institution apart from other finalists for this award. You demonstrated excellent institutional commitment to undergraduate research, providing a compelling story of a growth over 10 years, resulting in expanded infrastructure and support. Your efforts of utilizing survey data to make program changes is commended. The committee was impressed with your efforts with engagement in the national conversation, both with faculty through their leadership in CUR, publications in SPUR, as well as through student participation at NCUR, GURC, Posters at the Capitol, and beyond. The expansion of curriculum-based experiences was applauded, including the recently introduced capstone, and faculty-led, interdisciplinary GC Journeys. The committee continued to be impressed with this focus on collaboration, and the excellent examples provided to help others conceptualize what integrating High Impact Practices could look like.”*
5. **NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION S-STEM AWARD** Congratulations to the Department of Chemistry, Physics & Astronomy for recently being awarded the highly-competitive **\$650,000 National Science Foundation Scholarships in Science, Technology, Engineering & Math Award**. This is a single-institution, sole Principal Investigator (Mills) award with co-Principal Investigator spanning three programs – Drs. Rosado (chemistry), Mahabaduge (physics) and Kang (education). The award spans five years and will provide up to \$432,000 in need-based scholarships for students majoring in chemistry or physics. There also is funding support for conference travel, undergraduate research, and a housing allowance for summer internships.
6. **ACADEMIC CALENDARS** The link to the Academic Calendars can be found at <https://www.gcsu.edu/registrar/academic-calendars-registrar>. Please know this information is subject to change.
7. **VICE PRESIDENT FOR FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION** We are currently engaged in a search for our next Vice President for Finance & Administration. This search is being chaired by Provost & Vice President, Dr. Costas Spirou. Members of the search committee include:
 - a. Frank Baugh, Director of Operations and Maintenance
 - b. Josefina Endere, Senior Budget Director
 - c. Nathan Graham, Student Government Association President
 - d. Chris Greer, Professor of Instructional Technology
 - e. John Jackson, Staff Council Representative/Maintenance Manager, Parking & Transportation
 - f. Karl Manrodt, University Senate Representative/Professor of Logistics
 - g. Nadirah Mayweather, Director, Cultural CenterDetails about this search can be found at <https://www.gcsu.edu/finance-and-administration-search>.
8. **LEGAL AFFAIRS UPDATE** General Counsel on-campus interviews were conducted last week. Feedback information is being compiled and reviewed. Hopefully, an announcement regarding this important hire can be made in the next few weeks. Despite the challenges COVID has presented with on-campus interviews, I want to thank everyone who participated in welcoming these candidates to our campus. During this transition period, the University System Office is currently providing us with an interim Title IX Coordinator. Ms. Brandi Williams, Equity Compliance Investigator & Trainer, is serving as

Georgia College's interim Title IX Coordinator. We are thankful to the System Legal Office for their support during this time.

9. **QUESTIONS** When President Dorman invited questions, several were forthcoming.

a. **ONE-TIME STATEWIDE \$1,000 EMPLOYEE SUPPLEMENT**

i. Question: Is the \$1,000 bonus pay based on a faculty member's base salary for the school year, or is it based on one's total salary after semester pay has been added to the base salary? Answer (Susan Allen, Vice President for Finance and Administration): Yes, the \$1,000 bonus is based off of the faculty member's academic/fiscal year base contract. Summer pay is excluded from the rate calculations. Additionally, we have received further guidance that if a faculty member is receiving an administrative stipend that takes them to or exceeds \$80,000 threshold, then this pay is included in the calculation which prohibits them from receiving the \$1,000 supplements.

b. **COVID-19 VACCINATIONS**

- i. Question: Faculty have been waiting their turn for Phase 1B but Governor Kemp selected K-12 teachers and school staff to receive the vaccine and also ended phases. Some faculty are traveling to Alabama to get the vaccine. Could you advocate for faculty? Answer: I do not have power with the Governor. The chancellor and USG staff are advocating for the system.
- ii. Comment (electronic): I wish I had the time and resources to go to Alabama, but I do not.
- iii. Comment (electronic): I am over 65 years old and required to teach face-to-face, but I am still not able to get the COVID-19 vaccine. All of my friends my age working at many other universities have received the vaccine, but at GCSU, no one has ever contacted me for this.
- iv. Comment (electronic): Navicent Health in Macon has open appointments for the vaccine starting March 1. Go to www.CovidSafeGA.org to sign up.
- v. Comment (electronic): I really feel that the GCSU leadership doesn't care about the health of us who are over 65 and required to teach face-to-face. Why can't the university help us in this regard? Why do we need to personally compete with the people outside of our community? I had to go to websites to compete for the vaccine. They require web skills and luck to get an appointment at a location 100 miles away from campus. It is very sad!
- vi. Comment (electronic): GCSU leadership has done all it can. The university is waiting on vaccines, which are allocated by the State of Georgia.

PROVOST'S REPORT — **PROVOST COSTAS SPIROU**

1. **2020 AURA AWARD** At the end of January, we received word from the Council on Undergraduate Research (CUR) that Georgia College was chosen as a recipient of the *2020 Award for Undergraduate Research Accomplishments (AURA)*. The communication noted: "Georgia College and State University's achievements as a leader in undergraduate research set your institution apart from other finalists for this award. You demonstrated excellent institutional commitment to undergraduate research, providing a compelling story of a growth over 10 years, resulting in expanded infrastructure and support. Your efforts of utilizing survey data to make program changes is commended. The committee was impressed with your efforts with engagement in the national conversation, both with faculty through their leadership in CUR, publications in SPUR, as well as through student participation at NCUR, GURC, Posters at the Capitol, and beyond. The expansion of curriculum-based experiences was applauded, including the recently introduced capstone, and faculty-led, interdisciplinary GC Journeys.

The committee continued to be impressed with this focus on collaboration, and the excellent examples provided to help others conceptualize what integrating High Impact Practices could look like.” This is a major accomplishment for our institution. I am grateful to our faculty, department chairs, deans, and staff who have worked tirelessly for many years to position Georgia College for this recognition of national distinction. Also, thank you to Dr. Cofer, Dr. Sams, and all of the colleagues who have focused on crafting a successful submission.

2. **U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT** *U.S. News & World Report* released the 2021 Best Online Programs rankings:
 - a. The Georgia WebMBA® at Georgia College & State University is ranked #62. GC has been consistently recognized by U.S. News as a best online MBA program in the country since they began the online MBA rankings in 2012.
 - b. This semester marks the 20-year anniversary of the Georgia WebMBA®.
 - c. GC is the second highest ranked online MBA in the state of Georgia.
 - d. Web site for online MBA rankings: <https://www.usnews.com/education/online-education/mba/rankings>
 - e. The Master of Logistics and Supply Chain Management (MLSCM) and the Master of Management Information Systems (MMIS) were ranked #38 among other, non-MBA, graduate business programs. That ranking includes programs in various disciplines, such as accounting, finance, and logistics. For that group of master’s programs, GC is second in the State of Georgia, behind UGA.
 - f. This is the first year that the MMIS program was included in the data collection.
 - g. The MLSCM has consistently been recognized as a best online master’s business program since 2016, the first year we were able to submit data.
 - h. Web site for best online master’s business programs (non-MBA) rankings: <https://www.usnews.com/education/online-education/business/rankings>
 - i. The university’s online graduate nursing programs ranked 27th in the nation—up one place from last year. Georgia College’s programs were the highest-ranked in the state of Georgia. These programs include the Master of Science in Nursing with track options of Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP), FNP Post Master, Nurse Educator and Professional Enrichment, Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse practitioner programs (MSN and Postgraduate), the Women's Health Nurse Practitioner Programs (MSN and Post Graduate) and the Nurse-Midwifery programs (MSN and post-graduate).
 - j. The publication also recognized our College of Education programs.

Congratulations!
3. **GC SUPER SATOURDAY** – March 6, 2021. GC Super SaTOURday is a new event designed to provide admitted students for fall 2021 with an opportunity to tour Georgia College in a safe environment. This event will provide small groups of students (and only one guest each) with a brief presentation from an admissions counselor regarding next steps, a presentation from a student ambassador regarding the student experience, and a guided tour of campus. Admissions will be hosting multiple small groups throughout the day (from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.) to allow for social distancing and to enforce strict safety precautions. The intent of this program is to provide families an opportunity to see our beautiful campus and encourage students to deposit, pounce, and complete the housing process.
4. **VIRTUAL SPRINGFEST 2021** – March 20, 2021. In order to keep visitors and our faculty and staff safe, this year’s Springfest event will be virtual. This Saturday event for accepted freshmen will begin at 10 a.m. and conclude at noon. Springfest will include a welcome from President Dorman, a student speaker, an admissions information session, an academic college/department session, and student life information. Representatives will also be on hand to answer questions about financial aid, pounce, and

housing. Springfest is a great opportunity for admitted students to interact with current GC students, faculty, and staff members. The intent of this event is to encourage students to pay their deposit, pounce, and complete the housing process. In addition, we hope to solidify the decision of those students who have already committed to GC.

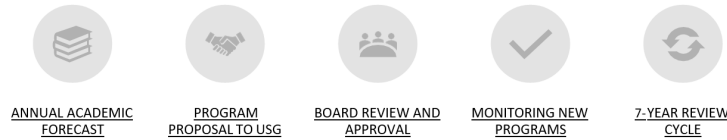
5. **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COUNCIL** IT Council Formed at GC-Membership from Academic Affairs
 - a. One academic dean to serve as a rotating member on the Information Technology Council - Dr. Brian Newsome
 - b. One academic dean to serve as a rotating member on the Academic Technology Advisory Committee - Dr. Joe Peters
 - c. One academic department chair to serve as a rotating member on the Academic Technology Advisory Committee - Kell Carpenter
 - d. Two at-large appointees to serve as rotating members on the Academic Technology Advisory Committee - Dr. Simeco Vinson, Dr. James Callaghan
 - e. One academic dean or department chair to serve as a rotating member on the Administrative Systems Advisory Committee - Dr. Scott Buchanan
 - f. One additional designee from the Provost/VP for Academic Affairs division to serve as a rotating member on the Administrative Systems Advisory Committee - Dr. Jim Berger
 - g. One academic dean or department chair to serve as a rotating member on the Data Governance Advisory Committee - Dr. Sheri Noviello
 - h. One additional designee from the Provost/VP for Academic Affairs division to serve as a rotating member on the Administrative Systems Advisory Committee - Dr. Cara Smith
 - i. One designee from the Provost/VP for Academic Affairs division to serve as a rotating member on the Infrastructure and Security Advisory Committee - Dr. Gita Phelps
6. **ONEUSG CAREERS** Georgia College transitioned to the new OneUSG Careers platform. This is change is a part of the ongoing systemwide initiative to provide greater efficiency through a more integrated and seamless platform. OneUSG Careers is a platform that electronically onboards new employees, handles recruitment, and employee transactions (such as manager changes, employee separations, etc.). Some of the benefits for using OneUSG Careers:
 - a. Improves applicant and hiring manager experience.
 - b. Reduces manual, paper and dual entry of data.
 - c. Integrates with OneUSG Connect and third-party vendors such as Equifax and Accurate.
 - d. Standardizes and simplifies business processes, procedures and forms.
 - e. Reduces compliance risk.
 - f. Compatible with most smart devices.Please contact GCSUCareers@gcsu.edu if you have any questions.
7. **LEGISLATIVE REQUEST FOR COURSE SECTIONS** As requested by the USG, the Georgia College (and all other USG institutions) submitted the report (legislative request).
8. **OFFICE OF GRANTS AND SPONSORED PROJECTS** Donna Donna Douglas will serve as Interim Director of the Office of Grants and Sponsored Projects. The grants office can be contacted at grants@gcsu.edu.
9. **MOMENTUM SUMMIT IV** – February 22-March 5, 2021. GC attendees include Steve Dorman, Costas Spirou, Susan Allen, Shawn Brooks, Lee Fruitticher, Chris Ferland, Joel Robinson, Michele Johnson, Erin Weston, Laurie Burns, Eric Burns, Eric Tenbus, Micheal Stratton, Sheri Noviello, Brian Newsome, Joy Godin, Lauren Eason, Angela Criscoe, Joanne Previts, Damian Francis, Jordan Cofer, Holley Roberts, Jim Berger, Cynthia Alby.
10. **CENTER FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING** Upcoming workshops by the Center for Teaching and Learning include:
 - a. Build 21st-century Communication Skills and Make Personal Connections to the Curriculum through Digital Storytelling - March 9

- b. You Can Love Student Assessment. Really. - Track: Learning and Getting It Right - March 10
 - c. Facilitating Difficult Conversations - March 12
 - d. Community Building in a Digital Environment - March 17
 - e. Engaging Students and Facilitating Interaction Using Technology - March 23
 - f. Open Educational Resources: Affordable Learning Georgia - March 30
11. **CURRICULUM APPROVALS** Georgia College received approval of our curriculum submissions from the USG. Specifically:
- a. Notification of Delivery Changes to Georgia College at Central Georgia Technical College – Education Graduate Programs
 - b. Notification of the following Graduate Certificates: Dyslexia Endorsement, IT Auditing, IT Data Analysis, Web Developer
 - c. Notification of the following programs moving to online delivery: Ed.S. and M.Ed. in Special Education
12. **COLLEGE OF BUSINESS** Three COB graduate certificates in IT Auditing, IT Analytics, and Web Development will go live soon with respect to promoting and recruiting students; program starts in Fall 2021. Data Science BS proposal passed COB; on its way to the University Curriculum Committee. The USG program proposal is simultaneously under development.
13. **WEBMBA** The 20th Anniversary is this year both for the program and for GC’s participation as a founding member of the consortium. The first online cohort was offered Spring 2001 and has gone from offering one cohort per year to seven cohorts per year for a total of 101 cohorts to date. The WebMBA has now grown to include six other AACSB-accredited institutions in Georgia. The WebMBA continues to be recognized as one of the Best Online MBA Programs in the nation by *U.S. News & World Report*.
14. **SALADIN SCHOLARS AWARDS CEREMONY** The inaugural Saladin Scholars awards ceremony will be held on March 25, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. Jillian Kinzie, Indiana University, will deliver the keynote address. GC Journeys is co-sponsoring the event. Saladin Scholars grants provide for high-impact practices. The Honors College will be following up with the Zoom link/registration details in the coming weeks.
15. **NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION S-STEM AWARD** The highly-competitive \$650,000 National Science Foundation S-STEM Award is a single-institution, sole Principal Investigator (Mills) award with co-Principal Investigators spanning three programs – Drs. Rosado (chemistry), Mahabaduge (physics) and Kang (education). The award spans five years and will provide up to \$432,000 in need-based scholarships for students majoring in chemistry or physics. There also is funding support for conference travel, undergraduate research, and a housing allowance for summer internships. This is the largest award of this type from the National Science Foundation for Georgia College. Special thanks to the Office of Grants and Sponsored Research for their support as well as Chris Ferland and his team for quickly responding to our time-sensitive requests for data. Moving forward, the team looks forward to working closely with the Office of Admissions, Career Center, Registrar’s Office and other units across campus to implement the grant activities.
16. **GRADUATE RESEARCH POSTER EXHIBIT & COMPETITION** The Graduate Research Poster Exhibit & Competition is an opportunity for graduate students to showcase their research endeavors to the campus community. This year’s event will be a virtual display of posters. The virtual poster exhibit consists of a visual display of creativity and research findings. The special event is held in the spring of every year as part of Graduate & Professional Student Appreciation Week, April 5 – 8, 2021. The virtual poster exhibit will be displayed through the Ina Dillard Russell Library, Knowledge Box. The Knowledge Box is a digital repository that captures, maintains, preserves, and provides access to Georgia College’s intellectual capital and institutional records in addition to supporting its teaching and research missions. As part of the exhibit, The Graduate School will host an awards competition. Participating graduate students will demonstrate their engagement in high quality research or creative activity. There is no oral

presentation. Participants should strive to allow their poster to do most of the “talking”. The competition will provide students whose research is deemed outstanding and innovative with an opportunity to be evaluated by faculty judges and awarded prizes. More information on the guidelines, applying, prizes, and registering can be found on The Graduate School web site through the Resources/Graduate Opportunities menu.

17. **TUTORING** The STEM IV grant has extended tutoring M – R, 6:00-9:00 p.m. with two physical locations for drop-in tutoring and we are offering online tutoring for the same days/times. F2F tutoring in the Learning Center as well as the West Campus Classroom; virtual platform is WebEx.
18. **SUPPLEMENTAL INSTRUCTION** The Supplemental Instruction request for Fall ’21 is now closed. Our goal is to hire 48-50 SI leaders to support the 78 sections requesting the SI program partnership.
19. **LEARNING CENTER** The Learning Center is piloting an Excel Bootcamp with a science education class and a math class; our Faculty Advisory Council discovered a common need for basic Excel skills across disciplines.
20. **OPEN EDUCATION WEEK** In celebration of Open Education Week (March 1-5), the Library and the Center for Teaching and Learning will offer several virtual workshops. See Frontpage for more information and registration details.
 - a. Monday, March 1, 2021, 3:00 p.m.- 4:00 p.m. - Affordable Learning Georgia Grant Recipients Panel
 - b. Tuesday, March 3, 2021, 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. – Low-to-No-Cost Class Materials Workshop
 - c. Thursday, March 4, 2021, 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. – Creative Commons Workshop
21. **CORINTHIAN FACULTY REVIEWERS** The *Corinthian* is currently searching for faculty to serve as reviewers for its 2021 edition, set to publish in the summer. Faculty willing to complete a review before March 15 should contact Sydney Marks, Editor in Chief.
22. **CORINTHIAN SUBMISSIONS** The library will accept submissions for the next volume of the *Corinthian* through February 28, 2021. See [kb.gcsu.edu/the Corinthian](http://kb.gcsu.edu/the_Corinthian) for more information.
23. **RACAA MEETING UPDATE** – February 10-11, 2021
 - a. Pandemic fatigue presentation
 - i. Schedule overload
 - ii. Visual/Mental overload)
 - b. Freedom of expression presentation
 - i. Freedom of expression rights
 - ii. Academic freedom
 - c. Faculty development at scale
 - i. Coordinate faculty developments efforts for USG systemwide programs within Momentum
 - ii. Investigate coordinated support of Chancellor’s Learning Scholars, Gateway, eCampus, Affordable Learning Georgia, GeorgiaVIEW, and the foundational work of system Centers for Teaching and Learning
 - d. USG Mental Health Initiative
 - i. The University System of Georgia has launched a comprehensive Mental Health Initiative to significantly expand student mental health services during the COVID-19 pandemic.
 - e. Momentum Summit IV (February 22-March 5, 2021)
 - i. Part of Complete College Georgia focusing on student success.
 - f. USG Academic Program Authorization and Review

USG Program Authorization Steps



Critical Components

Academic and Business Case

1. Labor Market Data
 1. Local, Region, **State**, National, International
2. Curriculum
 1. Occupational Competencies
 2. Career Competencies
 3. Experiential/high impact practices
3. Fiscal
 1. Marketing & Start up Costs & Plans
 2. Faculty Redirect Costs and Plan
4. Risk Analysis (low enrollment, fiscal, faculty)

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF UNIVERSITY SENATE (ECUS) — HAUKE BUSCH, CHAIR**
 - a. **University Senate Budget** No spending is anticipated for the university budget at the present time.
 - b. **University Senate Recognitions** University Senate Recognitions (Certificates/Pins) Report has been generated and has been forwarded to President Dorman for final review and signing.
 - c. **Senate Representatives on University Committees** A review of University-Wide Committees with Senate Representation is being planned to fill vacant positions once the election results of the new senators have been posted. Also, Senate volunteers, staff member, SGA, appointees, senate committee preferences, POE & secretary nominations, etc. requirements were discussed.
 - d. **Proposed Revisions to University Senate Bylaws (Diversity Committee)** The motion is going to have its 2nd reading at the next senate meeting.
 - e. **Request for List of Course Sections** The state legislator’s request for list of course sections was discussed during the meeting. A possible process for how to forward curriculum related information to legislators was identified and forwarded to be discussed with the SCC.
 - f. **Mental Health Initiative** Dr. Shawn Brooks, Vice President for Student Life, will give the University Senate an update on mental health support services to our students.
 - g. **University Senate and IT Governance** Susan Kerr, Chief Information Officer, is going to make an announcement on the “University Senate and IT Governance”, and the requirements for new senator designees.
 - i. One person to sit on the main Information Technology Council
 - ii. One person to sit on the Academic Technology Advisory Committee
 - iii. One person to sit on the Infrastructure and Security Advisory Committee
2. **SUBCOMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS (SCON) — CATHERINE FOWLER, CHAIR**
 - a. **COVID-19 VACCINE** The university is still waiting for the COVID vaccine doses to be delivered. Navicent is expecting several thousand doses. The vaccine clinic is held at the

Wellness Center in Macon. They will potentially have a mass vaccine site at The Family Health Center in Macon. In addition, a mass vaccine site is scheduled at The Farmers Market, Macon.

- b. **ELECTION OVERSIGHT** College and library senate elections are complete. We are awaiting the results for the at large position and one CoHS position to replace a senator who is retiring.
 - c. **2021-2022 Slate of Nominees** ECUS needs to identify a Presiding Officer Elect. The SCoN chair will send committee preference surveys on March 2 to Elected Faculty Senators to ask for standing committee preferences. SGA Selected Student Senators are pending. Staff Council Selected Staff Senators are pending. Presidential Appointees are pending. Dr. Spirou has sent names for two Provost Appointees/Designees.
 - d. **OFFICER ELECTIONS** ECUS would prefer committee chairs to be elected in April.
 - e. **SENATE REPRESENTATION ON UNIVERSITY COMMITTEES** SCoN will review university committee assignments.
 - f. **GOVERNANCE RETREAT** The location and format for the August retreat are pending.
3. **ACADEMIC POLICY COMMITTEE (APC) — JOHN SWINTON, CHAIR**
- a. **CURRICULUM REQUEST PROCEDURE** Report that the Chair initiated a conversation with the Provost about establishing a procedure for responding to general requests about the curriculum of courses. The Provost responded that the idea was worth pursuing.
 - b. **PASS/FAIL GRADES** APC discussed the merit of introducing a policy allowing students to select a pass/fail option for select courses. A subgroup of members will attempt to draft a policy proposal with the help of the Registrar.
 - c. **QUESTIONS** When chair Swinton invited questions, one comment was forthcoming.
 - i. Comment (Provost): Some provosts in the system completed the request themselves by looking in their institutions' catalogs. My approach to the request was that faculty are the holders of the curriculum; therefore, it was appropriate for faculty to have a voice. I reached out to the deans and then the department chairs to lead faculty in answering the request.
4. **FACULTY AFFAIRS POLICY COMMITTEE (FAPC) — HANK EDMONDSON, CHAIR**
- a. **NO REPORT** As Hank Edmundson had extended regrets for the meeting, there was no report.
5. **RESOURCES, PLANNING, AND INSTITUTIONAL POLICY COMMITTEE (RPIPC) — RODICA CAZACU, CHAIR**
- a. **ONLINE PROCTORING SOFTWARE** Possibility of having a campus license for ProctorU. Susan Kerr informed us that there was an attempt to use Proctorio but everything was stopped because privacy issues. She also suggested that it may be possible to use an application that allows instructors to look down browsers while testing.
 - b. **CLASSROOM ASSIGNMENTS** Concerns and challenges instructors have this semester with/in assigned classrooms – the communication barrier. For large classes that meet in Russel Auditorium, Magnolia Room, Centennial side courts students stop asking questions because the instructor can't hear/understand them well. This leads to them being frustrated and not attending the class.
 - c. **SECURITY AND FIRE SAFETY REPORT** Damian Francis mentioned his concerns about the latest security report, released in December 2020, not mentioning anything about the gas leaks in campus. He is concerned about not addressing the problem at all and presenting possible solutions together with an evacuation plan for these events as well as when threats are made by students.
 - d. **VENTILATION** Infrastructure question/concern from Damian Francis: What type of ventilation (purification) systems are installed in the campus buildings? Susan Allen says that purification filters were installed in all buildings.
6. **STUDENT AFFAIRS POLICY COMMITTEE (SAPC) — DIANA YOUNG, VICE-CHAIR FOR JAMIE ADDY, CHAIR**

- a. **MENTAL HEALTH INITIATIVE** Tom Miles, Dean of Students, shared information about the USG's new mental health initiative and Christie Campus Health, the 24/7 online student mental health support program that provides unlimited online support for all GC students.
 - b. **SGA** Nathan Graham, SGA President, gave updates about various SGA goals, including the creation of a new master list of student support resources and services that any student can make use of.
 - c. **STUDENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON DIVERSITY** We also discussed the new Student Advisory Committee on Diversity, which is made up of over a dozen students from diverse backgrounds to provide input to Tom Miles (Dean of Students), Carolyn Denard (Chief Diversity Officer), and Nadirah Mayweather (Director of the Cultural Center) about the university's efforts to promote inclusive excellence across campus.
7. **STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION (SGA) — NATHAN GRAHAM, PRESIDENT**
- a. **SGA EXECUTIVE ELECTIONS** The results for the SGA Executive Elections are in.
 - i. SGA President-Elect: James Robertson
 - ii. SGA Vice President-Elect: Grace Singletary
 - iii. SGA Secretary-Elect: Kaitley Congdon
 - iv. SGA Treasurer Elect: Jack Howle
 - b. **GO AUNT FLOW** I have initiated a transfer of funds to the Women's Center from SGA to fund the Go Aunt Flow Initiative. This is for an order of 7,000 tampons and 7,000 pads. These products will be distributed to all restrooms across campus in baskets with a QR code to alert the Women's Center of project need and feedback.
 - c. **KNOW YOUR SERVICES** We are looking to develop a master list of all the services that the University offers to students. We are asking for any and all help from everyone to make this happen. Please send any resources towards President Graham at sga.president@gcsu.edu.
 - d. **SECURITY** We are asking that any events using Zoom have the proper security to prevent Zoom bombing/hacking events that could cause harm to students. If you have any questions regarding Zoom security, please consult with the Office of Information Technology.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/INFORMATION ITEMS

3. **UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE (UCC) UPDATE — LINDALL MUSCHELL, CHAIR**
- a. **UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE**
 - i. **College of Arts & Sciences**
 - 1. **Action Items**
 - a. Revision of the BA in English, Literature Concentration – Approved
 - b. New BA in English, Film, Media, and Culture Concentration – Approved
 - 2. **Information Items**
 - a. **New Course Proposal**
 - i. ENGL 4830 Special Topics in Film, Television, and New Media
 - ii. ENGL 3940 Evolution of Film
 - iii. ENGL 4890 American Film and the South
 - iv. HIST 4045 Mesoamerican Foodways
 - v. HIST 4000 Introduction to Oral History
 - vi. HIST 4050 Mexican Foodways and Celebrations
 - vii. HIST 4065 Understanding Mediterranean History and Culture through Foodways
 - viii. HIST 4055 The Foods of Nuevo South
 - ix. HIST 4625 Documenting American History: Social Photography, Non-Fiction Film
 - x. HIST 4060 Global Foodways Studies

- xi. MUSC 4630 Music, Memory, and the African Diaspora
- b. **Modification of Existing Course**
 - i. ENGL 3900 Critical Approaches to Literature – Change of course title to Critical Theory and catalog description
 - ii. ENGL 2200 Writing About Literature – Change of course title to Engaging Texts and catalog description
 - iii. ENGL 4970 Thesis – Change in Academic Profile
 - iv. ENGL 4960 Internship – Change in Academic Profile
 - v. ENGL 4900 – Seminar of Language and Literature – Change of course title to Seminar of Language and Literature and catalog description
 - vi. ANTH 3010 Cultural Anthropology – Remove pre-requisite
- ii. **College of Health Sciences**
 - 1. **Modification of Existing Course**
 - a. NURS 4780 Leadership and Management in Nursing – Add pre-requisites
- b. **GRADUATE COUNCIL**
 - i. **Action Items**
 - 1. **College of Education**
 - a. Ed.S. in Special Education - Change in Program of Study (Teacher Education) – Approved
 - ii. **Information Items**
 - 1. **College of Education**
 - a. Ed.S. in Special Education - EDEX 7230 add; EDEX 7210 delete
- c. **GENERAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE**
 - i. New GC1Y section proposal: World War II - Approved
 - ii. New GC1Y section proposal: Seeing Race - Approved
 - iii. New GC2Y section proposal: Activism and the Arts - Approved

ADJOURN

- 1. **ATTENDANCE AND THE SIGN-IN SHEET** Alex Blazer marked the attendance of those who joined the online video conference.
- 2. **MOTION TO ADJOURN** A motion to adjourn was made, seconded, and approved. The meeting was adjourned at 4:39 p.m.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

- 1. There are two supporting documents.
 - a. *Supporting_GC_Mental_Health_2021-02-26.pptx*
 - b. *Supporting_Information_Technology_Governance_2021-02-26.pdf*