

2024-2025 UNIVERSITY SENATE
MINUTES FOR THE 15 NOV 2024 MEETING
University Senate Officers: Presiding Officer Nicholas Creel,
Presiding Officer Elect Stephanie Jett, Secretary Alex Blazer

ATTENDANCE

Members	P denotes Present	A denotes Absent	R denotes Regrets
Andrew Allen-P	Kerry James Evans-P	Nadirah Mayweather-P	Will Smith-P
GeGee Arnold-P	Sayo Fakayode-A	Matthew Milnes-A	Rob Sumowski-P
Alex Blazer-P	Nancy Finney-P	Bekir Mugayitoglu-P	Amy Sumpter-P
Rodica Cazacu-P	Jennifer Flory-P	Joyce Norris-Taylor-P	John Swinton-P
Mikkel Christensen-P	Matthew Forrest-P	Amy Pinney-P	Natalie Toomey-P
Ashley Copeland-P	Brad Fowler-P	Frank Richardson-A	Winston Tripp-A
Corey Claxton-P	Hedy Fraunhofer-P	Holley Roberts-P	Amy Vander Groef-A
Cathy Cox-P	Bryan Hall-R	Suzanna Roman-Oliver-P	Erin Viscarra-P
Nicholas Creel-P	Axel Hawkins-P	Peter Rosado-R	Talecia Warren-P
Holly Croft-R	Sabrina Hom-P	Ezra Ryall-P	Benjamin Whittle-P
Donovan Domingue-R	Stephanie Jett-P	Lamonica Sanford-P	Aric Wilhau-P
Helen DuPree-P	Mehrnaz Khalaj Hedayati-P	Arnab Sengupta-R	
Josefina Endere-R	Adam Lamparello-P	Marshall Smith-P	
Guests	Role on University Senate or Position at the University		
Angel Abney	Associate Professor of Mathematics and Chair of the University Curriculum Committee		
A. Kay Anderson	Assistant Vice President for Enrollment Management and University Registrar		
Jim Berger	Director, Center for Teaching and Learning		
Kevin Bucholtz	Associate Provost for Student Engagement and Academic Excellence		
Mandy Jarriel	Interim Associate Provost of Academic Affairs & Director of The Graduate School		
Kim Muschaweck	Assistant Professor of Teacher Education and Parliamentarian of the 2024-2025 University Senate		
Jan Serpan	Academic Advisor, Academic Advising		

CALL TO ORDER Nicholas Creel, Presiding Officer of the 2024-2025 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 (15 Nov 2024)
 - b. University Senate Meeting Minutes (18 Oct 2024)

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS There was no unfinished business.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT — **PRESIDENT CATHY COX**

1. **BOARD OF REGENTS UPDATE**

- a. The Board of Regents met on Tuesday, November 12, 2024, in Atlanta for their regular monthly meeting and took several actions of note.
- b. First, with respect to the policies that Board Chairman Reynolds announced at the end of the October meeting, and to which you as Senate members responded with a letter addressing several issues of concern, as did our Student Government Association and I (Dr. Creel circulated those letters to you last week), the policies were all adopted with no apparent changes, and with no questions or discussion from the members of the Board. A copy of the policies is attached to this report with changes highlighted.
- c. Dr. Spirou, as the Interim Chief Academic Officer, did acknowledge that our letters were received, but we received no other acknowledgement or response from the Chancellor, the Board or USG Staff, nor did the Board Chair mention that any feedback was received from any sources before calling for a vote on the policies. We will seek guidance from Dr. Spirou on the various areas that your letter pointed out are ambiguous as we prepare to implement the policies with an effective date of January 1, 2025.
- d. On the recommendation of the Athletics Committee of the Board, the Regents amended Policy 4.5.8 Funding of Intercollegiate Athletic Programs in a manner that doubles the percentage of state Education & General Fund subsidy that can be used to support athletics for the “Power 4” NCAA Division I institutions in the SEC, ACC, Big Ten, or Big 12 conferences – meaning only UGA and Georgia Tech within the USG. This change alone will allow Georgia Tech to keep and spend some \$20 million more on athletics and UGA approximately \$47 million more. No other USG institutions benefitted from this change. Other institutions like GCSU were given a reprieve on having to report operating expenses like board-mandated COLA’s, post-season expenses, or capital project expenses in their calculations of a formula that restricts them from increasing funding in any year by more than 5% -- but no further flexibility was provided in actually helping these institutions pay for their athletic programs.
- e. On the recommendation of the Academic Affairs Committee of the Board, the Regents also amended Policy 4.6.5.2 (Process for Investigating and Resolving Disputed Reports), Subsection 6.7 (Sexual Misconduct Policy), and 6.7.2(A) (Institutional Reports), effective November 12, 2024, to state that Title IX Coordinators will now have a direct reporting structure to the Assistant Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs in the USG Office, as well as to the President or President’s designee on the campus where the Coordinator works, instead of the previous reporting structure to the USG’s Director for Equity and Investigations, which position no longer exists. The Assistant Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs or their designee will have discretion to oversee the handling of Title IX complaints at the campus level.
- f. Dr. Costas Spirou, Interim Chief Academic Officer, presented the first report to the Regents on the post-tenure review policy that was adopted and implemented

over the past two years. He explained the full “life cycle” of a tenure-track faculty position and institutions’ extensive investment of time and resources into the recruitment process, professional development, tenure process, and now post-tenure review. (In essence, he was setting the stage to explain that if institutions are doing their jobs throughout this life-cycle, there should not be many faculty who don’t succeed in the post-tenure review process.)

- g. The results of data collected from all 26 institutions showed, first, that the System office needs to work on the data collection process and provide more training to institutions about how to input data. The System needs to develop and share best practices for the post-tenure process and work closely with the Provost’s offices on these processes in coming years. But with the data collected, they found these results from the first round of post-tenure review:

Institution Type	# Reviewed	# Not Successful	% Not Successful
Research-1	305	6	2%
Comprehensive	207	9	4.50%
State Universities	138	6	4.30%
State Colleges	44	2	4.50%
TOTAL	694	23	3.30%

- h. The Regents also heard an enrollment update from Dr. Angela Bell, Vice Chancellor for Research and Policy Analysis, which indicated that the system has enrolled more than 364,000 students for fall 2024, an increase of 5% or more than 20,000 above fall 2023 enrollment. All 26 of the USG institutions showed an increase in enrollment, a notable improvement since pandemic enrollment challenges.
 - i. The Board of Regents elected new officers for the 2025 year. Regent T. Dallas Smith was elected as Chair of the Board (currently vice chair) and Regent David Dove, who was appointed to the Board in April of this year, was elected as Vice-Chair of the Board.
 - j. Before adjourning the meeting, Regent Neil Pruitt raised the issue in a general discussion of the nursing crisis in the state and said he thought UGA needed its own nursing school. Numerous Regents joined in to support his idea and urged that the idea be expedited. I am working on a letter to the Chancellor and members of the Board of Regents asking them to consider expanding highly successful existing programs like the GCSU nursing program if they really want to expedite the graduation of more qualified nurses, compared to the cost and time delays of building a new nursing school from scratch.
2. **WINTER COMMENCEMENT** Our Winter Commencement ceremony will be held on Saturday, December 14, at 1:00 p.m. in the Centennial Center. Jehan El-Jourbagy, J.D., Associate Professor of Business Law, will serve as Commencement speaker. Professor El-Jourbagy was the recipient of the 2024 Excellence in Teaching Award. This award recognizes excellence, innovation, and effectiveness in teaching. The recipient of this award also serves as the university’s nominee for the Regent’s Teaching Excellence Award.
 3. **HOMECOMING & ALUMNI WEEKEND & STATE OF THE UNIVERSITY ADDRESS**
 - a. Homecoming & Alumni Weekend are scheduled to take place together once again on February 21-23, 2025. We launched a “new era of Homecoming” last February

as we combined the two events into one fun-filled and jam-packed weekend, and we look forward to doing it again in 2025!

- b. Also taking place that week, and specifically on Friday, February 21, will be the annual State of the University Address. This will take place at 2pm in Russell Auditorium. I look forward to sharing campus updates and reflecting on the impressive accomplishments of the campus over the past year.
4. **ANNUAL COMPLIANCE TRAINING** Annual Compliance Training is required by GCSU Human Resources for all active employees (faculty, staff, full-time & part-time) and student workers hired PRIOR TO November 1, 2023. All must complete the 2024 Required Annual *Compliance Training and Ethics Refresher* module and the Acknowledgement Quiz. Individuals who drive on university business must also complete the *Motor Vehicle Use Program* module. The training must be completed by Monday, December 23, 2024. This is a Georgia College & State University Human Resources requirement. If you have any questions, please call Ms. Kelly Beall in Human Resources at extension 8573 or by email at kelly.beall@gcsu.edu.
5. **SAVE THE DATE**
 - a. *Hanging of the Greens*
Thursday, December 5, 2024
5:30 p.m.
Front Campus
 - b. *Tacky Holiday Sweater Party & Contest*
Wednesday, December 11, 2024
3:00 – 4:00 p.m.
Magnolia Ballroom
 - c. *Winter Commencement*
Saturday, December 14, 2024
1:00 p.m.
Centennial Center
 - d. *Classes begin for Spring Semester*
Monday, January 13, 2024
 - e. *State of the University Address*
Friday, February 21, 2 p.m.
Russell Auditorium
 - f. *Homecoming-Alumni Weekend*
February 21-23, 2025
Multiple campus venues

PROVOST’S REPORT — PROVOST HOLLEY ROBERTS

1. **COLLEGES AND LIBRARY**

a. **COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES**

i. **Department of Biological and Environmental Sciences**

1. Dr. Indiren Pillay, Department Chair, will become interim dean in January 2025, while Dr. Kalina Manoylov will also become interim department chair in January 2025.
2. Dr. Kalina Manoylov offered a training workshop at GCSU for South Carolina state employees on diatom and algae identification. The Aquatic Sciences Center (ASC) held a water education day for community and engagement at the Deep Roots Festival. And the

ASC has partnered with the GCSU Ambassadors to offer a stream clean-up event this week (November 15).

3. Numerous department students presented undergraduate research at GURC, the Geological Society of America, the North American Diatom Symposium, and Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Translational Control Meeting.

ii. **Department of Communication**

1. The Department of Communication held Student Media Day on Thursday, November 14 to celebrate the significant birthdays of both WGUR (50th) and *The Colonnade* (100th) with free food and games.

iii. **Department of English**

1. The Writing Studies Program with Dr. Emily Pucker and Dr. Roberto Leon hosts a Creative Composition Roundtable Series which meets monthly. Dr. Pucker was a lead organizer for The Georgia and Carolinas College English Association Conference hosted at GCSU in October.
2. The GCSU Creative Writing Program's Visiting Writers Series will host authors and GCSU alumni Stephen Hundley (BA) and Denechia Powell-Ingabire (MFA) on November 20.
3. Dr. Chika Unigwe was an invited panelist at the International Literature Festival--Berlin.
4. Dr Kerry Neville has a poem in the upcoming anthology *Invisible Strings: 113 Poets Respond to the Songs of Taylor Swift* from Penguin RandomHouse, her essay "Lapsed Catholic" appears in *Fourth Genre*, and her memoir *Momma May Be Mad* has been accepted for publication in Fall 2025.

iv. **The Departments of Music and Department of Communication**

1. Received notification of USG approval for their new Certificate in Audio Production, which will begin in Spring 2025.

v. **Department of Music**

1. Dr. Tina Holmes-Davis recently published a book titled *Able Will Suffice: Universal Design for Learning in Music Education*, GIA Publications. She also published an article in the Journal of Music Education. Dr. Cliff Towner will take the GCSU Jazz Ensemble to Atlanta in January to perform at the *Jenerations Jazz Festival*.
2. Dr. Dana Gorzelany-Mostak has recently provided her research on campaign music for various national and international outlets including *Vox*, the *Kansas City Star*, the *Chicago Tribune*, and *Connecticut Public Radio*. And she presented a workshop on the timely Trax on the Trail Project as part of the GCSU Digital Humanities Collaborative.
3. Dr. Laurie Peebles presented "Sights and Sounds of Veteran Identity" as part of her larger collaborative research project at Blackbird Coffee on November 12. The presentation included photos taken by veterans and music chosen and analyzed by veterans.

b. **COLLEGE OF EDUCATION**

- i. **The John H. Lounsbury Distinguished Lecture Series on American Education** Thursday, February 6th, 2025 in Peabody Auditorium: Dr. Dana Rickman, President of the Georgia Partnership for Excellence in Education, will serve as the sixth lecturer <https://gpee.org/about/staff/>
 - ii. **Searches** currently taking place
 - 1. Associate Dean of the College of Education
 - 2. Limited-Term Lecturer in Elementary Education
 - c. **COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES**
 - i. **Interim Positions** As of November 1, Dr. Josie Doss is serving as the Interim Associate Dean for the College of Health Sciences and Dr. Jennifer Goldsberry as the Interim Director for the School of Nursing.
 - ii. **Mobile Health Unit** The new Mobile Health Unit is operational and was deployed to Putnam County for an event this month.
 - d. **COLLEGE OF BUSINESS & TECHNOLOGY**
 - i. **The Bobcat Boardroom & Bobcat Trading Room Open House** has been rescheduled for Thursday, Feb. 20, from 4:30-5:30pm. Please mark your calendars to attend.
 - ii. **Business Executive in Residence** The 2nd Business Executive in Residence, Kevin Neary from Orcawise in Ireland, will be in residence the week of January 27. Orcawise is a Responsible AI Advisory & Services company. Details will be forthcoming about a session open to the university community.
 - iii. **Executive Forum** The CoBT is relaunching their former Executive Forum series. The series is a quarterly dinner and presentation by an executive. Paid annual membership is open to the campus and community, but membership numbers are limited. Please contact Nancy Finney if you are interested in joining and for further details.
 - iv. **Sales Team Competition** Congratulations to [Michael Champa](#), President of the Sales Team, as he placed 2nd at the [International Collegiate Sales Competition \(ICSC\)](#), in the Speed Selling category! He competed against 160 top sales students from 80 universities worldwide; this incredible accomplishment speaks to the talent, dedication, and hard work our students bring to the table. [Nicole Rubin](#) also qualified to compete. This was Nicole's first sales competition, and she made a positive impression on the employers, thus expanding her network and even being interviewed for positions during the course of the competition.
 - v. **Scholarship Application Party** January, 2025, Beta Alpha Psi will host its first ever Scholarship Application Party during the first or second week of the Spring semester. Carr Riggs & Ingram is our sponsor. We hope to encourage accounting majors to bring their laptops to the Den, eat pizza, and apply to university-wide, GSCPA, and firm-funded scholarships. Beta Alpha Psi officers are encouraging other clubs in the CoBT to join the party.
2. **SCHOOLS AND HONORS COLLEGE**
- a. **HONORS COLLEGE & NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS**
 - i. **Eta Sigma Alpha Induction** On Nov. 12, first-year Honors students were inducted into Eta Sigma Alpha (the Honors student association) at a ceremony in Magnolia Ballroom. Honors Assistant Director and National Scholarships Coordinator Anna Whiteside delivered the keynote address.

- ii. **Fulbright U.S. Student Program** The National Scholarships Office worked with 16 students on completing and submitting their applications for the Fulbright U.S. Student Program this year. This is the largest number of students who have ever submitted applications in a single academic school year.
 - iii. **Legends of Honors** On Nov. 20 at 6:00 p.m., Honors alumnus Dr. David Snow will deliver a Legends of Honors Zoom presentation titled "A Long & Winding Road: Opportunity (and Adventure) in Public Service." [To register, please click on the embedded link.](#)
 - iv. **National Collegiate Honors Conference** From Oct. 30 to Nov. 3, Dr. Brian Newsome and Dr. Steve Elliott-Gower accompanied a small group of Honors students to the National Collegiate Honors Conference in Kansas City, MO. Newsome, Elliott-Gower, and each of the students presented scholarship and/or led roundtable discussions on innovations in Honors programming.
- b. **THE GRADUATE SCHOOL**
- i. **Administrative Graduate Assistant Request** Non-academic offices that wish to request an Administrative GA for AY 2024-2025 should complete the Administrative Graduate Assistant online request form on or before December 15, 2024. The form is available on the Graduate Assistants web page in the Administrative Graduate Assistant Request (non-academic offices) section.
 - ii. **Career Fair** The Graduate School will attend Atlanta Metropolitan State College's Career Fair on November 19.
 - iii. **Graduate & Professional Student Appreciation Week** The Graduate School will celebrate Graduate & Professional Student Appreciation Week 2025, April 14 – 18, 2025.
 - iv. **Graduate Research Travel Grants** No applications were received for the fall 2024 cycle of Graduate Research Travel Grants. The application window for the spring 2025 cycle of Graduate Research Travel Grant will open on January 13, 2025. The application is available on the Graduate Opportunities web page of The Graduate School website.
 - v. **Recruitment Events** The Graduate School has participated recruitment events at the following Fall recruitment fairs: GCSU, Kennesaw State University, Wesleyan College, GaETC Conference in Atlanta, and the Bibb County Board of Education Certification Information Session.
- c. **SCHOOL OF CONTINUING AND PROFESSIONAL STUDIES**
- i. **Academic Outreach**
 - 1. We are working with the High Achievers Program in exploring molecular movement. We have spent time at Lake Laurel offering programs for the Life Enrichment Center members and to high school chemistry students from the homeschool programs.
 - 2. Friday, December 6, join us for Adopt a Stream training and monitoring at Champion Creek at Lake Laurel (9 - 10 a.m.) at Georgia College's East Campus, Tobler Creek at Andalusia Farm (10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.), and Tanyard Creek by College Station (2:30 - 3:30 p.m.). No experience required. This is a GCSU Thirst for Knowledge event. Register at <https://givepul.se/1618ou>. Email Ruth Eilers (ruth.eilers@gcsu.edu) to learn more.

- ii. **Afterschool Achievement**
 - 1. High Achievers Program (HAP) current partnerships include: GC&SU Health Education, Exchange Bank, GC&SU Outdoor Education, GC&SU Academic Outreach, GC&SU IT-Mr. John Johnson, the GCSU Communications Department, and Tree Top Training, LLC.
 - 2. Kenneth Daniels continues to solicit support for guest speakers in the HAP speaker series. Contact him if you are interested: kenneth.daniels@gcsu.edu or contact Mr. Daniels at 478.445.8509
- iii. **Communities in Schools Milledgeville Baldwin County**
 - 1. Courtney Bentley has been named as the next Director of Communities in Schools Milledgeville Baldwin County (CISMBC) and will begin this role in January, 2025.
 - 2. CISMBC has increased donations with the latest being \$1,500 from the Georgia Power Foundation
 - 3. The Board of Directors had new members including Frederick Ellington (Central State Hospital), John Jackson (GCSU/BCSD BOE), Ashley Copeland (GCSU GIVE Center), Tatrabian Jackson (CGTC), and Kendric Butts (Baldwin County Commissioners).
- iv. **Continuing & Professional Education**
 - 1. Yandchia Higdon has been hired as a Program Coordinator. Yandchia is a Mercer University alum and Macon, Georgia native. She has extensive background and passion for higher education. She will focus on workforce development and the Employer Education Partnership program.
 - 2. **Join us in Rome & the Amalfi Coast (Dec. 5 – Dec. 14, 2025) - [Registration is open](#)**
 - 3. [Georgia Film Academy Spring registration](#) is now open. Classes run January 13- May 1.
- v. **Historic Museums**
 - 1. The Mansion will be closed from Monday, November 11 - Friday, November 15 for decorating. We will open for Christmas tours on Saturday, November 16.
 - 2. [Registration is now open](#) for the **Mansion's Christmas Candlelight Tours on our [website](#)**. Dates are Saturday, December 7 and Saturday, December 21 at 6 pm, 7 pm, and 8 pm.
 - 3. [Registration is also open](#) for the Mansion's Santa Photo Night on Friday, December 13, beginning at 6 pm.
- vi. **YES at Oak Hill Middle School and Lakeview Academy**
 - 1. On October 25th, the HAP collaborated with the YES Program at OHMS to put on a “2024 Lights on Afterschool” event to celebrate the only nationwide event celebrating afterschool programs and out-of-school Programs and their significant roles in the lives of children, families, and communities.
 - 2. Both YES programs have provided academic and enrichment services to over 250 3rd-8th grade youth in Baldwin county. Learn more in the [LVA newsletter](#) and the [OHMS newsletter](#).
- vii. **Office of Adult Learner Services**

1. In partnership with the College of Education, we are launching a Bachelor of Science in Special Education program designed specifically for working paraprofessionals seeking teacher certification. Our recent virtual information session demonstrated strong market demand, attracting 235 registrations with 70 active participants engaging in program discussions. Under Dr. Stacie Pettit's leadership, Program Directors Dr. Mike Newton and Dr. Steve Wills are guiding the program's development and implementation. The program, scheduled to launch in Summer 2025, represents our commitment to expanding educational access while addressing critical workforce needs in special education.
3. **OFFICES AND PROGRAMS**
- a. **ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT**
 - i. **Fall Final Grades** are due by 9 a.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 18. The Registrar will send entry instructions to all faculty prior to the deadline.
 - ii. **Financial Aid** During Fall Break, the Financial Aid team held their annual fall retreat to plan new initiatives and to ensure that all staff members are up to date on processes for the 2025-2026 academic year.
 - iii. **The Office of Admissions** received a record number of applications during the Early Action period which ended on October 15th. The admissions team holistically reviewed 3,462 completed applications and offered admissions 2,702 outstanding students. Early Action decisions were released on November 13th at 5:00 p.m.
 - iv. **Winter Commencement** will take place on Saturday, Dec. 14, at 1 p.m. Participating faculty should line up no later than 12:15 p.m. at the Centennial Center first-floor swimming pool corner entrance. Three hundred and fifty students from all colleges are eligible to participate in this combined graduate/undergraduate ceremony. Professor Jehan El-Jourbagy will be the faculty speaker.
 - b. **OFFICE OF GRANTS AND SPONSORED PROGRAMS**
 - i. **Director Search** Effective November 1st, Kadian Leslie, Director of Grants & Sponsored Projects, submitted her resignation from GCSU. We are thankful for her leadership and wish Kadian success in her future endeavors. The Provost Office is working with HR to post the position and start the search for a new director.
 - ii. **Proposal Checklist** Based on the sponsor guidelines, OGSP will create a proposal checklist and timeline to ensure sufficient time is available to develop the proposal, conduct a review and provide feedback, and secure internal approvals prior to the proposal due date.
 - iii. **Reduced Staffing** We ask that you be mindful of the reduced staffing in the Office of Grants & Sponsored Projects (OGSP) and plan accordingly for any upcoming grant submission deadlines. Please email your intent to apply, including a link to the grant guidelines, to grants@gcsu.edu as soon as possible.
 - c. **STUDENT ENGAGEMENT AND ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE**
 - i. **Coordinator for Undergraduate Research** A coordinator for undergraduate research has been hired, and will be starting in January 2025, to help faculty and students with MURACE-related activities.

- ii. **Georgia Undergraduate Research Conference** On Saturday, November 9, 2024, 36 GCSU undergraduate students presented their research at the Georgia Undergraduate Research Conference at Emory-Oxford.
 - iii. **Posters at the Capitol** The 2025 Posters at the Capitol will take place on Tuesday, February 25, 2025. Formal announcements about submissions will be forthcoming in the coming weeks.
 - iv. **Travel with Students** If you have any questions about funding for academic-related travel with students, please reach out to Dr. Kevin Bucholtz, Associate Provost for Academic Excellence and Student Engagement.
4. **CENTERS AND INSTITUTES**
- a. **CENTER FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING**
 - i. **GeorgiaVIEW/D2L** Changes to appearance and layout coming to GeorgiaVIEW/D2L launches on December 18. More details will be forthcoming
 - ii. **SRIS** opens to students on November 19.
 - iii. **Workshop** Empowering All Students Through an Inclusive Syllabus – November 20, 2024
 - b. **THE FLANNERY O'CONNOR INSTITUTE FOR THE HUMANITIES**
 - i. **Department of Education Grant** Our U.S. Department of Education Grant (\$389,000) is wrapping up. We are gifting a podcasting bundle to each of our participating partners: Midway Hills Academy; Lakeview Academy; Mary Vinson Memorial Library; Allied Arts; and the Baldwin High School Podcasting Club.
 - ii. **National Endowment for the Humanities Grant** Our NEH grant Collecting the Past, in collaboration with Ina Dillard Russell Library, gives a beginner-friendly session on podcasting Nov. 12.
 - iii. **Newsletter** The FOIH continues regular programming with a robust schedule of talks. See our November Newsletter for details: <https://secure.smores.com/n/vtrxa>
 - iv. **Talk** On November 7 we hosted a very successful zoom talk with visiting scholars Irwin Streight and Monica Miller on the topic of O'Connor and Music. A lively Q and A ensued!
 - v. **Scholar-in-Residence** Farrell O'Gorman held a lecture entitled "Cormac McCarthy and Flannery O'Connor: Links, Likeness, Legacy," Nov. 14, 6 pm in Library 211, the Museum Education Room.
 - c. **THE LEARNING CENTER**
 - i. **Excel Bootcamp Requests** are out this week to faculty wanting this support for their students to learn basic Excel skills.
 - ii. **Services** Utilization for all of services in the Learning Center have increased approximately 20% comparing Fall 23 to Fall 24 to date.
 - iii. **Supplemental Instruction** requests for spring semester total 68 Leaders to support 94 sections of enrolled students. 60 Leaders have been matched for those requests and hope to fill the openings. This represents 3,443 seats.
 - d. **SANDRA DUNAGAN DEAL CENTER FOR EARLY LANGUAGE AND LITERACY**
 - i. **Baldwin County Reading Clinic** The reading clinic for Lakeview Primary is up and running, serving approximately 75 elementary students.

Twelve GCSU students that the Deal Center trained as tutors are doing very well.

- ii. **Contract with Dr. Paige Pullen** The Deal Center is partnering with Dr. Pullen to support a number of statewide initiatives aligned with our strategic plan. Dr. Pullen has been the Chief Academic Officer and Research Professor at the Lastinger Center for Learning at the University of Florida.
- iii. **Georgia Literacy Coaches Network** The Deal Center is collaborating with GaDOE to provide monthly web meeting to support literacy coaches around the state in their learning and implementing their work.
- iv. **Georgia School Board Association** The Deal Center has been approved to present ‘The Science of Reading for School Board Members’ at their December conference. In addition, we are partnering with GSBA to provide this as an approved training to local boards of education statewide.
- v. **Literacy Screener Advisory Group** Report to recommend selected universal reading screeners to the state is being prepared and will be submitted to the State Board of Education for consideration at their December meeting.
- vi. **Research Grant Application** Closes on November 18th. The Deal Center held a webinar for applicants to provide an orientation to the grant as well as an introduction to implementation science.
- vii. **Submission of Conference Abstracts** Society for Research in Child Development and International Society for Autism Research (both of these from Dr. Morgan’s work at Emory) and South-Eastern Psychological Association (Baldwin FERST Readers – See below)
- viii. **Summit 2025** planning has begun with Summit dates set for July 8-9, 2025.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. ACADEMIC POLICY COMMITTEE (APC) — ANDREW ALLEN, CHAIR

Officers: Chair Andrew Allen, Vice-Chair John Swinton, Secretary Donovan Domingue

- a. **BOR POLICY UPDATES** The Academic Policy Committee worked through email to craft suggestions regarding the proposed new University System of Georgia policies. In the committee’s monthly meeting, we further discussed recommendations and approved a list of suggestions to be forwarded to Faculty Senate Presiding Officer Dr. Nicholas Creel.

2. DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION POLICY COMMITTEE (DEIPC) — COREY CLAXTON, CHAIR

Officers: Chair Corey Claxton, Vice-Chair Nadirah Mayweather, Secretary India Jackson

- a. **MEETING** DEIPC had a meeting scheduled for 1 Nov 2024 from 2:00 p.m. to 3:15 p.m.
 - i. **No Quorum** As quorum was not established, DEIPC did not meet.

3. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF UNIVERSITY SENATE (ECUS) — NICHOLAS CREEL, CHAIR

Officers: Chair Nicholas Creel, Vice-Chair Stephanie Jett, Secretary Alex Blazer

- a. **FERAL CATS ON CAMPUS** We discussed whether feral cats on campus were an issue we were aware of. Dr. Flory forwarded [an article from the Chronicle of Higher Education](#) about how university/faculty senates at other campus have worked to address the common problem of feral cats on campus
 - b. **BOR POLICY UPDATES** We discussed how the Board of Regents proposed policy changes. We went over what these changes were and what recommendations we would make regarding them.
 - c. **AI ISSUES** It was noted how the Honor Code (Bobcat Code) and the Student Academic Dishonesty policy are not in alignment on the use of AI. We discussed how perhaps an ad hoc Senate committee that runs for two years could address this and other policy issues related to AI.
 - d. **SENATE DISCUSSION**
 - i. **Feral Cats on Campus**
 - 1. Comment: GCSU has a trap and release student club.
4. **SUBCOMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS (SCON) — STEPHANIE JETT, CHAIR**
Officers: Chair Stephanie Jett, Secretary Alex Blazer
- a. **ELECTION OVERSIGHT** Letters were sent to the Deans and Library Director on 8 Oct 2024 to start the elections process in the colleges. Election procedures will be requested from the Deans and Library Director by 1 Dec 2024.
 - i. Should Deans, Associate Deans, and Chairs be allowed to serve as EFS?
 - ii. According to senate bylaws, if they are listed on the Corps of Instruction list, then they can serve as EFS.
 - iii. However, Given the extensive additional responsibilities of the aforementioned individuals as well as the power differential that exists between faculty and these CoI administrators, should ECUS/University Senate amend the bylaws to exclude them from being elected as EFS? What about serving as appointees?
 - b. **AT-LARGE FACULTY SENATOR ELECTION** The next step for election season is to plan the at-large faculty senator election procedure preparation including timeline (completion deadline March 1).
5. **FACULTY AFFAIRS POLICY COMMITTEE (FAPC) — JENNIFER FLORY, CHAIR**
Officers: Chair Jennifer Flory, Vice-Chair Amy Sumpter, Secretary Chad Whittle
- a. **STUDENT RATING OF INSTRUCTION SURVEY POLICY**
 - i. Issues with new SRIS policy having unintended consequences upon implementation.
 - ii. On Wednesday, 6 November, Academic Affairs sent the message below to all chairs.
 - iii. The policy for SRIS course evaluations is as follows:
 - 1. Each full-time instructor shall be surveyed on all of their assigned courses.
 - 2. An undergraduate class with fewer than ten (10) or a graduate class with fewer than five (5) students enrolled at the time the instrument is to be administered shall not be surveyed unless specifically requested by the instructor or department chair/director.
 - iv. This policy change had some unintended consequences upon implementation. Several concerns have been shared including:

1. Co-taught classes (e.g., TREK) where the instructor on record (therefore the instructor being evaluated) is not the only instructor they experience
 2. Lab courses and any other course where the instructor on record is not always the instructor facing them (e.g., taught by GAs)
 3. Cross-listed courses
- v. While the implications of the policy revision and long-term solutions will be looked into more closely, in the meantime if chairs have any courses they need removed from the SRIS list due to the issues listed above or any courses that they wish to add for evaluation, please email your respective Deans no later than Friday, 8 November. Deans please place in ONE email requests to SRIS@gcsu.edu and copy mandy.jarriel@gcsu.edu to request these changes by 11 November.
 - vi. From Dr. Jarriel, Interim Associate Provost for Academic Affairs and Director of The Graduate School: Deans shared these requests to David Smith on Monday. Furthermore, I met with folks from IT, CTL, and IR on Monday and discussed ways to mitigate these same fall concerns for our Spring SRIS administration.
 - vii. We would recommend that when faculty do their Faculty Objective Selections to check and make sure all of the courses they want to be evaluated are included, especially if under 10 students or cross listed. If you need to make changes, email David Smith (david.smith@gcsu.edu) prior to 19 November 2024 at 8:00 AM EST.
- b. **ANNUAL EVALUATION Policies**
 - i. Cynthia gave Suzanna a sizable list.
 - ii. From Jim Berger: Regarding the request from FAPC providing resources for IFRs and T&P- provision of such resources to assist the faculty in their reflection of the various areas (teaching, service, scholarship, student success, and professional development) would be supported.
 - iii. Jim Berger will post a note in the Monday CTL newsletter to invite faculty to join an ad hoc committee dedicated to identifying and promoting best practices for implementing and assessing teaching techniques at Georgia College. Our goal is to collaboratively explore and compile a list of best practices for evaluating teaching effectiveness in addition to the SRIS.
 - c. **FACULTY COMPENSATION STUDY** Still in process...we will be discussing adding summer pay to this study.
 - d. **PROFESSIONAL LEAVE POLICY**
 - i. From FAPC members: Non-monetary costs are reviewed by chairs and assessed by chair. The chair has a plan and approves as does Dean. If Academic Affairs needs to, maybe ask for more information about coverage of classes, distribution of work. If concern is the affordability of having faculty out, then ask us for more information. If the process is competitive, we need to know the criteria for that assessment. Are the approvals proportionate to the number of applications?
 - ii. Notes from A&S Meeting with Provost Roberts
 1. Competitive opportunity/benefit
 2. Policy-based
 3. Don't have a magic number or a bottom line
 4. Have to consider the implication on colleagues

5. Instead of 12 applications last year, 25 or so applications
6. Department chairs should prioritize before sending to the dean
7. A&S Dean's Advisory Committee is working on a rubric for Professional Leave.
- e. **COURSE ENROLLMENT MINIMUMS** Concern about low-enrolled courses being cancelled – course enrollment minimum information from Kay Anderson, Registrar: Courses offerings are a chair and dean decision. Most will put a minimum on enrollment to ensure that we are using our teaching resources wisely. Course evaluations for labs with graduate assistants – all under one faculty member's name – check with Academic Affairs regarding how to handle.
6. **RESOURCES, PLANNING, AND INSTITUTIONAL POLICY COMMITTEE (RPIPC) — BRAD FOWLER, CHAIR**
Officers: Chair Brad Fowler, Vice-Chair Mikkel Christensen, Secretary Natalie Toomey
 - a. **SOLAR POWER** Frank Baugh was not able to attend our November meeting. We will meet with Frank in January
 - b. **BOR POLICY UPDATES** The committee discussed concerns with the new BOR policies and passed our thoughts to Presiding Officer, Nicholas Creel.
 - c. **STUDENT SUMMER ONLINE FEES** Our SGA representative, Serena Semere, asked to discuss the summer online fee that students must pay when taking online classes. Most of the fee covers campus resources that the students do not need or use because they are not living in Milledgeville during the summer. This issue was passed to SAPC to address.
7. **STUDENT AFFAIRS POLICY COMMITTEE (SAPC) — AMY PINNEY, CHAIR**
Officers: Chair Amy Pinney, Vice-Chair Amelia Malcom, Secretary Bryan Hall
 - a. **BOR POLICY UPDATES** We discussed the proposed changes to the BOR policy changes. I've provided a summary of that feedback to Presiding Officer Nicholas Creel.
8. **STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION (SGA) — AXEL HAWKINS, PRESIDENT**
Officers: President Axel Hawkins, Vice President Leah Kelly, Secretary Charlotte Middlebrooks, Treasurer Serena Myrvold
 - a. **STUDENT VOTING INITIATIVE** Our voting initiative seems to have gone well, hard numbers will not be out for quite some time though. We were able to inform students about the Election Day Class Excuse, and I'd like to thank the Provost for helping us very quickly address the handful of instances we were made aware of with professors trying to skirt around honoring that excuse.
 - b. **BOR POLICY UPDATES** While we don't know exactly how much, if at all, our considerations were considered by the Board of Regents, I was glad to raise some concerns about and voice our students' opposition to some of the new policies coming down from the Regents.
 - c. **USG STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL** I recently attended a meeting of the USG Student Advisory Council at the University of North Georgia. Nothing notable came of that.
 - d. **SHARED GOVERNANCE** In the coming semester, I'm looking forward to continuing the work of shared governance with all of you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/INFORMATION ITEMS

1. **UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE (UCC) UPDATE — ANGEL ABNEY, CHAIR**
 - a. **UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE October 25, 2024**

i. **College of Arts & Science**

1. **Action Items**

- a. Renaming of the Major: Mass Communication Major to Communication Major.
 - i. Michael Dreher attending as representative.
 - ii. Intention will be that this change will take effect in the 2025 – 2026 course catalog.
 - iii. All CIP codes will be changed (from 90401 to 90100).
 - iv. Unanimously approved.
- b. Creation of New Communication Studies Concentration—**Tabled**
 - i. Michael Dreher attending as representative.
 - ii. This concentration will replace the deactivated Rhetoric major.
 - iii. Intention will be that this change will take effect in the 2025 – 2026 course catalog.
 - iv. Majority voted to table this proposal until all courses and requirements have been first approved.
- c. Creation of New Audio Production Certificate
 - i. Chad Whittle attending as representative.
 - ii. All resources for the courses that are a part of this certificate are already in place.
 - iii. Undergraduate certificates may only be earned and will only be awarded in conjunction with a bachelor's degree. They will not be awarded as an independent credential. Federal financial aid will not pay for a certificate course unless that course is also necessary to complete a student's required number of hours for the bachelor's degree or another bachelor's degree requirement.
 - iv. Unanimously approved.
- d. Rename Major: BA in Liberal Studies to BA in Interdisciplinary Studies
 - i. Sunita Manian attending as representative.
 - ii. Intention will be that this change will take effect in the 2025 – 2026 course catalog.
 - iii. All CIP codes will be changed (from 24.0101 to 30.0000).
 - iv. This rename will not change any of the concentrations within the program.
 - v. Unanimously approved.

2. **Information Items**

- a. **Modification of Existing Courses (21 modifications)**
 - i. ASTR 2950, Department of Chemistry, Physics & Astronomy, Special Topics—Course Deletion
 - ii. ASTR 3400, Department of Chemistry, Physics & Astronomy, Astrophysics—Catalog Description Change

- iii. ASTR 3920, Department of Chemistry, Physics & Astronomy, Seminar—Course Deletion
- iv. ASTR 3020, Department of Chemistry, Physics & Astronomy, Observation Tech in Astronomy—Catalog Description Change
- v. PHYS 1012, Department of Chemistry, Physics & Astronomy, Techniques in Physics II—Catalog Description Change
- vi. PHYS 2211, Department of Chemistry, Physics & Astronomy, Principles of Physics I, Pre-Requisite and/or Co-Requisite Change
- vii. PHYS 2212, Department of Chemistry, Physics & Astronomy, Principles of Physics II—Pre-requisite and/or Co-requisite Change
- viii. PHYS 2212L, Department of Chemistry, Physics & Astronomy, Principles of Physics Lab II—Pre-requisite and/or Co-requisite Change
- ix. PHYS 2999, Department of Chemistry, Physics & Astronomy, Intro to Physics Research—Catalog Description Change & Credit Hours Change
- x. PHYS 3005, Department of Chemistry, Physics & Astronomy, Mechanics—Catalog Description Change (Pre-requisite Math 1262 to Math1263)
- xi. PHYS 3010, Department of Chemistry, Physics & Astronomy, Modern Physics—Pre-requisite and/or Co-requisite Change
- xii. PHYS 3100L, Department of Chemistry, Physics & Astronomy, Electronics Lab—Catalog Description Change & Credit Hours Change
- xiii. PHYS 3140, Department of Chemistry, Physics & Astronomy, Intro to General Relativity—Catalog Description Change
- xiv. PHYS 3311, Department of Chemistry, Physics & Astronomy, Applied Numerical Techniques—Course Deletion
- xv. PHYS 3600L, Department of Chemistry, Physics & Astronomy, Advanced Skills Lab—Catalog Description Change
- xvi. PHYS 3920, Department of Chemistry, Physics & Astronomy, Physics Seminar I—Catalog Description Change, Credit Hours Change
- xvii. PHYS 4100, Department of Chemistry, Physics & Astronomy, Adv. Electricity & Magnetism—Catalog Description Change
- xviii. PHYS 4140, Department of Chemistry, Physics & Astronomy, Statistical Mechanics—Catalog Description Change

- xix. PHYS 4251, Department of Chemistry, Physics & Astronomy, Intro to General Relativity—Catalog Description Change
- xx. PHYS 4260, Department of Chemistry, Physics & Astronomy, Solid State Physics—Catalog Description Change
- xxi. PHYS 4261, Department of Chemistry, Physics & Astronomy, Intro to Nuclear Physics—Catalog Description Change, Pre-Requisite Change (Phys 3321 to Phys 3010)
- xxii. PHYS 4321, Department of Chemistry, Physics & Astronomy, Advanced Quantum Physics—Catalog Description Change
- xxiii. PHYS 4600L, Department of Chemistry, Physics & Astronomy, Advanced Physics Lab—Catalog Description Change
- xxiv. PHYS 4900, Department of Chemistry, Physics & Astronomy, 21st Century Physics—Course Deletion
- xxv. PHYS 4920, Department of Chemistry, Physics & Astronomy, Physics Senior Seminar—Catalog Description Change
- xxvi. PHYS 4950, Department of Chemistry, Physics & Astronomy, Special Topics—Catalog Description Change
- xxvii. PHYS 4999, Department of Chemistry, Physics & Astronomy, Research—Catalog Description Change & Credit Hours Change
- xxviii. BIOL 1107 and 1107L, Biology Department, Principles of Biology I and Principles of Biology I Lab—Modify Course Title, Course Number, Credit Hours, and Catalog Description (Combine the two courses into a BIOL 1107K course)
- xxix. BIOL 1108 and 1108L, Biology Department, Principles of Biology II and Principles of Biology II Lab—Modify Course Title, Course Number, Credit Hours, and Catalog Description (Combine the two courses into a BIOL 1108K course)
- xxx. PSYC 4960, Department of Psychological Science, Internship, Increase the minimum institutional GPA requirement from 2.5 to 3.0
- xxxi. PSYC 3960, Department of Psychological Science, Practicum, Increase the minimum institutional GPA requirement from 2.5 to 3.0
- xxxii. THEA 4930, Department of Theatre & Dance, Advanced Performance Practicum—Course Title Change to “Performance Practicum”

ii. College of Business
1. Action Items

- a. Changes to the BS in Data Science (Changes in required courses)
 - i. Daniel Wu attending as representative.
 - ii. Change will occur for the Fall 2025 semester.
 - iii. Unanimously approved.
- b. CoBT/A&S: New Minor in Legal Studies—**Tabled**
 - i. Nicholas Creel attending as representative.
 - ii. Deactivation of the Legal Studies Certificate needs to be included in a separate proposal.
 - iii. Multiple edits of the proposal are needed, and proposal should be resubmitted.
 - iv. Unanimously voted to table this proposal until all changes have been made and the proposal is resubmitted.

iii. **College of Education**

1. **Information Items**

a. **New Course Proposals**

- i. EDMG 4418 Middle Grades Education, Georgia Studies and the Nation will replace HIST 4118 for the Middle Grades cohort program.

b. **Modification of Existing Courses**

- i. EDEC 4001 Elementary Education Field Placement 3—Change in credit hours, 2 to 1 hour
- ii. EDMG 4991 Middle Grades Education Field Placement 3—Change in credit hours, 2 to 1 hour
- iii. EDMG 4960 Internship—Change the credit hours from 3 back to 5.

iv. **College of Health Sciences**

1. **Action Items**

- a. Modify Existing Major in the BS in Nursing (BSN). Changes in admission requirements.
 - i. Unanimously approved.

b. **GRADUATE COUNCIL November 8, 2024**

- i. Did not meet due to a lack of agenda items

c. **GENERAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE October 18, 2024**

- i. Meeting was cancelled. Agenda items were postponed for the November 15 meeting.

2. **AWARDING OF SENATE PINS** Nicholas Creel gave pins to Ashley Copeland and Axel Hawkins.

OPEN DISCUSSION Nicholas Creel invited open discussion from the floor.

1. **BOR POLICY UPDATES**

- a. Question: Should the Presiding Office write a letter to the BOR asking for clarification of the policies?
- b. Response (Provost): The Provost's Office will write a letter requesting information for policy implementation.

ADJOURN

1. **ATTENDANCE AND THE SIGN-IN SHEET** Nicholas Creel requested that each individual present at the meeting sign the university senator attendance sheet or guest sign-in sheet on their way out if they hadn't already signed in.
2. **NEXT UNIVERSITY SENATE MEETING** is scheduled for Friday, 24 Jan 2025 at 3:30 p.m. in Arts & Sciences 272.
3. **MOTION TO ADJOURN** As there was no further business, a motion to adjourn was made, seconded, and approved. The meeting was adjourned at 4:24 p.m.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

1. *Supporting_FAPCReport_ProfessionalLeave.pdf* A flow chart illustrating professional leave approvals to supplement the FAPC report.
2. *Supporting_President'sReport_BORPolicyRevisionsNovember2024.pdf* A document of policy revisions to supplement the President's report.