President’s Summer Faculty Development Initiative – 2012: The details for the Summer Faculty Development Competition can be found on the Academic Affairs website: http://www.gdn.edu/departments/academicaffairs. It looks very similar to last year’s RFP with three notable changes:

1. The stipend is increased to $4000
2. Two faculty members may split a stipend if they are working on the same project
3. The due date is earlier than last year (November 1).

Our annual GC Academic Contest for area high school students is being held this fall on Tuesday, October 18 and Thursday, October 20. Any faculty interested in teaching a college class from 11:00am-11:30am on either or both days, or volunteering as exam administrators or any of the other numerous roles needed to make this important event a success should contact Dr. Tom Aiello at taiello@gdn.edu.

November 17 - Hold That Date: Faculty members may wish to tentatively mark November 17 on their calendars. Already they will have noted that our theater program is presenting the play Glass Menagerie on that date. But rumors are that President Nickel and the Dean may propose additional good things to happen on the same evening.

Approval of Outside Activities for Faculty: Please remember that income-producing, outside activities must be approved each year. The forms for seeking this approval are found on the Academic Affairs website and the Human Resources website.

Good and Bad News from Human Resources: Though we are working hard to avoid using overloads in delivering our curriculum, our unpredictable enrollments and illness of full-time faculty sometimes force us to use overload assignments. Due to recent BOR changes in the treatment of overload pay, overload pay will be subject to ORP or TRS calculations.

Good News: This will increase payout when the faculty member with overload retires.

Bad News: This will decrease the current paycheck for faculty member with overload.

USG Faculty Development Series, Fall 2011: Registration is free to USG faculty and staff, and travel funding is available for each participant. Full information is available on the USG website, http://www.usg.edu/faculty_affairs/workshops/category/academic_year_2011-2012/, including spring workshops. At this point, registration is only available for the first semester of the 2011-2012 academic year. The fall workshops are:
Sept. 14    Distance Learning Leadership: Operations, Opposition and Opportunities (online)
Sept. 16    Improving Large Lecture Class Learning Outcomes and Adapting STEM Labs (Athens)
Oct. 12     Intro to ePublishing - more than PDFs (online)
Oct. 14     Creative Technology Uses in Instruction (Athens)
Nov. 9      Academic Dishonesty (online)
Nov. 18     Designing Games for Instructional Purposes (Georgia Gwinnett College)

Advising Notes:
- Advisors may soon receive a communication from an advisee who is taking GFYE 0097. All students in this course are completing an Academic and Career Target Plan, and part of their work involves meeting with an advisor. While most advisees will see the assigned advisor, a few might wish to speak with a faculty member knowledgeable in the student’s intended career field. After an advising meeting, a student will ask the advisor to send a brief confirmation email to the student's GFYE instructor. We appreciate your help on the student’s behalf.
- This week, early intervention notices will be sent by GFYE faculty members to any of their GFYE students who are performing poorly because of a lack of effort. This pilot program is intended to help improve communication when problems are occurring, and to do so much earlier than midterm.

Of interest: If you have not read about it, Governor Deal signed House Bill 186 into law this May, legislation that authorized the Office of Workforce Development to establish certification in soft skills such as punctuality, ability to learn, appropriate business attire and ability to work as a team.

BursteiNotes

For those of you who have not yet heard, I will be relinquishing the chair of the Division of Business and Social Sciences at the end of the fall semester in December, concluding seven years of service. I have enjoyed working with our outstanding Business and Social Science faculty as chair, but at this point in my career, I would very much like to devote more of my energies to my classroom and my students. Additionally, my wife Cindy and I are looking forward to more time together during summers and holidays. It is most definitely not my intention, however, to retire, and I look forward to serving the college for many years to come.

Dr. Joe Mayo had the following articles come out over the summer:


GahrNotes

Dr. Amanda Duffus has been appointed to the position of Assistant Editor for the Journal of Wildlife Diseases, the quarterly peer reviewed journal published by the Wildlife Disease Association, of which she has been a member since 2005.

Dr. Beike Jia’s article: “Particle-exchange heat engine working between bosonic and fermionic reservoirs”, has been published by the American Physical Society in Physical Review E, one of the best journals in physics. The work associated with this paper was done solely at Gordon College.

Dr. Cathy Lee participated in week-long Genomic Approaches in Biosciences Workshop prepared by Georgia Gwinnett Technical College and DNA Learning Center of Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory from June 20-June 24, 2011. The main topic covered was the content development of biotechnology programs to prepare workers for a career in Life Science industry. The possible areas
Dr. Richard Schmude, Jr. gave two talks: “Jupiter” a 45 minute talk given to the Houston Astronomical Society on August 5, 2011 at the University of Houston in Houston, TX.

“Jupiter” a 45 minute talk given to the Charlie Elliott Chapter of the Atlanta Astronomy Society on August 27, 2011 at the Charlie Elliott Wildlife Center near Social Circle, GA.

Dr. Theresa Stanley assisted the Gordon College science club, Earth Wind Fire, with a service project late Spring 2011. Several hundred vegetable seeds were planted for a community garden. The community garden is located directly behind the Barnesville Police Station. The inaugural crop was a big success. Renee English reported that many people in the community benefitted from the fresh produce, and they are looking to expand to two additional sites in the area.

Dr. Stanley will meet with Renee and Amanda Buice Friday, Sept. 2 to ascertain if Gordon would be a helpful partner in many grant opportunities.

Dr. Marwan Zabdawi, the entire class of ENGR 1100 and other members of the Engineering club are going to the Caterpillar Plant in Griffin for a plant tour with computer simulation, on Friday, September 23rd from 2:30 - 5:00PM.

The next Honors Program application deadline is October 10. Please encourage qualified students to apply. For current Gordon students or transfers, the minimum requirement is a 3.5 GPA. For new students, a minimum 1100 SAT or 24 ACT and a 3.2 high school GPA is required. Further application information and forms can be found at: www.gdn.edu/honors.

If you are interested in teaching an honors section, please contact me. We offer 3 Honors sections per semester. Currently, the following classes have been approved by the Academic Policy Committee: COLQ 2994H, ECON 2106H, ENGL 1102H, ENGL 2122H, HIST 1122H, MATH 1113H, PHIL 2010H, and PSYC 1101H. In addition, over the summer Dr. Don Butts developed a proposal for HIST 2111H that is ready for consideration by APC. If you are interested in developing a course proposal for an existing core class, please contact me. Here are some helpful tips for your consideration:

- Honors courses should be part of the core curriculum
- In order to fill an Honors course, faculty should plan to work with me to promote and recruit for the course, keeping in mind that it is not necessary for a student to be admitted to the Honors Program in order to take an Honors course.
- In order to graduate with Honors, a student in the program must take a COLQH. It is not necessary to go through the formal proposal process if you have a good idea for an Honors Colloquium. Just contact me, and we can discuss it.

Almost all of the paperwork is complete for the Bachelor of Arts Degree with Teacher Certification in History and English. The packets will be sent to the PSC in the next week or so and our review date for approval is in April 2012.

Daniel Medders, a teacher at Hampton Elementary and Marcia Proud, a teacher at Lamar County Primary School, were both awarded a $1,000.00 grant by Georgia Power. Georgia Power sponsors a “New Teacher Assistance Grant” each year for newly graduated teachers in their first year. The grants are for use in the classroom. Both students finished with a BSED in May of 2011.

The Gordon College Theater Department will be doing something completely different, opening the season with a musical, Spitfire Grill. Performances will run from Wednesday, Sept. 28, through Saturday, Oct. 1, at 7:00 p.m., with a Sunday, Oct. 2, matinee set for 2:00 p.m.

Dr. Steve Raynie, Coordinator of the B.A. English Program, reports: The English Major Club will be holding its inaugural meeting on September 14 in Academic 114. Dr. Caesar Perkowski is serving as faculty sponsor for the club with Dr. Wesley.
Venus and Dr. Rhonda Wilcox as co-sponsors. We are developing a series of internships for our majors, and we should have a minor proposal very shortly. As spring registration approaches, we will resume in-class recruiting presentations.

**Addendum to September 2011 DEANotes**

**Faculty Development:** The annual SoTL (Scholarship of Teaching and Learning) Symposium of the South will be held from 9 am – 4 pm on Friday, October 14, 2011 at Georgia Southern University in Statesboro, Georgia for faculty and administrators. For further information, go to http://ceps.georgiasouthern.edu/conted/sotlsymposium.html.

**WhitelockNotes**

The Gordon College Theater Department will be doing something completely different, opening the season with a musical, *Spitfire Grill*. Performances will run from Wednesday, Sept. 28, through Saturday, Oct. 1, at 7:00 p.m., with a Sunday, Oct. 2, matinee set for 2:00 p.m.

Dr. Steve Raynie, Coordinator of the B.A. English Program, reports: The English Major Club will be holding its inaugural meeting on September 14 in Academic 114. Dr. Caesar Perkowski is serving as faculty sponsor for the club with Dr. Wesley Venus and Dr. Rhonda Wilcox as co-sponsors. We are developing a series of internships for our majors, and we should have a minor proposal very shortly. As spring registration approaches, we will resume in-class recruiting presentations.

Mr. Marlin Adams participated in his first triathlon this summer at Indian Springs State Park. I’ll let him narrate the details: “Even though there were over 400 Tri-athletes in the race I finished first in my age division and got the anodized pot-metal gold (it could possibly be real bronze). The big secret is that there were only two in my age division (60-64) and I happened to beat out the other guy by four minutes. It was a 600 meter swim in the lake, a 14 mile bike ride and a 5K run. My son Ryan got me into the race, ran it with me, and finished 15th in his age division – no gold. The moral of the story is, If you are still running triathlons at my age, you are guaranteed a medal in most cases.” Congratulations, Marlin!

Dr. Doug Davis presented a paper, “William Gibson’s Transatlantic Speculations in his Three Latest Novels,” at the annual meeting of the Science Fiction Research Association in Lublin, Poland. In the presentation he discussed how Gibson uses stories about postmodernist design to map, in a dramatic way, the global structure of capitalism. The editor of the journal *Extrapolation* has solicited the paper for publication. He has also submitted an essay “American Literature of the Nuclear Age,” for a forthcoming pedagogical volume, *Critical Insights: War*, a part of Salem Press's Critical Insights series. This series is designed to give students and educators surveys of major critical approaches to authors and issues.

Dr. Caesar Perkowski was awarded a Master’s of Education in Instructional Technology from Georgia College & State University in May.


**HigginsNotes**

This semester the SSC is piloting a new academic support program called Supplemental Instruction (SI). It started in 1973 at the University of Missouri-Kansas City, and it was so successful at raising pass and retention rates there that UMKC now franchises it out to hundreds of colleges and universities across the world. Here is how it works:

- The college identifies historically difficult classes—those that have had high D/F/W rates over time, no matter which faculty teach them
- The Supplemental Instruction Supervisor finds students who have passed these difficult classes with high grades
- These successful students (called SI Leaders) are hired to sit back in on these classes, act as model students, and hold three hours of peer-facilitated study sessions per week, outside of class time.
The SI sessions are not “question and answer” opportunities; instead, they are based upon the premise that “the person doing the talking is the person doing the learning.” SI leaders are trained to group students into small clusters and get them talking to each other, reviewing lecture notes, explaining key concepts, and predicting test questions.

In addition to facilitating the three hours of SI sessions per week, the SI Leaders also hold two office hours per week, to handle one-on-one questions and work up plans for their SI sessions.

SI works for a variety of reasons:

- The structure of the sessions forces students to engage the course material and explain it to other students, under the watchful eye of a non-threatening peer who has already mastered that material.
- Instead of spending time and energy finding out who our “at risk” students are, SI focuses on the simpler question of where they are (the historically difficult, high D/F/W-rate classes on any campus).
- Because the SI sessions are peer-driven and marketed as study sessions, the stigma that many students associate with tutoring (that is, to ask for tutoring is to identify yourself as academically hopeless) is eliminated.
- Flyers and posters marketing walk-in tutoring programs tend to fade into the background after the first few weeks of the semester, but because SI Leaders attend each class, they have a built-in marketing platform: the opportunity to make “live” announcements at the end of class, reminding students about that week’s SI study sessions.

This semester we have SI attached to sections of Biology, Chemistry, and College Algebra. If it is successful, we hope to expand to the number of classes supported by SI in future semesters. If you are interested in hearing more about the program (and perhaps attaching it to a course that you teach), please let me know. Specials thanks to Drs. Rumfelt, Fermin-Ennis, Osborne, and Gore for graciously agreeing to participate in SI this semester.

---

**Dates & Deadlines**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oct 6</td>
<td>Midterm – Withdrawals and grade appeals after October 6 will be an automatic WF except in cases of hardship as documented and approved by processing a Student Petition.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 10, 11</td>
<td>Fall Break for Faculty and Students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 12</td>
<td>Georgia History &amp; U.S. Constitution Exam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 31–Nov 8</td>
<td>Early Registration for Continuing Students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 17</td>
<td>New Student Orientation – Alumni Mem Hall Group Advising /Registration (Spring 2012 Semester)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 23</td>
<td>Administrative Offices are open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 23-25</td>
<td>Thanksgiving Holidays for Faculty &amp; Students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 24-25</td>
<td>Thanksgiving Holidays for Administrative Staff College Closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec 5</td>
<td>Last day of classes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec 6-9</td>
<td>Final Exams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec 19 thru Jan 2</td>
<td>College Closed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>