This week, I was inspired by the Veteran’s Day celebration and in particular the words from our own Dean of Nursing and Health Sciences, Anne Purvis (Lt. Colonel Purvis; Dr. Purvis). Her remarks were inspirational for so many reasons, but one of the points that struck me was her emphasis on the level of teamwork she experienced as a nurse in the Air Force. She described her medical colleagues as “family”. I was reminded that the Gordon State College community feels like family to me.

What do we mean by that feeling of family? I began reflecting. I grew up with three sisters, the elder sibling being less than two years older than me. My older sister and I shared a bedroom and a bathroom until she left for college. There were some tough times there. My sister and I could not be more different. She was (and is) a biologist from the earliest days of her life. I was the little sister who was squeamish about bugs and animals but determined to dissect worms in exchange for time riding tricycles or playing on the swing set together. Being the eldest, she felt authorized to boss me around. I disagreed with that philosophy. I remember more than one fight, always over important matters such as who was going to turn out the lights at bedtime. But I also remember the times when we stood up for each other against neighborhood bullies. I remember a few collusions to deceive our baby sitters; unfortunately, our baby sitters were cleverer than we gave them credit for being. I also remember that my older sister and I pitched in to help run the household when two more sisters came along unexpectedly late in my mother’s life and career. Because my parents both worked full-time, my older sister and I were expected to help in any and all capacities. I can still hear my mother saying, “Would you like to get the clothes out of the dryer and fold them?” It was clear there was only one correct answer to that question.

When I say that Gordon State College feels like family to me, I acknowledge that full range of experiences within a family and at the end I conclude that it is a very good relationship. We have a ‘common goal of supporting the ‘success of our students and the individual elements of the college as well as the institution as a whole. We are proud of the successes of Gordon and our students. We celebrate the achievements of our colleagues even as we challenge each other to be better. We pitch in whenever and wherever needed and we pull together to accomplish great work. I am proud to be part of the GSC family. I appreciate the willingness of our faculty and staff to serve even when the workload is ‘tremendous. I value the diversity of ideas and insights reflected across our campus. I know in the tough times that we will support the needs of our students and Gordon State. Thank you for allowing me to be part of the Gordon family and thank you for all you are doing to support the family.
Dean of Arts and Sciences Search

Dr. Margaret Venable

The following have agreed to serve on the search committee for the Dean of Arts & Sciences:

- Dr. Mike Mahan, Dean of Education (chair of committee)
- Dr. Nolan McMurray, Department Head for Mathematics & Physical Science
- Dr. Erica Johnson, History
- Dr. Peter Boltz, Humanities
- Dr. Masoud Nourizadeh, Fine & Performing Arts
- Dr. Theresa Stanley, Biology
- Dr. Joseph (Joe) Mayo, Business and Public Service

The position is currently posted and review of applications will likely begin in January. All stakeholders are encouraged to look for opportunities to engage in this review process.

End of Semester Faculty Meeting

Date Reminder

The end of semester faculty meeting will be Wednesday, December 3 at 2 pm in Russell 211. If there are suggested items for the agenda, please contact Dr. Venable; the highlight of this meeting is always the vote on students for graduation.

News from Nursing and Health Sciences

Dr. Anne Purvis

Gordon State College has been able to vaccinate over 600 individuals on campus and in our local community against the flu this year.

- 10/15/14: with Ms. Turner we vaccinated approximately 130 nursing students here on campus.
- 10/27: with Ms. Turner we helped vaccinate approximately 92 students on Lambdin Green.
- 10/28, 10/29, and 10/30 we helped the Lamar County Public Health Department vaccinate at the LC schools. This was all total approximately 400 children and adults in the community.

Theresa Buchanan has successfully defended her project for a Doctorate in Nursing Practice (DNP) and will be graduating with this degree in December.
Updates from the McDonough Campus

Dr. Ric Calhoun

Thanks to the Library Staff and the Counseling Staff for providing services to our students on the campus during October. Also, a big thanks to Information Technology for working diligently to get our new fiber optic network from Charter Communications “up and running” smoothly. Faculty, staff and students can log in to workstations as if they are on campus.

Collin Bledsoe, a junior at Locust Grove High School & dual enrollment student at Gordon State McDonough, was recently awarded a textbook scholarship sponsored by AT&T available to Henry County Dual Enrollment students. Collin is a wonderful Gordon student and we are so proud of his achievements. Collin plans on participating in the dual enrollment program at Gordon until he graduates high school. He would then like to continue attending Gordon to get his Associates Degree in Computer Science. After he completes his Associates degree he plans on furthering his education by getting a Bachelor’s degree and finally a Master’s.

Gordon State at McDonough students, Damon Vaughn & Patrick Mapp, were excited to finally get vending machine access in our Academic Commons. (Below)

Gordon State at McDonough participated in the annual Professional Education Day with the Henry County Board of Education, it was a wonderful opportunity to meet with school counselors and share with them the many opportunities Gordon has available for their students.

Students in McDonough were treated to a snack break the week before midterm. Thanks to Students Activities and the Bookstore for securing some drink donations for our students.

GSC Staff Council Toy Drive

The Gordon State College Staff Council will be hosting its annual toy drive November 17 through December 16. Please consider donating new, unwrapped toys to the children of Lamar County. Thank you.
New from the School of Education

Dr. Mike Mahan

Dr. Brent Johnson and Dr. Howard-Baptiste have presented a proposal at the International Conference on Urban Education. The program is Leading by Example: Best Practices for Scholar-Servanthood in the Classroom. The focus of the conference was to share ideas and improve urban education. Dr. Johnson was asked to present his concept of Scholar-Servanthood Pedagogy. Using the idea of critical self-reflection as a conceptual framework and guided by four tenets (acknowledging one’s own privilege, interrogating expertise, acceptance of uncomfortability as a prerequisite of real change, and the relinquishing (sharing) of control), Dr. Johnson purports that a much more critical onto-epistemological lens and action must be employed in order to counter the covert and overt inequity being sustained by past and present top-down educational reforms. An article on the conference is available below.

Updates from the Department of Humanities

Dr. Ed Whitelock

Dr. Kimberly White Fredette presented at the Georgia Educational Research Association Conference in Savannah (October 17-18), and also at PAGE “First-Year Survival” Conference in Macon (November 7). Topics are listed below.

- (GERA) – EXPLORING PHILOSOPHY DURING A TIME OF REFORM IN MATHEMATICS EDUCATION (Peer-reviewed, research presentation)
- (PAGE) - Differentiation in the Math Classroom: Tools and Strategies You Can Use NOW! (Workshop for teacher candidates)

Autumn Schaffer, Karen Stigura, and Department of History faculty Dr. Tom Aiello, Dr. Tim Best, and Dr. Erica Johnson attended the State convention of the Future Teachers Association (FTA ) in Macon, GA. Below is a picture of Autumn and Karen.

A book edited by Dr. Doug Davis, SF 101: A Guide to Teaching and Studying Science Fiction, has just been published on Amazon. SF 101 is a publication of the Science Fiction Research Association. The anthology is for experienced SF scholars and newcomers alike. It contains essays on the different subgenres and media in SF, surveys of critical approaches to the field, and discussions of model teaching practices.

Professor Laura King’s 10-minute Halloween play Liquid Courage was part of Lionheart Theatre’s Bewitching: an evening of Halloween plays. On November 16 Professor King will be participating in the Process Theatre’s Play-a-Thon, a fundraiser for the theater during which they will be reading her plays Fallout and Fact Check.

Dr. Stephen Raynie has an article appearing in the spring 2015 issue of the South Atlantic Review called “Selling the English Major.” Dr. Raynie will also be giving a paper at the national Conference on College Composition and Communication in March. That paper is called “Climbing the Administrative Ladder with Hands Tied Behind My Back,” and it is part of a panel on the professional risks and rewards of program innovation.

A poster of Dr. Raynie’s grant project “Building a Bridge to College English” will be displayed Friday at the USG Enrollment Management Symposium, a system-wide convening focused on promoting strategies and programs aimed at increasing enrollment, retention, and completion on Friday November 14, 2014 at the Georgia International Convention Center in Atlanta, Georgia.
Dr. Marwan Zabdawi accompanied four students in ENGR 1100 to Albany State University on October 30, 2014. The students were David Boyd, Tara Kilgo, David Phillips, and Jared Rawlins. The students presented a research paper, “Global Warming” which was researched and written by them at the Albany State University Annual Undergraduate Research Symposium.

Dr. Zabdawi’s ENGR 1100 class toured the Caterpillar Plant in Griffin on October 14, 2014. The students not only toured the plant and production line, but they also had the opportunity to view the 3-D simulation of engine room. Students described the tour as great fun, interesting and educational.

Dr. Richard Schmude, Jr. presented a short lecture at the Georgia Regional Astronomy Meeting at Tellus Science Museum on October 25, 2014 on “Uranus: Activity in mid-2014.” Tellus Science Museum is located near Cartersville, GA. On Halloween night, Dr. Schmude set up his telescope in downtown Barnesville, where some 100 people had the opportunity to get a wonderful view of the Halloween moon. Additionally, on November 10, 2014, Dr. Schmude did a presentation entitled, “The Brightness of Mars, Jupiter and Saturn” as part of the Math and Natural Science Seminar Series on the Gordon State College Campus.

Mr. Clement Smetana, a chemist new to Gordon State College this year, gave a presentation on November 14 at the Criminal Justice Symposium on the UGA Griffin Campus on DNA Forensics. Mr. Smetana comes to Gordon State College after a distinguished career working in the Army Forensics Lab in Atlanta and teaching for a time at Southern Crescent.
News from the Department of History and Political Science

Dr. Erica Johnson

Dr. Jeff Rogers presented a paper titled, “Simms and Gotham: Simms in New York in the 1840’s” at the biannual William Gilmore Simms Society conference in Orangeburg, South Carolina, September 25-27, 2014. At the conference, the William Gilmore Simms Society elected Dr. Rogers as its President. Rogers gave a similar presentation titled “William Gilmore Simms: Southern Writer, American Original” for the History Student Organization, Department of History and Political Science, and Honors Program at Middle Georgia State College on November 5, 2014.


The History Club and Department of History and Political Science hosted a presentation by Dr. Paul Escott on Thursday, November 13, 2014. Escott, the Reynolds Professor at Wake Forest University, gave a talk titled “William Tecumseh Sherman: His March and Our Memory.” (Picture above: Pamela Fuentes, History Club President; Dr. Paul Escott; Dr. Erica Johnson, History Club Advisor)

Dr. Erica Johnson presented “Interracial Collaboration in the Haitian Revolution” at the Southern Historical Association annual meeting in Atlanta, Georgia on Saturday, November 15, 2014.

On October 8, 2014, Dr. Tom Aiello dressed as a Roman centurion for his Medieval History course.

The Department of History & Political Science is providing students with a unique “service learning” opportunity in spring 2015. It is offering a class, HIST 4720: Oral and Archival History Internship in which students will work under the direction of Ms. Cynthia Barton, Archivist for the City of Griffin conducting research about World War II deceased from Griffin-Spalding County in the 20th Century. In cooperation with film studies students from Southern Crescent Technical College, Gordon State College history students will not only participate in archival research but will also conduct oral history interviews. The final product will be a filmed documentary on the lives, contributions, and sacrifices these people made to American victory in its war.

Students will receive a three-hour upper-division credit in history for this course, internship credit, as well as valuable hands-on research experience. Interested students can contact Dr. Aiello to express their interest.

Gordon Gives Update

Mr. Justin White

Thanks to your generosity, the Gordon Gives Program has collected $1,537.00 (as of 11/13/14)! Go Gordon!
Frequently Asked Questions
In January of 2008 the University System of Georgia's (USG) Ethics & Compliance Reporting Hotline became operational. The hotline is just one part of a comprehensive ethics and compliance program which is designed to promote the highest standards of ethical and professional conduct within the USG. The following are the answers to frequently asked questions regarding the hotline.

Question: What is an Ethics & Compliance Reporting Hotline?
Answer: The hotline is a way to confidentially report concerns regarding fraud, waste, and abuse and any other improper, unprofessional, or illegal activity within the USG. The hotline does not replace existing reporting mechanisms, to include reporting concerns to an employee's supervisor, but rather serves as an additional reporting option, which may be used anonymously.

Question: How do I make a report?
Answer: Reports can be made on-line or by telephone 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Each institution and the System Office have a hotline web address and a telephone number assigned to it. A list of the web addresses and telephone numbers for each institution and the system office can be accessed from the following web address:
http://www.usg.edu/audit/compliance/reporting_contacts

Question: Who can make a report?
Answer: Reports can be made by any USO employee, student or the public.

Question: Will my report be confidential?
Answer: All reports will be treated in a confidential and professional manner. Those who make reports can choose to identify themselves or remain anonymous. The hotline is administered by a 3rd party vendor which provides for confidential communication. Those making reports will be provided with a Personal Identification Number and instructions so they can follow-up with additional information or simply check on the status of a report.

Question: What should be reported?
Answer: Employees should report violations of state or federal law and violations of USG policies. Employees should also report concerns regarding unprofessional or unethical practices. Of special concern are fraud, waste and abuse in that these types of malfeasance directly affect our stewardship responsibilities.

Question: What should not be reported?
Answer: The hotline should not be used as a tool to harass, embarrass or undermine co-workers or supervisors or to settle old scores. Reports should only be made in good faith where there is a reasonable belief in the truth or accuracy of the information provided. Any employee who knowingly files a false report may be subject to disciplinary action up to and including termination.

Question: Would I be subject to retaliation?
Answer: State law and USG policy prohibit any employee from retaliating against another employee who, in good faith, has-reported concerns or wrongdoing or who has cooperated with an authorized investigation. Employees may make reports of wrongdoing without fear of reprisal.

If you have any additional questions you should feel free to direct them to the USG Office of Ethics and Compliance at (404) 962-3034.
Dr. Hyde and EarthWindFire Science Club members took field trips to the Atlanta Botanical Garden, Zoo Atlanta, and the Tennessee Aquarium. They took a behind-the-scenes tour of ocean habitats during their visit to the Tennessee Aquarium.

In October, Mike Womack presented a paper, "Preliminary Observations on Ovipositing of Container Breeding Mosquitoes in West Central Georgia" at the 39th annual meeting of the Georgia Mosquito Control Association at the University of Georgia. This project is in its second year. This ongoing survey of West Central Georgia is being conducted by Gordon State College’s microbiology students and Dr. Womack. The results will assist the CDC and the Georgia State Health Services respond to future outbreaks of Chikungunya Virus infections.

Dr. Cathy Lee participated in the 5th KWise (Korean-American Women in Science and Engineering) 2014 Southeastern Chapter Fall Conference in Hyatt Place in Duluth, GA. The major research topics presented from GA tech and Emory University were Computational NanoBio Technology and Stem Cell Therapy. CDC Fellowship and Undergraduate Student Summer Internship opportunities were also presented.

Dr. Lee and Brinkman published the research article performed by the students enrolled in Biology 2295, Special Research Topics and BIOL 4905, Undergraduate Research in Biology since Spring 2011, got accepted to the peer reviewed journal, J. of Entomological Science, 49 (4), 1-10, titled, “Argentine Worker Ant (Hymenoptera: Formicidae) Mortality Response to Sodium Salicylate and Sodium Cinnamate.”

Amanda Ashley, Class of 2014-Fall, has been accepted to the South University Physician Assistant Program ‘class of 2015.

Dr. Brinkman ‘notes:
One of my students in my Bio 1108 class travelled to Texas with her father. While they were there they visited an aquarium. At the aquarium, they had a shallow pool with a lot of marine animals in it like sea stars and jellyfish. My student was talking with one of the volunteers about the organisms and the volunteer told her that they were about to have a group of children come in to learn about sea life and the volunteer asked my student if she would like to teach the class. She agreed. She was speaking to the children about the marine organisms and while she was doing it there was a marine biologist observing her. When she was done the marine biologist pulled her to the side and asked her where she learned all that stuff. She said “from Dr. Brinkman at Gordon State College.”

One of our recent graduates has been nominated by Georgia Power as a new teacher with promise in Georgia. She is awarded $1000 for use in her classroom. Kezhan is a secondary Biology teacher in Spalding County.

Each year, Georgia Power recognizes new teachers in Georgia with an award of $1000 to a male and a female teacher from each College of Education in Georgia. The candidate must have been in the top 25% of the class academically, have shown aptitude for teaching, and received recommendations from the School of Education.

Kezhan’s family moved to the US from the Northern part of Iraq.

We are very proud of Kezhan and believe she will be an excellent Biology Teacher.

Updates from the Department of Business and Public Service

Dr. William Brent Carper has received notification that his peer reviewed research paper entitled “Global Business: An Updated Cultural Perspective” has been accepted for presentation at the Sixteenth Annual Conference of the National Business and Economics Society which will be held March 11-14, 2015 in the Republic of Panama. Over the years, Dr. Carper has had several papers accepted for presentation at this prestigious conference. While in Panama, Dr. Carper hopes to network with members of the Autoridad del Canal de Panamá (ACP) to gain insight on the potential economic and cultural impact that the third set of locks will have on the country, once the locks are completed in 2016. It is said that the third set of locks will double the capacity of the canal and bring even greater cultural and socio-economic growth to the Republic of Panama, the Western Hemisphere and the world at large.
Library Renovation and Repository updates.
The library renovation steering committee along with the Faculty Senate Library Committee, SGA, library staff, and GSC administrators has met with architects from Houser Walker Associates. The architects have listened to ideas regarding the look, feel, and functionality of the library building. Your feedback (both faculty and students) is welcomed. Please contact Ms. Brenda Rutherford or Dr. Sonya Gaither with your ideas by December 5. Additionally, Watson Associates, Inc. began the renovations to Guillebeau Hall on November 3. They are expected to complete this project within 120 days, and at that time library staff will work with a moving company to have lesser used library resources (60-70% of library collection) moved and organized into this newly renovated space. The lobby will be set up as a quiet study space with GSC card ID key swipe entry with wireless capabilities. Resources will continue to be available upon request. Decisions regarding library hours, relocation of staff and remaining library resources during the renovation have not been decided yet. As soon as these decisions have been made, the library staff will make every effort to publicize them to the entire campus.

Staff News. The Dorothy W. Hightower Library staff would like to take this opportunity to say ‘THANK YOU’ to Mrs. Amanda Bernard, Ms. Margaret Kendall, and Ms. Joy Vaughn for their service to the library. Each one will be pursuing new paths and we wish them well in their future endeavors. We are also in search for a Technical Services Librarian. At the time of this article, we had 12 applicants. The search committee comprises Ms. Lisa Millican, Library Technical Assistant; Dr. Masoud Nourizadeh, Professor of Art and Humanities, and Coordinator of Fine and Performing Arts; and Dr. Sonya Gaither. We look forward to having a new librarian join our team very soon.

On November 10, Dr. Gaither was the keynote speaker at the 15th anniversary celebration of the Georgia Southern University Chapter of the National Panhellenic Council. Dr. Gaither served as the chapter’s inaugural advisor for 9 years and received a plaque of appreciation during the anniversary celebration for service rendered. Lastly, the library staff continues to participate in professional development opportunities.

Honors Program Congrats

Dr. Dave Janssen

Congratulations are in order:

Outgoing
To our Fall 2014 Honors Program Graduates:
- Malissa Allen (BS in Human Services),
- Holly Anderson (AS in Criminal Justice),
- David Cromer (BA in English), and
- Amber Isbell (AA in Psychology)

Incoming
And to our newly-admitted Fall 2014 Honors Program Cohort (our biggest group ever!):
- Carlos Adams, Holly Anderson, Margaret Backstrom, Veronica Blackerby, Katherine Blackmon, Chelsie Blevins, Thomas Brown, Austin Corbin, Nicole Fox, Gwenevere Gilliland, Michael Hendricks, Andrea Heninger, Nathan Jenkins, Laura McCarter, Charles McDermitt, Katherine Odegaard, Jonathan Parks, Amanda Picking, Autumn Plaxco, Alex Phouthavong, Perry Price, Noe Ruiz Ramos, Bailey Scott, Justin Serna, Maci Shearouse, Julia Whitt, Maxwell Willis, and Joshua Wooley

We celebrate the success and potential that both groups represent!
The GSC Staff Council held its 1st Halloween Costume Contest last month. The group winner is Counseling and individual winner is Linda Littiken. We had many great costume submissions to the contest. Thank you to the members of the SGA for voting on the winners.

The GSC Staff Council now has a new webpage that has all agendas and approved minutes for the past few years. We are in the process of adding more detail to the website, such as suggestions, Staff Development, and Jeans Days.

All USG institutions, libraries, and faculty are eligible and encouraged to submit proposals. A maximum of three per campus will be awarded in this round.

Affordable Learning Georgia hosted a third information session on the Round 2 Textbook Transformation Grants RFP. To view the archived meeting, click the link below. The meeting begins ten minutes in (at 10:00), and you can jump the video to that time using the slider at the bottom of the video player.

Don’t let this opportunity escape you. You only need time, intellect/creativity, organizational skills, and a recommendation from Department/Dean/Provost.

Textbook Transformation Grants Request for Proposals (RFP) Round 2

This is the second round of Textbook Transformation grant opportunities; the first round resulted in the funding of 30 projects from 19 USG institutions for courses to be taught in Spring 2015. New or resubmitted/revised proposals are requested in four categories for courses to be taught in Summer 2015-Spring 2016. Categories 1-3 and 4 have different funding maximums and deadlines for submission. Please refer to the link below for complete information.

Categories 1-3: No-Cost-to-Students Learning Materials, Open-Stax Textbooks, Course Pack Pilots
Deadline for submission: November 30, 2014
Maximum award: $10,800
Semester of initial use in courses: Summer 2015 or Fall 2015

Category 4: Transformations-at-Scale: This new category will address projects with large-scale impacts requiring more implementation time and/or larger teams. Proposals must address transformations producing one or more of the following large-scale impacts: specific course across multiple sections, multiple courses across multiple sections, department-wide, or multi-institution.
Deadline for submission: December 8, 2014
Maximum award: $30,000
Semester for initial use in courses: Summer 2015, Fall 2015, Spring 2016

GSC Staff News

Justin White

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