Student Newsletter
STUDENT ENGAGEMENT AND SUCCESS

Georgia Gwinnett COLLEGE
Student Engagement and Success

October 2020

Dr. Marie-Michelle Rosemond,
vice president for Student Engagement and Success

Message From the Vice President
Combining Data and Narratives Creates Balance

GGC's new Division of Student Engagement and Success (SES) launched in 2020, with Dr. Michelle Rosemond joining the GGC family as vice president of SES.

In only 15 years, GGC's holistic approach centered around student success has helped it grow into what it is today – an inclusive learning community serving about 12,000 students representing all ethnicities and walks of life. It is the multiplicity of backgrounds and synergies between faculty, staff and alumni that contribute to student success within the GGC community. I am excited to support our community by leading the Division of Student Engagement and Success (SES).

I believe data and robust analysis are essential for deep learning and greater understanding in designing student success pathways. These insights are the fuel for campus conversations about designing a relevant education for today. While I enjoy understanding the numbers, predictive analytics and designing equations, data is always balanced with narratives from students, faculty, staff and stakeholders. This balance is critical when customizing services for students from pre-orientation through graduation.

GGC students are committed, engaged and achieving, despite challenges. For example, SES surveyed almost 3,000 students as we transitioned to an Emergency Remote Teaching and Learning Model during early stages of the pandemic. These survey presentations/findings reveal both successes and implications for GGC students. Please email **ses@ggc.edu** for the findings.

I remember very well my own experiences as a first-gen student many, many years ago. It makes me extremely happy now to work with students, staff and faculty to design student success pathways at GGC. I celebrate GGC's priority to develop students holistically, with the end goal of producing graduates who can anticipate and respond effectively to the changing world. I'm delighted to lead the dedicated SES team, and proud to align myself with an institution that challenges its students to "Go Be Great!"

Student Highlight

Peer Tutor Honored by Barry Biddlecomb Outstanding Tutoring Award

The second annual Barry Biddlecomb Awards for Outstanding Tutoring ceremony was recently held virtually. The awards are named in memory of Dr. Barry Biddlecomb, the charter dean of the School of Transitional Studies and a tireless advocate of quality tutoring. Made possible by a gift from the Biddlecomb family, the awards honor one professional and one peer tutor each year.

This year, Kaleigh Burch, '20, BS in criminal justice won this year's peer tutor award.

Kaleigh Burch
'20, BS in criminal justice

"Everyone, including tutors, needs help in life and school is no different. We are here to work with you, not look down on you. If face-to-face interaction is what makes you nervous or self conscious, the fact that tutoring is online for now may be a good way to dip your toe into being tutored if you would like to try it."

Mentor Collective will email you with more information – please review it, and do not hesitate to reach out to us with any questions you may have. You can also contact Mentor Collective directly at help@mentorcollective.org.

Dr. Karen Jackson, associate dean for advising programs, kjackson5@ggc.edu

Would you like to become a student peer mentor?

If so, the Mentor Collective Program is for you. Being a mentor is more important now than ever. Adjusting to the current situation and its resulting changes can come with a learning curve, and we've seen that mentors can make a difference. This program matches students with mentors like you who have been in their shoes and know first-hand what it is like to be a student and part of the GGC community.

To get started, register and complete a short survey telling us about yourself. We'll match you to a mentor with similar interests and background, or what's important to you.

Click here to register and complete your survey

If you want to see how peer mentors have helped their mentees, check out the short video from real mentees by clicking here the link.

What is the difference between academic advising, tutoring and academic coaching?

What is academic coaching?
Academic coaching is a partnership between students and a student success advisor who helps the student examine academic concerns and develop a plan to overcome barriers to success. Students will collaborate with a coach to create goals, identify relevant resources and plan action steps to support the students' academic success. Additionally, students and coaches work together to cultivate success skills, but not limited to study skills, organization, time management and test-taking strategies.

Academic coaching appointments can be scheduled through the GradesFirst system by phone at 678-407-5645 or email at sesadvising@ggc.edu.

What is academic advising?
Academic advising supports students as they navigate the degree process by helping with course selection, registration, major selection and explaining academic policies and graduation requirements.

Academic advising appointments can be scheduled by phone at 678-407-5645 or email at sesadvising@ggc.edu.

What is the Academic Enhancement Center (AEC) and what services do they provide?
The AEC provides currently enrolled students with personalized, free tutoring for a variety of subjects such as math, writing and information technology. Faculty and staff are encouraged to refer students in need of tutoring support to the AEC. Virtual tutoring is available 24/7 by clicking the e-tutoring link on the MyCourses (Brightspace by D2L) homepage.

The AEC can be reached at 678-407-5191 or students can send questions to aec@ggc.edu.

How do I contact Student Engagement and Success?
Student Engagement and Success can be reached at 678-407-5879 or ses@ggc.edu.

Did you know? ELI students from over 15 different language and cultural backgrounds have attended ELI classes this year.

Did you know?
GGC's English Language Institute serves the community?

The English Language Institute (ELI) at GGC offers intensive English as a second language (ESL) instruction for English language learners at a range of proficiency levels. The ELI enrolls members of the community, and many ELI graduates have become GGC students. The typical intensive English session at the ELI involves 20 hours of instruction per week, Monday-Thursday, in an 8-week (or half-semester) session.

For more information on the ELI, or to find out more about our next intensive English session, contact us at ggceli@ggc.edu. More information about the ELI also is available at www.ggc.edu/eli.

October 2020   For more info, contact ses@ggc.edu or 678-407-5879

Are you interested in knowing more about Learning Communities?

Learning communities (LCs) are a group of intentionally linked courses where instructors work with students and with each other to help you succeed. Many first-year LCs include the one-hour First-year Seminar course, GGC 1000. First-year LCs are connected by a common academic focus area. The six academic focus areas at GGC are:

Focus Area	Majors	Career Examples
BUSI: Business	Business administration	Accountant, financial advisor, project manager, public relations
EDUC: Education	Elementary education, middle grades education, special education	Educator, child development center director
HEPR: Health professions	Health science, nursing	Nursing, health care patient navigator
HUAR: Humanities and arts	Cinema and media arts production, English	Writer, filmmaker, visual artist
SOSC: Social sciences	Criminal justice/criminology, history, human development and aging services, political science, psychology	Police officer, social worker, historian, lawyer, therapist
STEM: Science, technology and mathematics	Biology, chemistry, environmental science, exercise science, information technology, mathematics	Engineer, medical doctor, dentist, veterinarian

CircleIn Encourages Student Engagement and offers prizes

We have amazing news! This fall semester, you will have access to **CircleIn**, an easy-to-use study app that instantly connects you with all of your classmates. CircleIn offers a variety of studying features, all in one place that will help you stay productive and pass your classes. You'll be able to create and review flashcards, generate quizzes, share notes, chat with your classmates, get on-demand help, and so much more.

Here's the cool part…

CircleIn is game-based, which means the more you study and collaborate with your classmates, the more points you earn. These points matter because you're able to get **awesome rewards like Amazon and Best Buy gift cards, and even scholarships**, just for studying and collaborating. Think of it as the app that helps you and rewards you for being a great student.

Getting started on CircleIn is super easy:

Web

1. Visit https://students.circleinapp.com/ on your computer or laptop.
2. Click on Go to CircleIn link.
2. Type in **Georgia Gwinnett College.** This will take you to GGC's D2L login page.
3. Enter your credentials and select "authorize."
4. You're all set! Select your rewards and start studying.

Mobile

1. Download the app on your mobile phone by searching for "CircleIn" in your Apple App store or Google Play Store.
2. Open the app and search for **Georgia Gwinnett College.** This will take you to GGC's D2L login page.
3. Enter your credentials and select "authorize."
4. You're all set! Select your rewards and start studying.

To learn more, **click here** **to view your student welcome guide.**

If you have any issues logging in, please email support@circleinapp.com.

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