

BOBCAT SPOT PLUS!

— More of what's going on at your hometown college!

June 2020

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June Senior Staff Meeting Recap

New Employees

Rob Nordan has been named the new director of FYE. Rob grew up in the Washington D.C. area and began college in 1974 at the University of Maryland. He continued his college studies at Valdosta State University obtaining a Bachelor of Music degree. He has also received his master's in church music. Rob was the director of music at the First Baptist Church in Swainsboro for many years and has been with EGSC in some capacity for a long time. He and his wife, Elizabeth, have four grown children and six grandchildren.

Ashley Woods has been named the Chief Information Security Officer. Ashley joined EGSC's IT department in 2008. He will now join the senior staff meetings going forward. Ashley was an honor graduate from EGSC and is pursuing a degree at Georgia Southern.

Welcome to the EGSC Family!

Dual Enrollment Update

For Summer 2020, **61 dual enrollment** students have been registered. That number is down 22 from last summer. The drop is possibly caused by the changes in dual enrollment. The 30-hour cap in classes has caused some students to spread their remaining hours out over their senior year.

For the Fall of 2020, **232 dual enrollment** students have been registered.

Enrollment Update

For this Summer we have **951**

students at last head count. At this same time last year, our student head count was 984.

For Fall 2020, we are currently **down 7%** in applications, but **enrollment is up**, coming in at 203.

Housing Report

Currently **340 students** are contracted to live on campus for Fall 2020. All of those students have completed their background checks except nine of them. Housing is continuing to call students and remind them about the information they need to complete before the Fall semester begins.

Right now, **housing is down 10%** in completed applications from this time last year, but they are ahead of previous years (2017-2018). Online room selection was held in May for returning students. Returning students overflowed from the West Villas into the South Villas.

There are some technology advancements being made at Bobcat Villas. Additional security cameras have been ordered and will be installed when they come in.

Housing also held a virtual housing tour for new students on June 5 using Zoom. Around 30 students attended the Zoom sessions and were given time to ask questions about on campus living. Housing is working with the I.A. Department to put together videos to help students get more prepared for living on campus.

President's Office

The Compliance Certification portion of the SACSCOC Decennial Reaffirmation Process was

submitted earlier this year. The SACSCOC off-site team meet last week and began reviewing the Compliance Certification. EGSC is currently waiting to get the report from the off-site review. EGSC will respond to that with a focus report around August.

The second piece of the process is the Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP). This will be submitted to the commission at the same time of the focus report. There is a very aggressive timeline in place to complete the QEP. **By June 29** a complete draft of the QEP should be prepared and on July 10 it should be reviewed and approved by the 2021 affirmation leadership team. **By July 17 it is hoped that the entire QEP will be complete and placed into compliance assist.**

The on-site review will be the first week in October! Please mark your calendar!!!

Border State Waiver

At the Regents' last meeting, EGSC was granted the Border State Waiver for South Carolina. **This waiver is not just for the counties that border Georgia, but the entire state.** This applies to students at any EGSC location.

Initial Return to Campus Plan

The initial return to campus plan is now being implemented. This plan was formed by 11 subcommittees made up of faculty and staff. The plan is a staggered plan over the course of the summer.
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(from front)

mer to get faculty and staff back on campus. **Dr. Boehmer asked that everyone expect this plan to change over the summer because the situation is changing as we go. We will all have to roll with the punches and adapt to the changes that are made.**

Fall 2020 Return to Campus Plan

The Fall 2020 Return to Campus Plan has been submitted to the University System of Georgia (USG).

The plan was formed by 11 sub-committees made up of faculty and staff. EGSC is waiting for feedback from the USG.

Building Updates

The Jean Anderson Morgan Student Center has had a few small changes but, for the most part, it is now complete. Check out the EGSC Facebook page for a tour of the new building by Dr. Boehmer!

As most everyone knows, EGSC's Statesboro campus will be moving into the Nesmith Lane building on the Georgia Southern Campus. An implementation committee has been put into place to help move the project along. **As of right now, the estimated completion date is October 27, 2021.**

Budget

We originally submitted a budget reduction plan of 14%. The governor came out last week and said state agencies will be looking at an **11% reduction**, so that is a little better. **These numbers aren't set in stone, though.** The legislative session is supposed to resume in the middle June and anything can happen. We will be looking at a compressed time of getting the budget in. Normally, how it works is the legislature passes the budget and the Board of Regents will approve it

in April. It then goes through a few other steps, so this will be a very compressed time to get the budget approved.

Information Technology

There are still available Zoom licenses for the college to use. Employees can submit a work order to make a request for one. There have been some issues with Zoom from a cybersecurity perspective. Zoom has made some updates and improvements to help with this. One of those improvements is an updated version of Zoom. **As of May 30th, you must have Zoom version 5.0 or higher to use the program.**

Also, the password manager for the EGSC web portal is in need of an upgrade. It is outdated and not working as it should. All users will have to go through the new password manager, but all features will stay as they are. **The tentative go-live date is Tuesday, July 7th.**

Institutional Advancement

At the end of April, Elizabeth Gilmer retired from the Office of Institutional Advancement. Her position has now been eliminated and **Institutional Advancement has been moved to fall under the President's Office.** The office is realigning everyone's duties to take care of Elizabeth's position. If you have submitted a request and haven't heard back, please let the department know.

Open records requests will now go to Mary Smith since Elizabeth's retirement. It is important that, as soon as we get a request, we need to respond openly and quickly. EGSC only has three days to respond to these requests. Mary asked that you forward them to her as soon as you get them and call her so she doesn't miss anything. She also wants you to note that it doesn't have to say open records request. The email

just has to be a request for information.

New Federal Title IX Regulations

In May, the Department of Education passed new Federal Title IX regulations. **The new regulations will become effective August 14.** EGSC uses the USG's Title IX policy and we will be relying on them to make the changes to their policy so we can follow it. We will be reviewing this policy and offering feedback to the USG about the policy before it is implemented. There are changes being made to employee reporting, formal complaints, international trips, cross examination and changes in other areas.

Strategic Planning and Institutional Research

The report of the Spring 2020 Student Satisfaction Survey is now complete. These surveys were conducted after all classes were moved online in the Spring. Since all classes were moved to an online format, that became the focus of the survey. One difficulty of the survey was getting as many responses as we did. Students are surveyed a lot and we have to ask meaningful questions. The survey for Fall 2020 is already in the works and these difficulties are already being considered.

In the Spring survey, there was a lot of positive feedback. The question was asked if the over-all learning experience improved or showed problems during the Spring semester. Of all responses, over 45% said their learning experience was satisfactory and 39% said it was worse than face to face or unsatisfactory. Another question was asked if the student would recommend EGSC to others. Most of the students, **80%, said they were likely or very likely to recommend EGSC.**

Updates

The Bachelors of Business Administration (BAA) Program and the Human Services Bachelor's Degree Program are both being reviewed. Both of these programs were written as if they will launch in the Fall of 2021.

Biology Program Updates

In the Spring, four Biology students graduated with their associate degree and two students graduated with their bachelor's degree in Biology.

In the Fall of this year, two more students will graduate from the bachelor's degree program.

Nursing Program Updates

Three students in the nursing program graduated in May. Dr. Upchurch plans to meet with the graduates to give them their pins.

There are nine new students registered for the Fall and two more students who can register once they get their information completed. There are 12 students ready for the Spring 2021 semester.

Every nursing student is currently employed in the field of nursing, so this is a challenging time for them having to work during the COVID-19 pandemic and complete their classwork. Dr. Upchurch said she is extremely proud of them and the hard work they have put in.

Reminder: The 2020 Patriotic Concert has officially been cancelled.

