Hello, Alumni and Friends, welcome to East Georgia State College’s first Alumni E-Newsletter! We hope you enjoy our first edition of many newsletters to come. The East Georgia State College Alumni Association fosters relationships with alumni and friends through programs that promote the growth, progress and welfare of the East Georgia community. Through the years, East Georgia State College has proudly maintained its original strategic purpose as an access institution with strong community ties and continues to adhere to its original mission by providing accessibility to a wide range of credit and non-credit academic programs in an atmosphere contributing to the intellectual and cultural growth of our students.

All EGSC graduates and former students have access to the benefits of the Alumni Association. Your involvement can lead to greater support for the Bobcat Nation and its future. No matter where you are in the U.S. or around the world, most likely there is a loyal group of alumni just around the corner. The Alumni Association will help you connect. Please join us in celebrating and supporting what East Georgia State College means to you!

EGSC approved for new BSN program

On May 10, 2016, the University System of Georgia Board of Regents voted to approve a new Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program at East Georgia State College. This program will serve as an RN-BSN Bridge program to create an educational pathway for associate degree nurses to earn an advanced credential. The program will appeal to working nurses and recent associate degree in nursing graduates and will be offered in partnership with Southeastern Technical College in Swainsboro. This arrangement greatly reduces facility costs and accelerates the implementation of the program, which will, in turn, provide a swift response to the nursing shortage in the area. The program will be housed in Southeastern Tech’s Health Sciences facility. The BSN program is slated to begin Fall 2017.

Spring Commencement Sees Most Graduates Yet!

On Friday evening, May 6, 2016, East Georgia State College held their Spring Commencement Ceremony, and it was the largest yet! The Spring Class was comprised of 209 students earning their Associate of Arts degree.

Alumni Spotlight~

Theresa Renee Davis joined East Georgia State College in July, 2014, as the founding program Director of the CHOICE Program for Inclusive Learning. Theresa brings over 30 years of experience working with individuals with disabilities, from planning and directing medically approved recreational programs to providing resource assistance to students enrolled in technical and agricultural education programs.

For the past 24 years, Theresa has served students with disabilities at Swainsboro High School. As a Special Education Teacher from 1990-2002, Theresa provided educational support services to all categories of students with disabilities by adapting and modifying the general curriculum to enable student success.

Most recently, Mrs. Davis served as the Career and Technical Instruction Coordinator (2002-2014) for Swainsboro High School. In this role, Theresa provided direct instruction to assist students with disabilities in successfully entering and participating in all existing career and technical education pathways taught at Swainsboro High School.

Prior to this role, Theresa served as Recreation Therapist Director for a mental health unit of the Georgia Department of Corrections. As the Recreation Director, Theresa worked closely with the medical team to assess patients, and then execute a therapeutic program targeted toward the needs of the patient.

Theresa’s goal is to help students discover their interests and develop an understanding of their needs. She realizes that these elements are important to the success of every student preparing to transition into life beyond high school.

Theresa earned an Educational Specialist Degree in 2009 and a Master of Science Degree from Nova Southeastern University in 2008. She earned a Bachelor of Science in Recreation with emphasis in Therapeutics in 1983 from Georgia Southern University and obtained an Associate of Arts degree at Emanuel County Junior College (EGSC) in 1982. She also represented the college as Miss ECJC in 1981.
Alumni Updates

Ashley Tankersley ’06
After obtaining her Associate degree from East Georgia College in 2006, Ashley Tankersley went on to graduate from the University of Georgia in 2010 with a degree in Communication Studies. She is currently employed by Interfor, Swainsboro District, as their Accounting Analyst and loves being involved in the Swainsboro community in many ways. She is a member of First Baptist Church, where she teaches Acteens and is a member of the choir. Ashley is also involved with the Miss Emanuel County/Miss Southeast Georgia pageant serving as the Treasurer and Business Manager. Ashley also enjoys spending as much time as possible with her husband, Agan, and daughter, McKenleigh.

Chassity Cruz ’11
As a non-traditional student, Chassity graduated from ESGC with an Associate degree. During her educational career at EGSC, she proudly served as the Vice-President of SGA and was a member of Phi Theta Kappa. Chassity then went on to graduate from Georgia Southern this past December with a Bachelor’s degree in Liberal Arts. She began her employment at EGSC as a Federal Work Study student in the financial aid office, then accepted a part-time position as a Financial Aid Clerk. Prior to graduating, she accepted a full-time position with Student Life. A year later, she returned to Financial Aid and has progressed through various positions to the Assistant Director of FA. Chassity is presently pursuing an advanced certification of ESL and has applied to Graduate School at GSU.

Darlene Dickens ’75
Darlene has the distinction of being the first applicant to Emanuel County Junior College in 1972. She began in the first class at the college (1973) and worked as a student worker in the Admissions/Registrar’s office. Darlene was elected as the first SGA President and graduated in the first full graduating class in 1975 with an Associate of Arts degree. She has been teaching at East Georgia since 2009 after retiring from the State of GA and is now an Instructor of Biology on the Statesboro Campus. Darlene recently published her second lab manual that is used for Biology 1103.