Dear Faculty,

I just finished reviewing the Spring 2017 Senior Exit Surveys.

One issue that we were going to check during the spring semester was the impact of the new office hour policy on student perceptions regarding faculty available. I am pleased to report that the responses from graduating seniors were very positive. During the Fall 2016 semester, 56.3% noted that faculty were “Frequently” available outside of class, 40.6% indicated that faculty were “Regularly” available, and 3.1% reported that faculty were “Rarely” available. During the Spring 2017 semester, these numbers improved as 70.4% noted that faculty were “Frequently” available outside of class, 27.8% indicated that faculty were “Regularly” available, and 1.9% reported that faculty were “Rarely” available.

Also, there were no issues in the Senior Exit Survey comments indicating that faculty availability was an issue. Further, I do not recall any situation during the spring semester where students came to me because they could not reach a faculty member. I think our departmental task force did a very good job drafting the new policy for office hours. And, as far as I can tell, everyone in the department made a great effort responding to students in a timely manner. Great Job!

The other student satisfaction numbers also looked very good on the survey. A little over 70% of students think that we have about the right balance between online and face-to-face courses. A little more than 25% want more online courses. An area that we do need to work on is the availability of courses. While 50.9% of students reported no problem with availability, 49.1% indicated they did have issues. These issues included courses filling up quickly and having to use the override system, not being able to get the teacher they wanted, not enough sections being offered, courses not being offered on the day or at the time they wanted, having to stay up until midnight to register, and courses not available every semester. I am hopeful that once we begin issuing time tickets for registration, this may help a bit. I also need to do a comprehensive revision on our tentative course schedule and communicate this to students and advisors. With all of our certificates and programs, the schedule has a lot of parts (some of which change from year to year).

But, overall, the survey results were great! I am very appreciate of the outstanding work that you do each semester and so are our students. One student noted, “All faculty have gone above and beyond to help students succeed. Thank you for a wonderful 4 years and looking forward to obtaining my MBA here.”

TG
## Important Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>May</th>
<th>2017</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RCOB Faculty/Staff Meeting - 8:30-10:30am</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>General Faculty Meeting</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>ISP Paris Trip</td>
<td>10-25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring 2017 Graduation</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Session I classes begin</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Faculty Workshop (Time/location—tba)</td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Roster Verification for Session I</td>
<td>16-17</td>
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<tr>
<td>Last Day of Session I</td>
<td>26</td>
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<tr>
<td>Session I—final exams</td>
<td>30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Session II &amp; III classes begin</td>
<td>31</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>June</th>
<th>2017</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Roster Verification—Session III</td>
<td>5-7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DAC Retreat</td>
<td>7-9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last Day of Session III</td>
<td>22</td>
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<tr>
<td>Session III Reading Day</td>
<td>23</td>
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<tr>
<td>Session III Final Exams</td>
<td>26</td>
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<tr>
<td>Session IV Classes Begin</td>
<td>27</td>
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<tr>
<th>July</th>
<th>2017</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Session IV Roster Verification</td>
<td>3-5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Independence Day, no classes, offices closed</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Session IV—Last Day of Class</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Session IV — Reading Day</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Session IV — Final Exams</td>
<td>22</td>
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<tr>
<td>Graduation—Summer 2017</td>
<td>25</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>August</th>
<th>2017</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fall 2017 Graduation—Last Day to Apply</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UWG New Faculty Orientation</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>UWG General Faculty Mtg. 9:00-1:00pm</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RCOB Fall Faculty &amp; Staff Mtg—1:30-3:00pm</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miller Lecture Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>RCOB Family Evening—Braves Game</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>MGMT Dept. Mtg—Adamson Hall, Rm 127</td>
<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00-12:00pm Dept. Mtg</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00-1:00pm Lunch with Dean</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1:00-3:00pm MIS Fac. Mtg</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Fall 2017—Open Drop (non-eCore) until 4:00PM</td>
<td>9-11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall 2017—Open Add (non-eCore) until 4:00PM</td>
<td>9-14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall 2017—Fee Payment Deadline</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F17 Roster Verification</td>
<td>18-22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### September
- Labor Day (Campus Closed—No classes)
- BB&T Lecture—Dr. Jody Foster
- Scholarship Soiree
- Open Meeting (Adamson Conf. 9-11 am)
- Graduate Showcase w/Locum Tenens
- Glow Homecoming Parade
- Faculty Research Lunch
- Homecoming

### October
- Last Day to Apply for Spring Graduation
- Engage West—Staff Edition
- Fall Break
- Board of Advisors
- Faculty Research Lunch
- Graduate Faculty Meeting
- Economic Forecast Breakfast

### November
- LDI
- Fall Preview Day
- Future Faculty Lunch
- Thanksgiving Break (NO CLASSES)
- Thanksgiving Break (No Classes, OFFICES CLOSED)
- RCOB Holiday Lunch

### December
- Classes End
- Final Exam Week
- Fall Graduation
- Grades Due (By NOON)
Virtual Teams and ERPsim — presented with Joy Godin from Georgia College and State University

Most organizations use some form of virtual means to operate. Business students who know how to work effectively in a virtual team environment could have a leg up in the job market. This study investigates the use of student virtual teams using an SAP ERP simulation. The virtual teams are a mixture of students from the University of West Georgia and Georgia College and State University. The data collection will be collected from a pre and post survey designed to measure technology acceptance, business integration knowledge, business process knowledge, and student satisfaction.

Integrating Technology into a Management of Human Resources Course – With Samantha White

Information Systems has turned the Human Resource field into a sophisticated talent tracking and data-mining arena. Mastering Human Resources Information Systems has been reported as a top in demand skill for human resource employees. Universities are increasingly incorporating real-life Information Systems into their programs to produce graduates that meet industry demands. Using hands-on HRIS exercises is one initiative that could enhance student learning and produce graduates with a leg up in industry. How can faculty members integrate HRIS hands-on exercises to ensure students have the opportunity to develop this knowledge and skill set? This study investigates using hands-on HRIS exercises in a Human Resource Management course to enhance student learning and skills development.
University of West Georgia students walked through a sea of trash Wednesday in an effort to educate others about recycling.

As part of UWG’s participation in the nationwide Recycle Mania challenge, students, faculty and staff teamed up to organize a trash receptacle “dive” to demonstrate just how much trash on campus could go to recycling centers. More than 3,000 pounds of trash was dumped next to Ingram Library, a central location on campus, and sorted by approximately 250 students.

Students who participated represented a variety of fields and disciplines, including business, environmental sciences and literature.

“Richards College of Business in really focused on the ethics culture of sustainability, so this really feeds into that,” said economics major Jacob Stanfill. “After all, the university, at its roots, is a business, so it’s great to see how much waste is going out and how much we could be saving by proper sustainability practices.”

Stanfill is in Assistant Professor Susana Velez-Castrillon’s social corporate responsibility class, which will be extrapolating how much money is unknowingly being thrown away every day on campus based on the recyclable material the event produces and the number of trash receptacles on campus.

“One of the easiest things for a business to do for sustainability when you’re starting that conversation is recycling because if you’re not recycling, it’s costing you money,” Velez-Castrillon said. “I thought it would be a good opportunity for them to see the waste and do a waste audit.”

English Instructor Ashley Dycus saw the event as a teaching opportunity as well.

“I brought my students because, in English 1101 and 1102, we’re reading articles about recycling and sustainability,” Dycus said, “so it ties in with course content and it gives them a way to connect what we’re doing in the classroom with the outside world and a different perspective on those texts.”

International student Eva Fix, who is pursing her master’s in business law at UWG in partnership with the University of Oldenburgh in Germany, said she was excited to take part in the event.

“At home it (recycling) is something that everyone does,” Fix said. “It’s good to raise awareness of what it’s really worth. It’s not just trash. It has certain value, and it can be reused and recycled. I think that’s a really important lesson to learn.”
William Cross, an undergraduate majoring in business administration with the University of West Georgia’s Richard College of Business, competed with his team, VasoCorp, against some of the world’s top universities between April 6 and 8. VasoCorp’s team includes Cross, and his sister, Michelle Cross, who presented their business plan for NeuropAWAY, a dietary supplement for diabetic nerve pain.

Rick Sigman has been instrumental as a business consultant representing Mr. Cross and VasoCorp. He has also helped VasoCorp by counseling them with regarding their business plan and model, as a faculty mentor for the Rice Business Plan Competition, Georgia Bowl, TYE Competition and more importantly as his instructor to one of several business courses that Mr. Cross has taken.

The teams for this year’s competition were chosen from nearly 350 entrants to compete in four categories: life sciences; information technology/Web/mobile; energy/clean technology/sustainability; and other.

Accomplishments for this past year are listed below.

**TYE University Competition**
2nd Place and won $3,000 cash prize

**The Georgia Bowl, Carrollton, GA**
4th Place Finish

**The University of Nebraska**
4th Place Finish

**Wake Forest University**
2nd Place Finish and won the CVS Health and Retail Innovation Prize

**Baylor University**
3rd Place finish and won $15,000 cash plus the $25,000 Able Award (this award is given for the an upcoming business that is most likely to succeed)

**Rice University**
Won the Challenge Round Flight #4 Manna Award
Received and “Angel Investment” offer from Demand Digital Marketing Service (DDMS)

**Georgia’s Young Entrepreneur of the Year**
After several years of dealing with diabetic nerve pain and burning in my hands and feet, I decided to become proactive in reversing my symptoms. I experimented with vasodilators and over-the-counter (OTC) products, but nothing seemed to help. In an attempt to increase my circulation, I started an exercise regime at the gym. It was during this period I learned about Taurine, an ingredient that is used in pre-workouts and the possible benefits it could have for diabetic pain and burning.

I experimented with numerous doses during the next year or two. I was able to “dial in” to the correct dosage that would not only alleviate my symptoms, but also eliminate the side effects associated with this substance.

FINALLY — I felt like a normal person and was certain that I could help others too.

It was shortly thereafter making my discovery that I heard about “The Georgia Bowl.” I decided to approach the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) to enter this competition and also my plans to start my own business. My business consultant and instructor, Mr. Rick Sigman, and the Richards College of Business have been incredibly supportive of me as a “student entrepreneur.” The have helped me lay the ground work for my business, fund and support my travel to competitions, and gain exposure and meet investors for VasoCorp.

VasoCorp, Inc. is starting to gain critical mass and has had tremendous grown since the Rice Business Competition. We are currently selling in excess of 3,000 bottles (per month) of our product to more than 750 pharmacies and a commitment of more than 2,000 pharmacies signed to start selling our product by March 2018.

Other Notable Accomplishments:

- Engaged Demand Digital Marketing Service (DDMS), a female and minority owned company, to take over all online sales. DDMS projects sales of over 10,000 bottles per month by end of year 1
- Hired 2 more full time employees, now have a total of 6
- Finalized contract with American Pharmacy Cooperative Inc. (APCI), and are in over 500 APCI member pharmacies
- Entered H-E-B Grocery Store and Pharmacies. H-E-B has over 350 stores throughout Texas
- Signed contract the EPIC Pharmacy Cooperative to add 500 EPIC member pharmacies
- In talks with several large pharmacy cooperatives and should be in over 5000 pharmacies by the end of this year
- Recently approved as Wal-Mart.com and Jet.com vendor and will start selling through Wal-Mart in August
Samantha D. White attended the 2017 SOAHR—SHRM-Atlanta HR Conference in Atlanta, Georgia March 29-30, 2017.

Abbey Patinella—MGNT major—Spring 2013 She currently works as a HR Manager for Vanguard.

SAP Certifications

Our department awarded SAP Certificates to 16 students in the spring 2017 semester.

The University Alliances program in North America offers students at member schools an option for recognition of their “SAP skillset.”

The purpose of the Student Recognition Award is to recognize students at UA member schools that have spent notable time using the SAP product suite within their degree program.

SAP Courses: CISM 3330, 4330, & 4350

The specific criteria:

- Students must complete all SAP-supported coursework with a C or better
- Qualifying courses must contain at least a one third hands-on component using SAP products
- Students must complete a minimum of three different courses containing SAP content
- The qualifying courses must be approved in advance by the University Alliances Program Director

1. Chanzik Brooks
2. Alexander Chappell
3. Ryan Crews
4. Ashley Dargan
5. Danielle Dillinger
6. Ashley Gordon
7. Ryan Governale
8. Hunter Heck
9. Rumel Hendry
10. Jelani Hughes
11. Marquis Leverett
12. Thomas McRae
13. Zashea Nelson
14. Robert Neumann
15. Travis Sharp
16. Thomas White

Jessica McIntee
Summer 2017
Graduation Commencement
Spring 2017

Enterprise and Decision Support Systems

Dr. Pridmore took her Enterprise and Decision Support Systems classes to Greenway on April 18th, 2017 to present their design projects. They did an outstanding job! Two teams designed mobile applications to tie into the Greenway’s PrimeSuite Electronic Health Records system that focused on improving the efficiency of doctor offices. Two teams designed Clinical Decision Support alerts with the intention to improve the quality of care for women’s health and mental health. The fifth team designed a completely new function for PrimeSuite that would allow Doctors to track their professional certifications within the PrimeSuite system. The Greenway judges included a Project Manager, an HR manager, a Meaningful Use expert, and an IT specialist. Only 2 points separated the first and second place teams, and there was even a tie for first place. Seventeen students earned the Greenway Electronic Health Records Certification. We could not be prouder of the students and their accomplishments.

First Place

Team Winners

Team 4
Ashley Dargan
Rumel Hendry
Jelani Hughes
Sheldon Miller

Team 5
Destin Porche
Chris McRae
Alex Chappell
Danielle Dillinger

Second Place

Team Winner

Team 8
Alex Neumann

Student Participants:

Ashley Dargan, Rumel Hendry, Jelani Hughes, Sheldon Miller, Destin Porche, Chris McRae, Alex Chappell, Danielle Dillinger, Alex Neumann, Ryan Governale, Ashley Gordon, Terry Chimaobi, Ryan Crews, Donte Boose, Kevin Fields, Marquis Leverett, and Jonathan Singleton
Michael Wilson
BBA—Management, Minor—German, HR Certificate
Graduated—Spring 2014

Currently, Michael is working as an Account Executive with Soliant Health. Their corporate office is based out of Tucker, GA and the organization is the nation’s leader in recruiting for healthcare and school positions. They employ school psychologists, special education teachers, physical therapists, and may other disciplines.

Mr. Wilson’s primary function at Soliant is recruiting and marketing. He said, "I am extremely happy with how the Richards College of Business prepared me for working in this capacity. From the business core classes up through the senior level classes, the knowledge I gained at UWG has proven itself to be an asset to me so far in my career. Classes that are most relevant to my work environment are Business Communications (ABED), Business Info. Technologies (CISM), Marketing (MKTG), and all of my Human Resource classes (MGNT)."

Michael said that he hoped that after he had established a firm foundation at Soliant, the he would be able to continue his education at UWG and obtain a master’s degree and his second bachelor’s.

R17—Human Resource & OM Certificates

HR Certificate
Currently, 109 students have completed the HR Certificate program and we have 57 active applicants. Two (2) certificates were awarded this Summer 2017 (listed below)

1. Claire C. Tracey
2. Alyssa Sibilia

OM Certificate
This certificate program was approved summer 2014 and we currently have 32 active participants. One (1) certificate was awarded this summer 2017.

1. Christy Nguyen

Please remember to mention both certificate programs to your classes and refer them to Liz for more info and how the required courses will fit in their schedule.
Kara Ennis
IT Graduate Assistant—R17

My name is Kara Ennis. This is my first semester as a graduate student here at UWG. I recently graduated in Spring 17 from UWG with a B. B.A in Management as well with a HR certificate. Becoming the GA in Management is like coming home. I was the SA in Management for 2 years until I got my current position with Fastenal. I am also a mom of three beautiful children who keep me busy, but I would not have any other way. Between my jobs and being a mom I do not have a lot of free time, but if I do I enjoy spending time with friends, playing softball, and traveling.

Danielle Dillinger
IT Graduate Assistant—F17

My name is Danielle Dillinger, and I am currently pursuing my Masters in Business Intelligence and Cyber Security. Recently, I graduated from UWG with my B.B.A. in Management Information Systems. As I continue with my education, I seek to pursue a career that will allow me to positively impact data integrity.

In my free time, I enjoy outdoor adventures, tinkering with my gaming PC, and playing with my playful puppy. I am fortunate to live close to my family, who resides in Newnan.

Thank you for giving me this wonderful opportunity, and I look forward to what this next year has in store for me.