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Message from the President

Georgia Southern University

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Dear Colleagues,

We are eight weeks into the semester, spring is in the air, and we are one week from spring break for our students.

March also signals time for Spring sports – baseball, softball, tennis, golf, and track and field. This week is particularly exciting as we host UGA this Wednesday night at home at J.I. Clements Stadium and next week as we host the Schenkel Invitational. Please continue to support our student-athletes by attending our softball games, tennis matches, and track and field competitions.

In addition, I encourage you to attend our many incredible Gretsches School of Music concerts and productions on both the Statesboro and Armstrong campuses. Please mark your calendar for March 22, at 7:30 p.m., at the Armstrong Campus' Fine and Performing Arts Auditorium, when our Gretsches Artist Concert Series features renowned guitarist, songwriter, and winner of Australia's Got Talent, Joe Robinson.

I want to give a big congratulations to our incoming students transition experience program entitled, Eagle Experience, and to the Period Equity Movement multi-campus initiative. The National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA) Excellence Awards has awarded the Gold Award to both collaborative projects. All Gold Award Winners were then reviewed a second time to select the grand winners, and the Period Equity Movement was also selected as the Silver Grand Award Winner. Big kudos to many on campus for these recognitions.

Today is Crossover Day at the Georgia General Assembly, where a bill must be passed out of one chamber and "cross-over" to the other chamber before the end of the day to remain in consideration for action during the 2023 Legislative Session. Our government affairs team continues to work hard at the Capitol to monitor and engage on legislation that impacts Georgia Southern and the University System. The fiscal year 2023 amended budget should be finalized soon, and the House of Representatives will begin considering budget priorities for the fiscal year 2024 budget.

Over the last few weeks, I met with the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and House and Senate leaders to provide them with updates on the great things happening at Georgia Southern. Earlier this month, our Student Government Association leaders had the opportunity to spend a day at the Capitol to learn about the legislative process and to meet with legislators who represent districts all across the state. I am also very proud of our students who were selected to present their research during the annual "Poster Day at the Capitol." Congratulations to Valesia Davis, Joshua Bunting, Jonah Henry, Victor Buitimea, Madison Procyk, and Caroline Ray.

Last week, on March 1, you should have all received the link inviting you to complete the Employee Engagement Survey. Remember, the purpose of the survey is to gain input from all employees about their work environment, what is working well and where there may be opportunities for improvement. The survey will remain open until close of business on March 15. Your participation is critical in helping us create and improve our work environment. We will be rolling out the institutional results on Monday, April 3, via Zoom. Please watch for additional information on the time and link to the rollout.

March will go quickly...as busy as we all are, make sure and enjoy time with friends, colleagues, and family. Even better, do it at a Georgia Southern event! Thank you for all you do to support our students!

Sincerely,

Kyle

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