



A newsletter for the alumni of the College of Coastal Georgia, Coastal Georgia Community College, Brunswick College, and Brunswick Junior College.

From the Desk of President Johnston



Hello Mariner Alumni,

I hope this message finds you well and in good health. This year has certainly thrown us all some unprecedented challenges. I'm happy to report that the Mariner community has been stalwart in the face of every challenge and we continue to advance our efforts toward student success.

In the face of the coronavirus, we made some adjustments to the spring and summer semesters to protect the health of the Mariner community and ensure that students continue to progress towards their academic goals. On March 30, we transitioned to online instruction to complete the Spring 2020 semester and continued online for the summer session. We are happy to say that we are preparing for face-to-face instruction in the fall with a modified calendar. Classes will start on August 17 and will continue face-to-face until just before the Thanksgiving holiday. The final week of classes and final exams will be delivered online. We have been working together in anticipation of students' return with health and safety as our priorities. We look forward to having our campus come alive once again with the presence and energy of students.

Like many of you, I have kept close watch on the media coverage of the events that have taken place around our country in response to the mistreatment of members of the Black community. The College opposes racism and discrimination of any kind, and believes that racism and its impact on people of color have no place in our community. I have established a Commission on Diversity and Inclusion that will advise me on issues regarding the creation of policies, practices, and outreach strategies that promote a more diverse and inclusive campus community. Director of Diversity Initiatives Quinton Staples is leading the Commission that includes representatives from the staff, faculty, and the student body. We also held virtual listening sessions where our campus community shared perspectives, experiences, and recommendations related to the current climate of diversity issues and race relations. I'm looking forward to working with the Commission and for these important discussions to continue.

We are continuing to ensure that the College is a place where all members of our community are valued, cared for, and are provided the opportunity to succeed. This is why it is so important for us to stay connected and hear from our alumni. Your advice, life experiences, career paths, and interests can contribute to a culture of unity and make our Mariner family even stronger. Although, many things have started to look different in our day-to-day interactions, what doesn't have to change is our commitment to the College and our connections to each other. Please reach out to us with any thoughts or suggestions you may have. We want to hear from you and make the relationship with our treasured alumni ever more meaningful.

Stay safe and healthy everyone! Go Mariners!



Michelle R. Johnston, Ph.D.
President, College of Coastal Georgia

Alumni Spotlight: Chelsea Boatright '15 Prepared for the Future



Not too long ago Chelsea Boatright (formerly Chelsea Copeland) could be seen on the softball field, playing center field for the Mariners. It was during her time as a student-athlete that Boatright took advantage of the opportunity to meet amazing people on campus and build lifelong relationships. Boatright graduated from the College of Coastal Georgia in May 2015 with a Bachelor of Science in Public Affairs with a concentration in Criminal Justice and a Minor in Economics. After working for a few years, she went on to Florida Coastal School of Law. She is now preparing to take the Georgia bar exam in September and will practice real estate law and elder law.

After graduating from the College, Boatright worked for the Glynn County District Attorney's office and the Wayne County Probate court before going to law school in 2018. Boatright graduated with her Juris Doctorate in two and a half years and is currently enrolled in a preparation

course for the bar exam. She is looking forward to passing the bar and beginning her career.

Boatright's experience at the College taught her to be disciplined, work hard, and believe that the sky is the limit.

To learn more about Chelsea Boatright and read a longer version of this alumni spotlight, check out the story [here](#).

If you would like to nominate a graduate of the College of Coastal Georgia to be featured in the Alumni Spotlight, please email the Alumni Association at alumni@ccga.edu or Casey Hanak, assistant director of Development and Alumni Engagement, at chanak@ccga.edu.

Athletics Update



Basketball Legend Passes Away: Men's Basketball Head Coach Emeritus Gerald Cox passed away peacefully on July 12. He will be remembered as a legendary coach, a mentor, a friend, a teacher, and a man who gave everything he could to Mariner Athletics. Coach Cox began working at the College in 1982 and dedicated an incredible 32 years at the College with impressive accomplishments. In January, Coach Cox was honored with a special dedication ceremony to name the basketball court in the Howard Coffin Gymnasium in his honor.

To learn more about Coach Cox's impact at the College, read [Coastal Georgia Mourns the Passing of Legendary Coach Cox](#).

Coach Cox's obituary can be viewed online [here](#).

In lieu of flowers, the family has asked that memorial gifts be made to College of Coastal Georgia Foundation or given online at www.ccgafoundation.org/donate and select Athletics - General Fund from the drop-down list.

Return to Fall Sports: The National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) intends to host all fall national championship events as currently scheduled. The health and safety of student-athletes is central to hosting fall sports and the NAIA is continuing to examine various options for health and safety protocols, including testing and screening. The College's fall sports season will open with the women's volleyball team facing St. Thomas University on the road on Saturday, Sept. 5. In addition to volleyball in the fall, the men's and women's golf teams will host home invitationals in September.



For more stories and the season schedule visit coastalgeorgiasports.com.

Around Campus



Spring 2020 Virtual Commencement: Graduation has always been a special time for the College of Coastal Georgia and this year was no exception. The College hosted its first virtual commencement ceremony celebrating the hard work and perseverance of the graduating members of the Class of 2020. The ceremony was streamed on the College's Facebook and YouTube pages on Saturday, May 23, where students watched with the family, friends, and loved ones, as their names were called and photos shown on the screen. Spring commencement included addresses from President Michelle Johnston, Gov. Brian Kemp, college administrators, and the selected Outstanding Student for the Class of 2020 Myles Sandolph.

Commencement packages were sent to each graduate and included a cap and tassel that allowed graduates to still participate in the time-honored tradition of moving the tassel from right to left as the degrees were conferred. After commencement, College staff sent graduates their diplomas along with special gifts from the Alumni Association.

The Spring 2020 Commencement is still available to view on our [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#) channels.

Mariner Student Relief Fund: We know everyone has been facing some trying times these last few months, and one group that has been greatly impacted is our students. The College has created the Mariner Student Relief Fund to provide short-term financial support to students who experience a personal crisis or hardship. As students return to campus this fall, we know that some may be facing a shortfall in paying their tuition or buying books and supplies to ensure a successful semester, while others may be finding it hard to meet even basic needs like housing or adequate food supplies. The Mariner Student Relief Fund will help meet the immediate needs of students experiencing such situations. Mini-grants will be provided in the form of one-time awards and every request will be reviewed on its individual merits. The value of the awards will range in response to the specific needs of the student, but typically will not exceed \$500. Students from both the Brunswick campus and Camden Center are eligible to request funds.

To donate towards the Mariner Student Relief Fund, click [here](#). For questions, email coastalgeorgiagiving@ccga.edu.

Here For You. Hear From You.

We understand that life doesn't always go as planned and that career paths can suddenly change. If you need help freshening up your resume, want to practice with a mock interview, need advice about graduate school, are thinking about taking more classes, or need further career counseling, contact the Alumni Association to get you started. We can get you connected with services at the College, such as the Career Center, Admissions Department, and other campus resources. We are still invested in your future and want to assist you in achieving your goals.

The Mariner's Log newsletter is dedicated to you—our alumni. We want to hear from you and tailor this newsletter to your interests. What do you want to see in the newsletter? How can we improve it? Is there an aspect about the College we should include? What are your ideas and suggestions? We want this newsletter to not only connect you to the College but also reflect the wonderful graduates who have attended here. Share with us news of your job promotions, births, marriages, awards, accomplishments, etc. By working together we can keep the Mariner family going strong well into the future.

Please contact Assistant Director of Development and Alumni Engagement Casey Hanak at chanak@ccga.edu or email the Alumni Association at alumni@ccga.edu with your ideas, news, updates, and questions about campus services.

Mark Your Calendar!

There is always something going on at the College of Coastal Georgia. Here are some upcoming events:

*Fall Move-In: August 8 to August 11, students and their families can participate in the Stop, Drop, and Roll move-in option. Students will be able to move their belongings into the dorm, set things up, tour the residence hall, and then return during general move-in. General move-in is August 15 to August 17 when students will be allowed to move in, stay, and reside in the residence halls.

*First Day of Classes: August 17

Be sure to check out the College's online calendar regularly for more information on events you can attend.

Stay in Touch

We would love to stay in touch with you. Please tell us about yourself and what you've been up to after college. Update your contact information [here](#).

Questions? Contact alumni@ccga.edu.



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