



The Mariners' Log

Charting the Course Since 1961

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



Welcome to our new alumni newsletter Mariners' Log—the first of many to come. Our alumni are so important to us and we want this newsletter to inform you about

what's happening at the College of Coastal Georgia, connect you to the campus, and strengthen bonds formed during your time here. Whether you are an alumnus of Brunswick Junior College, Coastal Georgia Community College, or the College of Coastal Georgia, you are a part of the of the Mariner family.

We are here to support you, encourage you, and help you to stay connected to your alma mater. You can also make a difference at the College as a mentor, volunteer, donor, and example of a successful graduate.

Here at the College, we are committed to student success. As with the faculty who educate our students and staff who work tirelessly to support and care for students, our alumni are essential to helping our students to achieve success. You can help make a difference on campus. As an alum, you can share wisdom about navigating college life, insight about pursuing a chosen career path, and encouragement for students to chart their own course for a bright future. You can help to open doors to volunteer possibilities, internship opportunities, and job prospects. We look forward to helping you get connected.

We have so many exciting things happening on campus and we hope you will take part and form some new memories at the College. Next week, I will officially be installed as the sixth president of the College. Leading up to the inauguration, we will be holding a number of events. I'd like to invite you to attend the Alumni Gathering, the evening of Friday, October 11. The Alumni Gathering is a great opportunity to reconnect with other alumni and a chance for me to meet you. You can find out about the alumni gathering and all of the inauguration week events by visiting inauguration.ccgga.edu.

As you read through the stories below, I hope you will share your feedback and suggestions for future issues of the Mariners' Log. Thank you for being part of the Mariner family. You are our mark on the world!

Go Mariners!

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

Meet SGA President Kelsey Rios



Hello alumni,

My name is Kelsey Rios and I am the president of the Student Government Association at the College. I am a junior majoring in business with a concentration in leadership. I have been blessed to serve a second term this year as SGA president. I love the team I work with, they've helped me be our student body's advocate.

I am from Johns Creek, Georgia, which is just 35 minutes north of downtown Atlanta. I originally chose Coastal Georgia because of how much it felt like home. Moving into my senior year of high school, I tasked myself with finding a college that was small enough for me to get a personalized education, but large enough where I could make a difference. It has been such an incredible experience for me here at Coastal Georgia. I have been able to experience how our institution goes above and beyond for each student to be successful—not just academically, but holistically.

Serving in various roles in SGA through my time here, I have been able to see how our college family works to find student-centered challenges. It has been eye opening to see that not only is our Office of Student Life able to deal with circumstances head on, but the same goes with our professors and all the way through to President Michelle Johnston. Each student is cared for at our college. I am not just a number and that makes my experience so much more meaningful.

I recently had the great opportunity to be able to listen to one of our alumni, Ms. Abra Lattany-Reed, speak to my Business Communication and Professional Development class. Having a graduate who is involved in our campus culture as a College of Coastal Georgia Foundation Trustee, and is professionally immersed in our greater community through her work at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, as manager and program analyst for the U.S. Marshal Service, was of such value to me as a student. I was able to learn so much from her life experience of

being a woman in the workplace. Whether alumni or current students at the College, we are all Mariners. Being able to give back to current students by having present alumni who are in various stages in their professional lives, provides our students with people who understand the college experience and can help answer the hard questions in life.

Having alumni invested in the College produces incredible relationships that can last a lifetime. For me, I have always loved being able to hear other people's ideas and innovations to help grow mine. I invite you to share your experience and wisdom by being an active alum.

We are looking forward to getting to know our alumni better and we hope to see you all on campus in the near future.

Kelsey Rios

President, Student Government Association

Did You Know?

It may have been a while since you attended your alma mater. To get you up to speed, here are some facts about today's College of Coastal Georgia.

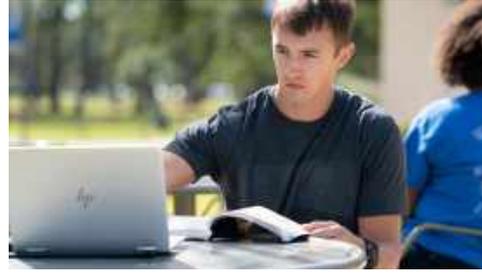




- Founded in 1961, the College is celebrating 10 years as a four-year institution.
- According to data collected by Division of Student Affairs & Enrollment Management, the typical Coastal Georgia student is a female most likely named Ashley Williams, age 19. This student is a freshman from Glynn County, is enrolled in classes full-time, is the first in her family to attend college, and is earning a degree in general business.
- Sixty-eight percent of the student population is female and males are 32 percent.
- Nine College of Coastal Georgia graduates were named “Teacher of the Year” for 2018 in their respective Glynn County and Camden County schools. 100 percent of education and teacher preparation graduates were employed within a few months of graduation.
- The Mariner Men’s Golf team has won two national championships in the past five years.
- Earlier, this year, Mariner Mark David Johnson won the NAIA National Championship and was named the Jack Nicklaus National Player of the Year.
- More than 3,500 students are enrolled at the College.
- The College has repeatedly been named a Veteran Friendly Campus as named by Military Times Magazine.
- According to a 2017 research report from the University of Georgia’s Terry College of Business, the College of Coastal Georgia had a local economic impact of \$60.6 million in 2016.
- In the 2018-2019 academic year, students contributed more than 10,000 hours of service to the community through student participation in service-learning classes.
- The top five baccalaureate majors are: general business, health sciences, biological sciences, psychology, and criminal justice.

Provost Johnny Evans Talks

Academics at the College



The College of Coastal Georgia is focused on student success—first and foremost—with a clear vision of preparing graduates for careers and/or graduate school. Degrees in nursing, hospitality and tourism management, criminal justice, biology, and American studies prepare graduates to be critical thinkers and experts in their field as they enter the workforce.

Coastal Georgia has an outstanding team of faculty and staff focused on preparing graduates for life and a career. School of Business students complete internships as a requirement of their degree, gaining work experience long before graduation. Students also have the benefit of working closely with faculty, doing research and completing service-learning projects that impact our local community. For example, the psychology faculty engage their students in using classroom knowledge to do research, giving students first-hand experiences in applying their content knowledge in real-life situations. As a result, psychology graduates enter the workforce or graduate school better prepared to impact their world.

The College's impact on the world is magnified by the growth in the number of academic programs offered. Since 2009, we have added 20 new baccalaureate degrees with multiple concentrations in each degree. Most recently, we established the Bachelor's of Science in Data Science degree. This is an exciting new degree that will prepare students to enter the workforce as data scientists in the fields of finance, business, criminal justice, insurance, mathematics, computer science, and healthcare. This is just one example of many of the growth and impact of your College in recent years.

Johnny Evans Jr., Ph.D.

Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

2019 Athletics Update



After an incredibly successful 2018-2019 season, Mariner Athletics teams are geared up for a top-notch 2019-2020 season.

The Mariners Volleyball team was selected as the favorite in The Sun Conference play in the 2019 preseason poll. The team is now 7-5 on the season and 1-1 in conference. Yorelis Rios Gonzalez was selected as the TSC Defender of the Week during the second week of the season. Freshman Lillian Carlson was also honored when she was named to the Early Bird Invitational All-Tournament Team.

The Men's Golf team landed atop two polls in preseason. The Golf Coaches Association of America named Coastal Georgia first in the nation in their Bushnell Golf Poll. In the NAIA preseason poll, the Mariners Men landed at No. 2 behind Texas Wesleyan, the defending national champions. In their first three outings of the season, the Mariners topped the leaderboard. In their most recent tournament, the Invite at Innisbrook, the Mariners captured victory by defeating the defending national champions, as well as 10 other nationally-ranked teams.

The Women's Golf team also landed on the NAIA preseason poll. The team landed at No. 23 after their successful run to the NAIA National Tournament last season. In their fall season opener, the USCB Sandshark Invitational, the Mariners finished eighth overall.

The Men's and Women's tennis teams are gearing up for their first tournament of the fall season, the Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA) Tournament. The organization's Next College Student Athlete named Men's Tennis No. 27 and

Women's Tennis No. 50 in their 2019 NCSA Power Rankings. These rankings are based on criteria that student-athletes find most important when considering future schools including athletics, academics, and affordability.

Both the Men's and Women's basketball teams are preparing for their 2019-2020 seasons. Last season, both teams advanced to The Sun Conference Tournament Finals. Both teams have brought in talented recruits and have experienced returners who are looking to drive even more success this season. The Women's team will open their season at home against West Virginia Institute of Technology on October 25 and The Men's squad starts their season at home against Xavier (La.) the next day.

The Softball team has begun their fall workouts and practices to prepare for their 2020 season. The Softball All-Star Paige Alt returns this year. She was named the 2019 TSC Player of the Year, first team All-Conference selection, TSC All-Academic team, NAIA-Daktronics Scholar Athlete, and NAIA Region 1 First Team (National Fast Pitch Coaches Association).



Around Campus





Clara Wood Gould Library Expansion: The College of Coastal Georgia cut the ribbon on the expansion of the Clara Wood Gould Memorial Library on August 20. Construction on the expansion and renovation of the campus library began in September 2018. The library was originally constructed in 1973. The renovation project added a 3,025 square-foot extension on the side of the library facing the Southeast Georgia Conference Center. The campus community now has access to an active learning space, which faculty and students can utilize for projects and study groups; a learning commons; study rooms; and a large conference room. Major changes were also made within the existing library. There are now more study rooms, student carrels, quiet spaces, a centralized circulation desk, and other updates. The library also features a green screen wall for film productions as well as a 3D printer.

Dual Enrollment: The Dual Enrollment Program (formerly Move on When Ready) at the College of Coastal Georgia provides high school students the opportunity to earn college credits while completing high school or a home study program. Students in the program enroll in courses at the College and earn credit toward high school graduation or home study completion, while also earning college credits. Currently, there are 455 Dual Enrollment students on campus this fall—the largest number to date. The majority of high school students are from Glynn County, however, the College also hosts students from Camden, Wayne, and McIntosh counties. Several students are homeschooled and attend private schools in the area. The most popular classes for Dual Enrollment students are English Composition I and II; College Algebra; Spanish 1, Human Communications, Psychology, Sociology, and American Government. Based on historical data, we estimate that 22 percent of Dual Enrollment students will choose to stay at Coastal Georgia to pursue a degree following their graduation from high school.

Presidential Inauguration Week: We are thrilled to announce the forthcoming Inauguration of Dr. Michelle R. Johnston as the sixth President of the College of Coastal Georgia. We hope you will share our excitement by joining us at one or all of the following events during the week of October 7.

Our celebrations kick-off on Wednesday, October 9 with a **reception at our Camden Center**. This event will bring together members of the community, students, faculty, and staff. Our own culinary program chefs will be catering the

event.

A Scholarship Gala will be held on Thursday, October 10 on our Brunswick campus. The event will take place literally under the stars on our rooftop terrace with all proceeds from ticket sales and a silent auction benefiting students at the College. The following morning, Friday, October 11 will be the Investiture Ceremony, where the president will be officially installed as the sixth president of the College.

A special website contains all of the information you need—the schedule of events, ticket purchasing instructions, auction information, RSVP instructions (for the Gala, Camden reception, and Investiture ceremony and reception), directions, and much more. Click here to go directly to the page - [Inauguration Information Link](#).

Friday evening, the College will host an Alumni Gathering on the rooftop terrace, bringing together alumni from every generation—Brunswick Junior College, Coastal Georgia Community College, and the College of Coastal Georgia. Guests will enjoy music, food, and the opportunity to reconnect with friends while making some new ones. This event is **free** and attendees are welcome to bring a guest.

Foundation Scholarships: Student success remains the focus of both the College and the College of Coastal Georgia Foundation. Through the efforts of the Foundation, students were awarded scholarships for a combined total of \$988,091 in 2018. The generosity of our donors continues to help the College recruit and retain some of institution's best and brightest students and transform lives.

Mark Your Calendar!

There is always something going on at the College of Coastal Georgia. Here are some upcoming events that you are welcome to attend.

- Camden Center Inauguration Reception: October 9 at the Camden Center Rotunda, starting at 5 p.m.
- Reaching for the Stars – Silent Auction and Scholarship Gala: October 10, hosted on the rooftop terrace at the Campus Center, starting at 6 p.m. Tickets are required. Purchase tickets at inauguration.ccg.edu.
- Investiture Ceremony: October 11, at the Southeast Georgia Conference Center, starting at 10:30 a.m.
- Alumni Gathering: October 11, hosted on the rooftop terrace at the Campus Center, starting at 6 p.m.
- Mariner Fest: October 16 at the Camden Center and October 19 at the Brunswick campus. Times to be announced.

- Check out the 2019-2020 Coastal Georgia Athletics Master Schedule to view upcoming sporting events. Click [here](#).
- Fall Commencement: Sunday, December 15 at the Jekyll Island Convention Center
- Homecoming: Week of February 22

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

Look for our next newsletter and alumni event in the spring.

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](#).

We Want to Hear from You

The Mariners' Log is here to serve our alumni and connect with the College. Tell us what you want to see in the newsletter and share your suggestions on how we can make it better. For questions or comments, email us at alumni@ccga.edu.



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Our mailing address is:

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Questions? Contact alumni@ccga.edu.

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