



COLLEGE of COASTAL GEORGIA

# *2024 Spring Commencement*

*Saturday, the Fourth of May, Two Thousand Twenty-Four  
Jekyll Island Convention Center*

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## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

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Graduation day is one of the very best days at the College of Coastal Georgia. It is the culmination of a great deal of hard work and dedication, and it is my honor to congratulate you on the stage today!

You have brought your own unique experiences, diverse backgrounds, cultures, talents, and interests to the College. Our graduates today represent 17 states, 48 Georgia counties, and 12 countries, bringing wide-reaching and global perspectives to our coastal community. International students like Santiago Speranza from Argentina, who is earning his bachelor's degree in business, is a scholar-athlete as a member of our men's tennis team, as well as a successful, published author. Like Santiago,



you have taken opportunities to thrive, flourish, and grow, and we believe your College of Coastal Georgia education will serve you well no matter where you go next.

Along with internships, research projects, and clinical rotations, the Class of 2024 has contributed over 6,500 hours to service-learning projects that have impacted organizations, communities, and individuals in our region. Today, the age difference between our most senior graduate and our youngest is 41 years, proving that it is never too late or too early to pursue your dreams. Many of you are the first in your family to attend college, creating a legacy of success for future generations.

No matter where you go, you will always be a Mariner. As you move forward, please keep us updated on your progress, let us know if we can help you in any way, and consider becoming a mentor for students who are following in your footsteps.

From all of us at the College, congratulations! Go Mariners!

*Dr. Michelle R. Johnston, President*

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**Sixty-Fourth Commencement of the College of Coastal Georgia  
Order of Ceremony**

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**Processional**

Dr. Don H. Mathews, Grand Marshal  
Professor of Economics

**National Anthem**

*(Please Stand)*

**Invocation**

D. Chloe Johnson, Class of 2024

**Welcome**

Dr. Michelle R. Johnston  
President

**Greetings from SGA President**

Kayla Markey

**Charge to the Class**

Karla Hernandez Delgado Oddie, Class of 2024

**Presentation of Candidates**

**School of Nursing & Health Sciences**

**School of Arts & Sciences**

**School of Business & Public Management**

Dr. Johnny L. Evans, Jr.

Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

**Conferring of Degrees**

President Johnston

**Announcement of Graduates**

Dr. Michael Butcher

Assistant Vice President of Student Affairs and Dean of Students

**Recognition of Alumni Status**

Hillary S. Stringfellow

Chair, College of Coastal Georgia Foundation

**Closing Remarks and Recessional**



## THE HISTORY OF ACADEMIC REGALIA & THE CEREMONIAL MACE

The gown, the cap, and the hood, representing the major components of the academic dress, are a ceremonial inheritance from the medieval universities of the eleventh and twelfth centuries where dress was the outward sign of privilege and responsibility. The academic dress worn by those participating in today's academic procession symbolizes the level of their academic attainment and the institution they attended.

The gown is usually black, however some universities have authorized colored gowns. The gown for an undergraduate degree has pointed sleeves and is worn closed in front. The gown for the master's degree is typically black and has longer oblong sleeves, with a large section that hangs below the wrist. The gown for the doctoral degree is distinguished by the loose sleeves with bell-shaped cuffs, three bars of velvet on each sleeve and velvet facing running down the front of the gown.

The most symbolic feature of the academic dress is the hood. The velvet edge of the hood represents the specific degree or discipline with dark blue for Doctorate of Philosophy, light blue for Education, apricot for Nursing, brown for Fine Arts, canary for Library Science, crimson for Communications, drab for Accounting or Business Administration, gold for Science, sage for Health and white for Arts. The satin field and chevrons of the hood represent the colors of the university that granted the degree. Master's and doctor's degree holders wear the hood draped over the shoulders and back.

The standard cap, known as the mortarboard, is flat and square with a tassel fastened to the center of the stiff top. Bachelor's and master's tassels are black or the color of the gown. Doctor's tassels are shorter and gold. Once the degree is conferred, the tassel is worn on the left. In recent years, some American universities have adopted soft velvet caps for holders of their doctor's degrees.

The ceremonial mace, a symbol of presidential authority, is carried at the head of the academic procession by the Grand Marshal, Dr. Don H. Mathews. The College of Coastal Georgia mace is a gift from the Golden Isles community and Dr. Carl Dohn. Dr. Dohn handcrafted the mace out of reclaimed heart pine cut from huge beams collected and donated by the former Sea Island Company Chairman & CEO Bill Jones, III. This same heart pine was used by Dr. Dohn to craft the table used by the ten delegates of the G-8 Summit, held on Sea Island, Georgia in June of 2004. The mace was first used at the inauguration of the former College of Coastal Georgia President, Dr. Valerie A. Hepburn, in 2009.

### LEGEND

Summa Cum Laude - 3.9 - 4.0 Grade Point Average  
Magna Cum Laude - 3.70 - 3.89 Grade Point Average  
Cum Laude - 3.50 to 3.69 Grade Point Average  
Honors - Associate Degree - 3.75 to 4.0 Grade Point Average  
\*Student Hall of Fame

### REGALIA LEGEND

Academic Honors - Gold Cord  
Athletics - Blue & Silver Cord  
Residents Assistant - White Stole  
Veterans - Navy Stole

# MORNING CEREMONY GRADUATES

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## School of Nursing & Health Sciences

*Dr. Lydia A. Watkins,*

*Southeast Georgia Health System Distinguished Chair and Dean*

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### Bachelor of Science - Nursing

Brendan Robert Bertram	Kaisha Fontaye Porter
Rebecca Jo Brown	Aliethia Grace Pritchard, <i>Cum Laude</i>
Ebonie Collins	Fahima Rastagar, <i>Cum Laude</i>
Logan Madisyn Easlic	Jordan Elizabeth Robbins
Julia Marie Floyd	Kami Lynn Saylor, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>
Kaitlyn Nicole Hartmann	Chaney Ruth Segler, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>
Abbie Hayes	Lani Faith Stradtman
Douglas Drake Hickox	Valeri Natali Takacs Gamboa
Olivia Hursey	Valarie Franchantz Walker
Laura Elizabeth Jones	Albert Frederick Weis
Kerdisha Verdia Lubin	Delaney Reagan Wells
Mikaela McAlpine	Madison Emily Wheeler
Cali Elizabeth Minchin	Jackson Bryce Whitaker
Sarah Grace Monroe	Ariana Williams
Hannah Jade Moseley	Donna Sue Williams
Alberta Atuobuah Owusu	Abby Weslyn Willis

### Bachelor of Science - Health Sciences

Mavis Armstrong	Rori Daelyn Rhodes, <i>Cum Laude</i>
Ty’Tiana L. Atkinson	Samantha Short, <i>Cum Laude</i>
Briana N. Gadson, <i>Cum Laude</i>	Maddee Louise Strong Hernandez
Skylar Gribben	Layton Veon
Hunter Walton Hansen	Jonathan Adam Waters, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>
Greyson Alexander May, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	

### Associate of Science - Nursing

Kehinde Adeniyi	Ke’Ana Yokka Dixon
Daijha D’Evelyn Ali-Neely	Felisha Famble
Laura Chepchumba Amdany	Jaime Frank
Tina Elizabeth Bent	Carla Elizabeth Futch
Sarah Emily Blackston	Britney Lee Geiger
LaTonya Brookings	Kailey Christine Gibson
Sarah Marie Brooks	Gabriell Kylee Goodman
Meghan Reneah Brown	Porcia Lynelle Hall
Jessica H. Calcut	Katherine Henderson
Lauren Elise Caldwell	Karla Leticia Hernandez Delgado Oddie
Mackenzie Campbell	Shakema Hill
Chelsea Lenae Chapman	Chelsea Holcomb
Sareka Marie Davis	Courtney Hope
Melessa Alexandria Davison	Bryan Kevin Howard

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**School of Nursing & Health Sciences**  
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**Associate of Science - Nursing - continued**

Grant Kauffman	Robert H. Rubow
Savanna Marie Keithley	Heather Nicole Savage
Joshua Adam Kirkpatrick	Chloe Sherman, <i>Honors</i>
Aylin Lopez	Khyle A. Shervington
Laura Marchello	Baelee Bell Teague
Ta'Shera A. Marion	Breana Ashlee Thomas
Alexia Lauren McGee	Allison Rebekah Thompson
Jentrie Janelle Moore	Dana Trinh
Mollie Elizabeth O'Steen	Jackie Velazquez
Syndal Juliette Ponce	Nautica Watson
Bridget Leann Propst	Amanda Wiggins
Morgan Shae Prosser	Shameeka Williams-Williams
Satin Ross	Brenda Wilson

**Associate of Science - Radiologic Science**

Jasmine Hoxit	Madison Leeann Rozier
Amanda Elaine Luffman	Rebecca Shally



# AFTERNOON CEREMONY GRADUATES

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## School of Arts & Sciences Dr. Syvillia Averett, Interim Dean

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### Bachelor of Arts - American Studies

Phoebe Brooke Barrett, *Summa Cum Laude* Truman Roberts, *Cum Laude*

### Bachelor of Science - Biological Sciences

Thaila E. Boast	Naomi Rose Mojica, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>
Julia Anne Couey, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	Kirsten Alexis Pope
Abbey Christina Crossman	Delana Leighann Tablada, <i>Cum Laude</i>
Emily Anne Davis, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Alexandria Gabrielle Thomas
John David Griffin	Chloe Elizabeth Thomas
Lowry Jack Hicks*, <i>Cum Laude</i> ,	Ashley Valdivia
Kendall Faith Kurian	Deborah Malaika Widmer,
Kelsey Leedle	<i>Magna Cum Laude</i>
Richard Clyde Livermore	Shelby Graycen Yarbrough*
Megan A. Mathis	Jacob M. Youmans, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>
Elizabeth Megan McGovern	

### Bachelor of Science - Data Science

Christopher M. Baer, *Magna Cum Laude*

### Bachelor of Science in Education - Early Childhood/Special Education

Emma C. Arbo, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Summer Madison May, <i>Cum Laude</i>
Myra Alysandra Burrows	Jessica Raybon
Shelby Madison Davis	Daisy Madison Reddish
Chloe B. Denney	Molly Hope Rowell, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>
Alexis Christine Duncan	Rachel Lynn Shaw
Braylee Joy Flowers, <i>Cum Laude</i>	Jacqueline D. Stone
Hannah Brooke Foldy	Kaitlyn Jenna Stone
Anna Renne Harris	Marilyn Kaye Stone
Anasia Janay Diane Holland	Olivia Rae Terry, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>
Maria Therese Kollinger, <i>Cum Laude</i>	
Abigail Reid Martin, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	

### Bachelor of Science - Environmental Sciences

Lauren Elyse Cooper*, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Victoria Savino, <i>Cum Laude</i>
Harrison Jacob Faulk, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	Thomas James Sparks
Amy Marie Hearne	Sarah Katherine Tarajos, <i>Cum Laude</i>
Lindsey Gale Lawing, <i>Cum Laude</i>	Felicity Wasylik
Christine Elise Lubin	
Christian Carlton Pscholka	

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**School of Arts & Sciences**  
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**Bachelor of Science - Interdisciplinary Studies**

James Wesley Baird	Exavier Teric Jackson
Jessica Ann Collins	Lauren M. King, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>
Aaron Matthew Daniels	Ansley Elizabeth Lawton
Martin Davis	Mackenzie Elizabeth Melton
Kathryn Eloise Everett, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	Michelle Morgan
Rachael Renee Gilardi	Suzy Morgan
Amanda Lynn Gill	Yamil Omar Ortega
Allison Goletski	Alie Elizabeth Payne
Kaytelin Goodbread	James Travis Price
Kristie Elizabeth Haas	Madison Reyes Mabler V. Reika
Tiffany Hastert	Nova MorningStar Smith
Noah L. Haven	Isis Ayanna Sullivan*
Logan Whitley Hildreth, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Jada Lashawn Wilkins
	Alexander Carl Willis

**Bachelor of Science - Mathematics**

Félix Arroyo Viglino, *Cum Laude*

**Bachelor of Science - Middle Grades Education**

Jerrica W. Barbre	Feona K. Hunnicutt
Jordan Taylor Calhoun	Blayne Andrew Johnson
Julia Carolina Cockfield, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	Danika Chloe Johnson
Jonathon Aaron Conner, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Misty Dawn Ownbey
Annalisa Marie Defore	Layne Taylor Piestrak
Emily Elisabeth Gill, <i>Cum Laude</i>	Callie Anna Smith, <i>Cum Laude</i>
Ryan Cody Graham	Margaret Paige Starling, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>
Samantha Leigh Hughes	Carly Rose Vanderbunt

**Bachelor of Science - Psychology**

Krysten M. Hicks	Tawanna Loreen Ketchup
Sierra Machelle Hines	Josie Brianna Lemons
Taylor Faith Hunter, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	Gabrielle Teresa Mazzuca
Charity Laisha Johnson	Aimee Michelle Yeomans





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## School of Business & Public Management

*Dr. William S. Mounts, Jr., Dean*

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### **Bachelor of Business Administration - General Business**

Alivia Marie Asip, <i>Cum Laude</i>	Emily Grace Lauric
Sara Tykira Barnes, <i>Cum Laude</i>	Megan Catherine McCormick, <i>Cum Laude</i>
Aymeric Bruno, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	Thacher Jameson Neal, <i>Cum Laude</i>
Mark Philip Carlson	Taylor Bryce Peacock*, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>
Chloe Do Lago, <i>Cum Laude</i>	Marcus James Reynolds, <i>Cum Laude</i>
John Lawrence Fesperman	Joshua Anthony Scott, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>
Peyton Lee Garris, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Santiago Luis Speranza*, <i>Summa Cum</i> <i>Laude</i>
Van Eric Grant	Brittany Michelle Taylor, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>
Titus James Guffey, <i>Cum Laude</i>	Sarah Thinger
Jeffery Carson Watson Hall	Abbi Alyse Thomas, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>
Zayne Thomas Hilderbrand	Carrie Mae Turner
Jaeden Ryanna Hill	Natalia Willhelm Heguaburu*, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>
Jalen Malik Hill	Cecilia Wise
Taylor Leigh Hodges	
Nikali Jiles	
Conner Louis Johnson, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	
Lucas Landaluce Lacambra	

### **Bachelor of Science - Accounting**

Kayla Clark	Grace Elizabeth Murrow
Chastity D. Knowles, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	

### **Bachelor of Science - Criminal Justice**

Noah Ryan Blocker	Madeline Elizabeth Morgan
Bryce Broshow, <i>Cum Laude</i>	Brittany Murphy, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>
Jerry Waynette Carter	Chaidelle Phillips, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>
Charlotte Irene Cope	Haley Brianna Sims, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>
Linda Doah	Gaby Paige Smith
Ta-Rhea Melvina Heyward	Jarrett Washington
John Mikael Meighen	Aldonia L. Wayne

### **Bachelor of Science - Health Informatics**

Davis Ansley Flanders	Renesha Reynolds
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### **Bachelor of Science - Hospitality & Tourism Management**

Ikymaya Blackett, <i>Cum Laude</i>	Kayla Nicole Markey*
Arrayla Quanay Brown	Katie Joyce Mulrooney, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>
Emily Rose Cavender, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	William Loris Townsend
Maggie Carolyn Duke, <i>Cum Laude</i>	Monica Woodard

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**School of Business & Public Management**  
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**Bachelor of Sciences - Public Management**

William McAfee Hamilton\*  
Casey Colleen Hanak

Raegan Howell, *Cum Laude*

**Bachelor of Applied Science - Workforce Management and Leadership**

Nicholas Patrick Coccia  
Sarah Frances Harrell

Kendrian White, *Cum Laude*  
Victoria Young

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**School of Arts & Sciences**  
*Dr. Syvillia Averett, Interim Dean*

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**Associate of Arts**

Jalayah Danielle Tootle

**Associate of Science**

Reagin Elizabeth Hanna  
Kelly Hartley  
Monique Monica Hollinshed  
Olivia Jarrell  
Elyssa Michelle Jordan

Meagan Neal  
Kylie Paige Phillips  
Violet Poppell  
Justin Michael Reid  
Christopher Sobala



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## 2023-2024 FULL TIME FACULTY

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James Atwood, J.D., Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice  
Cynthia J. Atwood, Senior Lecturer of Criminal Justice  
Syvillia Averett, Ph.D., Interim Dean of the School of Arts & Sciences and Chair of the  
Department of Mathematics & Data Science, Associate Professor of Mathematics  
Tyler E. Bagwell, M.F.A., Professor of Communication  
Ashley H. Barnes, Assistant Professor of Nursing  
Jennifer Beirdneau, Lecturer and Clinical Coordinator of Radiological Science  
Kathleen Bennett, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Teacher Education  
James Benton, Ph.D., J.D., Professor of Accounting  
Jamie Berrie, Lecturer of Mathematics  
Robert R. Bleil, Ph.D., Chair of the Department of Arts & Humanities, Professor of English  
Carla Bluhm, Ph.D., Professor of Psychology  
Emily Boyle, Director of Honors Program, Lecturer of English  
Robert Brant, Nursing Clinical Coordinator and Lecturer  
Christine Brown, D.P.T., Assistant Professor of Health Science and Anatomy & Physiology  
Katie Beth Brooks, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of English  
Drew Cagle, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Political Science  
James R. Carpenter, Assistant Professor of Biology  
Joshua Clark, Senior Lecturer of Biology  
Kelly Clark, Biology & Geology Laboratory Instructor  
Robert C. Clark, Ph.D., Associate Professor of English  
Stacie Conley, Nursing Clinical Lecturer  
Stephanie B. Conner, Ed.D., Assistant Professor of English  
Richard Lee Cranz, Chef Instructor  
Marci R. Culley, Ph.D., Professor of Psychology  
James Deemy, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Environmental Science  
Wanda DeLeo, Ph.D., Professor of Accounting  
Patrice Edwards, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Physics & Astronomy  
Johnny L. Evans, Jr., Ph.D., Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs  
Olivia Fallis-Merrick, Lecturer of Nursing  
Heather Farley, Ph.D., Chair of the Department of Business & Public Management,  
Associate Professor of Public Management  
Rene Fisler, Nursing Student Success Counselor and Lecturer  
Kyle Fox, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Communication  
Shandy Frey, Librarian, Assistant Professor of Library Science  
Nicole Fullard, Lecturer of Nursing  
Julie Fusco, Anatomy & Physiology Lab Instructor  
Leon C. Gardner, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Chemistry  
Bill Garlen, Ed.D., Director of Business Innovation & Development  
Caroline Geiken, Ed.D., Professor of Practice of Special Education  
Mylynda Gill, Librarian and Archivist, Assistant Professor of Library Science

Laura Grantham, D.N.P., Assistant Professor of Nursing  
Jennifer Pooler Gray, Ph.D., Coordinator of the Writing Center, Professor of English  
M. Karen Hambright, Ph.D., Professor of Psychology  
Jennifer M. Hatchel, Ph.D., Professor of Biology  
Karen L. Haven, Public Services Librarian, Assistant Professor of Library Science  
Deanna Helpfrey, Lecturer of Biology  
C. Tate Holbrook, Ph.D., Professor of Biology  
Debra L. Holmes, Ed.S., Dean of Library Services, Assistant Professor of Library Science  
Michele Johnson, Public Services Librarian, Assistant Professor of Library Science  
Michelle R. Johnston, Ph.D., President  
John L. Kissinger, Public Service Librarian, Assistant Professor of Library Science  
Colleen Knight, Ph.D., Chair of the Department of Natural Sciences,  
Professor of Chemistry  
Andrea Kwasny, Ph.D., Associate Professor of English  
Nevada LeCounte, D.N.P., Simulation Specialist, Assistant Professor of Nursing  
Kathryn Lee, Lecturer of Nursing  
David Lipham, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Mathematics  
Joseph Lodmell, Director of the Camden Center, Lecturer in Chemistry  
Rebecca Long, Lecturer of Nursing  
Karen Lucas, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Mathematics Education  
José Lugo Santiago, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Mathematics  
Taylor Lutz, Lecturer of English  
Kimberly Kinsey Mannahan, Ph.D., Professor of Psychology  
Nicole R. Masano, D.N.P., Assistant Dean of the School of Nursing & Health Sciences,  
Associate Professor of Nursing  
Don H. Mathews, Ph.D., Professor of Economics  
Mary McGinnis, Ph.D., Director of the Endeavor Center for High Impact Practices,  
Assistant Professor of English  
Robin McLachlan, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Geology  
William McLachlan, Lecturer of Data Science  
Jessica Melilli-Hand, Ph.D., Associate Professor of English  
Hector Montford, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of History  
Jessica Morris, Ed.D., Assistant Professor of Teacher Education with Specialization in  
Reading Literacy Education  
Michael P. Morris, Ph.D., Professor of History  
Tara Mosher, D.N.P., Assistant Professor of Nursing  
Matthew Mosley, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Hospitality & Tourism Management  
William S. Mounts Jr., Ph.D., Dean of the School of Business and Public Management,  
Professor of Economics  
David Mulry, Ph.D., Professor of English  
Holly Nance, Ph.D., Director of STEM Initiatives, Associate Professor of Biology  
Caiflín Noble, Lecturer of Mathematics  
Nicole Pankiewicz, Ph.D., Chair of Faculty Senate, Assistant Professor of Political Science  
Ernest Pascoe, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Chemistry

Aurora Pope, M.F.A., Associate Professor of Visual Arts  
J. Brian Pope, Ph.D., Professor of Psychology  
Ashley Prosser, Lecturer of Mathematics  
Aurora Ramos Núñez, Ph.D., Student Success Coordinator,  
Associate Professor of Psychology  
T. David Reese, Ph.D., Professor of Finance & Economics  
Richard Roberson, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Hospitality & Tourism Management,  
Chef Instructor  
Traesha Robertson, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Biology  
Beverly L. Rowe, Associate Professor of Nursing  
Maryanne Sandberg, Ed.D., Associate Professor of Nursing  
Roscoe Scarborough, Ph.D., Chair of the Department of Social Sciences,  
Associate Professor of Sociology  
Natalie Schrey, Ph.D., Physical Sciences Lab Coordinator and Instructor  
Ben Seligson, Lecturer of Mathematics  
Amy Sneed, Ph.D., Chair of the Department of Education & Teacher Preparation,  
Associate Professor of Middle Grades and Secondary Education  
Ashleigh Spurlock, Program Director of Radiologic Science, Lecturer of  
Radiologic Science  
Nelbert St. Clair, D.Sc., Associate Professor of Cyber Security & Criminal Justice  
David Stasek, Ph.D., Professor of Biology  
Richard Stephens, Ed.D., Instructor of Workforce Management & Leadership  
Kimberly Takagi, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Environmental Science & Oceanography  
Dantera Tangpisuthipongsa, M.D., Associate Professor of Biology  
Lori Tigani, Chemistry Lab Instructor  
Melissa Trussell, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Economics  
Jason W. Umfress, Ph.D., Vice President for Student Affairs & Enrollment Management  
German A. Vargas, Ph.D., Assistant Vice President for Academic Student Engagement,  
Professor of Mathematics  
Tyra Warner, Ph.D., J.D., Chair of the Departments of Hospitality, Tourism & Culinary Arts  
and Criminal Justice & Public Policy, Associate Professor of Hospitality & Tourism  
Lydia A. Watkins, D.N.P., Dean of the School of Nursing & Health Sciences,  
Professor of Nursing  
Christopher J. Wilhelm, Ph.D., Professor of History  
Scott Williamson, Professor of Practice: Marketing & Communication  
Aaron Yeager, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Mathematics  
Renren Zhao, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Mathematics



## THE HISTORY OF THE COLLEGE OF COASTAL GEORGIA

- 1964-1966:  
Inaugural  
Brunswick Class
- The College began operations as “Brunswick College” with an initial class of 269 students, 11 full-time teaching faculty members, and 25 full-time staff. In 1966, 28 students were awarded associate degrees at the College’s first graduation. Over the next four decades, the College offered associate degree programs as well as postsecondary technical and adult programs.
- 1992:  
Camden  
Instruction Began
- The Board of Regents authorized an off-site instructional unit to be located in Camden County to serve students in the region. Classes were offered one year later in the former Kingsland Elementary School until the Camden Center site was opened in 2004.
- 1996:  
Community  
College Status
- To better reflect the broader mission of serving the educational needs of the surrounding coastal communities, the College was renamed “Coastal Georgia Community College.”
- 2007:  
State College  
Status
- College Degree Access for Coastal Southeast Georgia*, a report to the USG Chancellor, recommended “senior college” status for the College, noting that the campus is in one of the state’s most desirable locations and has one of the largest acreages within the System. The report called for the new “senior college” to offer a wide range of targeted baccalaureate degrees and to become a “destination campus to attract Georgians from other regions.”



2008:  
Baccalaureate  
Degrees Began

The College was renamed “College of Coastal Georgia” and was approved to offer the inaugural set of baccalaureate degrees in business administration, early childhood/special education, middle grades education, and nursing. The master plan for the College shifted to “1) serve significantly increasing numbers of people from its 12-county region, and 2) be a destination College, attracting students from elsewhere in Georgia and, to a lesser extent, from other states and nations.” Over the last decade, the College has implemented a full array of innovative baccalaureate programs and community engagement strategies.

2012:  
Student Housing  
Offered

The College began offering student housing, which has grown today to two on-campus student housing complexes as well as off-campus housing.

Today:

Today, the College has a spring enrollment of over 2,960 students, employs over 250 full-time faculty and staff, offers 20 baccalaureate degrees as well as associate degrees in core curriculum and three career associate degrees. The College graduates over 600 students each year, with roughly half earning a baccalaureate degree.



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*ALMA MATER*

*Hail to thee, dear Alma Mater  
Hear the song we raise to thee;  
Fount of wisdom, Seat of knowledge,  
We do pledge our loyalty.*

*Hail to thee, dear Alma Mater  
Symbol of the joys of youth;  
Lead us on as we grow older,  
Help us keep thy ways of truth.*

*Through the years, dear Coastal Georgia  
Memories bonds will hold you near;  
For all wisdom and all knowledge,  
We lift up our thanks sincere.*

*Alma Mater, Alma Mater  
Coastal Georgia hail to thee;  
Alma Mater, Alma Mater  
Shine through all eternity*

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