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When sharing your photos from any campus

Writers and Photographers

A call for writers and photographers:
The Newsletter needs articles and pictures of campus events for year round. If you are interested, please contact a Newsletter Advisor: Ms. Ciuffetelli (aciuffetelli@gmc.cc.ga.us) or Ms. Jensen (kjensen@gmc.cc.ga.us)
Ms. Debra Murray

Debra Murray is an accomplished biology professor with a bubbly personality. She teaches General Biology, Principles of Biology, and Anatomy and Physiology. In 1974, she earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Biology at Seton Hall University in New Jersey. In London, she earned a certificate in Medical Lab Science in Hematology from Paddington College and worked with a team of doctors researching children’s leukemia. While on her journey in London, she met her husband of thirty-seven years who is from Ireland. She and her husband decided to move to Georgia, and she began working for Brown and Williamson Tobacco Company. After the factory closed, she decided to go back to school after thirty-two years. In 2008, she graduated with a Master of Science degree from Georgia Southern University.

Ms. Murray enjoys interacting and learning from such a diverse crowd of students at GMC. She refers to herself as a “biophilliac” in a joking, vivacious manner and is currently the Advisor for the STEM Club. The club is raising funds to visit the NASA Center at Cape Kennedy, Florida to view a rocket launch. The STEM Club teamed up with the Future Business Leaders of America at Houston County High School to participate in a Habitat for Humanity Work Day on April 12, 2014. The Work Day consists of volunteers donating their time to help deliver affordable housing to hardworking, low-income families. Ms. Murray encourages everyone to join the STEM Club.

Ms. Gretchen Snyder

Dr. Gretchen Snyder is a biology professor at GMC Warner Robins. She teaches General Biology and Microbiology. Dr. Snyder received her undergraduate degree from Portland State University and her graduate degree from Washington State University. She has been teaching science classes for eighteen years. Dr. Snyder enjoys teaching her students, and in her teaching she uses patience and understanding to help students with difficult topics. Her most memorable moment at GMC so far is when one student offered to pay for another student’s lab manual. Outside of teaching, Dr. Snyder loves being a mother to her three children: a daughter who is a student at GMC, another daughter who just graduated high school, and her three-year-old son. She enjoys spending time with her family and supporting our Biology Club. She encourages students who may be interested in Biology to talk to her about joining. The club is involved in several projects around campus and in the community.

Ms. Ashley Thompson

Ms. Ashley Thompson joins a great staff at Georgia Military College, where she is the new LSS Mathematics Department Chair and teaches College Prep Algebra I and College Prep Algebra II. She received her Associate of Science degree in Secondary Mathematics at our very own GMC Warner Robins in 2008 then soon after went on to receive a Bachelor of Science degree in Middle Grades Math Education from the University of Georgia in 2011. Currently, she is working on a Master’s degree and will be graduating at the end of December in 2015. Ms. Thompson is greatly known for working hard for her students and will do everything she can to help them to reach their utmost potential. She believes that it’s not about how she teaches but about how her students learn the best. Her hobbies outside of teaching are spending time with her pets, her dog, Jasmine, and her cats, Pandora and Joker. Also, she loves to sleep and can’t wait to spend time with her niece who is expected in January 2015.
Congratulations to all our graduates who earned their degrees this year. Below are some photos from the ceremony!

For the rest of the Graduation pictures, check out our Facebook page!

Modern American Literature
Tour of Macon, GA

Photos by Danielle Perry
Awards & Scholarships

Students were awarded the GMC Warner Robins Graduate Scholarship to help complete their degree.

Charleston Burnett Jr.
Graduate Scholarship

Stacie Gibson
Graduate Scholarship

Congratulations to De-Andre Gamble for earning the Distinguished Order of the Servant Leader Service Medal. This recognition is awarded to students who have completed over 100 hours of community service work.

GMC-Warner Robins now awards a first quarter scholarship to a graduating senior at each Houston County high school. The students were recommended by their high school counselor and will participate on our Ethics Bowl team.

De-Andre Gamble
Distinguished Order of the Servant Leader

Travis Batchelor
Perry High School

Zuriel Heron
Warner Robins High School

Kaitlyn Patrick
Veterans High School
In 2009, my brother, Mr. Trent Thornton, experienced a psychotic episode which lead to his unemployment. In his psychosis, Mr. Thornton abandoned his apartment and traveled from Cincinnati to Canton, Ohio. Mr. Thornton’s ten-month stint of homelessness ended when a case worker helped him secure housing, medication and a Supplemental Security Income (SSI). Mr. Thornton represents the temporarily homeless majority of “eighty-two percent” in the United States (By 1). The remaining eighteen percent of homeless individuals exist as “chronically homeless” in America (Homelessness 1). The American government, “defines a chronically homeless person as one with a ‘disabling condition’ that can be physical or mental, or someone with an addiction to drugs or alcohol, and who has been homeless for at least a year or three times within the past three years” (Chronic 2). Despite the increase of “non-chronically homeless,” “particularly families,” the United States government must address the minority eighteen percent of “chronically homeless” first (Chronic 2) (Homelessness 1).

Americans desire to eradicate homelessness in the United States, but the debate continues over which sector of the homeless population should receive the financing. Focusing on the “chronically homeless,” a program called “Housing First,” offers to clear the streets of those lingering long-term (Homelessness 1) (Chronic 1). In a 2014 article, “supporters of Housing First argue [that] proving housing and the support of social workers to the chronically homeless is the best way to help these people get off the street permanently” (Homelessness 1). In contrast, critics of “Housing First argue [that] fighting homelessness must attempt to help all homeless people...particularly families...[who need] shelters and resources to use” (Homelessness 1).

The United States guaranteed the genesis of this “chronically homeless” minority when “in the mid-20th century...substandard [mental institutions]” closed with the intention of providing “community-based psychiatric care” (Homelessness 1) (Chronic 2). Besides the mentally ill, the “chronically homeless” now include veterans living with “post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD),” individuals living with “AIDS, [or people struggling with] crack cocaine” addictions (Homelessness 1) (Chronic 2 & 4).

Taxpaying Americans wisely consider the financial bottom line before approving social service legislation. Researchers discovered that “the cost of providing people with apartments ends up being far less than the cost of letting them remain on the street” (Chronic 4). According to “Shaun Donovan, [a] U.S. Housing and Urban Development (HUD) secretary,” U.S. citizens pay “about $40,000 a year for a homeless person to be on the street” (Chronic 3-4). That amount includes “social services [such as] hospitalizations, jailing and shelters” (Homelessness 3). By housing the “chronically homeless” first, “resources are freed up, such as shelters for other, non-chronically homeless people still living on the streets” (Homelessness 1) (Chronic 4). Therefore, “Housing First” legislation benefits all parties intertwined in the matter of “chronic homelessness,” especially the minority (Homelessness 1) (Chronic 1).

Works Cited

This article was the Summer 2014 winner of the GMC-WR Ethics Essay Contest. Hosted quarterly, the Ethics Essay Contest is open to all enrolled GMC-WR students, and awards $500 in total prize money.
Ms. Ashley Herman
BY SANDRA ANDERSON

Ashley Herman is the newest Admissions and Recruitment Assistant. She can be found at her desk in Boylan Hall: Monday through Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and on Fridays from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. She can be reached via email (aherman@gmc.cc.ga.us) or by phone (478-225-0228).

Ashley graduated from Jones County High School and moved to Kennesaw, Georgia, where she worked at Six Flags Over Georgia for five years as a recruiter. She noted similarities in working Human Resources, where she interviewed and hired dependable employees, and working admissions, where she helps motivated students to achieve their educational goals.

Her interest in college recruiting began as she helped her brother navigate his way through college; he took the non-traditional route and found himself struggling. Ashley was there to help and found a new career path as a result. The advice she would give those currently enrolled at GMC Warner Robins, as well as future alumni, is to “do more than just enroll, really dedicate your time and efforts to your studies. Be passionate about something and become involved. Knock it out of the ball field; it will pay off in the long run.”

Speaking of “knocking it out of the ball field,” Ashley is sure to be enjoying this time of year. She is a diehard Atlanta Braves fan. She says when she’s not at work or at home, she can be found at Turner Field.

Ms. Sara Jeffords
BY JACQUELINE MEADOWS

Sara Jeffords is one of the new Academic Advisors at Georgia Military College, Warner Robins. As an advisor she feels the most important aspect of her job is to make sure students take classes they need to graduate on time. Ms. Jeffords received her Bachelor’s degree in Political Science from Valdosta State University and her Master’s degree in Political Science from the University of Tennessee. Ms. Jeffords also has a minor in Psychology as an undergraduate, and if she had to choose another major it would be psychology “because,” she says, “I really enjoyed it.”

Her advice to students of GMCC Warner Robins pertaining to homework and classes is: “don’t be lazy.” Students “should have good study habits,” she stated, something she admitted helped her success while in college. Ms. Jeffords continued by saying, “sometimes, you just have to stay home and study.” She has enjoyed everything about her job thus far. She welcomes all questions any students might have concerning their courses.

Ms. Kathryn Nelson
BY CHARLON COCHRAN

Ms. Kathryn Nelson is one of the new academic advisors here at GMC, Warner Robins. She completed her Bachelor’s degree in Accounting, from Middle Georgia State College in 2013. Starting in January she will start her Master’s degree in Accounting at Georgia College and State University. While Ms. Nelson attended college, she found that her advisor didn’t really advise her, and she was practically forced to advise herself. Ms. Nelson said of this experience, “I wished I could’ve had an advisor who took an interest and who wanted to help me find a major that I was really passionate about.” Because of her experience in college, she believes that the most important part of her job is helping students.

Students can come to her for help without having to completely advise themselves.

To be a successful student at GMC, Ms. Nelson advises students to “value your education!! And no not just do the bare minimum.” Her passions and hobbies outside of advising are reading, editing papers, and tutoring. In her dream world, she would love to edit books. Ms. Nelson believes that students should “always try and go above and beyond. Material things can always be taken away, but your education is untouchable.”
Students, staff, and faculty at the Warner Robins campus of Georgia Military College showed their philanthropic side this summer. Sponsored by the Student Government Association (SGA), the pet food and supplies drive was a marvelous success that brought in over 1095 lbs. of pet food, 12 bags of treats, 3 toys, 2 food/water bowls, and one leash. Donated materials were received by Animal Control and distributed to animal shelters in the surrounding area. These donations will help care for the multitude of animals without a home. Interested animal welfare proponents should “like” the Civilian Board of WR Animal Control on Facebook, a community page that has frequent updates on pets that have been found, recent adoptions, news, and community service opportunities.

GMC-Warner Robins students are proud to have an opportunity to give back to the community that has supported their college.
The millennials of today see cheating as part of school life. Students always fall back on cheating as a solution when they start to have difficulties keeping up their grades. Lately, people have been seeing back to school ads more than “don’t cheat” advertisements. Students fail to realize that cheating is unethical and ultimately a mistake. The disappointing part is that some teachers allow their students to cheat. For example, if students are allowed to use cell phones during a test, this allows for cheating to take place. Student grades should be based on the demonstration of academic ability either on paper or online. If cheating is allowed to take place, honest students will get discouraged and stop working. If students are falsifying their work, they should be punished for their actions.

As a student, the real reason for going to school is to make new friends, to learn, and to take part in school activities. Learning will not take place if a student is copying off of someone else. For example, if two students’ notes look identical, then likely one of the students copied off the other. Now, if these students were working together on the notes, then they should just communicate this to the teacher. If not, then it would be considered cheating, and no teacher should condone this. In addition, if a High School student gave a friend his homework so he could “look over it,” the friend might copy the homework word for word. The next day, they may both receive a red zero on their work, and this is the correct punishment. After class, the teacher should tell both students that they cheated, and that approach is not going to get them anywhere in life. Cheating can cause teachers to lose trust in students. School is a positive environment for any person, and cheating just defeats the purpose.

One of my coaches in high school always said to the players, “when you cheat, you cheat yourself.” Many students cheat their way through high school, and when they graduate and go to college, they usually end up dropping out because they cannot retain the information. For example, if a student is one of the top running backs in the state and he has all the accolades and coaches are scouting him from all over the country, he still needs to continue his schoolwork. Some athletes due to their popularity have access to peer’s tests and homework. The athlete might feel excited about having the opportunity to attend an excellent school, but in reality, he is just lying to himself if he is not doing the work. Cheating should never be tolerated even with student-athletes.

Cheating is not something students only experience in school; they also face it in life challenges. Cheating can destroy a person’s relationships, ruin potential job opportunities, and even result in expulsion from school. All these factors are similar to cheating on school work, but as shown, there are no long-term benefits from cheating. Many people think that they will never get caught cheating, and some never do, but they cannot feel any internal pride because it was not their work from the start. The students’ experiences with their friends and teammates should increase awareness of the outcomes of cheating. Cheating only hurts a students’ success, and society should not accept that.
This summer GMC, Warner Robins, hosted a summer camp for children ages eight to twelve years old. The five campers picked a folktale to turn into a play. They picked "The Fisherman and His Wife." The campers wrote the script, painted the set, created props, and designed their costumes. On Friday night, the campers staged a production of their play for family and friends.

Next year will be bigger and better!
Fall 2014:
Early Registration: Aug. 25—Sept. 18
New Student Registration: Oct. 7-10
Classes Begin and End: Oct. 11—Dec. 7
Thanksgiving: Nov. 26-30

Winter 2015:
Early Registration: Oct. 27—Nov. 20
New Student Registration: Jan. 6-9,
Classes Begin and End: Jan. 10—Mar. 8
Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday: Jan. 19

Spring 2015:
Early Registration: Feb. 2-26
New Student Registration: Mar. 17-20
Classes Begin and End: Mar. 21—May 24
Spring Break: Mar. 30—Apr. 5

GMC-Warner Robins is on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter, where we share important dates and reminders on a daily basis, and special events as information becomes available. Find us online, and feel free to join the conversation!