

# *Student Activities*

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The Student Activities Program is supervised by the GMC Dean of Students and administered by the Campus Directors. Students are the key to presenting student interests and needs to these administrators.

Activities include movies, dances, entertainers, concerts, field trips, student publications, intramural sports, and club activities. Notices of upcoming events and activities are posted on bulletin boards, on the campus televisions in the Atrium in Milledgeville, and announced in club meetings, on the GMC Facebook page, and occasionally in class. Students who wish to suggest activities should contact the Student Activities office/Campus Dean of Students or a member of the Student Government Association. A robust student activities program is conducted on GMC's campuses. So, get involved!

Student activities intend to promote student-centered learning and provide educational activities that enhance a sense of belonging to GMC, provide fellowship opportunities, develop leadership skills, and contribute to lifelong learning. These activities enrich the GMC experience and improve the learning environment. Studies at GMC and across the nation have repeatedly confirmed that participation in student activities significantly enhances retention and also promotes stronger academic performance.

Since enrolled students' activity fees fund student activities, enrolled students are currently prioritized. However, if space is available for non-enrolled students, they are generally welcome as well. Non-enrolled students cannot participate as club officers or in a competition in which they represent the school unless the rules of the governing organization/competition specifically allow for such participation. Non-enrolled students are those who have enrolled for the previous term but are not enrolled for the current term or who were previously enrolled for the current term but are no longer enrolled. Note that anyone not currently enrolled would need to sign a liability waiver if GMC provides transportation or the venue for the activity.

The college provides a balanced student life program that contributes significantly to the total educational experience of its students. Students are encouraged to participate in various co-curricular and extra-curricular activities designed to enhance their sense of community responsibility and improve their leadership skills. Student Government, other student organizations, and student publications are vital to the institution's operation and essential to the student's total educational experience. Students are advised to choose activities wisely and to balance academic responsibilities with participation in service, religious, athletic, social, and recreational pursuits. General administrative responsibility for the Student Activities Program rests with the GMC Dean of Students. However, initiatives in developing organizations and activities appropriate to the educational purposes of the college, as well as in the implementation of programs, which have been planned, are a shared responsibility of students, faculty, and staff.

Exceptions to this policy require the approval of the Campus Director.

## **Distinguished Order of the Servant Leader**

Georgia Military College recognizes that a truly educated person contributes to society by being a participating member. The educated person shows compassion and respect for others and acknowledges a corporate responsibility to improve the human condition. As a famous cultural anthropologist Margaret Mead noted, "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."

Volunteer community service benefits everyone. The volunteer benefits through experiential learning—learning by doing. The volunteer makes a difference in their life and other people’s lives. The volunteer develops problem-solving /team-building skills and realizes that even one person can make a difference. The civic engagement associated with volunteerism recognizes that each of us is part of a larger whole—the family, community, nation, or world.

Georgia Military College recognizes students and employees who volunteer at least 100 hours in 12 months with the Distinguished Order of the Servant Leader award. This award includes a certificate signed by the President and a distinctive medal.

Members of the GMC family are encouraged to document service hours with your campus Dean of Students. The Servant-Leader is among the noblest and most admirable of souls, and hundreds of our students and employees have earned this award. You can too!

## **Campus Publicity**

In Milledgeville, the Campus Dean of Students is responsible for maintaining the student activity bulletin boards and the Atrium TVs and posting all advertisements. Posters, flyers, banners, announcements, personal ads, and notices must be submitted to the Campus Dean of Students for approval and actual posting. The Campus Dean of Students and Campus Director reserves the right to remove any publicity items that are not tastefully posted or approved. At all other GMC campuses, the Campus Director is the approving authority.

## **Guidelines for Officers of Clubs/Organizations**

The following guidelines are to be followed when electing officers for each club/ organization, except for the Phi Theta Kappa. A student running for any office must maintain at least a 2.0 cumulative GPA to be eligible to serve as an officer. All club members must maintain a 2.0 GPA to be considered active members. The GPA for prospective members of Phi Theta Kappa is 3.5.

### **Clubs are available at the college; they include but are not limited to:**

- Art Club
- Baptist Collegiate Ministry
- Biology Club
- Chess Club
- Creative Thinking
- Fine Arts Club
- Ethics Bowl
- Math Club
- Phi Theta Kappa (PTK)
- Student Government Association (SGA)

More information on these and other clubs may be obtained from the Campus Dean of Students. Students with a common interest in an educational, social, or sports activity and wish to be recognized as a club by the college should contact the Campus Dean of Students.

### **Student Government Association**

Georgia Military College has a separate Student Government Association (SGA) on each campus. The SGA deals with student concerns, enhances understanding within the college community, and administers all matters delegated to the student government by the President of Georgia Military College/Campus Executive Director. SGA serves as the primary student voice to the administration in college affairs. Students are encouraged to participate in the SGA and the institutional decision-making process. Elections are held yearly. Officers are elected by the student body and typically serve for one year.

Responsibility for governing the student body is vested in the students themselves. At each campus, the SGA elects a Student Honor Council (SHC) to hear cases of suspected honor violations.

If you are wondering what the SGA at Georgia Military College does for you, then you are in the right place. In short, we are a body of representatives that serve as a liaison between the Georgia Military College administration and you, the students, and our constituency. SGA meets weekly to actively discuss and vote on pertinent issues that regard the student body as a whole at Georgia Military College. If any student has a grievance, then we are here to serve you, assuring we do all in our power to accomplish the best solution that will achieve the best results for the most students. If there is anything we could help you with, or if you have any questions, be sure to get in touch with one of your class representatives as soon as possible. Your Student Government invites you to attend any of our meetings, which are open to the public.

### **Phi Theta Kappa**

Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) is an international honor society for students of two-year colleges. Phi Theta Kappa chapters have been chartered on the Augusta, Columbus, Fairburn, Milledgeville, Valdosta, Warner Robins, and Fayetteville campuses. Since its founding in 1918, Phi Theta Kappa has been the only national honor society for junior colleges, promoting scholarship, developing character, and cultivating fellowship. To be eligible for Phi Theta Kappa, a student shall be of good moral character, possess recognized citizenship qualities, participate in the development of chapter projects, and have established academic excellence as judged by the faculty sponsor following guidelines set by the international constitution. Membership is by invitation only. Contact the Dean of Students on your campus for further information or the name of the faculty sponsor on your campus. Most four-year colleges and universities have scholarship funds earmarked for junior college transfer students who are members of PTK. These funds are competitive and, in many instances, provide generous awards, including full tuition for up to two years at the university or college. The PTK Graduation Coach on your campus can offer more details on these opportunities.

### **Ethics Bowl Team**

The Ethics Bowl Team aims to develop confidence and expertise in the fundamentals of speech and enhance vital communication skills through participating in argumentative and interpretative debates through judged competition. The Georgia Military College team members travel to several tournaments involving debate and individual speaking events. Students with minimal experience are encouraged to register for COM 201, Public Speaking.

## **ROTC Clubs (Main Campus)**

*The following organizations are open to ROTC students only:*

### **Color Guard/Drill Team (Main Campus)**

Open to any student enrolled in ROTC at GMC, the Color Guard/Drill Team promotes the spirit of competition and discipline through the performance of precision execution military drill. The team often competes at national competitions at various Southeast locations.

### **Ranger Challenge Team (Main Campus)**

The Ranger Challenge Team is ROTC's varsity sport. A ten-member team competes at a Brigade level against other collegiate teams in events such as orienteering, weapons assembly, rope bridging, hand grenade assault course, and a 10- kilometer forced road march. The Ranger Challenge Team is supervised by the staff of the Military Science Department.

## **Intramural Program**

GMC's Campus Recreation Intramural Program strives to provide various opportunities that contribute to and promote the *six dimensions of wellness*-physical, emotional, social, spiritual, intellectual, and environmental. Our goal is to create and provide a competitive, safe, continuous, and enjoyable atmosphere that encourages civility, teamwork, character development, and a lifelong pattern of positive recreational activity regardless of physical ability. The activities vary by quarter which includes, but are not limited to, basketball, softball, volleyball, Frisbee golf, dodgeball, and flag football.

## **Intercollegiate Athletics**

GMC provides an intercollegiate athletics program and sponsors the following athletic teams: men's soccer, women's soccer, men's cross-country, women's cross-country, men's and women's golf, women's softball, a cheerleading team, a co-ed rifle team, and a football team. The college is a full member of the National Junior College Athletic Association and the Georgia Junior College Athletic Association. All teams compete at the intercollegiate level, except for the cheerleading squad. Currently, the cheerleading program is a game-day squad.

Football, women's softball, men's soccer, and women's soccer are institutionally funded athletic scholarship programs. Teams that do not require intensive practice for the proper execution of the sport, such as golf, and cross-country, are open to students from all GMC campuses. Team-dependent sports (football, soccer, and softball) are available only at the GMC campus in Milledgeville.