



# Middle Georgia State University



2016-2017 Annual Report | Division of Student Affairs

# Our Mission:



The Division of Student Affairs' mission is to engage, develop and educate students at Middle Georgia State University. We pride ourselves on fulfilling the institution's mission, vision, and values through our work in student engagement, student development, and student services at Middle Georgia State University.

## **Student Affairs Goals:**

- Promote diverse opportunities for involvement and development.
- Provide opportunities for developing leadership skills.
- Promote opportunities for civic engagement and service.
- Develop collaborative partnerships on and off campus.

## **MGA Mission:**

Middle Georgia State University educates and graduates inspired, lifelong learners whose scholarship and careers enhance the region through professional leadership, innovative partnerships, and community engagement.

## **Institutional Vision:**

We transform individuals and their communities through extraordinary higher learning.

## **Values:**

Stewardship, Engagement, Adaptability, Learning

# STUDENT AFFAIRS:

## Welcome to the 2016-2017 Student Affairs Annual Report.

I am delighted to share our year of greatness with you. Over the last 4 years, we have worked diligently to enhance the experiences of our students and help them find their greatness. In this report, we enthusiastically share our efforts and our successes in this endeavor.

This has been yet another exciting year for Student Affairs. We proudly completed initiatives within our institutional strategic plan and continue to maximize our impact to engage and develop our students. We strive to achieve our goals in order to support and enhance the student learning experience in innovative ways, and we integrate MGA's mission and values into our professional practices. Some major accomplishments this year include:

- Implemented a new student programming model focused on life skills, wellness, service learning, community building, diversity, and scholarship.
- Launched our annual Student Leadership Conference.
- Strengthened Athletics by earning the designation as a Silver NAIA 5-Star Champions of Character institution.
- Established an Office of Diversity, Inclusion & Equity, an institutional diversity statement, and a diversity committee.
- Launched women's volleyball and cross country sports on the Macon campus.
- Increased opportunities for engagement with potential employers through Career Services programs and events.

Our 60+ professional staff members, representing 11 departments, play a large role in modeling greatness for our students. I believe our student affairs staff are among the best professionals in their fields. They are fantastic individuals with passion for student success and development, as you will see highlighted throughout this report.

As you review our annual report, I hope you will share in my pride in all that the Division of Student Affairs has accomplished with and for our Middle Georgia State students. I firmly believe we impact the lives of our students in helping them find their greatness now and in the future.

Welcome to the second Annual Report, and thank you for your support and your collaborations with Student Affairs last year, this year, and in years to come.

All the Best ,

*Jennifer A. Brannon*

Jennifer A. Brannon  
Vice President for Student Affairs



# ATHLETICS



## UNIT PURPOSE

To promote opportunities for athletic excellence and achievement, personal growth, and leadership; an atmosphere for positive athletic, academic and learning experiences; a place for diverse acceptance and interaction; and active participation in service and outreach activities.

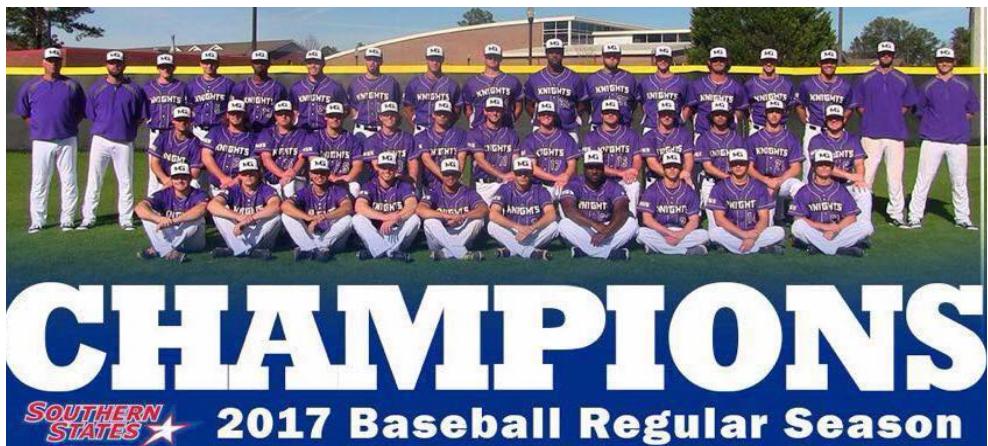


MIDDLE GEORGIA  
STATE UNIVERSITY  
KNIGHTS ATHLETICS

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STATE UNIVERSITY  
KNIGHTS ATHLETICS



# HIGHLIGHTS

- First Southern States Athletic Conference (SSAC) Championship (baseball 2017)

- Addition of Women's Volleyball and Women's Cross Country

- Opening of the Volleyball Gym and Cross Country Facility

- First student-athlete to achieve First Team All-American for NAIA

- Baseball and Men's Tennis appeared in National Championships



"Knights Athletics has the sport experience that every athlete strives to be a part of. We have ambition, heart, and passion for the game that you can see when you watch us play." Brooklyn Roberts, Junior, Volleyball



## by the NUMBERS:

# 42

Academic Awards from SSAC and NAIA

# 19

on All-Conference Teams

# 6

SSAC Awards

# 3

Teams ranked in Top 25 at season end - Baseball (13), Men's Tennis (14), Women's Tennis (20)

# 9

Teams in SSAC Playoffs, 2 in National Tournaments

# CAREER SERVICES:

## UNIT PURPOSE

Career Services collaborates with various stakeholders to provide students and alumni career-focused training that will enhance professional aspirations and lead to a more purposeful contribution to our global society. Additionally, we connect employers seeking full-time, part-time, or internship candidates to MGA students and alumni who are ready to enter the workforce.



## HIGHLIGHTS

- Collaboration with the School of Education to co-sponsor the hugely successful Teacher Recruitment Fair
- Grand opening of The Professional Closet on the Macon campus
- Revitalization of the Macon Career Center
- Expanded partnership with the GA Dept. of Labor to sponsor the largest Career Fair in recent years



*"This department has absolutely been one of the most vital resources for me this past year. To be honest, I was not even aware that we had a Career Services department until last year. Dr. Moffett and Ms. Heather McIntosh are the absolute best decision MGA could have made for advancing the Career Services department. They are enthusiastic about the job and have so many vital skills and resources for students and alumni alike. I have been continually impressed with their work in raising campus awareness for what Career Services has to offer. The workshops are relevant, current, and provide insight that cannot be obtained through typical outside research. I hope that MGA continues to grow and advance this department because it really does possess such a large variety of key, important resources and services unmatched by other local career planning services and departments."*

- Betsy Fitts, 2016 Graduate



## by the NUMBERS:

# 730

new jobs, internships, and volunteer opportunities registered on CareerLinks

# 423

new employers registered on CareerLinks, the university's online job board, seeking MGA students and graduates to fulfill their employment vacancies

# 87

students received a set of 100 business cards and a leather business portfolio for their participation in the Student Success Series a program designed to expose students to career planning and essential skills that will bridge the gap between the classroom and the workplace

# 64

professional development events sponsored between fall 2016 and spring 2017 serving 2,415 students, alumni, employers

# COUNSELING CENTER:

## UNIT PURPOSE

The Counseling Center supports the mission of the University and the retention, progression, and graduation of a diverse student body by providing personal, academic, and career counseling services to assist students in the attainment of their personal goals.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Stress Awareness Event on the Eastman campus – 60 students attended this event
- Clothesline Project with Crisis Line and Safe House – 26 students attended this event
- Professional Development Series for Student Affairs professionals (“Wellness in the Workplace”) – approximately 50 faculty and staff members attended this event
- SSS Stress management workshop (collaboration with Career Services) – 24 students attended this event

"Hey! Just wanted to shoot you guys an email and say thanks so much for holding the National Suicide Awareness event today! This event was really helpful for a lot of students." – Student



## by the NUMBERS:

**129**

Unique Clients

**548**

Counseling Appointments

**160**

Students attended the Seen Suicide Awareness Event (Cochran and Macon Campuses).



# DISABILITY SERVICES:

## UNIT PURPOSE

The Office of Disability Services (ODS) supports the mission of the University by addressing the needs of students with documented learning, physical, psychological, and/or chronic health disabilities. The ODS works closely with the students to grant accommodations to assist in their academic endeavors while attending the University. Students with documented disabilities are encouraged to utilize the many academic resources available on campus in order to succeed in their academic careers.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- MGA was site host of the “WE Can” conference. Local students attended a day-long conference that assisted in their transition from high school to college. The director of disability services was a conference speaker.
- Established a Wellness Protocol in response to the increased number of students missing class due to medical emergencies and hospitalizations. The Wellness checks allow MGA to speak with the student and work out arrangements with the instructors to miss class while not being penalized.
- Speaker at the Ability Exhibit. Sponsored by the Education Department during Disability Awareness Month. Disability services provided information to assist students with disabilities in the education field.

## by the NUMBERS:

<b>18</b> students requested services due to various stages of pregnancies.	<b>39k</b> Over 39,000 pages of text were converted from print to audio.	<b>30</b> students in the Disability Program graduated in May 2017.	<b>50</b> Percent (17/30) of these students graduated with academic distinction.	<b>328</b> Students visited the Office of Disability Services (ODS) with documented situations pertaining to learning, physical, psychological and/or systemic (health) disabilities.	<b>37</b> students with temporary afflictions, receiving temporary accommodations or wellness checks.	<b>130</b> electronic books were provided to students with reading difficulties in the program.
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# DIVERSITY, INCLUSION, & EQUITY

## UNIT PURPOSE

The Office of Diversity, Inclusion, & Equity guides and coordinates efforts to define, understand, assess, and cultivate diversity and inclusion. The Office also serves as a liaison and collaborative partner to promote diversity, inclusion, and equity as essential elements of the University's values, mission, and strategic plan.

"Our University is becoming a home to people from so many different creeds, colors, and orientations, which is a great achievement by itself, but an even greater achievement is that we have turned all of that variety and diversity into unity. And with that in mind, our university has made the conscious step forward by enlisting the Diversity, Inclusion, & Equity office."  
-DeMarcus Beckham, Student, Project/Event Organizer, and News Editor



photo credits to John Legg

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Co-chaired the first Diversity Ad Hoc Committee of the Academic Assembly which recommended the institutional diversity statement, goals, framework, and governance plan
- An official statement reflecting the University's commitment to diversity and inclusion was approved
- The formation of a Diversity Council to develop and implement diversity goals in alignment with the institution's strategic plan was approved
- Collaborated with Student Life and Career Services to provide MGA's first Student Leadership Conference
- Engaged students on diversity topics through their FYE classes

## by the NUMBERS:

# 100

% of the 50 students who returned a survey learned at least one diversity-focused concept at the Student Leadership Conference

# 4

sub-committees worked to produce a 23 page Report of the Diversity Ad Hoc Committee

# 15

Visited 15 First Year Experience Classes to speak about diversity at MGA

# 260

responses received on the diversity topics survey

# 23

members of the MGA community served on the Diversity Ad Hoc Committee

# HEALTH CLINIC:

## UNIT PURPOSE

Providing episodic health care to current students, faculty, and staff of MGA.



"I feel so much more comfortable here than in other (healthcare) experiences"

experiences" stated in reference to a preventative health screening procedure, 10/27/16. - Student "Thank you for being as

understanding and non-judgmental as a provider" stated during a visit, 4/2017. - Student: "I'm really going to miss you, you always took such good care of me." - May 2017 graduate

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Both clinics have been operational full-time since Daniela Torres, NP, was hired for Cochran health clinic position in October 2016.

- Sara Darsey, administrative secretary, has successfully assumed responsibility of the budgeting procedures and supply/order responsibilities, now training for SHIP.

- Autumn Lucas, NP, continues to serve on the Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Advisory Committee, a division of the Georgia Composite Medical Board.

- Autumn Lucas, NP, was newly designated Secretary of the Regents' Advisory Committee-Health

MGA HEALTH CLINICS

MGAHEALTHCLINIC

@MGAHEALTHCLINIC

## by the NUMBERS:

**520**

Cochran Clinic has seen total of 520 Students/Faculty/Staff since August 2016.

**364**

Macon Clinic has seen total of 364 Students/Faculty/Staff since August 2016

**74**

Free HIV testing event in Macon (74 participants tested/educated)

**31**

Free HIV testing event in Cochran (31 participants tested/educated)

**6**

Provided 6 flu immunizations during the 2016 flu season, available on all campuses

# ORIENTATION

## UNIT PURPOSE

Middle Georgia State University's new student orientation sessions are designed to help students learn about the academic and social opportunities our campuses offer. Attending orientation is crucial for students and parents alike, as it provides resources and services MGA dedicates to student success.

*Orientation was very beneficial and fun experience for me. I enjoyed the student leaders and meeting new people.- Student*



## HIGHLIGHTS

- 1st place in step competition at SROW conference

- Online orientation created and implemented

- Overnight orientation continues to be successful

- Orientation leaders performed their step routine at faculty/staff convocation

## by the NUMBERS:

**1118**

students attended an on campus orientation

**98**

% of total surveys collected showed students and parents were highly satisfied with experience

**14**

orientation leaders- 12 orientations- 10 weeks- 5 campuses

# RECREATION & WELLNESS:

## UNIT PURPOSE

To provide outstanding facilities and programs that maintain and improve our student's health and wellness by encouraging physical activities that help teach healthy lifestyles.



"I love having the Wellness Center as a nice, cool place to shoot basketball. I also really enjoy having all of the workout equipment at my disposal so it's easier to get a workout in almost any time of the day." - Allison Warren, Sophomore

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Club Football won Conference Championship and appeared in NCFA National Championship Game
- Hosted Kappa Sigma Duck Race in Macon
- Intramural Flag Football and Basketball Intercampus Championships

## by *the* NUMBERS:

# 130k

130,000+ visits to  
Recreation & Wellness  
Centers in Macon and  
Cochran

# 124k

124,000 square feet of  
Recreation & Wellness Center  
facilities

# 2,300

2,300+ Group Fitness and  
Personal Training Participants

# 14

Intramural Seasons on 2  
campuses



# HOUSING

## / RESIDENCE LIFE:

### UNIT PURPOSE

The Office of Residence Life is committed to providing a safe, healthy, and comfortable living-learning environment, conducive to academic and personal success while fostering a sense of community, civic responsibility, and an appreciation for diversity. Residence Life will consistently endorse the academic mission of Middle Georgia State University while supporting and promoting the mission of the Office of Student Affairs

I have 3 kids in 3 different colleges, I wish they were all here. The baseball team moved my son into his room<sup>3</sup> in 10 minutes. I worried the whole way down here about it and it was done in 10 minutes! A female janitor stopped working and walked us to the cafeteria. Her name is Patrice and she is fabulous. A handsome police officer went to his car and got us some bug spray. He told us where we could buy it in town. I know these people's names. I know you, I know Officer Shane, I know Patrice and Mr. Whitfield.... I don't know any names at the other 2 schools.

- Mrs. Sun Pok Preston



## HIGHLIGHTS

- Another successful Alternative Spring Break. This year we went to New Orleans, LA and worked with one of the local Boys and Girl Club and with Habitat for Humanity.
- RHA was selected to present two programs at their regional conference (SAACURH) at the University of Central Florida. Charlita Wynn and Kelitha Silien placed in the Top 20 of programs for the over 80 programs presented at conference.
- RHA was selected to present two programs at their state conference (GRHO) at Georgia Tech. Carmishia Primus and Alexa Carey placed in the Top 10 of programs for this conference.
- Redesigned website, priority housing assignments, curbside Move In Day check-ins, early/late check in processes for athletes, interns, and international students.

## by the NUMBERS:

# 1594

residential students moved in Fall 2016. The most residential students ever at MGA.

# 12

students (up from 10) attended Alternative Spring Break in New Orleans this year.

# x2

Doubled the number of off campus events compared to AY 15-16

# 93

Percent of residents surveyed are satisfied or very satisfied with RA programming this year.

# 332

time slots assigned for instant contract renewal for Fall 2017

# STUDENT CONDUCT:

## UNIT PURPOSE

The Middle Georgia State University Student Code of Conduct requires that each student approach all academic endeavors, relationships, and personal responsibilities with a strong commitment to personal integrity and interpersonal civility. All students are expected to read, understand, and abide by the Code of Conduct. The Office of Student Affairs has responsibility for administering the student conduct as set forth in the Code.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Partnered with faculty and staff at Fort Valley State University to provide student conduct training and Title IX investigator training
- Proactive discussions with faculty continued to provide opportunities to address issues and concerns in ways that supported faculty, while holding students accountable and providing them opportunities to learn and correct behaviors, to prevent re-occurrences.
- Revamped the “Responsibilities” section of the Code of Conduct to allow for easier transition into our online student conduct software and database.
- Continued strong partnership and collaboration with Residence Life staff saw increases in reports of behavioral infractions, but more consistent reporting of these infractions.

*"I am most appreciative of the opportunity to be allowed to finish the semester and be granted your help in allowing me to finish my classes. I am also very grateful for the meeting we had to discuss what options would be available to me. I do understand what actions must be placed in order for the continuation of my education at Middle Georgia State University, as well as what steps I must take to ensure everything continues smoothly during this time." - From a Student charged with possible violation of the Student Code of Conduct*

## by the NUMBERS:

**89**  
reported cases of academic misconduct

**261**  
reported cases of behavioral misconduct

**6**  
reports made to the Assessment and Care Team

**2**  
Only two cases heard before student conduct panels; all other cases were resolved either with the professor (for academic cases) or with the conduct officer/residence life staff (for behavioral cases).



# STUDENT LIFE:

## UNIT PURPOSE

Student Life at Middle Georgia State University aims to foster meaningful engagement outside of the classroom. Through programming, Student Life also challenges and encourages students as they establish their own identity and develop competence, purpose, and integrity.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Student Government Association officially ratified their first constitution.
- Student Life offered over 130+ student programs, including Homecoming, Spring Fling, Tubman Museum Trip, Braves Games, Spring Picnic, Movie Knights, and Game Knights.
- Student Life, in collaboration with Careers Services and Diversity, hosted the first ever Student Leadership Conference.

Student life has brought upon some of the best times of my college career. Not only do I have a great time at activities, I also enjoy taking part in student organizations that impact our school every day. — Dennis Polite



Mardi Gras  
2017





# HOMECOMING



OCT  
**25** **Concert on the Green**  
Dublin Campus 6p - 8p  
Food, fun and live music

NOV  
**02** **Pre-Game Extravaganza**  
Cochran Campus 3p - 6p  
Fair style activities, free food, music, meet the athletes

NOV  
**02** **Pep Rally**  
Cochran Campus 6:30p - 8p  
Music, sports teams, band, cheerleaders, dance team, giveaways

NOV  
**03** **International Food Festival**  
Cochran Campus 3p - 7p  
Taste the cuisines of the world

NOV  
**03** **Homecoming Football Game**  
Cochran Campus 7p - 10p  
MGA vs Atlanta Sports Academy! GO KNIGHTS!

NOV  
**04** **Comedy Show**  
Cochran Campus 7p - 9p  
Come enjoy stand-up comedy by Nema Williams & Sean Larkins

NOV  
**05** **Heart of Georgia Air Show**  
Eastman Campus 10a - 3p  
Enjoy thrilling aerobatic entertainment

**MGA.EDU/HOMECOMNG**

visit the website for campus inter-campus busing hours



# TITLE IX OFFICE:

## UNIT PURPOSE

The Title IX Office addresses violations under Title IX while providing training and oversight in compliance with federal and state laws. The Office also develops, delivers, and oversees Title IX programs as well as the protected class discrimination and harassment for students, faculty, and staff.

"Sexual assault and any other sexual misconduct is taken very seriously at Middle Georgia State University. It is also the mission of MGA's Title IX Office to implement even more ways to educate and bring awareness to the seriousness of these offenses. The safety of everyone is our priority."  
-Jenia Bacote, Director of Diversity, Inclusion, & Equity/Title IX Coordinator

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Attended twelve days of Title IX-related training throughout the year
- Partnered with Campus Police to present safety and prevention to First Year Experience classes
- Presented Title IX to members of the Houston-Peach Branch of the American Association of University Women
- Trained registrants for the Macon Judicial Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) on "Understanding Title IX"
- Provided the student newspaper awareness articles and coordinator contact information during Spring

## by the NUMBERS:

# 88

percent reported that EverFi training prepared them to make responsible decisions about drinking

# 88

percent reported that EverFi training helped them to establish a plan ahead of time to make responsible decisions about drinking

# 76

percent changed their perceptions of other's drinking behavior

# 28

An overall gain of 28% in knowledge about alcohol and its effects on behavior after completing EverFi training

# 46

percent reported not drinking in the past year; 34% reported not drinking in the past two weeks



# Student LEADERSHIP AWARDS:



## HONORED 38 STUDENTS

Each year, Student Affairs pays tribute to those students who enrich Middle Georgia State University through their leadership roles in clubs, organizations, teams, and publications – all while maintaining good grade point averages. These student leaders demonstrate the high value of learning outside of the classroom. On April 12, we honored 38 students who were selected for recognition for outstanding leadership and service to the University.



## THE STUDENT EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR AWARD

recognized the important role of student employees at Middle Georgia State University. Student employees provide invaluable service to the institution. Carmishia Primus, who managed two part-time jobs in addition to challenging class schedules, was the recipient of the 2017 Student Employee of the Year. As an orientation leader and a resident assistant, Carmishia was described as “a leader who leads by example” and “a level headed, intelligent, trustworthy young woman.”

**Carmishia Primus**

The Student Employee of the Year



## THE OUTSTANDING RSO COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

recognized the Recognized Student Organization (RSO) with outstanding stewardship with their many community service projects. For their representation of Middle Georgia State University through their extensive contributions of service to communities in middle Georgia, the recipient of the Outstanding RSO Community Service Award was Middle Georgia Respiratory Education Action Team (MGREAT). MGREAT President, Katelyn Odom and Respiratory Therapy Director of Clinical Education, Jasmine Brown accepted the award on behalf of the organization.

### Middle Georgia Respiratory Education Action Team

MGREAT President, Katelyn Odom and Respiratory Therapy Director of Clinical Education, Jasmine Brown



### Brothers of Leadership and Distinction

Christopher Price, Tyler Cooper, Thomas Smith and advisor, Demetrius Smith.

## THE OUTSTANDING RECOGNIZED STUDENT ORGANIZATION AWARD

recognized the club or organization that contributed to student engagement at Middle Georgia State University during the academic year. For their many events, programs, community service, and collaborations on both the Cochran and Macon campuses, the recipient of the Outstanding Recognized Student Organization Award was Brothers of Leadership and Distinction. Christopher Price, Tyler Cooper, Thomas Smith and advisor, Demetrius Smith accepted the award.

# Greatness★ AWARDS

Student Affairs Division annually recognizes staff members for their outstanding work and overall greatness for the academic year. The 2017 Greatness Award recipients:



This award recognizes a “behind the scenes” individual who consistently and effectively performs his or her duties in a manner that enhances the work environment for others. Heather’s duties are typically performed behind the scenes during the planning, execution, breakdown, and assessment of program development and are absolutely critical to the success of Career Services. Her support has helped yield this university a 40% increase in the number of attendees at MGA sponsored career fairs and almost doubled the number of walk-ins for first time visitors to Career Centers located on the two largest MGA campuses

## Heather McIntosh UNSUNG HERO



This award recognizes an individual who consistently goes that “extra mile” to provide exemplary service to students. John is always willing to help out other teams by keeping the clock, helping with a game, and most notably, working to solve a soccer field issue after a downpour so the game could resume safely. John received a letter from the opposing coach thanking him for his hard work to get the game set and saying that he had “never seen members of a staff come together like that in all of his years of coaching.”

## John Jeanes EXTRA MILE



This award recognizes an individual with 1-3 years of professional experience who has consistently exceeded the responsibilities of his or her position in a way that enhances the experience for students. Through her leadership, creativity, care for the students, and love for MGA, Devereaux has transformed the Warner Robins campus into a campus that is vibrant and full of life. She is the ultimate team player. While planning department events, she is always one of the first to volunteer to take on tasks, she never complains about work that is assigned to her, and she unselfishly fills in for any colleague when they need support. Dr. Guyton said, “She represents everything that one would want in a team member. Since she has started in her new role, she has not only made Warner Robins campus better, she has made MGA better.”

## Devereaux Lindsey NEW PROFESSIONAL





This award recognizes an individual from outside the Division whose extraordinary contribution has enriched the lives of students and made an impact on Student Affairs at MGA. Jed is a great friend to Athletics as the eligibility representative in the Registrar's office as well as through assistance related to transcript evaluations, dropped classes, or any other issue Athletics asks for help. He can fix many issues and he always completes eligibility certificates quickly to get the student-athletes ready to compete. Jed is always helpful and has been a great friend to Athletics for many years.

## Jed Edge

### FRIEND OF THE DIVISION



This award recognizes an individual in the Division who has demonstrated exceptional leadership to improve Student Affairs at MGA. Corey has transformed his division to the benefit to our students and our campus community. He came in and created a student programming model based in student development theory and provided a new direction for student engagement at MGA. This model was so innovative that it was included in the institution's strategic plan for the year. Corey successfully worked with what remained of SGA to create and finalize a working SGA constitution on which we can now build a university caliber student government association. With a new student programming model, a new SGA, work with AAMI Grant and BOLD, hiring new staff members in the department, and creating the first annual Student Leadership Conference (another strategic initiative), he has provided a very strong foundation upon which student engagement can and will continue to be built.

## Corey Guyton

### DISTINGUISHED LEADERSHIP



Coach Knight was named SSAC Baseball Coach of the Year for a second year in a row after leading his team to a 40-12 record in 2017 and winning the SSAC with a 19-5 record. He has led the team to a 102-66 record since MGA moved to the NAIA and he has 140 overall wins at Middle Georgia.

## Paul Knight

### SSAC COACH OF THE YEAR





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State University

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