Provost’s Report to the Cabinet 2/16/12

Below are some academic highlights since the Cabinet last met in December 2011.

Appointments/searches
Two key administrative positions were filled recently when Jennifer Frum was named vice president for public service and outreach and Michelle Garfield Cook was named associate provost for institutional diversity. Both served in these positions on an interim basis while searches were conducted. Jerry Legge has been named interim associate provost for academic planning after Bob Boehmer was asked to serve as interim president of East Georgia College. The four finalists for dean of the Franklin College of Arts and Sciences are on campus for interviews this month. And David Dodson has been appointed executive assistant to the provost, succeeding Susan Landrum, who steps down from that role at the end of February.

Awards/honors
Several faculty members have recently received prestigious honors. Genetics professor Jonathan Arnold was named a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science; Joachim Walther, an assistant professor of engineering, is the recipient of a National Science Foundation CAREER Award; and Franklin West, an assistant professor of animal and dairy science, has been named one of 12 “Emerging Scholars” in the nation by Diverse magazine. In addition, UGA’s Global Programs in Sustainability earned an honorable mention award for Innovation in International Education from the Institute of International Education.

Other news
The Grady College of Journalism and Mass Communication was recently reaccredited, with the review team concluding that the college is a national leader in its field. Sadly, the college lost one of its most revered faculty members when Conrad Fink, who held the Morris Chair in Newspaper Management and Strategy, passed away in January.

The university community is invited to the dedication ceremony for the UGA Libraries new Special Collections Building on Feb. 17 and to a special event marking the 66th anniversary of the Fulbright Program, the largest U.S. international exchange program, on Feb. 23 in the Grand Ballroom of the Tate Student Center.

To keep up with news of academic affairs at UGA visit the Office of the Provost Facebook page launched this semester.