

NEW FACULTY AND RETURNING FACULTY (RE) ORIENTATION SCHEDULE

FALL 2023

This year's New and Returning Faculty (Re)Orientation is designed to provide full-time VSU faculty members with the following:

- (1) The opportunity to meet and build community with faculty from across the university.
- (2) An introduction—or reintroduction—to Valdosta State University—its mission and plans as well as your role as faculty member.
- (3) An overview with the resources, materials, and modalities available for teaching and advising.

All activities will be held face-to-face; returning faculty should register for the “All Faculty” sessions they plan to attend through VSU’s [Employee Training Portal](#). Materials and hand-outs from sessions will be available to new faculty in their BlazeVIEW course titled, “New Full-Time Faculty ACYR 23-24.”

Monday, July 31 and Tuesday, August 1 for New Faculty

By appointment Our Human Resources Team will be available to meet with new faculty in the HR office to complete any necessary paperwork and to answer questions.

Tuesday, August 1

5-7 pm **For New Faculty: Getting to Know VSU and Each Other**
CELT You and a guest are invited to join us for this reception where you will
(102 Georgia Ave.) have the opportunity to meet each other and learn about how to gain the most from orientation. Our President, members of the VSU cabinet, our Interim Provost and members of the Deans’ Council will be there to greet you.

Wednesday, August 2

Beverage service will be provided in both the morning and afternoon.

Morning Sessions

STEAM Center

(1302 N. Patterson St.)

9:00-9:15 am **For New Faculty: “Class” Photo. Come prepared to have your photo made with this year’s class of new faculty**

9:30-11:00 am

For All Faculty: A Faculty Member's Role in a Comprehensive Public University

Meet VSU's Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dr. Sheri Noviello who will be leading an interactive discussion about the role faculty play in a comprehensive university and VSU's and Academic Affairs' strategic goals and initiatives, and how you can get involved.

11:15-12:15

For All Faculty: "Rules of the Road"

Dr. Sheri Gravett, Associate Provost for Academic Programs and Services, will share guidelines and resources useful for designing courses and preparing syllabi, including learner-centered approaches to course policies such as attendance, academic honesty, and more.

BREAK (12:15-1:45)

Afternoon Sessions

1:45-3:00 pm

**Converse Hall
Auditorium 1204**

For All Faculty: Developing a Campus Culture of Wellness

As faculty members, you have a role in being part of a campus environment that fosters well-being both for yourselves and your students. Join our panel to learn more about your resources as we discuss how to promote respect and inclusion, a safe and secure environment, and emotional and physical wellness.

3:15-4:15 pm

**Converse Hall
Auditorium 1204**

For Undergraduate Faculty Advisors: Introduction to Holistic Advising

Dr. Alicia Roberson, Director of Advising, will facilitate a panel discussion with faculty who have advised and mentored undergraduates at VSU. As an academic advisor, faculty members must be prepared to work not only with students' academic needs but with the issues they confront as they navigate their college experience. This session will talk about ways to address those issues, strategies for overcoming challenges such as leveraging technology and limited time, and campus resources to help.

OR

Converse Hall 1103

For Graduate Faculty Advisors: Best Practices and Resources for advising Grad Students

Dr. Becky da Cruz, Associate Provost for Graduate Studies and Research will moderate this session of graduate faculty coordinators/advisors who will share the resources, tips, and tricks in advising their graduate students as well as offer an open forum for the attendees to share what they have found that works for them.

4:30-5:00 pm

For All Faculty: Overview of Advising Technology

A brief introduction to all the tools that advisors will need to use, including training for faculty in the foundations of advising that can be completed asynchronously online in BlazeVIEW.

Thursday, August 3

Beverage service available in the morning and afternoon.

Morning Sessions

STEAM Center

(1302 N. Patterson St.)

9:00-11:00 am **For All Faculty: Tips for Effective Teaching the First Day F2F or Online**
Dr. Jamie Landau will introduce you to VSU's CELT (Center for Excellence in Learning and Teaching) and explore evidence-based strategies to get your class off to a successful start, whether you are teaching face-to-face or online.

11:15 am-12:15 pm **For All Faculty: Introduction to Banner**
Our registrar, Mr. Stanley Jones, will introduce you to VSU's computer system as well as to important policies and procedures.

Afternoon Sessions

2:00-3:00 pm **For Faculty Advisors: Open Lab for Advising Technology**
Odum Library 2633 Join some of VSU's professional advisors in playing with the technology tools available for faculty advisors.

2:00-3:00 pm **For New Faculty: Systems Orientation/Technology Support**
Odum Library 3270 Information Technology (IT) will provide you with information regarding the various technology systems, technology training resources, Solution Center services, and computer security.

3:15-4:15 pm **For All Faculty: Intro to Online Teaching at VSU, including BlazeVIEW**
Odum Library 3270 CELT-eLearning's Training Specialist, Bryan FitzGerald, will provide an overview of educational technologies available at VSU, including BlazeVIEW (VSU's learning management system). Additionally, he will cover requirements for CELT-eLearning's Online Teaching Certificate, the growth in online learning, VSU policies related to online teaching, the Online College for Career Advancement (OCCA) at VSU, as well as special considerations for FERPA in an online course.

4:30-5:30 pm **For All Faculty: Learn BlazeVIEW**

Odum Library 3270 Complete *Learn BlazeVIEW* in-person in a computer lab with CELT-eLearning's Training Specialist. Usually offered as an asynchronous online course, this interactive training during new faculty orientation introduces all faculty to VSU's learning management system and counts as 1-credit hour toward CELT-eLearning's Online Teaching Certificate. This course covers the basic functionality of BlazeVIEW and helps learners navigate the landing page and their course pages.

OR

For New Faculty: Year-Long Campus Tour and Scavenger Hunt

Kick-off a year-long scavenger hunt—offered just to new faculty—starting with a tour of VSU's Center for Excellence in Learning and Teaching (CELT) at 102 Georgia Avenue. Begin now before classes start to find your way around different parts of campus but complete the scavenger hunt by the end of the Spring 2024 semester for a chance to win prizes. For details, see: [insert hyperlink to flyer]

Friday, August 4

9:00-10:30 am **Odum Library 3270** **For New Faculty: Benefits? Retirement? Tell me more!**
This drop-by session is designed for anyone wanting more information on how to gain the most from their USG benefits and retirement options.

10:30-11:15 am **Odum Library 3270** **For New Faculty: Welcome to Odum Library**
Members of our reference faculty will introduce you to the many resources available to faculty and their students through Odum Library and the University of Georgia System.

12:30-2:00 pm **CELT**
(102 Georgia Ave.)
Light refreshments
For All Faculty: Peer Faculty Mentoring and Affinity Groups
Come to CELT to meet and form affinity groups with faculty colleagues who have similar interests, needs, and/or identities as you (e.g., professors who are also parents or caregivers, preparing for promotion and tenure, "Salty Old Survivors," outdoor adventurers!). CELT's Director will facilitate a community-building activity to help you find your peers, mentor each other, and make plans for group gatherings this year.

First Day of Class, Monday, August 14