

## Meet the Business Analysts!



After implementing our Financial Management System (FMS) in July of 2018, we quickly saw the need for Business Analysts to help bridge the gap between our functional and technical teams. **Liz Walker** and **Dave Register** joined the Finance Division in February and May 2019, respectively. As Business Analysts, Liz and Dave work with the functional module leads and other personnel within the Finance Division and Administrative Information Systems (AIS) to implement system changes, enhancements and other business process improvements and efficiencies. In that, they assist in preparing specifications for developers, preparing test cases, conducting testing, and troubleshooting any post production issues. Liz and Dave also work with the training and communications teams on the development of training material and communication of new and enhanced functionality, including drafting release notes for every FMS and Budget Management System release and upgrade.

In addition to their normal business analyst duties, Liz and Dave also serve in other roles. Liz serves as the functional Reporting Lead. In this role she develops and updates queries, assists with troubleshooting and resolution of FMS reporting issues, and is also responsible for the Business Management and Financial Statistics Workcenters. Dave serves as the functional Security & Workflow Lead. In this role he provides production support for FMS security and workflow and OneUSG Connect to FMS integration issues, develops enhancements to workflow within the FMS and for data integration from OneUSG Connect to FMS, and provides support and development of the Access Request Form (ARF).

### Liz Walker

Liz began her UGA career in the UGA central Procurement Office, working there for 4 years before joining Information Technology Services for the University System of Georgia, where she worked 5+ years as a Business Analyst, primarily providing support for the Purchasing module. She has been in the System for over 11 years now.



Liz lives in Winterville with her husband Dustin and their daughter, 2-year-old Harper, who is just the light of their life! In her free time, Liz enjoys embroidering, cooking & baking, and spending lots of time outside with her family. Liz is also a proud Navy veteran!

### Dave Register

Dave joined UGA after working for 5 years as a Business Analyst with Information Technology Services for the University System of Georgia, primarily providing support for the Accounts Payable and Purchasing modules. Before that, Dave worked for almost 20 years with a wholesale supply company in Athens as a Purchasing Manager.



Dave has lived in Athens for over 30 years since coming to UGA as a freshman and is a graduate of Grady College. He and his wife, Christmas, have three beautiful children: Corinne, Neil, and Grey. Dave enjoys books, music, and spending as much time as possible offline with his family.

# Working Remotely and I'm Loving It!



Working outside on my laptop on warm, sunny days. In the famous words of John Denver, "Sunshine on my shoulder makes me happy."



Sleep in and save gas = Win - Win!



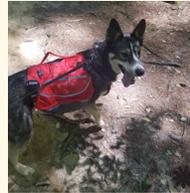
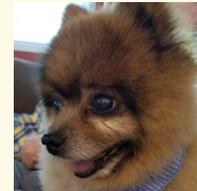
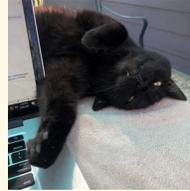
I can see the light! Having windows and natural light are a big plus.



Small coworkers are definitely the best part according to Jonathan Wentworth.

Our favorite part?

*Having furry supervisors!*



## Wellness Wednesdays!

We hope you have seen our email series, **Wellness Wednesday!** Created to help us all stay healthy while working remotely, our hope is that these emails will provide some guidance and comfort in these uncertain times.

Be sure to send us feedback to let us know how you are handling this situation. Feel free to share any recommendations or resources for managing this time at home.

Please email the Spark Committee at [spark-comm@uga.edu](mailto:spark-comm@uga.edu) with your feedback. You may even be published in a **Wellness Wednesday** email!

## Thank you for Elevating the G!

- Bursar and Treasury Services has put an amazing effort towards processing refunds for our students. As of April 7, there were 33,422 students refunded which included 25,445 processed as direct deposit, 3,125 processed back to a credit card and 5,851 checks. Their efforts don't stop there! An additional 4,000+ refunds remain to be processed to a sponsor, university account and/or student. These refunds include refunds for fees, dining and parking. In addition, another 7,500+ refunds for housing will be processed to our students in the coming days. Their dedication and outstanding efforts certainly shine through to our students and division!
- To meet the needs of the University quickly moving to a remote work status, the Procurement Office ramped up the processing of urgent IT purchases to ensure we were able to successfully operate remotely. In addition, Procurement has been working closely with the State of Georgia Purchasing Division and our statewide contract suppliers to understand any temporary closures or other changes in supplier business operations. As we navigate through operating remotely, we are fortunate for the marvelous efforts put forth by our Procurement team!

## May Holidays:

- May 4 – Star Wars Day  
May 5 – Cinco de Mayo  
May 6 – Nurses Day  
May 8 – Have a Coke Day  
May 10 – Mothers Day, Clean Your Room Day  
May 13 – National Apple Pie Day  
May 15 – Pizza Party Day  
May 16 – Armed Forces Day  
May 18 – No Dirty Dishes Day  
May 19 – Endangered Species Day  
May 22 – Maritime Day, Work from Home Day  
May 24 – Brothers Day, National Scavenger Hunt Day  
May 25 – Memorial Day  
May 27 – Sunscreen Day  
May 29 – Learn About Composting Day

Coincidence?  
I think not  
↓

# FINANCE Family

The following people are celebrating years of service milestones from April and May of 2020:

Kenneth McCollum – 25 years  
Callie Adams – 5 years  
Jennifer Dunlap – 20 years  
Andre Simmons – 15 years  
Paula Bond – 20 years

*Please note that for newsletter purposes, we are counting from the employee's actual hire date and Finance and Administration uses a different date for their recognition.*

## 2020 F&A Merit Recognition Awards Finalists from Finance Division:

### Customer Service

Tiffany Payne

### Tough Dawg

Gail Chester  
Patricia McDonald  
Hall Gibson

### Unsung Hero

Kim Johnson  
Brandi Jones

### Newcomer Award

Stacy McLaine  
Amber Wingo  
Ching Yang

## New Employees to Finance Division:

Sumin Moon – F&A IT  
Robert Uniak – F&A IT  
Chayenne Samson – Directory Assistance

## Graduates:

Ethan Goodwin – Support Services  
Ty Burns – Support Services



Let's take a moment to congratulate the following Finance Division employees for earning "Kudos" from internal and external customers for February through April of 2020:

Joshua Haynes, Service Desk  
Emily Salvia, Procurement  
Hall Gibson, Accounts Payable  
Tish Meadows, Post Award  
Sarah Courtney, Post Award  
Claire Boyd, Procurement  
Payroll Team  
Time & Absence Team  
Pauline LaCount, Procurement  
Ginger Ayers, Payroll  
Rachel Bartlett, Budget Office  
F&A IT

# FOOD BANK

of NORTHEAST GEORGIA

Through this difficult period of social distancing, telecommuting, and inhaling COVID-19 news coverage, many of us have found ourselves in an interesting predicament; though more time may be found for volunteering, outlets are in scarce supply. Those of us which spend a little time assisting in the entertainment of those in assisted living facilities, add to enriching after-hour tutelage for our area's students, or a myriad of other community endeavors, are finding that their help, while greatly appreciated and highly desirable, are nevertheless incompatible with our current atmosphere.

Generally, we tend to highlight volunteer opportunities which focus on investing time and energy; in this way, community bonds are strengthened and friendships blossom. Due to COVID-19, we would like to urge you to find gratifying outlets for volunteerism without compromising the health of yourself or your family.

In light of this, we would like to bring the **Northeast Georgia Food Bank** to your attention. Serving the Athens community, NE GA Food Bank has refined their purchasing power to ensure that funds donated to their organization fulfill as large an impact within the community as possible. In their hands, \$1 can fund four meals! With programs designed to focus on age brackets from youth to seniors, their impressive track record of 28 years, and the infrastructure they have been able to create, NE GA Food Bank may be the perfect way to safely show your community some love.



To make a donation to the Northeast Georgia Food Bank, please visit [foodbanknega.org/contact/donate](https://foodbanknega.org/contact/donate).

## Treasure Hunt!

Get your sleuthing skills ready to play this month's Treasure Hunt! To play, just find all the hidden **flowers** in the newsletter, then submit the correct answer via email to [spark-comm@uga.edu](mailto:spark-comm@uga.edu) by May 29. Up to 3 winners will be chosen to receive a prize.

Congratulations to **Phyllis Savage** in Mail and Receiving for winning last month's treasure hunt!

Enjoy your Jittery Joe's gift card!



Phyllis Savage  
Mail and Receiving

## Would you like to see your name here?

Contact the Spark Committee at  
[spark-comm@uga.edu](mailto:spark-comm@uga.edu) to apply!

## YOUR SPARK COMMITTEE

Sam Chafin	Procurement
Casey Chitwood	Student Account Services
Beth Martin	Finance Division
Stacy McLaine	Accounts Payable
Crystal Rogers	OneSource Support Services
Victoria Salyers	Communications
Harold Waters	Bulldog Print + Design
Tim Welsh	Bulldog Print + Design

[busfin.uga.edu/spark](https://busfin.uga.edu/spark)