

2026 Beard Leadership Circle

Managing Change for Student Success

(From Siloed Support to a Connected College)

Academic Affairs and Student Affairs

(Current or prospective department chairs, academic division/department/area-level leadership; mid-level SA staff - directors, leads, coordinators)

July 20-24, 2026

Final draft as of July 14

TIME	TOPIC	LOCATION	FACILITATORS
MONDAY, JULY 20			
1.00 - 5.30 pm	Own transportation or campus shuttle to Georgia College campus for participants		
	Participant Check-in	Adams Hall	Claire and GCSU Housing
5.30 pm	Campus Tour	In front of Adams Hall	Student ambassador
6.30 pm	Dinner on own		

TUESDAY, JULY 21

Theme - Leading Change: Understanding the Institution

8.00 - 9.00 am	Opening breakfast with campus welcome from Georgia College	The Depot	
9.00 - 9.20 am	Bio break and move to plenary room		
9.20 - 9.30 am	Welcome	Pat Peterson, Library	Karen & Niti
	Overview of Skills & Schedule	Pat Peterson, Library	Karen
9.30 - 10.30 am	Managing Change	Pat Peterson, Library	Niti
10.30 - 10.40 am	Break		
10.40 - 10.45 am	Instructions for Case Study	Pat Peterson, Library	Eric
10.45 - 11.45 am	Case Study 1 Discussion Groups	Angela: Arts & Sciences building Room 316 Eric: Arts & Sciences building Room 115 Sarah: Arts & Sciences building 116 Holly: Arts & Sciences building Room 164 Karen: Arts & Sciences building Room 216 Niti: Arts & Sciences building Room 315 Jeannette: Pat Peterson, Library	All facilitators
11.45 am - 12.45 pm	Focused Lunch: leadership at public liberal arts colleges and univ.	Pat Peterson, Library	Karen & Angela
12.45 - 1.30 pm	Green time		
1.30 - 2.30 pm	Skills for Managing Change: Community & Consensus Building	Pat Peterson, Library	Angela & Jeannette
2.30 - 2.40 pm	Break		
2.40 - 3.40 pm	Skills for Managing Change: Reading the Data Beneath the Story	Pat Peterson, Library	Niti and Sarah

3.40 - 4.10 pm	Networking Bingo (as you move to where your Case Study group met in the morning)		Angela
4.10 - 5.00 pm	Reflection Round 1: What would you change in your Case Study 1 proposal after today's sessions, and why?	Angela: Arts & Sciences building Room 316 Eric: Arts & Sciences building Room 115 Sarah: Arts & Sciences building 116 Holly: Arts & Sciences building Room 164 Karen: Arts & Sciences building Room 216 Niti: Arts & Sciences building Room 315 Jeannette: Pat Peterson	All facilitators
5.00 - 6.00 pm	Green time/Administrative time		
6.00 - 6.45 pm	Reception	Willow Room, Magnolia Center	
6.45 - 7:30 pm	Dinner on campus	Georgia's Old Governor's Mansion	

WEDNESDAY, JULY 22

Theme - Leading Others: Collaboration & Communication

8.00 - 9.00 am	Breakfast (stop by anytime, go through dining hall line)	The MAX Dining Hall	
9.00 - 9.10 am	Synthesis and Takeaways from Day 1	Pat Peterson, Library	Angela
9.10 - 10.10 am	Case Study 2 Discussion Groups	Angela: Arts & Sciences building Room 316 Eric: Arts & Sciences building Room 115 Sarah: Arts & Sciences building 116 Holly: Arts & Sciences building Room 164 Karen: Arts & Sciences building Room 216 Niti: Arts & Sciences building Room 315 Jeannette: Pat Peterson	All Facilitators
10.10 - 10.20 am	Break		
10.20 - 11.20 am	Emotionally Intelligent Leadership	Pat Peterson, Library	Eric
11.20 - 11.35 am	Group photo	Outside Pat Peterson!	Claire
11.35 am - 12:20 pm	Focused Lunch: Holistic Student Supports	Pat Peterson, Library	Sarah & Holly, Jeannette moderates
12:20 - 12:50 pm	Green time/Administrative time (deadline to sign up for optional Thursday breakfast small-group mentoring sessions)		
12.50 - 1.50 pm	Skills for Managing Change: Communication Strategies for Cross-Divisional Collaboration	Pat Peterson, Library	Holly & Angela
1.50 - 2.00 pm	Break		
2.00 - 3.00 pm	Designing Student-Centered Initiatives	Pat Peterson, Library	Niti & Jeanette

3.00 - 4.00 pm	Reflection Round 2: What cross-divisional student success change initiative would you champion and why?	Angela: Arts & Sciences building Room 316 Eric: Arts & Sciences building Room 115 Sarah: Arts & Sciences building 116 Holly: Arts & Sciences building Room 164 Karen: Arts & Sciences building Room 216 Niti: Arts & Sciences building Room 315 Jeannette: Pat Peterson	All facilitators
4.00 - 4.10 pm	Break		
4.10 - 4.45 pm	Breaking Down Sticky Barriers	Pat Peterson, Library	Holly
4.45 - 5.00 pm	Book Club and Future Cohort Meetings	Pat Peterson, Library	Karen and Eric
5.00 - 6.00 pm	Green time/Administrative time		
Evening	Dinner Circles (Sign up during the day) or On Your Own	Meet at Adams Hall	

THURSDAY, JULY 23

Theme - Leading Your Initiatives: Generating Buy-In and Follow Through

8.00 - 9.00 am	Breakfast and (optional) Small Group Mentoring	The MAX Dining Hall	
9.10 - 10.10 am	Skills for Managing Change: Prioritization and Project Management (The True Costs of Change)	Pat Peterson, Library	Holly & Niti
10.10 - 10.20 am	Break		
10.20 - 11.20 am	Skills for Managing Change: Supporting Student Success	Pat Peterson, Library	Jeannette & Richard Glejzer
11.20 - 11.30 pm	Break		
11.30 am - 12.30 pm	Skills for Managing Change: Trust, Accountability, and Boundaries	Pat Peterson, Library	Karen & Sarah
12.30 - 1.15 pm	Focused Lunch: Conversations with a Provost and Student Affairs Leader	Pat Peterson, Library	Holly & Noah Coburn, Eric moderates
1.15 - 2.15 pm	Skills for Managing Change: Difficult Conversations	Pat Peterson, Library	Niti & Eric
2.15 - 2:25 pm	Break		
2.30 - 5.00 pm	Capstone: Managing Change for Student Success	Pat Peterson, Library	All facilitators
5.00 - 6.00 pm	Green time/Administrative time		
6.00 - 7.30 pm	Closing Dinner	The Depot	

FRIDAY, JULY 24

5.00 - 11.30 am	Checkout and transportation to airports
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