

# Staff Council Conference 2025

## DAY 1: SEPTEMBER 30, 2025 - SESSION 1

TIME	WHAT	LOCATION	TITLE
10:00AM - 12:00PM	<b>Check-in and Meet the Vendors</b>	University Center Lobby	<b>Register, Nametags, etc.</b> Presenter: Blazer Team
11:00AM	<b>Lunch</b>	Magnolia Room	<b>Blazer's BBQ Lunch Buffet</b> Presenter: Blazer Team
Blazer's BBQ Lunch Buffet			
11:30AM - 11:45AM	<b>Welcome</b>	Magnolia Room	<b>Official Welcome, Introductions, and Introduction of Chancellor</b> Presenter: Dr. Richard Carvajal
11:45AM - 12:45PM	<b>Welcome</b>	Magnolia Room	<b>Remarks and Q&amp;A</b> Presenter: Chancellor Sonny Perdue
12:45PM - 1:15PM	<b>Icebreaker</b>	Magnolia Room	<b>Meet and Greet</b> Presenter: Blazer Team
Break			
1:20PM - 2:00PM	<b>Session 1 Option A</b>	Cypress Room	<b>Re-ignite Your Passion With Grit and Perseverance:</b> Higher education continues to experience rapid shifts—whether through evolving student needs, institutional priorities, or workplace expectations. These changes can lead to uncertainty and fatigue, making it easy to lose sight of what fuels our passion for the work. This session offers practical strategies to renew your sense of purpose, strengthen resilience, and build perseverance—helping you re-ignite your passion and thrive in a changing environment. <b>Presenter: Wendy Byrd</b>
1:20PM - 2:00PM	<b>Session 1 Option B</b>	University Theater	<b>Transformational Experiences: Radically Re-envisioning the University for the Future:</b> The future of higher education isn't coming; it's already here. Dive into bold ideas inspired by Alternative Universities and discover how experiential learning is reshaping the student experience. Learn how to reimagine structure, purpose, and pedagogy for the next generation of learners. <b>Presenter: Dr. Anne Price</b>
Break			
2:05PM - 2:45PM	<b>Session 1 Option C</b>	Cypress Room	<b>Re-ignite Your Passion With Grit and Perseverance:</b> Higher education continues to experience rapid shifts—whether through evolving student needs, institutional priorities, or workplace expectations. These changes can lead to uncertainty and fatigue, making it easy to lose sight of what fuels our passion for the work. This session offers practical strategies to renew your sense of purpose, strengthen resilience, and build perseverance—helping you re-ignite your passion and thrive in a changing environment. <b>Presenter: Wendy Byrd</b>
2:05PM - 2:45PM	<b>Session 1 Option D</b>	University Theater	<b>Transformational Experiences: Radically Re-envisioning the University for the Future:</b> The future of higher education isn't coming; it's already here. Dive into bold ideas inspired by Alternative Universities and discover how experiential learning is reshaping the student experience. Learn how to reimagine structure, purpose, and pedagogy for the next generation of learners. <b>Presenter: Dr. Anne Price</b>
Please visit our Blazer Snack Box located in the Executive Dining Room for a snack and/or hydration break at any time during the conference. Courtesy of the Blazer Team.			
Break			

## DAY 1: SEPTEMBER 30, 2025 - SESSION 2

TIME	WHAT	LOCATION	TITLE
2:55PM - 3:35PM	<b>Session 2 Option A</b>	Cypress Room	<b>Rooted and Rising: Rediscovering Your Why.</b> In a time of constant transformation, it's easy to feel unmoored. Shifting roles, changing student expectations, and competing institutional demands can make even the most passionate professionals question their path. This reflective session helps you pause, reconnect with your core motivations, and re-center your professional WHY. <b>Presenter: Rosalyn Martinez</b>
2:55PM - 3:35PM	<b>Session 2 Option B</b>	University Theater	<b>COSA Feud:</b> Get ready for laughter, surprises, and a whole lot of fun as two teams go head-to-head in this fast-paced, crowd-pleasing game! Today, we're putting your knowledge, quick thinking, and team spirit to the test, and just like the hit TV show, we surveyed 100 people, and the top answers are on the board! <b>Presenters: Darius Anthony &amp; Sheila Hall</b>
Break			
3:40PM - 4:20PM	<b>Session 2 Option C</b>	Cypress Room	<b>Rooted and Rising: Rediscovering Your Why.</b> In a time of constant transformation, it's easy to feel unmoored. Shifting roles, changing student expectations, and competing institutional demands can make even the most passionate professionals question their path. This reflective session helps you pause, reconnect with your core motivations, and re-center your professional WHY. <b>Presenter: Rosalyn Martinez</b>
3:40PM - 4:20PM	<b>Session 2 Option D</b>	University Theater	<b>COSA Feud:</b> Get ready for laughter, surprises, and a whole lot of fun as two teams go head-to-head in this fast-paced, crowd-pleasing game! Today, we're putting your knowledge, quick thinking, and team spirit to the test, and just like the hit TV show, we surveyed 100 people, and the top answers are on the board! <b>Presenters: Darius Anthony &amp; Sheila Hall</b>
Break			
4:30PM - 5:30PM	<b>Keynote</b>	Magnolia Room	<b>Leading Forward: Energizing Teams, Reimagining Learning, and Thriving Together</b> Presenter: Dr. Gerald Williams
5:35PM - 5:50PM	<b>Group Photo with Blaze</b>	VSU Alumni House (Patterson Street directly across from the UC)	<b>Photographer: Paul Leavy</b> Presenter: Blazer Team
6:00PM - 8:00PM	<b>Evening Social</b>	VSU Alumni House	<b>Blazer's Bottles and Boards</b> Presenter: Blazer Team
6:00PM - 8:00PM	<b>Campus Tours (optional)</b>	Load at VSU Alumni House	<b>Driving and Walking Tour of Our Beautiful Campus</b> Presenter: Blazer Team
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## DAY 2: OCTOBER 1, 2025

TIME	WHAT	LOCATION	TITLE
8:00AM 9:00AM	<b>Information Desk and Breakfast</b>	University Center Lobby	<b>Southern Style Blazer Breakfast</b> Presenter: Blazer Team
Southern Style Blazer Breakfast			
9:00AM - 9:10AM	<b>Final Thoughts</b>	Magnolia Room	<b>Thank You Address, VSU Staff Council Chair and Chair Elect</b> Presenters: Lynette Hepburn-Richardson and Alan Sanderson
9:10AM - 10:10AM	<b>Keynote</b>	Magnolia Room	<b>Leadership in Higher Education During Turbulent Times: How to Rebuild Our Inquiry-Based Society</b> Presenter: Dr. James LaPlant
Break			
10:20AM - 11:30AM	<b>Panel Discussion</b>	Magnolia Room	<b>Best Practice for Staff Council Representatives</b> Presenter: Carla Jordan
Blazer Box Lunch To Go			
12:00PM - 1:00PM	<b>USG Staff Council Meeting</b>	Magnolia Room	<b>University System of Georgia Staff Council Business Meeting (Open Meeting)</b> Presenter: University System of Georgia Team
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