TO: All Faculty and Staff

FROM: ConnectUGA Project Leadership Team

DATE: March 24, 2014

SUBJECT: UGA's new student information system Athena preparing to launch

For the last two years, more than 150 UGA personnel engaged with the ConnectUGA Project have been working to implement Athena, a new student information system that will replace multiple, 30 year-old database systems, including OASIS, that students, faculty and staff use to access and process student information. Athena soon will be utilized by students, faculty and staff for **fall 2014 enrollment** purposes.

Faculty and staff should be aware of the following:
   Students will continue to use OASIS for summer 2014 registration.
   Students who have completed a 2014-15 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) will be sent an email in the coming days from the Office of Student Financial Aid (OSFA) that will provide students with step-by-step instructions for logging into Athena and viewing any additional information needed by OSFA in order to award financial aid for 2014-15.
   Students should be advised by their school or college for fall 2014 before registering for classes.
   Advisors will clear fall 2014 advisement holds in the new Athena system.
   Registration information for fall 2014 is forthcoming, and instructions will be communicated once that phase of Athena is ready for access.
   Training has been underway for targeted groups, including academic and advising staff, and will continue based on business functions through the course of the roll-out of each phase. There are also training materials available at https://connectuga.uga.edu/tools/banner-training accessible with a UGA MyID login for staff who wish to get an overview of the Banner software.

UGA students selected the name Athena in an online poll conducted fall semester 2013. Once fully launched, Athena will provide a new user friendly system that features a web-based log-in using a UGA MyID in which students will be able to easily access academic and financial aid records, register for classes, pay tuition and fees, and update personal information, all in one location.

The first phase of Athena was launched last fall for students applying for fall 2014 admission. Several teams of staff across campus have been working within the ConnectUGA project for the last two years to integrate information into one system.

Much gratitude is extended to the ConnectUGA teams for their hard work over the last two years and as the ConnectUGA project continues through these initial launch periods.