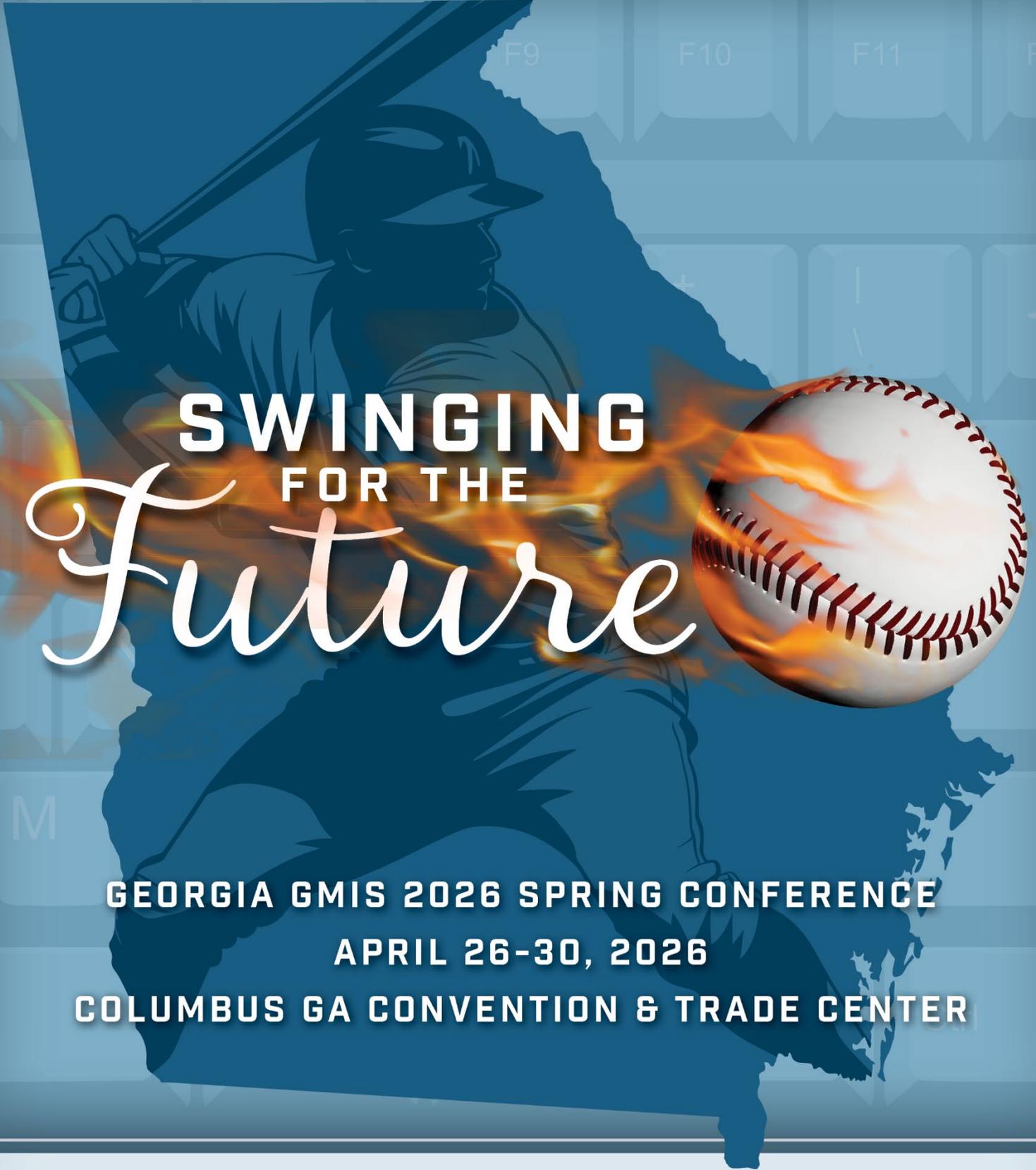




GEORGIA  
**GMIS**



Carl Vinson  
Institute of Government  
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA



**SWINGING**  
FOR THE  
*Future*

**GEORGIA GMIS 2026 SPRING CONFERENCE**  
**APRIL 26-30, 2026**  
**COLUMBUS GA CONVENTION & TRADE CENTER**

**FORTINET®**

Georgia GMIS 2026 Spring  
Technical Training Partner

Dear Members and Colleagues,

I am excited to announce the upcoming **GA GMIS Conference**, taking place **April 26–30 in Columbus, Georgia**. We are looking forward to hosting another engaging and impactful conference focused on collaboration, innovation, and the future of IT in government.

This year's theme, "*Swinging for the Future*," reflects the proactive mindset required of today's IT leaders. Much like baseball, success in technology depends on preparation, teamwork, and the ability to adapt to changing conditions. This conference is designed to help you step up to the plate with the knowledge, tools, and connections needed to succeed.

Our agenda will feature a strong lineup of educational sessions, training opportunities, and time to connect with peers and industry partners. **Although we will not be offering a Cert Trak at this conference**, we are actively seeking members to present topics and share their expertise, experiences, and innovative ideas with fellow GA GMIS members.

We're also excited to incorporate some fun into the week. On **Tuesday night**, we will attend a **Columbus Clingstones ball game**, offering a relaxed setting to network, unwind, and enjoy time together. Then, on **Wednesday**, we will host our **Awards & Certificate Reception**, recognizing achievements across our membership and celebrating those who continue to move GA GMIS forward.

Please note that award submissions are due by **March 13**, and we encourage you to take the time to recognize the outstanding work happening across our community. Additionally, the next CGCIO cohort is now accepting applications. If you are looking to further your leadership development and professional growth, I strongly encourage you to consider applying.

Additional details, including the full conference schedule, will be shared soon. In the meantime, mark your calendars and plan to join us in Columbus as we are "**Swinging for the Future**" together.

I look forward to seeing you there.

Warm regards,

**Jonathan Taylor**  
President, Georgia GMIS



Each day of the conference will provide insight into aspects of the latest trends in information technology, brought to you by experts in the field. Most importantly, you will exchange knowledge and ideas about what works and what doesn't work with your IT peers who represent shops of all sizes from nearly every region of the state.

The schedule for the Georgia GMIS Spring Conference April 26-30:

**Sunday, April 26**

- Half-day Session – **Geek Trak: PowerShell Automation and Security with Microsoft Graph**  
 12:00 PM – 5:00 PM  
 [Please note Geek Trak registration is capped at 30 participants.]

**Monday, April 27** *Professional Business Casual Attire (No jeans)*

**LGCIO Leadership Education Session – Motivation: What it is and what it isn't; Recognition; Keeping Score.**

- General Session – Welcome 8:30 AM – 8:40 AM
- Full-day Sessions – LGCIO and Geek Trak 8:45 AM – 12 Noon, and 1:00 PM – 4:15 PM
- The Good, The Bad and The Ugly Session 4:15 PM – 5:45 PM

**Tuesday, April 28** *Professional Business Casual Attire (No jeans)*

**LGCIO Technical Education Sessions – Emergency Management; Doing Real Work with Agentic Workflows; Building Community through Data; Active Shooter Training**

- General Session – Announcements 8:30 AM – 8:40 AM
- Full-day Sessions – LGCIO and Geek Trak 8:45 AM – 12 Noon, and 1:00 PM – 4:45 PM
- **RETURNING THIS SPRING!** Join Georgia GMIS for an evening at the ballpark – Montgomery Biscuits @ Columbus Clingstones

**Wednesday, April 29**

**Enrichment Sessions – Physical Security Assessments; Open Records & Records Retention**

- Half-day Session – Geek Trak 8:45 AM – 11:30 AM
- Half-day session – Enrichment 8:45 AM – 11:30 AM
- Sponsor Giveaways 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM
- Shirtsleeve Session – On Your Own 12:30 PM – 5:00 PM
- Georgia GMIS Awards & Certificate Reception *Professional Business Attire ~Time TBA~*

**Thursday, April 30**

- Annual Business Meeting 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM

**CONFERENCE REGISTRATION INFORMATION**

**Early Bird Conference Fee Will Run From March 10 - March 29, 2026**

LGCIO Conference Registration Fee (Includes One Baseball Ticket).....	<b>\$400.00</b>
Geek Trak Conference Registration Fee (Includes One Baseball Ticket).....	<b>\$500.00</b>

**Regular Conference Fee Will Run From March 30 - April 17, 2026**

LGCIO Conference Registration Fee (Includes One Baseball Ticket).....	<b>\$500.00</b>
Geek Trak Conference Registration Fee (Includes One Baseball Ticket).....	<b>\$600.00</b>
Guest Ticket (Includes Tuesday Reception and Baseball Ticket).....	<b>\$60.00*</b>

\*Anyone bringing a guest or spouse must request and pay for a guest ticket prior to their arrival at the conference.



**To Register online and pay by credit card (preferred):**

- [Click here to register online](#)
- Step 1:
  - Create new user profile. *\*\*\*When creating a new user profile you may receive a message that a user name already exists in the new system which was migrated from the old system. If you receive this message you will have an opportunity to request a new password.\*\*\**
  - Important for creating a new user profile:
    - **Please DO NOT create a new user profile if you have previously attended CVIQG or other UGA Public Service and Outreach events.**
    - *\*\*\*Please note Georgia GMIS will share participant names and contact information with all conference exhibitors.\*\*\**
    - Each registered participant must have a unique email address. The same email address cannot be used for multiple registrants.
    - In the Address and Telephone section, be sure to select the correct 'Type' (e.g. 'Office') from the drop down selections.
    - In the Employment Information section, enter at minimum your Employer and Job Title.
    - Optionally enter demographic information.
    - Select your preferred Marketing Opt in and Privacy options, and click the boxes to indicate that you have read and understand the privacy policies.
- Step 2:
  - Once you are logged in, select 'Geek Trak' or 'LGCIO'. You can preview the session schedule for each track by clicking 'Session selection information' under each option.
  - Let us know if you're a first-time attendee and fill in any specific accommodation requests.
  - Confirm cart and click 'Pay and Register'.
  - Enter credit card information.
  - Your conference sessions will be automatically selected based on the track you chose (either Geek Trak or LGCIO). *\*\*\*Your sessions are not confirmed until after you have entered your credit card information.\*\*\**

**To Register by mail and pay by check:**

Complete the attached fillable form, email a copy to [tiffanysmith@uga.edu](mailto:tiffanysmith@uga.edu), print and mail a copy with the check payment to the address listed on the form.

**After Registering:**

You will receive several emails which will be directed to the email address you provided when registering/setting up your user profile. The sender name on the emails will be [no-reply-outreach@uga.edu](mailto:no-reply-outreach@uga.edu).

1. **(Applicable to new users only) New Account notification; password action required** (Subject line: *Vice President for Public Service and Outreach New Account*) - This email is being sent because you set up a new user account in the registration system. The email will include a link that you must click on in order to choose a password for future access. Please take immediate action upon receipt of this notice.
2. **Enrollment confirmation** (Subject line: *Carl Vinson Institute of Government Enrollment Notification for 'Your Name'*) - This email provides verification that your enrollment has been received and processed.
3. **Confirmation** (Subject line: *Carl Vinson Institute of Government Confirmation*) - This email provides details of the course you enrolled in, including the cancellation policy.



## Venue Information



### Columbus Convention Center & Trade Center

801 Front Ave  
Columbus, GA 31901

Please visit <https://www.columbustradecenter.com/> for additional information. Please note, overnight guests are strongly encouraged to leave their vehicle parked at the hotel. All sessions will be held within a short walking distance from the hotel into the Convention & Trade Center. Should you choose to move your car from the hotel to the Convention & Trade Center, additional parking fees may apply.



## Hotel Information



### Columbus Marriott

800 Front Ave  
Columbus, GA 31901  
(706) 324-1800

When making your reservation, please mention you are with the Georgia Government Management Information Sciences (Georgia GMIS) conference to get the special rate of \$184 (plus \$5 state hotel/motel fee and applicable taxes) per night.

All reservations can be made by calling (706) 324-1800 or 1-800-455-9261 or online at [this link](#). Be sure to reference the group code **GMIGMIA**. If booking online you must enter a timeframe within the dates of the block 4/25-30 to apply the group code.

**Check-in: 3:00 PM**  
**Check-out: 12:00 PM**

A block of rooms will be held at the hotel until **March 30, 2026**, or until all rooms have been reserved, whichever comes first. After this date, the hotel will make reservations at the prevailing room rate based on availability.

### **HOTEL PARKING**

Self-parking at the Marriott is discounted at \$10 per night. Please note, overnight guests are strongly encouraged to leave their vehicle parked at the hotel. All sessions will be held within a short walking distance from the hotel into the Convention & Trade Center. Should you choose to move your car from the hotel to the Convention & Trade Center, additional parking fees may apply.

**Please remember to bring your tax-exempt forms!**

