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# [New Vice President for Business and Finance Named at Georgia Southern](#)

April 12, 2013

Georgia Southern University President Brooks Keel, Ph.D. has named Robert Whitaker, vice president for business and finance. Whitaker will begin his new role on May 1 and will replace Ron Core, Ph.D., who is retiring from the University.

Prior to joining Georgia Southern, Whitaker had served as vice president for finance and administration at Georgia Highlands College in Rome, Ga. since 2008. He was responsible for the leadership, planning and management of the accounting, budget, campus safety, physical plant, procurement and auxiliary functions of the multi-campus, two-year state college of more than 5,500 students.

From 2001-2008, he served as director of business services at Southern Polytechnic State University in Marietta, Ga. where he also served as interim controller and negotiated auxiliary contracts for housing, food service, vending and the bookstore.

Whitaker began his career in higher education as assistant budget director for the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia, and has served as a budget analyst for the Legislative Budget Office and as a health and financial analyst at the Georgia Department of Medical Assistance in Atlanta, Ga. As a complement to his public sector work, he served as controller at PMG.net, Inc. in Atlanta, where he was responsible for the accounting function including payroll, accounts receivable and accounts payable. He also served as director of operations/financial analyst for Cotelligent, Inc. in Branchburg, N.J.

“During the last 13 years, Rob’s roles in higher education and participation in system-wide projects and initiatives have allowed him to develop strong working relationships with key University System of Georgia leaders and staff,” said Keel. “Not only is he a great leader, but he demonstrated a creative and entrepreneurial spirit during his interviews, both of which will be key to our success moving forward.”

“As an alumnus of Georgia Southern, I am excited to return to my alma mater and contribute as a member of President Keel’s senior leadership team,” said Whitaker. “It is an exciting time to join Georgia Southern and I am looking forward to helping the University to continue to grow as a national research university.”

Whitaker is a graduate of the University System of Georgia’s Executive Leadership Institute and has served as a chair and member for numerous committees. He is Six Sigma Green Belt certified. He earned a bachelor’s in business administration – accounting from Morehead State University and his MBA from Georgia Southern University.

Georgia Southern University, a Carnegie Doctoral/Research University founded in 1906, offers more than 120 degree programs serving more than 20,500 students. Through eight colleges, the University offers bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral degree programs built on more than a century of academic achievement. Georgia Southern is recognized for its student-centered approach to education. Visit: [www.georgiasouthern.edu](http://www.georgiasouthern.edu).

Posted in [Uncategorized](#)

## [New Era in Eaglexpress](#)

April 12, 2013

Georgia Southern University's Department of Auxiliary Services is pleased to announce its new Eaglexpress packages. The updates, or New Era packages, allow students, faculty and staff to purchase Eaglexpress and Dining Dollars using financial aid.

Starting in Fall 2013, each Eaglexpress Package purchase will yield a 10% bonus in Dining Dollars (\$35 or \$70). When using Eaglexpress, the patron receives a 5% discount at all on campus dining locations, helping students maximize meal plan options. For students, faculty and staff convenience, all on-campus dining locations accept Eaglexpress as well as 50+ vendors in the surrounding Statesboro area.

Other campus vendors to accept the Eaglexpress card are The University Store, Computer Store, Eagle Eye Care Center, Eagle Print Shop, Parking and Transportation, Health Services (pharmacy included), and The Center for Wildlife Education. Off-campus vendors include stores and shops such as Chili's, CVS/Pharmacy, GATA's, Moe's Southwest Grill, Statesboro Plastic Surgery Center, Vaden Nissan of Statesboro, and many more.

For more information on Eaglexpress, the Eagle Card, or making an Eaglexpress deposit visit [georgiasouthern.edu/eaglecard](http://georgiasouthern.edu/eaglecard).

The last day to change an Eaglexpress Package for fall semester is August 16, 2013 at 12:00 a.m. The last day to purchase an Eaglexpress Package for fall semester is August 28, 2013 at 5:00 p.m.

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