At a Glance: Georgia Southern University

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Southern

AT A GLANCE

GEORGIA SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY
TOP: The historic center of Georgia Southern, Sweetheart Circle, features an oasis of live oaks, greenspace and buildings dating back to 1906.

ABOVE LEFT: The famed Eagles football team has won six national championship series titles (FCS) and recently advanced to the Sun Belt Conference.

ABOVE RIGHT: Georgia Southern is home to three bald eagles, including Freedom, who flies at football games and commencement ceremonies.
An Overview

Through more than 100 years, Georgia Southern, a Carnegie Doctoral-Research University, has stayed true to one purpose: to advance the educational and economic aspirations of Georgians. A member of the University System of Georgia, it is one of the state’s premier universities with more than 20,000 students and is also one of the top choices in the state for new freshmen and HOPE scholars.

Located just an hour from historic Savannah, Hilton Head Island and the Atlantic coast, Georgia Southern’s 900-plus acre campus is nestled in the classic Main Street community of Statesboro. The city’s host county of Bulloch continues to grow along with the University and is home to more than 70,000 residents.

The University’s traditional residential campus includes three original 100-year-old red brick and white columned buildings anchoring a “historic district” that transitions into contemporary academic and residential buildings - many of which were completed or begun during the past decade’s nearly $300 million of construction and renovation projects.
STUDENTS

Georgia Southern hosts students from nearly every state and more than 100 nations. The average SAT scores for freshman classes exceed both state and national averages.

University students are engaged in community volunteerism, campus theatre productions, academic organizations and recreational athletics. They can choose from more than 300 campus organizations, including 33 social sororities and fraternities, plus honor societies, religious, political and service groups.

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

Georgia Southern offers more than 120 degree programs in eight colleges specializing in Business Administration, Education, Health and Human Sciences, Engineering and Information Technology, Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, Public Health, Science and Mathematics and Graduate Studies.

The University is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, while individual programs and departments hold special accreditations from professional and academic associations that set standards in their fields.

Georgia Southern’s University Honors Program attracts high-achieving students to its reserved classes, seminars and programs. The Office of Student Leadership and Civic Engagement encourages students to make leadership a part of their college resumés and a life-enriching skill.

FACULTY

Georgia Southern’s faculty is committed to a student-centered learning environment, engaging students in academic research and cultural and community activities.

At Georgia Southern, professors not only teach classes, but advise majors and encourage a personal learning environment where students regularly co-present research at regional and national conferences with their faculty mentors. With small classes, students have the opportunity to get to know their professors.
Alumni Networks offer support to the University by providing scholarships for qualified students, assisting in recruiting the best and brightest students and supporting the academic excellence, best interests and traditions of Georgia Southern University. They provide opportunities for Alumni to network, socialize and cheer on the Eagles with other fellow Georgia Southern Alumni. Alumni Networks are an affiliate of the Georgia Southern University Alumni Association and serve as the University’s representative across the Eagle Nation.
ALLEN E. PAULSON COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Named in honor of aviation innovator Allen E. Paulson, the founder of Gulfstream Aerospace Corp., the College combines high-demand degree programs in engineering and IT to meet the needs for a technical workforce in the state, region and country. These degree programs include B.S. in Mechanical, Electrical and Civil Engineering as well as Information Technology, Computer Science and Construction Management. The College also offers M.S. degrees in Computer Science and Applied Engineering as well as graduate certificates in Engineering Management.

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

The College’s degree programs are consistently ranked among the best in the nation by U.S. News & World Report and The Princeton Review. Our bachelors, masters and doctoral programs of study are designed to prepare students to meet the challenges of a constantly changing business environment.

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

The College prepares future educators and leaders through diverse, intensive field experiences, cutting-edge technology and research-based instruction. It is a regional leader in online graduate programs and consistently prepares the highest number of graduate students at the University. The College’s new Youth-At-Risk Center, Goizueta Distinguished Chair in Hispanic/Latino Education and leadership in the University’s Institute for Interdisciplinary STEM Education, reinforce its commitment to these important areas of national need.

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Encompassing the humanities, social sciences, languages and the arts, the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences promotes critical and creative thinking skills, effective communication, intellectual curiosity, appreciation for the power of the arts, leadership and citizenship.

COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SCIENCES

The College of Health and Human Sciences focuses on the health and quality of life of individuals, families and communities with degree programs in the School of Nursing, School of Human Ecology and Department of Health and Kinesiology. The Family Nurse Practitioner program is consistently ranked among the top nursing programs in the nation by U.S. News & World Report.

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS

The College of Science and Mathematics offers nationally recognized degree programs in biology, chemistry, geology and geography, mathematical sciences and physics. The College also offers outstanding
The new Biological Sciences Building spans more than 158,000 square feet, housing five active-learning classrooms, 10 teaching labs and 15 research labs that will be utilized by the more than 1,300 undergraduate and graduate biology students. The design encourages both collaborative and individual research projects.

JIANN-PING HSU COLLEGE OF PUBLIC HEALTH
The first school of public health in the state, the Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health offers a Bachelor of Public Health, Master of Health Administration, Master of Public Health, and Doctor of Public Health degrees. The College is one of only 51 colleges or schools of public health worldwide to receive accreditation and the College oversees three centers as part of its mission: the Center for Rural Health and Research, the Karl E. Peace Center for Biostatistics and Survey Research and the Center for Addiction Recovery.

JACK N. AVERITT COLLEGE OF GRADUATE STUDIES
The Averitt College of Graduate Studies provides administrative oversight for more than 50 graduate degree programs in seven colleges through both campus and online delivery. Guided by accomplished faculty mentors, graduate students earn advanced training in their discipline by engaging in scholarship, teaching and professional service activities characteristic of a challenging and vibrant curriculum in a supportive environment.

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PLANETARIUM

Georgia Southern’s Planetarium, located in the Math-Physics Building, features a new Digistar 5 digital planetarium system. Visitors will enjoy the night sky display, 360-degree full-dome movies with surround sound and real-time tours of the solar system and our galaxy, while exploring the universe beyond. The Planetarium also features the ability to display real-time data from satellites and a NASA feed to watch live events. During the fall and spring semesters, the Planetarium offers free educational presentations for school and public groups.
The Zach S. Henderson Library serves more than 4,000 people daily with resources that support a comprehensive array of degrees, disciplines, research activity and lifelong learning. With more than 400 hard-wired computer work stations, access to archives of data and information, and an innovative storage solution, the Henderson Library ranks as one of the most technologically advanced in the Southeast.

The Library was designed for both independent and collaborative learning and includes group study rooms, presentation practice rooms and a Learning Commons equipped with stations for standard and multi-media applications. The facility houses more than one million books, periodicals and other documents. Behind the scenes, the Automated Retrieval Collection (ARC) allows for the efficient and compact storage of hundreds of thousands of current resources and future acquisitions.
ABOVE: The state-of-the-art Foy Building provides quality learning experiences for music students with a music technology lab, expanded classrooms and rehearsal halls. A variety of musical performances are held in the Carol A. Carter Recital Hall, located within the facility.

SYMPHONY

The Georgia Southern Symphony performs a series of free concerts comprising a wide range of classical and popular compositions for the entertainment and enlightenment of the people of Statesboro and Coastal Georgia communities.
The Center for Art and Theatre offers public exhibitions of visual art created by contemporary professional artists and students and a Black Box Theatre where students, faculty and the public can enjoy the performing arts. The Center for Art and Theatre houses four galleries: the Betty Foy Sanders Georgia Artists Collection, a continuously expanding gift of pieces established and curated by Betty Foy Sanders, Bulloch County native and wife of former Georgia Gov. Carl Sanders; the family-friendly Smith Banks Folk Art Collection, which features two- and three-dimensional pieces of artworks representing the folk art tradition of Georgia; and the Contemporary and University galleries, which feature revolving exhibitions of works by contemporary and emerging artists.
GOLF COURSE

The Georgia Southern University Golf Course at University Park is an 18 hole championship course that includes a 30 station practice range, chipping green and a 10,000 square foot practice putting green. The 167 acre tract of land is located six miles south of Georgia Southern’s main campus in a residential area of Bulloch County. The course is 6,900 yards from the championship tees and includes a total of five sets of tees at each hole to accommodate a variety of player skill levels.

The course was constructed to expand recreational opportunities for the growing Georgia Southern student body through funds from student recreation fees. The golf course is open to the general public at a daily rate or through an annual pass.
RECREATION ACTIVITY CENTER

The state-of-the-art Recreation Activity Center (RAC) has everything you need to stay active including a fitness center, basketball courts, climbing wall and more! Located within M. C. Anderson Park with 74 acres of lighted playing fields, band shell and pavilion for all of campus to enjoy.

The RAC is home to Campus Recreation & Intramurals, which offers unique ways to be active and involved through seven program areas including Aquatics, Club Sports, Fitness, Intramural Sports, Southern Adventures, University Wellness and Informal Recreation.
EAGLE ATHLETICS

Georgia Southern fields 16 NCAA teams with a storied program that has achieved national accolades on and off the field. In addition to six national football championship flags flying at Allen E. Paulson Stadium, Georgia Southern teams and individuals regularly compete for conference and national honors.

Athletics teams include: football, men's and women's basketball, baseball, volleyball, golf, men's and women's tennis, track and field, cross country, swimming and diving, softball, men's and women's soccer and women's rifle.

In 2013, Georgia Southern accepted an invitation to move to the FBS and join the Sun Belt Conference. The Eagles will begin competition in the Sun Belt in the 2014-15 season.
LEFT: The Eagles’ 2013 season came to an end with a win for the ages to go along with six FCS national championships. Georgia Southern closed out an amazing run through the FCS by knocking off the Florida Gators 26-20 on Nov. 23. The victory marked the first time Georgia Southern has beaten an FBS team. What an emotional and electrifying day on the field and in the stands as the Eagle Nation made history!

BOTTOM: The Eagle Volleyball team won the 2013 Southern Conference Tournament Title. The Eagles (28-5), who will move into the Sun Belt Conference next season, tied the school record for wins in a season with 28, set by the 1993 team.
DIVISION OF CONTINUING EDUCATION

The Division of Continuing Education serves as the educational liaison between the academic colleges and administrative units at Georgia Southern University and our constituents in delivering lifelong learning opportunities and provides Statesboro, Savannah and surrounding communities with technologically advanced meeting, classroom and conference facilities. The Division provides a wide variety of services for internal and external clients including professional development and non-credit courses, conference coordination, personal development courses, specialized youth programs and facilities for internal (to the university) and external clients. Programs are offered online and face-to-face; many of our programs qualify for Continuing Education Units (CEUs) or Professional Learning Units (PLUs).
The Wetland Preserve is a 12-acre oasis within the Wildlife Center that includes a beaver lodge, cypress pond and a waterfowl pond that provides a home for herons, egrets and ducks.

CENTER FOR WILDLIFE EDUCATION & THE LAMAR Q BALL, JR. RAPTOR CENTER

Located in the heart of the Georgia Southern campus, the Center for Wildlife Education and the Lamar Q Ball, Jr. Raptor Center is a living laboratory of forest and wetland creatures and the habitat in which they live. The Center has become a top destination for families and tourists, drawing thousands each year. The diverse native habitats are home to three American bald eagles, one golden eagle and several species of birds of prey including hawks, owls and falcons.

The Wetland Preserve is a 12-acre oasis within the Wildlife Center that includes a beaver lodge, cypress pond and a waterfowl pond that provides a home for herons, egrets and ducks.
MUSEUM
For more than three decades, the University Museum has showcased artifacts of the natural and cultural history of the region. Changing exhibits interpret the research and work of University faculty and present traveling exhibits from U.S. and international museums. The only accredited museum of its kind in the coastal region, its exhibits and educational programs appeal to a wide range of interests and ages and include interactive and hands-on programs for children, adults, families, teachers and University students.

PERFORMING ARTS CENTER
The Performing Arts Center is home to world-class touring shows, renowned lecturers and programs for cultural outreach. The 825-seat theatre features an orchestra pit and shell, a full-size proscenium stage, and state-of-the-art technology for lighting, sound and production.

GARDEN OF THE COASTAL PLAIN
Centered on the early 20th-century farmstead of Dan and Catharine Bland, the Garden of the Coastal Plain offers visitors a unique view of the heritage of the southeastern coastal plain. Established to promote knowledge and appreciation of native plants and animals, the 11-acre Garden connects people of all ages to the natural and cultural richness of the region and inspires environmentally responsible behavior.
In 2012, Georgia Governor Nathan Deal transferred management of Herty to Georgia Southern University to enhance economic and business development in the State of Georgia. The alignment with the University creates a powerful partnership, which links academic research with applied research activities at Herty. As a result, Herty can now provide expertise and support for the full gamut of technical readiness levels: from bench-scale to full production and from concept to commercialization. Located in Savannah, Ga., Herty is a global leader in traditional and advanced materials innovation.
CITY CAMPUS

The City of Statesboro and Georgia Southern enjoy a long-standing cooperative relationship which has worked to their mutual benefit. Their collaboration includes the opening of City Campus, a site-enhancing entrepreneurial activity in the community with classrooms and meeting space for business professionals. Georgia Southern’s City Campus is expanding with the creation of a full-service innovation incubator and a Digital Fabrication Laboratory (Fab Lab) to spur business and economic development. The Fab Lab will serve as a place for entrepreneurs to design, develop and test products as they turn their ideas into products and businesses.
Georgia Southern’s diverse student population stands at more than 20,500 students from 49 U.S. states and more than 100 nations.

For the third consecutive year, Georgia Southern has been recognized by U.S. News & World Report on its annual list of best online education programs which included the graduate computer information technology, graduate education, graduate business and online bachelor’s programs.

Georgia Southern has been named a military-friendly school for the third year in a row by Military Advanced Education in its 2014 Guide to Military-Friendly Colleges and Universities.

Student-athletes earned top honors in the classroom this year, with a total of 175 Eagles named to the Southern Conference’s academic honor roll. A record high of 19 Eagles posted a perfect 4.0 grade point average, and 89 student-athletes earned the Commissioner’s Medal for attaining a GPA of 3.5 or higher throughout the 2012-13 academic year.

Georgia Southern is in the Football Bowl Subdivision of the Sun Belt Conference.

A major expansion project at Allen E. Paulson Stadium will include an additional 6,200 seats and the privately funded $10 million Football Operations Center. The 50,000 square-foot facility will have state-of-the-art offices, locker rooms, workout facilities, meeting space and a Hall of Fame Exhibit.

Georgia Southern University Health Services has received accreditation by the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care (AAAHC). Among private and public colleges and universities in the state, Georgia Southern is one of only three accredited by AAAHC. Health Services was also named a certified Patient Centered Medical Home.

Georgia Southern and the City of Statesboro have been awarded a grant of nearly $1.1 million from the U.S. Economic Development Administration to expand
the University’s City Campus to help entrepreneurs design, build and send their products into the marketplace while creating new jobs.

After nearly two years of construction, the $41 million Biological Sciences Building opened in August – a 155,000 plus-square-foot facility housing state-of-the-art labs and supporting research areas and classrooms.

For the third consecutive year, Georgia Southern was named one of the nation’s most environmentally responsible “green colleges” by The Princeton Review’s Guide to 322 Green Colleges.

Georgia Southern was named to the 2013 President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll from the Corporation for National and Community Service. During the 2011-12 academic year, more than 3,900 students engaged in nearly 369,000 hours (more than 15,000 days) of community service.

Georgia Southern announced the creation of the National Youth-At-Risk (NYAR) Center at the College of Education (COE) to train educators to help boys and girls overcome bullying, violence and other challenges in their local schools.

Georgia Southern established a new Institute for Interdisciplinary STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) Education (i²STEM©) that supports thematic grant writing, research and outreach. The Institute is committed to excellence in primary, secondary and higher education STEM teaching and learning with a focus on rural and diverse populations.

Georgia Southern University’s Herty Advanced Materials Development Center has opened the first fully-integrated pilot pellet mill in the United States. The new production line, located in Savannah, includes a nearly $2 million investment in process equipment. The facility will provide a much-needed platform for innovation in process technology and pellet design in the U.S. and will help rising global demand for biomass pellets in Europe and North America.

The University expanded its research activities with the addition of the new asphalt research lab within the Allen E. Paulson College of Engineering and Information Technology (CEIT). The new lab will provide research services to a variety of state and private companies, including the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT).

Georgia Southern’s Rural Health Research Institute (RHRI) was awarded a $5.1 million grant by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) designating the RHRI as a Center of Excellence for the Elimination of Rural Health Disparities.

Georgia Southern has entered into a cooperative partnership with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to promote research, teaching, outreach, career development and stewardship in environmental sciences, sustainability and engineering. The new partnership is designed to provide additional opportunities for student training and internships, faculty research support and environmental and public health initiatives.

Georgia Southern, the Georgia Department of Natural Resources and U.S. Fish and Wildlife archaeologists with assistance from Kennesaw State University, the University of Georgia and the Lamar Institute found the remains of the Camp Lawton stockade wall, establishing the actual layout and site of one of the Civil War’s largest Prisoner of War (POW) camps. The discovery was made at Magnolia Springs State Park located in Millen, Ga., and documented by the PBS television show “Time Team America.”