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## Message from the President

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To the University Community:

I hope you and your family are safe and unscathed by the storms that blew through Statesboro this week!

Safety is always our top priority. We carefully considered, with input from many people and organizations, the decision to close the campus on Wednesday. Several of our faculty, staff and students commute long distances to get to Georgia Southern, and just as with those who live nearby, we want them all to make it home safely.

I'm happy to report the campus sustained no damage during the storms, but our dedicated facilities staff stayed on campus for several hours during the storm to make sure all the buildings were locked and secure, and have now cleared off the debris. I'm so thankful for their dedication to our University.

The Consolidation Implementation Committee (CIC) met this afternoon and moved forward with the recommendation of a new mission statement for the new, consolidated Georgia Southern University. The Board of Regents will review this mission statement and vote upon it on April 18:

*Georgia Southern University is a public comprehensive and Carnegie Doctoral/Research university offering associate, bachelors, masters, and doctoral degrees in nationally accredited programs in the liberal arts, sciences, and professional disciplines.*

*The University provides transformative learning opportunities to meet the needs of a diverse student population through its legacy of commitment to academic excellence and personal attention. Through the shared resources of its multiple locations, the University creates vibrant learning environments that foster an inclusive, student-centered culture of engagement designed to prepare students for lifelong service as scholars, leaders, and responsible stewards of their communities. The University enhances the quality of life and drives economic development in the Coastal Georgia region, the State of Georgia, and beyond by supporting collaborative efforts in technological innovation, scientific advancement, education, health services, artistic creativity, and cultural enrichment. Faculty, staff, and students embrace the values of integrity, civility, kindness, respect, sustainability, citizenship, and social responsibility in every facet of the University.*

I have been invited to speak to the Armstrong State University staff council, and to the faculty, staff and students on Wednesday, April 12. The town hall-style event will be live streamed on the [ASU website](#). You can access the link to the live stream on [Georgia Southern's Facebook page](#), and get the latest consolidation information at the [Consolidation Website](#).

Next Friday, some of Georgia Southern's best and brightest students and faculty will display their research at the 16th annual [Research Symposium](#) in the Nessmith-Lane Conference Center. It's always exciting to see great minds at work. I hope to see you there!

Have a great weekend.

Jaimie Hebert

President