



Aug. 10, 2020

As we move toward the fall semester and continue our Return to Campus phased-in plan, here are **Six Things You Should Know This Week**:

1. Students arrive this week; let's set a good example

"Operation Move-In" begins this week in residence halls. To comply with public health guidelines, housing staff are staggering move-in appointments and limiting the number of people who can be present to help students as they move in. As students start appearing on campus, there is no higher priority than the health and safety of our students, faculty, and staff. We need everyone to do their part to keep our campus communities and visitors safe. It's important for staff and faculty to set a good example for our students by wearing face coverings, washing our hands, and remaining socially distant. For a reminder on how to stay safe, stay well on campus, please see the video at <https://www.usg.edu/staysafestaywell>.

2. The President's annual State of the University address is Wednesday

President Marrero will officially kick off the semester on August 12 at 10 a.m., with the annual State of the University Address. Faculty and staff will hear from the President, Provost, Staff Council Chair, and Faculty Senate President. We will also take this time to recognize our University Awards of Excellence Recipients, and there will be a Q&A period at the end of the presentation. Details on how to join the virtual event via Zoom will be emailed out Wednesday morning.

3. Eagle Dining is prepared for the semester

Eagle Dining has modified their services and accommodations for the campus community this fall. All dining locations have instituted social distancing and safety measures according to public health guidelines, and all staff have their temperature checked before each shift. In addition, residential dining has reduced seating by 75% and will provide to-go packages for all customers as there will be no self-serve options. Most dining retail locations will offer to-go only service and limiting seating where available. There will also be a food trailer outside Dining Commons from 9-11 p.m. to provide late-night options, and students can use their dining card to swipe into a dining location up to four times per day. Visit [the Eagle Dining website](#) for more information, and for location hours and availability.

4. Robots are roaming around the Statesboro campus

Georgia Southern is taking contact-less food delivery to a new level with a fleet of six-wheeled robots independently navigating the streets and sidewalks on Georgia Southern's Statesboro Campus. The robots, which are energy-efficient, are now available to deliver food from on-campus dining locations to designated pickup spots across campus. The robots will be initially tested on Statesboro campus, and then will be expanded to the Armstrong campus in Savannah if the service is well-received. To order food with robot delivery, go to <https://auxiliary.georgiasouthern.edu/eagledining/starship-delivery/> online at GeorgiaSouthern.edu/dining or download the Starship app in the [Apple App Store](#) or [Google Play Store](#). Select "Georgia Southern University" in the list of schools.

5. Additional protective equipment is on campus

The Georgia Emergency Management Agency (GEMA), through the University System of Georgia (USG), has supplied Georgia Southern with an additional shipment of personal protection supplies last week, which included 54,000 disposable masks, 72 gallons of hand sanitizer, 300 gallons of disinfectant solution, more than 9,000 gloves and 50 cases of disinfectant wipes. As a reminder, all faculty, staff, students, and visitors must wear an appropriate face covering while inside campus facilities/buildings where six feet social distancing may not always be possible. Face covering use will be in addition to, and is not a substitute for, social distancing. Face coverings are not required in one's own dorm room or suite, when alone in an enclosed office or study room, or in campus outdoor settings where social distancing requirements are met.

6. Changes to Eagle Athletics this fall

The Sun Belt Conference announced the first permissible date of competition for the 2020-21 academic year will be Sept. 3. For Georgia Southern, this delays the start of volleyball and men's and women's soccer. The 2020 Sun Belt Conference football season will consist of an eight-conference game schedule with an option for each member institute to add as many as four non-conference opponents, beginning with Week Zero. The Sun Belt will host a football championship game on Dec. 5 between the East Division and West Division champions. If necessary, the date of the championship game may be adjusted. Georgia Southern's first football game is currently scheduled for Sept. 12, as the previously scheduled opening game at Boise State has been canceled. However, the schedule remains fluid and contests could be added/dropped at any point during the season. The Sun Belt Conference and each member institute will continue to adhere to guidance provided by the conference's COVID-19 Advisory Panel, which has worked diligently to establish protocols and guidelines that will ensure the health and well-being of student-athletes, coaches and staff as they return to play. Georgia Southern Athletics provides current information on all its sports through its official website, GSEagles.com.