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### Message from the President

Jaimie Hebert

Georgia Southern University, [jhebert@georgiasouthern.edu](mailto:jhebert@georgiasouthern.edu)

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# Message from the President

SEPTEMBER 10, 2017

To the University Community:

As we prepare for the impact of Hurricane Irma, I am reminded of the tremendous sense of community we have at Georgia Southern University. The cooperation of our students with the closing of campus on Friday, the concern and care of their parents and our neighbors for their safety, and the hard work and dedication of our faculty and staff who have provided support and resources to our students, has been tremendous. These have been great reminders of the character of our community and what it means to be part of the Eagle Nation.

As Hurricane Irma continues to impact Florida and makes its way north toward our area, your safety remains our top priority. Despite the changes in the storm's path, I want to urge everyone to use considerable caution as we will still experience an impact from the storm in our area. Though the storm's track has shifted west, many areas of Georgia and surrounding states will experience dangerous conditions including high wind, flooding and the possibility of tornadoes.

Hurricane Irma will impact southeast Georgia beginning today and throughout the day and evening on Monday, Sept. 11. The track and conditions of this storm continue to evolve. Please continue to heed the warnings of your local authorities.

The Bulloch County Sheriff's Office has issued a curfew beginning today at 11 p.m. Students who have chosen to remain on campus in the residence halls are asked to stay indoors tonight and tomorrow. Meal services will continue today in Dining Commons until 2 p.m. and again from 5 to 7 p.m. Today, between 5-7 p.m., students are strongly encouraged to obtain bagged meals from Dining Commons for Monday to avoid leaving their residence hall tomorrow.

Georgia Southern is pleased to continue to provide staging areas and resources for local and state agencies such as the Georgia State Patrol, Georgia Coastal Public Health District, Army Corp of Engineers, U.S. Coast Guard of Savannah, the Chatham County Critical Workforce and the Salvation Army on the Statesboro campus. We are incredibly grateful for the services these organizations provide each and every day, especially during critical times such as these.

Georgia Southern University's Statesboro campus will remain closed and classes are canceled through Tuesday, Sept. 12. Georgia Southern sponsored events are also canceled through Tuesday, Sept. 12. The Herty Advanced Materials Development Center and Coastal Georgia Center are closed through Wednesday, Sept. 13.

At this time, it is unclear when classes and normal business operations will resume. Additional information on closures will be issued by Eagle Alert and all updates will be posted regularly on [GeorgiaSouthern.edu/alert](http://GeorgiaSouthern.edu/alert).

Please make your personal safety and that of your family and friends your first priority. I look forward to seeing you all back on our beautiful campus very soon.

Sincerely,

Jaimie Hebert

President