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Points of Pride

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## Points of Pride

Georgia Southern University

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# Points of Pride

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## Rankings

### University-Wide

- #1 in affordable colleges in Georgia by *College Affordability Guide*
- #7 nationwide for the 50 affordable online universities by *Online Course Report*
- #10 among Georgia schools where graduates earn the highest starting salaries by *SmartAsset*
- Named “Military-Friendly” school for the fourth year in a row by *Military Advanced Education* and *G.I. Jobs*
- #6 for 2016 Most Affordable Online Colleges by *OnlineU*



[Click for larger version or download the pdf.](#)

### College of Business

- Master of Science in Applied Economics – #5 in “Five Best Online Master in Economics Degree Program” by *TheBestSchools.org*
- WebMAcc – #7 in “Top 20 Master of Accounting Online Degree Programs 2015” by *TopAccountingDegrees.org*
- Included in *Newsweek’s* “Great Business Schools 2015” among eight other schools in the country
- Online Graduate Business Programs (excluding MBA) – #12 for Best Online Graduate Business Programs for 2016 by *U.S. News & World Report*
- Marketing – #13 nationwide by *College Affordability Guide*
- Accounting and Finance – #15 nationwide by *College Affordability Guide*
- MBA programs – #17 nationwide by *College Affordability Guide*
- Economics – #16 nationwide by *College Affordability Guide*
- WebMAcc – #16 of the top 45 Online Master’s in Accounting Programs for 2015-16 by *Accounting Degree Review*
- Online MBA program – #18 (tie) for Best Online MBA Programs by *U.S. News & World Report*

### College of Education

- Instructional Technology – #5 nationwide by *College Affordability Guide*
- Master’s in curriculum and instruction programs – #10 for the top 50 national best value residential master’s in Curriculum and Instruction by *Top Masters in Education*
- Masters in Educational Leadership – #10 nationally for best value residential masters in Educational Leadership programs by *Top Masters in Education*
- Masters in Education – #11 for the top 50 national best value residential masters in Education by *Top Masters in Education*
- Online Education Graduate Degree Programs – #12 by *SR Education Group*
- Special Education – #13 nationwide by *College Affordability Guide*

- Online Education Programs – #13 for “Most Affordable Online Degrees in Education” by *OnlineU*
  - Educational Leadership – #14 nationwide by *College Affordability Guide*
  - K-12 Education – #15 nationwide by *College Affordability Guide*
  - MEd in Higher Education – “The 25 Best Online Master in Higher Education Degree Programs” by *TheBestSchools.org*
  - Online Graduate Education – #68 (tie) for Best Online Graduate Education Programs for 2016 by *U.S. News & World Report*
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### **College of Health and Human Sciences**

- Online Nursing Program – #1 for “Most Affordable Online Degrees in Nursing” by *OnlineU*
  - Master of Science in Sports Management – #7 nationwide by *College Affordability Guide*
  - Nursing program – #15 nationwide by *College Affordability Guide*
  - Fashion Design: #49 nationally; #7 in south by *fashion-schools.org*
  - Fashion Merchandising: #49 nationally among private schools and colleges; #7 in south by *fashion-schools.org*
  - Bachelor of Science in Recreation: #14 nationwide of “30 Best Value Bachelor’s Degrees in Parks, Recreation, and Leisure” by *collegevaluesonline.com*
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### **College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences**

- Graphic Design – #5 nationwide by *College Affordability Guide*
  - Justice Studies – #9 nationwide by *College Affordability Guide*
  - Public Administration – #11 nationwide by *College Affordability Guide*
  - Fine Arts – #14 nationwide by *College Affordability Guide*
  - Music – #15 nationwide by *College Affordability Guide*
  - Foreign Language – #16 nationwide by *College Affordability Guide*
  - Sociology – #16 nationwide by *College Affordability Guide*
  - History – #17 nationwide by *College Affordability Guide*
  - English – #18 nationwide by *College Affordability Guide*
  - Psychology – #18 nationwide by *College Affordability Guide*
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### **College of Science and Mathematics**

- Physics – #12 nationwide by *College Affordability Guide*
  - Mathematics – #17 nationwide by *College Affordability Guide*
  - Biology – #18 nationwide by *College Affordability Guide*
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### **Allen E. Paulson College of Engineering and Information Technology**

- Engineering – #13 nationwide by *College Affordability Guide*
- Online Graduate Computer Information Technology – #18 (tie) for Best Online Computer Information Technology Programs for 2016 by *U.S. News & World Report*
- Computer Science – #18 nationwide by *College Affordability Guide*
- Computer Science – #44 for 2016’s Best Colleges for Online Computer Science Degrees by *Computer Science Online*

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## Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health

- Public Health – #8 nationwide by *College Affordability Guide*
  - Public Health Graduate Programs – #12 nationwide by *GraduatePrograms.com*
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## Centers and Institutes

- #19 for “The 30 Most Amazing Higher Ed Natural History Museums” by *Best College Reviews*

## Academics

Eight colleges and schools offer 125 degree programs at the baccalaureate, master’s and doctoral levels.

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As of fall 2015, Georgia Southern’s **total enrollment stands at 20,459**, with students from 49 states and 86 countries.

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Georgia Southern’s Allen E. Paulson College of Engineering and Information Technology is now home to the **first undergraduate Manufacturing Engineering program in the state of Georgia**. The program opened In August 2015.

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Georgia Southern University’s **accreditation has been reaffirmed by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) through year 2025**. The reaffirmation demonstrates the University’s commitment to the highest educational standards.

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Georgia Southern’s Theatre and Performance program **has received national recognition from the Kennedy Center for its powerful production of “Race, A Play”** by David Mamet. It won the Distinguished Production of a Contemporary Play award among only three other winners nationwide in the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival, a program involving 20,000 students from colleges and universities nationwide.

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Georgia Southern University’s Multimedia Development Center (MDC) **won a Student Emmy Award** for its work with the Office of Marketing and Communications on the [“Wounded Eagle”](#) video production at the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences Southeast region awards ceremony June 6, 2015, in Atlanta.

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Georgia Southern University's student feature magazine, *The Reflector*, **earned two first-place honors**, and its student literary magazine, *Miscellany*, received a top 10 ranking at the National College Media Convention in Austin, Texas.

## Athletics

Georgia Southern (9-4) **won its first bowl game in school history** in the first year it was eligible to go to the postseason. The Eagles trounced Bowling Green 58-27 in the GoDaddy Bowl in Mobile, Alabama, Dec. 23. The Eagles have an 18-7 record since transitioning to the Football Bowl Subdivision in 2014.

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Georgia Southern has launched its **17th varsity athletics program — women's golf** — during the 2015-16 season. The program was announced shortly after the Eagles moved to FBS football and into the Sun Belt Conference.

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The Georgia Southern University **Golf Course opened** in fall 2013, giving students another recreational facility to use as they relax and take breaks from coursework.

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Georgia Southern will make its **return to the Southern Conference** in 2016-17 as an associate member competing in Rifle. The Eagles join fellow associate members North Georgia and UAB as well as full members VMI, Wofford and The Citadel to compete for the co-educational championship.

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Georgia Southern **opened a \$5.8 million Shooting Sports Education Center** that features indoor archery and firing ranges, as well as an outdoor archery range. The 30,000-square-foot facility is home to the women's rifle team

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The Georgia Southern University all-girl cheerleading squad secured its **fifth national championship at the 2015 National Cheerleading Association (NCA) Collegiate National Championships** held in Daytona Beach, Florida.

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Student-athletes continue to earn top honors in the classroom, as **a total of 152 Eagles were named to the Sun Belt Conference's academic achievement lists in 2015**. The Academic Honor Roll recognized 80 Georgia Southern student-athletes with a GPA of 3.0 or higher. The Commissioner's List recognized 72 Georgia Southern student-athletes with a GPA of 3.5 or higher.

## Facilities

Georgia Southern recently opened a **new two-story Health Services Center** at the corner of Chandler Road and Plant Drive (across from the Nessmith-Lane Conference Center). The \$8.5 million building houses 36

general medical exam rooms, a women's health unit with 12 exam rooms and services such as x-ray, an expanded pharmacy, laboratory, and immunization.

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Georgia Southern's new **\$9.5 million Military Science Building** is scheduled to open in fall 2016. The 32,000-square-foot building located on campus at the corner of Forest Drive and Old Register Road, will replace the space the Eagle Battalion ROTC program has occupied for nearly a decade.

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The 2016 budget for the state of Georgia allocated **\$33.6 million in funding to build a multidisciplinary classroom building** at Georgia Southern, plus an additional \$1 million in operating budget funding for the new manufacturing engineering program.

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The **new Campus Garden** located between the Herty Building and the Williams Center is the result of a partnership between Facilities Services, the Center for Sustainability and Eagle Dining Services. The Campus Garden is designed to allow students to sample fresh local produce and also discover how fruits and vegetables can be sustainably grown.

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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 release their products into the marketplace while creating new jobs.

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Georgia Southern has completed an **\$8.65 million renovation of Sanford Hall, a former dormitory that was converted to the new Communication Arts building**. The renovations include structural improvements as well as multiple classrooms, office space, an advisement center, broadcast and film studios, the WVGS radio station, a converged media lab and a lecture hall that will be used for film screenings.

## Outreach

Georgia Southern University **Business Innovation Group (BIG)** has received a Gold Excellence in Economic Development Award from the International Economic Development Council (IEDC) for its 2015 project in entrepreneurship for communities with populations of 25,000 – 200,000. In addition, the Georgia Southern University City Campus was recognized with a Bronze Excellence in Economic Development Award by the IEDC for its 2015 project in real estate redevelopment and reuse for communities with populations of 25,000 – 200,000.

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In 2015, the College of Education's (COE) annual National Youth-At-Risk (NYAR) Conference **added \$2.3 million in economic "output"** according to a report released by the Bureau of Business Research and Economic Development (BBRED). The economic impact was calculated for Savannah, Georgia, where the conference is held each year.

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The Bureau for Business Research and Economic Development (BBRED) assists communities and businesses in developing projects that led to **the creation of 13,445 new jobs and added an estimated \$418 million in new economic output.**

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Collaborating with the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA), Georgia Southern launched a **new Georgia Historical Markers smartphone application** that allows historians and visitors to easily locate and explore the state's more than 2,500 historical markers.

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**Glory, one of one of Georgia Southern's beloved bald eagles, celebrates her 32nd birthday** in March 2016. Since first appearing at football games in the 1990s, the revered matriarch has presided over numerous events, including three national championships. Glory now welcomes visitors to the Center for Wildlife Education since relinquishing her mascot responsibilities to our current bald eagle, Freedom.

## Research

Georgia Southern University's **School of Nursing has received a \$1.6 million grant** from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) for advanced nursing education. The funds are being used to establish an Advanced Practice Nurse-Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioners (APN-PMHNP) track to serve the psychiatric and mental health needs of south Georgia's rural and underserved communities.

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Graduate student **Martin Muinos was awarded a National Science Foundation (NSF) Graduate Research Fellowship** that amounts to a total funding of \$138,000 for his research on Low Temperature Combustion (LTC) by Reactivity Controlled Compression Ignition (RCCI). Muinos, a student in the Master of Science in Applied Engineering program with a concentration in Energy Science, is the first student from Georgia Southern University to be awarded the NSF Graduate Research Fellowship.

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The **Herty Advanced Materials Development Center**, an applied research center of Georgia Southern University, is a founding member of a new national research institute created under the [National Network for Manufacturing Innovation](#). The new Institute for Advanced Composites Manufacturing Innovation (IACMI), was selected by the U.S. Department of Energy to develop better composite materials and technologies for rapid deployment within the automotive, wind turbine and compressed gas storage industries.

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The Herty Advanced Materials Development Center has **launched a new Advanced Chemical Processing (ACP) pilot facility** that allows Herty to expand its research programs and client services to those companies seeking to develop and test new advanced materials required in today's international and increasingly competitive markets. Applications range from the development of active fibers for water filtration, nutraceuticals and the production of biomaterials for automotive and aerospace parts.

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**Christine Hladik, Ph.D.**, assistant professor of Geography at Georgia Southern, and **Clark Alexander, Ph.D.**, director of Georgia Southern's [Applied Coastal Research Laboratory](#), were featured in various national publications for their research on how rising sea levels will affect the Georgia coast and beyond in years to come.

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Georgia Southern's James H. Oliver, Jr. Institute for Coastal Plain Science has **reopened the U.S. National Tick Collection (USNTC)**, which was closed for an expansion into a newly-renovated space in the Math/Physics Building. The USNTC is the world's largest continuously curated tick collection with over a million specimens and about one-third of the world's primary tick types. The collection moved to Georgia Southern on a long-term enhancement loan from the Smithsonian Institution in 1990.

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Georgia Southern University's Department of History Professor, **Craig H. Roell's, Ph.D.**, book, *Matamoros and the Texas Revolution*, was named the first place winner of the 2015 Presidio La Bahía Award. The Presidio La Bahía Award promotes research into Texas heritage and the influence of the Spanish Colonial period on Texas culture, laws, customs, architecture, religion and art.