

Georgia Southern University

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Five Things You Should Know This Week

University Communications and Marketing

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>>>New Professional Development Tracker Now Available for Faculty and Staff

To aid in our continuing growth to grow others, the university strongly encourages faculty and staff to participate and engage in continuous learning and development that enhances and expands their knowledge and skills in various content areas. Professional development not only benefits the individual, but it also helps Georgia Southern continue to be a competitive option for students and employees as our campus is constantly evolving for the better.

A new Professional Development Tracker is now available to record all professional development engagements, within and outside of the University. The Office of Inclusive Excellence and the Departments of Human Resources and Information Technology have worked diligently to ensure that all development opportunities not required by the University to comply with state regulations, standards, or laws, can be tracked in a personal transcript-style report for a user-friendly experience. Employees can use their transcript downloaded from the Tracker to highlight their engagement in professional development in their annual reviews. As professional development and expanded learning is valued at our University, a strong track record of continuous engagement is always beneficial during performance assessments.

What should be entered into the tracker?

- On-campus workshops that grow your skills and knowledge
- Continuing education requirements of certain license and certifications
- Off-campus conferences and workshops
- Book discussion groups centered around a professional skill or topic
- Other engagements that enhance your ability to grow in your role

Please visit your MyGS portal to access the Professional Development Tracker. This [how-to document provides step-by-step instructions](#) to access your unique tracker. If you have any issues accessing the form, please submit an IT helpdesk ticket for support.

Please note: This tracker should not be utilized to track completion of required courses (ie - CyberSecurity, Ethics, Clery Act, Data Governance, etc.). In addition, faculty who complete the badge tracks through the Faculty Center can record these separately in the Professional Development Tracker. However, they will not need to complete another capstone reflection for the Tracker.

>>>State of the University Presentations to be Held this Week

President Marrero will share institutional successes, updates, and future plans and set the stage for the upcoming academic year and beyond this week during his annual State of the University.

On the Statesboro campus, the address will be Tuesday, Aug. 23, at 3:30 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center.

On the Armstrong Campus in Savannah, the address will be Wednesday, Aug. 24, at 3:30 p.m. in the Fine Arts Auditorium.

Employees are invited to join in person or via livestream links that will be emailed the morning of each address.

>>>More Information About the 2022 Monkeypox Outbreak

Georgia Southern continues to monitor the 2022 monkeypox outbreak. Because we are committed to supporting a safe and healthy environment across our campuses, there are a few things Eagle Nation should know.

The monkeypox virus spreads mostly through close and intimate contact with someone who has monkeypox. Symptoms of monkeypox can include rash, fever, chills, swollen lymph nodes, headache and muscle aches.

If you have a new or unexplained rash or other symptoms, avoid close contact with others until you have been evaluated by a healthcare provider. Employees who are concerned they may be infected with or exposed to monkeypox can schedule an appointment with their healthcare provider.

Individuals who have been exposed or are considered high risk for monkeypox may be eligible for vaccination through the Georgia Department of Public Health. You can schedule a vaccination appointment online by visiting dph.georgia.gov/monkeypox.

Visit the [Health Services website](#) for additional information.

>>>Congratulations to Georgia Southern Golfer Ben Carr

Georgia Southern fifth-year senior Ben Carr finished as the runner-up in the 36-hole championship final of the nationally televised 122nd U.S. Amateur Golf Championship Sunday.

Carr is the second Eagle to advance to the U.S. Amateur finals and the first since Buddy Alexander won the tournament in 1986. Over 7,700 players attempted to qualify for the 312 spots in the championship field, and Carr advanced through the qualifying process and tied for 30th in two rounds of stroke play to earn a spot in match play. Provided he maintains his amateur status, he earns an exemption to the 2023 U.S. Open and a likely invitation to the 2023 Masters.

On the 35th hole, Carr walked in a 15-foot birdie putt, while Texas A&M's Sam Bennett's try slid by the hole to send the match to the final hole for just the third time in the last 10 years. Carr nearly battled back from a 5-hole deficit before falling to Bennett on the 36th hole of

the Championship Match.

[Read more at GSEagles.com.](http://GSEagles.com)