

# College of Business News

June 12, 2019

Georgia Southern University

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# Georgia Southern grad named Student Anaplanner of the Year

June 12, 2019

Jaymin Patel, a recent finance and information systems graduate from the Parker College of Business at Georgia Southern University, was named Student Anaplanner of the Year by Anaplan Inc., a pioneer in Connected Planning, which joins people together with plans and data to accelerate business value. He was recognized in San Francisco at the company's Connected Planning Xperience (CPX) conference in June.

"This award is probably the best award I have received this far because it symbolizes my transition from the academic world to the corporate world," said Patel. "Anaplan has helped me gain certifications and become more knowledgeable in transformational cloud software. After attending the conference, I strongly encourage other Georgia Southern students to take advantage of the Anaplan program because there is immense demand in this career field with a shortage in supply."

Patel earned the achievement through Anaplan University Connect, a program launched by the company that equips university students with competitive analytical and decision-making skills to address the needs of today's global marketplace. The courses Patel took through this program helped him land a data analyst role at Equifax, a global data analytics and technology company.

"Jaymin represents an example of a dedicated and hardworking student and demonstrates what the students at the Parker College of Business are able to accomplish," said Axel Grossmann, Ph.D., professor of finance. "We are very proud of him! Moreover, the relationship with the Anaplan University Connect Program has created another opportunity that allows our students to compete with the best at globally recognized companies."

The Anaplan University Connect program works closely with leading universities around the globe to develop and deliver a model building curriculum that incorporates the latest data science methods to modern business planning practices. Professors in the Parker College of Business worked directly with representatives from Anaplan to implement the Connect Program at Georgia Southern to incorporate the Anaplan certification into a class.

The certification course is mainly open to a select group of students in the Southern Investment Association (SIA). The course usually requires students to be involved with SIA portfolio for a year, learn financial modeling with Excel and investments strategies, and to obtain professional certifications, such as Anaplan, Bloomberg Market Concepts and Thomson Reuters Eikon.

Students must work through several videos and training sessions online to build several Anaplan models and complete a final online examination, which requires them to prepare a final Anaplan Model.

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With valuable and real-world data analysis skills, students from the program are hired to quickly contribute to the digital transformation efforts of enterprise companies.

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