

Georgia Southern University

Digital Commons@Georgia Southern

Messages from the President (2016-present)

Communications from the Office of the
President

10-3-2023

Message from the President

Georgia Southern University

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.georgiasouthern.edu/president-messages>

This newsletter is brought to you for free and open access by the Communications from the Office of the President at Digital Commons@Georgia Southern. It has been accepted for inclusion in Messages from the President (2016-present) by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons@Georgia Southern. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@georgiasouthern.edu.



Oct. 3, 2023

Dear Colleagues,

After an electrifying Saturday night football game win at Paulson Stadium, which drew a record-breaking crowd and captured the attention of a national television audience, we now turn to fall.....with midterms around the corner and homecoming celebrations filling the month of October.

Last week, we celebrated our newest [40 under 40 class](#) of distinguished young alumni from all around the nation. These alumni represent the incredible success of our graduates that continue to propel Georgia Southern's reputation for producing innovative thought leaders across a wide range of sectors.

A few years ago, we brought back the annual "Celebrate" event to the Armstrong Campus in Savannah. This year, it expands to "Celebrate Spirit Week 2023: Soaring through the Decades," running from Monday, Oct. 9, through Saturday, Oct. 14. The main Celebrate event will be Thursday, Oct. 12, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Last year we had over 3,000 faculty, staff, students, and community members attend to enjoy the food, fun, games, student/faculty booths, and vendors. [See the full week's worth of activities here.](#)

The following week, Oct. 15–21, we'll mark our annual Georgia Southern Homecoming week, "Wild Wild West in the Eagle's Nest." Highlights of the week include a parade on Monday evening in partnership with the Kiwanis Ogeechee Fair, crowning of Homecoming royalty, and our football game on Oct. 21 against University of Louisiana Monroe. [A list of events and activities can be found here.](#)

October is also the month when we provide our final enrollment census total for Fall 2023. Including students enrolled in fall [minimester](#), we anticipate reaching a figure very close to 26,100, reflecting a 2.3% increase compared to last year. This growth is represented on both the [Statesboro](#) and [Armstrong](#) campuses and heralds the largest graduate student population, the largest dual enrolled population, and the largest out-of-state student population in the institution's history.

Our enrollment success is due largely because of our distinguished faculty and programs. To that end, I want to highlight Dr. Dongyu Jia, associate professor in our Department of Biology, for his work in understanding the process of how tumors form. The National Institute of General Medical Sciences, one of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), [has awarded Dr. Jia a federal grant](#) totaling \$426,000 to fill in the gaps of learning the steps of tumor formation at the beginning stages and what initially triggers their epithelial cell shape change before becoming invasive. His work could help with early-stage tumor treatments in the future. When we talk about research that has a public impact, this is a stellar example. Congratulations, and thank you, Dr. Jia!

So as the air cools a bit here in Southeast Georgia, Georgia Southern continues to propel forward and further...Go Eagles!!!

Sincerely,

Kyle

People. Purpose. Action: Growing Ourselves to Grow Others!

Georgia Southern University
Statesboro • Savannah • Hinesville

PEOPLE...PURPOSE...ACTION:
Growing ourselves to grow others