

Newsroom

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Georgia Southern University

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Georgia Southern piloting Senior to Sophomore program

AUGUST 20, 2007

High school seniors interested in getting a jump on their college careers are getting an opportunity through a pilot program offered by Georgia Southern University.

The Senior to Sophomore program, administered by the University's Division for Continuing Education and Public Service, is designed to help students get a head start on college by allowing them to take college-credit courses taught by their high school teachers.

'Research has shown that the transition from high school to a four-year university is not as seamless as we would like,' said Gary Means, dean of Georgia Southern's Division for Continuing Education and Public Service. 'The Senior to Sophomore program will provide students with an idea of what to expect from a university experience. It will get them accustomed to the type of learning and amount of work expected in college but in the more protected environment of their own high school.'

According to Means, the program is in its infancy stage. After a year of planning that began in summer 2006, the program is being tested at Bulloch Academy, where an advanced placement (AP) pre-calculus course is being offered to students who applied for enrollment in Senior to Sophomore.

'Most high school honors and AP courses have learning objectives and outcomes that are well-aligned with Georgia Southern's requirements,' Means said. 'To ensure the course work is truly college-level material, we have a University faculty liaison work with the high school teacher to modify course content, outcomes and examinations.'

High school teachers participating in the Senior to Sophomore program must hold a master's degree with at least 18 hours of graduate work in the discipline for which they will provide instruction, the same standard required for University adjunct faculty.

'Another outcome of the Senior to Sophomore program will be an increase in the number of effective teachers,' said Means. 'During the planning phase, we discovered there are a limited number of high school teachers who meet the requirements to be Georgia Southern adjunct faculty. They may have a master's degree, but they don't have the 18 hours of discipline-specific graduate coursework. So an additional goal of the program is to create a mechanism to offer teachers the graduate work needed to help them qualify.'

At the minimum, the program will provide teachers the training and skills that will enable them to help all of their students be better prepared to attend any two- or four-year institution, Means stated. 'Ultimately, the goal is to establish linkages between students and Georgia Southern through

exposure to our faculty and possible experience on campus through field trips, so that we can attract some of the very best students to the University.”

Although Senior to Sophomore is piloting one mathematics class this semester, plans are underway to add composition courses in the spring and extend offerings to schools in Baxley, Liberty and Johnson counties. As the program expands, Means said eventually he would like to provide college-level courses in science, art, humanities, social sciences and other disciplines.

“We decided to focus on math and composition courses initially because these are the areas that will allow us to have the greatest impact, because the majority of incoming college students have the most trouble with math and writing skills,” said Means.

In order to participate in the Senior to Sophomore program, students must have completed a substantial portion of college-preparation high school courses and have the minimum ACT or SAT test scores for English and mathematics required for Georgia Southern admission. In addition, they must have an overall grade point average of 3.0 or higher. Additionally, program students who seek to formally enroll in for-credit University courses must have the permission of their parents and school. Tuition is \$107 per credit hour; students enrolled for more than four credit hours also must pay a \$57 technology fee. Qualified participants are eligible for HOPE scholarships.

Prior to joining Georgia Southern last summer, Means served as dean of continuing education at California State University-San Marcos. He also served as dean of continuing education and dean of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences at University of Colorado-Pueblo. During his time at those institutions, he developed similar programs. At each location, the programs partnered with up to 15 schools and eventually enrolled up to 1,000 students.

In planning Georgia Southern’s Senior to Sophomore program, Means started by meeting with school superintendents around the region to describe the benefits of the program and the teacher qualifications needed. Then, he met with individual school principals and their teachers to review their courses and faculty qualifications. Next, this information was provided to the University’s math and English departments for their review and acceptance.

“It’s been a more time-consuming process than I thought it would be, but we wanted to ensure that this would be a quality program,” stated Means. “We’ve taken great pains to be certain that everything would be in place to provide students the same level of instruction that they would receive as if they were on our campus.”

For more information, contact Dr. Gary Means, dean of Continuing Education and Public Service, at 912-681-5118.

University's economic impact on region surpassed \$719 million in 2006-2007

AUGUST 20, 2007

Georgia Southern University had an economic impact of more than \$719 million on the region during the recently completed fiscal year.

According to a study released today by Georgia Southern's Bureau of Business Research and Development (BBRED), the University pumped \$719,233,212 into the economies of nine Southeast Georgia counties in 2006-2007.

In addition, the report revealed that Georgia Southern was responsible for more than 10,300 jobs in the region, which includes the counties of Bulloch, Bryan, Candler, Chatham, Effingham, Emanuel, Evans, Jenkins and Screven.

'As the study demonstrates, the University continues to have a significant positive impact on the economy of the region,' BBRED Director Phyllis Isley said. 'This impact extends well beyond Statesboro and Bulloch County to a number of other counties that are interlinked economically to Georgia Southern.

'These interlinked counties have businesses that supply goods and services to the University, and to the residences of faculty and staff who commute to and from other counties.'

The new study showed the University's economic impact on the region increased by more than 9 percent from the previous fiscal year. Georgia Southern pumped \$653,440,929 into the region's economy in 2005-2006, according to the BBRED report issued in August 2006.

In compiling the annual report, Isley and her staff divided their analysis into four areas:

- The impact from the daily operations of the University as measured by operating expenditures
- The impact from faculty and staff expenditures as measured by salaries and payroll
- The impact from expenditures by students
- The impact from major construction projects

During the 2006-2007 fiscal year, Georgia Southern spent more than \$124.5 million on non-personnel operating expenses. These expenses include everything from printing and publications to electricity, gasoline, tractors and office furniture.

On the other hand, salaries for faculty, staff and support services as well as payments to consultants, casual labor and other part-time employees totaled almost \$96.5 million.

At the same time, the 16,425 students who were enrolled at Georgia Southern during the last fiscal year spent an estimated \$150.1 million. That figure does not include fees for on-campus housing and tuition, but it does include \$45.1 million for off-campus housing, \$36.2 million for entertainment and \$27.3 million for food.

Meanwhile, the University spent \$101 million on major construction projects, such as the expansion of the Recreation Activity Center, the ongoing expansion and renovation of the Zach S. Henderson Library, and the construction of the brand-new Center for Art and Theatre.

When you combine operating expenditures, salaries, student expenditures and major construction projects, and then adjust the sum for 2007 dollars, the University was directly responsible for expenditures of \$477,030,642 in the region.

‘However, it must be noted that Georgia Southern’s impact goes far beyond direct spending by the University and the spending of students and faculty,’ Isley said. ‘For example, budget expenditures translate into the demand for goods and services for other businesses. In turn, these businesses hire additional staff and order additional supplies to meet the demands of the University.’

To compensate for these additional expenditures, a multiplier of 1.51 is used to more accurately measure Georgia Southern’s economic impact. In other words, for every dollar directly spent by the University, the re-spending of that dollar in the region adds an extra 51 cents to the total economy.

Thus, the direct expenditures of a little more than \$477 million resulted in a total economic impact of over \$719 million.

The study also showed that Georgia Southern was directly responsible for 7,614 jobs during the last fiscal year. Full-time employees at the University accounted for 1,781 of those jobs.

Non-personnel operating expenses created 3,487 jobs, and expenditures of households receiving salaries of other payroll from the University created 698 jobs. Also, spending by students created 2,824 jobs, and construction expenditures created 606 jobs.

‘It doesn’t stop there,’ Isley said. ‘For every 100 jobs directly created by Georgia Southern, the secondary spending associated with those jobs created another 36 jobs in the region.’

Using the 1.36 multiplier, the final tally shows that, directly and indirectly, the University was responsible for 10,382 jobs in 2006-2007.

Georgia Southern’s future economic impact on the region is promising as well. The University anticipates a record enrollment of more than 17,000 students for the Fall 2007 semester, which began on Aug. 13. This follows a Summer 2007 semester in which the University had 8,830 students for the highest summer enrollment in school history.

'The news on enrollment growth just keeps getting better,'" Isley said. 'Area merchants and businesses may have already noticed that economic activity over the summer was better than in recent years.'

According to previous studies, Georgia Southern's economic impact on the region was \$549,249,613 in 2004-2005, and \$493,269,907 in 2003-2004.

Isley noted that the figures contained in the annual economic impact studies are conservative because they do not include additional categories of economic impact, such as spending by former employees of Georgia Southern, or consulting by University employees and the corollary spending that results from such income.

In addition, the economic impact figures do not reflect the growing number of research dollars that flow through Georgia Southern, or the spending by visitors to the University campus. These visitors include people who attend activities such as athletic events, conferences, meetings and alumni reunions.

Finally, the economic impact figures do not measure any of the long-term benefits of Georgia Southern to the region's economic development and quality of life, or the increased lifetime earnings of the University's graduates.

Follow Us On: Newsroom, Newsroom Press Release August 20, 2007 Business leadership course will begin on Sept. 12

AUGUST 20, 2007

Georgia Southern University is offering a non-credit business leadership course at the Coastal Georgia Center in Savannah.

'Leadership Skills for the Front-Line Manager' will be held on eight consecutive Wednesdays from Sept. 12 through Oct. 31. Each session will run from 8:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m.

The 32-hour course will train managers, supervisors and other administrative personnel with leadership responsibilities. Each class will focus on a particular topic, such as communication among employees, legal concerns for supervisors, handling conflict and criticism, and effective methods of coaching employees.

Co-sponsored by Georgia Southern's College of Business Administration and the University's Continuing Education Center, the course has trained managers and supervisors from such varying fields as manufacturing, distribution, hospitality, transportation, health care and government. The fee for the course is \$600 per person. Groups of four or more from the same organization will receive a corporate rate of \$550 per person.

To register, visit <http://ceps.georgiasouthern.edu/conted/supervisor.html> or call (912) 681-5551. For more information on any of the business and career development courses offered by Georgia Southern, email seminars@georgiasouthern.edu or call (912) 871-1763.

Theatre and Performance announces 2007-2008 season

AUGUST 20, 2007

Theatre and Performance at Georgia Southern University will stage four productions and christen a brand-new facility during the 2007-2008 season.

The student organization's new season will begin with 'The Women,' which will be presented Oct. 19 through Oct. 21 and Oct. 23 through Oct. 27 in the Communication Arts Building's Black Box Theatre. Based on the Pulitzer Prize-winning play by Clare Booth Luce, 'The Women' focuses on a group of gossipy high-society women who spend their days at the beauty salon and haunting fashion shows.

'St. Joan' will be presented Nov. 14 through Nov. 17 in the Performing Arts Center. Written by George Bernard Shaw, this play presents his vision of Joan of Arc as a proud, naive, foolhardy and brave rebel who challenged the conventions and values of her day.

'King Lear' will be presented Feb. 29 through March 2 and March 5 through March 8 in the new Black Box Theatre, which is part of the Center for Art and Theatre that remains under construction. Considered one of the greatest plays ever written, Shakespeare's 400-year-old tragedy is an epic tale of power, family, love and loyalty.

'On Dragonfly Wings' will be presented in the new Black Box Theatre April 10 through April 13 and April 16 through April 19. Inspired by the life of Alana Dung, who died of leukemia at age 3, this play tells the story of a cheerful young waterbug who is transformed into a beautiful dragonfly.

All of the performances will start at 7:30 p.m., with the exception of the Oct. 21 performance of 'The Women,' the March 2 performance of 'King Lear,' and the April 13 performance of 'On Dragonfly Wings.' Those three performances will start at 2 p.m.

Admission for each of the performances is \$12 per person for the general public, \$8 per person for Georgia Southern faculty and staff, and \$4 per person for University students.

For more information on Theatre and Performance, call (912) 681-5138.

Public art is topic of Aug. 22 presentation at Averitt

AUGUST 20, 2007

In conjunction with his current exhibit at the Averitt Center's Legends Gallery, artist and Georgia Southern faculty member Marc Moulton will present a talk titled 'Public Art, Public Exposure,' on Wednesday, Aug. 22, from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Emma Kelly Theatre. His talk will focus on examples of public art throughout history and the benefits of public art to the community.

Much of Moulton's work is public art that is planned and created with the specific intention of being placed in a public area, usually outside and accessible to everyone.

His exhibit in the Legends Gallery includes illustrations, technical development, and three-dimensional models of public art commissioned by cities and organizations throughout Iowa, Wisconsin, and Utah.

Moulton received a bachelor's degree from Weber State University in Ogden, Utah, in 1985. Two years later he received an M.F.A. in sculpture from Ohio State University.

He has exhibited his sculpture in more than 52 group and solo exhibitions across the United States and has received many awards and honors.

Before his appointment as an assistant professor of sculpture in the Betty Foy Sanders Department of Art at Georgia Southern, he taught at the University of Northern Iowa. His classes are conducted in the Ceramics and Sculpture studio located on Forest Drive.

Moulton's presentation is free and open to the public. For more information call 871-1712 at the Betty Foy Sanders Department of Art or visit the Web site at <http://class.georgiasouthern.edu/art/>.