

College of Business News

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Georgia Southern University

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Building Your Leadership Skills through Student Organizations

January 13, 2016

Build Your Résumé and Skill Set through Student Organizations

Getting a business degree is about a lot more than mastering the ins and outs of finance or learning how to navigate mergers and acquisitions. It's also about mastering the leadership skills needed to thrive and advance in the world's most respected organizations. You can study leadership, but there's just no substitute for actual leadership experience. If you think that's just too hard to get while you're earning your degree, think again. Joining student organizations is a great way to practice and master leadership skills.

How Student Organizations and Leadership Skills Are Connected

Having leadership experience in college is [viewed positively by employers](#). After all, there's no interview question or assessment test that can really gauge a job candidate's leadership skills. Proven experience is the only thing that can be used to show potential employers that you have both the hard and soft skills they're seeking.

When you join a student organization in your area of academic or professional interest, you have an opportunity to learn more about yourself and hone your leadership skills. After all, you can take on leadership duties in different arenas to see where you really excel. Imagine that you're torn between a finance career and a human resources career. You can work on group projects *and* serve as a club's treasurer to get a better idea of which job role is best for you.

As you handle these different duties and participate in club activities, you'll also enjoy awesome networking opportunities. Successful alumni from business programs often give their time to clubs. In addition to networking with such alumni, you'll also have the opportunity to meet local business and community leaders. You'll be able to learn from these professionals in a safe environment where you can focus on building your skills.

While giving you a break from your regular class schedule, student organizations also provide opportunities for members to relax and socialize. Joining a student organization is a great way to meet new people and learn how to work with a diverse group of individuals. Of course, organizations offer a great way to build your résumé, too. Successfully participating in a student organization shows potential employers that you can handle leadership duties and know how to work with others.

Which Organizations Should You Join?

A variety of [student organizations](#) are active at the Georgia Southern University College of Business. You should join the organizations that are closely connected to your professional fields of interest but also join organizations that represent your other interests. After all, this is the perfect time to explore everything business school has to offer.

Want to know more about student organizations at the College of Business? [Visit our website](#), and reach out if you have any questions.

Georgia Southern's online programs recognized for excellence in latest rankings by U.S. News & World Report

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HOW WE STACK UP
GEORGIA SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

TOP FIVE

- MASTER OF SCIENCE IN APPLIED ECONOMICS
#5 Best Online Master in Economics Degree Programs by TheBestSchools.org
- INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY
#5 by College Affordability Guide
- GRAPHIC DESIGN
#5 by College Affordability Guide

TOP 8
GREAT BUSINESS SCHOOLS 2015
by Newsweek

MILITARY FRIENDLY
for the fourth year in a row
by G.I. Jobs
AND
TOP SCHOOL
by Military Advanced Education & Transition

AFFORDABLE COLLEGES IN GEORGIA
by College Affordability Guide

U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT RANKINGS

- #21 BEST ONLINE GRADUATE IT PROGRAMS
- #28 BEST ONLINE MBA PROGRAMS
- #33 BEST ONLINE GRADUATE BUSINESS PROGRAMS (NON-MBA)
- #49 BEST ONLINE NURSING PROGRAMS
- #73 BEST ONLINE GRADUATE EDUCATION PROGRAMS
- #114 BEST ONLINE BACHELOR'S PROGRAMS

TOP TEN

- AFFORDABLE ONLINE UNIVERSITIES
#7 nationwide for the 50 affordable online universities by Online Course Report
- MASTER OF SCIENCE IN SPORT MANAGEMENT
#7 nationwide by College Affordability Guide
- WEBMACC
#7 in Top 20 Master of Accounting Online Degree Programs 2015 by TopAccountingDegrees.org
- FASHION DESIGN
#7 in south by fashion-schools.org
- FASHION MERCHANDISING
#7 in south by fashion-schools.org
- ONLINE RN-BSN NURSING PROGRAM
#8 nationwide by OnlineU
- PUBLIC HEALTH
#8 nationwide by College Affordability Guide
- JUSTICE STUDIES
#9 nationwide by College Affordability Guide
- HIGHEST STARTING SALARIES
#10 among Georgia schools where graduates earn the highest starting salaries by SmartAsset
- MASTER'S IN CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION PROGRAMS
#10 nationally for best value residential master's in Curriculum and Instruction by Top Masters in Education
- MASTER'S IN EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP
#10 nationally for best value residential master's in Educational Leadership programs by Top Masters in Education

Rankings as of 1/2016

In rankings released for the best online programs among colleges and universities across the country, U.S. News & World Report has again ranked Georgia Southern University's online programs as among the best for 2016.

Four online University programs were ranked in the top 50 of their respected list, including online graduate information technology program, online Master's of Business Administration (MBA) program, online graduate business programs (non-MBA) and online nursing program.

The online MBA at Georgia Southern tied with James Madison University and Kennesaw State University for 28th out of nearly 200 ranked programs on the list of 2016 Best Online MBA Programs.

Additionally, the University's online graduate business programs (non-MBA) tied for 33rd with Georgia College, a fellow University System of Georgia school, out of more than 100 schools included in the ranked list. The 2016 Best Online Graduate Business Programs rankings assesses master's-level business degree programs that are not MBA programs. Examples of non-MBA graduate business programs include degrees in accounting, finance, insurance, marketing and management.

Georgia Southern's graduate information technology program tied with Florida State University for the 21st spot on the list of 2016 Best Online Graduate Information Technology Programs.

The University's online graduate education program placed 73rd with four other schools out of more than 200 schools nationwide.

For online nursing programs, the University was ranked 49th of more than 100 ranked schools, sharing the rank with Loyola University New Orleans, Nova Southeastern University, University of Massachusetts Amherst and University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

Georgia Southern and five other schools tied for the 114th spot out of more than 200 schools across the country for the 2016 Best Online Bachelor's Programs. Because U.S. News considers students enrolled in these ranked programs likely to be working professionals in their 20s to 40s looking to advance in or change their careers and not first-time college students, the factors used to make comparisons between programs were not measures like high school class rank or standardized test scores. Instead, U.S. News chose factors that weigh how these programs are being delivered and their effectiveness at awarding affordable degrees in a reasonable amount of time.

U.S. News publishes numerical ranks for only the top three-fourths of each ranking category. U.S. News selects factors to assess each program in the categories of student engagement, admissions selectivity, peer reputation, faculty credentials and training, and student services and technology.