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Recommended Citation

Georgia Southern University, "Newsroom" (2007). *Newsroom*. 251.
<https://digitalcommons.georgiasouthern.edu/newsroom/251>

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Georgia Southern awards 15 Parents Association scholarships

SEPTEMBER 13, 2007

Georgia Southern University recently awarded 15 Parents Association scholarships, nine to new freshman and six to continuing students.

‘One of the best reasons for joining the Parent’s Association at Georgia Southern University is that your student becomes eligible for the Parents Association Scholarships,’ said Vince Miller, assistant director of Admissions, who oversees Orientation and Parent Programs. ‘This year 71 students applied, and from that group, the review committee awarded fifteen scholarships.’

Parents Association awards are given in two categories, academic scholarships and leadership scholarships. The committee reviewing applications was comprised of faculty and staff members. Personal information, including the applicant’s name, was removed, so that the committee’s choice was based only on qualifications.

This year’s awards totaled \$10,500, with all funds coming from the association’s membership dues. Continuing students receiving scholarships are Christopher Riley, Joey Newton, David Robeck, Lauren Thompson, Sheridan Bushey, and Brad Boykin. Freshman receiving the award are Cayla Rowell, Sarah Sullivan, Deven Bradford, Laura Elliott, Michael Coulter, Emily Yeakle, Abby Brown, Ansley Freeman-Singleton, and Briton Lanier.

For those interested in joining the Parents Association, go to <http://students.georgiasouthern.edu/parent/>

It’s the “Mystery of the Century” at Georgia Southern

SEPTEMBER 13, 2007

Homecoming at Georgia Southern may still be more than a month away, but deadlines to sign up for events are looming. This year’s theme for the event is ‘Mystery of the Century.’

Nomination deadlines for Homecoming King and Queen are 4 p.m., Friday, Sept. 21. Fees are \$75 per nomination. Entries received after that time and through Friday, Sept. 25, will incur a \$10 late fee. Applications for king and queen can be found at <http://www.georgiasouthernhomecoming.com/>. Voting will take place Monday, Oct. 22, through Wednesday, Oct. 24, via students’ WINGS account, and the Homecoming Court will be announced at the pep rally Thursday, Oct. 25.

Following are other homecoming events and entry fees:

- Banner Contest – \$10
- Sculpt it for the Hungry – Free

- Mud Volleyball – \$25
- Doo-Dah Contest – \$30
- Step Show – \$30
- Parade Float – \$50
- Parade Crazy Car – \$25
- Parade Clown/Character – Free
- Parade Banner/Walking – Free

Registration forms for the above can be found at <http://www.georgiasouthernhomecoming.com/>.

The deadline to register for these events is 4 p.m., Friday, Sept. 28. Entries received after that time and through Monday, Oct. 1, will incur a \$25 late fee.

Groups participating in four or more events will receive a \$25 discount, if registered on or before the Sept. 28 deadline. Payment, made by checks, Visa or MasterCard, will be received in the Office of Student Activities located in the Russell Union Room 1056.

For more information, visit <http://www.georgiasouthernhomecoming.com>. For a homecoming packet, contact the Office of Student Activities at 486-7270.

Parents Association helps students' and parents' make the transition to Georgia Southern

SEPTEMBER 13, 2007

For parents who want to be involved in their child's transition to higher education, Georgia Southern University offers an option that increasing numbers of parents are choosing: a Parents Association, created to serve as a method of information exchange, a forum for discussion, and a way to encourage parents to get involved with the University.

'The Parents Association is an exciting part of my work,' said Vince Miller, assistant director of Admissions, who oversees the Orientation and Parent Programs at Georgia Southern. 'Parent involvement adds a whole new dimension to recruitment, orientation, and admissions events. Our membership has grown from about 400 families last year to nearly 700 families this year, and we expect that number to continue to rise.'

For a \$30 annual membership fee, parents get a variety of benefits: the Georgia Southern Magazine; a Parents Association discount card, with food and lodging discounts at locations near the University; a subscription to the Parent Programs newsletter; a Parent Handbook and Calendar; and an opportunity for their student to apply for a Parents Association Scholarship. If they wish, parents may pay \$100 and join for the duration of their student's academic career at Georgia Southern.

During summer orientation sessions, the Parents Association hosts a parent's information session, where parents have an opportunity to meet with members of the Parents Council, which plans,

directs, and supports the work of the association. During the year, parents who do not live near Georgia Southern are invited to assist the Office of Admissions with recruitment events that take place near their homes. The next Parents Association gathering will be at Georgia Southern's Family Weekend, Oct. 5-7, when the Fall General Membership Breakfast and Meeting will take place.

In 2006-07, the funds raised through Parents Association membership fees were used for grants to train ShuttleGus student drivers, to sponsor First Year Experience speakers, and to support student attendance at the Dining for Success etiquette and interview events. The Parents Association also provided 13 scholarships (a total of \$6,500) to students whose parents are members.

All parents of Georgia Southern University students are invited to become members of the Parents Association. More information and a membership form are available at http://students.georgiasouthern.edu/parent/pa_membership.htm or call 912-871-1987.

Department of Chemistry climbs to No. 13 in national rankings

SEPTEMBER 13, 2007

For the fourth time in five years, the Department of Chemistry at Georgia Southern University boasts one of the most productive degree programs in the United States.

According to the latest rankings by the American Chemical Society (ACS) Committee on Professional Training, Georgia Southern is No. 13 in the nation for the number of graduates who earned a certified bachelor's degree in chemistry.

In addition, Georgia Southern is the highest-ranked institution in the state.

"I am delighted that we continue to be recognized at a national level for our outstanding undergraduate program as well as our commitment to the profession," said Mary Boyd, the chair of the Department of Chemistry.

To compile the rankings, the ACS surveyed the more than 640 colleges and universities that have a bachelor's degree program which has been certified by the ACS.

The institutions are ranked based on the number of graduates they produce in a given academic year. Thirty-four Georgia Southern students earned certified degrees in 2005-2006, the year used by the ACS for its most recent survey.

The University was tied for No. 19 in the previous national rankings, which covered the 2004-2005 academic year. Georgia Southern was No. 22 in the 2003-2004 rankings, and also No. 22 in the 2001-2002 rankings.

The ACS is comprised of more than 158,000 individual members at all degree levels and in all fields of chemistry. The organization provides a broad range of opportunities for peer interaction and career development.

The ACS Committee on Professional Training has been assessing, approving and monitoring undergraduate chemistry programs since 1941. Students in approved programs can earn certified degrees by completing a rigorous curriculum that satisfies ACS requirements.

According to the ACS, some employers offer higher starting salaries to graduates who have certified degrees. Also, a certified degree can be beneficial in obtaining admission to graduate school.

“Our graduates typically attend graduate, dental or medical school, or find employment in the chemical industry,” Boyd said.

The latest ACS survey revealed that 12,120 students received their bachelor’s degrees during the 2005-2006 academic year from institutions that offer a certified degree program. However, only 4,252 of these graduates (35.1 percent) earned certified degrees. The study also showed that 6,291 of the certified degrees (51.9 percent) were awarded to women.

The top five institutions in the ACS rankings for certified bachelor’s degrees are, in order: the University of Texas at Austin, the University of California at San Diego, the University of Virginia, the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, and the University of California at Santa Barbara.

The national rankings also include the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (in a four-way tie at No. 16) and the U.S. Naval Academy (in a four-way tie at No. 21).

The Georgia Institute of Technology – which is among the schools tied at No. 21 is the only other Georgia University to appear in the national rankings for certified bachelor’s degrees.

For more information on the Department of Chemistry at Georgia Southern, visit <http://cost.georgiasouthern.edu/chemistry> or call (912) 681-5681.

Spanish class for health care professionals will start on Oct. 1

SEPTEMBER 13, 2007

Infants can develop iron-deficiency anemia unless they are breastfed or drink iron-fortified bottle formula for their first 12 months.

As a medical practitioner, you know this. But do you know how to explain it to a worried couple who speak only Spanish and don’t understand why you want to test their baby’s blood?

Georgia Southern University is offering an eight-week course to give health care professionals practical experience of conversing in Spanish, using key words and phrases common to a medical setting.

“Spanish for Health Care Professionals” will run on eight consecutive Monday evenings from Oct. 1 through No. 19. The course is designed for nurses, personnel at hospitals, medical offices, pharmacies and health care centers, and nursing students.

Instructor June Spencer has 30 years experienced in teaching, often to the Latino population in Central America, Mexico and the Southwest U.S. Teaching assistant Mirna Cabrera de Young is a Bolivian preparing to work in the health care profession.

Each session of the class will meet from 5:30 p.m. until 7:15 p.m. in the Nessmith-Lane Continuing Education Building on the Georgia Southern campus in Statesboro.

The fee for the course is \$125 per person. To register, visit <http://ceps.georgiasouthern.edu/conted/spanishhealthcare.html> or call (912) 681-5551.- For more information, e-mail CED-Conference3@georgiasouthern.edu