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Growing graduate education programs play important role in Georgia Southern University's growth

APRIL 4, 2008

When Georgia Southern University holds its Graduate Student Appreciation Week April 22-25, it will highlight an increasingly important portion of its student body: the men and women who study in the University's master's and doctoral degree programs.

'Georgia Southern serves 1,900 graduate students right now in a variety of growing programs,' said Timothy Mack, dean of the Jack N. Averitt College of Graduate Studies. 'The University's strategic plan calls for us to steadily increase the number of graduate students to about 20 percent of total enrollment.'

Most of Georgia Southern's graduate students attend part-time, live off-campus, and are already employed. Georgia Southern also offers a variety of graduate degree programs for full-time graduate students who live on campus.

'We continue to see increased interest in our graduate programs from students around the state, country, and world,' says Mack. 'We are particularly seeing increased interest from students outside the United States.'

In recent years Mack has found that for many professions, such as teaching, a graduate degree is the new standard. For example, Georgia's Professional Standards Commission maintains strict guidelines for continuing teacher education, so the graduate programs in the College of Education are designed to meet those requirements.

In addition to adding new doctoral programs in psychology, public health, and nursing practice, Georgia Southern University is changing the way it delivers its graduate programs. Because many graduate students are tied to one location, the University is offering selected courses either partly or completely online.

Through Georgia Southern University Online, students can pursue a variety of online graduate programs ranging from nursing and education to an MBA and a Master of Science in Kinesiology with a Coaching Education Emphasis. The University recently added a fifth doctoral degree and its first online doctorate the Doctor of Nursing Practice degree.

Graduate Student Appreciation Week will include several events:

- Employment Workshop on Tuesday, April 22 from 4-7 p.m. to help students prepare for interviews. A featured speaker will discuss employment trends.
- Graduate Research Symposium on Wednesday, April 23 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. in CIT Lobby. See and hear the best scholarly creative work from graduate students. One \$250 award will be given in each college.
- Keynote Speaker Marc Prensky, on Thursday, April 24 from 3:30-5 p.m., and the Graduate Dinner at 5:30 p.m.

- Presentation of Symposium Awards, Friday, April 25, at 4 p.m.

For those interested in learning more about graduate education at Georgia Southern University, the Jack N. Averitt College of Graduate Studies has created an online presentation titled "Why Graduate Education?" To get the answers on graduate education, visit <http://cogs.georgiasouthern.edu/WhyGradEducation/index.htm>.

"Workforce Advantage" seminar in Brunswick on April 29

APRIL 4, 2008

Georgia Southern University will host a seminar in Brunswick, Ga., that will show business owners and employees how to deal with difficult situations in the workplace and how to communicate more effectively with their co-workers.

"Workforce Advantage" will be held on Tuesday, April 29, at the Brunswick-Golden Isles Chamber of Commerce.

The seminar will be divided into two sessions. "Managing and Handling Difficult Situations and People in the Workplace" will run from 8:30 a.m. until noon, and "The Power of Working with Others" will run from 1 p.m. until 4:30 p.m.

Presenter Cynthia Watts has 35 years of experience as a speaker and corporate trainer, including 17 years in health care. The Alabama native is a graduate of Samford University.

The seminar is co-sponsored by the Brunswick-Golden Isles Chamber of Commerce, the Darien-McIntosh County Chamber of Commerce, and the University of Georgia Small Business Development Center.

The fee for the seminar is \$130 per person for both sessions, or \$70 per person for one session. For chamber members, the fee will be reduced to \$100 per person for both sessions, or \$55 per person for one session. Lunch and refreshment breaks will be provided to participants who register for both sessions.

For more information, visit <http://ceps.georgiasouthern.edu/conted/workforce.html> or call (912) 681-5551.

Georgia Southern University, a Carnegie Doctoral/Research University, offers more than 120 degree programs serving nearly 17,000 students. Through eight colleges, the University offers bachelor's, master's and doctoral degree programs built on more than a century of academic achievement. The University, one of Georgia's largest, is a top choice of Georgia's HOPE scholars and is recognized for its student-centered approach to education. Visit: www.georgiasouthern.edu .

Georgia Southern University football, basketball coaches headline Savannah Eagle Club meeting

APRIL 4, 2008

Second-year Georgia Southern University head football coach Chris Hatcher and head men's basketball coach Jeff Price will be the featured speakers at the Greater Savannah Eagle Club on Friday, April 25. The event will be held in the Johnny Harris Restaurant Banquet Facility on 1651 East Victory Drive in Savannah at 7 p.m.

All Georgia Southern University fans in the greater Savannah area are invited to attend. Coach Hatcher will offer his outlook on his 2008 signing class, spring practice and the 2008 season. Coach Price will offer a retrospect on the 2007-2008 basketball season.

In Hatcher's first season as head football coach, the Eagles improved from the previous year's 3-8 record to 7-4, narrowly missing Football Championship Subdivision (formerly I-AA) playoffs.

Price is coming off another 20 win season in basketball and recently earned the state's top coach award given by the Atlanta Tipoff Club. Price owns a 293-153 overall mark in 15 years of coaching and is 157-111 at Georgia Southern. The Eagles have finished first or second in the SoCon South Division in seven of his nine years in Statesboro.

Tickets for the event are \$15 per person before Monday, April 21, and \$20 at the door. For more information or to purchase tickets, contact Laney Claxton at 912-303-0435 or Rick Bean at 912-629-2143.

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