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# Famous Amos to Visit Georgia Southern

AUGUST 22, 2008



Georgia Southern University will welcome Famous Amos founder, entrepreneur and inspirational speaker [Wally Amos](#) to campus on Tuesday, August 26, 2008.

As founder of Famous Amos Cookies in 1975 and father of the gourmet chocolate chip cookie industry, he utilizes a very upbeat and unique style. Amos addresses issues such as commitment, integrity, attitude, imagination, faith, and love.

In addition to speaking at Georgia Southern, Amos will take a few moments to read to children at the University's Child Development Center and take a VIP tour of

campus.

## Wally Amos Visit Details

### Student Presentation

*(Open to Current Georgia Southern University Students. The presentation is free, but tickets are required. Tickets are available at the office of Student Activities in the Russell Union.)*

August 26, 2008

6 p.m.

Performing Arts Center

### About Wally Amos

Born in Tallahassee, Fla., Wally Amos lived a childhood that was not always stable and trouble-free. But as a child he had an innate spirit and gift to view the world with optimism. After a four year stint in the Air Force, Amos began his early professional career in the stock room at Saks Fifth Avenue.

He later joined the William Morris Talent Agency where was the first to book many of the top performers of the day including The Supremes, Simon & Garfunkel and Marvin Gaye.

It was during this time that Wally learned to unwind on weekends by taking up a new hobby – baking chocolate chip cookies. In 1975, long before there were ‘food personalities’ like Emeril Lagasse, Paul Newman and Nigella Lawson, Amos came up with the idea that he could sell his cookies as an entertainment personality – a gourmet chocolate chip cookie. Borrowing \$25,000 from friends, Amos opened the first freestanding store, on Sunset Boulevard, in Hollywood, Calif., that sold only cookies: The Famous Amos Chocolate Chip Cookie store. Soon the entrepreneur became a national personality renowned not only for his cookies but for his ebullient and outgoing persona as well.

He is a literacy advocate and serves on the board of many organizations. His latest venture, [www.chipandcookie.com](http://www.chipandcookie.com), which features two plush chocolate chip cookie dolls, named Chip and Cookie, are the newest additions to Wally's long line of amazing entrepreneurial success stories.

His honors and awards include the President's Award for Entrepreneurial Excellence, the Horatio Alger Award and Outstanding Business Leader Award. Two of his trademarks, his famous Panama hat and shirt have been on display at the Smithsonian Institute.

## **Georgia Southern University's College of Business Administration Names Interim Director of Graduate Studies**

*AUGUST 22, 2008*



Tim Cairney, an associate professor in the College of Business Administration, will now serve as interim director of Graduate Studies at Georgia Southern University.

Cairney received his Bachelor of Arts from the University of Richmond, his Master of Business Administration from Dalhousie University, and his Ph.D. in Accounting from the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. Cairney has been at Georgia Southern for six years and has tenure. His field of expertise is in Industrial Level Analysis and Voluntary Disclosures.

'Our graduate business programs are the premier programs in east Georgia and include the Master of Business Administration, Master of Accountancy, Master of Science in Applied Economics, and the Georgia WebMBA," said Cairney of the Master's Program 'As Interim Director, I am looking forward to coordinating efforts to manage our growth in conjunction with the projected growth of the university.'

Cairney earned his Chartered Accountancy (Canada) professional designation and has practiced with Collins Barrow Maheu Noiseux. Cairney has served as a controller for Franklin Enterprises. He is a member of the American Accounting Association and the Institute of Management Accountants. Cairney has also published in such journals as Auditing: A Journal of Practice & Theory, the Journal of Business Finance & Accounting, the Journal of Cost Analysis and Management, and the American Business Review. Cairney serves on the Editorial Advisory Board for The Review of Accounting & Finance.

Georgia Southern University, a Carnegie Doctoral/Research University, offers more than 120 degree programs serving more than 17,000 students. Through eight colleges, the University offers bachelors, masters, 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.

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