

Newsroom

August 29, 2008

Georgia Southern University

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Loss of SACS Accreditation Won't Prevent Clayton County Students from Applying to Georgia Southern

AUGUST 29, 2008



**GEORGIA
SOUTHERN
UNIVERSITY**

Georgia Southern University shares the concern of students and parents regarding the loss of SACS (Southern Association of Colleges and Schools) accreditation by the Clayton County School System.

Admission to Georgia Southern University for Clayton County School System high school graduates is not negatively impacted with the loss of accreditation.

Current University System of Georgia policy allows for the consideration of students graduating from a high school regulated by a school system and state department of education. The Clayton County School System continues to meet this requirement.

Students graduating from a Clayton County high school, meeting all other Board of Regents and institutional admission requirements (including the 16 units required of the College Preparatory Curriculum (for those graduating prior to 2012) or the 17 units required for the Required High School Curriculum (for those graduating 2012 or later), will continue to be considered for admission in the same manner as students from SACS accredited schools in the state. An update regarding the HOPE scholarship for graduates of Clayton County Schools can be found at https://www.gsfc.org/main/ga411info/news_050508.cfmGUID=

The Undergraduate Admissions section of the Board of Regents Academic Affairs Handbook may be viewed online at <http://www.usg.edu/academics/handbook/section3/301-310/301-310.phtml#n3.01>

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 Welcomes Fulbright Student, Muskie Fellow

AUGUST 29, 2008



Ahmed Norwaf, a Fulbright student from Baghdad, Iraq, and Saida Akbarova, a Muskie Fellow from Uzbekistan, have joined the student body as graduate students at Georgia Southern University. Norwaf, a surgeon, will be earning a Master's Degree in Public Health with a concentration on Community Health. His Fulbright scholar grant is administrated by AmidEast. Akbarova will be earning a Master's in Education.

Sponsored by the U.S. State Department, the Fulbright Program was founded in 1945 by Senator William J. Fulbright of Arkansas for international educational exchange. Many public and private agencies like AmidEast assist in the administration of the Fulbright Program.

Established by the U.S. Congress in 1992 and sponsored by the U.S. State Department, the Muskie Scholar Fellowship encourages economic and democratic growth in Eurasia. Akbarova says, 'I am happy to be in such a wonderful place, where there are warm and open-hearted people.'

Both students plan to return to their home countries upon receiving their degrees and plan to use their knowledge to build better communities. Norwaf says, 'I think my outstanding studies at Georgia Southern University will help me in two ways. First, I will be able to go back and teach my students at Baghdad College of Medicine. Second, I will be able to participate in building a new healthy medical system in my country.'

Having two students here at the same time on such prestigious grants reflects Georgia Southern's commitment to international studies, according to Ron Jones, the University's manager of international admissions. He adds that, as students from countries that are underrepresented in higher education in the U.S., Norwaf and Akbarova will contribute unique perspectives that will enrich and benefit the entire Georgia Southern University community.

'Being selected as a host institution by such prominent organizations speaks volumes about the academic quality of Georgia Southern University's graduate programs and our growing reputation among the international academic community,' Jones says. 'Our aim is to build upon these relationships, grow our international graduate community and foster public diplomacy and good will through international education.'

The Jack N. Averitt College of Graduate Studies (www.cogs.georgiasouthern.edu) is one of the premier centers of graduate education in the Southeast. With an expanding number of programs, increased enrollment and interest from students both in the U.S. and abroad, the College continues to experience continued growth.

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