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# Georgia Southern University Launches Roommate Selection Service

*MAY 21, 2008*

More than 600 freshmen attending Georgia Southern University beginning this fall semester have already chosen their roommates, thanks to [RoommateClick.com](http://RoommateClick.com). Georgia Southern University has signed an agreement with the service to allow new students who plan to live in on-campus housing to choose their own roommates by creating their own profile and then choosing a potential roommate.

‘Using RoommateClick.com involves the student as an active participant in the selection process,’ says Vickie Hawkins, director of University Housing. ‘For those students that do not already have a roommate lined up prior to beginning their freshman year, this tool will provide them with a choice and opportunity to live with people that closely match their interests.’

Before utilizing RoommateClick.com, the University provided each student with the opportunity to complete a 15-question survey with the results ultimately used to assign roommates. However, research showed that the result was about the same as a random assignment and the student had less involvement in the selection process.

‘For students to benefit from making a roommate choice, we have to get them engaged in the process,’ says Jon Coleman, assistant director of administrative services for University Housing. ‘If their roommate relationship is happy, students do better, have a better time, and stay in college. Satisfaction is high and stress is low, and when they come to Housing with roommate problems, we can support them in working on their relationships.’

Once a person is authenticated as a future Georgia Southern University student, they can log in to the site, take a survey, and create their own profile. The student can then upload as many as five photos and place a personal message. Once their profile is in, they can search for a roommate by major, by building, or just browse the site. When they spot a likely match, they can send a blind e-mail or, if they choose, open a conversation.

University Housing is offering the RoommateClick.com option to incoming freshmen that will begin classes in August. The University will evaluate the system and then decide whether to implement the system for all students living on campus.

# Georgia Southern University Offers Free, Legal Music Downloads for Students

*MAY 21, 2008*

As more colleges and universities work to prevent illegal music downloading on student computers, Georgia Southern University is partnering with Ruckus Network, Inc. to offer students a free and

legal way of downloading unlimited music. The service is available to Georgia Southern undergraduate and graduate students at no cost to the University or users of the program.

The new service, available through [www.Ruckus.com](http://www.Ruckus.com), provides students with access to more than three million songs of all varieties.

‘The decision to offer the service is based on continuing student requests to offer a free music file sharing service,’ said Georj Lewis, dean of students at Georgia Southern University. ‘We are very excited to make this safe and legal alternative music service available to students at Georgia Southern University.’

Ruckus allows users to legally download and share their music, create multiple playlists, recommend music to friends and peruse their peers’ media libraries.

To ensure the legality of the program, Ruckus is licensed through major international record labels and many independent labels and musicians. Also, downloaded music files are unable to be freely transferred to mp3 players or burned onto CDs.

‘This service offers students a safe, free alternative to illegal file sharing software they may be tempted to download from the Internet,’ said Lee Davis, Georgia Southern University’s chief attorney. ‘The recording industry has stepped up its copyright enforcement efforts, and Ruckus provides access to the same music without the legal risks.’

Ruckus has already had success after being made available to almost 200 colleges and universities across the nation. Among those participating in the program are Duke University, Clemson, North Carolina State and Princeton University.

To begin using Ruckus, Georgia Southern students must first create an account at [www.Ruckus.com](http://www.Ruckus.com), and using their Georgia Southern email address.

A list of alternative legal download sites is available at: [www.georgiasouthern.edu/musicdownloads](http://www.georgiasouthern.edu/musicdownloads).

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](http://www.georgiasouthern.edu).