

Georgia Southern University

## Digital Commons@Georgia Southern

---

Newsroom

University Communications and Marketing

---

10-26-2016

### Newsroom

Georgia Southern University

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.georgiasouthern.edu/newsroom>



Part of the [Higher Education Commons](#)

---

#### Recommended Citation

Georgia Southern University, "Newsroom" (2016). *Newsroom*. 572.  
<https://digitalcommons.georgiasouthern.edu/newsroom/572>

This news article is brought to you for free and open access by the University Communications and Marketing at Digital Commons@Georgia Southern. It has been accepted for inclusion in Newsroom by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons@Georgia Southern. For more information, please contact [digitalcommons@georgiasouthern.edu](mailto:digitalcommons@georgiasouthern.edu).

# Georgia Southern attains historic enrollment numbers

OCTOBER 26, 2016



Enrollment at Georgia Southern University has reached a historic high at 20,674 full-time students for Fall Semester 2016, marking an increase of more than 200 students from Fall Semester 2015.

For the last five years, the University has consistently experienced enrollment numbers of approximately 20,500. This year's increase over last year's enrollment of 20,459 represents a promising rise in full-time students, including 136 additional new freshmen, now enrolled at Georgia Southern.

"We are proud of the hard work of our admissions team and the entire campus community in the recruitment and retention of the best and brightest students from across Georgia and the country," said Teresa Thompson, Ph.D., vice president for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management. "We have wonderful faculty and advisors who work with students on an individual level to ensure they are prepared for college coursework and are successful while they are at Georgia Southern."

Georgia Southern boasts a 22:1 student-faculty ratio, which helps the University maintain its unique “small feel” for a higher education institution of its size. The University also provides hands-on learning with research opportunities for both undergraduate and graduate students.

This semester’s record enrollment also includes an increase in the number of graduate students enrolled in the University’s Jack N. Averitt College of Graduate Studies.

“We are delighted that graduate student enrollment has experienced an upturn this fall,” said Diana Cone, Ph.D., associate provost. “We have gained more new and returning graduate students due to the hard work of the Jack N. Averitt College of Graduate Studies staff and collaboration with the program directors in each of the University’s colleges.”

*Georgia Southern University, a public Carnegie Doctoral/Research University founded in 1906, offers more than 125 degree programs serving 20,674 students. Through eight colleges, the University offers bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral degree programs built on more than a century of academic achievement. Georgia Southern is recognized for its student-centered and hands-on approach to education. [GeorgiaSouthern.edu](http://GeorgiaSouthern.edu).*

## Georgia Southern provides shelter to animals from Georgia Sea Turtle Center

OCTOBER 26, 2016



In the midst of Hurricane Matthew, residents of coastal Georgia were not the only ones taking to the evacuation routes. A gopher tortoise, diamondback terrapins, box turtles, sea turtles, additional turtles, an owl and a wood stork from the Georgia Sea Turtle Center on Jekyll Island took shelter on Georgia Southern University’s campus as the hurricane passed through the region.

In preparation for the storm, students, faculty and staff with Georgia Southern University worked with the Georgia Sea Turtle Center to assist with the relocation of just under 80 of the Center’s animals to the University’s facilities and assisted in facilitating shelter for the Center’s staff and their families. More than 30 volunteers from several departments within the University’s College of Science and Mathematics, including biology, geology and geography, and physics, as well as staff

from the University's Physical Plant department and Office of Public Safety, worked to ensure a smooth transition for the animals to their storm shelter on campus.

The animals returned to their home on Jekyll Island on Oct. 17. Fortunately, the animals, staff and facility of the Georgia Sea Turtle Center weathered the storm without harm.

Georgia Southern University has led the longest-running sea turtle research program, a conservation program, on the Georgia coast. The 28-year-old [Sea Turtle Program at St. Catherines Island](#) has three major components, including conservation of nesting sea turtles on the Georgia coast, research into the nesting ecology of Georgia's sea turtles, and education of both students and teachers in science content and science process skills.