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Georgia Southern President Jaimie Hebert hosts Town Hall event

OCTOBER 18, 2016



During his first 100 days as Georgia Southern University's 13th president, Jaimie Hebert, Ph.D., listened to alumni, faculty, staff and the community by asking them to share their thoughts with him through a unique survey open since July 1. In a town hall event on Monday, Oct. 17, he shared the results of the survey and discussed his vision for the University.

In addition to the insights provided in the areas of academics, administration and staff, alumni, athletics, faculty, students, and University news, Hebert also received thoughtful input on becoming part of the community from being baptized in Eagle Creek to where to find the best doctors.

"The hospitality I have experienced truly reflects the culture of this University and the core values that we espouse —

kindness and civility," said Hebert. "Those values weave themselves through everything we do, and as I looked at the responses to our 100 Days survey, I was amazed at how truly thoughtful you are. Georgia Southern is truly about community."

The survey illustrated several themes consistent with what Hebert has heard over the past four months while getting to know students, faculty, staff, alumni and the community.

Hebert affirmed that it is the traditions and core values that make Georgia Southern what it is.

"As the University develops its collective vision, kindness, civility and social responsibility are non-negotiable," said Hebert. "These qualities are embedded in our core values and are the qualities that each and every one of you live out each day as you do your important work on this campus."

Many survey comments highlighted the pride and passion of Georgia Southern alumni for the University. Others expressed a desire for the University to continue to connect to the surrounding communities, including Statesboro and Bulloch County, Savannah and Atlanta. Some noted that while Georgia Southern's athletics program helps the University to receive national attention, the

University's successes in academics and research also are deserving of recognition at a national level.

"This is an excellent teaching institution with excellent scholars," one survey response stated.

Faculty not only invited Hebert to visit their classrooms, they encouraged him to be available, get to know all minority faculty and encourage outstanding junior faculty. Additional faculty suggestions included building infrastructure and additional classrooms, beginning the strategic planning process, investing in research, increasing faculty salaries, growing the University's graduate programs, and maintaining teaching above all else.

"Our Carnegie Foundation recognition as a Carnegie Doctoral/Research university is an indication of the quality of scholars and the quality of faculty that we have on our campus," said Hebert. "Being a comprehensive university means that we have the passion to embrace the teacher-scholar model to be recognizable, formidable researchers, and artists, and at the same time be passionate about student success in an undergraduate classroom."

Students voiced a desire for continued improvements to campus safety, additional parking, and additional support of minorities. As the University continues to grow, many survey responses repeated the importance of maintaining Georgia Southern's large-scale, small feel atmosphere as a core value of the University.

Staff impressed upon Hebert that the staff of Georgia Southern are exceptionally dedicated to the University and student success. They also shared that areas of improvement include morale, internal efficiencies and reporting structures.

"I don't want to be a different University, I want to be a better Georgia Southern," continued Hebert. "I absolutely love this place, but it is imperative, it is incumbent upon me, that I put us in a position to move forward to become that better Georgia Southern that I know we can be."

Georgia Southern University, a public Carnegie Doctoral/Research University founded in 1906, offers more than 125 degree programs serving approximately 20,500 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.

[Click here to view the Town Hall event.](#)

Game Day Mayday

OCTOBER 18, 2016



Thousands of alumni and fans will flock to Allen E. Paulson Stadium for two Thursday night football games this season: Oct. 27 against Appalachian State University and Nov. 10 against the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. Game day parking regulations from the [Office of Parking and Transportation](#) are outlined below:

Erk Russell Athletic Park (Paulson Stadium and Eagle Field)

Vehicles parked at either Paulson Stadium or Eagle Field on Thursday game days must be removed by 2 p.m. or they will be towed.

Recreation Activity Center (RAC)

Vehicles parked at the RAC on Thursday game days must be removed by 3:30 p.m. or they will be towed.

Parking on Campus

At noon on Thursday home football game days, residential, faculty and other campus parking lots (besides Erk Russell Athletic Park and the RAC) will be available for student and staff parking on a first come, first served basis. Safety violations will be enforced, so please park wisely.

Transit

The RAC bus stop will be relocated at 1 p.m. to Akins Blvd, and the bus will only stop after making a full route into campus. All Southern Express routes will run their regular scheduled times from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Thursday game days. After 5 p.m., the Gold Route will increase the number of buses to accommodate the game day crowds and will run one additional hour after the game. As normal, the Blue Route will cease at 9 p.m.

Tailgating

Tailgating will be permitted after 4 p.m. in numbered, commuter lots on a first come, first served basis.

Students, alumni and all game day attendees should expect major delays in traffic. If possible, students, faculty and staff should carpool on Thursday game days, and residents of University Housing should keep their cars parked at their residence halls. We encourage our students, faculty and fans of Georgia Southern football to enjoy their games day but to do so safely.