

# Newsroom

April 17, 2015

Georgia Southern University

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# Division of Continuing Education Welcomes New Team Member

APRIL 17, 2015



*Melissa Richardson*

Georgia Southern University's Division of Continuing Education is pleased to welcome Melissa Richardson as its newest staff member, effective April 1, 2015.

Richardson will serve as the College of Engineering and Information Technology, College of Science and Mathematics, College of Education and Contract Training Program Specialist. In this role, Richardson will focus on the development of new programs, coordinate, market, budget and evaluate current non-credit programs and continue to initiate contacts and build relationships with faculty, administrators and external organizations to foster new ideas and ensure a superior customer experience for all of the division's partners.

"I am very excited to be here as a part of Continuing Education at Georgia Southern University," she said. "Great ideas are being shared and I look forward to the upcoming programs that will impact many people."

Richardson's skills, experience and drive make her a key addition to the Division of Continuing Education's team. She brings over 16 years of program and management experience to the Division. In her last position, she served as a Project Coordinator in Early Clinical Development at Covance Clinical Development Services in Wisconsin. While there, she worked directly with project managers to assist with the overall management of multi-site studies. Along with her work experience, she holds Bachelor of Arts from Kent State University.

## **Current Programs and Conferences**

- Southeast Conference on Positive Behavior Interventions and Support
- Curriculum Studies Summer Collaborative
- Global Education Summit
- National Youth-At-Risk Conference, Las Vegas
- National Youth-At-Risk Conference, Savannah

# Georgia Southern Cheerleaders Win Back-to-Back National Titles

APRIL 17, 2015



The Georgia Southern University all-girl cheerleading squad secured its fifth national championship title on Friday, April 10, at the 2015 National Cheerleading Association (NCA) Collegiate National Championships held in Daytona Beach, Florida.

The squad of 20 girls performed a solid routine during the final round of competition, which earned them the highest score of 84.43 out of 100, beating squads from Saint Joseph University, the University of Florida, East Carolina University and Texas A&M University.

"I think our success shows that we are one of the top-notch cheerleading programs in the United States," said Barry Munkasy, head coach. "We compete at a level that is commensurate with our ability and do very well at that level."

This was the all-girl squad's fifth national win in the Intermediate All-girl Division in the last seven years. This made the squad back-to-back champions as well after winning the title in 2014.

All of their success did not come easy, though, according to Taylor Ramey, sophomore cheerleader.

"After nine months of hard work, sacrifice and countless hours put in behind the scenes, I can now say that two practices a day, ice baths, running Hanner and full out routines back-to-back was all worth it to be a two-time national champion," said Ramey. "When it was announced, I became so overloaded with joy that I bawled my eyes out."

In addition to the all-girl squad's success, the co-ed squad achieved national recognition as well with a fifth place finish in its respective division, competing against squads from the University of Michigan, Southern Methodist University, the University of Texas San Antonio, and Middle Tennessee State University.

"They gave it their best effort, but sometimes things just don't go perfectly," said Munkasy. "And in these cases, they must go perfectly in order to win."

Although the all-girl squad's national championship win is still sinking in, Munkasy said the program is already thinking about next year's national championship competition and how they want to sweep national titles in both the all-girl and co-ed divisions.

"Our first major goal is for all-girl to do our first 3-peat," said Munkasy. "Our second major goal is to find a way to help the co-ed team win their first national championships."

Results for Nationals 2015 can be found

here: [http://www.varsity.com/event/1931/2015\\_nca\\_nda\\_college](http://www.varsity.com/event/1931/2015_nca_nda_college).

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

## **Center for Sustainability to Host Sustainability Showcase, Green Eagle Award Ceremony**

**APRIL 17, 2015**

The Center for Sustainability and the Zach S. Henderson Library at Georgia Southern have teamed up to present the first-ever Sustainability Showcase.

On display at Henderson Library, the showcase highlights 23 campus sustainability fee funded grant projects including a solar powered utility cart, new LED lights, interpretive signs for the campus, cutting edge carbon capture technology and much more.

"When the first Sustainability Fee grants were awarded, I knew that we needed a way to share these wonderful sustainability advances with the campus. In particular, we needed to reach students, whose vision in proposing and supporting the sustainability fee is the reason for the \$438,000 in grants this year," said Lissa Leege, director of the Center for Sustainability. "Our vision was an exhibit that provided a hands-on view of all of these projects in one place."

In addition to the Sustainability Showcase, President Brooks Keel will present the first-ever Green Eagle Awards on behalf of the Center during a ceremony at 3 p.m. on April 22, the 45th Anniversary of Earth Day. The ceremony will be held in conjunction with the closing reception of the Sustainability Showcase, located on the first floor of Henderson Library.

"Many individuals on the Georgia Southern campus have made exceptional contributions to campus and community sustainability through the years, and we felt that they should be honored for their commitment and leadership," Leege said of why the award was created.

Nominations were solicited campus wide for the award, and a subcommittee from the Sustainability Fee Committee has selected two students, two staff members and two faculty members from a group of 14 nominees.

The Showcase and Green Eagle Award ceremony are both free and open to the public. The exhibit is open during library hours until April 22.