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Gulfstream Makes \$10,000 Donation to Center for Wildlife Education

MARCH 15, 2013



Georgia Southern University's Center for Wildlife Education and The Lamar Q Ball, Jr. Raptor Center received a donation of \$10,000 to its Freedom Fund for Excellence from Gulfstream Aerospace Corp. in Savannah, Ga. The gift honors Gulfstream's Pres Henne, who is retiring from his position as senior vice president of Programs, Engineering and Test. The money will be used to support the Center's ongoing wildlife education programs.

"We are extremely appreciative of Gulfstream's support of Georgia Southern's Wildlife Center," said Steve Hein, the Center's director. "Georgia Southern's Wildlife Center is one of the leading environmental education facilities in Georgia and is one of the most unique in the country. Gulfstream is not only recognized as the leader in its industry, but also in the community."

The origin of the Wildlife Center began nearly 25 years ago as Georgia Southern was about to win its fourth national football championship. A large bird of prey was spotted flying over Paulson Stadium and a sports announcer called it a bald eagle. It was in fact a turkey vulture. After the sports broadcast, a University supporter and outdoor enthusiast decided Georgia Southern should have an American bald eagle on campus. At more than 17 acres in size, the Center is the only such facility to be located in the middle of a major University campus and is home to three bald eagles: Freedom, Glory and its newest eagle, Franklin.

The Freedom Fund for Excellence was established in 2012 to make it possible for the Center to operate in perpetuity with a legacy of positive influence on both young and old Center learners. Funds from the endowment are used to support programming, facilities, staff and other expenses incurred in

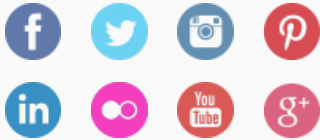
the operation of the Center. Gulfstream’s donation to support the Center and to honor Henne will be recognized on the Wildlife Center’s donor wall located at Freedom’s Courtyard.

“It’s an honor to contribute to the continued growth of the Georgia Southern Wildlife Center,” said Henne. “This Center is one of the region’s true gems, allowing residents and visitors to enjoy wildlife encounters they otherwise couldn’t.”

Georgia Southern University, a Carnegie Doctoral/Research University founded in 1906, offers more than 120 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 stud

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Tweets by @GeorgiaSouthern

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 Congratulations to #GeorgiaSouthern @GSCOSM alumnus Nick Wiley ('83) who was recently named the chief conservation officer of @DucksUnlimited ! ow.ly/BhVW30hkDJR



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New License Plate Unveiled for Eagle Nation

MARCH 15, 2013

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Georgia Southern and the Georgia Department of Revenue's Motor Vehicle Division have teamed up to launch a new official license plate for the University. The new plate is now available in tag offices throughout the state of Georgia.

[Click here to see the unveiling.](#)

The new Georgia Southern University license plate features the popular Georgia Southern Eagles logo prominently on the left. The same image serves as a watermark behind each plate's unique numbers. Along the bottom, the plate features the phrase "The Eagle Nation" in a blue stripe.

"We are excited to update the official Georgia Southern University license plate, and we are even more excited that a portion of the proceeds will go to student scholarships," said Georgia Southern

University President Brooks Keel, Ph.D. "The Georgia Southern license plate is a great way for our alumni and fans to show their pride, and we are looking forward to seeing them throughout the state of Georgia."

Last year, the University announced that it would use its portion of the proceeds to support the REACH Scholarship (Realizing Educational Achievements Can Happen), Georgia's new needs-based scholarship program. The REACH Scholarship is designed to provide access to higher education for all Georgians, regardless of their income. The scholarship rewards students for self-accountability, promotes parent involvement and provides motivation and support; all factors that are critical to student educational achievement.

REACH Scholars will be selected in middle school and will sign a contract to maintain a certain grade average, remain crime, drug, and behavior issue free and meet with a volunteer mentor until they graduate from high school. Parents or guardians will also sign a contract to support their student through their education.

Students who complete the REACH program's requirements will receive a renewable yearly tuition scholarship of \$2,500 to be used at any HOPE eligible institution. This amount will cover the average gap between other needs-based scholarships and awards, such as the Pell grant, and the full cost of attendance. Through the sale of the new license plate, Georgia Southern will match that amount for REACH students who choose to attend the University.

The new plate was designed by Georgia Southern graphic design alumna Victoria Sprankel and is the first new design since the original plate was introduced. During the design process, the University solicited feedback on numerous plate designs from students, faculty and staff and alumni. The feedback for the final plate design was overwhelmingly positive with many respondents commenting on its design. The previous Georgia Southern plate's colors and the size of the name of the University made it difficult to read from a distance.

"The new plate's design is eye-catching and it will enable it to stand out on vehicles traveling down the highway," said Keel. "Purchasing a new Georgia Southern plate is not just a way to express your school spirit. By getting a new plate, you will be supporting future generations of Georgia Southern students, and that is true school spirit."

For more information on the new plate and how to purchase a Georgia Southern license plate, visit: www.georgiasouthern.edu/licenseplate.

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