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Recommended Citation

Georgia Southern University, "Newsroom" (2014). *Newsroom*. 1387.
<https://digitalcommons.georgiasouthern.edu/newsroom/1387>

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Georgia Southern University Cheerleaders Among Top Performers at National Competition

APRIL 15, 2014



The Georgia Southern University All-Girl and Co-Ed cheer squads both returned home from the National Cheerleaders Association Collegiate Cheer and Dance Championship in Daytona Beach, Fla., held April 9-13, with national recognition for their respective teams.

The All-Girl squad secured its fourth national championship in the last seven years during the competition, finishing ahead of teams from Penn State, West Virginia University, Ohio State and the University of Georgia among others. The young team comprised of 20 cheerleaders, nine of which were freshmen and no seniors, was led by junior Chloe Cotter, a mathematics major from Lawrenceville, Ga., and junior Emily Harwood, a special education major from Sugar Hill, Ga.

The Co-Ed squad, led by senior and communications studies major Carla Metts from Dublin, Ga., finished second in the competition behind the University of Michigan. The squad started the final day of competition in fifth placed but moved up

to finish ahead of teams from Middle Tennessee State University, University of Texas at El Paso, Kent State University and the University of Missouri.

"The All-Girl squad fought through injuries all year and overcame those challenges to bring home a national title, and the Co-Ed squad put their best routine in years on the floor, but unfortunately they came up just a little short," said Cheerleading Coach Barry Munkasy, Ph.D. "I am very proud of how both teams performed and represented Georgia Southern University."

Georgia Southern University, a Carnegie Doctoral/Research University founded in 1906, offers 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 approach to education. Visit: www.georgiasouthern.edu.

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Georgia Southern University to Host Former U.S. Secretary of Energy

APRIL 15, 2014

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Georgia Southern University welcomes Nobel Prize Winner in physics and former U.S. Secretary of Energy Dr. Steven Chu to campus as the keynote speaker for No Impact Week at 7 p.m. on April 15 at the Performing Arts Center, 847 Plant Drive.

Chu will offer insight on our energy future and how advances in science are the key to solving our most confounding global issues in his speech titled, "Renewing Our Independence Through Renewable Energy: Challenges and Opportunities."

The event is part of Georgia Southern's No Impact Week, a weeklong challenge in which participants commit to gradually reducing their impact on the planet. Each day, the focus is on a different area of sustainability including consumptions, waste, food, transportation, energy, water and giving back.

"We are honored and excited to have Dr. Steven Chu speak at Georgia Southern University. Dr. Chu's talk, which coincides with No Impact Week and the University's Annual Research Symposium, is an event which our campus will not soon forget," said Vice President for Research & Economic Development Charles Patterson, Ph.D. "Dr. Chu's great accomplishments, such as former Secretary of Energy, a recipient of the Nobel Prize in Physics, and even

conversations with the Dalai Lama, are real examples to our students that there are no limits to where application of research and knowledge can take them."

A distinguished physicist, innovative professor and the first science laureate to serve as U.S. Secretary of Energy, Chu was instrumental in transforming the agency by bringing science to the forefront of America's clean energy policy. Chu was also a top science advisor to President Barack Obama, where he used his skills to assist BP in stopping the massive Gulf oil leak and assisted the government of Japan in dealing with the tsunami-damaged Fukushima-Daiichi nuclear reactors.

His work in laser cooling and trapping was honored as a co-recipient of the Nobel Prize in Physics in 1997. He continues to work on solving the country's energy problems by focusing on new pathways to sustainable, carbon dioxide-neutral energy.

This free event, which is open to the public, is sponsored by the College of Science and Mathematics, Department of Physics, Center for Sustainability, Office of the Vice President for Research and Economic Development and the University Wellness Program.

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