

Georgia Southern University

Digital Commons@Georgia Southern

Newsroom

University Communications and Marketing

2-6-2023

Newsroom

Georgia Southern University

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

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.

Georgia Southern Investing \$1.2 Million to Upgrade Campus Security Cameras

February 6, 2023



Georgia Southern University is planning a major upgrade to its campus security cameras and video technology.

With approximately \$1.2 million budgeted, the University will upgrade the cameras in the resident halls and other buildings in Statesboro, Savannah and Hinesville to bring the current cameras from analog to a digital platform. Additionally, new cameras will be placed at entrances to our campuses that can tie into those from other law enforcement agencies. The end result will be an interconnected network of cameras across the region.

The new technology package includes state-of-the-art Flock cameras, which are motion-activated and record license plate numbers of any vehicle that comes into the hall parking lots. Flock Safety's "Vehicle Fingerprint" technology lets police search the video by vehicle make, color, type, license plate, state of the license plate, missing plate, covered plate, paper plate, and unique vehicle details such as roof racks, bumper stickers, and more.

The cameras can be used to look for a specific suspect or a vehicle that has been entered into law enforcement databases. Additionally, the University can use Flock for investigative purposes as well by going back and looking for any cars that fit a certain profile if it was associated with a crime or if there was a gunshot detected nearby.

"This upgrade allows us to add more cameras, extend our reach, add storage and searching capabilities and better integrate our cameras into other video surveillance networks in use by local law enforcement," said Georgia Southern University Police Chief Laura McCullough. "This is a major step forward in our ongoing work to keep our campus safe."

The new equipment will add to, and augment, Georgia Southern's network of more than 1,800 video cameras on its three campuses. The project will begin in the coming weeks and is expected to be completed by the start of the fall 2023 semester.

Eagle Nation Awards Three Military Spouses Scholarships

February 6, 2023

While military families make incredible sacrifices for their country, [Georgia Southern University has developed a reputation for supporting these families while they pursue their academic dreams.](#)

The Georgia Southern Military and Veterans Services Department will award Military Spouse Scholarships provided by the Landings Military Spouse Academic Assistance Funds in February. Three students who are married to service members will be awarded this scholarship to cover their spring 2023 term as well as funds to pay for textbooks and supplies. The scholarships will be awarded [at military-friendly faculty training events on Feb. 2 in Statesboro and Feb. 9 in Savannah.](#)



Megan Steed is originally from California. Through her husband's work as a linguist for the Navy, they and their young son, Elijah, now live in Augusta, Georgia.

On top of being a military spouse and a mother, Steed is enrolled as an online interdisciplinary studies major with concentrations in public policy and criminal justice, along with a minor in public administration. Thanks to the strength of Georgia Southern's online programs and the financial support from the scholarship, she is a member of Eagle Nation.

"It really helps us land on our feet," said Steed. "We were expecting to have school debt when I graduate. But with this scholarship, I get to graduate with no school debt now."

Steed added that this scholarship and eventual degree will put her and her family one step closer to moving back home to their native California.

A nomadic lifestyle can be typical for those serving in the armed forces. Some military families are moved across the country for their assignments; others are moved across the globe.

Guilia Bernardes was born and raised in Sao Paulo, Brazil, with a family that inspired her to do important work.



“Coming from Sao Paulo, it’s like New York,” she said. “You see buildings everywhere. I was always in love with all those buildings and bridges, everything was always under construction. I always found it fascinating how those things could go up and stay, and how to trust them.”

She enrolled in a Brazilian technical program as a teenager. When she was 19 years old, she moved to Germany to continue following her engineering passion. While in Europe, she met some Americans. One of them later became her husband.

Since then, she has been living in the United States with her Army husband. While he is stationed on Fort Stewart in Hinesville, Georgia, Bernardes is working on her bachelor’s in civil engineering.

Bernardes has been working toward her own education for her entire life, and has seen how other countries and other states support military members and their families. She said that while other American universities have military departments and support programs, Georgia Southern goes much further than any other.

Thanks to the more than \$4,400 the scholarship awards her, she will soon be able to finally hold the diploma she’s been traveling the world to acquire.

“I dream about that moment while I’m doing my hard math classes,” she said. “This journey will have taken more than 10 years. I think it’s going to be amazing.”

Mary Kelly and her husband both grew up in Savannah, Georgia. Kelly grew up with a strong passion for animals and wanted to be a veterinarian. Over the past decade, she has been a professional dog trainer alongside being a mother. While her husband served in the National Guard, she put her college ambitions on hold to take care of their family.

Recently, she put her academic dreams back on the front burner and enrolled as an online student at Georgia Southern to pursue her Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies with concentrations in business, nonprofit management and Irish studies.

Kelly said this scholarship was the difference between continuing her dreams or putting her studies on hold yet again.

“I had my son during the summer, and I was actually attending summer courses during that time,” said Kelly. “So with having him and just the cost of raising a baby, I wasn’t sure if I was going to actually be able to attend school. I was really struggling with attending this spring semester, and now it’s just kind of relieved a lot of that stress.”

Current returning and enrolled military spouses of active duty service members may compete for a scholarship for tuition and fees to assist in completing their higher education journey with Georgia Southern University. The Landings Military Spouse Scholarship provides a total of \$10,000 for fall and spring semesters. For more information, visit GeorgiaSouthern.edu/military.