TRUST THE PROCESS
GS and ASU continue consolidation efforts over the break
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TOM KLEINLEIN
on the past, present, and future of GS Athletics
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OUT WITH THE OLD
Russell Union sees renovations over the summer
Page 5
We're looking at thunderstorms for the greater part of this week, so make sure you don't leave home without an umbrella.

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Check out @gusstudentmedia on Instagram and @SeenAtSouthern on Twitter every Tuesday to see how well you know our beautiful campus. Come back Thursday to find out if you're right!
The Georgia Southern Planetarium will host a solar and lunar eclipse show this Friday, where students can exchange $1 for a pair of solar eclipse glasses.

The presentation, entitled Totality, will teach students about the importance of solar and lunar eclipses, what happens when they occur and how to be safe when they do.

The show comes just three days before the highly anticipated Great American Solar Eclipse on August 21, which will be visible across the entire mainland United States, the first total solar eclipse to do so since 1918.

Dillon Marcy, planetarium coordinator, said the 6 p.m. show is sold out, however, students still have four other opportunities to see the show at 7 p.m., 8 p.m., 9 p.m. and 10 p.m.

Marcy added that depending on how many tickets are sold, the Planetarium may add more shows before 6 p.m.

Students can reserve tickets by emailing their full name, desired number of tickets and show time they wish to attend to Planetarium@GeorgiaSouthern.edu. The email must have “Tickets” in the subject line.

Tickets will be available for pickup at 5:30 p.m. in the planetarium lobby on Friday, August 18, and will be forfeited if not picked up at least five minutes before show time. Seating is general admission and the Planetarium recommends that students arrive early if they want to be seated next to their friends.
Operation Move-in is the annual event in which most of the students who live in residence halls come to campus for the beginning of the Fall semester. Volunteers help the new or returning students unpack and make the transition into their new home easier. Volunteers range from different student organizations on campus to athletic teams, and even President Hebert got in on the fun.
BY BRETT DANIEL

The changes

Over the summer, GS commissioned massive renovations in the Russell Union for both Chick-Fil-A and Starbucks. Chick-Fil-A was remodeled and is now called “Chick-Fil-A Express,” and Starbucks has been expanded with more seating and standing space, new tables and chairs, and a lengthy bar. Bob Hisey, assistant director of University Housing and Auxiliary Facilities, said Chick-Fil-A was “rebuilt, replaced and refurbished” to meet Chick-Fil-A’s current franchise standards. “We did an entire gut-out of the kitchen, the customer service area and the dining area,” he said. This “gut-out” includes changes to Chick-Fil-A’s menu as well as new flooring, kitchen equipment and point-of-sale systems. Jamie Ellis, Chick-Fil-A’s assistant manager, said the new menu includes Chick-n-Minis, cookies and yogurt parfaits. Some menu items were removed, however, including chicken soup, gravy, chicken salad sandwiches and biscuits containing eggs. Starbucks was also updated to meet new franchise standards. Similar to Chick-Fil-A, the restaurant was also “completely gutted out,” according to Hisey. “Everything you see in there is new,” he said. “We knocked down walls and increased seating space.” Students socialize and enjoy their beverages in the newly renovated Starbucks, which includes more seating and standing space, new interior design modifications, chairs, tables and a bar. In addition to more seating and standing space, Hisey said the renovated Starbucks also includes more preparation and customer service space, as well as new wall art and flooring. Hisey added that the renovations were done completely by staff from University Housing and Auxiliary Services. He said doing it this way saved GS “quite a bit of money” because the university didn’t have to hire outside contractors.

Student responses

Ashlin Watford, senior mechanical engineering major, said Chick-Fil-A’s lines are still long, but that she understands why because they get so busy. Despite this, Watford seemed to enjoy the visual changes made to the restaurant. “It looks nice,” Watford said. “It looks a little bit more organized.” Students wait for their food in the dining area of Chick-Fil-A. Madison Teaster, a junior writing and linguistics major who frequents Starbucks, is a transfer student from Valdosta State University, where she says the Starbucks there is tiny compared to the new Starbucks in the Union. “I walked in and I was like, ‘What happened?’” Teaster said. “They opened it up a lot more. It’s really nice.”

Other changes

Aside from Chick-Fil-A and Starbucks, GS also commissioned two other changes to the Union over the summer. Sandi Wilkinson, who oversaw the renovations project, said new air-conditioning units have been installed. In addition, the ATMs that used to be located across from Starbucks have been moved to Landrum Dining Commons.
The University System of Georgia announced the recommendation for a consolidation between Georgia Southern University (GS) and Armstrong State University (ASU) in January 2017. The new consolidated institution will be called Georgia Southern University.

The following month the Consolidation Implementation Committee (CIC) was formed to begin making recommendations for how the new university will operate. The CIC is comprised of 41 members including administrators, faculty members and student representatives from both ASU and GS (20 each) as well as one member from Savannah State University.

The CIC was tasked with sorting out the fine details of the merger, which were separated into 93 categories that are managed by individual teams named Operational Working Groups (OWGs), according to consolidation.georgiasouthern.edu. These decisions impact how the new organizational structure of the university will impact everything from college names, student organizations and even technical support.

"The Consolidation Implementation Committee this summer approved over 500 recommendations from some 90 different working groups composed of faculty, staff and students from both institutions," President Hebert said in his Fall convocation speech last Wednesday. "These decisions impact how the new organizational structure of the university will impact everything from college names, student organizations and even technical support."

One of the first questions addressed by the CIC was the organizational structure of the new university and the chain of command. Many of the positions used in the current GS organizational chart will be returning, but one new addition is the Campus Leader for Armstrong/Liberty* (*pending name confirmation) Another landmark recommendation was brought to the floor on May 10, that proposed a restructuring of the current colleges into the following organizational chart. The organizational structure was first postponed to a later date after the original structure sparked an avid online discussion online between students. However, a new structure was finally approved during the May 24 CIC meeting with minor changes. On July 25 it was announced that the police departments of both campuses would consolidate by July 29, with current GS Chief of Police Laura McCullough leading the new department and Armstrong’s interim Chief taking a leadership role within the organization as well.

"The early integration of University Police Departments will allow for upgraded equipment and aligned training standards," McCullough said in a press release posted by the university on the consolidation website. "We will be fully integrated well before the start of the fall 2017 semester."

Another topic on the list of OWGs is Athletics. This was one of the first topics brought into question by many students and student-athletes from both universities. Athletics was addressed at the very first official CIC meeting on March 3, and recommendations were both made and approved that meeting, the first being to honor the original athletic scholarships, now known as University Grants, made to all ASU student-athletes. However it was announced shortly afterwards on March 7 that ASU would cease all NCAA competition at the conclusion of the 2016-2017 season.

"This was a very difficult decision, but it is in the best interest of our student-athletes," Lisa Sweany, Armstrong’s athletic director, said in a press release released on the consolidation website on March 7. The press release state that due to the change in the athletics operations many teams have been left with less than players than necessary to form a full
Many ASU students expressed their distaste for the consolidation. The CIC approved a recommendation to name the ASU campus Liberty Campus.

WHAT’S TO COME AND HOW TO GET INVOLVED

The consolidation is to be implemented, in full, starting in the Fall semester of 2018. The timeline on the consolidation website has laid out many key tasks that are to be completed in between now and then, but most notably, CIC meetings are to continue until all 93 OWG tasks are completed and approved.

The administration consolidation is set to take effect in January of 2018, as well as the newly integrated procedures for the Fall 2018 class registration.

For more information, updates and to give feedback you can visit the consolidation website at consolidation.georgiasouthern.edu

Major Recommendations

ASU students will be permitted into GS sporting events beginning this semester. The university has also recommended that some sporting events that have yet to be determined, be played on ASU campus.

The ASU and GS campus police departments officially consolidated on July 29. GS’ current Chief of Police Laura McCullough will be heading the new department, while ASU’s current interim Chief of Police Tiffany Land will continue to serve in a leadership role during the transition.

The SGAs of both school will consolidate into one overall organization, however each campus will have a individual governing body that will report to the SGA President.

The CIC also approved a new academic structure, effectively renaming and reorganizing many of the current schools within certain colleges at GS. The full structure can be found at consolidation.georgiasouthern.edu.

The administrations of both universities are set to officially consolidate in January of 2018, with the full consolidation of both colleges to take place beginning with the Fall 2018 semester.

*Information gathered from consolidation.georgiasouthern.edu
You really can’t sprint a 5K. If you did, you’d either seriously injure yourself or worse, fail to finish.”

Jaimie Hebert, 13th President of Georgia Southern University

A large audience gathered in the Performing Arts Center to hear President Jaimie Hebert give the Fall 2017 convocation speech last Wednesday where he spoke of Georgia Southern University’s new additions, accomplishments and the consolidation process. The address was titled “Setting the Pace for the Future” paying homage to one of the president’s favorite past times, jogging.

Hebert believes that institutions of higher education should pace themselves much like jogging.

“Running is really about pace,” Hebert said.

“You really can’t sprint a 5K. If you did, you’d either seriously injure yourself or worse, fail to finish.”

The speech continued, stating gratitude of numerous achievements Georgia Southern has accomplished throughout the past year.

Accomplishments

Hebert showed gratitude toward several online programs and traditional programs that were ranked among the nation’s best in US News and World Report this year.

GS’s school of nursing received a $1.3 million dollar grant, according to Hebert. This grant will go towards training nurse practitioners to provide health care at facilities in underserved and rural areas in and around Bulloch county.

Consolidation

Hebert referred to the consolidation between GS and Armstrong State University as a “pivotal point.” Since the consolidation began on Jan. 11, the Consolidation Implementation Committee has approved over five hundred recommendations. “We have been moving this consolidation process forward, strategically and deliberately,” Hebert said.

Hebert foresees that GS is “headed for change,” but encourages everyone to “focus on our principles and embrace the opportunities that lie ahead.”

Hebert concluded the speech saying, “We’re going to set it [the bar] very high and we’re going to set a brisk pace and a steady pace for our university as we move into this next phase of our history.

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Opinions

Letter from the Editor

The beginning of the academic year presents new experiences, challenges and exciting new adventures for students to enjoy. From having your first college class to (hopefully) starting your final year at Georgia Southern, college is the perfect time to get involved and make a meaningful impact in your community. At The George-Anne, we strive to do just that. We want to be part of the conversations happening on our campus. We want to be able to provide content that will make a difference in the student’s life. We want to be your primary source for news on this campus.

I have the honor of leading The George-Anne as Editor-in-Chief for the 2017-2018 academic year. It is a responsibility I do not take lightly. I have been lucky enough to be involved in the past three years and have seen it grow and change exponentially. If you have been following along for the past couple of years, you have noticed that we have made some changes to our newspaper, but our quality has remained constant throughout those years.

Although we are starting to move away from our traditional print product, you will still see us every Tuesday and Thursday on your newsstands around campus, and everyday online on our website and social media platforms. We want to be your go to source for breaking news, athletics, arts and entertainment and anything that could have an impact on your life here at Georgia Southern. We want to be a platform for you to be able to express your views on different topics affecting your daily lives.

Get Involved

For our new Eagles, it’s important to feel part of our community at Georgia Southern. I know it might seem scary to step out of your comfort zone, I highly recommend all of you to try to and become a member of the community. We want Georgia Southern to become your home for the next four years. Getting involved is a big part of doing that. There are more than 100 organizations on this campus that will surely satisfy any of your interest and will make you feel connected to Georgia Southern and start building relationships that hopefully last a lifetime.

Looking Ahead

Our university is currently in the process of a consolidating with Armstrong State University. We can expect a lot of changes in the coming months that will impact both campuses and we’ll make sure you will be informed on anything that might affect you. I wish you all the luck in the world this year and let’s make this year the best year of our lives.

Go Eagles!

George Southern offers many opportunities for students to get involved through over a hundred student organizations and clubs.

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

The George-Anne is the official student newspaper of Georgia Southern University, operated by GSU students using facilities provided by the university. The newspaper is the oldest continuously published newspaper in Bulloch County.

The newspaper is published twice weekly, on Tuesdays and Thursdays, during most of the academic year. Any questions regarding content should be directed to the student editor by phone at 912.788.5426 or at gazette@georgiasouthern.edu.

ADVERTISING: Advertisers accept advertising. Inquiries may be made by calling 912.788.5426 or 912.478.5454. For address e-mail address@georgiasouthern.edu.

The George-Anne receives additional support in part from the Student Activities Budget Committee. For more information, new cards, or sample publications contact the advertising manager or student media director.

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STUDENTS BEWARE: The George-Anne does not accept advertising prior to publication. The newspaper strives to accept ads for legitimate products and services only. Students are urged to exercise caution when replying to ads—particularly those that require personal information. Students are also urged to report to the newspaper any suspicious or unsolicited offers which may seem like an ad.

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CORRECTIONS: Contact the editor at gazette@georgiasouthern.edu for corrections and errors.

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The George-Anne welcomes letters to the editor and appropriate guest columns. All copy submitted should be 350 words or fewer, typed, and sent via email in Microsoft Word (.doc/.docx) format to gazette@georgiasouthern.edu. All submissions must be signed and include phone number for verification. GSU students should include their academic major, year and hometown. The editors reserve the right to reject any submission and edit submissions for length.

Opinions expressed herein are those of the Board of Opinions, or columnists themselves and DO NOT necessarily reflect those of the faculty, staff, or administration of GSU, the Student Media Advisory, Student Media or the University System of Georgia.
After signing a four-year contract extension in May, Georgia Southern athletic director Tom Kleinlein sat down with The George-Anne to discuss the consolidation with Armstrong State, his recent hires and the upcoming football season.

CONSOLIDATION: WHAT’S NEXT?

Kleinlein said the athletic department is waiting for approval from the Board of Regents on the organizational chart for the new athletic department. Recommendations have already been approved by the Board that included ending Armstrong State athletics after the Spring 2017 season, honoring Armstrong student-athletes’ scholarships and offering them immediate open-transfer status (so they don’t lose any eligibility).

“We needed to start with the student-athletes because they were the ones that were affected immediately,” Kleinlein said. “Next was the staff, which is the process we’re in now. Moving forward it’s going to be ‘what are we going to do with the facilities?’”

Kleinlein added that as it stands now, the new Georgia Southern would have two facilities for basically any sport that Armstrong State offered.

“Once this organizational chart gets passed, the next thing is ‘how do we utilize the facilities and combine the two campuses with the facilities that we have?’” Kleinlein said.

Another idea that Kleinlein hopes will draw Armstrong State students to the Statesboro campus by Fall 2017 is giving them access to Georgia Southern athletic events.

Additionally, transport will be provided to these students for ‘selected’ athletic events. Selected, Kleinlein said, starts with football games.

“Hopefully those football games and being around that environment carries over to them coming to basketball games and some of our other events on campus as well.”

NEW FACES IN TOWN

This summer, Kleinlein has hired four newcomers from the Armstrong State athletic department. His new deputy athletic director will be Lisa Sweany, who was the athletic director at Armstrong. He also hired Sean McCaffrey as women’s tennis head coach, Kim Dean as softball head coach and her assistant, Megan Corner.

Kleinlein stressed that none of them were hired strictly because of the consolidation, but rather that Georgia Southern “had openings within [our] athletic department” and Armstrong State, having just ended its athletic program, offered some talented and qualified candidates.

“The Armstrong athletic department was one that functioned at a very high level,” Kleinlein said. “The misnomer that’s out there is they were hired because of the consolidation.”

As for Sweany, Kleinlein said her duties - which began on July 1 - will allow her to travel more to represent and grow the athletic department in Savannah and elsewhere.

“Having somebody of Lisa’s skill set ... allows me the flexibility to do some other things externally while she’s here running things internally,” Kleinlein said.

The coaches hired had successful resumes at Armstrong State as well. Dean, for example, led the Pirates softball program to the NCAA Division II National Championship last season. Seven of her batters hit over .300, all four starting pitchers had an ERA under 4.0 (two under 2.0) and their final record was 36-14.

In addition, McCaffrey won multiple national championships with Armstrong’s women’s tennis program.

ON FOOTBALL

Kleinlein didn’t dance around the fact that the football team had a down year in 2016.

“I’m really excited to see how our kids react to having to come back and prove to some people that the brand of Georgia Southern football coach, the entire staff changes that were made were a shift to get back to where we all had the same identity. We were all thinking the same thing and talking the same language.”

The new strength and conditioning coach, Dwayne Chandler, and the return to a run-oriented offense go hand-in-hand. Eagle football wants to go back to overpowering people, wearing down defenses and running the ball down opponents’ throats. And then, when the time is right, the quarterback might drop back and hit an Eagle receiver over top of the daydreaming defense. This is the brand of football to which Kleinlein spoke about returning.

FRESHLY INKED EXTENSION

Kleinlein expressed gratitude to President Jaimie Hebert for his new contract extension, which the Savannah Morning News reported as having an annual base salary of $265,000.

“You have very few opportunities in life to sit down with your boss and say, ‘tell me how you really feel about what’s going on,’” Kleinlein said.

“When your boss offers you a contract extension and is committed to having you here long-term, that gives you a sense that you’re going down the right path and what we’ve been trying to create here in this athletic department is the right direction in the eyes of the president, in the eyes of the athletic foundation and all the people that are involved in putting that contract together.”

Kleinlein, and much of the Georgia Southern community, will see a growing, changing athletic department as the consolidation progresses and the Sun Belt Conference gains media exposure.

With that in mind, Kleinlein said, “We need to keep focusing on our three main mantras, which are rings, diplomas and leaders.”
Across:
1. “That’s enough!”
2. Wise guys
3. Made believe
4. “Aquarius”
5. Broads of country music
6. Island greeting
7. Greeted
8. River through
9. Wise guys
10. Air holder
11. Place to broil
12. Food not
13. After-lunch
14. Plain speaking
15. Wild ox
16. Paris airport
17. Ingredient
18. Gunpowder
19. Not common
20. Send off
21. Donate
22. Dudgeon
23. Broads of
24. Like liquor
25. Amount eaten
26. Made believe
27. Star followers
28. Linchpin’s place
29. Textile worker
30. Rip van
31. Winkle, etal.
32. Egyptian water
33. River through
34. Kazakhstan
35. Energy holder
36. Injured sneakily
37. Be of use
38. Grander than
39. Be of use
40. Looking for
41. Lubricates
42. Curbside call
43. Lubricates
44. Make ready,
45. Character from
46. Epitome of
47. Benchmark
48. Melodies
49. Secret language
50. Eyelashes
51. Epitome of
52. Elevator inventor
53. Arizona tribe
54. Hardly genteel
55. Eyelashes
56. Ice house
57. Small island in
58. Elevator inventor
59. Elevator inventor
60. Elevator inventor
61. Elevator inventor
62. Elevator inventor
63. Elevator inventor
64. Elevator inventor
65. Kick out
66. Makeup problem
67. “Let it stand”

Down:
1. Spawning fish
2. Curbside call
3. Lubricates
4. Make ready,
5. Character from
6. Wonderland girl
7. “Zuckerman Unbound”
8. Quaker’s “you”
9. Construction crew
10. Short-legged dog
11. Be of use
12. Wait on
13. Injured sneakily
14. Supports
15. Bubbly beverage
16. Musher’s
17. Transport
18. Arizona tribe
19. Water carrier
20. Elevator inventor
21. Water carrier
22. Ice house
23. Ice house
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