

# GRADUATE COMMITTEE MINUTES

Chair: Dr. Robert Fernekes

Graduate Committee Meeting Date – February 11, 2010

Present: Dr. Deborah Allen, CHHS; Dr. Richard Flynn, CLASS; Dr. Donna Fisher, COBA; Dr. Delores Liston, COE; Dr. Risa Cohen, COST; Dr. Robert Vogel, JPHCOPH; Mr. Jonathan Harwell, Library; Dr. Ardian Greca, CIT; Dr. Lisa Schulz, COE; Dr. Simone Charles, JPHCOPH; Dr. Robert Fernekes, Library; Dr. Chris Kadlec, CIT; Dr. Charlie Hardy, Dean, JPHCOPH, [Academic Affairs]; Dr. Charles Patterson, COGS/ORSSP; Dr. Dick Diebolt, COGS; Mrs. Audie Graham, COGS

Guests: Ms. Candace Griffith, VPAA; Mr. Wayne Smith, Registrar; Mr. Toby Ziglar, Graduate Admissions; Dr. Phyllis Dallas, CLASS; Dr. Lance McBrayer, COST; Dr. Olivia Carr Edenfield, CLASS; Dr. Peggy Hargis, CLASS

Absent: Dr. John Dyer, CIT; Dr. Jim McMillan, CHHS; Dr. Pat Walker, CLASS; Dr. Bill Yang, COBA; Dr. Jonathan Copeland, COST

## I. CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Robert Fernekes called the meeting to order on Thursday, February 11, 2010 at 9:00 AM.

## II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Dr. Lisa Schulz made a motion to un-table the College of Health and Human Sciences program revision and the Writing and Linguistics items that were tabled during the January 21<sup>st</sup> Graduate Committee Meeting. A second was provided by Dr. Donna Fisher. With no objections, the motion to un-table the items was approved.

## III. NEW BUSINESS

### A. College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences

*Dr. Peggy Hargis presented the agenda items for the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences.*

#### **Department of Political Science**

##### New Courses:

POLS 7434 – Research Design and Methodology

##### **JUSTIFICATION:**

This course will be cross-listed with an existing course, SOCI 7434, and the new course in Anthropology, ANTH 7434 (Research Design and Methodology). It will include material that is of interest to a range of social scientists and to our students in the MA in Social Science degree program. Also, POLS 7434 will be rotated among qualified faculty in anthropology, sociology and political science and cross-listing it with sociology and anthropology will better reflect the interdisciplinary nature of the course.

POLS 7436 – Qualitative Research Methods

##### **JUSTIFICATION:**

This course will be cross-listed with an existing course, SOCI 7436, and the new course in Anthropology, ANTH 7436 (Qualitative Research Methods). It will include material that is of interest to a range of social scientists and to our students in the MA in Social Science degree program. For example, depending upon the interests/qualifications of the professor, the course will focus on one or more qualitative methods (e.g., ethnographic or archival methods, case studies, content analysis, participant observation or other innovative techniques.) Also, POLS 7436 will be rotated among qualified faculty in sociology, anthropology and political science and cross-listing it with sociology and political science will better reflect the interdisciplinary nature of the course.

POLS 7437 – Quantitative Analysis

##### **JUSTIFICATION:**

This course will be cross-listed with an existing course, SOCI 7437. It will include material that is of interest to a range of social scientists and to our students in the MA in Social Science degree program. Also, POLS 7437 will be rotated among qualified faculty in sociology and political science and cross-listing it with sociology will better reflect the interdisciplinary nature of the course.

POLS 7638 – Social Theory

**JUSTIFICATION:**

This course will be cross-listed with an existing course, SOCI 7638 Social Theory, and a new course in Anthropology, ANTH 7638. The addition of this course will address the need for additional 7000-level courses on the part of students in the Master of Arts in Social Sciences program who are emphasizing Political Science. Also, this course will be rotated among qualified faculty in sociology, anthropology, and political science thus better reflecting the interdisciplinary nature of the course.

**Department of Sociology and Anthropology**

**New Courses:**

ANTH 7434 – Research Design and Methodology

**JUSTIFICATION:**

This course will be cross-listed with an existing course, SOCI 7434. It will include material that is of interest to a range of social scientists and to our students in the MA in Social Science degree program. Also, ANTH 7434 will be rotated among qualified faculty in anthropology, sociology and political science and cross-listing it with sociology and political science will better reflect the interdisciplinary nature of the course.

ANTH 7436 – Qualitative Research Methods

**JUSTIFICATION:**

This course will be cross-listed with an existing course, SOCI 7436, and POLS 7436 (Qualitative Research Methods). It will include material that is of interest to a range of social scientists and to our students in the MA in Social Science degree program. For example, depending upon the interests/qualifications of the professor, the course will focus on one or more qualitative methods (e.g., ethnographic or archival methods, case studies, content analysis, participant observation or other innovative techniques.) Also, ANTH 7436 will be rotated among qualified faculty in sociology, anthropology and political science and cross-listing it with sociology and political science will better reflect the interdisciplinary nature of the course.

ANTH 7638 – Social Theory

**JUSTIFICATION:**

This course will be cross-listed with an existing course, SOCI 7638 Social Theory, and a new course in Political Science, POLS 7638. The addition of this course will address the need for additional 7000-level courses on the part of students in the Master of Arts in Social Sciences program who are emphasizing Anthropology. Also, this course will be rotated among qualified faculty in sociology, anthropology, and political science thus better reflecting the interdisciplinary nature of the course.

**Course Revisions:**

SOCI 6434 – Research Design and Methodology

- Title change to SOCI 7434 – Research Design and Methodology

**JUSTIFICATION:**

We are revising the course number in order to appeal to wider audience of graduate students. The current course description did not reflect the breadth of the course.

SOCI 6435 – Sociological Quantitative Analysis

- Title change to SOCI 7437 – Quantitative Analysis

**JUSTIFICATION:**

We are revising the course number in order to appeal to wider audience of graduate students. The current course description did not reflect the breadth of the course.

SOCI 6436 – Qualitative Research Methods

- Title change to SOCI 7436 – Qualitative Research Methods

**JUSTIFICATION:**

We are revising the course number in order to appeal to wider audience of graduate students in the social sciences. The current course description did not reflect the breadth of the course.

SOCI 6637 – Social Theory

- Title change to SOCI 7638 – Social Theory

**JUSTIFICATION:**

We are revising the course number and cross-listing the existing course with Anthropology and Political Science in order to appeal to wider audience of graduate students within our MA in Social Science program. New course forms are being submitted for ANTH 7638 and POLS 7638. Currently, the sociology course in social theory is alternatively taught by an anthropologist and a sociologist. Once we add the POLS course we will rotate teaching Social Theory across three disciplines, thus better reflecting the interdisciplinary nature of

the course.

**MOTION: Dr. Richard Flynn made a motion to approve the submissions from the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences. A second was made by Dr. Schulz. The motion to approve the New Courses, and Course Revisions was approved.**

**Un-tabled Items:**

*Dr. Phyllis Dallas presented the un-tabled items for the Department of Writing and Linguistics.*

**Department of Writing and Linguistics**

Course Deletion

WRIT 5631G – Writing Crime Fiction

**JUSTIFICATION:**

This course is being deleted because it has not made for some time. The undergraduate section is also being deleted.

**MOTION: Dr. Flynn made a motion to approve the submission from the Department of Writing and Linguistics. A second was made by Dr. Fisher. The motion to approve the Course Deletion was approved.**

Selected Topics Announcement

WRIT 5030G – Teaching English Abroad

**JUSTIFICATION:**

This course has been designed to meet student requests for preparation in teaching English in other countries. The course offers basic preparation for teaching English abroad in which students research countries of interest and teaching opportunities there and consider the cultural context of teaching English in another country, appropriate teaching styles and approaches, international students' motivation for learning English, and aspects of English that pose difficulties for non-native speakers. The course also offers chances to review and try out a range of teaching materials and techniques.

**No action was needed for the Selected Topics Announcement.**

**The Department of Writing and Linguistics items are below.**

## Course Deletion Form

**To:** Undergraduate Committee (Date Format: 99/99/99) UC/GC Meeting Date: 01/21/10  
 Graduate Committee (Date Format: 99/99/99) Date Submitted: 11/30/09  
 (Term Format: 200608) Proposed Effective Term: 201008

**College:** Department Name: Writing and Linguistics

Subject:	Number:	Full Course Title:	Is this course cross-listed with other courses?	Will the cross-listed course(s) be deleted? <i>*(See Note Below)</i>	Is this course listed on any program page(s)? <i>*(See Note Below)</i>
WRIT	5631G	Writing Crime Fiction			

<b>R E M A R K S</b>	<b>And JUSTIFICATION: (Short summary)</b>
	This course is being deleted because it has not made for some time. The undergraduate section is also being deleted.

*\*If a cross-listed course is being deleted, each cross-listed course being deleted must be submitted for deletion. If a cross-listed course is not being deleted, a *Course Revision Form* and/or *New or Revised Program Form* must be submitted to ensure the course description(s) and program page(s) are updated correctly. **NOTE:** This form may be used if the course belongs to the department listed above. Otherwise, please contact the other Department(s) so a *Course Deletion form* can be submitted.*

**\*\*If a course is listed on a program page, a *New or Revised Program Form* must be submitted for each program on which the course is listed. NOTE: Please contact other Department(s)/ College(s) to inform them of the Course Deletion so they can submit revisions if necessary.**



# Multiple Course Deletions Approval Signature Form

## Deleted Courses

Course Subject(s) and Number(s): WRIT 5631G

## Approval Signatures

Recommend \_\_\_\_\_  
Not Recommend Chairperson, Department Curriculum Committee      Date  
*(If Applicable)*

Recommend \_\_\_\_\_  
Not Recommend Department/School Chairperson      Date

TEC Review Not Required \_\_\_\_\_ *(Initials of Dept./School Chair or TEC Chair)*  
Review Only *(no action needed)*

Recommend \_\_\_\_\_  
Not Recommend Chairperson, TEC Executive Committee      Date  
*(If Applicable)*

Recommend \_\_\_\_\_  
Not Recommend Director of University Honors Program      Date  
*(If Applicable)*

Recommend \_\_\_\_\_  
Not Recommend Chairperson, College Curriculum Committee      Date  
*(If Applicable)*

Recommend \_\_\_\_\_  
Not Recommend Dean of the College      Date

Recommend \_\_\_\_\_  
Not Recommend Dean of the Graduate College      Date  
*(If Applicable)*

Recommend \_\_\_\_\_  
Not Recommend Chairperson, Senate Undergraduate/Graduate Committee      Date

Recommend \_\_\_\_\_  
Not Recommend Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs Date  
*(Final sign-off)*

## Selected Topics Announcement Form

**To:** Undergraduate Committee (Date Format: 99/99/99) UC/GC Meeting Date: 01/21/10  
 Graduate Committee (Date Format: 99/99/99) Date Submitted: 10/20/09  
 (Term Format: 200608) Proposed Effective Term: 201005

**College:** Department Name: Writing & Linguistics

1. **Subject:** WRIT **Number:** 5030G  
**Full Course Title:** Teaching English Abroad  
**Abbreviated Course Title (max 30 characters):**  
 (Only abbreviate if Full Course Title is MORE than 30 characters)
  
2. **Credit Hours:** 3  
**Billing Hours:** 3  
**Lecture/Seminar Contact Hours:** 3  
**Lab Contact Hours:** 0  
**Other Contact Hours:** 0  
**Total Contact Hours:** 3  
**Ratio of Contact Hours to Credit Hours:** 1 : 1

*NOTE: Signature page is NOT required for the Selected Topics Announcement Form*

<b>R E M A R K S</b>	<p><b>And JUSTIFICATION:</b> (Short summary)</p> <hr/> <p>This course has been designed to meet student requests for preparation in teaching English in other countries. The course offers basic preparation for teaching English abroad in which students research countries of interest and teaching opportunities there and consider the cultural context of teaching English in another country, appropriate teaching styles and approaches, international students' motivation for learning English, and aspects of English that pose difficulties for non-native speakers. The course also offers chances to review and try out a range of teaching materials and techniques.</p>
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**B. College of Science and Technology**

*Dr. Lance McBrayer presented the agenda items for the College of Science and Technology.*

**Department of Biology**

Course Revisions:

BIOL 5645G – Behavioral Ecology (credit hour)

**JUSTIFICATIONS:**

Currently, this course is listed in the catalog as 4-3-3, however, it is taught as a standard 3-hour lecture, 3-hour lab, 4-credit course. It should therefore be listed as 3-3-4.

BIOL XXXX- (prerequisite)

*(BIOL 3133 is to be removed as one of the prerequisites of the following listed courses)*

BIOL 5099G – Selected Topics/Biology

BIOL 5134G – Population/Quantitative Genetics

BIOL 5140G – Bacteriology

BIOL 5142G – Molecular Biotechniques

BIOL 5144G – Advanced Cell Biology

BIOL 5148G – Human Genetics

BIOL 5230G – Comparative Animal Physiology

BIOL 5239G – Neurobiology



BIOL 5240G – Histology  
BIOL 5241G – Comparative Vertebrate Anatomy  
BIOL 5243G – Toxicology  
BIOL 5244G – Insect Physiology  
BIOL 5245G – Ethophysiology of Insects  
BIOL 5246G – Human Pathophysiology  
BIOL 5247G – Endocrinology  
BIOL 5248G – Immunology  
BIOL 5333G – Emerging Diseases  
BIOL 5340G – Plant Pathology  
BIOL 5341G – Parasitology  
BIOL 5343G – Medical–Veterinary Entomology  
BIOL 5345G – Systematic Biology  
BIOL 5431G – Virology  
BIOL 5440G – Protozoology  
BIOL 5441G – Mycology  
BIOL 5442G – Entomology  
BIOL 5444G – Ichthyology  
BIOL 5445G – Herpetology  
BIOL 5446G – Ornithology  
BIOL 5448G – Mammalogy  
BIOL 5449G – Vertebrate Paleobiology  
BIOL 5530G – Wildlife Management  
BIOL 5534G – Conservation Biology  
BIOL 5537G – Biogeography  
BIOL 5541G – Tropical Marine Biology  
BIOL 5545G – The Biology of Plants

**JUSTIFICATIONS:**

BIOL 3133 is no longer required for Biology majors and is no longer a prerequisite for the attached list of graduate level Biology courses.

**MOTION:** Dr. Flynn made a motion to approve the submissions from the Department of Biology. A second was made by Dr. Fisher. The motion to approve the Course Revisions was approved.

**C. College of Information Technology**

*Dr. Ardian Greca presented the agenda items for the College of Information Technology.*

Course Deletions:

CSCI 5232G – Operating Systems  
CSCI 5234G – Parallel Processing  
CSCI 5434G – Theory of Programming Languages  
CSCI 7232 – Switching Theory  
CSCI 7330 – Advanced Operating Systems  
CSCI 7430 – Advanced Modeling and Simulation

**JUSTIFICATIONS:**

These courses have not been offered in the last five years

**MOTION:** Dr. Greca made a motion to approve the submissions from the College of Information Technology. A second was made by Dr. Flynn. The motion to approve the Course Deletions was approved.

**IV. OLD BUSINESS**

**A. College of Health and Human Sciences – Un-tabled Item**

*Dr. Deborah Allen presented the un-table agenda item for the College of Health and Human Sciences*

**Department of Hospitality, Tourism, and Family and Consumer Sciences**

Revision of admission requirements for the M.S. in Sport Management

Dr. Charles Patterson shared that he and Dr. John Diebolt met with Dr. Sam Todd regarding the MS Sports Management program revision. He stated that Dr. Todd made revisions based on the Graduate Committee's recommendations in the January meeting.

**MOTION:** Mr. Jonathan Harwell made a motion to approve the MS in Sport Management Program Revision. A second was made by Dr. Flynn. The motion to approve the Program Revision was approved.

Revised Program pages are below:

Georgia Southern University	
<b>Proposed New or Revised Programs</b>	
<b>To:</b>	<b>Undergraduate Committee</b> (Date Format: 99/99/99) <b>UC/GC Meeting Date:</b> <u>02/11/10</u> <b>Graduate Committee</b> (Date Format: 99/99/99) <b>Date Submitted:</b> <u>02/3/10</u> (Term Format: 200608) <b>Proposed Effective Term:</b> <u>201005</u> <b>CIP Code:</b> <u>310504</u>
<b>College Code:</b>	<b>Department Code:</b> <u>1607</u> <b>Department:</b> <u>HTFCS</u>

**Current Name of Program** (ex., B.S. Mathematics): MS Sport Management

**Proposed Name of Program** (ex., B.S. Mathematics): same

(Regents' format can be found at: <http://www.usg.edu/academics/handbook/section2/2.03/2.03.02.phtml>)

1. **Consistent with goals of: (check all that apply)**  
Accreditation    College Department    State/Regional Needs  
University Strategic Plan
2. **Type:** New Preliminary Proposal (Attach in Regents' required format)  
**OR**  
Formal Proposal (Attach in Regents' required format)  
**OR**  
Revision to Existing Program (Attach in Regents' required format)  
**OR**  
Other Program Proposals or Revisions that do not require Regents' approval
3. **Proposal for:**                      **Other:**
4. **Degree:**                      **Other:**
5. **Total Credit Hours Required:**    36
6. **Is this a change in credits (for Revisions only)?**    Yes    No
7. **Target Group of Students:**                      students interested graduate studies leading to work in sport industry
8. **Additional Resources Needed: (check all that apply)**  
Computer Needs    Distributed Learning Support    Equipment    Facilities  
Faculty    Library Resources                      Staff Support  
Other
9. **A New or Revised Catalog Program Page must be attached.**  
**NOTE:** For Revised Catalog Program Pages:
  - Refer to *Sample Program Revisions* for layout format.
  - Deletions should be in **BOLD** with a **strikethrough**.
  - Additions should be in **BOLD ITALICS**.
10. **Provide the Justification/Rationale for New or Revised Programs.**  
The Sport Management Master's program is now fully online, and thus, the faculty of sport management need to change the admission requirements to include a broader range of assessment more suitable for non traditional students. We propose that applicants to the online Master's degree be scored on 5 elements: statement of purpose, professional experiences, GRE or GMAT

scores, exposure to coursework related to Sport Management curriculum, and previous academic performance. This method of assessing applicants is a more accurate and equitable way of selecting students to our online program than the previous policy.

## SPORT MANAGEMENT

### M.S., 36 HOURS

**Advising:** Department of Hospitality, Tourism and Family and Consumer Sciences, Dr. Sam Todd, Georgia Southern University, P. O. Box 8077, Statesboro, GA 30460, (912) 478-5054, FAX: (912) 478-0386, Email: sytodd@georgiasouthern.edu

#### **Admission Requirements**

##### **Regular**

~~For regular admission to the College of Graduate Studies to pursue graduate work leading to the Master of Science (Major in Sport Management), the applicant must submit each of the following:~~

- ~~1. Transcripts showing a completed Bachelor's degree in a college or university accredited by the proper regional accrediting association.~~
- ~~2. A 2.75 (4.0 scale) cumulative grade point average or higher on all undergraduate work.~~
- ~~3. Minimum Graduate Record Examination (GRE) combined verbal and quantitative score of 900 (verbal score plus quantitative score). One may also score at least 400 on the Miller Analogies test (MAT) or make a 430 or higher on the Graduate Management Admission Test (GMAT).~~
- ~~4. Contact information only (not letters of recommendation) for two persons who are familiar with the applicant's academic or professional experience.~~
- ~~5. A personal statement that includes a description of career goals, reasons for applying for graduate study at Georgia Southern University, and relevant experience and achievements.~~

##### **Provisional**

~~Provisional admission may be granted with the following substitutions from above:~~

- ~~6. A 2.5 cumulative grade point average or higher on all undergraduate work~~
- ~~7. Minimum GRE combined verbal and quantitative score of 800; or at least a 380 MAT or 400 GMAT.~~

*The Faculty of Sport Management will evaluate applicants on each of the following:*

1. A personal statement of purpose that includes a description of career goals over the next 5 years, reasons for interest in Graduate Program at Georgia Southern University, and relevant experiences and achievements.
2. The applicant's previous exposure to coursework that relates to the curriculum in the Master's in Sport Management program. Transcripts showing a Bachelor's degree completed in a college or university accredited by the proper regional accrediting association are required. If applicant holds additional degrees from accredited institutions, those transcripts should be submitted as well.
3. The applicant's overall academic performance.
4. **The quality and length of related professional experiences. Applicants should submit a current resume. Sport industry experience and/ or volunteer experience in the sport industry is preferred, but not required.**
5. **Official GRE or GMAT scores less than 5 years old.**

**The Graduate Admissions Person or Committee will judge the merit of each item and make a recommendation based on the sum total of the application.**

#### **Program of Study**

Students will complete the following 12 classes (all are 3 credit hour courses):

SMGT 6335	Sport Administration
SMGT 6133	Consumer Behavior in Sport
SMGT 6330	Social and Ethical Issues of Sport and Leisure
SMGT 6131	Management of Personnel in Sport
SMGT 7339	Financial and Strategic Management in Sport
SMGT 6337	Sport Facility and Event Management
SMGT 7337	Sport Marketing
SMGT 7330	Research and Analysis in Sport

SMGT 6132 Current Trends in Sport Administration  
SMGT 6134 Sport Sponsorship  
SMGT 7335 Sport Law and Risk Management  
SMGT 6135 Revenue Generation in Sport

# Program Approval Signature Form

## New/Revised Program

Current Program Title (*ex., B.S. Mathematics*): M.S. Sport Management  
Proposed Program Title (*ex., B.S. Mathematics*): M.S. Sport Management

## Approval Signatures

Recommend \_\_\_\_\_  
Not Recommend Chairperson, Department Curriculum Committee      Date  
(*If Applicable*)

Recommend \_\_\_\_\_  
Not Recommend Department/School Chairperson      Date

TEC Review Not Required \_\_\_\_\_ (*Initials of Dept./School Chair or TEC Chair*)  
Review Only (*no action needed*)

Recommend \_\_\_\_\_  
Not Recommend Chairperson, TEC Executive Committee      Date  
(*If Applicable*)

Recommend \_\_\_\_\_  
Not Recommend Director of University Honors Program      Date  
(*If Applicable*)

Recommend \_\_\_\_\_  
Not Recommend Chairperson, College Curriculum Committee      Date  
(*If Applicable*)

Recommend \_\_\_\_\_  
Not Recommend Dean of the College      Date

Recommend \_\_\_\_\_  
Not Recommend Dean of the Graduate College      Date  
(*If Applicable*)

Recommend \_\_\_\_\_  
Not Recommend Chairperson, Senate Undergraduate/Graduate Committee      Date

Recommend \_\_\_\_\_  
Not Recommend Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs      Date  
(*Final sign-off*)

\*Consultation between appropriate chairpersons and deans must occur if this item impacts another unit before final approval.

## V. BRIEF REMARKS BY DEAN

Dr. Patterson announced that there have been no objections to split the graduate and undergraduate catalogs. He stated that the Registrar's Office hopes to have the graduate catalog complete by the first or second Graduate Committee meeting in 2011.

## VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Fernekas encouraged the Graduate Committee members to attend the February 15<sup>th</sup> Faculty Senate Meeting, and stated the Vision for Graduate Education (Version 8.8) will be discussed during the meeting. Mr. Harwell has already submitted a motion that the Senate endorse the Vision for Graduate Education as the University's Vision for Graduate Education. Dr. Flynn shared that Mr. Harwell met with the executive committee and he does not think there will be any issue with the Faculty Senate endorsing the document.

Dr. Schulz stated there has not been any correspondence regarding the Level 2 document, and asked if the Ad Hoc Subcommittee would remain active. It was decided that the Ad Hoc Subcommittee would stay in place for the time being, and be revisited at the next Graduate Committee meeting.

Version 8.8 is below:

# A Vision for Graduate Education

at Georgia Southern University

Draft Version 8.8

Approved by the Graduate Committee, January 21, 2010

The vision for graduate education at Georgia Southern University is to provide a learning environment which fosters creative thinking in the minds of our students, and to produce graduates who improve and enrich society.

To support this effort, the university will make it a priority to recruit, support, and retain faculty who are committed to creating and maintaining effective graduate programs. As stated in Georgia Southern's mission, our programs "prepare a diverse and select undergraduate and graduate student population for leadership and service as world citizens. Faculty, staff, and students embrace core values expressed through integrity, civility, kindness, collaboration, and a commitment to lifelong learning, wellness, and social responsibility."

Our academic distinction arises from the integrity and quality of our programs. A graduate degree from Georgia Southern is a valued statement of this distinction, and such degrees are earned only by those individuals who have achieved the standards of this community of learners.

### Maintaining Integrity and Quality

The hallmarks of graduate education at Georgia Southern University are integrity and quality. As graduate education grows, we are committed to these principles.

We maintain our *integrity* when we admit students who are qualified to earn graduate degrees, who are taught by graduate faculty who are qualified to teach in graduate programs. The graduate faculty within each college, in conjunction with the College of Graduate Studies and the University, may also define additional standards for identifying qualified students and qualified faculty, thus empowering the college faculty in strengthening their graduate programs according to their needs.

We maintain our *quality* through the use of qualitative measures, including student evaluations of faculty; uniqueness of courses and programs; innovative teaching methods; and the quality of scholarship of students and faculty.

Increasing enrollment will be met with resources to improve programs. Faculty will be provided with the resources needed to sustain the high quality of graduate education at Georgia Southern, regardless of the method of delivery. Such investments in graduate education are vital to maintaining integrity and quality.

## Cultivating Our Graduate Culture

As one step in the university's development as a doctoral-research university, Georgia Southern will identify and develop the values which support its graduate programs. In the effort to meet our goal to cultivate a distinct graduate culture, we will ensure that the graduate programs at Georgia Southern are effective, creative, and cutting-edge.

The growth of a graduate culture also includes the belief that the graduate student body is capable of and has a vested interest in developing critical thinking and analytical skills, intellectual curiosity, effective interpersonal skills, and professional dispositions appropriate to the program, the university, and a global society. Graduate programs will be designed to inspire students to not only attain a high level of professional training, but to develop a graduate mindset regarding research and contribution to the advancement of one's profession.

A commitment to multicultural awareness and knowledge is integral to sustainable graduate programs. Abiding by diversity-oriented policies and procedures and ethical practices, the university will continue to contribute to the growth of open, inquiry-based learning. Programs will remain motivated to sustain academic rigor and provide a transformative educational experience.

By fostering a strong bond with the undergraduate culture, it is important that each college create a graduate experience which best reflects each college's unique and vibrant mission and strengths.

Overall, graduate education at Georgia Southern University shall:

- ◆ Offer programs which are of high quality, consistent with the overall mission of the university, and which build upon existing strengths;
- ◆ Be responsive and supportive;
- ◆ Have an efficient, timely and transparent admission process, which is committed to continuous assessment and improvement; and