

Georgia Southern to host STEM Festival

SEPTEMBER 5, 2013

Georgia Southern is on a mission to get more students interested in careers in science, technology, engineering and math. The University will showcase hands-on opportunities to help students discover these fields and share stories of success during the STEM Festival planned for Sept. 12-14 at several locations on campus.



Georgia Southern to host STEM Festival on Sept. 12-14 to promote science, technology, engineering and math education.

“The purpose of the STEM Festival is to use exploration stations to demonstrate to our greater community that science, technology, engineering and math, despite many misconceptions, can be fun and that subjects that seemed boring in school have some very real applications and are tied to interesting careers,” said Karin Scarpinato, Ph.D., associate Dean for Faculty and Research and biology professor. “This allows us to display our capabilities in the STEM fields and demonstrate how we prepare students to enter careers in these exciting and progressive fields.”

i2Work on Sept. 12 in the Russell Union Ballroom, from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m., provides students with opportunities to meet with employers about internships, co-ops and employment. i2Research on Sept. 13 in the Williams Center, from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m., will highlight all the research being performed at Georgia Southern including the Institute of Coastal Plain Science, public health and athletic training.

The STEM Festival wraps up on Saturday, Sept. 14 at the Nessmith-Lane Conference Center, 847 Plant Drive, with i2Explore from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. This event is designed for teenagers and children who will learn about robotics, make ice cream with liquid nitrogen, launch rockets with Alka Seltzer and become a “Star Wars” Jedi.

"Many misconceptions exist about what STEM courses have to do with real life and what careers are affiliated with them," said Scarpinato. "Education in these fields lacks behind, not just in Georgia, but nationwide, too. The STEM Festival provides an opportunity to begin addressing these issues."

All events are free and open to everyone. For more information on the STEM Festival, visit GeorgiaSouthern.edu/research/stemfest.

Georgia Southern University, a Carnegie Doctoral/Research University founded in 1906, offers 125 degree programs serving more than 20,000 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.

Rural Health Research Institute Establishes “Partnerships for Health”

SEPTEMBER 19, 2013

Georgia Southern University’s Rural Health Research Institute (RHRI) has formed four county level “Partnerships for Health” to increase community capacity to address rural health-related issues. The Partnerships in Bulloch, Candler, Emanuel and Evans Counties represent collaborations between health-related community agencies in each county, RHRI and Mercer University’s Center for Rural Health and Health Disparities. The goal of each partnership is to collaboratively identify and address the most pressing health needs in each community.

The initiative is part of a \$5.1 million grant awarded to the RHRI in August 2012 from the National Institutes of Health through the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities. The grant, which focuses on research, training and community outreach throughout rural southeast Georgia, has already enacted several training programs and is in the process of developing new diabetes and high blood pressure focused health interventions.

“We are very excited to have the Partnerships established,” said Bryant Smalley, Ph.D., RHRI executive director and joint principal investigator of the grant. “These collaborative partnerships will focus on improving health through grass-roots, community-driven efforts that are uniquely able to navigate the social, cultural and economic realities of rural living.”

Each Partnership will conduct a comprehensive needs assessment of its community and receive seed grant funding to allow them to implement a collaboratively-developed health education or intervention project to address an identified need. Partnership members also receive training in grant writing, communications planning, dissemination and community based participatory research where communities and researchers form equal partnerships in developing and implementing projects and programs.

The RHRI is an interdisciplinary hub of rural health research and outreach. Its mission is to improve health in rural areas by promoting cutting-edge, interdisciplinary research and outreach that connects faculty from diverse fields and promotes the development of researchers examining rural health issues. To learn more, visit: www.georgiasouthern.edu/RHRI.

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Georgia Southern Named “Military Friendly

School”

SEPTEMBER 11, 2013

For the third year in a row, Georgia Southern University has been named a Military Friendly School® by G.I. Jobs magazine for its efforts to provide educational opportunities to America’s veterans, active-duty troops and their families. The 2014 Military Friendly Schools list was released today and

can be found

at www.militaryfriendlyschools.com.



“It is a great honor for our University to serve our military men and women who have given so much of their time and made so many sacrifices for our country,” explained Georgia Southern President Brooks A. Keel, Ph.D. “We are reaching out to veterans, active-duty military and their dependents to give them the service and attention they deserve to make them successful while earning their degrees online or on campus.”

Georgia Southern takes great pride in being ranked among the top 15 percent of schools

nationwide in a survey conducted by Victory Media, a veteran-owned business and publisher of G.I. Jobs and The Guide to Military Friendly Schools®. In a survey of more than 12,000 schools, researchers examined policies to recruit and retain military and veteran students.

There is a proud tradition on campus to welcome the military and their families. Earlier this year, Military Times named the College of Business Administration (COBA) one of the best business schools for veterans in the United States for its online and part-time MBA program and for having staff dedicated to veterans issues.

In 2011, Georgia Southern established the Military Resource Center in the Nessmith-Lane Conference Center, 847 Plant Drive. It is a one-stop location providing services to help military service members achieve academic success. It is a place where military students can relax, study and talk with other service members and veterans.

“I am extremely happy and just proud for Eagle Nation because we are seeing the increase in veterans coming to school here,” said Director of Military Affairs Col. George Fredrick. “We now have

637 people receiving G.I. Bills including the military, veterans, spouses and children. Plus we've established a Student Veterans Association so they can share their experiences and help one another transition to higher education."

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Georgia Southern University Golf Course Opens

OCTOBER 11, 2013

It is almost time to tee off at the new Georgia Southern University Golf Course. Public play begins Saturday, Oct. 12 on the redesigned course at 1031 Golf Club Road.



During a ribbon-cutting ceremony Thursday afternoon, University leaders shared praise and excitement about the addition of a golf course to the long list of outstanding recreational facilities for students. "This represents a number of things that speak loudly and boldly about what Georgia Southern is and where we are going," said University President Brooks A. Keel, Ph.D. "We are a university on the move and are always looking for ways to better serve

our students and community. This is one more way in which we can tell the world that we are different, and we are special."

Money collected from student fees paid for the transformation of the 167 acres located about six miles from campus. Three years ago, the University spent \$650,000 to purchase Southern Links, which had been closed for several years. With \$5 million spent on renovations and a new layout designed by Robert Walker, Georgia Southern now has an attractive 18-hole championship golf



course open for students, faculty, staff and people in surrounding communities.

"This is what a student-centered university is all about," said Teresa Thompson, Ph.D., vice president of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management. "What we were buying was the opportunity to expand our recreational and student activity opportunities. We have very bright students who have high expectations inside and outside the classroom." Thompson also pointed out the golf course could help keep students enrolled. "We have found in studies that students who are involved in recreational activities are retained and graduate at a higher rate."

The public course has five sets of tees and has been redesigned so

golfers of all skill levels can enjoy playing a round. It measures 6,900 yards from the back tees and 5,300 from the front tees. Water is in play on 11 of the 18 holes, and the course has 53 bunkers in the fairways around the greens.

"This is an opportunity for us to provide an experience to our students and community members and expose them to the game of golf," said Gene Sherry, executive director of Campus Recreation and Intramurals (CRI). "This facility is a great addition to meet the needs of our active and growing student body as we promote healthy lifestyle habits.

The facility also has a driving range, practice putting and chipping greens, along with a renovated 8,000 square foot clubhouse, which includes a pro shop, snack bar and meeting space. Find out about greens fees, schedule tee times and learn more about the course by visiting GeorgiaSouthern.edu/golf

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“Bulloch County Family Tree” Eagle to Land at Statesboro Regional Library

SEPTEMBER 16, 2013

Georgia Southern University and the Bulloch County Historical Society invite the public to celebrate the installation of the newest Eagle Nation on Parade (ENOP) sculpture, “Bulloch County Family Tree,” at the Statesboro Regional Library, 124 S. Main St., on Wednesday, Sept. 25 at 5:30 p.m.



Eagle Nation on Parade designer Scott Foxx talks with Roxie Remley about the “Bulloch County Family Tree” eagle that will be installed on Sept. 25 at the Statesboro Regional Library.

Over the past year, the Bulloch County Historical Society has worked diligently with ENOP team members to create a piece of art that can be celebrated for its beauty and historical representation. The six-foot-tall “Bulloch County Family Tree” eagle will join the ENOP flock as the eighth sculpture to be placed on display in Bulloch County.

Created by Scott Foxx, a master of fine arts candidate in the Betty Foy Sanders Department of Art (BFSDOA), the eagle takes visitors on a tour of important Bulloch County people and places, including iconic figures Jack Averitt, Emma Kelley and Willie McTell, along with buildings and businesses such as Franklins Restaurant, the courthouse, Georgia

Southern and the Statesboro Regional Library. The eagle’s design was painted in a folk-art style, allowing for the historic elements to be depicted in a way that is both easily recognizable and fun.

“I am very pleased that a work of mine will be a teaching tool for years to come,” said Foxx. “I don’t often get a chance to have such control over my commissioned works, and I was happy that the

Historical Society saw eye-to-eye with me on the theme and inspiration of artist Howard Finster's portraits."

"I think this eagle will give people who have lived here all their lives, as well as those who may have just moved to town, a sense of pride and belonging to Bulloch County," said Historical Society Chairwoman Connie Sanders. "Every time you look at the eagle, you discover a new piece of the county's history."

The eagle will be on permanent display outside the south side of the library facing East Grady Street. "Eagle Nation on Parade is a wonderful project," said Sanders. "I hope that children and adults alike will enjoy learning about Bulloch County from our eagle."

Eagle Nation on Parade is a public art project of the BFSDOA, housed in the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences. CLASS, the University's College of the Creative Mind, prepares students to achieve academic excellence, develop their analytical skills, enhance their creativity and embrace their responsibilities as citizens of their communities, their nations and the world.

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