

# COE Earns Top 50 Ranking in U.S. News & World Report Online Graduate Report

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Georgia Southern University College of Education earned a top 50 ranking in the 2014 U.S. News & World Report "Best Online Graduate Education Programs" released January 8. "We're pleased to be in the top tier, said COE Dean Thomas R. Koballa, Jr., Ph.D. "The College of Education continues its commitment to offer high-quality online graduate programs and expand the options available to best serve our students," he said.

"Our online classes meet high standards for excellence," Koballa continued. "We have a committed faculty trained to teach distance learners, and students from across the region and state know they will be engaged in a rigorous graduate program that furthers their career as an educator in many professional settings," he said. The U.S. Newsrankings are compiled annually and take into account such factors as student engagement, which includes retention and graduation rates; admissions selectivity; peer reputation; faculty credentials and training; and student services and technology. The rankings included 238 public and private institutions offering online education programs.

"The rankings are a good place to start your search for an online graduate education program," Koballa said, "but we also encourage students to contact our Graduate Academic Services Center where they can speak with trained advisors, faculty and peers about our online programs."

The methodology used for this year's rankings changed significantly from the previous two years' rankings U.S. News said in releasing the new data. Program ratings by peer institutions were added this year and improved data collection allowed additional emphasis on student engagement.

For more information on the rankings, go to <http://www.usnews.com/education/online-education/education/rankings>



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