

# Public Safety welcomes two new officers, first K9 officer

JANUARY 9, 2017



*New Public Safety Officers Chad Murray, left, Chris Doyle and Deimos are sworn in as new public safety officers by Georgia Southern Police Chief Laura McCullough.*

Georgia Southern University officially welcomed two new public safety officers and one dedicated K-9 officer to the force. Georgia Southern's Office of Public Safety now has 39 officers who not only serve the University's campus but also assist local agencies.

Officer Chad Murray and Officer Chris Doyle were sworn in by Chief Laura McCullough in a ceremony on campus.

K-9 officer Deimos also is new to Georgia Southern's police department. The Dutch Shepherd is the first canine on the force and the only explosives detection K-9 in Bulloch County. With a trained ability to detect 18 different odors, he will work alongside Patrol Officer Erk McCurdy to assist with explosives sweeps and the needs of other agencies.

"The University's police department continues to grow to meet the demands of a growing University," said Chief Laura McCullough. "We were the first public safety force in Bulloch County to incorporate body cameras and in-car recording systems into our daily work and we are excited to have our first explosives detection K-9."

# Staff Council recognizes Georgia Southern employees during annual Staff Awards of Excellence Ceremony

January 9, 2017



*The 2017 Award of Merit Winners (L-R): Allison Rainey, Charish Williams, Gwen Jackson, Jody Rushing, Kenneth West, Robert Hisey and Natadra Barr. (Not Pictured: Michelle Tremblay)*

Georgia Southern University's Staff Council honored more than 200 staff members during the 2017 Staff Service and Awards of Excellence Ceremony held on Thursday, Jan. 5 at the Performing Arts Center.

Employees who had reached the five, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, and even 40-year employment mark from each division on campus were honored for their years of service to the University. Additionally, eight staff members were announced as Award of Merit winners.

- Allison Rainey, Military Science
- Charish Williams, Marketing and Communications
- Gwen Jackson, University Housing & Auxiliary Facilities
- Jody Rushing, School of Health & Kinesiology
- Kenneth West, University housing & Auxiliary Facilities
- Michelle Tremblay, Biology
- Natadra Barr, University Housing & Auxiliary Services
- Robert (Bob) Hisey, University Housing & Auxiliary Services

Award of Merit nominees are employees who have improved the work environment, exhibited excellent customer service and shown true character and dedication to Georgia Southern's mission. A total of 45 employees were nominated for the award, which is sponsored by Georgia Southern's Staff Council. Award of Merit recipients are nominated by co-workers or supervisors and are chosen by Staff Council. Winners each receive \$1,000, a Georgia Southern Eagle Medallion and a certificate of appreciation.

## Georgia Southern University hosts ribbon cutting ceremony for new Military Science building

JANUARY 5, 2017



*(L-R): Senator Jack Hill, Dr. Teresa Thompson, Regent Laura Marsh, Col. Nelson Kraft, Col. Retired David Lee, Col. Retired George Fredrick, LTC Erik Kjonnerod, Dr. Jaimie Hebert, Dr. Jean Bartels, Mr. Trip Addison, LTC Retired William Roberts, and Mr. Robert Whitaker.*

Georgia Southern University's award-winning Army ROTC Eagle Battalion now has a new world-class building in which to learn, network and grow their skills. Today, Georgia Southern University President Jaimie Hebert, Ph.D., hosted a ribbon cutting ceremony for the University's new Military Science building. When classes resume next week for the spring semester, cadets will continue their studies in the new facility.

"Georgia Southern is proud to open this special place where the mission reflects the very culture of this University, a culture that puts student success above all else," said Hebert. "I am honored that we are able to officially open the doors today."



Located at the corner of Forest Drive and Old Register Road, the 32,000-square-foot space replaces the 10,000-square-foot building the Army ROTC Eagle Battalion has occupied for nearly a decade and supports a growing cadre of the best and brightest men and women from across the country. The new Military Science building consists of four classrooms, a state-of-the-art computer lab, conference room with

VTC capabilities, 25 Cadre and staff offices, and a 5,000 square-foot multipurpose room for a variety of uses from indoor trainings to events and ceremonies. The new building also provides secure storage space for the program's equipment.

In April 2014, Georgia Gov. Nathan Deal approved the state budget, which included \$9.5 million in funding to the University, allocated for the construction of a new Military Science building.

"We appreciate the University leadership and our state legislators who recognized the needs and provided the means to build a world-class facility for our Army ROTC here at Georgia Southern," said LTC Erik Kjonnerod, professor of Military Science. "This new facility is a testament to the dedication and support of our mission to provide our Army and nation with top quality commissioned officers."

The Georgia Southern Army ROTC Eagle Battalion program began in 1980 and serves as the Green to Gold counterpart battalion for both Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield. Georgia Southern's program is currently the largest of its kind in the southeast United States, with 175 cadets at the University, and also boasts of the largest Army ROTC Nursing program in the nation. The University's program is one of few ROTC programs in the country to meet or exceed the required number of Army Commissioned Officers over the last decade.

The U.S. Army Cadet Command at Fort Knox, Kentucky, announced in 2016 that Georgia Southern University's Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) program was one of the eight winners of the prestigious MacArthur Award for the 2014-2015 school year. Georgia Southern was selected as the top program from 6th Brigade Army ROTC, which includes 39 programs from six states and Puerto Rico. This marks the Eagle Battalion's third MacArthur Award since 2009.

Most recently, the Army ROTC Eagle Battalion earned first place in the Task Force Georgia Ranger Challenge Competition.

Georgia Southern University, a public Carnegie Doctoral/Research University founded in 1906, offers more than 125 degree programs serving 20,673 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 and hands-on approach to education. Visit [GeorgiaSouthern.edu](http://GeorgiaSouthern.edu).