

President's Newsletter

June 2012

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Recommended Citation

Keel, Brooks, "President's Newsletter" (2012). *President's Newsletter*. 7.
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President's Newsletter

Georgia Southern University

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Georgia Southern University Receives \$4.7M to Support Complete College Georgia

Yesterday, we announced that Georgia Southern will receive \$4.7 million to support the state of Georgia's *Complete College Georgia* initiative, designed to increase Georgia's share of workers with a college degree or certificate. College completion is critical for a prosperous future in Georgia. My goal is to graduate students who are

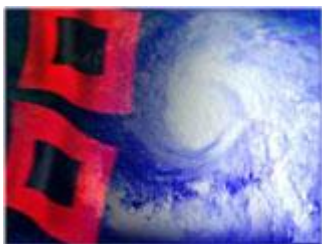
Summer 2012

It's summer at Georgia Southern and we are expecting a total of nearly 10,000 students to attend class this semester. Many of you remember when Georgia Southern only had 10,000 students (or less). As our reputation continues to grow nationally, so does our enrollment and we expect another increase this fall.

Did you know that Georgia Southern now offers summer classes in three separate terms? Students can choose to take classes during Long Term (May 21 – July 17), Term A (May 21 - June 20) and/or Term B (June 25 – July 25). These shorter terms are becoming more and more popular with our students not just because they can complete a course in a shorter period of time, but because they can complete their degrees quicker and in many cases ahead of schedule by taking classes during the summer.

At Georgia Southern we are working to ensure that our students not only select degree programs that match their interests, but that they complete their degrees on time. In doing so, we are focusing on three key measures: retention, progression and graduation. Retention focuses on the percentage of students that successfully continue from their freshman to sophomore years. Nationally, the largest percentage of students leaves college after their freshman year. For this reason, we continue to focus on ensuring our freshman students succeed in a collegiate environment. As a result, we have implemented a variety of robust academic and student support systems that are designed to help high school seniors adjust to the rigors of college and prepare them to be successful in their pursuit of a degree.

not only competitive and work ready, but that can serve as a talent pipeline for current and future business in Georgia. The \$4.7 million in new funding will be used to address priority full-time faculty and staff hiring needs in support of college completion efforts. For more information about the fantastic research being done by our faculty members, [Read more...](#)



Researchers Receive Grant to Investigate Historical Tropical Cyclone Activity

A team of Georgia Southern researchers has been awarded a grant to investigate historical tropical cyclone activity along the coast of Georgia, in an effort to determine how susceptible the state is to hurricanes. Preliminary data suggests the Georgia coast has historically experienced

Retaining the first-year student is just the first step toward improving overall retention, progression and graduation. Our focus is also on ensuring that our students, once retained, continue to progress steadily toward degree completion. We have undertaken numerous initiatives to ensure that our students not only have the courses that they need to graduate on time, but that they are receiving outstanding guidance from our academic advisors. In addition, we are working to make sure that there are adequate numbers of upper division courses available so that students can progress and graduate on time.



Eagle Athletics Success

What a fantastic spring for our men's and women's athletics teams. Georgia Southern's Lady Eagles Softball team won the Southern Conference championship under first-year Head Coach Annie Smith, our Baseball team advanced to the Southern Conference championship game and four players were drafted in the MLB draft.

Swimming and Diving Head Coach Nathan Kellogg, who has led the resurgence for Swimming and Diving at the University, became



Summer Vacation Plans? Take Georgia Southern With You

Taking a summer vacation? Join the thousands of alumni who are taking Georgia Southern with them. We are trying to take "True Blue" and "Gus" around the world through two unique programs designed to give you a chance to show off your creativity and school spirit. It's easy, fun and a great way to let everyone know that you a Georgia

cycles of very high hurricane landfall activity, despite no major hurricanes hitting the state in recent decades. The nearly \$130,000 grant from the Georgia Sea Grant program will fund two years of research by Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health professor Brian Bossak, Ph.D. and College of Science & Mathematics professor Mark Welford, Ph.D. [Read more...](#)

the school's all-time winningest swim coach. In addition, our Football team made a statement about winning off the field by posting its highest-ever spring semester and academic year grade point averages.

Visit GeorgiaSouthernEagles.com for more info.

Southern fan! Where will you take the True Blue sign or Flat Gus? To find out how you and your family can get involved, visit one of the below Web sites!

[True Blue Sign](#)

[Flat Gus](#)

ON THE CALENDAR:

June 7-10: Georgia Southern engineering students competing in SAE Mini Baja Competition (Madison, WI)

June 8: Alumni Night w/Jacksonville Suns (Jacksonville, FL) [More info...](#)

June 10-16: Georgia Southern Hosts Georgia Boy's and Girl's State

June 12: Alternative Fuels Roundtable w/Georgia Public Service Commissioner, Tim Echols

September 1: Georgia Southern Football vs. Jacksonville University [2012 Schedule](#)

September 18: Former U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright to speak on campus [Read more...](#)

For more information on University events, please visit the [University Calendar](#).



Eagle It! We Need Your Help

You may have seen Georgia Southern eagle logos popping up on the roadways and even buildings leading into and around Statesboro. The logos are a part of a unique campaign to place more eagle logos in visible areas leading to Statesboro. Based on the popular and iconic "See Rock City/See Ruby Falls" signs that have dotted interstates throughout the Southeast for decades, *Eagle It* is designed to raise the awareness of the University in a fun (and legal) way. Find out how you can you help! [Learn more...](#)



Commencement in 90 Seconds

Georgia Southern recently hosted its 84th annual spring commencement ceremonies. During our two ceremonies (we now hold two ceremonies in the spring: graduate and undergraduate), we awarded a record more than 2,600 degrees. Both Hanner Fieldhouse and Allen E. Paulson Stadium were packed for each of the ceremonies. Our University photographer put together a unique, 90-second, time lapse of the undergraduate ceremony held in Allen E. Paulson Stadium. [Watch the Video.](#)



Like. Follow. Connect.

A great way to stay in touch with Georgia Southern is by following us on social media. Join the thousands of eagle alumni and fans who are reconnecting with their alma mater.

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YouTube: [Visit Now](#)

LinkedIn Alumni Group: [Visit Now](#)



Summer Camps

Did you know that Georgia Southern offers a variety of summer camps ranging from science and leadership to fine arts and cheerleading? Each year Georgia Southern welcomes thousands of summer campers to campus and we are expecting Summer 2012 to be one of the best. We have put together a Web site that has a list of our available camps. Visit: www.georgiasouthern.edu/summercamp for more info. on available camps.



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