



Greetings from Parent Programs

November 2006

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Advisement and Registration

Advisement and registration for Spring 2007 is well under way this week. Students should check their MyGeorgiaSouthern account for the exact time when registration will open for them. Before students can register they must receive a Registration Access Number (RAN) from their academic advisor. In addition advisors work with your student to create a schedule that best meets their needs. Please make sure your student is visiting with their advisor to ensure a timely graduation.

Homecoming 2006

Students and faculty alike demonstrated their Eagle spirit during Homecoming 2006. The week was full of fun and exciting activities that coordinated with this year's theme Eagles of the Caribbean! The week kicked off with the 5th annual GSU Idol sponsored by the Student Government Association. Eleven contestants competed through three rounds, with Justin Johnson being named the 2006 GSU Idol. All proceeds were donated to the United Way Foundation. The fun continued with a homecoming favorite: Doo Dah! This annual competition allows students the opportunity to showcase their talents. The competition is divided into three categories dance, step, and skit. Many performers entered the competition, but ultimately Dyversions Dance Team claimed first place for dance, Alpha Phi Alpha placed first for step and Theater and Performance first place for skit. There was also a mud volleyball tournament and Eagle Entertainment showed *Pirates of the Caribbean* in the Russell Union Theater. The week concluded with a disappointing loss to Appalachian State.



The Eagles were able to hold the Mountaineers for two overtimes, a feat that hasn't been repeated in 19 years, but ultimately the number one ranked in Mountaineers were victorious. During half, time Angela Byrd and Stephen Watkins were crowned Homecoming Queen and King. Angela Bryd is an active member of Eagle Entertainment and former SOAR leader. Stephen Watkins is a Kinesiology major and an active member of Tau Sigma Honor Society. Next year's homecoming will be even more spectacular as GSU's marks its 100th anniversary.

Written by: Laura Alford

Bush in the 'Boro

The Georgia Southern campus was full of excitement and energy as President George W. Bush entered Hanner Field house on Monday, October 30th. The visit marked the first ever presidential visit in the university's near 100 year history. Bush came to Statesboro for a political rally to gain support for Max Burns the republican candidate for the 12th District of Georgia. Nearly 5,000 people packed Hanner Fieldhouse. After weeks of speculation a presidential spokesman finally confirmed that Bush would be coming to Statesboro.

Students and local Statesboro residents were able to obtain tickets from the Max Burns headquarters. Early Monday morning the line to enter Hanner extended from the entrance doors all the way down Fair Road. Many students were disappointed when they were turned away, as apparently over 1,000 extra tickets were given out. During his speech Bush spoke about supporting Republican candidates, tax cuts, the war on terrorism, and educational programming.



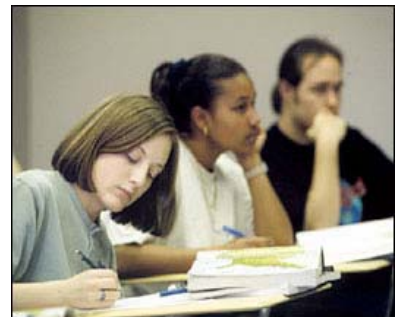
However, there were many students who were unhappy with Bush's visit and staged a protest. Around 300 students, faculty, and staff socialized, waved signs and made their way to Herty Drive and Fair Road where the group protested peacefully. One particular sign read "1984 was 22 years ago. Abolish the Patriot Act now." Other signs said "Who would Jesus bomb?" and "One Nation under surveillance". Overall students said they viewed Bush's visit to Statesboro as a positive event for Georgia Southern.

Written by: Anthony Fierstos

Regents Exam

Students have been busy with Regents Exam. Testing began October 27th and concluded on October 31st. The Regent's Exam is required by the Board of Regents for all students seeking an undergraduate degree from a University System of Georgia school. The exam is composed of two sections reading and essay. Students are registered for the exam automatically and informed of their test date through campus email. If a student does not pass the exam after several tries, they are enrolled in an English remedial course.

The majority of students are required to take the exam, but there are exemptions based on SAT or ACT scores, and AP credits. To view criteria visit the testing website at [<http://academics.georgiasouthern.edu/testing/regents.htm>]. The exam is used to ensure students have the critical writing skills they need before they enter the workforce. *Written by: Laura Alford*



Alcohol Awareness Week

The Health Services Department and the Georgia Office of Highway Safety helped sponsor National Collegiate Alcohol Awareness Week. The week was full of activities created to spread awareness about the dangers of drinking and driving. The week kicked off with Jail-n-Bail, an activity where professors and fellow students are arrested and charged with DUIs. Other activities included a presentation from the Save A Life Tour. During the presentation students got the opportunity to use a special state-of-the-art simulator that allows the driver to see what it is like to drive impaired.

In addition speakers gave their testimonies of how drunk driving had effected their lives. Volunteers from ShuttleGus (a program created to offer free, safe rides to any individual under the influence of alcohol) attended all the events to pass out flyers and answer questions about the program. Students were also served “mocktails” in the Russell Union Ballroom. The events were made possible by the Governor’s Office of Highway Safety, which provides funds and grants to universities in support of alcohol prevention programs.

Written by: Laura Alford



Parents Association Scholarship

The Georgia Southern Parents Association will be awarding eight scholarships for the Spring semester to full-time undergraduate students who are students of Parents Association members in good standing. Each scholarship will be \$500. Applicants will be evaluated on extra curricular involvement (i.e. community involvement, organizations, work, etc), grades, question and essay response, scholastic achievement, and other relevant information provided.

Requirements for Eligibility:

- Applicant's parents must be in good standing with the Georgia Southern’s Parents Association.
- Applicant must be an undergraduate and currently enrolled full time (a minimum of 12 hours) and not have current or pending disciplinary record
- Applicant must have completed 12 undergraduate hours at Georgia Southern University before Spring 2007.
- Applicant must have a minimum GPA of 2.5.
- Applicant must attend class at Georgia Southern University during the semester(s) for which the scholarship is awarded.

The deadline for submitting applications is Friday, December 1, 2006 at 5:00p.m. To download a copy of the application please visit our website at <http://students.georgiasouthern.edu/parent/scholarship.htm> and submit the completed application to:

Office of Orientation and Parent Programs
Lewis Hall, P.O. Box 8096

Apply Now!

Fee Payment Deadlines

Tuition and fees are due January 8, 2007. Any charges resulting from registration changes or changes in housing and meals made during the drop/add period are due January 22, 2007. More information concerning tuition and fees may be found on the Bursar's Office website at <http://services.georgiasouthern.edu/bursar/index.htm>.

Updated Information

Parents Association Minutes

Council Members Present

John Smith, Karen and Garry Newton, Lee and Carol DeFeo, George Laurin, James and Vivian Alford, Jill Boykin, Linda Clarkson, Emily Chandler, Fran and Charlie Holland, Vince Miller

John announced Garry Newton has accepted the position of Vice President.

Discussed the success of the Family Weekend.

New Business

Dr. Teresa Thompson, VP Student Affairs and Enrollment spoke to us regarding GSU excelling in academics over the last 5 years. Student average SAT is 1105. Minimum for acceptance to GSU is now 1000. Therefore there is a smaller pool of students to draw from in the state. Need ideas of how to get to some of the other cities outside the metro Atlanta area to attract students and compete with other universities.

1. Leadership Program. Office of Student Leadership will bring in high profile guests to run workshops in leadership for the students. Looking for businesses or individuals who would be interested in speaking or giving grants. The idea is if you go to GSU you can grow and do anything. It is about what you can provide for students that attracts students to a school. Her department is working on a Leadership minor program.
2. Need to develop a strong Parents Association so they can get more parent input. A strong association can get a voice with our local and state government to help with GSU's growth.

John brought up how the Parents Association can be a voice for recruiting. George suggested parents want to see the value of their membership. We need to take on some very attainable projects and show our value to the parents and the university.

Scholarship

Carol moved we do a \$1000 University Scholarship for incoming freshman. Minimum SAT 1000, 2.5 GPA to be awarded prior to graduation from High School. The award will be \$500 for the fall and \$500 for the spring semester as long as the student is still enrolled at GSU. Jill second.

Garry amended the motion to review the dollar amount and number of scholarships each year at the fall Parents Council Meeting.

Motion carried. Vince and the scholarship committee will meet and email the council on the details.

Parent Association Letter

Parents Association Members,

Many thanks to all who were able to attend Fall Family Weekend. The weather was perfect, we all had a great time and Vince, Emily and the rest of the Admissions office staff did a super job putting the weekend together for us.

This is going to be a great year for us as an Association. We have some exciting plans, and I encourage you to look for more details in future newsletters. Our children are a part of a great University and as an Association we are going to do our part to make it even better and add value to our students Georgia Southern University degree.

Please feel free to contact me at any time. My e-mail address is john.smith@towsleys.com

Go Eagles!

John T. Y. Smith

Parents Association President

Phone: 706-831-3907

