

10.09

# parentprograms

newsletter

g e o r g i a s o u t h e r n u n i v e r s i t y



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Dear Parents and Guardians,

Fall Family Weekend is right around the corner, October 16-18, and the Office of Orientation and Parent Programs is excited to be hosting our largest event ever! Friday evening includes a dessert reception in the newly renovated Zach S. Henderson Library. Saturday consists of the Parents Association breakfast and general membership meeting, followed by a pre-game tailgate at Paulson Stadium, and then the Eagles football team takes on the UT-Chattanooga Mocs (mockingbirds). There's lots of other activities occurring on campus or in the community. Visit <http://students.georgiasouthern.edu/parent/FallFamilyWeekendSchedule.html> for more! For those of you that missed our October 1st registration deadline, I encourage you to come to campus that weekend anyway to visit with your student! The middle of the semester can be a stressful time and a planned visit from family could help boost spirits and motivate for the remainder of the semester!

Throughout the month of September, Presidential candidates visited Georgia Southern for an extensive interview and tour of campus. It has been exciting to listen to the candidates impressions of Georgia Southern. Their comments about our hospitality, small-feel, and student-centeredness make me proud to work at such a special institution. If you'd like to learn more about the candidates or the search process, visit <http://www.georgiasouthern.edu/presidentsearch/>.

October is full of academic advisement appointments as students begin to think about the spring semester. If your student is considering changing their major, adding a minor, or studying abroad, they should discuss this with their advisor. Encourage your student to schedule an advisement appointment soon if they have not yet met with their advisor. First year students may also want to refer to <http://students.georgiasouthern.edu/registrar/wings.htm> if they have questions about how to register.

Be on the lookout for a Parent Programs Facebook group coming soon! Our results from September's question of the month showed lots of interest in joining a Facebook group to get Georgia Southern news and connect with other parents. I recently spoke with a mother who could not get in touch with her son by phone, but found that a webcam was a great way to stay connected. Since then, several parents have contacted our office letting us know about the helpfulness of Facebook or other online communities or chat forums when trying to get in touch with their student. If you're not already Facebook friendly, you may want to check it out! If you're having trouble navigating the site, ask your student for help the next time you're together. It's likely they are an expert.

Happy Fall!

Sincerely,



Erin Campbell

Georgia Southern University Health Services will be offering campus wide seasonal flu vaccination clinics this month. Scheduled clinics are as follows:

Scheduled clinics for Students:

Wed., October 7th	5 p.m.-7 p.m.	Centennial Place Café (Building 2)
Thurs., October 15th	5 p.m.-7 p.m.	Eagle Village Clubhouse (classroom)
Mon., October 26th	5 p.m.-7 p.m.	Southern Pines Clubhouse (classroom)

Scheduled clinics for Students, Faculty and Staff:

Tuesday, October 13th	9 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Russell Union Rm. 2084
Wednesday, October 21st	8 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	Russell Union Rm. 2084
Thursday, October 29th	2 p.m. - 4 p.m.	Russell Union Rm. 2084

## Annual Flu Vaccinations Available to Students



The vaccinations will cost \$5 for students. Payments may be made by cash, check, MasterCard, or Visa. Please instruct your student to bring his/her Eagle ID and to wear a short sleeve shirt. This flu vaccine is not for the H1N1 strain. Once the H1N1 vaccination becomes available later this year, University Health Services will also schedule campus wide vaccination clinics for H1N1 vaccinations.

In addition to receiving a flu vaccination, University Health Services recommends following these steps to lessen the risk of becoming sick this flu season.

- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissue away in the trash after it has been used.
- Wash your hands frequently with soap and water, especially after you cough or sneeze. Alcohol based hand cleaners are also effective.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth excessively to lessen the spread of germs
- Try to avoid close contact with sick people
- If you do become sick with flu-like symptoms, the Center for Disease Control (CDC) recommends that you stay at home for at least 24 hours after your fever is gone except to get medical care or for other necessities. Keep away from others as much as possible to keep from getting others sick.

It is important to note, if your student does become sick, he/she will be excused from classes. Health Services will issue a notice for your student to be excused until your student is no longer exhibiting flu-like symptoms.

## Helping Students Handle Conflict



Conflict is an inevitable part of life, especially on a college campus. Close quarters, stressful experiences, and a multitude of values make the environment prime for challenge and disagreements. Of course, interacting with a diverse group of people also makes for loads of learning!

A conflict can impact a person's emotions, thoughts, behaviors, and ability to learn. How one chooses to deal with a conflict will directly determine the result. Dealing with conflicts in an unhealthy manner weakens relationships and makes getting to the "real issue" more difficult. When dealt with in a positive manner, however, conflict serves as a unique opportunity for growth, understanding, and the strengthening of relationships.

### **When mediation is necessary?**

Sometimes, a conflict is too difficult for the parties involved to solve themselves. Emotions and irrationality can run high, especially in a roommate situation or a conflict among students living on the same residence hall floor. Home is generally one's escape. For those living on a college campus, their residence hall is their home away from home. If they are experiencing conflict in that environment, the conflict can become overwhelming.

### **What is mediation?**

Mediation is a flexible, educational process that provides a safe forum for disputing parties to express themselves and resolve differences. During a mediation activity, a neutral third party facilitates a conversation between disputants. The people involved choose to be there; mediation is a voluntary experience where the disputing parties come to communicate their feelings and negotiate a mutually acceptable resolution. The person or team serving as the mediating party ensures that each person has equal opportunity to voice perspectives, clarify issues, and explore options for resolution. Mediators do not act as judges and they do not take sides. Their goal is to facilitate, guide, and encourage an exchange where the disputants come to their own conclusions. The mediation process is typically confidential and takes place in a neutral location. Although many students are hesitant to go through a mediation process at first, the process works. Mediation is successful in almost 90 percent of cases, according to some researchers. When handled well, it's a process full of respect, integrity, and compromise.

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## Where can my student go for mediation?

Community Leaders (CL) can oftentimes provide mediation services to your student. If your student is experiencing a roommate or hall mate-related issue and is comfortable with his/her CL, encourage your student to ask the staff member to conduct a mediation. If your student is not comfortable with or does not have a CL, there are plenty of other resources available. The Dean of Student's Office can assist students who are experiencing a conflict with an office, department, or faculty member. Additionally, residence life professionals or staff members at the University Counseling Center may provide assistance to your student in handling conflict.

## Five Tips for Handling Conflict:

Whenever possible, students should be encouraged to handle conflict on their own. Here are five tips they can utilize in conflict situations:

1. Know the difference between your principles and your preferences.
2. Review your expectations. Are you being realistic? Is the person capable of changing in the way you desire? Can you adapt to the situation or is it totally unacceptable?
3. Listen! Hear the other person's feelings as well as arguments. Don't interrupt.
4. Accept the right of the other person to seek a satisfactory solution to the problem. Recognize that this person has legitimate rights that must be respected.
5. State your opinions and feelings frankly but calmly. Be assertive, not aggressive.

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For more great information from PaperClip Communications, please visit the resource page of the Parent Programs website: <http://students.georgiasouthern.edu/parent/resources.html>

The Academic Success Center provides a wide variety of tutoring/workshops to assist your student. Encourage your student to attend these beneficial programs. If your student will be taking the Regents' Test, encourage him or her to attend a review workshop. Your student may also benefit from additional tutoring assistance. Students may receive free tutoring in content specific areas throughout the semester. Currently, tutoring is offered in subject areas of: accounting, anatomy and physiology, algebra, American government, biochemistry, biology, calculus, chemistry, economics, English, geology, history, physics, psychology, statistics, trigonometry, and writing. A comprehensive tutoring schedule may be found at:

<http://academics.georgiasouthern.edu/success/Tutoring.htm>

Fall  
Semester  
Tutoring  
Schedules

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## Regents' Review Workshops

Date	Time	Topic	Presenter	Room
Wednesday, October 14	4:00-5:00 pm	Regents' Essay Review	Mr. Mike Czech	2003
Wednesday, October 14	5:00-6:00 pm	Regents' Reading Review	Ms. Bonnie Lynch	2003
Thursday, October 15	12:00-1:00 pm	Regents' Reading Review	Ms. Susan Cason	2003
Thursday, October 15	1:00-2:00 pm	Regents' Essay Review	Mr. Brian Hyer	2003
Friday, October 16	11:00am-12:00 pm	Regents' Reading Review	Ms. Susan Cason	2003
Friday, October 16	12:00 -1:00 pm	Regents' Essay Review	Mr. Mike Czech	2003
Sunday, October 18	2:00-3:00 pm	Regents' Reading Review	Dr. Jo Hanschke	2003
Sunday, October 18	3:00-4:00 pm	Regents' Essay Review	Dr. Jo Hanschke	2003
Monday, October 19	5:00-6:00 pm	Regents' Essay Review	Mr. Brian Hyer	2003
Monday, October 19	6:00-7:00 pm	Regents' Reading Review	Ms. Bonnie Lynch	2003

The workshops listed above will be held in the Academic Success Center on the second floor of Cone Hall.

(Cone Hall is located between Hanner Fieldhouse and Sweetheart Circle)

To register for a workshop, please call 478-5371 or send an e-mail to: [asc@georgiasouthern.edu](mailto:asc@georgiasouthern.edu)  
(limited seating available)

Web  
Chat



Are you missing your student? Many parents find it difficult during the first few months after their student has left for college.

While you know that it is best for your student to be away at college continuing his/her education and becoming more responsible and independent, you may still feel discomforted or saddened by your student's departure.

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You will begin to become more comfortable, and communication with your student is a great means to lessen the pain as you each transition to your new environments without one another. Many students and parents email, text, or chat on the telephone frequently. Fewer parents and students make use of a newer technology that will enable you to not only speak to one another, but also see each other at the same time! The service is free and is a great way for you to communicate with your student. While it is not easy to always travel to campus and see your student in person, you can always “see” your student through an internet video chat. According to Yvette Taylor, Parents Association member and mother of a first-year freshman, “It’s a great way for me to communicate with my student. We simply login to the web chat and have conversations. It’s really easy and I love being able to see my son, Nycholas, on the screen! It is so much more reassuring to both see and speak to him rather than simply talking on the telephone.” Yvette uses Skype.com as her web chat provider, but there are many more online web chat providers. If you are aware of another provider/forum let us know and we will pass it along to other interested parents.

Video chat is a service that will enable you and your student to both see and speak to one another over the internet, often without added expense. If you do not already have a web cam for your computer, you can pick one up at Wal-Mart (or another large retailer) for as little as \$35.

## Presidential Search

The search for the next Georgia Southern President has been on the minds of many students and staff members alike. The University Search Committee is currently seeking a replacement for President Grube, who announced his resignation last year. The process has become more visible and publicized as candidates have recently been visiting campus as part of the ongoing interview process. The six finalist candidates each visited Georgia Southern last month to learn more about the University as well as to participate in interviews with the University Search Committee. As a part of each campus visit, candidates have participated in forums that have been open to students, faculty, and staff. Students have been highly encouraged to attend these open forums. A Presidential Search website has been created to allow interested persons the opportunity to track the progress of the search, as well as to learn more about each candidate. The Presidential Search website may be found at: <http://www.georgiasouthern.edu/presidentsearch/>



Two families traveled to Statesboro last month for the “Parent Get-Away” weekend. Richard and Esther Bowman of Acworth, GA and Rich and Alex Basila of Suwanee, GA were this year's winners of the “Parent Get-Away” sweepstakes drawing. All families renewing their Parents Association memberships were included in the drawing and the Bowman and Basila families were the lucky winners.



These two families were in Statesboro September 11-13 to enjoy complimentary hotel accommodations, gift certificates to Hacker's Golf Park, gift packages to Serenity Day Spa & Salon, and a \$100 dinner voucher to either 119 Chop's or Christopher's restaurant. These families also received Averitt Center for the Arts tickets for the Jeremy Davis & the Fabulous Equinox Jazz concert held in the Emma Kelley Theatre. The concert was a celebration of the Averitt Center's 5 year anniversary as Jeremy Davis along with his 17 piece jazz orchestra paid tribute to Johnny Mercer and other composers from the 1930's-1950's. Each winning family reported that they thoroughly enjoyed their visits to Statesboro. We thank all sponsors for this wonderful giveaway weekend and encourage all families to be on the lookout for other giveaway opportunities in the future.

Congratulations to our winners!

## Fall Family Weekend Sweepstakes



New membership families were included in a drawing for complimentary Fall Family Weekend packages. We are pleased to announce that of the many new membership families that joined this year, two families were selected to receive free admission to Fall Family Weekend events. Earl and Sherri Sims of Smyrna, GA and Kathy and Tony Evans of Eastman, GA were the winners of the New Member Sweepstakes. Each family will receive free registration to Fall Family Weekend activities as well as complimentary hotel accommodations in Statesboro. Congratulations to the Sims and Evans families, this year's New Membership Sweepstakes winners!

## A Message from Academic Advisement



Advisement Appointments for spring and summer continue . . . If your student has not made an advisement appointment this month, remind him/her how important this is! Take a look at each week.

### **1st week of October:**

Mid-term grades for freshmen are starting to come out. Ask your student how he/she is doing. Faculty members submit grades as an early alert for students. Your student will see grades like these:

#### **Mid term grades:**

S-----Satisfactory

U-----Unsatisfactory

UA----Unsatisfactory attendance

UG----Unsatisfactory grade(s)

UP-----Unsatisfactory class participation

UAG---Unsatisfactory attendance and grades

UAP----Unsatisfactory attendance and participation

UGP----Unsatisfactory grades and participation

UAGP--Unsatisfactory attendance, grades and participation

#### **For academic success we encourage:**

- Talking to faculty members!
- No missed classes!
- Writing Center help - 1119 Forest Drive Building. Open Monday-Thursday 10a.m.-7p.m. and Friday 10a.m.-3p.m. (Computer lab opens at 8 a.m.). Walk-ins are welcome. To make an appointment to see a writing consultant go to: <http://class.georgiasouthern.edu/writingc/>.
- Tutoring help -Academic Success Center. Tutoring in many subjects, days & nights. For more information, visit: <http://academics.georgiasouthern.edu/success/Campus%20Tutoring.htm>
- For anxiety and stress management, call the Counseling Center 478-5541 or visit: <http://students.georgiasouthern.edu/counseling/>
- Meet with your academic advisor regularly.

### **2nd Week of October:**

October 12th is your student's last opportunity to withdraw from a class without academic penalty. Remember that students can only withdraw from 5 classes during their academic career without being penalized.

### **3rd and 4th weeks of October:**

The Regent's exam is given at specified times. Students should check their current course schedule in WINGS to see when they are scheduled to take this exam. Students should check out the link below to learn more about the Regent's exam.

Link of the Month: Regent's Exam

<http://academics.georgiasouthern.edu/testing/regents.htm>

If you have not already created your Parent Login account for MyGeorgiaSouthern.edu, you will need to do so in order to view your student's Early Alert Mid-Term reports. Creating the parental login is easy to do. First you will need to visit: <https://my.georgiasouthern.edu/>



## My.Georgia Southern Parent Login Reminder

1. Select "Are you a parent?" under the login task bar and follow the directions to create your parent account. After creating your parent account, a password will be sent to your email address. This password will allow you to login to the system.

2. After your parent account has been created, you should instruct your student to open his/her My.GeorgiaSouthern portal. Your student should select "personal settings" on his/her home screen. By selecting "online parent services" your student will be able to grant you access to several services. Students currently have the option to grant parental access to: Tuition Payments, Mid-Term Grade Reports, Final Grades, and Enrollment Certification for insurance/credit report purposes.



mygeorgiasouthern.edu

In addition to being linked to the student's My.Georgia Southern account, parents are also able to view newsfeeds and obtain up-to-date information about University activities. The University is also able to send important updates and messages to parents who utilize the system. More services will be added to the parent login in the near future. It is strongly encouraged that you sign up today! If you need assistance in creating your parent login, please contact the IT services Help Desk by phone at: (912) 478-5429.



## A Message from Financial Aid

### **Very Important Information Regarding Financial Aid Eligibility**

The Financial Aid Office wishes to remind parents of the Financial Aid Department's Federal Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy (SAP) for students. Students receiving any type of financial aid are expected to maintain standards of satisfactory academic progress in order to remain eligible for federal, state, and institutional financial aid programs. SAP means that a student is advancing toward his/her degree objective in a manner consistent with prescribed policies of the University. Failure to meet the SAP standards of academic progress will result in the loss of financial aid. Our Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy can be found online at <http://students.georgiasouthern.edu/finaid/Policies/sap.htm>

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If problems are encountered with classes, your student should discuss the issue with his/her instructor and advisor. Don't forget to advise your student to make use of the many campus resources available. The Academic Success Center, Student Disability Resource Center, and Counseling Center may provide valuable assistance to your student. Encourage your student to seek tutoring assistance if needed.

You may calculate your student's SAP status by visiting:  
<http://students.georgiasouthern.edu/finaid/Policies/sap.htm>

Would you like to become more involved in Georgia Southern University activities? As a parent, there are many opportunities for you to volunteer and become more involved. Just as you have likely met current parents of Georgia Southern students during recruitment events or summer SOAR sessions, you too can offer assistance to prospective parents and students as they prepare for college. Throughout the year, parents are invited to volunteer at a wide variety of on-campus and off-campus events. Parents are able to volunteer at Open House events, SOAR sessions, Operation Move-in, and even Fall Family Weekend. If you live far away from Statesboro and wish to participate closer to home, then University recruiters may be travelling through your area very soon. The Admissions Office frequently hosts recruitment receptions throughout the state and an event may be coming to your town! Parent volunteers most often offer assistance by greeting prospective parents and offering firsthand accounts of their own experiences as parents of Georgia Southern University students. Most often you will be asked to mingle and answer questions of event guests. If you are interested in becoming more involved and offering your assistance, please visit: <http://students.georgiasouthern.edu/parent/association/volunteer.html>



## Parent Volunteer Opportunities



## WingSPAN

There is also an exciting new tool available to parents wishing to become more involved in University activities. WingSPAN is a new Parent and Alumni network that has been created to provide better methods for collaboration amongst parents and alumni who live far away from Statesboro. If you live close to one of the areas the Admissions Office visits to recruit prospective students (see above article), you will likely want to become more involved by volunteering at Georgia Southern recruitment events.

However, if you do not live near one of these areas, WingSPAN provides the opportunity to represent Georgia Southern at a wide variety of college fairs, or PROBE fairs, in which you will be the primary representative of our institution. WingSPAN will prove especially helpful for those out-of-state Alumni and Parents who wish to promote Georgia Southern University. To learn more about WingSPAN, go to <http://admissions.georgiasouthern.edu/alumni.htm>

### The Question of the Month



**As a parent, I wish I was more aware of services provided from the following department:**

- Eagle Card Center
- Eagle Dining Services
- Eagle Print Shop
- Health Services
- Parking and Transportation
- Stores and Shops
- University Housing

<http://students.georgiasouthern.edu/parent/>



## Have Questions for us?

### Office of Orientation & Parent Programs

Post Office Box 8096  
Statesboro, GA 30460

912.478.7627 (phone)  
912.478.1214 (fax)