

university honors program

annual report
2008-2009



GEORGIA SOUTHERN
UNIVERSITY

2008 & 2009 in review



“I am indebted to the Honors Program for their support through this application process.”

Jessica Sparrow,
Udall Scholarship
Honorable Mention
Biology, 2010

Georgia Southern University begins initiative to establish an Honors College.

Ten years after its initial inception with 23 students, the University Honors Program hosts the largest community of scholars on the Georgia Southern campus with 343 students.

The University Honors Program receives a record 713 applications for admission – up 90% since 2005.

Seven students awarded nationally competitive scholarships and fellowships.

Thirty honors students, under the guidance of faculty mentors, present their research at the second annual Honors Research Symposium.

Honors@Georgia Southern, the new University Honors Program magazine, launches 2 issues.

More than 130 University Honors Program and Bell Honors Program alumni, parents, friends and donors attend the inaugural Honors Homecoming Celebration.

Honors students register over 1200 voters for the 2008 General Election to decide the next President of the United States.

Six honors students attend the Honors Alternative Break in Northern Ireland and work with noted muralists The Bogside Artists on a project designed to advance the peace and reconciliation process with local Protestant and Catholic children.



Jessica Sparrow

Jessica Sparrow is awarded the Morris K. Udall Scholarship, Honorable Mention, for undergraduate study.

Jeff Palis is selected for the U.S. Student Fulbright Grant for research at the University of Riga in Latvia.

Dr. Debra Sabia's Honors Introduction to American Government class hosts election forums for the 2008 Presidential Election.

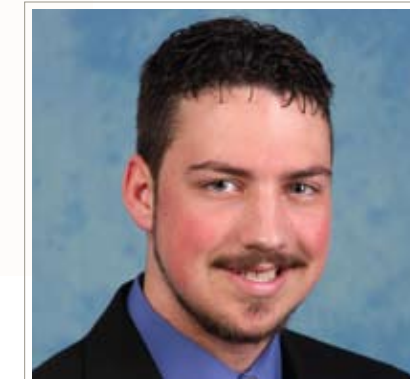
Bob Frigo, Assistant Director, University Honors Program, named Georgia Southern University Outstanding First-Year Advocate.

Georgia Southern University signs an agreement with Georgia Perimeter College to facilitate the transfer of honors students to Georgia Southern University.

Alonza Turner is selected for the Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship for study at Nagoya University of Foreign Studies in Japan.

Allison Beasley is selected by Oxfam America as a CHANGE Leader, one of fifty chosen worldwide.

Ryan Pickrell is awarded the National Security Education Program David L. Boren Scholarship for study at Huazhong Normal University in China.



Ryan Pickrell

Christopher Riley is awarded an Honors Research Grant to present his undergraduate research at the American Chemical Society National Meeting and Exposition in Salt Lake City.

Rashidat Bakar receives the Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship for study at Nagoya University of Foreign Studies in Japan.

Kenneth Tabor is selected for the Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship for study at Huazhong Normal University in China.

Ashley Akins, Melissa Bailey, Chris Kelleher, Charles Minshew and Julia Shull are awarded internships with members of the United States Congress in Washington, D.C.

Julia Shull, Katelyn Taylor and Tyler Thompson represent Georgia Southern University as part of the award-winning National Model United Nations Conference Delegation in New York City.

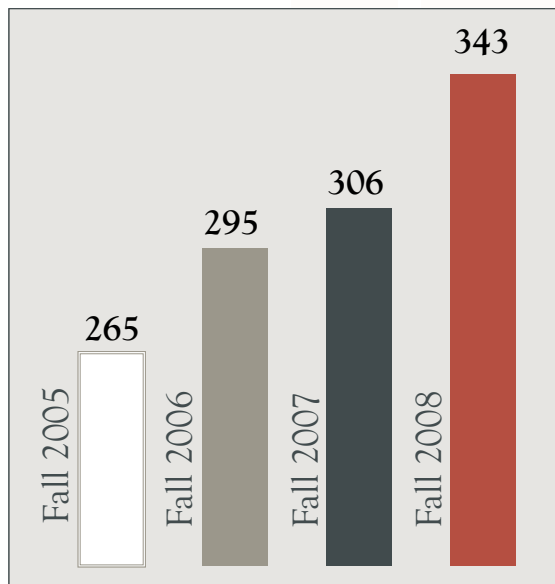
Rose Sheahan is awarded the Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship for study at Nagoya University of Foreign Studies in Japan.



Rose Sheahan

2008-2009 by the numbers

Number of Honors Students



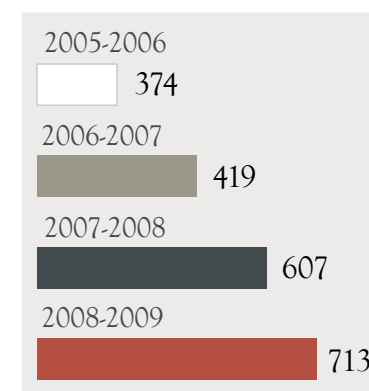
Honors 2008-2009 Data

343	Honors students (44% men, 56% women) (84% Caucasian, 16% non-white)
302	Georgia residents (88%)
11	States represented
14	International students (4%)
10	Countries represented
90%	Freshman retention rate
79	Honors courses offered
100	Faculty teaching honors or mentoring honors students
4850	Hours of service and leadership
7	Nationally competitive scholarships and fellowships

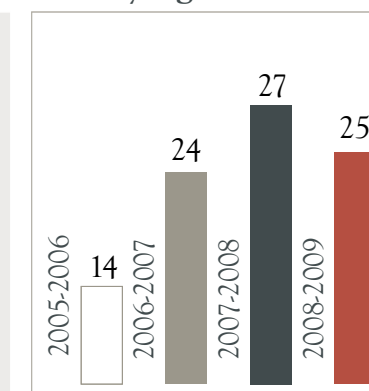
Honors Students By Academic College

Liberal Arts and Social Sciences (CLASS)	112
Science and Technology (COST)	111
Health and Human Sciences (CHHS)	40
Business Administration (COBA)	34
Education (COE)	10
Information Technology (CIT)	4
Undeclared	12
International Studies	20

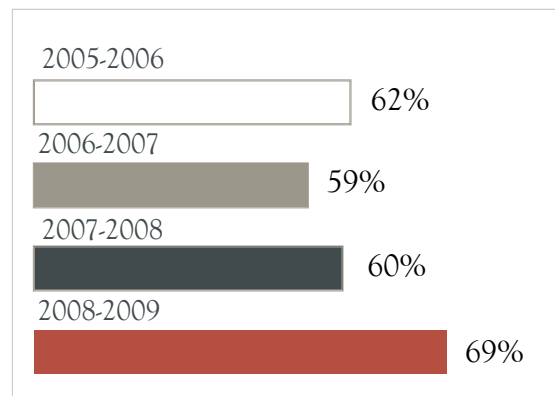
Program Applicants



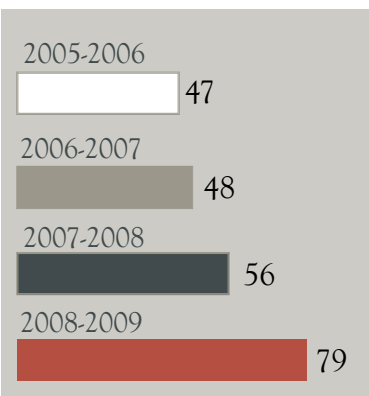
Honors Students Studying Abroad



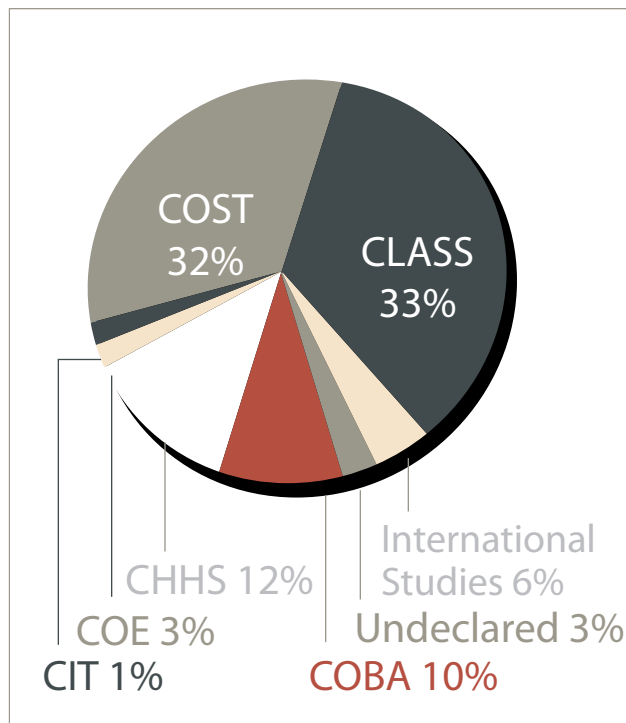
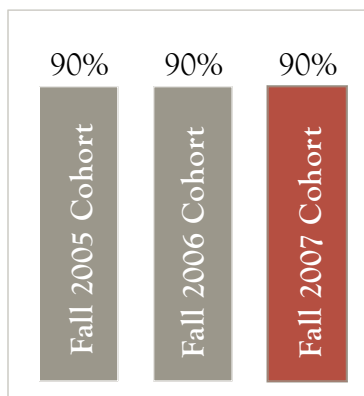
Honors Students On Dean's List



Honors Courses Offered



Honors Freshman Retention Rates



2009 Incoming Freshman Class

144	New freshmen
132	Georgia residents (92%)
8	States represented
4	International students (3%)
4	Countries represented
1277	Average SAT
3.7	Average GPA (unweighted)

Honors graduates

Sample Placements of 2008-2009 Honors Program Graduates in Careers, Graduate and Professional Schools:

Auburn University	Norfolk Southern Railroad
University of Guam	Peace Corps
Johns Hopkins University	Pennsylvania State University
University of Miami	San Diego State University
Memorial University Medical Center	Teach for America
Morehouse University	University of Texas at Austin
	United States Air Force

Honors Research Symposium

30 graduating seniors presented their Honors Thesis or Capstone projects at the second annual Honors Research Symposium

Presentations included:

“Private Military Firms: The Rise of the Corporate-Owned Battlefield”

“Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders and the Impact of Parental Perceptions of Stress”

“Expression of Aquaporin Water Channel Isoforms in the Dogfish Shark”



Financial support

2008-2009 Fiscal Year

Financial Aid Support to Honors Students from the University Honors Program

Award	Number	Amount Awarded
1906 Scholarships	55	\$160,591
UHP Scholarships	130	\$126,499
Out of State Fee Waivers	26	\$228,349
Total	211	\$515,439

Note: Financial Aid awards not associated with the University Honors Program are not included

“I found the opportunity to conduct my own research under the mentorship of the faculty to be amazingly beneficial for developing my own skills and knowledge.”

Christopher Riley
Chemistry, 2009



Endowments

The University Honors Program administers 77 named endowments to support honors students in all academic colleges.

Recent endowments include:

Wilburn Wright Woodcock Memorial Scholarship
Bonnie Page Woodcock Music Scholarship
Mert H. Starnes and Bruce W. Grube University Honors Program Scholarship
Theta Xi University Honors Program Scholarship

University Honors Program Endowment as of Fiscal Year 2008: **\$4,790,553.53**

To make a gift to the University Honors Program, contact Dr. Steven Engel at 912.478.7926

