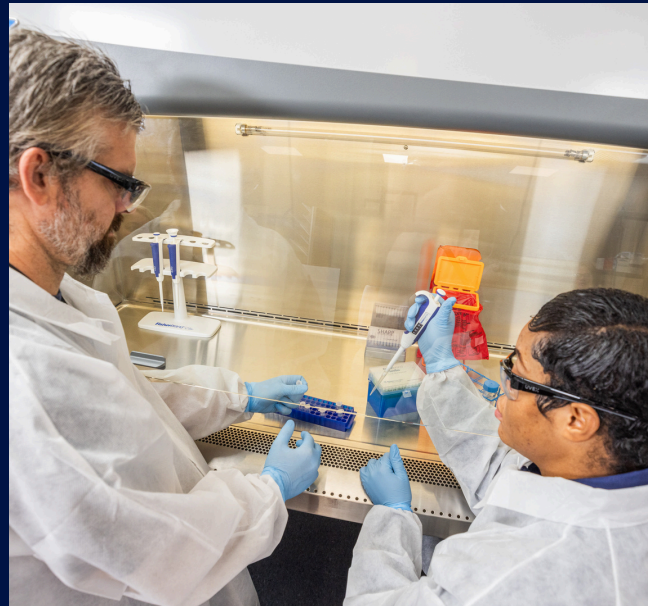




Dean of Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health

LEADERSHIP PROFILE





About **GEORGIA SOUTHERN**

Georgia Southern University (Georgia Southern), part of the University System of Georgia, is a public comprehensive university with its main campus in Statesboro, about 200 miles southeast of Atlanta and 55 miles northwest of Savannah. What began as the First District Agricultural & Mechanical School, a land grant college that opened in 1908 with four faculty members and fifteen students, has since become a R2 University (Doctoral University with high research activity) enrolling over 26,000 undergraduate students and 4,000 graduate students and boasting a global network of over 160,000 alumni.

Georgia Southern has continuously built on its historic strengths as it evolved into the institution it is today, serving its local communities, the state, the region, the nation, and the world. With the leadership of President Kyle Marrero and Provost Avinandan Mukherjee, Georgia Southern continues to develop and broaden its capabilities.

Georgia Southern is the state's largest and most comprehensive university south of Atlanta. Georgia Southern's annual economic impact in FY2024 was a record \$1.167 billion, nearly 2% higher than the previous year. The first-year ("IPEDS Freshmen") retention rate for the fall 2024 cohort was 81.5%, and recent 6-year graduation rates have been 53–55%.

In addition to its R2 classification, Georgia Southern is also classified as "military friendly," serving over 4,000 military affiliated students, and has also achieved the Carnegie Community Engagement classification. Georgia Southern is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges. The next Fifth-Year Review is scheduled for 2031, and the next Reaffirmation is scheduled for 2035.

Accreditation

Georgia Southern University is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC).

GeorgiaSouthern.edu

By the Numbers

31,599

Students across a four-campus network, following the January 1, 2026 East Georgia consolidation

29,633

students, fall 2025 census, a record, up 7.7% year over year (25,595 undergraduate, 4,038 graduate)

6,060

first-time freshmen

12

colleges

150+

degree programs

940

full-time faculty

81.5%

first-year retention rate

54%

six-year graduation rate

104

student nations of origin

4 Campuses

Statesboro

Armstrong
(Savannah)

Liberty
(Hinesville)

East Georgia
(Swainsboro)

Carnegie R2:
High Research
Spending and
Doctorate
Production

2026 Carnegie
Community
Engagement
Classification,
valid through
2032

Military
Friendly
School, 12
consecutive
years

First-Gen
Forward
institution

R1 in Sight

Georgia Southern is committed to growing our research enterprise. Federal research expenditures grew from \$4 million in FY 24 to \$6.5 million in FY 25--an impressive 59% increase. With almost \$58 million in projected research expenditures and five new Ph.D. programs fueling doctoral production, the R1 threshold is within reach.

\$46M+

FY24 NSF HERD

Total R&D
Expenditures

\$49M+

FY25 NSF HERD

Total R&D
Expenditures

Approaching
\$58M

FY26 NSF HERD

Total R&D
Expenditures

84

research doctoral
degrees awarded
R1 threshold: 70

5

new Ph.D.
programs

(engineering, applied
computing, biomedical
sciences, materials
science, environmental
science)

12

faculty on the
Stanford and
Elsevier top 2%
of scientists
worldwide,
2025

6

Interdisciplinary
Clusters of
University
Excellence

\$151M+

raised toward
the Together
We Soar
campaign goal
of \$300 million
by 2030

Carnegie R2:
High Research
Spending and
Doctorate
Production

Member,
Georgia
Research
Alliance,
May 2026

Six Bold Questions. One University.

Through our Interdisciplinary Clusters of University Excellence, we are mobilizing the full power of our university to ask bold questions, tackle complex issues, fuel breakthrough research and forge impactful partnerships.



Biomedical & Health Innovation

"How are we building the future of health?"



AI, Automation & Humanistic Application

"How is Georgia Southern shaping a future where innovation serves humanity?"



Vibrant Rural Communities

"How is Georgia Southern redefining what's possible for rural America?"



Cybersecurity & Forensic Science

"How are we powering the next generation of digital defenders?"



Coastal Sustainability & Resilience

"How is Georgia Southern leading the charge to protect our coast?"



Advanced Materials, Mobility & Movement

"How is Georgia Southern propelling innovation forward?"



Strategic Plan

Soaring Beyond 2030

MISSION

Georgia Southern University impacts the future by fostering a transformative learner-centered culture. We empower students, faculty, staff, and alumni to lead, serve, and engage, enhancing the quality of life through educational excellence, impactful research, cultural enrichment, and meaningful contributions to communities locally and globally.

VISION

People. Purpose. Action: Growing ourselves to grow others.

VALUES

Innovation and Discovery: We advance knowledge and foster transformative research through creativity, collaboration, and strategic investment, elevating the institution's meaningful contributions to scholarly excellence.

Mobility: We foster economic and social mobility by equipping our people with the skills, knowledge, and opportunities needed for career readiness, workforce alignment, and meaningful contributions to an ever-changing world.

People: We value the unique contributions of all members of our community, fostering growth, collaboration, and success through a commitment to their holistic development and achievement.

Academic Excellence: We are committed to fostering academic excellence by empowering our people through innovative teaching, impactful research, and professional development to drive discovery and meaningful contributions to society.

Collaboration: We foster collaboration through shared governance, teamwork, and partnerships that promote innovation, collective problem-solving, and meaningful engagement across our community.

Transparency and Integrity: We consistently uphold our integrity through accountability, openness, and transparent decision-making, fostering trust to empower our people to make informed decisions.

Sustainability: We value responsible resource management and thoughtful practices that promote resilience, well-being, and long-term success for our institution and communities.



Strategic Plan

Soaring Beyond 2030

Academic Affairs Priorities

Provost Mukherjee and his team have developed 10 priorities that reflect bold vision and intentional action. These priorities align Georgia Southern's strengths across its campuses and disciplines to drive innovation, champion student success, and fuel regional and global impact.

- Strategic planning alignment
- Transformative student success
- End-to-end student experience
- In-demand knowledge
- On-demand delivery
- Applied high-impact research
- Experiential education and innovation
- Globalization and engagement
- Faculty/staff talent management
- Academic analytics and technology

Cross-disciplinary approaches are needed to address pressing challenges facing the world and achieve transformative results. The newly designed Interdisciplinary Clusters of University Excellence (ICUE), mobilize the University's full power by bringing together researchers, scholars, and artists to ask bold questions, tackle complex issues, fuel breakthrough research, secure major grant funding, and forge impactful industry and community partnerships. College deans are expected to lead and facilitate collaboration in these clusters.

- AI, automation, and humanistic application
- Biomedical and health innovation
- Vibrant rural communities
- Cybersecurity and forensic science
- Coastal sustainability and resilience
- Advanced material, mobility, and movement



**Academic Affairs
2026 Annual Report**



**Provost
Priorities**



**Clusters of
Excellence**



Strategic Plan

The Georgia Southern University Faculty

The University's 940 full-time faculty members are organized in 11 colleges plus the library (23 professional librarians are classified as full-time faculty members); 69% are either tenured or on tenure track, and 82% have a doctorate or other terminal degree. An additional 213 faculty members are part-time. Faculty members are committed to fostering an environment that challenges and inspires. With a blend of rigorous academics, impactful research, and transformative experiences, Georgia Southern's programs prepare students to make a difference in their fields and communities. Faculty members are not only educators but also mentors, guiding students to expand their knowledge, skills, and confidence as they navigate their unique paths.

Each year, Georgia Southern honors its faculty and staff with the University Award of Excellence in multiple categories to individual faculty and staff members and to teams. In addition, the University System of Georgia recognizes outstanding faculty members with the Felton Jenkins, Jr., Hall of Fame Faculty Award and Regents' Awards for teaching in several categories as well as in the scholarship of teaching and learning.



Locations

Four campuses. One university.



Statesboro

Statesboro is the original home of Georgia Southern University and houses its largest campus. Sitting on Georgia's Coastal Plain, also known as the Low Country, Statesboro is home to about 35,000 residents, while its greater metropolitan area population is about 82,000. Statesboro's vibe is a blend of Southern charm and elegance and the creative vigor of a college town with a wide range of cultural offerings, and recreational opportunities. Over 21,000 students pursue their interests across over 150 academic programs in Statesboro. The Statesboro campus hosts the Betty Foy Sanders Georgia Artists Collection as well as a Botanic Garden and Wildlife Education Center.



Armstrong Campus in Savannah

Georgia Southern's Armstrong campus is located in Savannah, a beautiful coastal city dating to 1733, making it the oldest city in Georgia. Savannah's population is about 150,000 with about 440,000 residents in its metropolitan area. Its location on the Savannah River makes the city a natural seaport of strategic significance during the Revolutionary and Civil Wars and of considerable economic significance in modern times. Armstrong Junior College began serving local youth in Savannah in 1935 and achieved university status in 1996. In 2018, Georgia Southern and Armstrong State University were consolidated under the Georgia Southern name. The Armstrong campus is a 268-acre arboretum south of Savannah's beautiful historic downtown. About 4,800 students pursue one of 50 degree programs in Savannah, and the Armstrong campus includes a state-of-the-art Health Professions Academic Building.

Four campuses. One university.



Liberty Campus in Hinesville

In 1998, Georgia Southern, Armstrong, and other institutions in the University System of Georgia collaborated to establish the Liberty Center in Hinesville. Now known as the Liberty campus, it is Georgia Southern's smallest campus with about five hundred students who can pursue an associate degree and then continue to pursue a bachelor's degree in Statesboro, Savannah, or online. Hinesville has about 35,000 residents, and it lies about fifty miles south of Statesboro and about forty miles southwest of Savannah. The Liberty campus is five minutes from Fort Stewart, home of the 3rd Infantry Division. Fort Stewart's 268,000 acres make it the largest Army installation in the eastern US. All fees are waived for active-duty military personnel enrolling at the Liberty campus.



East Georgia Campus in Swainsboro

In 2026, the University System of Georgia consolidated East Georgia State College in nearby Swainsboro with Georgia Southern. The East Georgia campus is now part of Georgia Southern's University College, which is designed to provide flexible educational pathways and a strong support system for students who are new to college or are returning. Swainsboro is a small city of about 7,500 residents less than 40 miles west of Statesboro. Student Life on the East Georgia campus centers on a community-focused living environment that promotes holistic learning and personal growth.

Additional learning locations

Georgia Southern operates a learning center in Wexford, Ireland, on the southeast coast about 90 miles south of Dublin. Currently, Georgia Southern students can enroll at the Wexford center for a summer term (a half-load "minimester") and, upon return to Georgia, take another half-load minimester to complete a full semester of course credit. Courses are taught by Georgia Southern faculty members. Plans are underway to open additional programming at Wexford in Spring 2027, including the development of student housing in a renovated convent.

In addition to its physical campuses, Georgia Southern offers a wide variety of flexible online and hybrid options. Over 2,500 graduate students and 1,800 undergraduate students are enrolled in online programs.

Kyle Marrero, D.M.A., President



“As we continue our trajectory toward becoming a nationally recognized public impact research university, we are committed to advancing innovation, developing talent and addressing the critical needs of Southeast Georgia through research that strengthens communities, drives economic development and improves quality of life across the region.”

–President Kyle Marrero, on Georgia Southern joining the Georgia Research Alliance, May 2026

Dr. Kyle Marrero began his tenure as Georgia Southern University’s president on April 1, 2019. As president, he leads the Eagle Nation, a Carnegie R2 institution, with over 30,000 students and 3,000 faculty and staff on four campuses – Statesboro, Savannah, Swainsboro, and Hinesville, Georgia – with learning centers in Wexford, Ireland and Ft. Stewart/Hunter Army Education Center. Under his direction, Georgia Southern has established a culture of high performance and evidence-based leadership focused on data-informed decision-making and communication transparency. The Institutional Strategic Plan, measured and assessed with key performance indicators (balanced scorecards) and a 90-day action assessment methodology is aligned and directed by our vision of People. Purpose. Action. Growing Ourselves to Grow Others. In this framework, we hold ourselves accountable to high standards of continuous improvement to ensure market alignment, public impact, and operational efficiencies and effectiveness. This commitment has led to remarkable successes in recent years with the university seeing record-breaking numbers in private fundraising, faculty research expenditures/awards, retention and graduation rates, degrees conferred, and annual economic impact to the region. Dr. Marrero holds a Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the University of Michigan and a bachelor’s and master’s in vocal performance from Bowling Green State University. His background in the arts has taken him to ten countries as an artistic ambassador for the United States Embassies and forty states as a singer, stage director, and artistic director.

Avinandan “Avi” Mukherjee, Ph.D., Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs



“Every great university is defined not by the answers it gives but by the questions it has the courage to ask.”

–Provost Avi Mukherjee, 2026 Academic Report

Dr. Avinandan (Avi) Mukherjee joined Georgia Southern University as the Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs on July 1, 2025. As Chief Academic Officer, he oversees all of the University’s academic affairs, including 1 colleges, five libraries, research, student affairs, online learning, global education, and career education across three campuses, with a strong passion for academic excellence and student success. Dr. Mukherjee has over 17 years of progressive experience in institutional leadership roles in American public higher education, including provost and chief academic officer of two large comprehensive research universities; dean of two AACSB-accredited colleges of business; and department chair of marketing for an AACSB-accredited school of business. Prior to joining Georgia Southern, Avi served as the Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs at Marshall University from 2021 to 2025, where he oversaw all academic affairs for thirteen colleges, schools and libraries (including Schools of Medicine and Pharmacy), in addition to enrollment

management, student affairs, research, institutional research, online learning, career education, certifications and micro credentials, etc. Prior to this role, he was Dean of the Lewis College of Business at Marshall (2017-2021) where he spearheaded a collaboration with external and internal stakeholders to garner more than \$45 million in philanthropic support to strategically transform the college.

He has served as a tenured Professor of Marketing and International Business, with significant research publications and citations, and teaching at the undergraduate, MBA, executive MBA, and doctoral levels, in the U.S. and top international universities around the world. Dr. Mukherjee also serves as the editor for the *International Journal of Pharmaceutical and Healthcare Marketing* (IJPHM).

History of Excellence

The study of public health at Georgia Southern University began in 1998 in the Department of Health and Kinesiology within the College of Health and Professional Studies with the development of the Master of Public Health (MPH) degree with an emphasis in Community Health Education and the Master of Health Services Administration (MHSA) degree. The MPH expanded to include an emphasis in Biostatistics in 2000.

On January 14, 2004, the Board of Regents established the first School of Public Health in the University System of Georgia and named it the Jiann-Ping Hsu School of Public Health. The school was housed within the College of Health and Human Sciences. A generous gift in memory and honor of his wife, Dr. Jiann-Ping Hsu, from Dr. Karl E. Peace, made the school's establishment possible.

Formation of a School of Public Health (SPH) by the Board of Regents was a response to the compelling need to address the public health concerns in the State of Georgia, particularly among rural and underserved populations. In addition to creating the School of Public Health, the Board of Regents also approved the establishment of the Karl E. Peace Center for Biostatistics. The Center for Biostatistics functions as a focal point for biostatistical consulting, education, and grantsmanship for the College and University.

To position the Jiann-Ping Hsu School of Public Health for accreditation by the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH), the school transitioned to the Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health effective January 1, 2006. Along with this transition, the Center for Public Health Practice and Research (CPHPR), formerly the Center for Rural Health and Research, was moved from the College of Health and Human Sciences to the new College. The Center functions as a focal point for improving the health status and quality of life of individuals in rural Georgia by creating successful partnerships with community organizations, faculty, and students. The Center for Addiction Recovery was established in Fall 2008 through a generous gift from the Willingway Foundation. The Center is dedicated to research, educational programs and services focusing on addiction and the process of long-term recovery.

Currently, the college offers undergraduate, master's, and doctoral degrees as well as an online Certificate in Public Health. The Bachelor of Science in Public Health (BSPH) has emphasis areas in Global Health (online), Health Education and Promotion, Environmental Health Sciences, and Epidemiology. The Master of Public Health (MPH) degree has concentration areas in Applied Public Health (online), Biostatistics, Community Health, Environmental Health Sciences, Epidemiology, Health Informatics (online), and Health Policy and Management. The Doctor of Public Health (DrPH) degree has concentrations in Biostatistics, Community Health Behavior and Education, Epidemiology, Health Policy & Management, and Public Health Leadership (online).

Our focus is to continually invest the necessary resources and quality improvement strategies to build and maintain the quality of our outstanding CEPH-accredited College that is recognized nationally for teaching, research, and service.

About Dr. Jiann-Ping Hsu

The Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health is named in honor of Dr. Jiann-Ping Hsu, a scholar-scientist whose distinguished service in her life's work and devotion to quality and caring in all her endeavors represent the touchstones of learning and leadership in the health professions. Born in Mainland China in 1947 and educated in Taiwan, Dr. Jiann-Ping Hsu became a scholar of mathematical sciences. She earned the B.S. in Mathematics from the National Taiwan University, the M.A. in Mathematical Statistics from Columbia University in New York, and the Ph.D. in Biostatistics from the University of California at Berkeley, where she was the top graduate in her class.

Dr. Hsu focused her expertise on public health, studying the efficacy and safety of pharmaceutical products in the treatment of patients. She served with the Food and Drug Administration, reviewing new drug applications, conducting research in the surveillance of post-marketing use of drugs, and drafting guidelines for clinical development of drugs for the treatment of inflammatory diseases. She then worked for several years in the basic research and clinical development areas in the pharmaceutical industry, having held positions of leadership with SmithKline and French Labs, Parke-Davis/ Warner-Lambert, and Schering Labs. She then joined Biopharmaceutical Research Consultants, Inc. (BRCI), a pharmaceutical research consulting organization founded by Dr. Karl E. Peace, as Vice President of Operations in 1993, and became President, in 1996. She also served on review panels for clinical trial grant applications for the National Institute on Drug Abuse and was instrumental in developing their Clinical Trials Network (CTN).

Dr. Hsu was a member of, and made major contributions to the growth of, the Committee of Women in Statistics in the American Statistical Association and served other professional organizations, including the Drug Information Association, the International Chinese Statistical Association (ICSA), and the Pharmaceutical Manufacturer's Association. In 1999 and 2003, she was honored with the Meritorious Service Award of the Biopharmaceutical Applied Statistics Symposium for distinguished service and outstanding contributions. During her career, Dr. Hsu mentored and trained more than sixty biostatisticians employed in the pharmaceutical industry, government or academia. In 2004, she was posthumously awarded the President's Medal for pivotal contributions to the success of the ICSA.

The Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health is endowed by Dr. Karl E. Peace as a tribute to his wife and an enduring celebration of her life characterized by "a zeal for excellence, consideration of others, intelligence and scholarship, honesty, kindness, and humility." Dr. Peace is an alumnus of Georgia Southern College, a Georgia Cancer Coalition Distinguished Cancer Scholar, the architect of the MPH in Biostatistics, and the founder of the Karl E. Peace Center for Biostatistics at Georgia Southern University.



Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health

Accreditation

Georgia Southern University's Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health (JPHCOPH) is fully accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH). CEPH is an independent agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education. CEPH reviews schools of public health for accreditation every seven years. Schools are evaluated against criteria that establish expectations for the school's mission, goals, evaluation and planning, as well as its organizational setting, governance, resources, educational programs, research, service, faculty and students.

GeorgiaSouthern.edu/public-health

The Opportunity

Georgia Southern University invites nominations and applications for the position of Dean of the Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health (JPHCOPH). The University seeks a distinguished, strategic, and collaborative executive leader to shape the college's future, advance academic and research excellence, expand its public health impact, and strengthen its regional and national profile.

JPHCOPH plays a vital role in preparing the next generation of public health professionals and advancing solutions that improve health outcomes and reduce disparities across rural communities and underserved populations. Through its accredited undergraduate, master's, and doctoral programs, the College is positioned for continued growth in teaching, workforce development, research, service, and community engagement.

The Position

Reporting to the Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs, the Dean will serve as chief executive and principal ambassador for the Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health, providing strategic leadership, institutional vision, and responsible stewardship of the College's approximately \$6.7 million operating budget. The Dean will advance a compelling vision that builds on the College's strengths, drives innovation and growth, and expands its impact. Working collaboratively with faculty, staff, students, alumni, University leadership, and external partners, the Dean will strengthen interdisciplinary engagement, research productivity, academic excellence, entrepreneurial initiatives, and public health service across Georgia and beyond. As the College's leading advocate, the Dean will champion its mission to improve health outcomes and address health disparities among underserved populations regionally, statewide, nationally, and globally.

The Dean will serve as a visible and effective bridge between the University and the communities it serves, cultivating strategic partnerships that enhance the College's reach, relevance, and influence. This includes advancing collaborations across the University and with public, private, nonprofit, and governmental partners throughout Georgia and beyond. Through purposeful engagement and sustained advocacy, the Dean will elevate the visibility, reputation, and impact of both the JPHCOPH and the University.

At a time of significant change and opportunity in public health and public health education, Georgia Southern University seeks a dean with the vision, credibility, and collaborative leadership to guide the Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health toward its next level of distinction. The next Dean will be positioned to accelerate the College's trajectory as a recognized leader in public health education, research, service, and community impact.

This is a 12-month appointment with tenured faculty rank at the professor level. Salary will be competitive and commensurate with qualifications, experience, and leadership responsibility.

Professional Qualifications

Georgia Southern University seeks an accomplished and visionary leader to serve as dean. The successful candidate will bring a record of academic excellence, strategic leadership, strong interpersonal and communication skills, entrepreneurial initiative, and a deep commitment to the mission of the College and University. The Dean will work effectively with senior leadership, faculty, students, staff, alumni, donors, and external partners to advance the College's goals and strengthen its impact.

The successful candidate will demonstrate the following qualifications:

- An earned doctorate in public health or a closely related field from an accredited institution.
- A distinguished record of scholarly achievement appropriate for appointment as a tenured, full professor in one of the College's departments.
- Significant administrative and leadership experience in higher education, preferably at the department chair level or above.
- Demonstrated experience leading and managing human, financial, and operational resources in a complex academic environment.
- A commitment to shared governance and the ability to collaborate with faculty in planning, decision-making, and advancing academic priorities.
- The ability to contribute effectively as a member of the University's senior leadership team.
- Strategic thinking skills and the ability to bring a variety of stakeholders together around a clear, unified vision.
- Excellent communication and relationship-building skills with faculty, staff, students, community members, and other key constituencies.
- A proven record of recruiting, supporting, and retaining talented faculty.
- A strong commitment to academic excellence, creative leadership, effective management, and translating ideas into action.
- The ability to inspire excellence in teaching, research, scholarship, creative activity, and service.
- Integrity, sound judgment, and the highest ethical standards.
- Demonstrated engagement with student success initiatives.
- A commitment to best practices in instruction, pedagogy, mentoring, curriculum design, and curriculum development.

Preferred Professional Attributes

- Strong communicator and active listener
- Demonstrated commitment to student engagement and success
- Collaborative, collegial leader with a holistic perspective
- Experience or strong understanding of health care administration and community public health, especially in rural areas; familiarity with federal agencies such as CDC and HHS
- Proven ability to enhance JPHCOPH's visibility and reputation
- Experience or strong interest in working with faculty and community environments across multiple campuses, including growth opportunities at the Armstrong campus in Savannah
- Experience within an R1 institution preferred, supporting Georgia Southern University's goal of achieving and sustaining R1 status
- Proven track record of supporting faculty research and advancing externally funded scholarship
- Politically astute while maintaining a nonpartisan, professional approach
- Strong understanding of JPHCOPH's practice-based mission
- Proven advocate for people, programs, and institutional priorities
- Demonstrated success in fundraising, philanthropic engagement, and donor cultivation
- Ability to balance Georgia Southern University's mission and values with JPHCOPH's needs
- Strategic thinker who evaluates ideas for alignment with JPHCOPH priorities
- Visionary, innovative leader who listens broadly and translates ideas into transformative action



Strategic Priorities

Over the coming years, the Dean of the Giann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health will provide strong leadership and continuing mentorship for the following Strategic Priorities:

Building and strengthening enrollment at both undergraduate and graduate levels

The Dean will lead intentional enrollment growth across undergraduate and graduate programs by strengthening recruitment, retention, student success, and market-responsive program development. This work will be especially important as the College advances its role within Georgia Southern's growing research enterprise.

Championing a bold plan for research

The Dean will advocate and provide support for a bold, focused research agenda that expands externally funded scholarship, supports faculty productivity, and creates meaningful research opportunities for students. Strategic faculty recruitment and investment in areas of distinction will be essential as the College contributes to the University's continued research growth consistent with its proposed R1 status.

Articulating a transformative vision and guiding development of the Strategic Plan

GeorgiaSouthern.edu/leadership/strategic-plan

The next Dean will guide an inclusive strategic planning process that articulates a compelling vision for the College's future. Working collaboratively with faculty, staff, students, alumni, and external partners, the Dean will align College priorities with University goals and position the College for sustained impact and distinction.

Building key external, interprofessional, interdisciplinary, and rural partnerships

The Dean will energetically expand partnerships that advance public health education, research, practice, and service. Particular emphasis should be placed on interdisciplinary collaboration, rural and underserved communities, health systems, governmental agencies, donors, alumni, and community organizations.

Enhance global engagement along with international student enrollment and success

Build on JPHCOPH's strong record of attracting highly qualified international graduate students by collaborating with faculty, department chairs, and Georgia Southern's Office of Global Engagement to strengthen engagement, recruitment, retention, and graduation outcomes.

Strengthening accreditation

The Dean will sustain and strengthen the College's commitment to quality, accountability, and continuous improvement. This includes maintaining strong institutional and programmatic accreditation, including CEPH accreditation, and ensuring that assessment and compliance efforts support educational excellence.

Strategic Priorities

Over the coming years, the dean of the Giann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health will provide strong leadership and continuing mentorship for the following Strategic Priorities:

Expanding philanthropic giving

The Dean will be an active and visible fundraiser, cultivating philanthropic support for students, faculty, programs, research, and community engagement. Building new relationships while stewarding existing donors, alumni, and friends of the College will be central to advancing its mission.

Ensuring robust fiscal health for the Giann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health

The Dean will ensure the College's long-term fiscal health through transparent, mission-driven, and data-informed decision-making. Effective budget stewardship, resource allocation, revenue growth, and strategic investment will be critical to supporting academic quality and organizational resilience.

Continuing to build a college of distinction

The Dean will build upon the College's existing strengths by recruiting, retaining, and supporting outstanding faculty and staff; fostering collaboration across departments and campuses; and promoting a culture of excellence, transparency, and shared purpose. Regular engagement with the Statesboro and Armstrong campuses, as well as online programs, will be essential.

Continuing to meet the needs of its students—undergraduate and graduate

The Dean will keep student success at the center of the College's mission by supporting innovative curricula, high-quality advising, experiential learning, career readiness, and strong pathways for undergraduate and graduate students. Graduates should be prepared to meet emerging public health needs and contribute meaningfully to the profession.

University System of Georgia (USG) Core Values Statement

The University System of Georgia comprises twenty-five institutions of higher education and learning, as well the System Office. Our USG Statement of Core Values are Integrity, Excellence, Accountability, and Respect. These values serve as the foundation for all that we do as an organization, and each USG community member is responsible for demonstrating and upholding these standards. More details on the USG Statement of Core Values and Code of Conduct are available in USG Board Policy 08.02.18.01.02. Additionally, USG supports Freedom of Expression as stated in Board Policy 06.05 Freedom of Expression and Academic Freedom.

Nominations and Applications

Representing AGB Search, Senior Executive Search Consultants Sally Mason and Garry W. Owens will be assisting Georgia Southern University. Should prospective nominators or potential candidates have questions or wish to seek additional information, they are encouraged to email Lynn DellaPietra (lynn.dellapietra@agbsearch.com), Executive Search Associate for this search, to arrange time for a confidential conversation with either Dr. Mason or Dr. Owens prior to submitting materials.

Applicants are requested to submit the following materials:

1. A letter of interest, which addresses specifically how the candidate's experiences and qualifications intersect with the Georgia Southern University Dean, Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health's listed professional qualifications, attributes, and Strategic Priorities as outlined in the Leadership Profile;
2. A current curriculum vitae;
3. A list of five professional references with email addresses, telephone numbers and a brief explanation of your professional relationship. (References will not be contacted without prior authorization from the applicant.)

For full consideration, application materials should be submitted through the AGB Search portal system (<https://bit.ly/3TIAI9m>) by September 14, 2026. Please direct any questions regarding the application process to GSUDeanJPHCOPH@agbsearch.com. Nominations and expressions of interest are encouraged and should be directed to the same address.

Click Here to Apply.

More information about the institution is available through GeorgiaSouthern.edu

The names of applicants and nominees, vitae, and other non-evaluative information may be subject to public inspection under the Georgia Open Records Act. Georgia Southern University provides equal opportunities to all employees and applicants for employment without regard to race, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, national origin, religion, age, veteran status, political affiliation, or disability. Individuals in need of reasonable accommodations under the America with Disabilities Act to participate in the search process should notify Human Resources: (912) 478-6947. The University System of Georgia comprises twenty-five institutions of higher education and learning as well as the System Office. Our USG Statement of Core Values are Integrity, Excellence, Accountability, and Respect. These values serve as the foundation for all that we do as an organization, and each USG community member is responsible for demonstrating and upholding these standards. More details on the USG Statement of Core Values and Code of Conduct are available in USG Board Policy 8.2.18.1.2 and can be found on-line at usg.edu/policymanual.



usg.edu/policymanual

Equal Opportunity Statement

Georgia Southern University does not discriminate on the basis of age, color, disability, genetic information, national origin, race, religion, sex, or veteran status.

MEMBERS OF THE JIANN-PING HSU COLLEGE OF PUBLIC HEALTH SEARCH COMMITTEE

Committee Members

Dr. Scott Gordon, Co-chair and Dean, Waters College of Health Professions

Dr. Britton McKay, Co-chair and Associate Provost for Academic Strategy,
Engagement and Innovation

Dr. Jian Zhang, Professor, Epidemiology

Dr. Marina Eremeeva, Professor, Environmental Health Science

Dr. Karl Peace, Professor, Biostatistics

Dr. Andrew Hansen, Professor, Community Health

Dr. Samuel Opoku, Professor, Health Policy

Dr. Gulzar Shah, Chair, Health Policy and Community Health

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