Dean of University Libraries
Position Profile

Georgia Southern University ("Georgia Southern") invites applications and nominations for the position of dean of the University Libraries. The home campus for this position is the Statesboro campus, but the position requires travel between campuses.

The University
Georgia Southern University is the state’s largest and most comprehensive center of higher education south of Atlanta. With 141 degree programs, Georgia Southern University is a public comprehensive and Carnegie Doctoral/R2 university offering associate, bachelors, masters, and doctoral degrees in nationally accredited programs in the liberal arts, sciences, and professional disciplines. Georgia Southern serves more than 27,000 students on three vibrant campuses—the Armstrong campus in Savannah, the Statesboro campus, and the Liberty campus in Hinesville. Georgia Southern offers an attractive campus environment that encourages learning, discovery, and personal growth. Nationally accredited academic programs prepare diverse scholars for leadership and service as working citizens.

Since 1906, the University’s hallmark has been a culture of engagement that bridges theory with practice, extends the learning environment beyond the classroom, and promotes student growth and life success. Central to the University’s mission is the faculty’s dedication to excellence in teaching and the development of a fertile learning environment exemplified by a free exchange of ideas, high academic expectations, and individual responsibility for academic achievement. Faculty, staff, and students embrace the values of integrity, civility, kindness, respect, sustainability, citizenship, and social responsibility in every facet of the University.

For more information about Georgia Southern, please visit: https://www.georgiasouthern.edu/.

University Libraries
The University Libraries support the University’s mission by providing access to information, collections, and services designed to meet the scholarly needs of the University and its diverse community. The libraries advance independent lifelong learning, information literacy, intellectual and creative discovery, and student success. Fostering a welcoming and innovative learning environment, both physically and virtually, for research, collaboration, and preservation of resources, the University Libraries upholds the intellectual freedom principles as stated by the Association of College and Research Libraries.

University Libraries operate at two different sites: the Lane Library at the Armstrong Campus and the Henderson Library at the Statesboro Campus. University Libraries advance independent lifelong learning, information literacy, intellectual and creative
discovery, and student success. They foster a welcoming and innovative learning environment, both physically and virtually, for research, collaboration, and preservation of resources.

Together, the Lane Library and the Zach S. Henderson Library (“Henderson Library”) officially support over 325 subscription and open-access databases, over 200 of which are provided through a partnership with GALILEO (Georgia Library Learning Online), an initiative of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia.

The Lane Library first opened its doors in 1935 as part of the Armstrong Junior College. Lane Library’s collections now consists of approximately 870,000 items, including 212,822 book volumes, 35,080 microforms, and 9,708 individual audiovisual items. The library subscribes to 525 journals, magazines, and newspapers in print and provides electronic access to articles from over 10,000 periodicals. GALILEO, is a web-based virtual library, providing access to multiple information resources, including access to multiple databases indexing thousands of periodicals and scholarly journals, encyclopedias, almanacs, and over 8,000 full-text journals. The Lane Library offers seating for 500 students and houses two classrooms, including one state-of-the-art multimedia equipment classroom that contains 28 personal computers.

The Learning Commons is an extension of Georgia Southern-Armstrong Campus Lane Library and provides access to computers and collaborative work spaces. It opened on May 20, 2013 and serves as a very popular place for students to gather for group study and collaboration.

The Henderson Library, located on the Statesboro Campus, first opened in 1975 after outgrowing the Rosenwald building. A $22.75 million expansion/renovation project began in summer 2004 and was completed in August 2008. This expansion added 101,000-square feet to the original building and included the first Automated Storage and Retrieval System in any library in the southeast. The total square footage of the Henderson library is 235,000. The Henderson Library serves more than 4,000 people daily with resources that support a comprehensive array of degrees, disciplines, research activity and learning objectives. With more than 400 hard-wired computer workstations, access to archives of data and information, and an innovative storage solution, the Henderson Library ranks as one of the most technologically advanced in the Southeast.

**Position Summary**

The Dean is responsible for all areas of library administration including policy and program development, strategic and long-range planning, fiscal management, personnel supervision, integration of emerging technologies, and development of collaborative relationships. The Dean reports to the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Direct reports to the Dean are the Director of the Lane Library & Associate Dean, the Director of the Henderson Library & Associate Dean, and the Head of Library Systems and Technologies.
The Dean will administer the day-to-day operation of library operations at GSU, including: overall programs, resources, and services; activities and services of all library units and functions; and long-range planning, policy development, fiscal management, employee supervision, and integration of emerging technologies.

Opportunities and Challenges

- **Leading University Libraries with a Cohesive Vision** – The Dean must be enthusiastic in leading the two library sites and creating a comprehensive and unified vision that leverages their collective strengths while respecting and supporting their unique identities and differences.

- **Increasing Research Productivity** – Working in collaboration with faculty, staff, and academic deans, the new Dean will support interdisciplinary dialog and partnerships among the various Georgia Southern disciplines to advance research and scholarship in order to fulfill the University’s new research designation.

- **Serving Diverse Library Users** – The Dean will guide the University Libraries’ efforts in addressing the needs of on-campus constituencies such as faculty and students as well as off-campus community members. This individual must appreciate the full spectrum of library user supported by the University Libraries and possess a commitment to enhancing programming and offerings for all.

- **Improving Organizational Effectiveness** – The Dean will assess the current organizational structure and processes of University Libraries to develop and implement appropriate methods and controls that will result in the effective delegation of duties as well as the stewardship and management of all financial resources while increasing accountability for meeting clearly established goals.

- **Fundraising** – The Dean will partner with University Advancement professionals to increase philanthropic support from foundations, corporations, and individual donors. The Dean will contribute toward the financial stability of University Libraries and expand fundraising efforts.

Qualities and Characteristics

The next Dean of University Libraries will exhibit:

- Inspiring leadership with the ability to articulate an integrated vision, and provide strategic direction at a time of organizational transition.

- Solid knowledge of national trends and the ability to discern what is beneficial to Georgia Southern given its new research designation.

- A strong commitment to customer service excellence and the ability to serve a diverse student population with different needs.

- A collegial leadership style that facilitates outreach to various external constituencies and organizations.
• A supportive approach toward faculty and staff professional and technical development.
• A proactive and collaborative approach to communicate and collaborate with the many campus and community stakeholders.

Required Qualifications:
• Master degree from an ALA-accredited school of library/information science or foreign equivalent.
• Outstanding record of professional librarianship, research, and service appropriate to the rank of tenured full professor in the libraries.
• Demonstrated successful academic administrative experience with a minimum of three years at or above the department chair level (or commensurate experience), including budget and personnel experience.
• Experience with strategic planning and program development.
• Ability to develop and inspire a clear vision for the libraries consistent with the University’s mission and best practices.
• Ability to interact collegially and effectively with all internal and external constituencies, and to work in a collegial environment with shared governance.
• Demonstrated knowledge of traditional library functions, emerging technologies, and trends in higher education that impact libraries.
• Commitment to advancing efforts to secure grants and contracts for the libraries.
• Demonstrated history of transparent administrative style, showing flexibility in governance, and demonstrating the ability to earn the trust and confidence of faculty, students, staff, and administrators.
• Effective organizational, interpersonal, and communication skills.
• Ability to lead a broad and intensive fundraising effort and build community support for the libraries.
• Successful record of, and commitment to, affirmative action, equality of opportunity, and diversity with demonstrated respect and advocacy for faculty, students, and staff.
• Experience working in a student-centered environment, with direct knowledge of the needs of a diverse population of undergraduate and graduate students.
• Must be authorized to work in the United States for the duration of employment without assistance from the institution.

Preferred Qualifications
• Earned doctorate in library/information science or closely related field.
• Experience leading in a multi-campus or multi-site academic environment
• Demonstrated success in leading a diverse staff through change
• Five years of successful academic administrative experience at or above the department chair level (or commensurate experience).
• Demonstrated success in advancing efforts to secure grants and contracts for the libraries.
• Experience or demonstrated skills in leading a broad and intensive fundraising effort
• Record of increasing community support for the libraries.
**Application Process**
The Search Committee will begin reviewing applications immediately and continue to accept applications and nominations until the position is filled. Applicants must submit a current resume or curriculum vitae and a cover letter describing relevant experience and interest in the position. Nomination letters should include the name, position, address and telephone number of the nominee. All applications and nominations will be handled in confidence. Applications and letters of nomination should be submitted by email to:

Alberto Pimentel, Managing Partner or  
Emy Peña, Partner  
Email: apsearch@storbeckpimentel.com

Refer to code “GSU-DL” in the subject line

Storbeck/Pimentel & Associates  
6512 Painter Avenue  
Whittier, CA  90601  
562-360-1353 (FAX)

*Georgia Southern University seeks to recruit individuals who are committed to working in diverse academic and professional communities and who are committed to excellence in teaching, scholarship, and professional service within the University and beyond. 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 is an Affirmative Action, Equal Opportunity institution. Individuals who need reasonable accommodations under the ADA to participate in the search process should contact the Vice Provost.*