

Introduction

Southern Polytechnic State University is a member of the University System of Georgia. Located in the historic, vibrant city of Marietta, Southern Polytechnic is only 20 minutes from downtown Atlanta. Approximately 4,000 traditional and non-traditional students attend day, evening and weekend classes on a campus that combines 232 acres of naturally wooded landscape with modern facilities to meet students' academic, physical, and social needs.

SPSU was founded in 1948 as a two-year division of The Georgia Institute of Technology. Over the years there have been many changes in name and in stature. One of the most significant was the establishment of the institution as an independent college in the University System of Georgia. The school's first president, Stephen Cheshier, was named in 1980. The college became a university in 1996 with the new name of Southern Polytechnic State University. Its second president, Dr. Lisa A. Rossbacher, joined SPSU in the summer of 1998 and was inaugurated early in 1999.

Academic Programs

The University offers associate, undergraduate and graduate degree programs in a variety of technology and science-related fields through the four Schools of Arts and Sciences; Engineering Technology and Management; Architecture, Construction and Civil Engineering Technology; and Computer Science and Software Engineering. Students have a wide range of choices from the two-year core curriculum associate degree in general studies to Master of Science programs in eight fields. A dedicated and experienced faculty with excellent academic credentials and

business and industry experience teaches the programs.

Southern Polytechnic has earned an exceptional reputation in the field of engineering technology education. In the "Engineering & Technology Degrees 2000" published study, SPSU is ranked in the top ten producers of bachelor's degrees in engineering technology for the year 2000. The university is second in awards of master's degrees in engineering technology. Over the years, Southern Polytechnic has expanded and broadened its degree programs in some of the nation's fastest growing fields and offers a diverse Arts and Sciences curriculum.

Southern Polytechnic is also leading the way for the state of Georgia with its non-degree certificate programs in technology-related areas. Non-degree certificate programs are offered through the Office of Extended University and include certifications in embedded systems, computer service technician, web developer, programming, time study, and A+ Test Prep. The Computer Science Department offers a graduate certificate in software engineering that gives practitioners the opportunity to advance into leadership positions and provides courses that can apply toward the Master of Science in Software Engineering. Computer Science also offers an undergraduate certificate in programming. This certificate program offers courses that can apply towards the Bachelor of Science in Computer Science

A University of Firsts

Southern Polytechnic is an educational institution of "firsts." In the fall of 1997, Southern Polytechnic stepped to the forefront of technological advances in

education, becoming the first institution in Georgia to offer a full degree program over the Internet. The Master of Science in Quality Assurance, offered on the Internet by the Industrial Engineering Technology Department, set the tone for educational options in the future and placed Southern Polytechnic as a role model for the University System of Georgia. Indeed, SPSU's oldest graduate, 75 year-old Mary Knight, recently graduated with her Master's in Quality Assurance earned through the online courses.

Other University "firsts" include:

- The University System of Georgia's only nationally accredited Bachelor of Architecture degree (and only the second institution in the nation to receive an initial accreditation of five years)
- Georgia's first master's programs in the management of technology and technical and professional communication
- the Southeast's only master's programs in electrical engineering technology and quality assurance
- Georgia's only master's program in construction
- Georgia and the Southeast's first Bachelor of Science in Telecommunication Engineering Technology
- Georgia's only master's and bachelor's degree programs in software engineering
- Georgia's only bachelor's degree in surveying and mapping

Student Life


Southern Polytechnic provides many learning opportunities beyond the classroom. Professional student organizations; Greek organizations; the student newspaper, *The Sting*; intramural programs; honor societies; the WGHR


student radio station; and other activities and organizations are offered to give students many options for participation. Intercollegiate athletics are also an important aspect of student life. Membership in the Georgia Alabama Carolina Conference (GACC) has provided tough competition with other universities in the region. "The Hornets," as a member of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA), have competed in national tournaments in basketball, baseball, and tennis and ranked nationally in recent years. They have earned the GACC Basketball Tournament Championship the last two consecutive years.


Community Outreach


Southern Polytechnic serves the community through its numerous partnerships with business, industry, professional organizations, government and through continuing education and public service programs. It is the home of Georgia Youth Science and Technology Centers, Inc. (GYSTC). GYSTC has established fourteen regional centers across the state, that offer professional development workshops for teachers as well as camps, Saturday Science and other programs for students. It is an excellent program for encouraging younger students to get involved in the sciences. More than 514,000 Georgia students, 113,000 teachers and 55,000 school administrators and others have participated in GYSTC conducted or sponsored programs. In addition, GYSTC headquarters on the SPSU campus is the host site for Georgia's only NASA's Regional Educator Resource Center (RERC). GYSTC brings hundreds of students and teachers to the Southern Polytechnic campus each year through its support of Science Olympiad, Science Bowl competitions and Space Day celebrations.


Historical Highlights


 Founded in 1948 as a two-year division of Georgia Institute of Technology, our school was established at the request of Georgia business and industry. It first opened its doors as The Technical Institute in rented military barracks in Chamblee, Georgia.

 The first director, L.V. Johnson, began operations with 116 students, all but 10 of who were World War II veterans; and all but one of who were male, and a staff of 12 members.


 In 1949, a name change and a status change became important to the institution and its students. Now called the Southern Technical Institute, the institution was recognized as a college-level school by the U.S. Department of Education.


 Less than a decade later, the growing college moved to its present campus in Marietta, Georgia. In 1961, Hoyt McClure was named acting director and led the move of the college to eight new buildings on 120 acres of land. This was the base of today's campus of 232 acres and 36 buildings.


 In 1970, we became a four-year college and one of the first colleges in the nation to offer the bachelor of engineering technology degree.


 In 1979, the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia voted to make "Southern Tech" an independent senior college in the University System of Georgia, separating organizational ties

with its former parent institution, Georgia Tech. In the summer of 1980, we officially became the 14th senior college and the 33rd independent unit of the University System.

 The college's first president, Dr. Stephen R. Cheshier of Purdue University, was named in 1980 and took the college through the transition of becoming Southern College of Technology in 1987. He served with distinction until his retirement as president in June 1997.

 The school became a university and was re-named Southern Polytechnic State University in the summer of 1996.

 Dr. Daniel S. Papp was SPSU's interim president from July of 1997 until the summer of 1998.

 The university welcomed Dr. Lisa A. Rossbacher of Dickinson College, as our president on August 3, 1998. She was inaugurated at the beginning of 1999.

Institutional Accreditation

Southern Polytechnic State University is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097; Telephone number 404-679-4501) to award associate, baccalaureate and masters degrees.

Professional Accreditations

Engineering Technology Programs (except the program leading to the master's degree)	Technology Accreditation Commission of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (TAC/ABET)	1997
Bachelor of Architecture Program	National Architectural Accrediting Board, Inc. (NAAB)	1995
Bachelor of Science in Construction Program	American Council for Construction Education (ACCE)	1997
Master of Science in Management Program	Association of Collegiate Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP)	1999

Degrees and Majors Authorized

One-Year Certificate in:

Programming
Software Engineering
Software Systems Development
Transition to Computer Science

Associate of Science Degree

Transfer Program in:

General Studies

Bachelor of Applied Science

Bachelor of Architecture

Bachelor of Arts (with majors in):

Computer Science
International Technical Communication
Management
Mathematics
Physics

Bachelor of Science (with majors in):

Apparel/Textile Engineering Technology
Civil Engineering Technology
Computer Engineering Technology
Computer Science
Construction
Electrical Engineering Technology
Industrial Distribution
Industrial Engineering Technology
Information Technology
Management
Manufacturing
Mathematics
Mechanical Engineering Technology
Physics
Software Engineering
Surveying and Mapping
Technical and Professional Communication

Bachelor of Science in Telecommunications Engineering Technology

Master of Science (with majors in):

Computer Science
Construction
Engineering Technology
Information Technology
Management
Quality Assurance
Technical and Professional Communication

Master of Science in Software Engineering

Student Organizations

Active Organizations:

Aerial Robotics Team
 African Students Association
 Amateur Radio Club
 Ambassadors
 American Association of Textile Colorists & Chemists (AATCC)
 American Concrete Institute (ACI)
 American Institute of Architecture Students (AIAS)
 American Institute of Contractors (AIC)
 American Institute of Industrial Engineers (AIIE)
 American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE)
 American Society for Quality Control (ASQC)
 American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME)
 Association of Computing Machinery (ACM)
 Bahai Club
 Baptist Student Union
 Black Student Association
 Campus Activities Board (CAB)
 Concrete Canoe (ASCE)
 Chinese Friendship Association
 Contractor's Guild
 General Builders
 General Engineering of Autonomous Robots (GEAR)
 Georgia Society of Professional Engineers (GSPE)
 Indian Student Association
 Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE)
 Institute of Industrial Engineers (IIE)
 Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE)
 Intergreek Council (IGC)
 International Student Association (ISA)
 Knights of Darkness Chess Club
 Muslim Students Association (MSA)
 National Association of Home Builders (NAHB)
 National Organization of Minority Architects (NOMA)
 National Organization of Woman Architects (NOWA)
 National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE)
 Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE)
 Society of Manufacturing Engineers (SME)
 Southern Polytechnic Soccer Club
 Steel Bridge Team (ASCE)
 STING/Student Newspaper
 Student Government Association (SGA)
 Surveying and Mapping Society of Georgia (SAMSOG)
 WGHR Radio Station-FM
 Women in Architecture

Fraternities:

Beta Sigma Chi
 Kappa Alpha Psi
 Phi Beta Sigma
 Pi Kappa Phi
 Sigma Nu
 Sigma Pi
 Tau Kappa Epsilon

Sororities:

Delta Sigma Theta
 Gamma Phi Beta
 Zeta Phi Beta

Honor Societies:

Delta Mu Delta – Management
 Phi Psi – ATET
 Sigma Lambda Chi – Construction
 Tau Alpha Pi

Inactive Organizations:

Alpha Delta Pi
 American Society of Heating, Refrigerating,
 & Air Conditioning (ASHRAE)
 Campus Crusade for Christ
 Campus K.N.I.G.H.T.S.
 Graduate Student Association
 Lambda Chi Alpha
 LOG (Yearbook)
 Residence Hall Association
 Safe Passage
 Society of Women Engineers (SWE)
 Southern Polytechnic Cycling Club
 Student Society of Environmental Developers

Source: Student Activities

Organizational Chart

Approved by The Board of Regents 4/18/01

