Approved Description for Specialized Accreditations

Georgia State University (GSU) founded in 1913 is a public research university located in Atlanta, Georgia, the capital and largest city in the state with a metropolitan regional population of more than 5.4 million. The institution’s mission and goals are encapsulated in the university mission statement.

“Georgia State University offers educational opportunities for traditional and nontraditional students at both the graduate and undergraduate levels by blending the best of theoretical and applied inquiry, scholarly and professional pursuits, and scientific and artistic expression. As an urban research university with strong disciplinary-based departments and a wide array of problem-oriented interdisciplinary programs, the goal of the university is to develop, transmit, and utilize knowledge in order to provide access to quality education for diverse groups of students, to educate leaders for the State of Georgia and the nation, and to prepare citizens for lifelong learning in a global society.”

The institution’s goals are further elaborated in the university strategic plan. GSU will:

1. Become a national model for undergraduate education by demonstrating that students from all backgrounds can achieve academic and career success at high rates
2. Significantly strengthen and grow the base of distinctive graduate and professional programs that assure development of the next generation of researchers and societal leaders
3. Become a leading public research university addressing the most challenging issues of the 21st century
4. Be a leader in understanding the complex challenges of cities and developing effective solutions
5. Achieve distinction in globalizing the university

GSU is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools: Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) to award baccalaureate, masters, specialist, and doctorate degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, GA 30033-4097 or call (404) 679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of Georgia State University.

GSU is a member institution of the 31 member University System of Georgia (USG). USG is governed by the USG Board of Regents (BOR). In 1995, GSU was accorded research university status making it one of the four research institutions in the System. GSU is now the second-largest university in the USG, with more than 32,000 students, over 1,000 faculty members and over 250 degree programs in 62 fields of study. Among the 32,000 plus students enrolled at the university 37% are African-American, 41 % are White, and 12% are Asian. GSU confers more than 7,200 degrees annually and has approximately 150,000 alumni, the total workforce is approximately 4,000 and the annual operating budget is more than $600 million.

Approved by: ____________________________ President, Georgia State University

Date: ___________ 20____