



CENTENNIAL

THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI

UNIVERSITY BACKGROUNDER



- **PRESIDENT:** Dr. Martha Dunagin Saunders
- **MISSION:** To cultivate intellectual development and creativity through the generation, dissemination, application and preservation of knowledge
- **FOUNDED:** March 30, 1910
- **CAMPUSES:** Southern Miss provides educational opportunities and serves nearly 15,000 students on campuses in Hattiesburg and Long Beach as well as five other teaching and research sites along the Mississippi Gulf Coast including
 - Gulf Coast Student Service Center, Gulfport
 - John C. Stennis Space Center, Hancock County
 - Keesler Air Force Base, Biloxi
 - Jackson County Teaching Site, Gautier
 - Gulf Coast Research Laboratory, Ocean Springs
- **ENROLLMENT:** Southern Miss reported an enrollment of 12,062 undergraduate students and 2,731 graduate students in fall 2008, for a total of 14,793
- **STUDENTS:** Southern Miss students come from all 50 states and more than 100 foreign countries. The student population is comprised of 60 percent females and 40 percent males. Southern Miss boasts the most diverse student body and educates more Mississippi students than any university in the state
- **ACADEMICS:**

Five degree-granting colleges

 - College of Arts and Letters
 - College of Business
 - College of Education and Psychology
 - College of Health
 - College of Science and Technology

The University offers 94 undergraduate and 92 graduate degree programs and has a 20:1 faculty/student ratio
- **ARTS:** Southern Miss is one of only 25 universities in the United States nationally accredited in all four disciplines of theater, dance, art and music
- **ATHLETICS:** Southern Miss is a member of Conference USA, competing in the NCAA Bowl Championship Division. The University fields 16 intercollegiate sports – seven for men and nine for women
- **ALUMNI:** More than 118,000 individuals hold degrees from The University of Southern Mississippi
- **RESEARCH:** Southern Miss earned \$91 million in external funding for research and sponsored programs in fiscal year 2007-08 for a three-year average of \$97.1 million

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