

## Welcome to Georgia State University!

GSU is an urban research institution located in the heart of downtown Atlanta, with over 30,000 students seeking degrees in more than 250 programs. As you walk around campus, you will get to see many of the buildings and facilities our students use on a daily basis. You will also learn about the types of programs offered, history of GSU, how Atlanta is an integral part of our school, and what life as a Panther is like. We hope you enjoy your visit!



**Start: Outside of the Student Center at the corner of Courtland and Gilmer Streets. This area is the core of campus. Around you are many classroom buildings and activity centers.**

**Dahlberg Hall (formerly Alumni Hall)** is located across the street (of Gilmer Street) from the Student Center. The building once housed the Atlanta Municipal Auditorium and is named in honor of alumnus A.W. “Bill” Dahlberg, who earned his bachelor’s degree from GSU in 1970 and is the retired chairman and chief executive officer of Southern Company. Offices such as the Alumni Association, Welcome Center, Research, Office of the President, and Offices of Vice Presidents and Provost are located here.

### **Historical Facts**

Fleetwood Mac, the Grateful Dead and Jackson 5 have all performed here. Muhammed Ali fought here as well. Dahlberg Hall was considered the Philips Arena “back in the day” also hosting countless events such as the premiere for *Gone with the Wind*.

**Walk down Gilmer Street (away from the Student Center) crossing Courtland Street, going straight toward Peachtree Center Ave. You will see Hurt Park on your right.**



**Sparks Hall** (which will be on your left) is going to be your end point on this tour. Keep walking straight on Gilmer Street toward Peachtree Center Avenue.

**Hurt Park** (photo above right) is an outdoor space that GSU student organizations and offices use to host events. Students enjoy studying here when the weather is nice.

The **Arts & Humanities Building**, also on your left, houses the **Ernest G. Welch School of Art and Design**, the **Florence Kopleff Recital Hall**, classrooms, studios and a computer lab. You will see the Gilmer Street entrance, which is the entrance to Recital Hall.



### Historical Facts:



**Ernest G. Welch** was a prominent philanthropist, alumnus, and exhibiting photographer. First earning a degree in business from Georgia Tech in 1928, Welch formalized his photography studies in his late 80's earning a bachelor's of fine arts in 1999. He died at the age of 103 in 2009. The Ernest G. Welch School of Art showcases student work in the Art and Design Gallery around the corner. It is free for visitors, so be sure to check it out!

**Florence Kopleff Recital Hall** (see above photo) hosts events and shows. This Hall is named after Professor Emerita (retired professor) Florence Kopleff, who is a prominent singer that has performed with Robert Shaw and the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra. She started as a teacher at GSU in 1968, and then became a professor after being persuaded by Thomas Brumby, founder and then head of the School of Music. This made her the school's first artist-in-residence. In 1984, the New York native established a scholarship at Georgia State to support the education of future vocalists. Her pledges have helped with the renovation of Recital Hall.



**Turn left onto Peachtree Center Avenue. You will see the entrance to the Art Gallery on your left. Continue straight and take a right at the stop light onto Hurt Plaza. Walk straight toward Edgewood Avenue.**

Georgia State's purchase of the **Suntrust Building** (coming up on your right) is of much importance to the campus community. Carl R. Zwerner, entrepreneur and graduate of Georgia State University's J. Mack Robinson College of Business, has pledged \$5 million to be used for the construction of an auditorium, which will be part of the proposed Georgia State University Professional Center. The facility itself will have classrooms and offices for the Colleges of Law and Business.



**Woodruff Park**, which is a wireless hotspot, leads to the west side of our campus. The park is named after Robert W. Woodruff, President of the Coca-Cola Company from 1923-1954. With his enormous Coke fortune, he was a major philanthropist, and many educational and cultural landmarks in the U.S and Atlanta bear his name.

The bronze sculpture titled *Phoenix Rising from the Ashes*, depicts a woman releasing a phoenix, a symbol of Atlanta because of the city's rise from the ashes after being burned to the ground by William T. Sherman's Union armies during the Civil War.



The main station for the **GSU Police Department** (see photo below) is located alongside Woodruff Park in One Park Place. The police department keeps our campus safe by patrolling 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. GSU's Police is the largest college/university police force in the state of Georgia and is nationally accredited.



**Continue to walk straight on Edgewood Avenue to Peachtree Street. At the corner you have reached Five Points.**

## Historical and Fun Facts

All roads lead to Peachtree! **Peachtree Street** leads to Underground Atlanta and the Five Points MARTA station. Where you are standing is the meeting point for five streets; thus this area is known as Five Points. Peachtree, Edgewood, Marietta, Decatur and Whitehall streets meet here. The Sculpture at Five Points is designed and constructed by a GSU alumnus to represent the old water tower that once stood in Five Points.

Across from where you are standing, you will see the **34 Peachtree Building**, which houses Georgia's Own Credit Union and the Departments of Applied Linguistics and English as a Second Language, Computer Science, Philosophy and Religious Studies.



**Walk left onto Decatur Street.**



**One Park Place** will show up on your left. Not only does it house the GSU Police, it also houses the Departments of African American Studies, Human Resources and the Department of Communication.

The **College of Education**, which will be on your right as you keep walking straight down Decatur Street, houses the Departments of Counseling and Psychological Services, Kinesiology and Health, Early Childhood Education and Educational Policy Studies.



**Underground Atlanta**, which is behind the College of Education, has many restaurants and shops. As you keep walking along Decatur Street, you will see the **Natural Science Center** on your left. Even with the opening of the new Parker H. Petit Science Center in March 2010, the building will still be used for research and office space.



**General Classroom Building** (which will be on your left after you cross Peachtree Center Avenue) is the next stop, located at the intersection of Decatur Street and Peachtree Center Avenue. This large classroom building is home to the College of Arts and Sciences, departments of Sociology, English, Political Science and History. It consists of a wide range of classroom sizes from large lecture halls to smaller sized rooms.

**Classroom South** (on your right) is another classroom building on our campus and connects to Library South's entrance, one of three libraries on campus.



You will soon be walking underneath the bridge that connects **Libraries North and South**.

You will also pass by the back entrance of the **University Center** (see below photo).



The **Urban Life Building** will be the next building on your left. The College of Law and Byrdine F. Lewis School of Nursing and Health Professions are located here.

The **Sports Arena** will be across the street on your right.

**Welcome to the home of the Panthers!** Games are FREE for students with their PantherCard (Student ID). GSU is part of the Colonial Athletic Association, which includes William and Mary, Northeastern, Drexel, Hofstra, George Mason University, James Madison University, Old Dominion University, University of North Carolina at Wilmington, Towson University, University of Delaware and Virginia Commonwealth University.



### **Fun Facts – GO PANTHERS!!!**

In fall 2010, Georgia State kicked off its inaugural football season, with games being played at the Georgia Dome. Bill Curry, former coach at Georgia Tech, Alabama, and Kentucky, was hired in 2008 to be the head coach. He has coached in the SEC and the ACC, and is a former college and NFL football player, playing for Georgia Tech and NFL teams such as the Green Bay Packers and Baltimore Colts. Former Falcons coach Dan Reeves was a consultant for Athletics and assisted in bringing football to GSU. The Panthers had a winning 2010 season with a 6-5 record.



The **Parker H. Petit Science Center** is located at the intersection of Piedmont Avenue and Decatur Street, on the right. The new science center opened in March 2010. The Petit Center is the new instructional and research home for the departments of biology, chemistry, nursing, nutrition, physical and respiratory therapies, public health, and the Neuroscience Institute. There are six general classrooms and a 150-seat lecture auditorium.

The Laboratory includes many different facilities for scholars such as: a simulated hospital ward for nursing students, complete with simulator “patients”; biotechnology core facilities that provide for advanced genetic research; the Molecular Basis of Disease initiative where researchers work on genetic anomalies, cancer, HIV/AIDS, and other topics on the molecular and cellular level; Center for Behavioral Neuroscience; a Physical Therapy classroom with lift beds, where students can get integrated clinical experience; and a 200-million pixel array of monitors called the Visualization Wall, where researchers can track large amounts of data such as the spread of a disease within an urban area. In January 2011, the new Center for Inflammation, Immunity and Infection opened its doors.

### **Fun Facts**

The building is named after Parker H. “Pete” Petit, Atlanta philanthropist and chairman and chief executive officer of MiMedx Group, Inc., an integrated developer, manufacturer and marketer of biomaterial-based products. He received his master of business administration degree from GSU in 1973, and previously served as chairman and CEO of Atlanta-based Matria Healthcare and other Healthdyne-related companies. As you may already saw, there is a Waffle House located on the bottom floor.

**Stand at the corner of Piedmont Avenue and Decatur Street.**

On **Piedmont Avenue** to the right, down the street from the Waffle House, you will see the **Georgia State University Marta Station**, which is located on the East-West rail line. You will also see the **State Capitol Building**, which provides GSU students many great internship opportunities.



**Cross Piedmont Avenue and go left, walking toward the Student Recreation Center.**



Walk into the **Student Recreation Center** and stop in the lobby by the GSU logo on the floor. Please note: **NO VIDEO TAPING OR PICTURES ARE ALLOWED TO BE TAKEN IN THE RECREATION CENTER!** **Groups or individuals on self-guided walking tours cannot enter the turnstiles.** Entrance is only for GSU students, faculty and staff, and their guests.

### **Fun Facts**

- The Recreation Center is open 6am-10pm most days. PantherCard needed to enter. Students pay for usage of this building through their student fees.
- Building was \$29.5 million to construct.
- Over 1,550 people use the SRC every day.
- Facility offers weight room, squash and raquetball courts, and a rock climbing wall.
- Houses a program called Touch the Earth, which provides students with opportunities for rafting, camping, skiing, horseback riding, equipment rental and locker rooms.
- Faculty and Staff can also buy memberships.
- Lobby offers lounge space with computers and flat screen TV.
- Dance and aerobics room, and the martial arts room are located upstairs along with 4 recreational basketball and volleyball courts. There is also an indoor track (1/8 mile).
- The Omni gym, where students can play hockey, soccer, badminton and dodge ball, is also located upstairs.
- Guests \$5: unlimited access once inside the gate
- Can work with a personal trainer and/or nutritionist, and get cholesterol and blood pressure checks.
- The Aquatics Center houses a recreational lap pool, leisure pool, whirlpool, hot tub, sauna and sun deck. The Exercise Center houses cardio and weight machines.

**Exit the Recreation Center and cross Piedmont Avenue. Walk into the Student Center, which is across the street. Stop in the atrium by the piano.**



### Fun Facts

- The Atrium where you are standing is a lounge space and wireless hot spot (most student buildings on campus are wireless).
- Around the corner is the Courtyard, one of the main dining facilities on our campus. The Courtyard offers Burger King, sandwiches, pasta, and Einstein's Bagels.
- Internet stations and the Student Center Information Desk are also located around you. The Information Desk provides discounted tickets for students at many Atlanta area attractions.
- The Ballroom, which you passed as you walked into the building, hosts a wide variety of events, such as luncheons, formals, and Incept: New Student Orientation.
- Speakers Auditorium, which is located at the top of the stairway within the Atrium, holds special guest speakers/events. Speakers have included Cornell West, Jimmy Carter, Tim Gunn and Pearl Cleage.
- There is a life-size Bronze Panther in Unity Plaza located outside of the entrance opposite of where you walked in. The statue was a gift to the university by the Alumni Association in 2004 to celebrate the Association's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary. It is GSU tradition to **rub the Panther's nose** before sporting events and exams for good luck!

#### **Walk upstairs and stop briefly on the 2nd floor.**

- Located on this floor are: the **Margaret A. Staton Office of Disability Services; Housing; and New Student Orientation and Parent Relations**. For more information on any of these offices, feel free to stop in!

### Historical Facts

In the fall of 1973, **Margaret Staton Sloan** (then a student), made an appointment with Dr. William R. Baggett, Dean of Students, and asked him what Georgia State planned to do in response to the Vocational Rehabilitation Act of 1973. She provided mobility instruction for the staff and provided training in issues related to students who used wheelchairs. She eventually went on to endow the university with a fund to be used by the Disability Services Office, which provides scholarships and purchases of assistive technology for students.

#### **Walk upstairs and walk along the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor hallway.**

- Located on this floor are: **Student Activities**, which houses 250+ student organizations; **Greek Life and Intercultural Relations**; the **Dean of Students Office**; **Office of Civic Engagement**; and the **Office of African American Student Services and Programs**.
- Along the hallway on your right, you will see the **Panther Walk of Fame**, which advertises student organizations and highlights campus leaders as well as an **art gallery and lounge** on your left.

- As you approach the end of the hallway, stop at the doors. Down the hallway is the **Digital Aquarium**, which is a digital arts computer lab. This lab has lots of computer equipment, where students can make videos, record tracks, make movies, etc.

**At the end of the hallway, head outside of the doors and cross the bridge. You will enter the University Center.**

- **The University Center**, like the Student Center provides many offices and services for GSU students. The **Urban Life Building** connects with the University Center to your left. Urban Life houses the College of Law and the Byrdine F. Lewis School of Nursing and Health Professions. Departments within the Byrdine F. Lewis School of Nursing and Health Professions include Nursing, Respiratory Therapy, and Nutrition.
- In front of where you are standing is the **M.I.L.E.** (Mathematics Interactive Learning Environment), which is an interactive computer lab used by math classes.

**Take a right and walk down the hallway of the University Center.**

The **University Bookstore** will be the next stop on your right. Here you will find textbooks, general reading, supplies, PC software, and GSU apparel. Be sure to look inside!



Across from the bookstore is the **Panthers Club** food court, which offers a wide range of choices such as Chick-Fil-A, “home-cooked” food, sandwiches, salads, Freshens yogurt and smoothies, and Starbucks coffee. Next to the Panthers Club is the **Panther Place Lounge**, which is a space for students to relax or catch up with friends on campus.

**Walk up the small flight of stairs to the 4<sup>th</sup> floor.**

On the 4<sup>th</sup> floor, you will find office for the **Student Government Association**, the **Honors Program**, and suites for **Greek letter organizations**. Please note that many Greek organizations have a townhome in the Greek housing complex not shown on the self-guided tour.

**Head back downstairs and go down two flights of stairs to the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. Go through the double doors.**



On your left, you will see **Auxiliary and Support Services**. This office sells parking permits, MARTA cards (discounted rates per month for faculty, staff, and students), and meal plans. It also coordinates Panther Cards, which serves as a student ID, security pass, and Panther Cash debit card. Below Auxiliary and Support Services is **Panther Pizza**, which has great pizza and pasta.

**Turn around and walk through the next set of four doors.**

On your left you will see **University Career Services**. This office assists students and alumni with interviewing skills, resume writing, on-campus ad professional job listings, and job placement.

On your right is the home of **88.5 FM WRAS**, the largest student-run radio station in the U.S. at 100,000 watts. Other student media resources are located on this floor, such as **the Signal**, which is the weekly campus newspaper and **GSTV**.



Walking down the hall and around the corner to the left you will see **Cinefest**, GSU's student-run movie theater, which has been in operation since 1991. Cinefest screens a wide variety of films for the community including newly released movies, cult classics, foreign films, documentaries, independent films and Atlanta premieres. Admission is free with Panther Card.



**Next to the restrooms, there is a stairway. Head upstairs to the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the University Center (walk one floor up). Walk through Panther Place Lounge, down the stairs, and out the doors to the left. Here you should cross Courtland Street and walk through the white gates into Library Plaza.**



**Walk through the plaza, passing Library North (on your left) and turn to the left at the fountain with the blue paw prints. From this point, head to the bridge overlooking Decatur Street.**

**To the right of the bridge, you will see:**

- o Decatur Street
- o J. Mack Robinson College of Business
- o Andrew Young School of Policy Studies
- o One Park Place
- o College of Education

**To the left of bridge, you will see:**

- o Libraries North and South: Connected on floors 3-5 by bridge
- o Sports Arena

**\*NOTE: All GSU Buildings have university specific signage and flags.**

**While on the bridge, look at the libraries. You may only enter with a Student ID.**

**Library North** is the brick building to the left. **Library South** is the building connected to it across the street, with the large, glass windows.

### **Fun Facts**

The library has seen over one million visitors, owns approximately 1.5 million volumes, and collects roughly 2,200 additional items a month. It also holds nearly 8,000 journals, magazines, and newspapers; and more than 16,300 e-journals.

**Head back towards the water fountain.**

**General Classroom Building** (commonly known as GCB) is the large, brick building on your left.



Classrooms range from 30-120 seats. The **College of Arts and Sciences** academic advisement offices are located on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor. Departments such as English, Sociology, and Modern and Classical Languages can be found here.

The **Writing Center**, also located here, provides students with assistance with academic papers, but does not write them for students. In the bottom of GCB is the **Language Acquisition and Resource Center (LARC)**, which can be used by faculty, staff and students for foreign language practicing and tutoring.

**Walk passed the fountain (away from the libraries and General Classroom Building) and straight into Sparks Hall. Stop outside of the Student Advisement Center.**

### **Fun Facts**

**Sparks Hall** used to house the library when collections only totaled 150,000. **Kell Hall** (entrance to the left of you) used to be the Ivy Street Parking Garage, hence the ramps within the building. Kell Hall has core science labs, a computer lab, a tutoring lab, US Post Office, and Starbucks.

**The Student Advisement Center** provides advisement for students with 41 or fewer credit hours and students who have not declared a major. Students with over 42 credit hours receive advisement from the academic college in which they are majoring.

**Walk right in Sparks Hall, away from Kell Hall.**

You will see the **Office of International Student and Scholar Services** on your right. This office provides immigration and support services to international students, faculty, and staff. Many involvement opportunities such as VISA Leaders (orientation leaders for international orientation) and ISAC (International Student Associations Council) are offered to students. On the left you will see the **Scholarship Resource Center**, which provides resources on multiple student scholarships available to new and returning students. You will also pass **Supplemental Instruction**, which offers a series of regularly scheduled review/study sessions for students taking historically difficult courses. Led by students (SI Leaders) who have already taken the course and done well, sessions are free and voluntary.

**Keep walking down the hall and take a left at the end.**

You will see the **One Stop Shop** ahead on your right and left. This all-encompassing office is “the front door” for the **Registrar, Financial Aid and Student Accounts**. This is also where accepted students should go for enrollment services related questions. **Student Accounts**, located on the bottom floor, is where students can go and pay bills.

**Walk to the end of the hall and stop.**

There are classrooms and administrative offices in the building on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> floors, including the **Departments of Anthropology and Geosciences. Financial Aid and Student Accounts** are located downstairs on the first floor.

Next to you is the **Office of Undergraduate Admissions**, where students who have admissions related questions or who have applied and are waiting for an acceptance decision should come for questions.

**This concludes your self-guided walking tour.**

We hope you enjoyed your visit today at Georgia State University! For further questions, contact the Welcome Center at 404-413-2063 or [tourguide@gsu.edu](mailto:tourguide@gsu.edu) or stop by Suite 134 of Dahlberg Hall, just across the street upon exiting Sparks Hall through the doors in front of you.

**GO PANTHERS!**

