

HISTORIC HIGHLIGHTS

Year	Event
1908	Georgian Court College founded by the Sisters of Mercy in North Plainfield, New Jersey, under the title Mount Saint Mary's College and accredited by the State of New Jersey
1911	College destroyed by fire and immediately rebuilt
1912	First class graduated
1922	Accredited by Middle States Commission on Higher Education
1924	George Jay Gould estate, bordering Lake Carasaljo in Lakewood, New Jersey, purchased as the new site for the campus to house a growing student body. The original name of Georgian Court was maintained as a stipulation of the purchase agreement. The estate included the Mansion, Raymond Hall, the Casino, and the Gatekeeper's Lodge, along with the gardens, fountains, and woodlands.
1925	Mercedes Hall, a Lakewood residence, along with the original parish church of the town (now the McAuley Heritage Chapel) moved across the fields of Lakewood to campus.
1929	Hamilton Hall purchased; our first building "outside the gates"
1931	Kingscote acquired
1940	Kearney House added, first called the Campus Club, then the Music Center, then the Lake House
1951	Farley Memorial Library constructed to house The Court's growing scholarly collection
1961	The State of New Jersey approved Georgian Court's teacher education program
1961	Saint Joseph Hall built in response to burgeoning college resident population
1964	Arts and Science Center completed
1967	Maria Hall, our second residence hall, opened
1974	New wing doubled the capacity of Farley Memorial Library
1976	First year for the Master of Arts in Education program
1978	Master of Arts degrees first conferred on 41 students
1978	Entire campus entered into the National Register of Historic Places and the New Jersey Register
1979	Coeducational Undergraduate Program instituted
1982	Approval of Master of Arts in Special Education
1985	Entire campus designated a National Historic Landmark
1988	Completion of Mercy Center
1989	Approval of Master of Arts in Education with teaching certification
	The Sister Mary Grace Burns Arboretum, comprising the entire campus, founded
1993	Completion of new library and student lounge complex
1993	Approval of Master of Arts in Counseling Psychology and school psychologist certification
1995	Approval of Master of Business Administration
1997	Approval of Master of Arts in Theology
1999	The library named in honor of Sister Mary Joseph Cunningham, former treasurer of the college
2001	Approval of Master of Arts in Holistic Health Studies
2003	Women in Leadership Development program instituted
2004	Georgian Court College received university status from the New Jersey Commission on Higher Education
	Completion of Mercy Hall and St. Catherine Hall, two new residence halls
2005	Dorothy Marron University Community Chapel completed
	Completion of two-story Audrey Birish George Science Center
	Purchase of the Eighth Street House on Lakewood Avenue

2006	Completion of expansion of the Court Café (now the Café at GCU)
2007	Purchase of the Ninth Street house
	Approval of three new undergraduate majors in dance; tourism, hospitality, and recreation management; and exercise science, wellness, and sports
2008	Completion of the Wellness Center
	Approval of a Bachelor of Science in Nursing
	Launch of GCU's year-long Centennial celebration
2009	Accreditation of teacher education and school leadership programs by the Teacher Education Accreditation Council (TEAC)
2010	Approval of undergraduate and graduate programs in early childhood (P-3) education
2011	Launch of M.S. in Homeland Security (now M.A. in Criminal Justice and Human Rights), M.A. in Applied Behavior Analysis, and B.A. in Latino/a and Business Studies (now B.A. in Latino Business Studies)
2012	Approval of B.A. in Digital Design and B.F.A. in Graphic Design and Multimedia; launch of GCU's 100% online master's program in Holistic Health Studies (now M.A. in Integrative Health)
2013	GCU becomes fully coeducational, opening all classes and student life programs to men, and adds men's track and field (indoor and outdoor), basketball, and soccer
	The GCU-Meridian Health School of Nursing is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education.
	The university secures \$8.4 million in state bond funding to upgrade and renovate campus buildings and classrooms
2014	GCU-Brookdale Community College Guaranteed Admissions Initiative is announced
	The International Collaboration Center opens in Farley Center, allowing GCU to conduct asynchronous lectures, projects, and presentations worldwide
	After 14 years as president, Sister Rosemary E. Jeffries announces plans to step down at the end of the 2014-2015 academic year
2015	GCU renames the Arts and Science Center, GCU's largest academic building, Jeffries Hall, in honor of President Emerita Rosemary E. Jeffries
	A new minor in social media marketing begins, and a new postbaccalaureate online certificate in Mercy spirituality is approved for launch
	GCU wins a Governor's Environmental Excellence Award for sustainability efforts
	GCU Lions add men's lacrosse, with competition beginning in 2016
	The GCU Board of Trustees announces Joseph R. Marbach, Ph.D., as GCU's next president, beginning July 1
2016	The GCU School of Business and Digital Media changes its name to reflect new marketplace emphasis on digital technology
	The university's new Applied Behavior Analysis Clinic, an outgrowth of the ABA graduate psychology program, launches and offers services to the general public
	GCU strengthens its ties to Catholic education by launching the Catholic Schools Initiative; the effort includes additional scholarship funding and book awards for area Catholic high school students
	GCU's partnership with Brookdale Community College is expanded, giving students the option of earning undergraduate English, education, and psychology degrees from GCU@Hazlet
	Approval of new business majors in finance, management, and marketing
2017	GCU graduates its first <i>fully</i> coeducational undergraduate class with nearly 400 students
	The U.S. Department of Education awards \$1.99 million to GCU for "Chart the Course" to improve retention and graduation rates

	GCU's Catholic partnerships expand to Trenton Catholic Academy, Holy Spirit High School, Union Catholic, Donovan Catholic, St. John Vianney, and others	2023	Three new programs are launched at GCU: a Bachelor of Science in Dance Science, English as a Second Language Certification Program, and a Digital Marketing Concentration available through the Marketing major
2018	Approval of B.S. in Health Sciences and B.A. in Health Profession Studies After more than two years of preparation and serious self-examination, the Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE) re-affirmed that Georgian Court University meets all of the standards for being accredited		School of Business & Digital Media launches inaugural Lion's Den pitch & innovation competition
	His Royal Highness The Prince Edward, Earl of Wessex, plays the historic game of court tennis at GCU. The visit, promoting the Duke of Edinburgh's leadership program for young adults, generates an advertising value equivalency of \$4.8 million in media coverage		GCU hosts the 19th Annual Undergraduate Research Colloquium of the New Jersey Women and Gender Studies Consortium
2019	Launch of <i>The Strategic Compass . . . for an Even Better Tomorrow</i> , which focuses on academic excellence, the student experience, revenue generation and diversification, and efficiencies		GCU renames Mercy Center as Scully Registration and Finance Center, in honor of Mother Mary Cecilia Scully, the first president of Georgian Court, who served in that role from 1908-1940
	Approval of Psy.D. in School Psychology, the university's first doctoral degree Approval of M.A. in Higher Education and Student Affairs Administration and M.S. in Communication and Digital Marketing		GCU Lions add women's acrobatics and tumbling
	Launch of Apollo Fountain restoration project with two gifts of \$50,000 each; full plan is created to repair and upgrade the iconic fountain First B.S.W. students graduate from GCU@Cumberland's (now RCSJ-Cumberland)		Georgian Court named a 2023 Empowering Women Honoree by NJBIZ, one of the state's leading business publications
2020	Launch of Center for Professional Studies, with courses for enrichment, professional development, and corporate training Approval of B.A. in Political Science, ABSN (accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing), and re-introduction of the B.A. in Computer Information Systems New 3+1 program between GCU and Brookdale Community College creates new, affordable pathway to a bachelor's degree Georgian Court is shuttered by COVID-19, the global pandemic that shifted nearly all classes 100 percent online. Faculty, students, and staff successfully adapt to remote learning and business operations		GCU establishes new partnership with Uwill, an online telehealth platform for student mental health and wellness, providing students with immediate counseling assistance and support year-round
	GCU hosts first-ever virtual celebration and Apollo Fountain drive-by salute to graduates		Georgian Court announces first head coach for new baseball program
2021	University fund-raising reaches a five-year high in corporate and foundation funding and in major gifts President Joseph R. Marbach introduces <i>Renew GCU</i> , focused on the myriad projects reflecting the spiritual, intellectual, physical, and operational renewal of Georgian Court The university lands a five-year, \$1.69 million TRIO-SSS grant from the U.S. Department of Education, sustaining the program at GCU for 40 years	2024	The university launches its "GCU Promise" initiative, providing additional financial resources to students who receive PELL and New Jersey TAG support
2022	Georgian Court University sells 42 mostly unused, undeveloped acres to Beth Medrash Govoha. Proceeds from the sale are to be used to support campus development, improvements, and initiatives Approval of B.S. in Sport Management, DE MSN (Direct Entry Master of Science in Nursing), and MSW (Master of Social Work) Georgian Court becomes a 100% smoke-free and tobacco-free campus, encouraging healthy habits for all students, employees, and campus visitors GCU's Brookdale Partnership programs move from Hazlet to the Brookdale Community College main campus in Lincroft Georgian Court - Hackensack Meridian <i>Health</i> School of Nursing becomes the Hackensack Meridian <i>Health</i> School of Nursing & Wellness at Georgian Court, with the addition of the Departments of Integrative Health & Exercise Science, and Department of Social Work, to the Department of Nursing		Georgian Court receives international award for climate education exchange program with Universidad Viña del Mar
			Immigration and migration issues are explored during GCU's Critical Concerns Week, featuring a keynote by Dr. Carolyn Woo, former President & CEO of Catholic Relief Services
			Renewed partnerships with St. George's University and Northeast College of Health Sciences for pre-medicine/veterinary/ chiropractic options for students
			Georgian Court's Board of Trustees approves a tuition and fee freeze for the 2024-2025 academic year to provide support to students and their families facing economic challenges
			Launched Sports Media Minor and new education programs, including Student Assistance Coordinator, Early Literacy Specialist Endorsement, and three Multisensory Literacy options with the following certifications: ESL, Reading Specialist, and Teacher of Students with Disabilities
		2025	Georgian Court signs an articulation agreement with Western Atlantic University School of Medicine to launch an Accelerated Combined Bachelor/MD Program
			Dr. Eugene J. Cornacchia is appointed Interim President following the retirement of President Joseph R. Marbach, Ph.D., after nearly a decade of service
			State approval is granted for the university's second doctoral program: a Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) in Educational Leadership, set to launch in Fall 2025
			Ecological concerns take center stage during Critical Concerns Week 2025, with keynote speaker Dr. Erin Lothes addressing faith-based responses to the climate crisis