

# **Dominique Halaby**

**Director, Business Innovation Group at Georgia Southern University**  
Statesboro, GA, US

Dr. Halaby oversees development of Georgia Southern University's City Center.

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## **Biography**

Dominique Halaby, D.P.A. is the Director of the Business Innovation Group (BIG) at Georgia Southern University. This includes the Center for Business Analytics and Economic Research, Center for Entrepreneurial Learning and Leadership, Small Business Development Center, EDA University Center, Innovation Incubator and Fab Lab. In 2015, BIG was recognized as a Gold Award Winner in Entrepreneurship by the International Economic Development Council.

Dr. Halaby is also overseeing the development of Georgia Southern's City Center. The City Center is a joint initiative between Georgia Southern University, the City of Statesboro, and the Downtown Statesboro Development Authority to foster innovation and entrepreneurship. In addition, he is working with the Hinesville Development Authority to construct a second City Center in Hinesville.

Prior to joining Georgia Southern, he served as the Director of the Center for Community and Business Research at UTSA's Institute for Economic Development. He spent most of his career building a non-profit organization dealing with workforce and economic development. Under his leadership, the organization was recognized in 2003 by the Society for Human Resource Management as The Best to Place to Work in Hidalgo County for companies with less than 100 employees. He was successful in achieving broad collaboration among industry leaders and educators to strengthen home-grown approaches to meet local skilled workforce needs, and in leading several community planning and antipoverty initiatives. These projects were recognized as national finalists for the Economic Development Administration (EDA) Best Practices in 2003 and 2006, as well as being honored by the Texas Workforce Commission as the Transitional Workforce Award recipient in 2004. In addition, Dr. Halaby served as Interim Director of the Rio Grande Regional Center for Innovation and Commercialization and assisted public universities in South Texas and new business ventures in accessing the \$200 million Emerging Technology Fund. To date, he has secured over \$35 million in funding.

Dr. Halaby serves on the APLU's Commission on Economic and Community Engagement Executive Committee, as well as a board member of several other entities including the University Economic Development Association, Spaceport Camden and Statesboro Convention and Visitors Bureau.

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## **Areas of Expertise**

Community Development, Workforce and Economic Development, Non-Profit Organizations, Workplace Innovation, Rural Entrepreneurship, Community Engagement

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## **Education**

**Warrington College of Business, University of Florida**

AACSB Post-Doctoral Bridge Program-Certified Scholarly Academic in Entrepreneurship & International Business

**H. Wayne Huizenga School of Business & Entrepreneurship Nova Southeastern University**

D.P.A.

**The University of Texas at Austin**

B.A. Sociology

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## **Accomplishments**

### **Executive Committee**

Class of 2021 - Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities Commission on Economic and Community Engagement

### **Board of Directors**

2018 - Present - University Economic Development Association

### **Downtown Visionary Award Recipient**

2017 - Downtown Statesboro Development Authority

### **International Economic Development Council**

2015 Gold Winner – Entrepreneurship

### **International Economic Development Council**

2015 Bronze Winner – Redevelopment

### **Georgia Academy for Economic Development**

Class of 2013

### **Leadership UTSA**

Class of 2011

### **San Antonio Business Journal, 40 under 40 Recognition**

2009

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