6-6-2009

Commencement Program: Spring 2009

Governors State University

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GOVERNORS STATE UNIVERSITY

Spring Commencement Exercises of the Thirty-Eighth Academic Year

SATURDAY, JUNE 6, 2009
11 A.M.
1969 and 2009 have a lot in common.

When Governors State University was founded in 1969, change was in the air. The Civil Rights, anti-war, and women’s movements transformed society and altered everyone’s perspective.

Now, in 2009 as GSU celebrates its 40th anniversary, the nation is again facing great challenges. The many calls for change at all levels of society have led GSU, once more, to a renewed commitment to serve students and the community.

When the first GSU students came to class in bellbottoms with flowers in their hair, they were met by classrooms without walls and coursework without grades. While the programs of 2009 have more structure and rigor, GSU remains dedicated to the educational innovation and experimentation that guided the university in its early years. The ideal that drove the initial design of GSU – that all students were entitled to an affordable, accessible education – has remained constant.

To fulfill the diverse educational needs of students and the shifting demands of society, GSU has adapted, innovated, and developed its degree and certificate programs. Currently, the university offers bachelor’s, master’s, and doctorate programs that not only create qualified personnel to fulfill today’s employment opportunities, but prepare graduates for the demanding careers of the future.

The university has opened its doors to the community, inviting everyone – area residents, current students, alumni, retirees, and visitors – to celebrate academic achievement and accessibility. GSU has remained true to that early, guiding vision and is today everything it was meant to be – the educational choice for a powerfully diverse, professional, and non-traditional student body.
STATE OF ILLINOIS

Pat Quinn, Governor

GOVERNORS STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Lorine Samuels, Chair
Jack Beaupre, Vice Chair
Kristi DeLaurentiis, Secretary
Bruce Friefeld
Lois Mayer
Elizabeth Green, Student Trustee

This program is not an official university document.
The publication of the names of students does not necessarily constitute their official certification as graduates.
Governors State University is not responsible for any omissions, errors, and/or changes in this commencement program.

Photographers are requested to refrain from taking pictures during the ceremony.

Printed with soy ink and recycled paper. Printed with the authority of the State of Illinois. Printing order number PA044409. 3,400 copies.
Honorary Degree Candidate

Michael Beschloss

Michael Beschloss is an award-winning historian and author. Newsweek has called him “the nation’s leading Presidential historian.”

Beschloss’ most recent two books, Presidential Courage (2007) and The Conquerors (2002), were both on the New York Times bestseller list for months. Presidential Courage was number one on the Washington Post bestseller list. The Conquerors was Amazon.com’s top bestselling history book of the year.

Of Presidential Courage, the New York Times Book Review said, “Most Presidential historians . . . content themselves with writing biographies of individual Presidents . . . . And Beschloss has done that too . . . . But if any book can be said to epitomize the genre of Presidential history, Presidential Courage does . . . .” Of The Conquerors, the New York Times Book Review said, “There is not a dull page.”

He serves as NBC News Presidential Historian – the first time any major network has created such a position – and appears regularly on Meet the Press, Today, and all NBC network programs. He is a regular on PBS’s The NewsHour with Jim Lehrer. In 2005, he won an Emmy for his role in creating the Discovery Channel series Decisions that Shook the World, which he hosted.

Beschloss was born in Chicago in 1955. An alumnus of Williams College, he also has an advanced degree from the Harvard Business School. He has been an historian on the staff of the Smithsonian Institution (1982-1986), a Senior Associate Member at Oxford University in England (1986-1987), and a Senior Fellow of the Annenberg Foundation in Washington, D.C. (1988-1996).

A prolific author, Beschloss has penned seven books in addition to The Conquerors. Other works include Taking Charge and Reaching for Glory, about President Lyndon Johnson’s secret tapes and his work as president. Both books were national best sellers.

Beschloss holds honorary doctorates from Williams College, St. Mary’s College (Maryland), and Lafayette College. He has also received the State of Illinois’ Order of Lincoln and the Harry S. Truman Public Service Award from Independence, Missouri. He is a trustee of the White House Historical Association, the National Archives Foundation, and the University of Virginia’s Miller Center of Public Affairs. A former resident of Flossmoor, Illinois, he now resides with his wife and sons in Washington, D.C.
Order of Exercises

Saturday, June 6, 2009, 11 a.m.
College of Arts and Sciences
College of Business and Public Administration
College of Education
College of Health and Human Services

Dr. Elaine P. Maimon
University President
Presiding

Ms. Susan Bova, Sign Language Interpreter

The audience is requested to rise and remain standing during the Processional and Recessional.
<table>
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<th>Bachelor of Arts</th>
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* = Honors 3.80-3.94
** = High Honors 3.95-4.0
§ = University Honors Program
# = Graduated December 15, 2008
College of Arts and Sciences

**Master of Arts**

Laura L. Barr  
Peter E. Bosy  
Gregory C. Bruno  
Linda R. Capadona  
Nicholas R. Corr  
Michael M. Costanza  
Maria T. Crews  
Elizabeth Ann Farnesi  
Albert D. Fisher, Jr.  
Evelyn Marie Flowers  
Andrew S. Gibbs  
Jenata N. Harris  
Steven J. Heim  
Anaya M. Hughes  
Maureen L. Jennings  
Carolyn Johnson  
James A. Klepk  
Lenore Lopez  
Joseph E. Malizia  
Silvia Melby  
Jennifer North  
Norah Owens  
Julia L. Paxton-Coleman  
Margaret B. Pylko  
Irene E. Ramirez  
Cicely D. Ray  
Laura J. Raymond-Honkoski  
Latasha A. Southall  
Kimberly Marie Steger-Nikolic  
Penelope M. Stickney  
D. Ann Stuckey  
Jenai C. Talbert  
LaShaun Tate  
Burma Thomas  
Patrick J. Usher  
Derrick B. Wells  
Michael A. Willis

**Master of Fine Arts**

Pierre D. Adams

**Master of Science**

Ahmad A. Abusini  
Sandeep Akula  
Mohd Asif Ali  
Alok Balda  
Vikas Chagantipaati  
Shailesh M. Deshpande  
Abhishek R. Devulapally  
Valeriu Dumitru  
Nanda Krishna Ghanta  
Srinath Guda  
Praveen Jonnala  
Swapna Manapuram  
Avinash Kumar Muppidi  
Jyostna Putla  
Madhu K. Salandri  
Inayat Rasool Syed  
Zeeshan Syed  
Sahaja Tummala  
Leo Wilkoz

* = Honors 3.80-3.94  
** = High Honors 3.95-4.0  
§ = University Honors Program
College of Business and Public Administration

Bachelor of Arts

- Dima H. Abdelrahim
- Mohammad W. Awwad
- Zakaria M. Awwad
- Richard E. Bouzek
- April S. Brach
- Naterria L. Bradley
  * Breanne B. Brooks
  Anthony D. Calzaretta
  Sumpter Campbell, Jr.
  § Edgar A. Casillas
  Marcy M. Chandler
  * Randy L. Conaster
  Shereta Dyer
  Lauren K. Fanta
  Elicia P. Frelix
  Vaida Gedvilas
  Doyce M. Harris
  Aura L. Hendrickson
  Rachel L. Hutchinson
  Mohammed A. Jaber
  Hattim S. Jafar
  Jeff P. Machen
  Shannon M. Matthias
  Gina M. Meier
  Ashley L. Paape
  Sandhya R. Rakalla
  Michael T. Raleigh
  Amy M. Ronspies
  Travis E. Schwark
  Kristin L. Stringer
  Kenneth W. Sutor
  Michelle J. Swanson
  Daphne M. Thornton
  * Jameson A. Vie
  Jennifer L. Wille
  Veronda V. Williams
  Thomas J. Wilson
  Janice L. Woods-Wills
  Gloria T. Young

Bachelor of Science

- David R. Bambuch
- Andre L. Barnett
- Cynthia Dawn Barrie
- Paulina Cichon
- Jacqueline Clemons
- Jameel F. Dabney
  * Melissa A. Dana
  § Rosalba De La Paz
  Monica D. Greco
  Randall E. Heuser
  * Denae L. Krooswyk
  David Kwit
  Shannon M. Lynch
  Cheryl D. Martinez
  Laith I. Obeidat
  Yolanda R. Peoples
  Jami Nicole Raddke
  Kimisha C. Riley
  Michael P. Schoenecker
  Brian J. Stoeker
  Latoia D. Sweezer
  John Robert Vos
  Adonus Williams
  Anita M. Wyatt

Master of Business Administration

- Medhat M. Alsafadi
- Chad John Augustine
- Moncef Belkasem
- Taconia C. Ellis
- Jing He
- Dennis R. Hough
- Bijing Huang
- Wenfang Huang
- Tonya P. Jackson
- Simin Li
- Tsung-Te Lin
- Minerva Marrufo
- Shawn I. Mitchell
- Janet L. Pickett
- Janel T. Robinson
- Andrei A. Robu
- Godwin K. Sarpey
- Barrett E. Schultz
- Monica M. Simon
- Steven N. Spraker
- Yang Tang
- Linda K. Watson
- Kevin R. Wilken
- Minhang Wu
- Shengxiu Zhang
- Yingyi Zheng

Master of Public Administration

- Patricia A. Adams
- Ashley P. Allen
- Andrew J. Boblak
- Alicia M. Caver
- Rodney P. Chambers
- Michael J. Daly
- William Q. Davis
- Douglas J. Erwin
- Andriana Esparza
- Mechelle R. Harper
- Kenneth R. Kovac
- Michelle A. Payne
- Darryl N. Person
- Peter J. Pilafas
- Jataun D. Pye
- Ryan Rivera
- Rosebud M. Robinson
- Warren J. Sekula
- Sandra D. Smith
- Tyrone Stansberry, Jr.
- George J. Svetkovich
- Shelley L. Tarver
- Patricia A. Thompson
- Zerex Veal

Master of Science

- Michael G. Hassell
- Rachel Y. Kimball
- Adam J. Moecker
- Jeffrey E. Osayande
- Chi Suen
- Elizabeth Anne Wagner

* = Honors 3.80-3.94
** = High Honors 3.95-4.0
§ = University Honors Program
College of Education

Bachelor of Arts

Samah A. Azar
Laura Marie Billets
** Sherry L. Boswell
** Tracy L. Box
  Tracy N. Campbell
  Courtney L. Creagh
Purscoca Dees
Danielle Joleen Delaney
** Dannielle M. Dennison
  Maria V. Diaz
  * Raelene F. Faught
** Michele Fitzgibbons
** Jason M. Flood
  Thomas J. Forys, Jr.
  * Kelly A. Freeze
  * Samantha J. Gabrys
  Daisy J. Gamez
  Melissa A. Griggs
  * Christine M. Hamann
** Nichole K. Harris
  DeAnna N. Hayes
  * Jennifer L. Henchel
  Jillian Henderson
  Yasmie F. Hill
** Wayne E. Jackson
  * Erica A. Jepperson
  Michelle C. Johnson
  Andre Kimble
** Denise Lynn Kranzer
** Katrina E. Kurtz
  Lesley V. Lake
  Sarah A. Larsen
  Kristin M. Laufer
  Valerie D. Marshall
Ladeträ S. McChristion
  * Brandy M. McKenzie
  Yesenia Medina
  * Melissa N. Mielnicki
  Katherine L. Miller
  * Jennifer M. Miroballi
  * Amanda L. Pederson
  Jori L. Pittman
  Christine M. Postregna
** Katie M. Pratl

Jessica Reed
  * Colleen I. Reinheimer
  * Sarah M. Ryan
  Genesis Ann Saele
  * Catherine S. Short
  * Thomas K. Smith
  Deanna L. Stacy
  Toni V. Sutton
** Jennifer L. Swank
  Kristen A. Swasas
  Monica S. Teixeira
** Kristina M. Terrel
  Millie J. Thomas
  * Christina N. Voutirtas
  * Amanda J. Wade
  Lauren F. Walsh
  Michael P. Waters
  Otha Weaver
  Angela M. Williams
  Lynette F. Williams-Faulkner
  * Renee M. Wood
  Regina S. Wright
  Gadah Zayed

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College of Education

Master of Arts

Julie A. Adelmann
Maria C. Arcay
Bridgett A. Atwell
Patricia Belanger
Ardenia Beverley
Joshua O. Bloodgood
Jason J. Bolden
Christina L. Boomer
Mary Terese Brown
Rosanne M. Calahan
Colleen F. Calvey
Beth A. Cammiso
Bridget A. Carstensen
Matthew E. Ceretto
Maria B. Cervantes
Matthew J. Clark
Michele R. Clayton
Jennifer L. Clifford
Elizabeth A. Conroy
Vera Marie Corrigan
Kara L. Coyle
Kurtis R. Daehnke
Maureen Daley
Pamela G. Davis
Paul H. Dirschl
Brian A. Dukes
Deborah B. Dunwoody
Maren K. Engelmann
Karen M. Fiore
Kristopher E. Fiore
Meredith J. Fisher
Takia J. Foster
Scott D. Friedericks
Rhonda Lyn Furmanek
Amy M. Goberville
Patricia J. Godfrey
Taisha Monique Goff
Joy M. Grange
Mark J. Green
Gayle I. Greenwald
Rebecca L. Haak
Devona N. Hazelwood
Aaron D. Hinchcliffe
Jennifer Hoffmann
Joy Howard
Eleanor R. Hubert
Sarah E. Huie
Amy C. Jacobucci
Gregory Johnson
Genevieve J. Jurzec
Stephanie M. Kapaldo
Antoinette J. Ketcher
Laura J. Kinman
Jeffrey A. Koryczan
Gina M. Krizman
Michelle L. Laack
Eva H. Laforte

Joshua N. Long
Fatima Lopez-Villarino
Kelli S. Louden
Evan B. Lukowski
Carolyn J. Maltase
Heshima M. Mance
Melanie T.B. Mandisodza
Jennifer M. McCarthy
Meghan Ann McCauley-Brown
Renee F. Mickle
Angelica Miller
Fonda Moyer
Kathy M. Nebe
Michelle Nevarez
Christopher A. Nolen
Francis W. Nowak
Leah Ann O'Connell
Erin Kathleen O'Malley
Thomas M. Olsen
Kevin Pajeau
Pamela L. Palis-Kalisz
Diane Papageorge
Lisa M. Parker
Christina L. Pavlich
Patrice A. Payne
Mayra N. Perez
Ashley J. Pershey
Jennifer N. Peterson
Kelly W. Place
Timothy J. Placher
Amy L. Polk
Donna C. Porrey
Colleen F. Proutsos
Frederick J. Pufahl
Brian L. Roberts
Patricia Ann Rosenhagen
Ronald A. Ruhl
Sarah A. Russell
Amy A. Rux
Amanda M. Schlegel
Erica Lyn Schramm
Rosemary D. Sexton
Brett W. Shackelford
Nicole E. Shervino
Dawn L. Shields
Catherine E. Sieber
Daniel D. Simik
Tracy N. Simmonds
Kristin E. Siville
Julie M. Slanicky
Kara M. Slanicky
Theresa Y. Smith
Stacy A. Smola

Georgia T. Soltau-Smith
Heather L. Stanich
Ryan G. Stanich
Sinar Steele
Denise M. Stettner
Heidi M. Stillwagon
Meghan O. Sullivan
Ronald E. Suryk
Stephen A. Swon
Nicole B. Terrell-Smith
Rachel L. Townley
Bessie Tsitsopoulou
Diane Rita Tucek
Erin A. Venezi
Heather A. Viall
Amy Walder
Danielle T. Wassell
Ken Wehmhoefer
Lisa A. Wendt
Cameron Wiley
Frank Wilson, Jr.
Deana Marie Wojtkiewicz
Roxanne N. Young
Jessica E. Ziegler

* = Honors 3.80-3.94
** = High Honors 3.95-4.0
§ = University Honors Program
College of Health and Human Services

**Bachelor of Health Administration**

Jorge C. Andres
Princess M. Ballard
Serena A. DeVito
Tiffany R. Fullerton
Sarah M. Harstick
LaToya M. Hinton
Turquoise V. Johnson
Latoria Langham
Agyaku Marfo
Neena A. Oza
Elizabeth L. Paulsen
Elda Rodriguez
Kiki B. Samuels
Marsha O.Sanders
Calia R. Tally

**Bachelor of Health Science**

Jeannette M. Butler
** Adontaus Chalmers
Dominique N. Duncan
Prentice K. Johnson
§ ** Marissa B. McCormack
* Julie L. Richardson
Lauren F. Vanderzee

**Bachelor of Science in Nursing**

Sherron R. Johnson-Boyd

**Bachelor of Social Work**

** Sara A. Bednarcik
Lue Emma Brewer
* Sulah K. Buck
§ Mary C. Busch
Lotita D. Caldwell
Jeraldine Cheatem
Mary E. Claiborne
Kelly Marie Farmer
Joshua P. Fazekas
Dabrene P. Goree
Faviola Graciano
** Kathleen A. Keating
Jennifer L. Kehoe
Leona Lindsey
Rachel M. Magruder
** Diane M. Moler
§** Fernando Rayas
Tracy Watkins
Linda F. Wetherspoon
Carla D. Wortham

**Master of Health Administration**

Lisa M. Archer
Suresh Bobba
Stephen K. Figueroa
Kranthi K. Pebbili
Vanessa L. Pope
Jerusha Shawntae Steed
Ricardo J. Teodoro
Anitra Y. Willis

**Master of Health Science**

Husain Abdul Aziz
Mansour Ali
Kevin M. Drucker
Julliette E. Gainer
Carrie L. Goodnight
Ruta D. Grigas
Renee B.C. Harrison
Kimberly R. Hines
Martha M. Linkman
Elizabeth J. Mereness
Gloria Palomar
Nicole L. Reidy
Whitney B. Smith
Kenneth W. Walker
Sylvester A. Wright

**Master of Physical Therapy**

Joseph S. Brown, Jr.
Margaret O. Omole

**Master of Science in Nursing**

Susan L. Allison
Ida M. Dixon
Candace M. Gibson
Gwenn L. Jackson
Mary A. Jones
Arthur P. Oliveros

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Christine L. Block
Tammy D. Burris
Belinda F. Childs
Erin P. Cohan
Charlotte R. Collins
Cecilia Contreras
Jacquelin D. Eija
Paul D. Everett
Kristy L. Garry
Elba J. Gonzalez
Linda G. Gonzalez
Kisha L. Griggs
Miriam B. Harpaz
Delores Jones
Vernetta Jones
Kathleen Joza-Kung
Al Lawrence
Everleaner F. Mannery
Meredith K. Martin
Erin M. Miller
Alfred T. Miner
Arlene Mitchell
David S. Mitchell
April L. Nickson
Bernice O'Brien
Durogbayi Adeyeke Ogubaneru
Sarah Elizabeth Rodenberg
Cynthia A. Smith
Torkwase K. Smith
Priscilla A. Southern
Latrice M. Taylor
Tara N. Thomas
Tara-Vyeta Thompson
Tamara L. Topps
Iris L. Williams
JoAnn Wilson
For Edgar Casillas, the road to his GSU was marked by a love of learning. He remembers his father – who only completed three years of formal schooling – telling him, “If I am giving you the opportunity to learn, take advantage of it.”

Edgar’s journey started in Mexico where, due to illness, he was unable to attend school regularly. After his health improved, he became an outstanding student, earning third place in a national competition testing students’ knowledge of general information when he was 13.

In 2003, his family moved to Chicago. Edgar spoke no English and was completely unfamiliar with American culture. In high school, he took additional classes after school and at lunchtime and increased his proficiency in English. As a result, was able to graduate from high school with honors and was among the top twenty graduates. At Olive-Harvey College, Edgar concentrated on math and science, served as president of the Organization of Latin American Students, and joined the League of United Latin-American Citizens, where he is the Illinois State Director for Young Adults. Edgar has also held a number of jobs ranging from construction worker and third shift gas station attendant to his current job in the Olive-Harvey business office.

Graduating with honors from Olive-Harvey College in May 2007, Edgar received the Community Honors Scholarship, enabling him to attend Governors State. He was drawn to GSU after being impressed by its students, welcoming faculty and staff, and the university’s programs. Edgar majored in Business Administration, with a concentration in International Business.

“GSU has been a life-changing experience for me. I will never forget the support I have gotten from everyone at GSU,” Edgar says. As a member of a Latino Center for Excellence cohort, Edgar received support from students facing similar challenges and mentored other students. He’s participated in the Association of Latin American Students and the Spanish Reading Club, and was co-founder and president of GSU SLiCK, an organization that promotes diversity and fosters networking opportunities.

Edgar has already started working toward a Masters in Business Administration at GSU, with a concentration in Management Information Systems. Eventually, he would like to start a company that does business in the United States and overseas. “I believe entrepreneurs can be heroes,” he says. “They are the people who create jobs and opportunities for others.” Edgar also plans to start a scholarship at GSU so other students can have the opportunities that he had.

Edgar is joined today by his family from the United States and Mexico.
**Academic Regalia**

During the commencement ceremony, students and faculty wear academic costumes indicating the wearers’ degrees, colleges/universities, and fields of study.

**The Cap**

The black mortarboard type is the most common cap worn. Degree candidates wear cap tassels that are black and white, the university colors. Colors worn by the faculty vary according to their fields of study.

**The Gown**

Gowns are of three kinds. The bachelor’s gown is relatively simple, with lines falling straight from a fairly elaborate yoke. Its distinguishing characteristic is the long pointed sleeve. Braided silken cords are worn by students who have achieved special scholastic recognition: gold signifies high honors; white, honors. The master’s gown has sleeves, with a back end extending down below the knee in a crescent shape. The doctor’s gown is an elaborate costume, with velvet panels down the front and around the neck, with three velvet bars on the bell-shaped sleeves.

**The Hood**

The official colors of the college or university from which a degree is conferred are represented in the lining of the hood. For each field of study, there is a corresponding trim color. The trim colors for master’s hoods are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field of Study</th>
<th>Trim Color</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accounting</td>
<td>Drab</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Addictions Studies</td>
<td>Salmon Pink</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Analytical Chemistry</td>
<td>Golden Yellow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art</td>
<td>Brown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business Administration</td>
<td>Drab</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication Disorders</td>
<td>Salmon Pink</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communications and Training</td>
<td>White</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Science</td>
<td>Golden Yellow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Counseling</td>
<td>Light Blue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early Childhood Education</td>
<td>Light Blue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>Light Blue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educational Administration</td>
<td>Light Blue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>White</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental Biology</td>
<td>Golden Yellow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Administration</td>
<td>Salmon Pink</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management Information Systems</td>
<td>Golden Yellow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multicategorical Special Education</td>
<td>Light Blue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nursing</td>
<td>Apricot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupational Therapy</td>
<td>Slate Blue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Therapy</td>
<td>Teal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Political Studies</td>
<td>White</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Political and Justice Studies</td>
<td>White</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>Light Blue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Administration</td>
<td>Peacock Blue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Work</td>
<td>Citric</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sociology</td>
<td>White</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
COMMENCEMENT MARSHALS

University Grand Marshal
Paul Blobaum – President, Faculty Senate

Coordinator of Marshals
John Stoll – Vice Provost

College of Arts and Sciences
James Coldren – Associate Professor
Beth Parin – Assistant Professor
Rashidah Muhammad – Professor
Nancy Shlaes – Professor

College of Business and Public Administration
Mary Bruce – Assistant Professor
David Green – Assistant Professor
Kathy Hamby – University Lecturer
John Simon – Assistant Professor

College of Education
Sara Acton – Director of Field Experiences
Tom Bierdz – University Lecturer
Sandy Gandy – Assistant Professor
Marian Marion – Professor

College of Health and Human Services
Phyllis Bell – Assistant Professor
Martha Gainer – University Lecturer
Stephanie Hughes – Assistant Professor
Beverly Younger – University Lecturer

Alternate
Nancy Miller – Assistant Professor
The Mace

The governor's mace, carried by the marshal who leads the academic procession, is a symbol of the authority of the university as a degree-granting institution. The legal authority of the university is grounded in the intellectual authority of the distinguished faculty who follow in the procession.

In antiquity, the mace was a weapon used to establish the “authority” of the physically strong. Its transformation into a symbol of intellectual authority is both a tribute to and a reminder of the civilizing force of a university’s teaching, research, and community service functions.

Engraved on the four side-panels of the governor's mace are the seal of the State of Illinois; a cardinal, the state bird; the seal of the former Illinois Board of Governors Universities; and an inscription which reads “The governor's mace, a symbol of tradition and authority of Governors State University, dedicated to the search for excellence in the pursuit of truth, knowledge, and the love of learning. Presented by Peter Levin, friend of the university, June 2, 1979.”

Atop the mace is a silver rendition of the university logo. The three sides of the “triangle” symbolize the university’s teaching, research, and community service functions. The three lines visually suggest the shape of a rocket, reminding us both that the university was founded within days of Neil Armstrong setting foot on the moon and that the university is a hope-filled, pioneering community, committed to a better future for all men and women. The circle symbolizes the fact that the university is, indeed, a community. Finally, the fact that the tips of the triangle reach beyond the circle indicates the university’s outreach into the region, state, and nation and its commitment to teaching, research, and community service.