2-16-2008

Commencement Program: Winter 2008

Governors State University

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GOVERNORS STATE UNIVERSITY

Winter
Commencement Exercises
of the Thirty-Sixth
Academic Year

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2008
11 A.M.
GOVERNORS STATE UNIVERSITY

Celebrating Excellence in Education

Governors State University was officially signed into law by Governor Richard B. Ogilvie on July 17, 1969. Its mandate? To change the face of higher education.

Even as the foundations for the campus buildings were being poured, GSU’s founding administrators and faculty were designing a dynamic educational structure - one that would provide access to the very best education. They shaped a new kind of institution, a university built not for the present, but for the future they hoped to see.

Born amid the turbulent climate of the 1960s, Governors State committed itself to an ideal almost taken for granted today - the belief that education was not for the few, but for the capable. It embraced the idea that an outstanding education could be affordable, should be affordable, and would be affordable.

More important, the university insisted on creating opportunity for students who didn’t fit the traditional mold. They created a one-of-a-kind learning environment centered on the needs of working adults. The emphasis was on inclusion and access, diversity and innovation.

GSU has remained true to that early, guiding vision. The university has kept its tuition low, one of the lowest in the state. But it has never sacrificed quality. The university’s accreditation successes have been remarkable, reflecting the work of a superior faculty and leading to programs of the highest caliber. Governors State University is today everything it was meant to be - the educational choice for a powerfully diverse, professional, and non-traditional student body.
STATE OF ILLINOIS

Rod Blagojevich, Governor

GOVERNORS STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Lorine Samuels, Chair
Jack Beaupre, Vice Chair
Kristi DeLaurentiis, Secretary
Kathleen Field Orr
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 PA113107. 3000 copies.
Honorary Degree Candidate

Juan Andrade, Jr.

The life and career of Juan Andrade, Jr. has been an inspiration for all. From his work as a youth in Brownwood, Texas delivering newspapers, picking cotton, hoeing cabbage, peanut, and watermelon, and later as a factory worker, he rose to become co-founder and president of the United States Hispanic Leadership Institute.

Dr. Andrade received the Presidential Citizens Medal from President Bill Clinton in 2001. At the time, President Clinton said of Dr. Andrade, "As co-founder, President, and Executive Director of the United States Hispanic Leadership Institute, Juan Andrade has been a staunch advocate for America's Latino community. He has helped register more than a million new Latino voters and has worked to increase Hispanic representation at every level of government. Recognizing the promise of future generations, he has also dedicated himself to helping prepare young Hispanic Americans to become leaders of our nation."

Dr. Andrade is a fervent believer in education. He holds five university degrees including a B.A. from Howard Payne University, a M.Ed. from Antioch College, an Ed.S. and Doctorate from Northern Illinois University, and a post-doctorate M.A. from Loyola University.

For several years, Dr. Andrade was a political commentator for ABC-7 in Chicago as well as WGN radio. He also wrote a weekly column for the Chicago Sun-Times. Andrade has worked in the democratization of Mexico, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Panama, Colombia, Paraguay, Bolivia, Guyana, Suriname, and Haiti. He has been recognized three times as one of the "100 Most Influential Hispanics in America" by Hispanic Business Magazine and has received numerous awards for lifetime achievement and community service.

Today, Governors State University is proud to bestow the honorary degree, Doctor of Humane Letters (Honoris Causa), on Juan Andrade, Jr. for his lifelong dedication to education, the successful voter registration drives he organized that changed the political structure in America, and his dedication to the nation's Latino community.
Order of Exercises

Saturday, February 16, 2008, 11 a.m.
College of Arts and Sciences
College of Business and Public Administration
College of Education
College of Health Professions
University College

Dr. Elaine P. Maimon
President of the University
Presiding

PRELUDE .......................................................................................................................... Encore Concert Band
Bill Schuetter, Conductor

WELCOME AND SPEAKER INTRODUCTIONS ..................................................... Dr. Tony Labriola, Master of Ceremonies

PROCESSIONAL .................................................................................................................. Paul Blobaum, Grand Marshal
“Pomp and Circumstance March No. 1,” by Edward Elgar
Encore Concert Band

GREETINGS FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES ................................................................. Lorine Samuels, Chair - Board of Trustees

GREETINGS FROM THE FACULTY SENATE ................................................................. Paul Blobaum, President - Faculty Senate

STUDENT SPEAKER ADDRESS .......................................................................................... Tiffany McClarence

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS .................................................................................................. Dr. Elaine P. Maimon, President

PRESENTATION OF HONORARY DEGREE ................................................................. Dr. Peggy Woodard, Interim Provost
Conferring of Degree ........................................................................................................ Dr. Elaine P. Maimon, President
Honorary Recipient, Doctor of Humane Letters .............................................................. Dr. Juan Andrade, Jr.

PRESENTATION OF DEGREE CANDIDATES ................................................................. Dr. Tony Labriola, Master of Ceremonies
College of Arts and Sciences ............................................................................................ Dr. Eric Martin, Dean
College of Business and Public Administration .............................................................. Dr. William Wilkinson, Acting Dean
College of Education ........................................................................................................ Dr. Eric Martin, Interim Dean
College of Health Professions ............................................................................................ Dr. Linda Samson, Dean
University College ................................................................................................................ John Stoll, Dean

CONFERRING OF DEGREES .......................................................................................... Dr. Elaine P. Maimon, President

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION WELCOME ........................................................................... Gerald F. McIlvain, President - Alumni Association

CLOSING REMARKS .......................................................................................................... Dr. Tony Labriola, Master of Ceremonies

RECESSIONAL ....................................................................................................................... Paul Blobaum, Grand Marshal
“Crown Imperial,” by William Walton
Encore Concert Band

Ms. Susan Bova, Sign Language Interpreter
The audience is requested to rise and remain standing during the Processional and Recessional.
## College of Arts and Sciences

### Bachelor of Arts

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### Master of Arts

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<td>Sreekanth Thallada</td>
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<td>Rama Sri Thotakura</td>
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<td>Naren Raj Vaka</td>
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<td>Trishanth Vallurupalli</td>
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<td>Ravi Varma Vasanthi</td>
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<td>Chetan Sai Kumar Veligatla</td>
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<td>Kamalnath Chowdary Vemuri</td>
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<td>Madan M. Yerra</td>
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* = Honors 3.80-3.94  
** = High Honors 3.95-4.0  
§ = University Honors Program
College of Business and Public Administration

Bachelor of Arts
Faith Seth Abbio-Twi
Angelia D. Amos
David H. Ashour
Denise Verona Blake
Larry D. Bledsoe
Chinese Brown
Jennifer K. Buckley
Carli E. Burgess
Danté H. Burress
* Kendra K. Cartman
Nirut Chittaphraphai
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Jeffrey R. Cohn
Jennifer R. Coles
Robert J. Cooper
William J. Cooper
Miranda Conklin
Yenny M. Daza
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* Barbara C. Hawkins
Denise H. Heuring
Diane M. Heuring
Jeremy C. Hill
Sarah G. Hohimer
Robin E. Horner
Dennis R. Hough
* John J. Ivancic
Anthony W. Jacob
Carita V. Jenkins
Sabrina M. Johnson
Kenneth L. Jones, Jr.
Karen R. Joseph
Richard J. Koper
Ursula Koscielniak
Michael J. Kusy
Jason A. Landgraf
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Veronica D. McKeon
Derek M. Mikulski
* Ameya A. Padhye
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Ebenee Thompson
Kristan T. Tobey
Ronise M. Webb
Kyle J. Wesolowski
Rosalie C. Wild
Stanley E. Wisniewski
Kwan Pan Wong
Mustefa Zayed
Joshua Zumhagen

Master of Business Administration
Mohammad D. Alareed
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Vivia E. Armstrong
Sunny Arora
Denise Austin
Jennifer S. Becker-Oertel
Daniel J. Conroy
LaToya S. Edwards
Latasha S. Edwards
Nakia R. Gibson
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Meghan M. Groth
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Bachelor of Science
Bradley T. Andersen
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College of Education

Bachelor of Arts

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Suzanne Margaret Bryant
Donald P. Brzozowski
Claire A. Carroll
Kenyon B. Carr
Christina J. Chester
Erika L. Cieo
Colleen A. Clohessy
Kelly L. Coleman
Janina E. Czuba
Marla M. Delaurentis
Sandra Diaz
Shana M. Dobie
Anne Marie Dybala
Jillian L. Ellis
Jennifer C. Ertl
Amanda Frances Evans
Dawn C. Foster
Ana I. Gallardo
Elizabeth J. Gaspari
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Melissa L. Gooshrest
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Tammy S. Grode
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Kassandra A. Keebler
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Kristin A. Low
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Tara M. Mangialardi
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Vanessa R. Marshall
Laura A. Mazurowski
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Titus L. Payton
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Margo Ruffin
Keem B. Salah
Sytera L. Sanders
Tika A. Sanders
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Shelly J. Sinal
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Sanaz Tabrizi
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Lisa Marie Tutor
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Kelly A. Vaughan
Lane M. Walters
Kiesha L. Wilhite
Valencia Zamora
Kerry Ann M. Zawacki

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College of Education

Master of Arts

Karen F. Alexander
Elizabeth A. Babiarz
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Barbara L. Benn
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Ashley N. Blake
Joy M. Boettcher
Michelle C. Bogan
Michael S. Boniface
Ocie W. Booker
Sharon L. Boone
Sarah F. Bos
Peter T. Bradley
Alison Buckley
Jennifer M. Burns
Agnes T. Cahill
Perry J. Calhoun
Marc A. Campbell
Cra格 M. Cappel
Jason D. Cappel
Kristy L. Caywood
Eileen M. Cetera
Kathryn A. Chappell
Kathy J. Cherry
Allison J. Cieplucha
Beth Ann Ciszek
William E. Colamatto, III
Howard D. Coleman
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Joan Colomb
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Evishia S. Ford
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Michael A. Franzese
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Michelle Manzo-Silviero
Patricia A. Marcum
Sheryl M. Marek
Sara R. Martello
Anthony G. Mathers
Shann T. McDowell
Rachel B. McEwing
Beth Ann McGlynn
Rachel B. McEwing
Yolanda L. McMillan
Campbell L. McNeal, Jr.
Kathryn B. Meader
Robert E. Moran, Jr.
Jennifer L. Naylor
Gail Nestor-Loo
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Joseph D. O'Brien
Sarah M. O'Connell
Julie A. Ohotzke
Lisa M. Olson
Jonna M. Padalino
Amy Ann Paris

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Aynnna M. Perkins
Tiffany S. Phinn
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Jerilyn R. Powers
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LaQuita L. Price
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Josephine Pulido
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Karen B. Reinhardt
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Joanne M. Ross
Curt E. Ruch
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Jamie L. Rydberg
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Gina M. Schuck
Paige A. Schoolman
Colleen A. Scofield
Donald J. Shanahan
Tania V. Shepherd
Leatrice A. Simpson-Nelson
Karen S. Skaggs
Elisabeth A. Skwarnyczynski
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LaRhonda R. Taylor
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Angela D. Tjelle
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Michelle Loraine Tosch
Jillian L. Towesel
Jamie L. Trevino
Kimberly A. Turnbull
Kenya U. Underwood
Kathy M. Valicich
Dana E. Valdivia
Barbara T. Vaughan
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Ebonie D. Williams
Gayle B. Williams
Saundra Wilson-Hughes
Todd C. Yegge
Kimberly A. Young
Tammy L. Zawacki

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College of Health Professions

Bachelor of Health Administration
Abolor M. Akinpelu
Robin A. Brown
* Tonya M. Butler
Jesse Castaneda
Teneisha D. Harmon
Felicia M. Robinson
Lanise Williams
Melissa L. Wysocki

Master of Health Administration
Nandita R. Khanna
Tunisia V. Pinkley
Girish Sandadi
Kashica J. Webber
Preeyah B. Williams

Bachelor of Health Science
Marcelina Alvarez-Castillo
Hollylee K. Bakey
Cindy Bernal
Megan A. Corbett
* Latanya O. Craig
Cheryl A. Doeden
* Anna M. Gacia
Tiffany Hudson
Heather L. Hurt
Ashley M. Jackson
Linda John
* Joanna Karasewicz
** Melissa C. Loeffel
Joi S. Morris
Meghan J. Morrone
James E. Reynolds
Sarah A. Rissmiller
Tina Inez Santana
Donneshi Steele
Stephanie M. Stuebe
Cynthia Stulp
Jenai C. Talbert
Lorenda F. Upchurch
Joanna Vivilakis

Bachelor of Science
James O. Ademiju
* Mary C. Bohlen
Linda V. Danzy
Fatima Dawodu
Clementha A. Ingram
* Zina R. Martin
Savannah Prince
Thecia L. Robinson
* Dana L. Skedel
Roxanne S. Spurlark-Martin
Basirat R. Triplett
Tiwanna D. Wallace-Agbenyegah

Master of Health Science
Raheema M. Ali
Shaikira N. Ali
Roosevelt Banks, Jr.
Aaron M. Brown
Shirley A. Brown
Crystal A. Coney
Robin D. Cyrier
Nicole E. Danick
Priscilla M. Davis
Ronald J. Drozek
Mary L. Fantozzi
Jennifer Lyn Frank
Kaye M. Galyean
Michelle Christine Ginex
Brett T. Haduch
Tenika Henderson
Geri F. Howard
Philip Irwin
Vanessa M. Jackson
Rachel B. Kleinerman
Jeanne M. Knish
Natalie M. Koczara
Jochen Kurrie
Amy T. Lewandowski
Kimberly L. McTear
Marceau E. Mitchell
Stephanie E. Mullin
Mark J. Peterson
Whitney A. Pleasant-Hillman
James P. Potter
Lynsie M. Richards
Kathleen P. Roberts
Katosha R. Robertson
Kelly Marie Rodriguez-Muller
Connie T. Sanders
Carlin B. Schwinghamer
Matthew D. Sherbine
Felecia L. Thrackey
Laura A. Thoma
Beth A. Wells
Karen J. Wicklund
Alison C. Wissen

Master of Occupational Therapy
Danyelle T. Allen-Tucker
Mary E. Baker
April M. Glueckert-Ryan
Steven W. Hansen
Jaya M. Jacob
Lesli A. Jasica
Toni A. Kuiper
Frances E. Luckett
Christy Marie Lukinski
Dawn M. Maslovaric
Julie E. Neill
Charlene Ninizik
Shannon M. Podrebarac
Gary A. Poncinie
Brooke D. Sherrer
Jacyln C. Toczydlowski
Paule M. Verdier
Elizabeth Wanka
Emily C. Wieman
Christy V. Zaide

Master of Physical Therapy
Wendy M. Bilek
Amanda L. Brooks
Natalia Maria Czajka
Krystal Renee Ferrari
Nickolai Ferro
Carlie M. Fraley
Gregory S. Grzesiak
Vincent D. Gutierrez
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Michelle C. Kaim
Kiri R. Lall
Melissa L. Murray
Scott A. O’Brien
Brandi N. Ruzich
Pamela J. Simon
Jerren F. Smith
Jayanthi Sridhar
Brian Mark Staron
Dawn Marie Wagner

Master of Science
Kelly J. Banks-Enorense
Evelyn C. Bollinger
Lorraine E. Brach
Tekékee Desha Buckner
Jennifer L. Crosby
Gloria A. Davis
Kristin E. Demitroulas
Maggie L. Giddens
Nwaduor O. Ifezue
Jacqueline Marie Kimball
Cara L. Meyers
Lynda M. Nathan
MaryAnn Neumann
Karen L. Northern
Josephine A. Nwawuez
Adeola A. Oladipo
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Mary T. Rohan
Yvette M. Rose
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Regina L. Ward
Rebecca L. Washo

Master of Social Work
Kristina L Devors

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University College

Bachelor of Arts

Oluwakemi Olubusola Aiyeomoni
Jean-Gerald Almonord
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Richard C. Baldwin
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Pamela C. Bass
Rakesha R. Battie
* Patrice T. Bax
** Patricia A. Beck
Vanessa A. Bennett
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Aileen M. Capizzano
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* Lillie B. Dodd
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Lentoya T. Green
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Todd W. Johnson
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Bryan C. Jones
Erika J. Jones
Dwayne L. Kalafut
Margaret M. Karolczak
Joseph F. Kears
Phillip D. Kimbrough
§* Cindi A. Knox
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Kenyattra White
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Kyna LaVerne Williams
Cassandra Williams-Doke
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James S. Yeatman
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** Luqing Zhao
Safa Ziaede
** Thomas J. Zinni

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Tiffany McClarence believes that education is a never-ending process. While interruptions may interfere with the formal acquisition of knowledge, learning is ongoing and should always be sought and encouraged.

McClarence’s education has taken her from across the country to Governors State University. She studied in Arizona and California before returning to school to complete her bachelor’s degree in English Secondary Education at Governors State University in 2005. Today, she earns a Master of Arts in English from the College of Arts and Sciences.

Watching her cross the stage and cheering her on today, as they have throughout her education, will be McClarence’s husband, Michael, two daughters, parents, and parents-in-law.

“The support of my family was also essential in making my education possible. I am so happy they are here to share it with me,” said McClarence.

“I have worked hard to be a good example for my daughters. I feel I have shown them that it is never too late to fix the mistakes of the past. I did not finish my degree when I was young, but I am doing it now and plan to continue my education.”

Ensuring that others have educational opportunities and the tools and knowledge to succeed is very important to McClarence. She has taught English in area schools and tutored college students while working as a graduate assistant in the Governors State University Writing Center. After graduation, McClarence will continue to work at the Writing Center where she will train new tutors and work to expand the center’s programs.

“The most important part of any job is writing. Writing proficiency gives people a vital skill they need to fulfill their dreams. It is important for me to help others gain the tools they need to succeed.”

McClarence is also passionate about the need for GSU graduates to use the lessons they have learned at the university to make positive changes and improvements in their community.

“GSU has been very important in helping each of us achieve our goals. There is a strong sense of community here. Now we must use our educations to help others.”

Within the GSU community, McClarence has served as a representative on the Student Senate, participated in the Honors Program and its community service activities, and was a member of the Black Student Union. Academically, McClarence has made the GSU Dean’s List and the National Dean’s List, been named an International Scholar Laureate in journalism, and was listed in Who’s Who in Women in Education.
**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:

- Accounting ................................................................. Drab
- Addictions Studies .......................................................... Salmon Pink
- Analytical Chemistry .................................................... Golden Yellow
- Art ...................................................................................... Brown
- Business Administration .................................................. Drab
- Communication Disorders .............................................. Salmon Pink
- Communications and Training .............................................. White
- Computer Science .......................................................... Golden Yellow
- Counseling .......................................................................... Light Blue
- Early Childhood Education .................................................. Light Blue
- Education ............................................................................. Light Blue
- Educational Administration .................................................. Light Blue
- English ................................................................................. White
- Environmental Biology ....................................................... Golden Yellow
- Health Administration ........................................................ Salmon Pink
- Management Information Systems ....................................... Golden Yellow
- Multicategorical Special Education ...................................... Light Blue
- Nursing .................................................................................. Apricot
- Occupational Therapy ........................................................ Slate Blue
- Physical Therapy ..................................................................... Teal
- Political Studies ...................................................................... White
- Political and Justice Studies .................................................. White
- Psychology .............................................................................. Light Blue
- Public Administration ............................................................ Peacock Blue
- Social Work ............................................................................. Citric
- Sociology ............................................................................... White
COMMENCEMENT MARSHALS

University Grand Marshal
Paul Blobaum, President, Faculty Senate

Coordinator of Marshals
Robert Donaldson, Professor, College of Business and Public Administration

College of Arts and Sciences
Xiaoyong Chen, Associate Professor
James Coldren, Associate Professor
William Craig, Adjunct Faculty, Associate Director, Admissions
Pamela Guimond, Assistant Professor
Rosemary Johnsen, Assistant Professor
Rashidah Muhammad, Professor
Beth Parin, Associate Professor
Todd Rohman, Associate Professor

College of Business and Public Administration
Dalsang Chung, Associate Professor
Mary Clark, Assistant Professor
Robert Donaldson, Professor
Susan Gaffney, Associate Professor
Kathleen Hamby, University Lecturer

College of Education
Thomas Bierdz, University Lecturer
Lorenzo Flores, Assistant Professor
Sandra Gandy, Assistant Professor
George Garrett, Professor; Interim Division Chair
Nancy Miller, Assistant Professor
Sharon Neste, University Lecturer
Catherine Sori, Associate Professor

College of Health Professions
Rupert Evans, Assistant Professor
Martha Gainer, University Lecturer
James Golding, University Lecturer
Tae Hyun Kim, Assistant Professor
Mark Sanders, University Lecturer
Joyce Sligar, University Lecturer

University College
Rhonda Hudson, Academic Advisor
Shelly Kumar, Professor
Paula Levickas, Academic Advisor
Nancy Shlaes, 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 (1) the seal of the state of Illinois; (2) a cardinal, the state bird; (3) the seal of the former Illinois Board of Governors Universities; and (4) 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.