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Alumni E-Connections, 2009-11

Alumni Relations

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As we head into the holiday season, our best wishes are with you. Here's what is currently happening on campus:

Alumni Association News

If you weren't there, you missed the event of the year!



On November 7, the university celebrated its 40th Anniversary in grand style! More than 400 alumni and friends attended the event, which began with a pre-concert reception where guests had an opportunity to mingle. The first recipient of the Alumni Association Community Service Award and the winner of the *Impact* writing contest were also announced. After the

reception, the group enjoyed the sold-out performance of *A Tribute to the Motown Greats* at The Center for Performing Arts! The evening culminated with a lively party with dancing and merriment until midnight!



Alumni Association Community Service Award Winner Announced

Congratulations to GSU alum, Gordon Cochrane, winner of Alumni Association's first Community Service Award. He was selected by committee from the many nominations received.



Mr. Cochrane is a 1973 M.B.A. grad. He served as Assistant Dean in GSU's College of Business and Public Service from 1971 to 1974. His long list of volunteer activities include service as president and board member of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration Committee; secretary of The 100 Men Association; board member of the South Suburban Housing Center; President of United Way in University Park; and University Park Jaycees member. Mr. Cochrane is also the recipient of several other community awards including The Paul Simon Unity Award

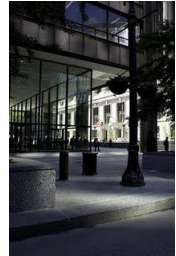
in 2006; the Martin Luther King Jr. Image Award in 2001; the Monee Township Volunteer of the Year award; and the University Park Jaycee of the Year award.

Campus Happenings

GSU Visual Arts Gallery

The Visual Arts Gallery at Governors State University is pleased to present *The Illusion of the Phenomena We Perceive*, the thesis exhibition of MFA Candidate, Catherine M. Ciosek. This exhibit of Ciosek's photographic prints is open to the public through November 30.

With this body of work Ciosek asks the questions "What is the true meaning of life? Are the objects which surround us a function toward a universal goal, or do they simply relate to a cultural, material purpose? Are there natural realities that precede our mental realities? Is there a difference between our mental realities and natural realities? How do the objects in our reality relate to the meaning/purpose of our lives? Are these objects in our lives acting as the main character and we are simply the audience. Or are these objects a distraction to achieving our true goal in life? But how do we begin to understand what the main purpose of life is based on material objects, as some many of us do?"



The GSU Visual Arts Gallery is free and open to the public. Gallery Hours are Monday through Thursday, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, call 708.534.4021 or visit <http://gsuvisualartsgallery.blogspot.com>

GSU Hosts World AIDS Day Activities – December 1



While the HIV/AIDS epidemic is not making the news as frequently or with as much urgency as it once did, the disease remains a growing and serious world health issue. World AIDS Day will be marked at GSU with an opportunity to learn the current statistics, facts, and answers about HIV/AIDS.

A panel discussion, with comments by those living with the disease and healthcare professionals treating it, will be held at on December 1, at noon and again at 2:20 p.m., in the GSU Cafeteria Annex.

An information fair will also held on December 1, from noon to 5 p.m., in the Hall of Governors. A variety of service providers will offer information on the spread, prevention, and treatment of HIV/AIDS. Both the information fair and panel discussion are free and open to the public.

TQE Scholarships for Winter 2010

The Teacher Quality Enhancement Recruitment (TQE-R) grant is offering scholarships, from \$500 to \$3,000, to students entering Governor State University's secondary education programs in biology, chemistry, English, or math.

This is a renewable scholarship until Fall 2010 so students may reapply for the scholarship in subsequent terms. Applications for Winter 2010 must be submitted by December 1, 2009. [Scholarship requirements and applications](#) are available online.

This program is funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Education.

School of Counseling Common Hour – December 2

GSU School of Counseling Common Hour Series continues with the presentation *Social Responsibility: Counseling Adolescents and Children in School* on Wednesday, December 2, from 5:30 to 7 p.m., in Engbretson Hall.

Speakers include Raymond Piagentini, President of the Illinois School Counselor Association; Dr. Reginald Patterson, Elementary School Counseling, Chicago Public Schools; and Dr Joyce Brown, Secondary School Counseling, Chicago Public Schools.

The Illinois Counseling Association, GSU Chapter, and graduate students in COUN858 (Development of School Counseling Services) are sponsoring this event. It is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served.

Career Fair – Health and Human Services – December 8

The Office of Career Services is sponsoring a career fair for healthcare workers and counselors. Current students, alumni, and community members interested in finding employment in the field of healthcare are invited to attend. More than 35 potential employers will be present. Fields represented will include OT/PT, nursing, healthcare administration, social workers, counselors and non-profit agencies.

The Healthcare Career Fair is on Tuesday, December 8, from 4 to 6 p.m., in The Center for Performing Arts lobby at GSU. The event is free and open to the public. For more information about the career fair, call 708.235.3974.

Friends Solve the Mystery – December 16

The Friends of Mysteries are celebrating GSU's 40th anniversary by reading and talking about mysteries that were published in 1969. Join them on December 16, at noon, in the cafeteria, where the mystery of the *Death of a Dude* by Rex Stout will be unraveled.

Participants are encouraged to join the *Friends of the Library*. Membership is \$35 per year (\$5 per year for seniors 60 and over). If you would like to join, or would like more information, please call Pam Taylor at 708.235.7527.

Veterans Questions Answered –December 17

Lynn Salkeld, of the Illinois Department of Employment Security, will be on campus to answer the questions of military personnel and veterans on Thursday, December 17. Ms. Salkeld will be available from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., in room D1408, with information on employment, disability services, educational opportunities, and other topics.

Registration Reminder

Registration for Winter 2010 classes has already begun and will continue through January 16, 2010. Classes in the new term begin on January 11.

Help for the Holidays

The Black Student Union is sponsoring a holiday food drive. From now until December 11, place non-perishable food items in the bins located around campus. The BSU will make sure the food reaches families in need in the Rich Township Food Pantry service area.

Suggested items include canned ham, vegetables, fruits, cranberry sauce, gravy, cake mixes, containers of frosting, packaged potatoes, pasta, and stuffing mix. Juices are also needed. Remember only non-perishable items may be accepted.

HLC Success



On November 16, 17, and 18, a team of eight faculty members and administrators from other universities evaluated GSU on behalf of the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) of the North Central Association. The team has completed its review and will recommend to the HLC that GSU be reaccredited for the maximum number of years (10 years, with the next accreditation visit in academic year 2019-2020). The team's recommendation is preliminary and will be reviewed by HLC staff and/or review committees. However, the university is optimistic that the visitation team's recommendation will be the same as the

Commission's final decision.

The HLC team was particularly impressed by the clear commitment to the university's mission, as expressed by numerous people throughout the visit, and the transparency of university decision making and strategic management, as exemplified by PBAC. The team especially praised GSU's commitment to diversity, the high morale of the institution, and model achievements in engagement with external communities. GSU's improved infrastructure was also recognized as a campus strength, although the team expressed concerns related to the E and F science wings and the need for immediate improvement in these facilities.

The team also recommended that the HLC approve GSU's request to offer the nursing programs and the program in Addiction Studies fully online. The team did recommend, however, that the university develop, within three years, an institutional effectiveness plan which integrates the assessment of student learning, general education assessment, and institutional data for planning and improvement purposes. That plan will be reviewed by an HLC team.

Donations to the GSU Foundation are tax deductible to the extent provided by law. Go to www.govst.edu/donate, if you are interested in making a donation.

I'll continue to send you updates from time to time to keep you up to date. But feel free to visit our website at www.govst.edu/alumni for up-to-the-minute details.

Sincerely,

Rosemary D. Hulett
Associate Vice President for Advancement and Alumni Relations