EMI Selected for GSU Energy Improvement Program

Governors State University President Paula Wolff recently announced that GSU has selected Energy Masters International, Inc. (EMI), an energy services company and a subsidiary of Northern States Power Company, to improve the energy efficiency of the facilities at GSU.

EMI, the successful respondent to GSU's Request for Proposal process, was awarded roughly a $2 million contract by GSU to improve the energy efficiency of four buildings. The company will improve the heating, ventilating and air conditioning (HVAC) systems and install new lighting. Energy savings at the university are projected to exceed $2,850,000 over a ten-year period.

This is the first contract to be signed under the Public University Energy Conservation Act (Public Act 90-486) passed last year. This legislation allows Illinois universities to finance facility improvements over a ten-year period with project costs guaranteed to be covered from energy and operations savings.

President Wolff said, "The project at GSU will result in an impressive combination of lower energy costs, increased student and faculty comfort and productivity, while benefiting the environment through the reduction in energy use and water conservation. This is a major endeavor, and we anticipate the long term rewards to be well worth the commitment."

Gary Graham, EMI's account executive, said the project represents what EMI does best. "We have a history of successful partnerships with schools and universities. Our work with Governors State represents the kind of partnership that provides energy savings and benefits to the university and its students and faculty."

EMI is a St. Paul, Minn. based company that also has offices in Chicago. The company provides energy auditing and design engineering, project and construction management, customized energy services, professional engineering, asset management and other services to businesses and government customers throughout the country.
Illinois Legislature Awards GSU $1.5 Million to Plan New Building

Governors State University's Vice President of Administration and Planning James Alexander announced that the Illinois General Assembly has passed legislation awarding GSU a million and a half dollars for the planning phase of a Teaching/Learning Complex to be built on the GSU campus.

Alexander said "This is good news for GSU. The university proposes to extend its current facility in the most ambitious expansion project in its history. The project will plan for the creation of a teaching/learning complex by the year 2000 to carry Governors State into the 21st century."

Alexander said there are three general components to the project. The planning phase will permit the university community to participate in developing more specific designs for all three phases. First, to meet the challenge of enhancing its teaching environment without building a new facility, the university is proposing repair and renovation of the "E" and "F" Wing classrooms, laboratories and limited faculty office spaces.

The second component of the project is to extend the existing facility by 40,000 square feet to create a two-floor faculty office center. This new center will enhance faculty life and free up space in the existing facility to create more classrooms.

The third component is to plan a family development center/charter school encompassing a new 18,000 square foot building west of the main campus building. This center will house a state-of-the-art child and family center serving families with children from birth to eight years old, including a proposed charter school from kindergarten to third grade. Programs in the university such as early childhood education, family counseling, social work, speech pathology and nursing will provide services and afford students real world situations to hone their skills.

According to Alexander, the planning process will take approximately a year. Once completed, the proposal goes back to the legislature for approval of actual construction funds, which are estimated at approximately $15 million.

GSU & Daley College Formalize Articulation Agreement

Wednesday, May 22, Governors State University in University Park and Richard J. Daley College, one of the City Colleges in Chicago, formalized the first articulation agreement between the two schools in cooperation with the presidents, provosts and deans.

An articulation agreement correlates the curriculum of specific programs at the two schools, so that students attending Daley, a community college, will move seamlessly into the upper division programs at GSU.

"Students will know exactly what to take at Daley and at GSU to complete their bachelor's degree program," said Lisa Hendrickson, interim coordinator of community college relations/admission counselor, at GSU.

Articulation agreements were signed to cover degree programs in criminal justice, computer science, business administration, manufacturing and technology and nursing.

A partnership between Daley College and GSU has been established for GSU's Board of Governors (BOG) program. The students participating in this "2+2" program, indicating two years at each school, have the advantage of automatic admission to GSU. They still will be required to fill out the appropriate forms, but admission to GSU is assured. In addition, she said, the student in the program will not lose credits by taking non-transferable courses or courses that do not meet the criteria of the bachelor's degree program at GSU.

Students in the "2+2" program will also be invited to activities on the GSU campus before they are enrolled. Most of the student services available to GSU students, including Career Services, will be available to those Daley College students in the program, Hendrickson said.

The formal signing was held on the GSU campus in the lobby of the university's Center for Performing Arts. The event was followed by a reception for faculty and administrators from both schools.
GSU Hosts Forum on State Education Funding Bill

Because of the confusion over the complexities of HB 452, the South Metropolitan Regional Leadership Center invited the region’s 104 superintendents to a May 15 grassroots seminar at Governors State University to discuss the bill’s implications and unanswered questions.

House Bill 452, passed in late 1997, affected K-12 teachers and administrators throughout the state, but no more acutely than in the south metropolitan region. The legislation addresses many issues with school funding, the predominant regional concern.

GSU’s College of Education and the Coalition of South Metropolitan Superintendents co-sponsored the event. Provost Tobin Barozzo and SMRLC Director of Outreach Ron Bean welcomed the attendees. Ultimately, the group hopes to influence rules and regulations of future legislation while making their concerns known to featured speaker State Board of Education Superintendent Joseph Spagnolo.

The law firms of Klein, Thorp and Jenkins and Scariano, Kula, Ellch and Himes provided expertise on the nuances of legislation. The lawyers served as facilitators for six break-out sections that covered teacher tenure, social promotion and retention, funding-grants and hold harmless, administrative cost cap, teacher and administrative certification and mentoring and state construction grants.

Summaries of the proceedings and the major concerns and questions raised in each section were made available to participants during the question and answer finale with Spagnolo, who showed himself to be knowledgeable and open-minded about the inadequacies of the legislation.

According to GSU professor and former school superintendent Ken Peterson, the basic funding problems that HB 452 attempted to address have yet to be solved. Peterson stated, “The underlying sources of revenue still need to be examined. Figuratively speaking, [the bill] remodeled the exterior of the house without correcting the problems in the foundation.”

Currently, property tax accounts for approximately 67 percent of school revenues with the remaining 33 percent coming from the state. Many believe that because of the gross disparities in statewide property values, a 50/50 split between property tax and state funding would be more equitable for communities with a limited tax base.

Overall, the ambitious event was a success with much being discussed and learned in only a few hours. GSU’s Interim Dean of the College of Education Larry Freeman provided a memorable summit highlight with a creative, computer-driven audio/visual overview for the context of public education in the south metro region.

For detailed summaries of the break-out section results, contact Ted Spaniak at the SMRLC at (708) 534-5000, Ext. 5264.

International Sculpture Group Tours Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park at GSU

More than 300 internationally known artists, sculptors and curators toured the Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park at GSU the morning of May 24, as part of the International Sculpture Center (ISC) Conference that was held in Chicago.

“This is very exciting for us to have artists from all over the world at GSU to view the Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park. It’s a testimony to the esteem this park enjoys both nationally and internationally,” said Beverly Goldberg, director of the Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park.

In preparation for this momentous event, nearly a third of the 21 pieces in the park have recently been restored to their original grandeur, Goldberg said. In addition to the ongoing restoration project, new identification and directional signage was prepared for this group and to assist in self-guided tours. A completely revised, accurate and user-friendly brochure also is available, thanks to a grant from the Chicago Southland Convention and Visitors Bureau, Goldberg said.

A fund has been established for accepting donations to maintain the integrity of the park and for future acquisitions, to ensure The Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park’s stature as a pre-eminent monumental outdoor sculpture museum. Checks made payable to the GSU Foundation/Sculpture Park can be sent to GSU, University Park, IL 60466. In addition, a group of “Friends of the Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park” is being formed through the GSU Foundation; interested persons are encouraged to call Goldberg at (708) 534-6360 or fax her at (708) 534-8959.

The park is open to the public year-round, from dawn to dusk, free of charge; a call ahead will assure that a brochure is available. Guided tours can be arranged for adult groups of 15 or more.

@gsux.edu ■ June 1998
Happenings

AT&T to Hold Computer Camp at GSU Again

The AT&T Computer Scholars Camp is once again being held at Governors State University. This camp is an alternative for parents who want to introduce their children to the latest technologies.

The camp takes place from July 27 through August 7. Designed to enhance students' reasoning, writing and organizational skills, the camp is for students who have just completed 8th grade.

Students in the AT&T Computer Scholars Camp will engage in a variety of hands-on activities. During the morning, they will work in groups to research issues, using the Internet and other university resources to expand their technological literacy. Recreation time, including use of the university pool, is planned for the afternoons.

Participation is free for the students, thanks to AT&T's Community Involvement Grant Fund. Activities take place at the GSU campus, in University Park.

For more information on the camp, contact Sherry Kohl at (708) 534-5000, Ext. 5146.

Juneteenth Scholarship Fundraiser Scheduled

The African American Staff Caucus at Governors State University is sponsoring a scholarship fund-raiser on Friday, June 19, from 8 p.m. until 1 a.m. in the Hall of Governors at GSU.

The event also celebrates “Juneteenth,” the only state holiday based on an important event in black history, the freeing of Texas slaves in 1865.

Dr. Rashidah Muhammad, president of the caucus at GSU, said there will be food, card games, dancing and vendors selling African wares, artifacts and books. Muhammad also said that people have donated “some great stuff” that will be raffled off during the event as well.

Guest speakers include Star Lawson who will provide a historical perspective of “Juneteenth.”

Tickets are $10 before the event and $15 at the door. For ticket information, contact Debra Ball at (708) 534-5480.

Outstanding GSU Students Honored

Governors State University’s Student Life Division recently recognized students who have made exceptional contributions to the student life of the university.

The two top award winners were Kathleen Weller of Mokena who was given the 1998 Special Achievement Award for exceptional dedication to her student organization, and Anna Stange of Blue Island who received the 1998 Student Leader of the Year Award for outstanding performance as the student member of the GSU Board of Trustees.

Professor Jacqueline Klosak was awarded the 1998 Advisor of the Year Award for the profound effect she has on students with whom she works, and the Physical Therapy Student Organization was given the 1998 Club of the Year Award for the comprehensiveness of its programs.

In addition, 56 students were recognized for being nominated to “Who’s Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges.” Those students are:


To be listed in “Who’s Who” students are nominated by university staff based on a grade point average of 3.0 or better and their extracurricular involvement.

GSU Employees Reach Milestones

Governors State University honored employees reaching professional hallmarks in a Service Recognition Award program on May 20. Awards were presented by GSU President Paula Wolff, James Alexander, vice president of Administration and Planning and Gail Lutz, director of Human Resources.

GSU salutes each of these employees for their past contributions to the university and for their active participation in the creation of its future.


Those attaining 20 years of service are Arthur Bourgeois, Robert Donaldson, William Elliott, Lynne Hostetter, Mohammed Kishta, Michael Knabjian, Annie Lawrence, Robert Leftwich, Wilhemenia Moore, John Mulder, Paul Schwellenbach, George Vesvades and David Weinberger.

Those attaining 15 years of service are Gregory Blevins, David Curtis, Louise Kohl, Beverly Kyser, Zafar Malik, Marilyn Molyneaux, Leroy Morrison, Paul O'Brien, and David Sparks.

Ten year honorees are Nicholas Battaglia, Susan Bell, Yonne Franklin, Andrea Gaz, Edward Herman, Larry Levinson, Charles Nebes, Eli Segal, Jill Stanney, Amerfl Wang, Janice Washington, Anita Werner, William Wilkinson, and Margo Witkowski.

Five year honorees are Joanne Anania, Thelma Carter, Vincent Donahue Jr., Mary Hellings, Kelly McCarthy, Michele McMaster, Willa McLaren, Diane Nadler, David Parmenter, Raquel Rios, Kay Stinson, Bill Strouse, and Paula Wolff.
Approximately 800 students marched down the aisle to “Pomp and Circumstance” played by the Kankakee Municipal Band during the commencement exercises at Governors State University on June 6 and 7.

GSU President Paula Wolff congratulated the students as graduates of the “New American University”—a university diametrically different than that of 25 years ago in the profile of the average student and the manner in which they obtained their education.

While GSU certainly has 21-year-old students, the average age is 34, President Wolff said. Seventy percent of the students in college are women, and 30 percent are minority students. That is five times the number of minority students enrolled in higher education 25 years ago, President Wolff said.

Students in the “New American University” are also different from 25 years ago in that 80 percent of them are working and raising families at the same time they are enrolled in college courses. Getting their education entails financial sacrifice. They are highly motivated people who use life experience to enhance their education and their education to enhance their lives, she said.

These are the people who have created the “New American University,” President Wolff said, as she admonished them not to fall into the trap of conventional thinking, which dictates that older graduates are less successful. On the contrary, she emphasized, these are extraordinarily successful students. Their emphasis is on practical learning that reinforces the academic experience.

More than 25,000 students representing the brightest and best have graduated from GSU since its inception, President Wolff said, and asked that in exchange for their diploma each student give back to the university and society at large.

Also participating in the commencement exercises were three recipients of honorary doctorates of humane letters, Monsignor Ignatius McDermott, the Hon. Jesse L. Jackson Jr. and award-winning journalist Bill Kurtis.

On Saturday, Monsignor McDermott, founder of Haymarket House, the first freestanding social setting detoxification center in Illinois admonished students that God pays off for effort, not for accomplishment.

The Hon. Jesse L. Jackson Jr. told the students on Saturday that the country needs to move beyond the battleground and find common ground, unlike the generation before that was not able to move beyond the great divides in our nation that separated black from white, men from women and gay from straight. Dream bigger than before, he said.

At Sunday’s commencement, Bill Kurtis told students that they were “commencing” in a very unique time. There is no war, and the economy is so strong that there are more jobs than people to fill them. On the down side, the nuclear genie is out of the bottle again, and climatic measurements indicate that we are going through radical changes that could lead to population shifts. He also said that corporations that do not keep pace with global politics, education and communication will face significant ramifications, as Motorola has. Kurtis closed with two guiding thoughts: “Dance as if no one is watching, and love as if you’re never going to get hurt.”

Other speakers addressing the graduates included Jerry
Congratulations Grads!

continued from page 1

Blakemore, the newly appointed chair of the Illinois Board of Higher Education, who is a native of Ford Heights; Board of Trustee members Bobbie Peterson and Bruce Frielfeld, student speaker Denise Robinson and Nyree Ford and GSU’s Alumni President Roger Addison.

Cook County Commissioner and Rock and Roll Hall of Famer Jerry Butler, a 1993 alumnus of the BOG program, received a round of applause from the audience of more than 2,000 when he was awarded a master of arts degree from the College of Arts and Sciences on Sunday. Butler co-authored a comprehensive bio-history on the Chicago music scene with GSU Professor Walter Perkins called “Lasting Impressions: Chicago, Veejay and Me.”

On a sad note, the families of the late Joann K. Basick and Bruce Wotaszak received their diplomas.

More GSU Grads Than Ever Before!

With 1,338 students graduating this year, Governors State University set another record. This year’s number exceeds last year’s graduating class by 138 students, and last year’s class was the largest graduation class since GSU opened in 1971. Of the students graduating this year, 769 are graduate students, while 569 are undergraduates. Approximately 800 are participating in the Commencement Exercises of June 6 and 7.
Student Speakers an Example of the Best GSU Has to Offer

Nyree Ford of Ford Heights and Denise L. Robinson of S. Trumbull in Chicago served as student speakers for the 1998 Commencement Exercises at Governors State University.

Nyree Ford is the first student to complete the Learning in Context (LIC) program. LIC is a dual community-university effort, linking GSU, Prairie State College, the village of Ford Heights, School District 169, Ford Heights Youth and other key support groups in a "communiversity."

At age 24, Ford is the youngest of three siblings, and the first in her family to complete a college degree. She received an associate of arts degree in Liberal Arts from Prairie State College in 1996 and a bachelor of arts degree in social science from GSU on June 7. She has already enrolled in classes for the spring/summer trimester at GSU that will lead to a master's degree.

Ford's professional goal is to assist at-risk young girls, and she ultimately foresees getting into politics as the best way of doing that. Ford herself is a volunteer mentor for the Ford Heights Sister-to-Sister Inc. program, which focuses on at-risk females.

Denise Robinson was awarded a bachelor's degree in elementary education from the College of Education on June 6 and has enrolled in the master's degree program that makes things happen for herself and has made a lot of friends at GSU. About 12 diverse students, she said, have formed a strong camaraderie. They help each other, attend workshops and classes together and have even gone on trips together.

Robinson said her strengths are her organizational and leadership skills. She is a member of the National Council of Teachers of English, Phi Theta Kappa, the Illinois Education Association and Phi Delta Kappa.

Ford was nominated by Professor Pat Koutouzos and Division Chair Dr. Sonny Goldenstein. Robinson was nominated by College of Education Division Chairs Dr. Maribeth Kasik and Dr. Addison Woodward. The two were selected by interviewing and approved Dr. Patricia Carter, dean of student affairs and services.

Denise Robinson was awarded a bachelor's degree in elementary education. After high school Robinson worked for IBM/Continental Bank for 10 years. Taking a leave of absence, she served in the U.S. Army for 12 years and returned to IBM/Continental Bank. At the same time she was working, Robinson was pursuing her education at Prairie State College and returned to school after military service. She also was in the Army Reserves.

Robinson attended school through a returning student scholarship and also received a minority teacher scholarship at Prairie State. In addition she received the Illinois Veterans Grant for education.

Robinson's student teaching was completed at Nathan Hale Elementary School in Crestwood. She completed her student teaching, she said, on April 24 and starting teaching first grade at the Chicago International Charter School on May 1.

Robinson said she is the kind of person who makes things happen for herself and has made a lot of friends at GSU. About 12 diverse students, she said, have formed a strong camaraderie. They help each other, attend workshops and classes together and have even gone on trips together.

Robinson said her strengths are her organizational and leadership skills. She is a member of the National Council of Teachers of English, Phi Theta Kappa, the Illinois Education Association and Phi Delta Kappa.

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Governors State University student Bernadine Miller and Professor J. P. Dave' received this year's Community Service Awards at GSU commencement ceremonies on June 6 and 7.

The two were selected because their volunteer activities best exemplified the university’s missions - to benefit the community or enhance community relations.

Miller is a student in the social work program at GSU. Disabled and a single mother of four, Miller was awarded the Volunteer of the Year honors in January by Aunt Martha’s Youth Service Center. In nominating Miller for GSU’s Community Service Award, Helen S. Carpenter, director of Volunteer and Intern Services at Aunt Martha’s, said Miller brought integrity, wisdom and professionalism to her efforts there.

Another nominator was Rev. Edward McLaughlin, pastor of St. Michael’s church in Orland Park. McLaughlin recognized Miller’s contributions as a teacher in the religious education program and participant in their outreach efforts in tutoring Chicago children and providing meals at a soup kitchen.

Two representatives of Public Action to Deliver Shelter (PADS), also recommended Miller for the award. PADS nominator Deborah Franklin said, “Bernie has helped with our commitment of respect and compassion, in providing our homeless guests with a way back to being able to provide for themselves and their families.”

For the past 22 years, Professor Dave’ has provided educational, cultural, psychological and spiritual services to the Indian community in the south suburbs. He is president of the India Community Center in Park Forest and has been the driving force in bringing the Festival of Lights Celebration to GSU. The celebration, a day of sharing the arts, history, cuisine and customs of India, has become a tradition at GSU.

In nominating Dave’ for the Community Service Award, Addison Woodward, division chair in the College of Education, said, “He has worked hard to expand all of our senses of community and help GSU and the South Suburban community fully appreciate the cultural diversity that exists within its boundaries.”

Dave’ was awarded an Honored Freedom Fighter Award last year by the Association of Indians in America for his outstanding service to Indians in America. Dave’ was a Freedom Fighter during India’s struggle for independence from Great Britain from 1942 to 1947, participating in Mahatma Gandhi’s “Quit India” movement.

After earning bachelor’s and master’s degrees in education and teaching there, Dave’ came to America in 1959 on a Fulbright Scholarship. He earned his Ph.D in education in 1964 at the University of Chicago. In 1977 Dave’ came to GSU after working as a visiting professor and adjunct faculty member at various colleges both in India and in the Chicago area. He is now a professor of psychology at GSU.

Winners of the Community Service Awards will be honored in three ways: their names will be displayed permanently on a plaque in the Hall of Governors at GSU; they will receive a framed certificate of recognition and the GSU Foundation and GSU Alumni Association will make a contribution of $500 in their names to a not-for-profit organization of their choice. Dave’ has selected the Hindu Cultural Center at the India Community Center in Park Forest to receive the award in his name. Miller has elected to split her award between the St. Vincent DePaul Society at St. Michael’s Church in Orland Park and Aunt Martha’s Training Department in Matteson.
Center for Performing Arts Prepares for Exciting 1998-99 Season

Just ending his first year at Governors State University, Center for Performing Arts Executive Director Burton Dikelsky says that he is thrilled with the support given to The Center by GSU in 1997/98, and looks forward with heightening excitement to what takes center stage during the 1998/99 season.

Dikelsky has good reason to be excited, as the upcoming season features an impressive and diverse array of talent and entertainment. The upcoming season includes renowned international acts like the Vienna Choir Boys, the Peking Acrobats, Japan’s Ondekoza Drummers, and the return of South Africa’s Ladysmith Black Mambazo, music headliners like Glen Campbell and Bobby Caldwell, and a direct from Broadway production of The King and I, as well as several other exciting plays.

The Center’s upcoming season also features some of the best in local dance talent, with performances by the internationally acclaimed River North Dance Company, as well as ethnic dance groups such as the Lira Dance Ensemble, Mexican Folkloric, and the Muntu Dance Theatre, all based in Chicago.

The upcoming season also features an exciting array of children’s programming, including the return of the popular Cotton Tail Capers and a new production of The Jungle Book. Also returning to The Center stage is Salt Creek Ballet’s rendition of The Nutcracker and the popular stage adaptation of the holiday classic A Christmas Carol.

The season begins on September 12 at 7:30 p.m. when jazz greats Ramsey Lewis and Billy Taylor perform side by side on two Steinway pianos. The concert is a tribute to Duke Ellington and George Gershwin, and is just part of an exciting gala opening that will include supper and an opportunity for gala participants to meet these music legends.

Here is the rest of the exciting 1998/99 lineup:

- September 27, 1998. 3 p.m. The Lira Ensemble of Chicago; October 3, 1998. 8 p.m. Idols of the King; October 9, 1998. 7 p.m. Mexican Folkloric; October 10, 1998. 8 p.m. River North Dance Company; October 11, 1998. 3 p.m. The Philadelphia Brass; October 17, 1998. 11 a.m. The Jungle Book; October 31, 1998. 1:30 p.m. Dave Rudolf’s Halloween Spooktacular - 11 a.m. lunch; November 1, 1998. 3 p.m. The Ondekoza Drummers of Japan; November 6, 1998. 8 p.m. The Vienna Choir Boys; December 5, 1998. 4 and 8 p.m. Glen Campbell’s Country Christmas Concert; December 12, 1998. 1 p.m. and 5 p.m.; The Nutcracker with the Salt Creek Ballet and featured performers from The American Ballet Theatre; December 20, 1998. 3 p.m. A Christmas Carol; February 6, 1999. 7:30 p.m. Jim Post in Mark Twain and The Laughing River; February 13, 1999. 8 p.m. Ladies of the Pack - The Marvelllettes, The Shangri - Las, and Shirley Alston-Reeves; and The Shirelles - Red Rose Dinner 6 p.m.; February 14, 1999. 3 p.m. Mac McCray, Romance Classics; February 19, 1999. 8 p.m. Muntu Dance Company of Chicago; February 20, 1999. 11 a.m. Phantom of the Opera; February 20, 1999. 8 p.m. Cherish the Ladies; March 7, 1999. 3 p.m. Ladysmith Black Mambazo; March 14, 1999. 3 p.m. Zephyr; March 19, 1999. 3 p.m. The Peking Acrobats; March 20, 1999. 11 a.m. Black Beauty; March 20, 1999. 8 p.m. Four Bitchin’ Babes; March 27, 1999. 1:30 p.m. The Cotton Tail Capers - 11 a.m. lunch and Easter parade; April 17, 1999. 8 p.m. Corky Siegel’s Chamber Blues and Siegel Schwall Band; April 18, 1999. 3 p.m. The Duttons; April 24, 1999. 8 p.m. Bobby Caldwell; May 9, 1999. 5 p.m. The King and I; May 22, 1999. 11 a.m. Ramona Quimby.

Season discount tickets with savings up to 20% for most of the shows above are available now at The Center for Performing Arts Box Office. This early savings offer ends July 20. Now is the time to get the best seats and best prices for the 1998/99 season of great shows at The Center. Call the box office at 708-235-2222 Monday through Friday between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Happenings

Kennedy to Reflect on China Trip at Faculty Salon

GSU Professor of Communications Dr. Joyce Kennedy will discuss her impressions of China following her experience as a visiting professor at the University of Beijing last fall during a faculty salon scheduled for Wednesday, June 24, 1998 at 3 p.m. in Engbretson Hall.

All are welcome to attend. Wine and cheese will be served. Please R.S.V.P. by calling Ext. 5151.

SCORE Offers Free Business Counseling

SCORE, the Service Corps of Retired Executives, located in the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) at Governors State University, offers free counseling to small business owners or those considering starting a business.

SCORE counselors are available for appointments on Tuesdays, from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Approximately 20 SCORE counselors volunteer their services at GSU.

Appointments can be scheduled by calling Chris Barberi at (708) 534-4929.

Art Gallery Features Exhibit of Native American Images

An exhibit called “Photographic Images of Native Americans: 19th and 20th Centuries” is on display through June 30 in the Art Gallery off E -Lounge at Governors State University. The collection has been compiled by GSU Professor Joyce Morishita and Bertrand Phillips.

The Art Gallery is open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. The gallery phone number is (708) 534-4021. Admission is free.
GSU Welcomes Prospective Students

Governors State University provides high school and college transfer students with opportunities to explore quality education opportunities through its sponsorship of programs like Student Transfer Day and the League of United Latin American Citizens' (LULAC) Hispanic Leadership Opportunity Program (HLOP).

More than 100 students attended Student Transfer Day to learn about the opportunities for higher education at GSU. They came from Joliet Junior College, Kankakee Community College, Moraine Valley Community College, Prairie State College, South Suburban College, Harold Washington College, Olive-Harvey College, some traditional four-year institutions and some who are not currently enrolled in a college who are exploring opportunities.

Lisa Hendrickson, admissions counselor, said response from the participants was very positive. Students were pleased to have an opportunity to talk to staff and to faculty, whose classes they would be attending. They were also impressed that GSU President Paula Wolff took the time to address them. As a result of the outreach event, 15 students immediately applied for admission, five had already applied and further applications are expected.

Approximately 400 students participated in LULAC's Sixth Annual Chicago-Hispanic Leadership Opportunity Program (HLOP) hosted by GSU. HLOP is a unique nonprofit organization comprised of motivated Latino high school students from various neighborhoods in the Chicago area and rooted in the largest Mexican community in the Midwest, Little Village.

GSU's President Paula Wolff said, "Governors State is committed to providing all students with opportunities to explore higher education opportunities and personal development, through programs like Student Transfer Day and the Hispanic Leadership Opportunity Program."

"Students' development through higher education ultimately benefits their communities, as well as themselves and their families. We at GSU are honored to participate in that development. We look forward to helping these students fulfill their personal educational goals and hope many will choose Governors State as the place to do that."

Raquel Rios-Aguirre
May Employee of the Month

Raquel Rios-Aguirre was May's Employee of the Month at GSU. Rios-Aguirre is a data entry operator in the Registrar's Office who has worked at GSU for more than five years. She was recognized for her positive attitude when assisting others and commitment to quality work.

In nominating Rios-Aguirre, Shirley Grant, staff secretary in the College of Education, wrote, "She is always friendly and more than willing to help. She will also contact us when she becomes aware of a problem that needs to be corrected. Her work with student registration is a significant contribution to GSU."

In recognition of Rios-Aguirre's exemplary service, GSU awarded her a certificate of appreciation, a $150 check and tickets to a show at the university's Center for Performing Arts. Rios-Aguirre lives in Chicago Heights with her husband, Steve, and 18-month-old daughter, Lydia. They are expecting an addition to the family in mid-July.

"I feel very privileged and honored to have earned the Employee of the Month award and thank Shirley Grant for nominating me," Rios-Aguirre said. "I enjoy working at GSU, solving problems and helping students. Even though it is sometimes hectic, I like the fast pace."

Rios-Aguirre is the third employee from the Registrar's Office to be selected Employee of the Month in four months. Registrar Dora Hubbard said "I am very proud of my staff. We are not perfect; we make mistakes. But we strive for continuous improvement. Our strength really lies in teamwork."

GSU/Alumni News

GSU Grad Receives Golden Apple

When the Golden Apple Award winners were announced, Karen Nyberg was one of 10 high school teachers named as best in the Chicagoland area. Nyberg is a science teacher at Homewood-Flossmoor High School who encourages her students to take a hands-on approach to science.

Nyberg is certain that she received the Golden Apple for the development of her plants and animals class. This class is unique because the students are exposed to a variety of plants and animals in the classroom. Nyberg has a 37-year-old macaw, African grays and a host of other birds and animals. Some of them have been hand fed since birth, she said.

Nyberg received her master of arts degree in science teaching from Governors State University in 1974. Congratulating Nyberg on her success, GSU President Paula Wolff said it is a reminder that "this university does an exceptional job of educating some of the most interesting and brightest people in the Chicago Metropolitan area."

This is the 13th year that the Golden Apple Awards have been presented to exemplary teachers in Cook, Lake and DuPage Counties. Winners were selected from hundreds of candidates throughout the area. High school teachers were the focus of the 1998 awards, which were presented by the Golden Apple Foundation and sponsored by IBM and Lucent Technologies.

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CPA Receives Grant to Encourage Student Participation in the Arts

The Illinois 90th General Assembly has passed legislation awarding Governors State University $25,000 to promote the involvement of students in low to moderate income families in a variety of educational activities at the Center for Performing Arts.

Senate Bill 681, sponsored by Sen. Debbie Halvorson (D-40th), states that GSU shall develop and implement a program or curriculum component to expand the region’s elementary and high school students’ involvement in and increase student competencies and understanding of the various facets of the performing arts activities and programs offered through the Center for Performing Arts.

Funding is appropriated through the Fund for Educational Involvement in the Performing Arts and is under the oversight of the Illinois Performing Arts Oversight Committee. This committee will consist of GSU’s president, Student Senate president, chairman of the Foundation Board, the director of the Center for Performing Arts, or their respective designees.

GSU President Paula Wolff said “Governors State is very grateful for Sen. Halvorson’s support for the region’s elementary and high school students’ involvement in the arts. One reason the Center for Performing Arts was built was to serve all residents of the region with high quality performances. Pre-college students are a target audience for it. The performing arts offer students an opportunity to explore out-of-the-box critical and creative thinking.”

Burton Dikelsky, the director of the Center for Performing Arts at GSU, said “We have launched a series of ‘arts education’ activities this year at the Center with great success. More than 7,000 students have attended our performances and pre-performance lectures and demonstrations by the artists.

“Schools throughout the region have benefited from the programs, and students have increased their appreciation for the arts. With this grant, thanks to Sen. Halvorson, many students who could not otherwise afford to attend these programs will now be able to do so.”

Montalvo Endowed Scholarship
Established for GSU Students

The first annual fundraising dinner for the Francisco Montalvo Jr. Endowed Scholarship at Governors State University was held at The Hacienda Inn in Chicago Heights on May 7, from 6 to 9 p.m.

Through the continuing awards made possible by endowed scholarship funds, community leaders such as Francisco Montalvo Jr. may be recognized in perpetuity for their contributions to higher education. The Francisco Montalvo Jr. Endowed Scholarship at GSU is being named in honor of a well recognized leader among his peers and in the communities where he lives and works.

Montalvo is an advocate for Latino rights and a community activist. He is currently on the faculty of and a labor education specialist for the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. The scholarship will make it possible for more Latino students to obtain a college education. The scholarships will defray the cost of tuition, books and fees.

GSU’s endowed scholarship program provides an excellent opportunity to invest in students who demonstrate outstanding potential for intellectual growth and/or leadership development.

For more information on the dinner or to contribute to the scholarship fund, please contact Glen Abbott at (708) 534-4132. Scholarship application information will be released at a later date.

Hu Documentary
Airs on PBS

Jane Hu (B.A., CAS 1996) recently completed her first documentary, China Now. The one-hour examination of contemporary China was aired last month on WTTW-TV, Chicago’s primary Public Broadcasting System (PBS) station as well as WYCC-TV, the PBS station of the City Colleges of Chicago.

Kaiser Presents
Paper on Videoconferencing

GSU Professor of Education Jeffrey Kaiser recently presented a paper entitled The Use of PC-Based Videoconferencing in Educational Coursework at the Eastern Educational Research Association Annual Conference held in Tampa, Fla. The paper was based on the use of videoconferencing as part of a course entitled Practicum in Administrative Management in GSU’s graduate program in Educational Administration.

Alumni Association Plans Two Events

On Saturday, July 18 the Alumni Association will host a trip to Comiskey Park to see the White Sox face the Cleveland Indians. The cost is $22.

On Saturday August 15, the Alumni Association will host a Lake Shore Cruise on the famous Spirit of Chicago featuring Big Band entertainment. The cost is $40 and includes brunch.

Call the Alumni Office at (708) 534-4128 for details or to register for either event.
GSU Board Approves Modest Tuition Increase

An increase of three percent for undergraduate and graduate students attending Governors State University, approved last year, will go into effect beginning with the fall trimester of 1998.

Fall 1998 tuition for in-state full-time undergraduates will be $1,074. Full-time graduate students will pay $1,137. Cost per credit hour will be $89.50 and $94.75 respectively.

Out-of-state full time undergraduate students will pay $3,222 while graduate students will pay $3,411. Cost per credit hour will be $268.50 and $284.25 respectively.

On June 12, the GSU Board of Trustees approved an increase for academic year 1999-2000. In the fall trimester of 1999, a 2.8 percent increase in undergraduate tuition and a 3.4 percent increase in graduate tuition will take effect.

Full-time in-state undergraduate student tuition will be $1,104 and graduate students will pay $1,176. The per hour cost per credit hour will be $92 and $98, respectively.

Tuition for out-of-state full-time undergraduates will be $3,312 and for graduates it will be $3,528. The cost per credit hour will be $276 and $294 respectively.

Despite increases, GSU President Paula Wolff said “Again this fall 1998 GSU’s tuition and fees remain the lowest of the public universities in Illinois.” In addition, she commented that GSU provides an accessible quality education for non-traditional students in what she calls “the New American University,” serving part-time, older and very motivated students.

Meet... Chuck Ofenloch

“I tell people all the time that healthy communities is not just having good hospitals,” says GSU Foundation Board member Chuck Ofenloch. "You need to provide good educational institutions, good housing stock for all income levels, yes, good hospitals, good arts programs and cultural activities; that's how you get healthy communities.”

Ofenloch has been involved in helping to build healthy communities in the Chicagoland region for many years. Before moving to Olympia Fields in 1989, Ofenloch was a 34-year resident of Waukegan where he was very active in community business organizations.

Since moving to the south suburbs, Ofenloch has become very involved in the business and social community of the Southland region. A member of the GSU Foundation Board since 1992, Ofenloch sits on the board of South Suburban Hospital and is general chairman of the Southland Alliance, a collaboration of the Chicago Southland Chamber of Commerce, South Suburban Mayors and Managers, and Chicago Southland Development, Inc., a group that is looking to retain a strong business base in the south suburbs and to encourage new business to consider the region.

"We have the workforce here to supply the labor that would be needed by new industry, and we certainly have fine educational institutions that are capable of training that workforce," says Ofenloch.

In addition to his busy community activities, Ofenloch is executive vice president of Beverly Bancorporation where he is responsible for the commercial activities of the bank, such as commercial lending, marketing and public relations, corporate trust services and retail sales. He is actively involved in the current merger of Beverly Bancorporation and St. Paul Federal Bank. He has been married for 31 years and has three children, the youngest of whom just graduated from Marion Catholic High School and will be attending Boston College in the Fall.

Ofenloch looks forward to the work ahead for the GSU Foundation. “When the board first came together, we were raising money to help build The Center for Performing Arts.” notes Ofenloch with anticipation. “Now, for the first time, we can really concentrate on raising money to provide scholarships and support to people who may really need it.”