Graduation Date Correction
The graduation date published in the Winter 2003 Course Schedule is incorrect. The date is not Sunday, June 2nd, 2003; it is Sunday, June 1st, 2003. Commencement will be held at the Holiday Inn Select Hotel and Convention Center in Tinley Park.

Faculty Office Center: Nailing Down the Details
There are 193 faculty offices to be filled in the Faculty Office Center. At the moment, plans are for the College of Education (excluding Psychology and Counseling), Arts and Sciences, (excluding the science programs), and most of the College of Business and Public Administration to move into the new facility. There are still open issues to resolve, including questions on offices for adjunct faculty, bookshelf space, and computer labs. John Tuohy, vice president, administration and planning, has scheduled a series of open meetings to bring the university up to date on the status of the construction project, and to solicit ideas and comments on the best way to address the open issues. “We’re pretty much down the pike,” Tuohy said, “but there’s still time to make some adjustments to accommodate the needs of the faculty.”

The meetings are scheduled from 1:30 to 3 p.m. at the following dates and locations: January 22, in Sherman Music Hall; and February 4 and 18, in the Hall of Honors.

Graduate Studies Council Created
Dr. Deborah H. Holdstein, university professor of English and rhetoric since 1985, has been appointed Faculty associate for graduate studies. Assisting Holdstein will be a soon-to-be-selected Graduate Council, whose members will provide university-wide representation in the examination of graduate studies and scholarship. Holdstein and the Graduate Council will work closely with both the Colleges and Faculty Senate. Room C-1330 will serve as the Office for the Faculty Associate for Graduate Studies and the location for meetings of the Graduate Council.

“The establishment of the faculty associate and the Graduate Council is in response to needs and long-standing concerns identified by the faculty,” said Provost Paul Keys. “Dr. Holdstein’s credentials make her a perfect fit for this role, and I’m certain she and the Council will offer valuable assistance to our graduate programs.”
Enrollment Rolls Up
Winter 2003 preliminary enrollment is up 3.04 percent, with 5,222 students enrolled as of January 9th. There is a 3.69 percent increase in student credit hours, this year totaling 36,145. Broken down into undergraduate and graduate categories, undergraduate enrollment shows a 1.18 percent decrease offset by a 7.30 percent increase in graduate enrollment.

The largest undergraduate enrollment increases are for Communication Disorders and Communications, with 31.58 percent and 22.22 percent increases, respectively. The largest graduate increases were in Accounting and Business Administration, up 83.33 percent and 58.23 percent.

Congratulations! Your Checkbook Balanced
The Draft Financial and Compliance Audit findings from the state’s Auditor General Office for the year that ended 2002 found no material findings. “This is the first time in GSU’s history and one of the few times in the state’s that an audit concluded there were no material findings,” President Stuart Fagan said. He thanked Tom Stepke, acting director of business operation, and Tracy Sullivan, director of procurement and auxiliary services, and their staffs for their contributions to the success.

Community Shortage – El Valor Undergraduate CDIS Cohort Begins
There has been a long-standing critical shortage of bilingual practitioners in communication disorders. To help address the shortage, the College of Health Professions is partnering with El Valor, a community-based, non-profit organization serving Chicago’s urban and Hispanic populations. With El Valor, CHP has created a cohort of 34 students that has been launched for the Winter 2003 trimester. The program is geared for adult learners and is designed specifically to reach out to Spanish-speaking students. Classes begin Tuesday, January 14th at the El Valor Children’s Center in Chicago’s Pilsen community.

Criminal Justice and Justice Studies
In the second half of 2002, CJUS consultant Thomas Castellano conducted an external review of the B.A. in Criminal Justice and the M.A. in Political and Justice Studies Programs. In a two-fold response to Castellano’s recommendations, faculty and external advisory committees have been formed and have reviewed and recommended changes within those programs. Of particular concern is the need to match curriculum with community need, and the external advisory committee, according to Dr. Donald Culverson, professor of political and justice studies, has been able to act as the programs’ “external eyes and ears for community feedback and perception.” The committee is comprised of members from local law enforcement, local government, corrections and social services – fields into which GSU graduates will both intern and find employment.

Informed by Castellano’s and the External Advisory Committee’s input, the Faculty Advisory Committee has begun a review of internal curriculum matters, proposing curriculum revisions that will streamline the programs and correct any cumbersome components.

“External reviews of programs that don’t have their own accrediting bodies is the best way to maintain the highest standards and ensure our students will be able to use what they’ve learned directly upon entry into their chosen fields,” Provost Paul Keys explained of the reason for the external review.
From Chaos to Kudos
During Welcome Week, January 6th – 10th, students arriving for the Winter 2003 trimester were met with what one student called “the most customer-friendly registration process they have ever seen.” According to Larry Polselli, executive director of enrollment services, volunteerism was the key to the improvement: “We sent a university-wide request for volunteers, and we received a great response. About 40 professional, customer-oriented staff were on hand to act as ‘Meeters and Greeters’ and make every student feel welcomed and at home.”

In addition to the “Meeters and Greeters,” who met every incoming student with a friendly face and ready answers to questions, a New Student Welcome Center, Registration Station and consistent office hours were established to minimize stress and confusion to both new and returning students.

“Everyone’s efforts are to be commended here,” Provost Keys reflected.

Hands Across GSU Will Honor Dr. King
On January 15th, at Noon, The Black History Planning Committee and the Student Life Unit will present “Hands Across GSU” in the Hall of Governors, in observance of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s birthday. Everyone is invited.

Non-perishable foods will also be collected for distribution to needy families throughout the community.

Changing of the Guard
When Governor-elect Rod Blagojevich is sworn in as governor on January 13th, his portrait will be installed in the Hall of Governors. A bronze plaque representing out-going Governor George Ryan is being ordered. With the addition of Blagojevich, there will be 40 Illinois governors represented in the Hall of Governors.

Loss Prevention Workshop
The Property Control Office and DPS are sponsoring a loss prevention workshop on Monday, January 27th, at 1 p.m. in the Hall of Honors. This workshop will address issues regarding tagged equipment and preventative measures to safeguard GSU property. All are welcome to attend. For more information, contact Barbara Lane at Ext. 5086.

Dr. Nugent Nudges Writing into Rectitude:
“I once did hold it…a baseness to write fair, and labored much
How to forget that learning, but, sir, now
It did me yeoman’s service” (Hamlet V, ii, 33)

Writing Center Coordinator Becky Nugent is available to meet with classes to familiarize students with the full range of Writing Center’s resources, including tutoring and the online writing lab (GROWL: www.govst.edu/owl). Short presentations can be arranged by contacting Dr. Nugent at Ext. 2105.