President Maimon made an important announcement on Friday, May 9 regarding a change in the internal structure of several GSU departments. The changes were made in response to a strategic imperative that GSU fully and effectively infuse technology into everything it does – in its teaching and learning processes, as well as its business and administrative systems.

Dr. Maimon noted that while GSU’s employees are currently engaged in providing technology-related services and have been working hard and valiantly to make the best use of technology, the integration of technology into the university’s enterprise systems and instructional processes has not been fully realized. Additionally, the proliferated structure of the university’s technological resources hasn’t allowed for full integration into all facets of GSU’s operation.

“Governors State University must take advantage of the opportunities that today’s technology offers and successfully meet the challenges associated with it,” said Maimon. “These changes continue our momentum toward becoming a model university for the twenty-first century.”

The new plan brings together all technology-related services, academic and administrative, under the Office of the Provost. Changes include:

1. The appointment of John Stoll as Vice Provost for Academic Affairs overseeing: Information Technology Services; Academic Computing; all staff presently providing technology support in the College of Business, the Library, and the College of Education; Digital Learning and Media Design; the Center for Online Teaching and Learning; and the School of Extended Learning, including the Kankakee and Naperville Education Centers.

2. Pending approval by the Board of Trustees in June, University College and the School of Interdisciplinary Learning will become a part of the College of Arts and Sciences. The School of Interdisciplinary Learning with its current Director, Dr. Michelle McMaster, will be maintained as a separate unit in CAS.

3. All other academic advisers and associated staff now housed under the School of Interdisciplinary Learning will move to a central advising center, reporting to Sherilyn Poole, Associate Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students. They will also work collaboratively with Admission staff to advise and recruit community college students.

Dr. Maimon’s full message to the GSU community is available for download.
You are the Future of GSU

Last Friday afternoon, President Maimon kicked off the Strategic Plan review process by submitting the first comment via post-it note. The university’s proposed strategic plan is currently under review via a series of charrettes, or informal, open events that allow participants to stop by, review the plan, and provide comments using post-it notes.

Faculty, staff, and students are encouraged to make their opinions count on May 12, 13, and 14, from noon to 8 p.m., in the Cafeteria Annex.

Those not able to make it to campus during the allotted times, may view the plan and submit comments via the web at www.govst.edu/strategicplanfeedback.

Summer Camp for Kids at GSU Sculpture Park

Children between the ages of 10 and 13 will have the opportunity to create art and discover the wonders of science at Camp Wol-I-Nam, sponsored by the Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park from June 16 through June 20, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Camp Wol-I-Nam, (which is Manilow spelled backwards), is a one-week camp that combines art and science with traditional summer camp activities to create an uniquely memorable experience.

Participants will spend mornings in the studio gaining experience with 2-D and 3-D art and design. They will enjoy an afternoon of prairie science education and experimentation, more individualized art instruction, and time to enjoy and learn about the 26 sculptures in the park.

An optional overnight campout includes outdoor games, a flashlight tour of the park, campfire songs, and s’mores. Breakfast is provided in the morning. Campers must provide their own tent and sleeping gear.

Tuition is $250 and includes all art supplies, camp T-shirt, afternoon snacks, and pizza party. Day campers must provide their own lunch. Participants receive a pass to the GSU Center for Performing Arts production of Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory, on Friday, June 27. The campout is an additional $30 per person.

Com-Ed, an Exelon Company, is providing partial support for the program. For more information or to register, contact the Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park at 708.534.4486.

Endowed Scholarship Lunch

Contributors to the university’s endowed scholarships had the opportunity to meet the recipients of their generosity on Friday, May 9, at a luncheon honoring scholarship winners. Students Terrence Simmons, Priscilla Southern, and Curcueturnia Henry spoke of their gratitude and how the scholarships have helped make earning their degrees possible. Gerry McIlvain, president of the Alumni Association, spoke of the opportunity scholarships provided when he was a GSU student. President Maimon expressed the university’s gratitude and encouraged the continued “investment in the future.”
**Help the Bean Counters**

This week the auditing firm of Clifton Gunderson LLP returned to campus to begin the GSU, Foundation, and Alumni Association FY 2008 audits. The audit team will be working in room D1430 until the end of the calendar year.

The audit team is lead by Paul Pelletier. He will be assisted by Bob Sikma, manager; Linda Jones, senior associate; Robb Knisley, senior associate; and Kristin Mitchell, associate.

The GSU community is asked to assist the auditors should they request information or ask questions as it will help them complete the audits in a timely fashion.

For more information, contact Karen Kissel, university audit liaison, at x4054.

**Visit Incredible India**

The Office of International Services is sponsoring a multimedia presentation, *Incredible India*, on May 14, from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m., in Sherman Hall. Everyone is welcome to take a break from the mundane and visit a truly beautiful and wondrous place – if only for an hour.

Jane Hindsley of Homewood and a member of the Homewood Rotary Club presents a film featuring the cities, temples, and countryside of India, highlighting various regions, the diverse cultures, and the history and people of the country.

**Benefits Fair and SURS Presentation**

An Employee Benefits Fair will be held on Tuesday, May 13, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the hall of Governors. GSU employees can gain information on various benefit options available from vendors and representatives.

State University Retirement System representative Jennifer Bartels, will discuss retirement benefits after the fair, on May 13, from 2:15 to 3:30 p.m., in the Hall of Honors. She will answer questions on the different retirement options, eligibility, and insurance.

Contact the Dave Drechsel for additional information at 708.235.7467.