**Student Commencement Speaker for Spring 2008**

On June 7, Carol Milhous of Chicago Heights and more than 630 other graduates will earn their degrees at the GSU Spring 2008 commencement ceremony at the Tinley Park Convention Center. As student commencement speaker, Milhous will have the opportunity to congratulate her fellow graduates, share their joy, and look to the future.

The journey that brought Milhous to this point is typical of many GSU graduates.

“I would see the sign on the highway that said come to GSU to finish what you started. After I was downsized for the third time, I decided it was time I finished what I had started,” explained Milhous who graduates with Master of Arts in Communication Studies and a 4.0 grade point average.

**Ye Olde Towne Hall**

On Tuesday afternoon, President Maimon held the second of her Spring Town Hall forums – this one specifically for the A&P Staff. Dr. Maimon was joined by Provost Joan Hudak and Executive Vice President Gebe Ejigu.

As was the case during the Civil Service chat a week earlier, important questions were asked and answered. The administration addressed everything from the budget to marketing and from advising to student housing.

Dr. Maimon assured the group that the Town Hall forums would be ongoing as part of the administration’s dedication to a transparent planning and decision-making process.

**Training for the HLC Criterion Subcommittee Members**

Training sessions for all volunteers will be from 10 a.m. to noon. The sessions include a presentation followed by a question and answer period.

Training sessions will be held on:
- Tuesday, May 27, for Criterion 1 and 2, in the Hall of Honors
- Tuesday, June 3, for Criterion 3, in B2200
- Tuesday, June 17, for Criterion 4 and 5, in the Hall of Honors

Volunteers must attend only one of the training sessions. If you cannot attend one of the training sessions, contact Lisa Hendrickson 708.534.3085 for other options.
**DPS Will Ticket**

GSU’s Department of Public Safety has joined Click It or Ticket, a national seat belt enforcement program, from May 19 through June 1. The goal is to increase seat belt usage and reduce fatalities and injuries. During the two-week enforcement period, local law enforcement agencies, including the GSU Police Department, will focus on seat belt compliance. An increased number of officers will be stationed on the roads to specifically look for unbelted vehicle occupants.

The Department of Public Safety encourages all members of the GSU community to always buckle up.

**URG Committee Grants Grants**

The University Research Grant (URG) committee recently reviewed applications and awarded grants. According to committee chair Dr. Margaret Neumann, “The quality and quantity (of applications) was wonderful. Unfortunately we only had $27,500 to fund the over $58,000 requested, so many of those submitting applications will see a reduction in the award amount from what was requested.”

**First Friday on the First Friday**

True to its name, June’s First Friday will be held on the first Friday of the month. Mark your calendars for an afternoon of fun and camaraderie, sponsored by the Office of the Provost and the College of Education.

The fun starts at 3:30 p.m., on Friday, June 6, in the FOC Lobby.

**Tantalizing Trivia**

With the presidential election only five months and 13 days away, GSU is gearing up for a huge voter turnout. Among the informative and enjoyable events designed to ready voters to cast their ballots is the GSU Votes Trivia Challenge. The challenge will take place in early September. Everyone is invited to participate and prizes will be awarded.

To help prepare for the contest, the GSU Votes Committee has provided tidbits of election and presidential trivia – so pay close attention. Enjoy a summer of learning as we wend our way to Election Day.

**Win the Popular Vote/Lose the Election**

The 2000 election was one of four times in our nation’s history when the winning presidential candidate did not win the popular vote.
1. In 1824, Andrew Jackson won the popular vote but got less than 50 percent of the electoral votes. The House of Representatives then voted for John Quincy Adams.
2. In 1876, Samuel Tilden won the popular vote but lost the election when Rutherford B. Hayes got 185 electoral votes to Tilden's 184.
3. In 1888, Grover Cleveland won the popular vote but lost the election when Benjamin Harrison
got 233 electoral votes to Cleveland's 168.
4. In 2000, Al Gore won the popular vote but lost the election to George Bush. The U.S. Supreme Court halted the Florida recount of ballots, which gave Bush the state's 25 electoral votes for a total of 271 to Gore's 255.

Say What?
The residents of Washington, D.C. were not allowed to vote in presidential elections until the 23rd Amendment to the Constitution was ratified in 1961. They still do not elect voting representatives to either the U.S. House of Representatives or Senate. The motto on many D.C. license plates reads “Taxation without representation.”

Mysteries Decoded
The university community is encouraged to help The Mystery Book Club unravel the secrets behind Ngaio Marsh’s "Artists in Crime" (1938). The discussion will take place on Tuesday, June 24, at noon, in the Cafeteria Annex.

The Mystery Book Club will be on hiatus during July and August. "The Da Vinci Code" and "Angels and Demons," both by Dan Brown, will be deciphered on September 16, at noon, in the Cafeteria Annex.