The new academic year represents an appropriate point in time to contemplate the past and plan for the future. During the last academic year, the university recognized and dealt with a serious challenge and set a new direction for the future.

Accreditation issues surrounding the master of social work (M.S.W.) program punctuated the year, and produced no small measure of public comment, criticism and, finally, some praise at the candid and comprehensive way the university dealt with the issue. A lesson learned from last year is that the university always must confront difficult situations candidly and quickly. No spin can (or should) cover up mistakes.

The challenge was to confront the unexpected delay in the accreditation of the M.S.W. program and the negative impact on affected students. I am pleased to report that the MSW situation for all intents and purposes is resolved. The university worked on its own, with the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE), the General Assembly and the governor to find solutions for the affected students. Legislation amending the Clinical Social Work and Social Work Practice Act and the School Code was passed and signed by Governor Ryan. The legislation will allow GSU graduates to take licensing and certification exams immediately.

Working in close collaboration with the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE), the university also developed a fast track timeline for accreditation.

The program applied for CSWE candidacy in May and hosted a commissioner site visit in late August 2001. Based on positive feedback, the program expects approval for candidacy in November and accreditation by 2003. This, combined with the legislation signed by the governor, resolves the issue by helping students to achieve their goal of having long-term successful careers.

Our most important achievement during the past year was the engagement of the university community in a strategic planning process with the goal of charting our own future. We looked at our environment and internal strengths and weaknesses, developed a new university mission and guiding principles for action, and designed a strategy for the future.

Approved by the Board of Trustees in June, the plan provides the university with a better sense of its identity and broad institutional direction. It requires that we change, and the plan gives direction for that change. It
Connect To Excellence
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is now up to us, working together, to develop the action plans to implement the principal priorities:
— to ensure that all academic programs are of high quality, thereby positioning GSU as one of the finest universities in the state,
— to reaffirm our commitment to make a GSU education accessible,
— to support a community of learners which values critical inquiry and scholarship, and
— to reach beyond the campus to build and solidify partnerships that strengthen the development of the region.

This past year, GSU had the largest graduating class since the university was established-1,558 graduated. And, in line with the university’s commitment to promote accessibility and diversity, the number of minority students increased by 5.1%. The number of African-American students grew by 3.8%. Most heartening was the 15.9% growth in Hispanic students, a historic peak. In 2000-2001, 35% of all degrees awarded at GSU went to minority students, compared to 31% in the previous year.

One of the goals in the strategic plan is to develop a culture that encourages and supports research and scholarship. The majority of our faculty have terminal degrees and they are engaged in

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Tuohy Joins the GSU Team
As New VP for Administration and Planning

After months of extensive interviews with talented individuals from across the country, GSU President Stuart Fagan has selected John Tuohy as the new vice president for administration and planning.

"John will be an excellent addition to GSU. With his knowledge, experience and leadership of the administrative wing, GSU will be an even stronger and more effective university," Fagan said.

In response to being selected, Tuohy said he was looking forward to the opportunity to advance the university’s mission.

"I am excited to be here. In my experience and recent visits, GSU’s commitment to quality teaching and learning is evident. As part of the leadership team, I hope to further the university’s position as a regional cornerstone for community and economic development," Tuohy said.

Tuohy will join the university’s staff on September 10, 2001. Tim Arr, who held the interim position, is retiring from the university after 29 years of service (See page 3 for story).

Tuohy brings to the position more than 20 years of experience in business and finance which includes 12 years of service in the Illinois State University system and 11 years in a community colleges environment as a senior fiscal officer.

Tuohy comes to GSU from North Lake College in Irving, Texas, where he served as vice president of administrative services since 1994. At North Lake, his accomplishments in-

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New VP for Administration and Planning (continued)

include providing leadership for a long-range facilities master plan, a $60 million bond program and creating a partnership with the city of Irving to build a $9 million joint-use North Lake Community Library. He also secured $2 million through the Texas Loan STAR program for energy conservation renovations.

Tuohy has also served as the dean of business and fiscal operations for Lincoln Land Community College in Springfield, Ill., and assistant to the dean for fiscal affairs and administration at the University of Illinois College of Medicine at Urbana.


As GSU's new vice president for planning and administration, Tuohy will work closely with GSU's President Stuart Fagan and other top university officials.

He will be the primary point of contact for all academic administrative matters and provide leadership in the areas of capital planning and management, business operations, human resources, information technology services, physical plant operations, and public safety and security.

In Pursuit of Excellence: Eric Martin Defines Quality at GSU

Dr. Eric Martin is the new assistant provost/director of the Center for Quality and Assessment at Governors State University.

GSU's Provost Paul Keys took steps to institutionalize the pursuit of quality as a GSU goal and to strengthen the student outcome assessment process by establishing the Center.

The unit will coordinate all external program reviews and accreditation review and reporting processes, coordinate and expand the work of the University Assessment Committee, and design and conduct quality-enhancement experiments in selected programs and/or offices of the university.

Martin will also assist with the ongoing development of instructional policies and procedures, and the promotion of scholarship opportunities consistent with the university's new mission.

"It is important that we continue to build upon our reputation for excellence one event, one meeting, indeed one person at a time. I will work to bring good ideas and people to our campus and to ensure that our own in-house talents and expertise are shared.

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Tim Arr Retires

After 29 years of service, Tim Arr, currently the interim vice president of administration and planning, is retiring from the university effective September 30, 2001.

Over a productive career that spans nearly three decades, Arr has been instrumental in making Governors State University what it is today: a world class institution of higher learning.

He started at GSU in 1972 as a purchasing assistant in the business office. He was promoted to positions of greater authority and responsibility such as assistant director of purchasing (1979) and director of purchasing (1980). In 1984, Arr became assistant director of business operations and material management. In 1990, he was promoted to director of business operations. On August 1, 1999, Arr took over the university's expansive planning and building operation when he became interim vice president of administration and planning.

As vice president, Arr has managed many of the university's most ambitious capital planning projects. Most recently, he assisted President Stuart Fagan in laying the groundwork for the construction of a state-of-the-art Family Development Center and Faculty Office Building which are slated for construction by 2003.

Arr's talents and dedication to furthering the mission of the university have been greatly appreciated.
important research and community projects that enhance their teaching. They are teacher-scholars. We must commit ourselves to increase scholarly research.

In 2000-2001, GSU also forged solid relationships with our five major feeder community colleges, signing dual admissions agreements and developing plans to increase accessibility, such as establishing collaborative off campus sites to teach courses.

Another of the university’s priorities is to build partnerships to strengthen the development of the region. One example in 2000-2001 was the College of Education’s partnership with eight school districts in south Cook and north Will counties to offer Illinois’ first alternative teacher certification program. This high-quality program is now looked at as a model for the state, and discussion is underway with the Chicago Public Schools to expand the program.

A strong endorsement from the Illinois Board of Higher Education set the stage for two extraordinary GSU programs to become part of the regular university base operating budget this fiscal year - the first time for both. The two programs are the Partnership for Hispanic Opportunity Program Enhancement (Project HOPE) and the Learning In Context Partnership program. The programs — which provide educational opportunities for underserved populations — were previously supported solely by grant funds.

The Fiscal Year 2002 budget includes a 5.5% increase in operational funding. And, with an approved capital budget exceeding $38 million, GSU has five major capital planning projects scheduled for completion by 2004. Construction will begin this fall for the Family Development Center, which will house our Smart Start Program (which trains 400 new parents per year in parenting skills), Child Care Center and Charter School. Then, in November, ground will be broken for the urgently needed and long-desired Faculty Office Building. The freed up space will be renovated, and “smart” classrooms and labs constructed. The campus community will participate in the planning process. In total, this represents the largest capital development since construction of the original campus 30 years ago.

As illustrated by the achievements above, high-quality, accessibility, scholarship and community engagement will characterize GSU as we move into the future. Finally, I must add that all of us must tell the GSU story better. It is essential that the larger region know what we are doing, how well we do it and the impact on the region and state. It is essential that GSU be known for what it is: a mature, quality university that is filling critical needs of the region and state.

Youth Explore Nature at Environmental Day Camp

Governors State University was among the collaborating institutions that made it possible for more than 30 youth from Ford Heights, Ill., to attend an environmental day camp held August 13-17.

The activities were designed to be interactive, fun and educational. They included a field trip to Sand Ridge Nature Center in South Holland, Ill., a fishing expedition to Wampam Lake and classroom instruction on bugs and aquatic species.

In the photo, Bernita D. Lucas, (far right) executive director, Community and Economic Development Association of Cook County, Inc. and youth participants display a crayon drawing illustrating a day at the camp. Also shown are (back row, left-right) Karen D'Arcy, a GSU professor and the university's representative with the Thorn Creek Ecosystem Partnership; Mary Tano, GSU research associate; and Kim Jones, representing Cook County Commissioner Deborah Sims.
GSU selects new faculty for M.S.W. program

Sylvia Margolin and Geraldine Outlaw have accepted positions as full-time, tenure track professors in the master of social work program at GSU.

Before joining GSU, Margolin taught a variety of social work classes at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) and spent 12 years as a school social worker in ethnically diverse areas in Illinois. She has conducted extensive research focusing on intervention and issues involving at-risk children and their families.

A resident of Evanston, Ill., Margolin’s academic and professional experience includes serving as an adjunct professor in the School of Social Service Administration at the University of Chicago and as a lecturer at the Jane Addams College of Social Work, UIC. As associate research consultant for Erie Neighborhood House in Chicago, Ill., and a research consultant for The Cradle, located in Evanston, she has conducted or evaluated numerous research projects.

Margolin received a master’s of social work from the Jane Addams College of Social Work, UIC, in 1985 and will return to UIC in the fall to present her doctoral dissertation. Additionally, she holds a graduate degree in elementary education from New York University.

Geraldine Outlaw has a professional background that emphasizes academic scholarship, demonstrated community commitment and extensive curriculum development and teaching experience in the research and social welfare policy curricular areas at the undergraduate and graduate levels.

Before joining GSU, Outlaw played significant roles in the accreditation reaffirmation process for baccalaureate and master’s level social work programs. As a Loyola University faculty member, an assistant professor at Northeastern Illinois University, and an instructor at Aurora University, her contributions involved preparation of the outcome study, and conceptualizing and articulating the research curriculum.

Outlaw has a master’s in social work from the Jane Addams College of Social Work, UIC and a doctorate in counseling, adult and health education, from Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, Ill.

Sandra Mayfield

Sandra Mayfield has been selected as the new interim dean of the College of Health Professions.

Previously, she served as chairperson of the Division of Nursing, Communications Disorders, Occupational Therapy, and Physical Therapy.

Mayfield is a member of the Communication Disorders faculty, and has been with GSU for five years. She has been acting chairperson for the Division of Nursing, Communication Disorders, Occupational Therapy, and Physical Therapy since October 1999.

She has a bachelor of science degree in hearing and speech sciences from Colorado State University and a master of arts degree in speech-language pathology from Case Western Reserve University.

Mayfield also earned her doctoral degree in communication disorders in child language from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, which included a minor in Business Management from the Graduate School of Business.
Susan Kinsey has been named executive director of Governors State University’s Family Development Center. Kinsey will administer early childhood education programs at GSU.

These programs are the region’s first Charter School, the GSU Child Care Center and the Smart Start program.

Kinsey’s appointment culminates a nationwide search involving a number of highly qualified candidates.

Before accepting the position at GSU, Kinsey was a professor in the GSU Early Childhood Education program. She has also been an independent consultant to school districts in Grayslake, Ill., and an adjunct professor with the Erikson Institute.

Kinsey holds a master’s degree in educational psychology from the University of Minnesota and a doctorate degree in child development/educational administration from Loyola University Chicago.

She has researched, lectured and published on the subject of multi-age classrooms and academic achievement.

As the new executive director of enrollment services, Larry Polselli is committed to implementing programs to increase general awareness of GSU in the region and to increase as well the number of students enrolled in the university.

Polselli comes to GSU from a professional background that includes more than 20 years of experience in admissions, counseling and recruitment.

He has served as director of admissions at Roosevelt University in Chicago, Ill., dean of external relations for South Suburban College in South Holland, Ill., and director of financial aid at Saint Xavier University in Chicago, Ill.

Polselli has effectively used a combination of telemarketing, e-mail blasting, and newspaper advertising to boost enrollment at GSU. For the spring/summer trimester, enrollment exceeded the prior year’s level by more than 3%, confirming the potential of his enrollment strategies.

Diane Balin is Governors State University’s new director of the Board of Governors Bachelor of Arts Degree Program (BOG/B.A.).

Balin comes to GSU from Aurora University where she began in 1991 as an adjunct instructor and held a number of positions with increasing responsibility. She was the site director of the Chicago campus, as well as the director of the prior learning assessment program and associate professor of social and behavioral sciences.

Balin earned her bachelor’s degree at the University of Illinois, Chicago, in psychology with honors; her master’s degree was earned at Northwestern University in counseling and personnel administration; and she has a Ph.D from Northwestern in human development and intervention.

Balin has numerous years of experience in counseling and student personnel administration.
Mark Russell Opens September 29 at the Center for Performing Arts

Political comedian Mark Russell will open the Center’s season on Saturday, September 29, 2001, with a performance that will be followed by a post-show champagne reception.

Russell’s wildly popular satire has made him a staple in Washington, D.C., and a favorite across the country. From Capitol Hill saloon piano player to star of a 25-year PBS special and "Saturday Night Live" parodies, Russell’s ability to find humor in the headlines has kept audiences laughing since the Eisenhower administration. Following in that same tradition, the Capitol Steps will appear at the Center this upcoming January.

Governors State University All Stars!

June
Employee of the Month
Albert Berry
Community Service Officer
Department of Public Safety

Albert Berry has been in the field of public safety for more than two decades. The organizations he has worked for include Amoco Corporation, Christ Hospital and the Hyatt Regency. Berry came to Governors State in 1998. As a result of his many years of service, he has become well-rounded and flexible dealing with the needs of the public in a changing society.

"I like the diversity of GSU and the comradery among students, staff and faculty. My goal is to create a relaxed environment where students can learn and feel safe in their surroundings," Berry said. Berry is married with three children. He enjoys basketball, and at one time played college basketball.

July
Employee of the Month
Kimberly Bandy
Benefits Coordinator
Human Resources Department

Kimberly Bandy has been working as a benefits coordinator since April 2000. What she likes the most about the job is the contact with people. "I love working with people, and being able to communicate with them. People come to my office with sensitive issues. I like being able to provide them with the information they need," she said.

Bandy likes to get involved in community services in her free time. She teaches Bible, art and music to children. She also produces plays, writes, directs them and composes music for her plays. Bandy hopes to publish one of her songs and to feature one of her plays at the Center for Performing Arts.

August
Employee of the Month
Emma Murphy
Management Analyst
Programmer
Information Technology Services

Emma Murphy joined the staff at GSU in 1996 after a productive career at the Cooperative Computer Center.

Because of her work ethic — which emphasizes quality performance, she was nominated for employee of the month. "It was a pleasant surprise to learn that I had been nominated and selected. I would like to thank everyone who has recognized and appreciated my dedication and hard work."

Murphy's interests include country-line dancing, Broadway shows, movies and traveling. In September she will be traveling on a seven-day Southern Caribbean Cruise to the islands of St. Thomas, St. Lucia, Curacao and Aruba.

In Brief

Project ACCESS at GSU has been awarded a five-year grant from the U.S. Department of Education for more than $1 million.

Dr. Mercedes Graf has published a new book entitled A Woman of Honor: Dr. Mary E. Walker and the Civil War. Walker was the first woman to serve as a surgeon in the Union army and to be captured as a prisoner of war.

Five GSU faculty members have been awarded tenure. They are Karen Peterson, Sandra Mayfield, Rashidah Muhammad, Neva Jacquelyn Kilpatrick and Margaret Neumann.

The faculty excellence award recipients are Linda Boyer, Jon Carlson, Russell Carter, Mercedes Graf, Reino Hakala, Elizabeth Hansen-Shaw, Brad Johnson, Diane Kjos, Larry Levinson, Zam Malik, Mel Muchnik, Margaret Neumann, Nancy Shlaes, John Yunger, and Jun Zhao.

Congratulations to all!
Meet...Bill McCarthy

The primary focus of the GSU Foundation is advancing the cause of the university through expanding the awareness of its programs and the pursuit of resources that support and enhance the university’s mission. In essence, it is a mission of promotion, friend-raising, and fundraising.

William McCarthy is dedicated to that mission. A Foundation board member since Fall 2000 and an alumnus, McCarthy has a personal point of reference. He graduated from GSU in 1974 with a business degree that has opened doors of opportunity for him.

“I am going to looking forward to the opportunity to give back to the university. GSU is a unique institution. GSU is not an ivory tower, cloistered experience. It has an openness and sense of community. Everyone is accessible,” he said.

His agenda as a board member is straightforward:

“My term as a board member is three years. I plan to work hard over those years to make GSU an even more prominent institution of higher education throughout the state of Illinois and beyond,” McCarthy said.

McCarthy is a man who makes things happen. Fifteen years ago, he started Ranger Electric, a local company that provides electrical construction services to an array of commercial and residential customers. His clients include Palos Community Hospital, Christ Hospital, Darwin Furniture and others.

In addition to his service to the GSU community, McCarthy works to help youth become apprentice electricians.

He and his wife, Sharyn, live in Orland Park, Ill., with their two daughters: 9-year-old Megan and Katie who is 2.