Reconvened: Advisory Board for Disability Issues

Academic Support Counselor Robin Sweeney, who heads up GSU’s Disabilities Services, has reconvened the university’s Advisory Board for Disability Issues. New board members include faculty, staff, and students, all of whom filed into the Hall of Honors Thursday for the board’s first meeting. “What we want to do is create the most accessible environment for students and staff or faculty who have disabilities,” Sweeney said. “Our task will be to identify and resolve both physical and academic issues, so the way is clear and all the necessary support is there for people to succeed.” Sweeney sought input from the new members, and several issues were raised, including the possibility of workshops that would be a resource for information and training. Ramp access and door maintenance were also discussed. The board is expected to meet every trimester.

GSU to Host Business After Hours

GSU will host the Chicago Southland Chamber of Commerce’s Business After Hours on Wednesday, November 19, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. on the stage of the Center for Performing Arts. Business After Hours is a monthly Chamber event that brings southland businesses and communities together in an informal setting. “You’d be surprised at the amount of real business that takes place during Business After Hours,” said Barbara Davis, a GSU external programs manager. Davis said businesses will be able to display their promotional materials at tables provided by the university. “This is one event you definitely want to bring your business card to,” she said. President Stuart Fagan, who sits on the Chamber’s board, said, “Business After Hours is the perfect event for making important connections and discovering opportunities. We’re proud to be hosting it.” Fagan added, “GSU is here to support and service southland businesses and communities. Our resources are directly tied into the economic and political development of the region.” Governors State is a $60 million business. In 2003, the university spent $60.2 million. Business After Hours is open to Chamber members and non-members. Admission is free to GSU staff, if they present their I.D. cards. Otherwise, admission is $5 for Chamber members and $15 for non-members.

From the “In the Works” Department

Professor Dan Nearing has collaborated with Canadian writer Jack Hodgins on a screenplay for *Spit Delaney’s Island*, a feature film project based on Hodgins’ novel of the same name. Hodgins, a Governor General's award-winning novelist, and Nearing met while Nearing was directing a literary documentary for Bravo in 2000. Their script has been optioned by Anik Films in Vancouver. The next step: financing. “A screenplay option is never a guarantee of production,” Nearing said, “but it is a necessary fledgling step to getting a film made.”

ScholarShip Prints On: Rhetoric

Dr. Deborah Holdstein’s new composition textbook, *Rhetorical Choices: A Reader for Writers*, has been published under the Penguin Academic Series by Pearson Longman. The book is co-authored by Drs. Keith Gilyard and Charles Schuster.
GSU Counseling faculty and graduate students were well-represented at the 2003 Illinois Counseling Association Annual Convention in Springfield, November 14-15. Together, they gave several of the convention’s presentations, including “The Courage to Be: The True Self at Work” by Dr. Julia Yang, Rodney Bullock, Pat Spano and Mary Vasquez-Hansen; “How to Teach, Discuss, and Explore Issues of Privilege, So that the Message Can Be Heard” by Dr. Byron Waller, with Dr. Katherine Helm; and “Safe and Sound: Interdisciplinary Crisis Management in Schools” by Dr. Hugh Crethar, Andrea Dovich, Jacques Slaiher, and Kelly Kavanaugh. Greg Rodriguez presented “Integrating Christian Spirituality with the Discipline of Counseling Psychology.”

The GSU counseling program also received several awards at the ICA convention: the Outstanding Illinois Counseling Association Chapter Award, the 2003 Counselor Education and Supervision Traveling Trophy for Graduate Student Participation, and the Illinois Association for Multicultural Counseling Advocacy Award, the latter going to Dr. Hugh Crethar, who also presides over the Illinois Association of Social Justice.

Though GSU continues to mourn the untimely loss of Dr. Mary Arnold, her work and dedication received recognition by the ICA at the Springfield convention. Dr. Arnold was awarded the ICA Bea Weherly Human Rights Award for Outstanding Contributions to Human Rights for All People.

Dr. Cyrus Ellis has co-authored "An Examination of Multiple Substance Use between African American and Caucasian Female College Students" with Drs. Octavia Madison-Comore, Vanessa Cooke, and Theresa Ford. “An Examination” was published in volume 2, issue 2 of the Journal of Ethnicity.

Jeannine Klomes, coordinator for early childhood education; Diane McClellan, professor of early childhood education; Susan Kinsey, director of the Family Development Center; and several of the Family Development Center Staff attended the 2003 National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) Annual Conference held in downtown Chicago, November 5 to 8. Presentations at the conference included “Teaching the Reggio Way” and covered topics such as developmentally appropriate curriculum, new standards and formats for developing NAEYC accreditation reports, and applying teaching practices of wisdom.

The State and University Employees Combined Appeal drive begins Monday, November 17. Last year, GSU’s contributions reached 96 percent of the university’s goal. This year’s goal: $17,786.00. “Whenever there’s need, the GSU community always rises to the challenge,” President Fagan said. “Sometimes it seems easier to look away from the problems that surround us and say, ‘I can’t really do anything about that.’ But that’s never been the way GSU people do things. That’s why I’m proud to be a part of this university, and that’s why I know GSU’s people will give generously to SECA this year.” To contribute to SECA, complete a payroll deduction authorization form and turn it in to your department coordinator or human resources. For more information, contact Loretta Jones at 5309.

GSU Faze 1, November 18, 1974: “GSU’S FIRST DOCTORATE…an honorary one to be bestowed at the July commencement is now being considered. Nominations should be forwarded to PAULA WOLFF, (BPS), Chairperson of SCEPP.”
“POOLSIDE AT THE GSU CLUB... the swimming pool is filled, but swimming in it is not quite the activity yet. The contractors must turn the pool over officially to the University which is expected within the next few weeks. According to BENJAMIN LOWE, Recreative Studies extraordinaire, his learning module in January/February expects to make use of the blimy deep.”

GSU Faze 1, November 12, 1973: “PHASE I... building is still off-limits on weekends, but the first moves to the new campus are little more than a month away. Among other facilities, the campus includes a pool. Unfortunately, at the moment, it won’t be used because the funding for people to operate it is submerged.”

“AND YOU THINK YOU’VE HAD MOVING BILLS...How much does it cost to move an entire University just a few miles down the road and over the railroad tracks? The winning bid by Rock Moving and Storage Company was a cool $29,465.”

“OOPS! WE ALMOST FORGOT...ADDISON WOODWARD (CHLD) gained acceptance for a final grant report at U.S. O.E. titled “Effect on Memory of Instructions to Forget.”