Facilities Update - Classroom Upgrade

Substantial Upgrades to 20+ Classrooms Implemented Prior to Fall
Part of what makes a university conducive to high quality teaching and learning is the character of the spaces in which those activities occur. Over the next few weeks, 20 classrooms will undergo substantial upgrades. Each will be furnished with tables and chairs designed for comfort, attractiveness, and easy mobility. New carpet will be installed in four classrooms. Technology is also integral in today’s classrooms. All 20 upgraded classrooms will be equipped with new whiteboards. High-definition, 50-inch plasma monitors will also be installed in four rooms.

In addition, at least a dozen other classrooms will see furniture improvements by virtue of getting the best of the pre-existing furniture from the rooms being upgraded. Most of this work should be finished by the beginning of the Fall trimester, with full completion by mid-September.

Removal of the Orange Carpeting in the E Wing
At the same time, the orange carpeting will be replaced in the E-wing hallways, offices, and classrooms. This project is scheduled to be completed by Tuesday, September 2. The new carpeting will be removable and can be reused after future reconstruction of the E and F wings.

Project Funding
 Funds for the upgrades come from the $13 per credit hour Strategic Initiative Fee, which every student is assessed at registration. Since the fee was established four years ago, it has supported a variety of projects with direct effects on the university’s learning climate, including the development of technology-enhanced classrooms, the deployment of assistive technology for visually-impaired students, the development of online courses and programs, and upgrades in the public computing labs.

Baysore Award Nominations

“Jerry Baysore, simply, was the best man I’ve ever known.”
- Professor David V. Curtis

Who is the best GSU employee you know?

Once again, it is time for nominations for the Dr. Gerald C. Baysore Award. This award is presented annually to the GSU employee who best demonstrates the following qualities so consistently and fully embodied by Dr. Baysore during his eighteen-year service to the university:
- absolute integrity
- total competence
- generous dedication
- unfailing civility

The 2008 Baysore Award will be presented by President Maimon during Convocation on September 11. Nominations must be received by Thursday, September 4 in order to be considered and should explain how the employee embodies the above four qualities in their day to day work. Please send your written nominations to Penny Perdue, G334.

**Commencement Date**

Governors State University will hold Winter Commencement on Saturday, January 31, 2009. The ceremony will be preceded by the Honorary Degree Recipient Dinner on Friday, January 30.

**CenterPoint Client Honored**

The CenterPoint for Entrepreneurs at GSU continues to build on its reputation of assisting award-winning businesses.

CenterPoint client and owner of Behold Signs and Graphics in Midlothian, Richard Cruz, is one of two suburban Chicago entrepreneurs to be honored by The Business Ledger in the Young Entrepreneurs Category for the 2008 Entrepreneurial Excellence Awards.

“I would like to thank Governors State University’s CenterPoint for Entrepreneurs for their advice, counsel, and encouragement over the last seven months,” said Cruz. “Working with CenterPoint has been an exciting opportunity that I encourage all beginning and growing businesses to experience.”

The Business Ledger will recognize Behold Signs and Graphics at their 2008 Entrepreneurial Excellence Awards Recognition Event in September. Last year, CenterPoint client UBulidit, of Mokena, received the Early Start Entrepreneurial Excellence award.

**SAAS Extended Office Hours**

Student Services & Academic Support (SAAS) departments will be operating under extended office hours during the week before classes and the first two weeks of class for Fall 2008. The offices will be open from 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. the weeks of August 25, September 2, and September 8.

**Voters Win Even if Their Candidate Doesn’t**

The GSU Votes Committee reminds you to register to vote. Election Day is November 4. Here is some more presidential trivia to prepare you to do your civic duty and the September trivia contest.

**Presidential Births and Deaths**

Eight presidents were born British subjects. They were George Washington, John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, James Monroe, John Quincy Adams, Andrew Jackson, and William Henry Harrison. Presidents Adams, Jefferson, and Monroe all died on the July 4. Calvin Coolidge was born on that day. There
were five presidents named James, one named Jimmy, and only one named Millard. What were his parents thinking?