2-15-2004

GSUniverse, 2004-02-15

Office of Public Affairs

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Mark Your Calendar: University-Wide Budget Meeting Tuesday, February 24, at 3 p.m. in Sherman Hall

Congressman Jesse Jackson, Jr., Honored at GSU
Over 300 people gathered in the Hall of Governors to honor Congressman Jesse Jackson Jr. at GSU on Saturday, February 21, for his support for federal TRIO programs housed within the second congressional district. TRIO includes six programs designed to prepare and support low-income, first generation, and disabled students for college and graduate studies. Governors State houses three of the programs on its campus – Upward Bound, Ronald E. McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement, and Student Support Services, the latter known as ACESSS at GSU. President Stuart Fagan said, “Congressman Jackson has been a good friend to Governors State over the years and an advocate on our behalf. He has helped us secure grants and funding for our early childhood education programs, and he has supported legislation that has benefited higher education and university students.” Fagan, who met with Jackson’s staff in Washington, D.C. last week, noted the congressman’s continuing support for the GSU mission.

GSU ACESSS Director Viola Gray said, “Congressman Jackson has been a staunch supporter of TRIO. With his help, TRIO has been able to sustain a strong support network for our students, and they’re proving they can succeed with TRIO’s help.” Linda Williams, president of Governors State University’s Student Senate and a TRIO student, spoke in behalf of TRIO and in appreciation of Jackson’s support. Past President of the Council for Opportunity in Education Jonathan McKenzie presented Jackson’s award on behalf of the TRIO members in attendance.

Provost Keys Presents on Accreditation at American Association for State Colleges and Universities (AASCU) National Conference
Provost Paul Keys presented to a national audience of provosts and vice presidents of academic affairs and others, on the topic “Handling Academic Media Crises” on Monday, February 9 at the AASCU 2004 Academic Affairs Winter Meeting in Tampa, Florida. The topic is of major interest to the academic community given recent highly-publicized college and university crises across the country. The presentation was very well received, with requests for copies, and covered topics such as press relations, techniques for getting your side of the story to the media, editorial board appearances, managing crisis situations, internal organization and staffing for effective media relations, and related topics. Keys also organized and chaired a Breakfast and Organizing Meeting of African-American, Asian-American, and Hispanic-American Provosts
and Vice Presidents for Academic Affairs (VPAAs) with representation from the various states as well as Hawaii. The group enthusiastically decided to form a national group of provosts of color to address national academic and career issues. A steering committee was formed consisting of vice presidents from Youngstown State, Cheyney University of Pennsylvania, Indiana University South Bend, University of the District of Columbia, Alabama State, University of Hawaii at Hilo, and Savannah State University. Next steps for the group will be to discuss national issues of concern to higher education.

Accreditation Site Visit I: National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration
The National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration will be on campus from March 10 to 12 to review the Master of Public Administration program in the College of Business and Public Administration for reaccreditation. The program’s self-study was conducted 2002-2003.

Accreditation Site Visit II: Accrediting Commission on Education for Health Services Administration
The Accrediting Commission on Education for Health Services Administration (ACEHSA) will conduct its site visit for the Master of Health Administration program from April 27 to 29. The program went into candidacy with the agency in September of 2002 and completed its self-study from 2002 to 2003. ACEHSA will vote on the program’s accreditation at the full meeting of the commission in the fall.

Faculty about Town
Governors State University’s Social Science faculty will be out and about soon, yet close to home. Teaming up with Matteson’s Borders Bookstore on March 3, at 7 p.m., they’ll be on hand to lead a community reading and discussion group focused on late Senator Paul Simon’s book Our Culture of Pandering. Drs. Larry Levinson, Donald Culverson, and Anthony Andrews will also be featured speakers in the Park Forest Public Library’s “Road to the White House” series. Dates, times, and lecture titles are listed on the Events section of the GSU website at www.govst.edu/users/gwelcome/events.htm.

Author! Author!
The University Library is gearing up to honor faculty authors at its annual Faculty Authors Reception. Past receptions have been nothing short of an elegant showcasing of faculty publications – so much so that your otherwise unqualified GSUniverse writers are more than a tad jealous. The event will be held in late March, but the time to submit published work is, well, now. “We’d like to get faculty submissions soon, so we can create the bibliography for the event,” said Helen Benos of the University Library. March 19 is the tentative submission deadline. One stipulation, however: work previously displayed should not be submitted. For more information or to submit your work, contact Benos at Ext. 5114, or drop by her office at D2420.

College of Ed in Chicago
Drs. Karen Peterson, Ken Peterson, and Leon Zalewski – all of the College of Education – presented their work in three presentations at the 56th Annual Meeting and Exhibits of the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education in Chicago on February 9. The presentations, which the team presented together, were “The Contribution of Alternative Teacher Certification Programs: Definitional and Methodological Problems,” “The Challenge of
Oh, the Places You’ll Go! Do’h!
Correction to last week’s article about Smart Start’s “Oh, the Places You’ll Go!” Cheryl Poulos’s e-mail address was listed incorrectly. To contact her by e-mail and volunteer to participate in “Oh, the Places You’ll Go!”, use this address: c-poulos@govst.edu.