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“It is a great art to saunter.”

Henry David Thoreau

Doctors of Humane Letters: the Reverend Jesse Jackson and Dr. Johnnetta Cole

In This Issue...

1. Enrollment Thrives
2. Enrollment Numbers
3. Torch Run
4. Hulett-Cohee Appointment
5. Domain Name Change
6. Friefeld Elected
7. Student Speakers
8. ScholarShip: Health Admin I
9. ScholarShip: Health Admin II
10. From the Archives

Page 1
Yes, It's True: Enrollment is Thriving

Wouldn't it be great if we could bring something in the neighborhood of 3,000 new students through GSU's doors in one academic year, between fall and summer? We did. Larry Polselli, executive director of Enrollment and Student Recruitment, reports that 2,706 brand new, never been here before, bona fide students enrolled at GSU between Fall 03 and the current Spring/Summer trimester. "They're applying and enrolling," Polselli said. "The numbers are strong." Yet, though there is a .59 percent increase in scheduled credit hours, head counts continue to dip, with the latest measure against Spring/Summer 03 showing us down by 1.26 percent. "Our recruitment strategies are working," said Chuck Connolly, interim executive director of Marketing and Communications. "We're working constantly to improve them, but they are getting results right now." Dr. Linda Buyer, professor of psychology, is currently chairing a retention committee that is seeking ways to reverse the trend.
New Student Enrollment Numbers: Fall 03 to Spring/Summer 04

The numbers ain't so bad. In the Fall 2003 trimester alone, GSU brought in 1,324 new students -- none of whom were readmits. Of those, 618 were graduate students, accounting for 47 percent of the new enrollments, and 706 were undergraduate, accounting for 53 percent. Winter 04 saw 374 new grads and 417 undergrads enroll, while the current trimester, Spring/Summer, has had 326 new grads and 265 undergrads.

Special Olympics: Illinois Law Enforcement Torch Run

Governors State's Department of Public Safety is raising money for the Special Olympics -- just as it's done for the last 20 years. The fundraising revolves around the annual Law Enforcement Torch Run, which passes the Flame of Hope from runner to runner until, finally, it arrives for the Special Olympics' opening ceremonies, which will be held at Illinois State University, in Normal, from June 11 to 13. "This is one fundraising event we do every year," said DPS Sergeant Debra Boyd. Boyd said the run raises both awareness and funds for the Special Olympics. To raise funds, GSU's DPS officers are selling hats ($12), t-shirts ($13), and pins ($3). They are also accepting donations for the Special Olympics. The run itself begins June 8 and includes 44 police agencies. It will wind its way through Governors State on June 9. "We want everyone to come out and join us," Boyd said. "We want runners, walkers, bike riders, wagon riders and pullers, and rollerbladers of all ages, shapes, and sizes." Boyd added that volunteers are absolutely needed and welcome to help organize and facilitate the run. Support and medical personnel will be on hand, and there will be a post-run picnic. For more information, to donate, or volunteer, contact Sgt. Boyd at extension 5014.

Rosemary Hulett-Cohee Appointed Interim Associate Vice President

As part of a long-term reorganization of the university's Development Office, President Fagan has appointed Alumni Relations Director Rosemary Hulett-Cohee to interim associate vice president for Development and Alumni Relations. Dr. James Britt, vice president of Development, said Hulett-Cohee will continue in her position as CEO for the association and annual Alumni Phonathon while assuming new administrative responsibilities. "Rosemary has provided outstanding leadership to the Alumni Association," Britt said. "I know she can help take us farther, and her new assignment gives her the latitude to bring the Development Office closer to reaching its goals." Britt said one of Hulett-Cohee's first priorities will be to create a major gifts prospect management system for the university.
A Domain by Any Other Name...

...would open as sweet. Good thing, too, because the domain names of individual faculty web sites will change as of June 1, which means faculty who have links within content blocks to individual web sites should change the links by replacing "www" with "faculty." Some examples, courtesy of ITS:

Old: http://www.govst.edu/users/xcbc/home.html
New: http://faculty.govst.edu/users/xcbc/home.html

Old: http://www.govst.edu/users/gddcasey/
New: http://faculty.govst.edu/users/gddcasey/

Board Chair Friefeld Elected

Board of Trustees Chair Bruce Friefeld has been elected chair of the State Universities Civil Service System Merit Board on May 19.

Student Speakers: on Deck...

Two student speakers have been selected for the June 6 commencement. Oshunda Carpenter, who is earning her master's degree in Communications and Training, will speak at the afternoon ceremony for the colleges of Arts and Sciences and Health Professions and the Board of Governors Degree Program. Alison Mensing, who graduates with her bachelor's degree in Elementary Education, will speak at the morning's program and represent the colleges of Education and Business. Both speakers are pursuing careers in teaching, Carpenter in community colleges and Mensing in elementary education. Carpenter currently teaches at Prairie State College, and Mensing teaches kindergarten in Chicago Heights School District 170.

ScholarShip Sails On: Health Administration

Dr. Kyusuk Chung, professor of Health Administration, presented a 25 year history of major changes and trends in Chicago hospitals at the Conference on Chicago Research and Public Policy on May 12. The conference, titled "The Changing Face of Metropolitan Chicago," heard Chung's "Major Changes and Trends in Chicago
Hospitals" in a panel moderated by Dean Wim Wiewel of UIC's College of Business Administration. Chung will also present “Medicaid Patients Who Left Hospitals Against Medical Advice: Trend Analysis” at the AcademyHealth Annual Research Meeting, June 6-8, in San Diego.

ScholarShip Sails On: Health Administration II

Drs. Ralph Bell, director of the Department of Health Administration and professor of same; Kyusuk Chung, professor of Health Administration; and Professors of Health Administration Clementine Coleman and Donna Gellately have had their poster session “Long-Term Care Services Management through Certificate of Need Process” accepted for presentation at the AUPHA Annual Meeting 2004, in San Diego. They will present June.

From the Archives (A reality check for those of us who find "Trimesters" and "Blocks" 1, 2, and 3 confusing)

From the May 29, 1972, Faze 1, GSU's first newsletter: "SEE YOU IN 'SO'...The naming of the sessions has undergone another metamorphosis... upon recommendation of the Academic Wing and approval of the President, the sessions, beginning in the Fall, will be referred to by letters indicating the month of the session. The Fall session will be referred to as the September-October Session, abbreviated 'SO.' Then comes the November-December or 'ND' Session followed by the JF, MA, MJ, and JA Sessions.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK: What other University has a Business Manager who commutes on a motorcycle?"