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"A process which led from the amoeba to man appeared to the philosophers to be obviously a progress—though whether the amoeba would agree with this opinion is not known."

Bertrand Russell

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**In This Issue...**

1. Budget, Budget, Where Art Thou, Budget?
2. Acting IBHE Director Chosen
3. History Project - "Action!"
4. Writing Center Moves
5. Community Service

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**Words, not Dollars, Flow out of Springfield**
The Legislature has not approved a budget for the current fiscal year. There is no appropriation for higher education. Jeff Slovak, director of budget, planning, and institutional research, advised the GSU community in an e-mail last week that the university would continue to meet payrolls through the month.

**Changing of the Guard at IBHE**
Dan LaVista has resigned as Executive Director of the Illinois Board of Higher Education. Thomas R. LeMont, a Springfield attorney and IBHE vice chairman, has been selected by the board to serve as acting executive director pending completion of the search for a permanent replacement.

**History Project: Let the Filming Begin!**
Filming for the GSU Memory Project, a joint production of the University Library, Public Affairs, Media Communications, and the Intellectual Life Subcommittee of the Graduate Council, is up and running. The first two interviews have been filmed in HDTV. The subjects? Professor Emeritus Mel Muchnik and retired Professor, Coordinator for Elementary Education, and Director of Student Teaching Bob Press. Muchnik and Press recounted GSU in its early years and expounded on the guiding principles that made GSU unique. Ultimately, the project will gather a video/oral history from as many of GSU's faculty and staff members as possible, beginning with a focus on the early years. Video vignettes will be available then, in perpetuity, through the University Library.

**New Digs: Writing Center on the Move**
The Writing Center has moved from Student Development to room C1320. The new and dedicated space provides student writers with a private and controlled environment for tutoring sessions. Dr. Becky Nugent, Writing Center coordinator, said the Writing Center can assist students with papers from start to finish and teach them how to use a computer for effective writing and editing. Writing assistance is available to every GSU student. Professors may also refer students to the Writing Center whenever they determine a student can benefit from the extra assistance. Currently, the Writing Center has two tutors, Valerie McGovern and Henderson Seymoure, GSU students who have advanced writing expertise. Tutoring is by appointment only. To make an appointment or for more information, call extension 4508.

**Working the Phones: Alpha Sigma Lambda**
GSU's Gamma Sigma Upsilon chapter of Alpha Sigma Lambda, the national honor society for non-traditional adult students, worked the phones during WTTW's recent pledge drive. Local chapter president and vice president, Pam Thompson and Mary Bragg, respectively, took calls for the PBS station. "One of the benefits of Alpha Sigma Lambda membership," said Dr. Jim Howley, director of Career Services and GSU's Alpha Sigma Lambda advisor, "is the opportunity to provide service to the community and the campus." The WTTW gig fulfilled Gamma Sigma Upsilon's community service commitment for the trimester. Thompson said, "A public 'thank you' to Governors State University was televised on the station." She added, "After a couple
of hours answering phones and taking donations, we were given a guided tour of the PBS facility; we were able to learn more about a longstanding, Chicago-based staple. Who said helping others had to feel like work? In the offing, for its campus service commitment, Gamma Sigma Upsilon is considering producing an information guide for returning adult students.

Scholarship Sails On: Professor Emeritus
The old saying “Youthful Though Recently Retired Professors Emeritus Never Return to the Office; They Just Fade Away” ain’t entirely true. Leastwise not when it comes to energetic emeritus Mel Muchnik, former professor of Communications. At “NUTN 2004: Quality in Distance Education,” Muchnik served as co-chair and presenter. The NUTN (National University Telecommunications Network) event was held in Kennebunkport, Maine, June 12 - 14, and drew an international audience. Muchnik, fade-free, continues to serve on the NUTN Board as its Immediate Past Chairperson.

Scholarship Sails On: Social Work
"Do Ecological Strategies Help Socially Isolated Youth?", and article by Sylvia Margolin, professor of Social Work, was published in the Spring 2004 School Social Work Journal. Also, her presentation on "Youth with Internalized Difficulties: Effect of Social Support and Activity Involvement" was accepted at the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) 4th Annual Illinois Chapter Statewide Conference.

Scholarship Sails On: Counseling
Drs. Hugh Crethar, professor of Psychology and Counseling, and Jon Carlson, professor of Counseling, and Kim Snow, adjunct instructor and GSU graduate, co-authored "It's All in the Family: Family Counseling for Depressed Children," which was published in Volume 12, Number 3 of The Family Journal. Carlson also serves as editor of the journal.