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MPA Club Brings Congressman Jackson to Campus
Second District Congressman Jesse L. Jackson, Jr., will speak at GSU on Tuesday, March 22, at 7 p.m. in Engbretson Hall. The university’s Master of Public Administration Club (M.P.A. Club) invited Jackson to speak as part of its growing Distinguished Lecture Series. “Our club members are practicing or aspiring administrators,” said the club’s secretary, Sharon Kriha. “It’s part of our mission to bring speakers to the university who can share their experiences in the field. We’re interested in making constructive progress, and successful leaders like Congressman Jackson show us how that can be accomplished.” Kriha added that speakers in the Distinguished Lecture Series have the experience to guide club members down the most productive paths for public service. She said, “Congressman Jackson’s work for Illinois and the Second District demonstrates how we can influence the direction of our communities and invest in progress.” Jackson’s efforts on behalf of GSU and University Park were celebrated at a Jackson visit to the the Family Development Center in January. President Fagan said, “The congressman is a staunch supporter of higher education and development in the region. He’s been a good friend to our university and students.” Congressman Jackson’s March 22 appearance is open to the public. For more information, contact Dr. Susan Gaffney at 708-534-5000, ext. 5363.

Board Approves Tuition Increase
The Board of Trustees approved increases in undergraduate and graduate tuition at its regularly scheduled board meeting, March 18. For the Fall 2005 Trimester, undergraduate tuition for Illinois residents just starting their academic program will be $149 per credit hour, up 9.6 percent from the tuition of $136 per credit hour for students who enrolled for the first time in the 2004 Academic Year. Both tuition rates are guaranteed for 12 consecutive trimesters. Over the next four
academic years, the new undergraduate tuition rate amounts to annual increases of 2.3 percent. Tuition for students enrolled before the Fall 2004 Trimester will be $136 per credit hour, up 7.1 percent from the current tuition of $127 per credit hour. For the Fall 2005 Trimester, graduate tuition will be $157 per credit hour, up 9.8 percent from the current tuition of $143 per credit hour.

Second Best Open House Ever
Sharon Evans of the Admission Office reports that more than 450 people attended the March 5 Open House, the second largest attendance in GSU history. More than 60 people applied for admission that day. The actual number will be higher, because prospects have been contacting advisors and the Admission Office since the event.

Moving Ahead on the Strategic Plan
David Curtis and Linda Buyer, Co-Chairs of the Strategic Planning Update Committee, presented the preliminary results of the committee’s work to the Board of Trustees at the Board meeting, March 18. The committee identified five strategic priorities: (1) Student experiences, quality instruction, and scholarship. (2) Enrollment and Retention Management. (3) Relationship Building. (4) Improved Operations and Processes. (5) Fundraising to Support Strategic Initiatives. In the coming weeks, the committee plans to present its preliminary thoughts to and seek input from all constituencies in the university community. The final report is due in June.

The GSU 1st Annual Fly-In by Kathy Miller
On Thursday, March 17th the Civil Service Senate held the 1st Annual GSU Fly-In, a paper airplane contest. Over 60 contestants competed in three categories raising money for the Civil Service Senate Scholarship Fund. Dr. Karen D’Arcy, division chair of the Science Division, sponsored 20 students from Rich East High School, who participated in the event. Student Cody Czmyr won a 3rd place trophy for “Stunt Flying." 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place trophies were awarded in each category. The categories were Loft, Distance, and Stunt. The 1st place winners were Dave Dixon, internal auditor, for Loft; Jan Schultz, HR, with a whopping 76’9” in Distance; and Dave Dixon for Stunt Flying. 2nd place trophies went to Mike Hopkins (the guy who writes parts of this newsletter) for Loft; Todd Roman, CAS, for Distance; and Barry Ryan, from the Business Office, for Stunt. Those carrying home a trophy for 3rd place included Donna Finn, Cashier's Office, who won two trophies, for Loft and Distance; and a three way tie for stunt flying by Stephanie Wenzel, in BPA; Cody Czmyr, of Rich East High School; and Mike Hopkins. The senate would like to thank Student Life and DPS for loaning sound equipment.

Alt Cert: CPS Joins Partnership
Karen Peterson, director of Alternative Teacher Certification, reports that Chicago Public Schools District 229 has joined the GSU Alt. Cert. partnership. Peterson said, “We will be the only elementary program in their alt. cert. consortium and will focus on placing students in Regions V and VI, on the far south side." Peterson added that adding a CPS cohort should double the numbers for the group this spring.
FDC Hosting Financial Seminar
The Family Development Center is hosting a financial workshop titled “What’s Your Credit History and Score?” on Monday, April 11, from 6 to 9 p.m. in the Hall of Honors. The workshop is free. Registration is open through April 7. The workshop is geared toward families and will explain how lenders look at a person’s credit history to determine a credit score; how to obtain a free credit report; and how to build a better credit report. The FDC will provide free childcare for children four and under during the workshop. To register, call Maggie Jablonski at 1-312-669-8200, extension 2403. The workshop is a collaborative presentation of the Family Development Center; the South Metropolitan Regional Leadership Center; Junior Achievement of Chicago; Matteson School District 162, Parent Resource Center; South Suburban Small Business Association; University of Illinois Extension; Before and After School Enrichment, Inc. (B.A.S.E.); and Uhlich’s Children Advantage Network (U.C.A.N.).

ScholarShip Sails On: Management I
Marsha Katz presented "Employer Regulation of Off the Job Behavior Resolved by Litigation," a poster session, at the January 2005 Industrial Relations Research Association meeting, in Philadelphia Pa., along with Katz's co-author Helen LaVan, of DePaul University. The duo also published "Legal Protection from Discrimination Based on Sexual Orientation: Findings from Litigation" in the December 2004 Employee Responsibilities and Rights.

ScholarShip Sails On: Management II
Katz and LaVan have also had a paper, "Employer Control of Off-Duty Civic and Political Activities: A Longitudinal Analysis of Litigated Cases," accepted for presentation at the Eastern Academy of Management this June, in Cape Town, South Africa.

April Fool's Issue
Nonsense - that's what we're looking for for the April Fool's edition of GSUniverse. Got something silly to say and a funny way of saying it? Submit your article for the April 1 edition of this fine publication. The best submissions will be published in the April 1 issue. But -shhhhh! Don't tell. We want it to be a surprise.