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"Had I been present at the creation, I would have given some useful hints for the better ordering of the universe."

Alphonso the Wise

GSU Appropriation for FY06 up $1.7 Million
At a university-wide budget meeting, President Stuart Fagan reported on recent developments in Springfield. He said that the legislature approved the budget for FY06 at the 11th hour. Funding for higher education was essentially flat. But GSU received a supplemental appropriation of $1.7 million. Although GSU is among the smallest of the public universities, it received the largest increase both as a percentage and in absolute dollars.

Where Will the Money Go?
The legislature directed that $500,000 be directed to the base budget. $331,000 was directed to CenterPoint, the small business development center. With this additional funding, CenterPoint will add to its client base, deliver up to seven public conferences, and work with local chambers of commerce to identify new business opportunities – particularly opportunities in overseas markets. The legislature appropriated $650,000 for the creation of a Governors State Institute for Urban Education. One of the first issues the new institute is expected to address is how to deal with the more aggressive and hostile attitudes of students moving into the area from the city. And the legislature appropriated $325,000 for the creation of a Center for Excellence in Health Professions Education. The new center will develop programs that address the critical shortage of nurses and other professionals in the region.

IBHE Goals – A Mixed Bag
IBHE’s request for funding for faculty salary increases was rejected. The request to increase accessibility moved forward. The legislature increased funding for MAP by $8 million. That will spring loose an additional $3.7 million in Federal funding. The bottom line – MAP
funding will be up $11.7 million in FY06.

**Odds and Ends – But Mostly Odd**
A bill to create a special Inspector General for higher education failed to pass. But the legislature approved $450,000 for the office. The requirement that student teachers must pass content tests before entering the classroom was repealed. At the meeting of GSU’s Board of Trustees last Friday, President Fagan called the action “a travesty.” And a proposal to require that universities get approval from the state’s ethic office before naming endowed buildings, chairs, classrooms, and so on, passed in the House but did not come to a vote in the Senate.

**Congratulations, Professors!**
The Board of Trustees, at its meeting June 17, approved tenure for 12 professors. They are Timothy Gsell, Division of Science; Daniel Nearing, Division of Liberal Arts; Bruce Wilson, Division of Liberal Arts; Christopher Robinson Easley, Division of Management, Marketing, and Public Administration; Jun Zhao, Division of Accounting, Finance, and Management; Hugh Crethar, Division of Psychology and Accounting; Renee Nash, Division of Education; Catherine Sori, Division of Psychology and Counseling; Catherine Balthazar, Department of Communication Disorders; Kyusuk Chung, Department of Health Administration; Adelle Sanders, Department of Social Work; Jie Shen, Department of Health Administration.

**Williams Named Student Trustee**
Dwayne Williams, 2004 Lincoln Laureate and President of the Black Student Union, was installed as Student Trustee to the university’s Board of Trustees at its meeting on June 17. Williams succeeds Joy Farmer, who represented GSU students on the board for the past two years.

**Dean Dates Casey Elected**
Diane Dates Casey has been elected to a three year term as a councilor for the Association of Library Collections and Technical Services, a division of the American Library Association. In her new capacity, Dates Casey will represent ALCTS on the ALA Council, the governing body for the national association. ALCTS is a professional voluntary group that consists of librarians who develop collections, catalogers, and acquisitions and preservation professionals. Dates Casey explained, “We’re the behind the scenes, day-to-day operations people.” Dates Casey has worked with the ALCTS division for more than ten years, beginning her affiliation when she was head of the University Library’s Cataloging Department. The division develops procedures, rules, and handling standards for the ALA and trains librarians throughout the United States.
Institutional Advancement on Target
The GSU Foundation has raised nearly $175,000 in FY05. That's about four times the amount raised in FY04. And there's still some time left.

DPS: Torch Run 21
GSU's Department of Public Safety brought the Illinois Law Enforcement Torch Run through campus grounds for the 21st year in a row, Wednesday, June 15. The run is the single largest fund raiser for the Illinois Special Olympics and involves police agencies across the state. Sergeant Debra Boyd reported more than 70 GSU volunteers gave their time and energies to make the event a success on GSU's end. But the effort continues. DPS's $10,000 goal hasn't been reached yet, and donations are being taken through August. To make a donation, contact DPS at 4900.

Kolton Collection Coming to Art Gallery
E-Lounge loungers have no doubt gazed upon the startling New Guinea Art that has been displayed outside the Art Gallery. More is on the way - temporarily, at least. The Kolton Collection, "Art and Spirit World of New Guinea: Arts and Artifacts," will be on exhibit at the Art Gallery from July 7 to 29. New Guinea House Posts, one belonging to GSU and the other on loan, will be erected in E-Lounge on June 30, in anticipation of the larger Kolton collection. GSU's resident Indiana Jones, art history professor Arthur Bourgeois, said, "Cultural diversity is the hallmark of New Guinea's ecologically varied environment. The island has over 700 separate languages spoken from at least eight unrelated language families. Diversity in traditional religions is reflected in the native art and imagery, which offers a glimpse into the varied cosmologies and rituals of New Guinea's diverse societies." For more information, contact Bourgeois at ext. 4012.

McNair: First In, First Out
Rewind to October, 2003: GSU receives grant funding for its Ronald E. McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement Program and a new door to graduate studies opens for academically able students from underrepresented groups. Fast forward to June, 2005: Five of the first
GSU McNair Scholars graduate and are on their way to graduate studies. Brandon Reynolds, Dwayne Williams, Cedric Norwood, Karla Gomez, and James Doug France have each been accepted into graduate programs and will be working on their advanced degrees in the fall. McNair, as funded at GSU, works with 10 students a year. With the help of GSU faculty mentors, the McNair students prepare and present research in their field of study. McNair Scholar France said of his experience with McNair, “Beyond academics, the program taught me what I need to know about taking the GRE, GMAT, and MCAT.” He added, “The support was unbelievable. I got everything I needed to make me a better candidate for grad school.” France begins graduate study in Psychology at the University of Chicago this fall.