What do a GSU alum and a high school senior have in common with a down-sized job seeker and a community college student seeking direction? They are all eligible to enroll in Governors State University’s new six-week Vacation Education mini-term this summer.

Vacation Education courses run from June 1 through July 15 and require no prerequisite educational experiences. The program is open everyone, age 17 and over, including non-Illinois residents, those who wish to continue their education and those who have never taken a college course.

Application, submission of the $25 application fee, and registration for specific courses may be completed simultaneously. Transcripts are not required.

All four colleges will offer courses during the special summer session. Course topics range from Abnormal Psychology to Introduction to Health Professions and from Elementary Education to Business Concepts.

Students who are currently suspended from GSU and/or who have an unpaid balance on their tuition will not be allowed to enroll.

For more information or to enroll, visit the Vacation Education website.

Congressman Jesse Jackson, Jr. hosted a town hall meeting at The Center for Performing Arts on Tuesday, April 7. Dr. Elaine Maimon welcomed Congressman Jackson and introduced him to the audience.

Congressman Jackson began his presentation with a PowerPoint explanation of current economic recovery plans. He then answered questions from the audience that ranged from concerns about accessing affordable college educations to the proposed tax cuts.
**Wii Bowling**

The Student Education Association (SEA) is sponsoring a Nintendo Wii Bowling Tournament on today, April 9, from noon to 3 p.m., in the Hall of Governors. The entry fee for students is $2. The fee for faculty and staff is $3.

Enjoy this fun, friendly, competition. Prizes for some and laughs for everyone.

**Abner Mikva to Speak**

The Civic and Community Engagement lecture series concludes with a presentation by the Honorable Abner Mikva, on April 15, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., in the Hall of Honors. The University Honors Program and the Political and Justice Studies Program are sponsors of the lecture series.

Mikva will speak on *Promoting Civic and Community Engagement*. As a former U.S. Congressman and Federal First District Court Judge, Mikva understands the importance of civic involvement and the need to promote it at all levels. He has also served as White House Counsel and on the faculty at the University of Chicago Law School – Mandel Clinic.

This presentation is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Dr. Larry Levinson at ext. 4578.

**Stories for Everyone**

Storytelling is not just for children. Adults get the opportunity to enjoy the lively art of storytelling at Governors State University. *Jumping Jambalaya*, a program of stories performed by professional storytellers Kucha and Baba Tony Brown, will be on April 9, from 3:15 to 4:15 p.m., in the Hall of Governors. The program includes call and response, dialect, stories of diversity, and folk tales.

The show is sponsored by a grant from the Intellectual Life Committee at GSU and organized by Lynne Clayton of the COE Dean’s Office. It is free and open to the public.

**Latino Center Director Named**

Carlos Cantu was named the Activity Director for the Title V Cooperative Grant with Morton College/Latino Center for Excellence effective April 1. Many GSU
students, faculty, and staff know Mr. Cantu from his work as the Cohort Advisor for this Title V federal program. He will now continue his work in another capacity to meet the main goal of the program: to improve Hispanic student retention and degrees earned.

As the program is in its fourth year of a five-year cycle, Mr. Cantu will work with GSU/Morton College students and staff to monitor and direct the three parts of the grant: student cohorts, faculty development, and the tracking system.

Panel Discussion on Peace

GSU is sponsoring an informal and interactive panel discussion on Middle East Peace Prospects on April 21, from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m., in the Hall of Honors.

Panel participants include Dr. Stuart Fagan, President Emeritus of GSU and Professor of Public Administration; Dr. Larry Levinson, Coordinator of Political and Justice Studies; and Dr. Khalil Marrar, Visiting Assistant Professor of International Relations from DePaul University. The moderator is Dr. Ellen Foster Curtis, Dean of the College of Business and Public Administration.

The panel is uniquely qualified both by their areas expertise and experience to comment on the prospects of peace in the Middle East considering the 2008 conflict and the recent elections in Israel. Dr. Fagan has visited Israel approximately 25 times over the past 40 years. On his most recent visit, he took part in a symposium on the current prospects for a negotiated Israeli-Palestinian peace. Dr. Marrar is an expert on U.S. – Middle East relations and policy. He received his Ph.D. from Loyola University, Chicago in 2007 and his dissertation was on “Arab Lobby and U.S. Foreign Policy.”

Many Thanks from Student Life

The Department of Student Life wishes to thank the students, faculty, staff, and the Village Door for their support of the 7th Annual Cancer Awareness Silent Auction. The event raised $4500 to support the Jennifer S. Fallick Cancer Support Center.
Student Research Success

On April 4, students in the Master of Science in Analytical Chemistry presented the results of their research at the Twentieth Annual Illinois Student Research Conference in Chicago.

Lakshmi Sudha Palloth’s research concerned the effect of zinc compounds on human skin cells that are exposed to sunlight. Her research has implications for skin cancer treatments.

Rahul A. Khanke, in collaboration with the Food and Drug Administration, presented his research on the effects of sunlight on scalp cells after the hair has been treated with yellow-based hair dye.

According to Dr. Patty Fu-Giles, their faculty advisor, “Presenting at a conference motivates students to complete good research and reinforces the validity of their findings. It is good for our students and shows off our programs.”

All GSU students will have an opportunity to present their research at the 15th Annual Student Research Conference on Wednesday, May 20, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., at GSU. Students may give a 15-minute podium presentation of their work followed by a five-minute question and answer session or they may display their work as a poster presentation.

The registration and abstract submission deadline is Friday, April 11. There is no registration fee. For more information or for participation application forms, visit the SRC website.

Resolution Clarification

This Monday’s Board of Trustees edition of the GSU View reported on approval of a resolution to eliminate the Certificate in Reading Specialist program. The College of Education wishes to clarify that the elimination of the certificate program does not affect the Master of Arts in Reading program, which leads to a separate ISBE certification as a Reading Specialist.

Annual Fly-In Flies In

It is time for GSU to get flying. The Annual GSU Fly-In, sponsored by the Civil Service Senate, will be held on April 16, from 1:30 to 3 p.m., in the Hall of Governors. For one quarter, participants can enter their creations in two contests: longest distance flown and longest time in the air. For $1, teams can enter their airplanes to win the right to display the GSU Flyer for one year.

Individual plane construction is limited to one sheet or smaller of 20lb. weight paper. Scotch tape and
one paperclip (supplied by the Civil Service Senate) are allowed. The team plane can be any size or type of paper with glue, tape, staples, and one paperclip allowed. All planes must have wings.

**Author Amongst Us**

Dave Weinberger of the Financial Aid Department and his wife, Betty, recently co-authored *Passover Next Door*. The book was published by the Association of Messianic Home Educators, a non-profit organization.

“It is the story of a Passover in our home,” said Dave. “We wrote it because there are very few handsome children’s books out there. It is dedicated to our as yet to be born grandchildren.”

More information about the book is available by contacting Dave at dweinbe@gmail.com.

**Helpful Hints: Auxiliary Services**

Do you have an ever expanding collection of inter-office envelopes or do you have none at all? Either way, there’s an easy solution. Paul Schwellenbach in Mail Services will accept all extra inter-office envelopes and redistribute them to individuals/departments who need more. Extra envelopes can be sent to Paul who also accepts requests for additional copies at ext. 7429.

GSU will begin its annual equipment inventory process within the next couple months. To prepare, departments should contact Barb Lane at ext. 7426 to request replacement inventory tags, make arrangements to remove surplus equipment, or discuss other needs related to the property control.