All members of the university community are invited to visit the Governors State University HLC 2009 website which has been created to provide university participation and involvement in the reaccreditation process for the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.

In preparation for the reaccreditation visit from November 16 through 18, the university must create a self-study document addressing five evaluation criteria.

In the coming weeks, drafts of each chapter will be available on the HLC website for public review. All members of the GSU community are encouraged to review the documents and provide feedback in several ways:

1. Online blog (under development)
2. At a series of university-wide meetings beginning on May 14
3. By sending an e-mail to hlc@govst.edu

Additional information regarding the HLC self-study, document review, and site visit processes will be available in future issues of the View and via direct communication from the HLC Committee.

Earth Week Celebration Today

Don’t miss today’s Earth Week Celebration activities, which are open to the public from 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., in the B parking lot.

President Maimon will dedicate our permeable paving parking lots at 2 p.m. Everyone is welcome to enjoy the displays, demonstrations, music, food, and fun.

The east side of the B Lot will be cordoned off for the Earth Week celebration. The west side of the lot will remain open.
**Book Card Express**

Students receiving financial aid should check their student email accounts to see if they qualified for the Book Card Express program. Eligible students must register by midnight, April 23, to pick up their book cards a day early on April 29 from the cashier. Regular book card pick up dates are April 30 through May 8.

For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid at ext. 4480.

**The Final Puff**

The Department of Human Resources is hosting smoking cessation courses through the Will County Health Department. A minimum of 10 participants are needed in order for the course to be held on campus. All members of the GSU community, including employees, students, and retirees, are welcome to participate.

The cost for this seven-week class is only $20, which covers all materials and a nicotine patch valued at $60. As an added benefit to employees, the state of Illinois offers reimbursement for smoking cessation programs.

Contact Julia Jamison for more information and to register at ext. 7468.

**GSU is a Recyclemaniac!**

After ten weeks of competition, the final rankings in the 2009 Recyclemania competition are in and GSU was named sixth in the Waste Minimization category. More than 500 colleges and universities representing 4.7 million students and 1.1 million faculty and staff recycled or composted over 69.4 million pounds of material during the competition.

“We were very pleased with GSU’s great showing and look forward to bettering our numbers in preparation for next year’s competition,” said Peggy Schiesher, Supervisor of Housekeeping and coordinator of GSU’s participation in Recyclemania.

**GSU Is a Green Machine**

Did you know…

Lowering the thermostat, even by 5 degrees in the winter, can reduce your energy bill by 10 percent.
GSU lowers the temperature at night and when buildings are closed.

Did you know…

Each year over 15 billion batteries are sent to landfills and leak toxic metals.

FDM recycles over 100 pounds of small batteries annually.

Did you know…

California is the largest solar producer in the world with 354MW of power.

GSU heats 170,000 gallons of hot water for the pool and 1/3 of the domestic hot water on campus with solar panels.

**ZIP – Ping Along**

Effective July 1, 2009, the Village of University Park, including Governors State University, will change ZIP Codes.

As your department prepares its final budget for FY 2010, consider building in additional funds for the reprinting of all materials bearing the old ZIP Code (i.e. business cards, envelopes, stationery/masthead, forms, and marketing materials).

All departments doing business with outside entities are also responsible for informing those entities of the change for correspondence and billing purposes.

The facts:

- **New ZIP Code:** 60484 (Nine-Digit 60484-0975)
- The new ZIP code cannot be used and will not be recognized until July 1, 2009.
- The university must change the ZIP code on all materials between July 1, 2009 and July 1, 2010.
- GSU may continue to use mail materials bearing the current code (60466) through July 1, 2010. Outbound GSU mail bearing an obsolete ZIP code as part of the return address after July 1, 2010 and found to be undeliverable-as-addressed would be considered a dead letter and not be returned sender (GSU).

For more information, contact Paul Schwellenbach at ext. 7429.
The GSU eLearning system (WebCT) will be undergoing some system updates and maintenance on Friday, April 24 and will be offline briefly.

Winter 2009 was one of the most successful online terms for GSU yet with more faculty members offered more learning materials to students online than ever before.

Summer course shells are now available for every course offered at GSU. Visit the eLearning webpage to add materials. Use your GSU username (first initial-dash-last name) and password to log in.