News and Events

Winter Break (12-21-09)

The university will be closed for the holiday break from December 24 through January 3. Employees are encouraged not to visit campus during break. Personnel needing access to campus for any reason must sign in at the Department of Public Safety, C-1375. For additional information, contact the Department of Public Safety at ext. 4900.

Adieu from the View

Today's issue of the View is a slim one – hopefully mirroring our New Year's waistlines. It's also the last issue until January 4. Alas, we'll be accepting story ideas and information over the holiday break. Simply send an e-mail to Eric Matanyi or Lindsay Gladstone. Happy holidays!

Systems Interrupted

IT will upgrade several GSU systems during the holiday break. Below is a list of the systems and the times they will be unavailable due to maintenance. ITS apologizes for any inconvenience and appreciates your patience. For more information, contact the help desk at 708.534.4357.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>SYSTEM</th>
<th>DOWNTIME</th>
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<tr>
<td>Webct</td>
<td>Tues, Dec. 22, from 10 a.m. - noon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exchange Email/ OWA</td>
<td>Sun, Dec. 27, from 10 p.m. - 1 a.m.</td>
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<td>VPN</td>
<td>Sun, Dec. 27, from 10 p.m. - 1 a.m.</td>
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<td>Singularity</td>
<td>Sun, Dec. 27, from 10 p.m. - 1 a.m.</td>
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<td>Faculty Web FTP</td>
<td>Sun, Dec. 27, from 10 p.m. - 1 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>R25 Calendar</td>
<td>Mon, Dec. 28, from 10 a.m. - noon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Online Orientation</td>
<td>Mon, Dec. 28, from noon - 4 p.m.</td>
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<td>Prior Learning</td>
<td>Mon, Dec. 28, from noon - 4 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Teaching with Primary Resources</td>
<td>Mon, Dec. 28, from noon - 4 p.m.</td>
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Proposed Revisions to HR Regulations

At the last meeting the Human Resources Committee of the Board of Trustees, proposed revisions to the Regulations of the Board of
Trustees related to Human Resources were presented for a first reading. The proposed revisions are now posted on the Board of Trustees bulletin boards and on the GSU website. Copies of the document are also available at the circulation desk in the GSU Library.

Review of the proposed revisions and comments or questions for consideration by the Board of Trustees are welcome. Please send any written comments on this matter to the University General Counsel Alexis Kennedy via e-mail or to room G364.

The proposed revisions to the regulations will be considered for adoption by the Board at its meeting in February, 2010 or thereafter.

**Holiday Hours Around Campus (12-17-09)**

Governors State University will close for the holiday break from December 24 through January 3. Individual departments and services may also have alternate holiday hours before, during, and after the break.

**Cafeteria**
December 19 – January 3; Closed
January 4: Normal hours resume

**Bookstore**
December 21 – 24; 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
December 24 – January 3; Closed
January 4: Normal hours resume

**Writing Center**
December 17 – January 11; Closed.
This includes the online writing center, one-on-one appointments, help in the library, and ELSL services. APA templates, documentation direction for several styles, and other helpful information is always available on the Writing Center website.

**University Library**
December 15 – 18; 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
December 19 and 20; Closed
December 21 – 23; 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
December 24 – January 3; Closed
January 4 – 8; 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
January 9 and 10; Closed
January 11; Normal hours resume

**Admission Office**
December 17; 8:30 a.m. – 6 p.m.
December 18; 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.
December 21 – 23; 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.
December 24 - January 3; Closed
January 4 and 7; 8:30 a.m. – 6 p.m.
January 5, 6, and 8; 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.

**Book Card Distribution**

The Office of Financial Aid offers a $300, $500, or $700 book card advances to assist eligible students with the purchase of books and supplies.
Students that meet the following criteria are eligible:

1. Completed a 2009/2010 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and awarded financial aid;
2. Admitted to a degree-seeking program at GSU;
3. Registered in at least six (6) credit hours;
4. Maintain satisfactory academic progress; and
5. Have enough financial aid to cover tuition and fees, plus the $300, $500 or $700 book card advance.

The book card amount is based on the number of hours for which the student is registered at the time of book card pick up. Eligible students receive only one card in one denomination per term and are not allowed to increase the amount on the card.

Book cards distribution for the Winter 2010 trimester begins January 7. The following schedule provides the dates, times, and locations of book card distribution.

**Hall of Honors - Room D-1490**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, January 7, 2010</td>
<td>9 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, January 11, 2010</td>
<td>9 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.</td>
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**Office of Financial Aid - Room C-1310**

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday, January 8, 2010</td>
<td>9 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, January 12, 2010</td>
<td>9 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, January 13, 2010</td>
<td>9 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, January 14, 2010</td>
<td>9 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, January 15, 2010</td>
<td>9 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

For additional information, visit [www.govst.edu/finaid](http://www.govst.edu/finaid), or call 708.534.4480.

**Research Revelations**

Recent research into possible protein cross-linking yielded “quite significant” results, according to Dr. Shelly Kumar, university professor of chemistry.

Dr. Kumar presented a poster display on the research at the October regional meeting of the American Chemical Society in Puerto Rico. He said fellow scientists at the conference appreciated the research, which Dr. Kumar conducted in GSU’s chemistry laboratory with graduate student Dineshkumar Dobariya. Kumar plans to confirm his findings, write a research paper, and submit it for publication in a peer-reviewed journal.

The research was significant because it showed that a derivative of the amino acid histidine, when photooxidized, combined itself to create a dimer, which is a chemical compound formed when two smaller identical or similar molecules are linked together. The photooxidation conditions used in this experiment mimic the conditions under which proteins crosslink to cause cataract formation in the eye lens. Dr. Kumar said the experiment marked the first time such a dimer has been formed from histidine.

“My research involves light and oxygen, and I mainly work with
biological problems,” Dr. Kumar said. As a professor of organic chemistry, he prefers working with “small molecules” rather than large protein molecules. This strategy allows him to accomplish research work that is less tedious and less complicated. In his present research, he synthesized a derivative of histidine and showed formation of a dimer from it, while other researchers working with large protein molecules have had difficulty finding a dimer.

This project is likely to have implications for medical research, Dr. Kumar said. For now, though, he expects the research will first be peer-reviewed and will lead to further experimentation.

Dr. Kumar said he has been researching how protein compounds are oxidized for 10 years and, start to finish, this latest project took about two years.

Many Thanks to the GSU Community

The Rich Township food pantry greatly appreciated the donation of food collected by the Black Student Union and donated by members of the GSU community. Fifteen boxes of mixed food items from GSU were delivered. Currently, The Pantry helps approximately 860 families per month.

GMAT 2010

The College of Business and Public Administration (CBPA is offering GMAT preparation courses. The non-credit courses prepare students who plan to take the GMAT, an admission requirement for many graduate programs.

The GMAT Basic Math Refresher Series helps students relearn math concepts and skills such as fractions, decimals, basic algebra, and basic geometry. The class will be held on Saturdays, January 16, 23, and 30, from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The cost for all three sessions is $150.

The GMAT Prep Series concentrates on the quantitative and verbal sections of the GMAT. Topics to be reviewed include data sufficiency, ratios and proportions, word problems, fractions, and percentages, as well as reading comprehension, critical reasoning, sentence correction, and analytical writing. This series will be offered on Saturdays, February 6, 13, 20, 27 and March 6 and 13, from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., in room B2202. The cost of the six sessions is $300.

Both the Basic Math Refresher and the GMAT Prep Series may be taken for $425. Classes are taught by GSU faculty.

Registration and payment is required before the first class. For more information or to register, contact the CBPA Advising Office at 708.534.4391 or BPA-INFO@govst.edu.

Sex, Drugs, and Rock & Roll

Beginning in the Winter 2010 term, the Department of Addictions Studies in the College of Health and Human Services will offer a new
class in Sexuality and Addictions. The class, ADDS 525, will be taught by Raven James, Ed.D, Assistant Professor of Addictions Studies at GSU.

Topics to be addressed include relationship issues, family issues (single mothers, gay and lesbian families, swingers, etc.), rape and incest, abuse, the human sexual response cycle, intimacy, sexual identity and gender identity.

“This class is not about the nuts and bolts of sexuality,” James explained. “It’s more about the issues surrounding sexuality, and typically the more controversial issues.” She noted that addictions studies professionals need to have a comfort level talking about sexuality issues as they treat individuals who are dealing with drug and/or alcohol abuse, or other health-related behaviors.

For additional information about the class, contact Dr. James at ext. 2160.

Intellectual Feeling

GSU’s Intellectual Life committee recently solicited grant proposals for on campus events that support the mission of the university. Eight proposals were selected to receive $500 toward event expenses.

Intellectual Life Grant Recipients:

- Bridging the East with the West: Understanding the Barriers Facing Arab and Muslim American Community for Effective Social Service Delivery – JoAnne Smith
- Cuban Students Tour and Academic Exchange – Maristela Zell
- Drumming Through History – Elizabeth Johnson
- Exploring Visual Anthropology, Material Culture, and Heritage Studies at Governors State University – Fran Kostarelos
- History of Broadway Discussion and Audition – Burt Dikelsky
- Lines in the Sand: A Performance and Discussion on Identity, Media, and Immigration – Jason Zingsheim
- National Juried Art Competition and Exhibition – Jeff Stevenson
- Restorative Justice Week II – Chip Coldren, JoAnne Smith, and Paula Levicas

Grants Granted

Please congratulate the following GSU faculty and staff who recently received new or renewed funding for their research and program activities.

Catherine Balthazar, PhD, of Communications Disorders received funding from the American-Speech-Language-Hearing Association for her research on building complex sentences among school age children with oral and written language disorders.

Mary Carrington, PhD, of the Division of Science received a subcontract through Chicago State University for the fifth year of the Illinois Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation program from the National Science Foundation.

Sandi Estep, PhD, of the Division of Education received her fourth year
Carol Morrison, MA, of the Family Development Center received funding for the Child Care Access Means Parents in School program from the US Department of Education.

Robbie O'Shea, PhD, of the Department of Physical Therapy received funding for a Conductive Education Research Lab from the Coleman Foundation.

Decamber BOT Meeting Recap (12-17-09)

Friday, December 11 marked GSU’s final Board of Trustees (BOT) meeting of 2009.

The approved consent agenda contained a number of new resolutions including emeritus status for Dr. Virginio Piucci; contracts for upgrades and maintenance of air handling units, the electrical system, and the fire/security system; contract renewals for painting and carpeting; adoption of revised BOT governing policies; and the acceptance of IBHE program reviews from calendar years 2007-2008 and 2008-2009.

Board member Kristi DiLaurentiis recognized civil service employee of the year Julia Jamison and thanked her for her dedication to the university and for her exemplary work on the Let’s Get Fit program.

During her report, Board Chair Lorine Samuels commented on the success of the yearlong 40th Anniversary celebration and of the recent HLC site visit. She congratulated the entire university community for their dedication to making the HLC visit successful and specifically mentioned the work of Dean Eric Martin and Dr. Ann Vendrely.

Samuels noted that the university continues to move forward in a positive direction by recognizing several new projects – college advisory boards, the new semester calendar, and individual meetings between the Board and the Faculty, Civil Service, and Student senates.

Samuels acknowledged the need for the university to continue to look for new ways to become self-sustaining while staying true to GSU’s mission and spirit.

President Maimon recognized a successful 40th anniversary year during her report. She specifically thanked event planner Karen Caesar-Smith for her hard work. Dr. Maimon noted the significance of the successful HLC visit. She remarked that the HLC team reviewed all aspects of the university and that GSU received high marks for external outreach, infrastructure of the development team, finance, and facilities.

Dr. Maimon reported that the IBHE recently approved GSU’s fourth doctorate – the Ed.D. in Counseling. HLC must now provide final approval of the new degree program. She also discussed the status of capital project funding, noting that the administration is relentless on its push for E and F wing dollars. Dr. Maimon remains hopeful that funds will be received in early 2010.

The State of Illinois has released only a small portion of GSU’s fiscal reimbursements for the current fiscal year. Other Illinois universities are in similar positions. As a result, Dr. Maimon reported that the IBHE
recently adopted an advocacy position demanding that university funds be paid immediately. Dr. Maimon closed by noting that the synergy of the 40th Anniversary and the HLC visit will continue to carry GSU in 2010.

Dr. Hekki Heino, newly-elected president of the Faculty Senate, noted that he is looking forward to the opportunity to meet with the Board early in the new year to discuss faculty related issues. In preparation for that meeting, the faculty will prioritize their concerns. He noted that he plans to focus on university-wide issues in his initial discussions with the Board.

Student Senate president Carmin Garnica recognized the difficulty in gaining the involvement of non-traditional students in activities and clubs. She noted that Student Life will continue their full support of Strategy 2015 goals through increased focus on student involvement on campus.

Trustee Lois Mayer presented on behalf of Civil Service Senate president Kathy Miller. She reported that Miller recently attended the Council of Councils where the State budget was the primary topic. GSU will host the Council event next year. She thanked the BOT for the one-on-one opportunity to discuss Civil Service topics in the new year. She closed with a recap of Civil Service Day and noted the upcoming Penny Wars fundraiser.

**Holiday Celebration (12-10-09)**

Dr. Maimon and the Board of Trustees invite the GSU faculty and staff to celebrate the holidays together on Friday, December 11, from 3:30 to 5 p.m., in the Hall of Governors.

**Employee of the Year**

As part of the Civil Service Day celebration, the Employee of the Year is announced. The 2009 honoree is Julia Jamison, Human Resource Associate in the Human Resources Department. Jamison was recognized for her development and management of *Let’s Get Fit*, a campuswide program encouraging exercise and healthy habits.

“I am humbled by this great honor,” said Jamison. “It is wonderful to be honored by your peers.”

Jamison was chosen by employee ballots from among the 11 Employee of the Month recipients. Other monthly winners included Ruby Williams, Office Support Specialist, College of Business & Public Administration; Carol Machura, Administrative Aide, University Library; Colleen Buche, Police Telecommunicator, Department of Public Safety; Mike Sullivan, Assistant Chief Operating Engineer, Facilities Development Management; Jane Gardner, Staff Clerk, Student Development; Laura Owens, Administrative Clerk, School of Extended Learning; Judy Ferneau, Business Administrative Associate, Information Technology Services; Mona Douglas, Office Manager, College of Education-Psychology & Counseling; Jennie Buhs, Admissions Records Representative, School of Interdisciplinary Learning; and Cynthia Matthias, Office Support Specialist, College of Business of Public &
Cracking Nuts and Slapping Rulers

The Center for Performing Arts is offering buy one get one free tickets for The Salt Creek Ballet’s performance of *The Nutcracker* on Saturday, December 12, at 5 p.m. Tickets are limited and are normally priced at $40. The sale begins on Friday, at 10 a.m., and ends on Saturday, at 4 p.m.

If you’re in the mood for something totally different, try a dinner and comedy combo featuring the classic show *Late Nite Catechism*. This event will be held on Saturday, December 12, at Jenny’s Steak House in Frankfort, IL. Dinner is at 7 p.m. At 8 p.m., you'll become part of the Sister’s class. She’ll take you back to the days of the Latin Mass, meatless Fridays, and remind you about that good old ruler across the knuckles! The dinner and show are package priced at an affordable $40. Call Jenny's Steak House in Frankfort for reservations 815.464.2685.

Old Out, First In

The university is changing banks from Old Second Bank to First Midwest Bank. As part of this transition, the existing ATM will be replaced with a new machine on Monday, December 14. The new First Midwest Bank ATM machine should be fully operational by Wednesday, December 16.

The university Cashier’s Office is available to cash personal checks in an amount up to $50 at no charge to faculty, staff, and students with proper identification.

We are sorry for any inconvenience.

Civil Service Day Celebration ’09

Civil Service Day was celebrated with song, dance, laughs, and more laughs. The combined talents of many GSU employees and their families entertained a large audience in Sherman Hall on Wednesday, December 9.

After the show, lunch was served up by GSU administrators and enjoyed by Civil Service employees. Raffle prizes and more laughs were shared before it was time to get back to work.

Student Commencement Speaker Nominations

The Commencement Student Speaker Committee is currently accepting nominations for the winter commencement ceremony to be held on Saturday, February 6, 2010. Faculty, staff, and students are
encouraged to nominate a deserving individual to give the student commencement address. Students may nominate themselves.

To nominate a student, complete the Commencement Faculty-Staff Recommendation Nomination form. Nominated students should submit the Commencement Student Nomination form. All forms should be submitted to Vanessa Newby (room A2104) no later than Wednesday, December 16. Please note that student nominees must be available to meet for an interview on Friday, January 8, between noon and 5 p.m.

**Black History Month Committee**

It may be December, but February and Black History Month is fast approaching. The Black History Month Planning Committee is currently recruiting members to help create a month of activities commemorating black history and involving both the GSU community and the wider region in enjoyable and meaningful activities and celebrations.

Membership in the planning committee is open to students, faculty, and staff members. People interested in joining are encouraged to contact Vanessa Newby at 708.534.4551.

**Final Day of the FDC Book Fair**

Today is the final day of the Family Development Center Book Fair. Visit the wide selection of books to please every child today, December 10, from 11 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., in the D-Wing main entrance atrium.

**Recycling Tons!**

GSU and the surrounding communities reached a milestone last month with the collection of 1.17 tons of recyclable paper products for the first time since collection bins were installed on campus seven months ago. Everyone is encouraged to continue using the bins – especially during the holiday season, with the collection of ads, catalogs, gift boxes, and wrapping paper.

The two large recycling collection containers are located in the Wagner House parking lot, on the south side of Stuenkel Road, adjacent to the railroad tracks, and in the E parking lot off Exchange.

The recyclables are picked up by Abitibi Bowater, North America’s largest newspaper manufacturer and newspaper recycler. In addition to holiday paper waste, newspaper, magazines, catalogs, mail, office paper, and paperback books are also accepted. Cardboard and phone books are not recyclable at this location.

**Oh Provost, Where Art Thou (12-07-09)**

Thanks to all members of the GSU community who attended Friday’s presentation by Provost candidate Dr. Terry Allison. Candidate evaluation forms should be turned in to Pulchratia Kinney-Smith in Human Resources as soon as possible.

On Tuesday, December 8, Provost Candidate Dr. Carmen Coballes-
Vega, Dean of the College of Professional Studies, Metropolitan State University (St. Paul, Minnesota), will visit the university. The GSU community is asked to welcome her and to attend the community-wide public forum, which takes place from 2:45 to 3:45 p.m., in Sherman Hall. Dr. Coballes-Vega will give a brief PowerPoint presentation on Assessment and Institutional Effectiveness, followed by a Q&A session with the audience. Dr. Coballes-Vega’s resume and letter of interest are also online for review.

Candidate evaluation forms will be available after the presentation.

Snow Closure Procedures

With the season’s first measureable snow on the ground, the GSU community is reminded that emergency campus closures due to inclement weather will be communicated via:

1. GSU website homepage
2. GSU website emergency info page
3. Campus wide e-mail sent to faculty/staff e-mail and student iMail addresses
4. School Messenger alert system – per your personal contact preferences
5. WGN Emergency Closing Center website (www.emergencyclosingcenter.com), WGN TV news, WGN 720 AM radio

Students, faculty, and staff are asked to check these sources to determine if there is a campus closure and should NOT contact the Department of Public Safety with basic closure inquiries.

Free Holiday Concert - Tonight

The Chicago Conservatory for the Performing Arts Chorus and Wind Ensemble are joining forces to perform an array of classical Christmas selections. They will present a free holiday concert tonight, at 7:30 p.m., at the Center for Performing Arts.

The concert will explore Christmas music over the course of several eras. Brass, winds, and voices combine to put everyone in the holiday spirit. Claudio Monteverdi’s Vespers of the Blessed Virgin and Franz Bisbel’s Ave Maria are among many great holiday selections.

Invest in Your Future

John Olson, the VALIC Representative under the university’s 403(b) plan, will be on campus on Wednesday, December 9, in the room G269, from 2 to 4 p.m. Appointments are not needed to see John regarding your account or starting a new one.

GSU also has three other authorized vendors able to accept new contributions. They are TIAA-CREF, Fidelity, and the Legend Group.

Taking Skills to Namibia and Tanzania

HIV and alcohol abuse are always a toxic combination. In Namibia, a
southwestern African nation, 40 percent of the population is HIV positive and 30 to 40 percent suffers from alcohol addiction. It is a combination that can shake the foundations of society.

Assistant Professor Jacqueline Elder, Psy.D, CADC, has traveled to Namibia to help fight this twin scourge. Elder, who teaches in the Master of Addictions Studies program, volunteered her services in combating alcohol abuse, which completely negates any benefit HIV victims get from their medications.

Elder, a GSU graduate, is trained in a technique known as Motivational Interviewing (MI). Her husband, Ken Schmidt —a fellow GSU graduate—joined Elder and other MI trainers on their first visit to Namibia in September 2008. The couple also volunteered in Tanzania, in eastern Africa, during the summer of 2009. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention solicited help from the trainers.

Motivational Interviewing (MI) is a form of psychotherapeutic intervention designed to help people change their addictive behavior. Developed approximately 20 years ago, MI was considered somewhat controversial at the time because it involved a more empathic, rather than confrontational, style of therapy.

In Namibia, the goal for Elder and the other trainers was to help the HIV workers (social workers, nurses, and therapists) engage in a non-adversarial and non-judgmental conversation with their patients about their alcohol use and adherence to HIV medication use. Sometimes just one session, done well, yields a positive outcome for patients, according to Elder.

The whole idea is to talk about quitting drinking so the HIV meds can work,” Elder said. “Even though the HIV workers know their clients are drinking, they find it too uncomfortable to bring up the issue of alcohol abuse.”

**Help Soldiers Phone Home**

Student Life is collecting cell phones to help soldiers serving in the U.S. Armed Forces. Donations will be used to finance the purchase of calling cards for members of the Armed Services.

All cell phone makes and models, chargers, and accessories are accepted until December 18. Donations may be made to the Welcome Center (Room D1429), Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.

**Governors State CSI**

The students taking their final exam in Criminal Forensics last week did not sit behind a desk or in front of a computer. Instead, they searched the brush behind the GSU Conference Center, measured blood splatter on a window, took foot casts, and identified fingerprints. They also discovered the most gruesome evidence of a crime…a decomposing body.

The final exam requires students to apply all they had learned to help them solve a crime scenario created by adjunct professor and GSU alumni, Colin Reid. Reid, who is also a forensics investigator for the
West Suburban major Crime Task Force and a sergeant on the River Grove Police Department, kept the evidence as real as possible. The "dead body" the students discovered was actually the carcass of a dead pig he had buried in the ground two weeks earlier.

As the students did their work, the evidence, including a remarkable sketch of the suspect seen fleeing the scene of the crime, pointed to one possible culprit. In a surprise ending to the final and a joke on all the students, the mock evidence pointed to Criminal Justice Program coordinator Dr. Chip Coldren. No arrests have been made.

A story about the forensics final with pictures appeared in the SouthtownStar on December 4.

**Habla Espanol**

The Spanish Reading Club strives to bring together students and community members with different levels of Spanish. The main goal of the group is to improve the members' Spanish level through social events, networking, and language exposure. The club is dedicated to exposing its members to the Latino culture through various events throughout the semester.

Meetings are held weekly to discuss group plans and to practice Spanish. Membership is open to all students, faculty, and staff regardless of Spanish language proficiency. The most important qualification is the desire to make new friends and learn more Spanish.

For more information contact the Spanish Reading Club or Carlos Cantu.

**Oouuuummm**

Rid yourself of holiday stress by starting the year out right. The Library Intellectual Life Committee presents *An Introduction to Meditation* on Wednesday, January 27, from 5 to 7, in Engbretson Hall. Dr. Maristela Zell, Associate Professor of Social Work, will discuss meditation practices and lead participants in several meditation exercises. Light refreshments will be served.

**Provost Candidates Visit GSU (12-10-09)**

On Friday, December 4, Provost Candidate Dr. Terry Allison, Dean of the College of Arts and Letters at California State University, Los Angeles, will visit GSU.

The GSU community is asked to welcome him and to attend the community-wide public forum, which takes place from 2:45 to 3:45 p.m., in Sherman Hall. Dr. Allison will give a brief PowerPoint presentation on *Assessment and Institutional Effectiveness*, followed by a Q&A session with the audience. Dr. Allison’s *resume* and *letter of interest* are available online for review. Evaluation forms for attendee commentary will be available.

On Tuesday, December 8, Provost Candidate Dr. Carmen Coballes-Vega, Dean of the College of Professional Studies, Metropolitan State University (St. Paul, Minnesota), will visit the university. Dr. Coballes-Vega’s *resume* and *letter of interest* are also online for review.
The agendas for the candidates' visits are also available for review online.

**Time to Celebrate**

Dr. Maimon and the Board of Trustees invite the GSU faculty and staff to celebrate the holidays together on Friday, December 11, from 3:30 to 5 p.m., in the Hall of Governors.

Please RSVP to Penny Perdue at ext. 6364.

**Campus Community Campaign Thank You**

Thank you to everyone who participated in this year's successful Campus Community Campaign. A campaign wrap up event is planned for early 2010 and will include a drawing for spectacular prizes including:

- **Grand Prize** – Designated parking spot in lot of winner’s choosing for one year
- **1st Prize** – One year member to the GSU Recreation and Fitness Center, includes a GSU Spirit Pack (t-shirt, mug, banner, lunch for a week in the cafeteria, and other misc. GSU items)
- **2nd Prize** – Overnight hotel accommodations at the Matteson Holiday Inn; 2 tickets to The Millers at The Center for Performing Arts; and dinner for two at Scrementi's in Steger
- **3rd Prize** – Overnight hotel accommodations at the Empress Casino in Joliet and a certificate for two to the buffet
- **Additional Prizes** - Guest passes for two at the East Bank Club; A $50 gift card towards a meal at Maxwell’s; Cooper’s Hawk wine tasting for ten; and lots of theater tickets.

If you haven’t received your tickets for the drawing, contact Jackie Small in Institutional Advancement at ext. 2188. Any questions or concerns may also be directed to Jackie.

**The Holiday Hop at The Center**

Get in the swing of the holiday season with music that will make your feet tap and your body sway.

The Center for Performing Arts at GSU presents *The Holiday Hop* featuring chart-topping 1950s and '60s groups Cornell Gunter’s Coasters, the Platters, and the Marvelettes on Saturday, December 5, at 8 p.m. These smooth and soulful hit makers will bring excitement, comedy, and romance to the holiday.

GSU buy one get one free tickets for *The Holiday Hop* will be available from 10 a.m., on Friday, December 4 through 7 p.m., on Saturday, December 5. The regular ticket price is $45. Call or visit the box office at 708.235.2222.
**Holiday Food Drives Need Sustenance**

The GSU community has the opportunity to feed families in need. Two separate food drives on campus are currently collecting non-perishable food items.

The Black Student Union is collecting food in boxes situated around campus. This food drive ends December 11.

The Student Senate is asking university departments to help create hearty holiday meals for needy families by collecting items that will fill a food basket for one family. Drop off food items at Student Life or contact Vanessa Newby for pick up. This food drive ends December 17.

Items needed in both drives include canned hams, canned fruits, vegetables, cranberry sauce, gravy, boxes of instant potatoes, Jell-O, cornbread mix, cake mix, cans of cake frosting, bags of stuffing mix, and juices. Please donate non-perishable foods only. No refrigerated or frozen foods can be accepted.

**Childcare Special Offer**

The Family Development Center is offering GSU students a special offer on childcare services for the Winter 2010 trimester.

The FDC is suspending the registration fee and allowing parents to use the childcare services on an as needed basis. If you have a project to research, a class, or an appointment with a professor, the FDC can care for your children. GSU students can drop their children off at the FDC for fun, safe, enriching childcare while they are at the university.

Drop in childcare services are offered from 4 to 8 p.m., Monday through Thursday. Children must be pre-registered so the FDC has all the necessary contact and emergency information, but no registration fee or pre-scheduling for childcare services are required. Discounts for multiple children and major discounts for Pell Grant recipients are also available.

Contact 708.235.7300 for more information.

**Close the Window!**

It's that time of year - when diligence in closing your office windows is appreciated greatly. To avoid freezing/rupturing pipes in heating/cooling units, please remember to close all windows and adjust the heating unit to low-heat at the end of the workday.

**FDC Book Fair**

With the holidays just around the corner and gifts still left to buy, the Family Development Center comes to the rescue. The FDC Book Fair offers a wide selection of books for all ages, particularly the children in your life. Give the gift that gives hours of entertainment, enlightenment, and education. Give a book.

The Book Fair is open through December 4, from 9 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., in the FDC multi-purpose room and from December 7 through December 10, from 11 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., in the D-Wing main
entrance atrium.

**Business Success for Management Students**

Your company manufactures electronic sensors, and it’s your job to coordinate strategy and operations in finance, production, marketing, and research and development.

That’s the premise behind the *Capstone Challenge*, an online competition testing business students’ ability to succeed in the 21st century corporate environment. Thousands of undergraduate and graduate business students across the United States and in foreign countries participate in the competition.

At GSU, a group of students in Sidney Barsuk’s Management 469 - Business Policy course showed winning form in this fall’s eight-week Capstone Challenge. *Team Baldwin* finished in the 97th percentile among 1,538 teams that participated. The team had top 10 finishes in profitability and stock price. It registered as high as second in some categories following two weekly rounds.

“It says something for the college that they are rated so high,” Barsuk said. “It shows that we are turning out top graduates who are making an impact on the job world.”

Team Baldwin has six members: Meaghan Avolio, Vesna Metevska, Jessica Ritter, Magdalena Skowron, Gary Throw Jr., and Kil Yan. Five teams from Management 469 took part in this fall’s competition. The class is required for undergraduate business major nearing graduation. Barsuk said the *Capstone Challenge* accounts for about one-seventh of the final grade.

This fall’s section of Management 469 was an exclusively online class. Avolio said she and her fellow team members never got together in person but would meet online each Sunday to make decisions before filing their assigned work. Early in the competition, Avolio said she spent as much as eight hours a week on the competition. By the time it ended, she’d cut that number to two or three hours a week.

“Going through all the numbers was time-consuming but it was important to understand how they were being used,” said Avolio, who is graduating in January. “I’m an accounting major and I actually thought this was a lot of fun.”

**Language, Literacy, and Children**

Dr. Jennifer Armstrong, assistant professor of Communication Disorders, and a group of graduate level speech and language pathology students conducted a workshop for parents at the GSU Family Development Center in October. As part of their required coursework, Dr. Armstrong’s students taught the parents of FDC students about normal speech and language development in young children.
The students developed interactive sessions for the parents at various learning centers focusing on:

- Normal speech and language development milestones
- Information on the connection between literacy and language
- Sound awareness activities for reading readiness
- Games and activities to encourage language development

Dr. Armstrong answered the parents’ questions after the activities. The students also shared their insights on participating in the workshop.

**Well ness vs. Ill ness**

The Student Life Department & School of Extended Learning are sponsoring a class on stress management that is open to students, faculty, staff, and the community.

*Well ness vs. Ill ness* teaches the definition of stress, its danger to physical and mental health, ways to control, reduce, and remove stress, and how to live a healthier lifestyle.

The course is taught by Barney Davis (*Bi nah*), BA, MBA., Ph.D., founder of Bio-Energy Therapy Wellness Center (BETWC), a knowledge-based consulting company specializing in metaphysical bio-energy and mind-body communications instruction. BETWC combines physical and spiritual approaches to wellness through lectures and workshops that cover a broad spectrum of healthcare topics that focus on the whole person with emphasis on disease prevention and improving lifestyle.

The class meets on Saturdays, January 16, 23, 30, and February 6, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The cost is $75 for non-credit registration. GSU tuition and fees for one credit hour apply for credit registration.

For more information, contact Lori Townsend ([l-townsend@govst.edu](mailto:l-townsend@govst.edu)) at 708.235.7382.

**A Day to Learn**

World AIDS Day was observed on December 1 at GSU with information and education. The Academic Resource Center, the College of Arts and Sciences, and Student Life teamed with community groups to provide the necessary expertise to explain the complex issues.

"It is very important to continue the conversation about HIV/AIDS so that people are continually reminded of how devastating the virus can be and what can be done to protect ourselves and others and to help those already infected," said Tamekia Scott, event organizer and outreach counselor at the Academic Resource Center.

Two panel discussions drew community members, students, faculty, and staff together to learn more. Panelists presenting information and answering questions included:

- Beverly Akins – Social Worker for Proactive Community Services,
Homewood, Illinois and an alum of GSU
- Dr. Katherine Helm, Ph.D. – Licensed Clinical Psychologist in the ARC- Counseling Center
- Justin Hill – Program Coordinator for EdgeAlliance, Chicago, Illinois
- Dr. Raven James, Ed.D. – Assistant Professor Additions Studies at GSU
- Dr. Elizabeth Johnson, Ph.D. – Assistant Professor History at GSU
- Anjanette Young – Housing Coordinator for EdgeAlliance, Chicago, Illinois

Additional guest speakers included Ms. Karen and Mr. Royal (no last names for confidentiality reasons) who give personal accounts of living with HIV/AIDS.

**Cell Phones for Soldiers**

Student Life is collecting cell phones to help soldiers serving in the U.S. Armed Forces. Donations will be used to finance the purchase of calling cards for members of the Armed Services.

All cell phone makes and models, chargers, and accessories are accepted until December 18. Donations may be made to the Welcome Center (Room D1429), Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.