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Office of Public Affairs

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News and Events

GSU Board Chair Honored

Lorraine Skulark Samuels, Chair of the GSU Board of Trustees and President of Strategic Business Services, Inc., in Flossmoor, was inducted Monday as an honorary member of Delta Mu Delta, the international honor society in business administration.

In her address, Ms. Samuels told the business students that leadership in the workplace depends on successfully facing life’s challenges and making the most of opportunities that come our way. She decided to pursue a degree in business administration in an era when few women made such choices. When she established her firm in 1985, female business ownership was definitely not the norm, Ms. Samuels said. Strategic Business Systems is a management and consulting firm that assists clients with systems analysis, personnel and financial review, policy and procedure development, and establishing for profit and not for profit entities.

“I am happy to say that I learned from all these experiences, and that they helped to shape me into who I am today,” she said. “My core values are integrity, high quality, excellence in service, and continuing education.”

Twenty-seven Governors State University business students were also inducted into Lambda Delta Chapter of the business honor society, formed last year at GSU. Dr. William C. Wilkinson, Professor of Marketing, was inducted into honorary membership of Delta Mu Delta. Dr. Wilkinson, who has taught marketing and management courses in GSU’s College of Business and Public Administration for the past 23 years, also addressed the business students.

Road Construction Delays

Two simultaneous IDOT road resurfacing projects will be occurring at the east and west sides of the GSU campus.

West of the campus, Illinois route 50 (Governors Highway) is undergoing 2.06 miles of milling, resurfacing, striping and other work.

East of campus, University Parkway (Crawford) will undergo patching operations between Steger-Monee Road and Stuenkel Road. On Thursday May 20, paving will begin. No construction will occur on University Parkway/Stuenkel Road north of campus.
For each operation, roads may be limited to one lane with flaggers controlling traffic. The roads will remain passable, but this work is expected to result in traffic delays. Paving operations are slated to continue for a period of at least 7 to 10 days. Please allow for extra time to reach your destination.

**Student Speaker – Bryce Johnsen**

At Spring Commencement, GSU will award bachelor’s, master’s, and doctoral degrees to 500 graduates. When his name is called, Bryce Johnsen will be join his fellow graduates as they cross the stage and meet the future.

Johnsen has the additional honor of serving as the voice of the Class of 2010. As student commencement speaker, he will share his observations about what it means to earn a degree.

Johnsen is earning his bachelor’s degree in Interdisciplinary Studies. He has already enrolled in the Master of Arts in Communication and Training at GSU. He currently works in the Office of Admission.

Governors State University Spring Commencement will take place on Saturday, June 12, at 11 a.m., at the Tinley Park Holiday Inn Select and Convention Center, Tinley Park, Illinois.

**Pierre Takes a Vacation**

Everyone loves Pierre the Penguin and has asked this popular unofficial GSU mascot to go on vacation with them. He is the perfect travelling companion. He doesn’t snore, steal the covers, or emit rude noises at inappropriate times. His compact size means he won’t take up much room and he certainly knows when to keep his mouth shut. Pierre is also very photogenic and loves to have his picture taken.

So take Pierre on vacation with you and enter the first ever *Take Pierre on Vacation Contest* sponsored by the GSU View. Send your best photo of him in a fun, unique, or exotic locale to the GSU View. All images become property of the university and will be shared via the university’s Facebook account and occasional features in the GSU View.

The contest, open to students, faculty, and staff, will run through August 15. Late entries may be considered if you are on vacation on August 15. Members of the GSU community can pick up their very own Pierre the Penguin from the Office of Public Affairs (rooms G369 and G370).

One grand prize winner will be chosen and two runners-up will receive exciting GSU prize packs. Judges decisions are final.

And now for the rules and regs - All entries must be submitted via email and must be accompanied name, phone, email address, and GSU status (student, faculty, or staff). Only one photo per entry. Multiple entries accepted. Penguins available while supplies last. Limit one per person. Signed photo release forms may be required.
Buen viaje, Pierre!

**Two-Wheeled Touring**

Enjoy a tour of the Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park from your bicycle. Bike the pathways of the park and enjoy a guided tour of many of the 26 pieces of renowned artwork.

The bike tour is on Saturday, May 22, from 2 to 4 p.m. Riders will meet outside behind the Hall of Governors. There is no charge. Children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. All riders must wear helmets. There will be some riding on public roads.

Pre-registration is not required. For more information, call ext. 4486 or visit the [NMSP website](#).

**#1 Table Tennis Coach**

Fresh off the university’s Table Tennis Team’s amazing inaugural season, the National Collegiate Table Tennis Association has named GSU’s own TJ Wang as Coach/Manager of Year. Wang was both surprised and honored by the award. He modestly gave credit back to the team members. “I want to thank our student-athletes and commend on their excellent conduct during the competitions in the past year,” said Wang.

Congrats again to TJ and the entire team.

**Commence the Volunteering**

GSU staff, faculty, and students are needed to help make commencement a very special time for GSU graduates, their families, and friends.

The 2010 Spring Commencement Ceremony will be held on Saturday, June 12, at 11 a.m., at the Tinley Park Holiday Inn Select and Convention Center.

Volunteers are needed for setup, to answer questions, provide directions, to assist with robing faculty and students, and to assist with guest entry and seating. Volunteers play such an important role in making commencement a most memorable experience for our students, faculty, staff, and guests.

Please consider assisting with this very important university event. Contact [Pulchratia Kinney-Smith](#) at ext. 7466 by Wednesday, June 2.

All commencement volunteers and employees working the event are asked to attend an orientation on Tuesday, June 8, at 10 a.m., in the Center for Performing Arts on the Mezzanine Level.
**Hitting the Notes in L.A.**

For Eddie Rodgers II, last weekend’s 2010 Superboy singing competition was the latest in a long string of worthwhile learning experiences. Rogers, a GSU math major, was pleased with his performance but failed to advance beyond the North American Superboy finals. Only four of the 70 singers who competed in Los Angeles last week were picked for the next round of the competition, sponsored by Hunan Television in China.

Rogers speaks limited Chinese but has gained a loyal following singing in that language at Chinese-American events throughout the Chicago area. The Superboy competition has been called China’s version of *American Idol*.

After last week’s competition in California, Rogers summed up the experience. “I’ve learned seven songs, four in the last two weeks, and an excerpt from a famous Chinese opera, so I’m truly proud of myself, even a little impressed. A lot of time, energy, and resources went into this event. Overall, it was fun.”

Rogers plans to learn more of the Chinese so he can better converse with all the friends he’s made. “I’ll also continue to learn and sing songs for fun.”

**Run and Celebrate for a Good Cause**

For another year and with great pride, the Department of Public Safety is hosting the Illinois Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run. The event includes a fun run and a celebration. It takes place on Wednesday, June 9, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., on the university campus. All funds raised from the event go directly to special needs children in nearby communities to help defray the cost of attending summer camp.

All members of the GSU community, friends, children, and families are welcome to take part in the run and celebration. Joggers, walkers, cyclists, and spectators should meet at the east entrance (Crawford Avenue) of the campus at 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday.

Volunteers are also needed to assist with the post-run festivities, located in and outside of the cafeteria annex.

Those who have purchased a 2010 Special Olympics t-shirt are encouraged to show their support by wearing it that day. Celebration attendees wearing t-shirts, hats, or pins will receive a free lunch, compliments of the Department of Public Safety. Attendees making a $5 donation, which entitles them to lunch and a Special Olympics pin. The lunch menu includes hot dogs, hamburgers, chips, juice, water, and snacks) and a Special Olympics pin.

The Department of Public Safety, with assistance from Student Life, is looking forward to a safe and enjoyable day. To participate in the run, to volunteer to help with post-run festivities, or to donate and enjoy the fun, contact Officer Crystal Richards at 708.534.4900, to register.
Contractors will upgrade electrical equipment serving A and B wings. In order to complete the project, a scheduled power outage will be required on the 1st and 2nd floor of A Wing and the 2nd floor only of B Wing from 11 p.m. Thursday, May 27 to 11 p.m. Monday, May 31 (Memorial Day weekend).

Employees in the affected areas are asked to power down their computers and equipment in prior to leaving campus on Thursday, May 27.

Please note, this power outage will affect the Recreation and Fitness Center and Student Affairs and Academic Services on the 1st and 2nd floor of A wing. ACESSS, Upward Bound, the Latino Center for Excellence, Student Life, Student Senate, and Career Services will be operational but temporarily displaced during the outage. Visit the Information Booth in the Hall of Governors for assistance with any of these services.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Facilities at ext. 4515 or Information Technology (IT) at ext. 4357.