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Office of University Relations

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"The uncreative mind can spot wrong answers, but it takes a creative mind to spot wrong questions."

- A. Jay -

January 13, 1977

RECORD ACHIEVEMENT FORM SUBMISSION... 92.7% of the Fall 1976 achievement forms were submitted on time according to Admissions and Records. (The College of Cultural Studies achieved the best percentage - 97.9%) This is a new record and a considerable improvement from the usual 78%. Since many students depend upon prompt reporting of credit for raises and position changes, continued improvements are hoped for according to Acting Director Richard Newman. Reports of achievements were mailed to students Jan. 5.

WHAT WERE THEY GIVING AWAY IN A & R? For those of you who may have been wondering about the long lines protruding from A & R last week, here are the explanations. On Wednesday (Jan. 5) a record number of students made schedule changes during the Add/Drop period. Registrar Jim Lohman explains the record numbers with the fact that regular registration took place early in Dec. and with Christmas expenses many students decided to register for only one or two classes in December and to save their money and add their remaining learning modules in January. Friday afternoon lines contained faculty members who all waited for the same two-hour period to submit Fall 1976 achievement forms to the Records Office. Office Supervisor Mary Taylor commented that more staffing will probably be necessary in the future to support the last minute rush.

ELECTIONS SLATED... A number of student elections will be January 24-29 at GSU. Polling will begin Monday, January 24, at 10 a.m. and conclude noon Saturday, January 29. The deadline for student nominating petitions is 5 p.m., Thurs., January 13. Students to be elected are: GSU student rep to the BOG faculty collective bargaining sessions to serve until negotiations are completed, and HLD, CCS, BPS reps (one each) to SSAC (student services advisory committee). The SSAC representatives elected will serve until May, 1977. The SSAC makes recommendations to the Director of Student Services concerning student needs, activities, and organizations and provides, in accordance with BOG and GSU guidelines, supervision of the expenditures of funds generated through the student activity fee.
GSU CLASSIFIED... Vacant Civil Service Job Classifications as of January 12, 1977:

11/14 Work Prog. Participant
11/9 Library Clerk III
11/9 Admin. Secretary Steno
11/17 Work Prog. Participant
11/29 Accountant II
12/6 Secretary IV Steno
11/8 Secretary IV Steno
12/13 Director of Purchases
12/17 Secretary III Trans
12/17 Clerk II
12/17 Library Clerk II
12/17 Secretary III Trans
1/4/77 Work Prog. Participant

Applications and information available in Personnel/Testing, ext. 2310, 2320.

QA ON CS... Q. My position has been reallocated (or reclassified). Must I serve another probation? A. An employee, whose position is reallocated or reclassified... must complete a probationary period in the position in the new class (3.6 a).

POSITION OPEN... Immediately for Instructional Developers at GSU--to coordinate the development of self-instructional materials to be used at the junior, senior and masters level. A Ph.D. in Instructional Technology or related area is required. Salary range is $17,000-$21,000. Deadline for applications is March 15, 1977. Send letters of application (including resumes) to Ralph Kruse, Instructional Communications Center, Governors State University, Park Forest South, IL 60466. GSU is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer.

THEOLOGY FOR LUNCH... Roy Cogdell will speak on "Intercultural Communication" Wed., Jan. 19 at noon in Room D1120. Brown bag lunch--everyone welcome.

LAST CALL FOR OTHELLO... Rehearsals begin Jan. 17 for "Othello," second major production of the GSU theater season. There are still openings for some of the 13 principal and six to eight non-speaking roles, both male and female. Anyone interested in being cast, who could not attend earlier auditions may call ext. 2143. The play will be performed March 18-19 and 25-27. Dr. Mel Slott is directing the production.

VETERANS OF INNOVATION...

Six Years - RAY KIEFER (Admin) 1-19-71
Five Years - CATHY BURNETT (BPS) 1-3-72
          EVELYN PEGUES (EAS) 1-17-72
          ANDY LOKOS (MR) 1-17-72

IS YOUR CHILD "GIFTED"... What is "gifted?" How does the Illinois State Gifted Program work? and what can you do as a parent of a gifted child? These and other questions will be answered at an Evening Seminar for parents of Gifted Children to be held at GSU, Jan. 20, 7:15-9:00 p.m. Anyone interested in the education of gifted children is invited to attend this seminar sponsored by the South Suburban Area Service Center for Educators of Gifted Children. Coffee and donuts will be served. For further info call Roger Taylor, Director, ext. 2460.

FROM OLD TOWN TO SOUTH SUBURBS... "The Best of Second City" featuring the original renowned theater group will be presented Sat., Feb. 26, 1977 at Homewood-Flossmoor High School auditorium. The performances will be sponsored by the South Suburban YWCA. Tickets are $5, $7.50 and $10. For tickets or further info call Barb McDonough, ext. 2314.

GRADUATE STUDENTS ON THE MOVE... Paul LoBue painted a mural, "If the Earth Were Only a Few Feet in Diameter" on an outside wall of Chicago's Resource Center at 61st and Blackstone. The 14 1/2 ft. high by 104 ft. long mural took approximately eight weeks to complete. Ruth Patterson, a work-study student with South Suburban Council on Aging is working closely with outreach workers of the council, helping improve the quality of life for frightened, isolated elderly people. Karl Bergenstal has been appointed Youth Director for Warren Township. He will serve as family counselor and liaison with various law enforcement agencies. He received an M.A. in Communications Science at GSU. Joel D. Zegart was named an assistant commercial loan officer at Ford City Bank. He is presently completing studies for his degree in finance at the University. Hazel McKinney, former teacher supervisor of Pembroke Alternative School has been named director of the Kankakee Community Action Program's personnel department. Erna Salm, a concert pianist and teacher of music at GSU is on a concert tour of England, Germany, Austria, Switzerland, and Spain.

AN OPEN HOUSE... for community college professors will be held by CEAS at GSU Wed., January 19. The open house to discuss mutual interests and concerns will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. For further info contact John Chambers, ext. 2469.
FAZE FOCUS: AIDA SHEKIB

Being first comes naturally to Dr. Aida Shekib, University Professor of Business Administration and Accounting in CBPS and Chairperson of the GSU University Assembly. Ever since her birth in Alexandria, Egypt as the first of six children, Aida has been claiming a number one spot.

With her graduation from Alexandria University at the top of her class for four years, Aida made history as the first woman to achieve that distinction, winning the United Arab Republic Achievement Award. Aida credits her father for her remarkable motivation, recalling his advice: "education first, then engagement and marriage." All of his children followed that admonition and completed their degrees.

After earning a B.A. in Commerce, Aida was chosen for a key position in international exchange with the Bank of Alexandria, supervising a staff of older, experienced men. Though the task was difficult, it did not interfere with her continued full-time studies for an M.A. Certificate and concurrent teaching duties at a private university. In 1962 she became a research assistant professor at the National Institute of Management Development in Cairo.

In 1963 Aida was married by proxy to former classmate Farouk Shaaban, who was studying on scholarship at Indiana University. She joined Farouk in the U.S. a year later and began work immediately on an M.B.A. which she completed in 1964. The births of their sons Ahmed and Aimen (now 12 1/2 and 11) proved only minor delays in her studies for a Ph.D. in Accounting and Organizational Theory. She now chuckles over those obviously hectic years that on one occasion saw her registering in the maternity ward instead of the university for classes. The University of Illinois awarded Aida her Ph.D. in 1970.

Aida first heard about GSU in 1970, but her interest wasn't really stirred until a few years later when she met Ruben Austin (former BPS Dean) at a management convention in 1972. GSU innovative teaching methods, allowing a teacher flexibility and the freedom to try new approaches, fired her imagination. Aida and her family lived in Tennessee at the time, where she was teaching. Concerned about residing in a large urban area such as Chicago, quite a change from the smaller communities they had experienced in this country, Aida decided to commute her first year at GSU (1973) while Farouk remained at his teaching position in Tennessee with the boys. Finally convinced that the University and its community held many cultural advantages, the family moved to this area in 1974 and Farouk joined the faculty as a professor of Business Administration, ending her 1000 mile weekend trips home.

As a BPS faculty member, Aida was active in committee work, chairing several and serving as Vice-Chairperson of the University Assembly. In 1975 she was awarded her C.M.A. (Certificate in Management Accounting) and was named the "Outstanding Educator of America." In 1976 she was elected Chairperson of the Assembly, succeeding Dan Bernd (CCS).

In spite of the press of duties heading the University's first presidential search committee, she found time to take and pass C.P.A. exams, traditionally so difficult that candidates rarely pass on the first try. She may be the first woman in the U.S. to hold a Ph.D., C.M.A. and C.P.A. In recognition of her excellence as an educator, CBPS honored her with the 1976 Distinguished Teacher Award.

Her eventful year chairing the Assembly has been an experience she finds both exciting and time-consuming. "It's been a challenge," she says, "but I feel it's a service I can render that in turn gives me a global view of the University." As a result, "I have had the opportunity to know so many GSU people." The view from her vantage point reveals both positive and negative aspects of the University governance system. GSU's set-up is unique, she states, in its involvement of all constituencies in decision-making. "Of course, any system will always have its handicaps," and Aida feels the system here can at times become too political.

She is quite optimistic about the University's future, and says she has seen a turning point in direction and morale these past months. She sees a growing mutual trust between faculty, administration, and staff.

With enrollments leveled off, academic standards of excellence will be assured. She also notes a new maturity in the decision-making process as part of continued democracy in the University government. GSU people are involved in their University, she says. "The energy is there—and it's in the hands of the administration to use."
SATURDAY, January 15

Academic Council (PCA)

ICC Production Meeting

SCEPP (D1120)

R & I Staff Meeting

BOG Dinner

TUESDAY, January 18

BOG Meeting (WEECCC)

Human Services (D1120)

WEDNESDAY, January 19

Civil Service Affairs Subcommittee (D1120)


Theology for Lunch (D1120)

CCS Assistant Deans

CCS ISC Meeting

Senior Citizens Swim (Pool)

THURSDAY, January 20

EAS Administrative Council (A1102)

EAS Academic Affairs (A2117)

AFSCME Union Meeting (WEECCC)

Parent's Conference on Gifted Children (WEECCC)

FRIDAY, January 21

Nursing Dept. Testing (A1102)

Administrative Council (PCA)

Senior Citizens Swim (Pool)

DIAL "INFO LINE" 534-0033 FOR RECORDED UNIVERSITY ANNOUNCEMENTS