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News and Events

IRiS: HR Starts Project Best Practices Training

On Wednesday, the Human Resources team begins three days of best practices training. Colleague Human Resources software is designed to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of information management needs for prospective, current, and former employees.

This course focuses on using Colleague HR to strategically attract, recruit, and hire the best personnel for meeting GSU’s faculty and staffing needs. The best practices training runs through Friday and includes these topics and outcomes:

- Defining how to maintain position information, including wage, salary, and funding sources
- Creating, processing, and monitoring faculty teaching assignment contracts based on user-defined workload limits and various payment methods
- Learning about Verifications, Inc.’s employment screening services
- Identifying how work-study students’ employment records are maintained with wage updates to the student's financial aid record
- Maintaining applicant/employee/faculty information such as education, experience, degrees, skills, certifications, and institutions attended
- Devising employee benefits, deductions, and leave plan information

IRiS Project training will be in full swing next week. Three Datatel consultants will be on campus training three teams: the Portal Development team, the Finance Operations Process team, and the Student Recruitment and Admission Process team.

Chicago Heights – Smash Hit

*Chicago Heights*, a film made by students and faculty in the Master of Fine Arts program, will made its Chicago debut at the 2010 Black Harvest Film Festival at the Gene Siskel Film Center on Saturday. The film earned rave reviews from the audience including three stars from Roger Ebert of the Sun Times.

There are still tickets available for an additional screening of *Chicago Heights* on Wednesday, September 1, at 8:15 p.m.

Tickets are $10 for general admission and $7 for students and are available through Ticketmaster. The Gene Siskel Film Center is located at 164 North State Street in Chicago.

For information on the Gene Siskel Film Center, visit [www.siskelfilmcenter.org](http://www.siskelfilmcenter.org). For information on the film, visit [www.923Films.com](http://www.923Films.com).
Welcome Days Fall 2010

Welcome Days at GSU give students the chance to learn about student service related resources available to them at the university. Visit the many tables and displays on August 30 and 31, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., in the Hall of Governors. Refreshments are also served.

Home Stretch

Start the semester with a homerun! Students can win tickets to the White Sox vs. Cleveland Indians baseball game on Saturday, October 2, at 6:05 p.m. Visit the Student Senate table during Welcome Days, on Monday, August 30 or Tuesday, August 31, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., in the Hall of Governors. Enter the lottery and win seats to the best game in town.

Cyberdrive Illinois On Campus

The Secretary of State’s Mobile Service Unit will be at GSU on Tuesday, August 31, from 1:30 to 7 p.m., in the Hall of Governors.

Services available at the mobile service unit include driver’s license renewal, replacement, and corrections; State ID card renewal, replacement, and corrections; vehicle sticker sales; passenger and b-truck license plates; vehicle title and registration; parking placards for persons with disabilities; and organ/tissue donor information. In addition, vision tests and the written driver’s license exam can be taken. No driving tests will be given.

The services provided are available to all qualified Illinois residents. State law allows driver’s license renewal up to one year in advance. Proper identification is required for new and duplicate driver’s licenses and state ID cards. Acceptable forms of payment include personal checks, cash, MasterCard, American Express, and Discover credit and debit cards.

For information, visit www.cyberdriveillinois.com.

Go Team!

With tournament dates fast approaching, it is time for GSU to put together the best table tennis team in the Midwest. Team tryouts are the first step to developing a winning team.

Graduate and undergraduate students are encouraged to pick up the paddle and compete for a spot on the team. There is no limit to the number of players on the team. The criteria for the selection include student academic performance, table tennis skills, and behavior and conduct. Tryouts will take place at the beginning of each semester.

Fall tryouts will take place on Wednesday, September 8, from 9 to 11 a.m., in the GSU Recreation and Fitness Center gym. If possible, alternate time arrangements can be made. Contact team coach TJ Wang with special requests.

Team candidates must complete and submit an application form to TJ Wang by Friday, September 3.
GSU Marks National Suicide Prevention Day

GSU will mark National Suicide Prevention Day on September 8 with a presentation on the warning signs of suicide and an information table. The presentation is scheduled from 4 to 5 p.m., in Engbretson Hall. The information table will be located in the Hall of Governors from 2 to 5 p.m.

“More than 14 percent of college students have reported feeling so depressed that it is difficult to function,” said GSU Outreach Counselor Tamekia Scott. “As a university, and as students and staff, we need to do everything possible to save the life of someone who is dealing with thoughts of suicide. That’s what we want to accomplish through this presentation and information table.”

During the presentation, participants will learn the warning signs of suicide, along with facts and myths about suicide and prevention measures. Information will be distributed during the day’s activities, including suicide prevention cards that include warning signs, and contact information for the national suicide prevention lifeline. Brochures on depression and stress management will also be distributed.

The GSU Academic Resource Center is sponsoring the National Suicide Prevention Day presentation and information table. Activities are free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served during the presentation.

For more information, call 708.235.2228.

All the Right Moves

Learn the etiquette skills needed when meeting potential employers and clients in social settings at the Etiquette Luncheon for GSU students. The Office of Career Services is again sponsoring this very informative lunch workshop on Tuesday, September 21, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., in the Hall of Honors.

Receive manners instruction as you enjoy a full meal. Learn about appropriated and professional attire. Gain tips on social etiquette – a valuable skill set needed for professional settings.

To be eligible to attend the follow up Business Leaders Luncheon on October 19, you must attend this Etiquette Luncheon or have attended a Career Services etiquette event in the past. Participants in the Business Leaders Luncheon will have the opportunity to network with community leaders, practice their etiquette skills, and learn from people already successful in the business world.

Registration for the Etiquette Luncheon at GSU is required and the fee is $5. Contact the Office of Career Services for more information at 708.235.3974.

ArtPrize: September 22 - October 10

Carrie Ohm, a lecturer in the Art Department, will exhibit her work at ArtPrize in Grand Rapids, Michigan, from September 22 through October 10. Ohm teachers ceramics at GSU and is pleased to display her work at such a creative venue. Visit the ArtPrize website for more information.

On the Road

You can’t keep a good penguin down. Pierre took to the road recently with Ann Manning Nagel of Financial Services, driving along the Mississippi until they arrived at the Minnesota Marine Art Museum in Winona.

On another road trip, Pierre drove down the Mother Road. He
toured old Route 66 with Lindsay Gladstone of Public Affairs.

Pierre’s extensive tour of Peru continues with Carlos Ferran of CBPA. Pierre visited the Koriconcha Temple in Cuzco, part of the Incan empire.

Like so many dedicated GSU employees and students, however, Pierre also found himself doing some work on vacation. In his down time, he was able to catch up on some much needed IRiS training at Datatel headquarters in Fairfax, Virginia, with Debra Kappel of ITS.

Don’t forget to submit your vacation photos of Pierre to the GSU View before the September 7 deadline to be eligible to compete in the Take Pierre on Vacation contest. Photos submitted after the deadline will still be eligible for display in the GSU View and on the GSU FaceBook fan page.