IRiS Project team members are back onto a busy schedule following the holiday break.

**Advancement to Go Live**

Advancement Team consultations in the next few days are among the most significant sessions of the young New Year. On Thursday and Friday, team members will complete a live simulation as they anticipate “going live” on January 15. Much preparation has already been completed and fine-tuning is being readied for the live simulation.

The Data Migration Team has been working behind the scenes to transfer data from the present CARS/Jenzebar system to the new Colleague system. In addition, team members from the Accounts Payable/Purchasing team and the Data Standards Team have helped enter data needed for the Advancement live simulation.

Meanwhile, the Accounts Receivable/Cash Receipts Team this week has two days of on-site sessions and the Core Team and the Recruitment and Admissions Team are scheduled for remote consultations.

Last week, team members from Curriculum and Faculty Information, Portal SharePoint, Records and Registration, and Human Resources attended training and consulting sessions with their respective Datatel consultants. In addition, the Degree Audit and Advising team members attended their first consulting session.

**New From FSI**

FSI has introduced new foods, menus, and special deals for GSU in 2011.

New Monster Muffins have joined the breakfast menu offering a tasty morning treat not to be missed. These delicious, extra-large muffins come in blueberry, berry, and pumpkin.

Healthy, new choices to start your day include hot oatmeal or grits. Egg whites are also available on Tuesdays and Thursdays in made to order breakfasts. Additional innovations include the omelet bar and the bagel bar, as well as the fresh hummus with assorted dippers on the salad bar.

View the January FSI newsletter for more information and valuable coupons.

**Friends January Meeting**

The Friends of the GSU Library will meet on Wednesday, January 12, from noon to 1 p.m., in the Library conference room. Bring a brown bag lunch and lots of great ideas for the New Year.
**Scribblers and Scrawlers Unite**

The GSU Writers Ink group will meet on the third Thursday of the month, from noon to 1 p.m., in the Library Administrative conference room. So all you pen-pushers -- mark your calendars to join fellow ink-slingers on January 20, February 17, March 17, April 21, May 19, June 16, July 21, August 18, September 15, October 20, November 17, and December 15.

**Renumbering Task Force Forum**

Faculty and staff are encouraged to attend a brown bag lunch on course renumbering and sequencing scheduled for Friday, January 21, from noon to 1 p.m., in E-Lounge. This event is the first in a series of open discussions on course renumbering.

The forum will be presented by the Course Renumbering Task Force, created by Faculty Senate President Heikki Heino, who also appointed Dr. Rashidah Muhammed to work with CHHS Dean Linda Samson to develop a plan for the smooth renumbering of GSU courses.

Assistant Professor Daniel Cortese, Faculty Senate representative on the task force, will make a brief presentation on the course numbering transition. His presentation will be followed by an open discussion. The forum is the first of a series of dialogues with faculty and staff on the potential issues that may arise from course renumbering.

Light refreshments will be provided but participants are also encouraged to bring their own lunch.

**Winter Continues**

Occupants of the FOC are reminded to shut their office windows after work hours. Open windows may result in frozen heating pipes, which can fracture and cause flooding. Collateral damage would not only occur in that office but in the offices adjacent to and below as well. Remediation is very costly in time, money, and loss of materials.

FOC occupants are advised to check the windows at the end of the work day and turn heating units to “low heat.”

All costs to repair damage resulting from an open window will be the responsibility of the college or department unit.

For more information, contact Facilities Development and Management at ext. 4515.

**New Book Cards for Spring 2011**

Students are reminded that Book Card distribution for the Spring 2011 semester will take place in the Hall of Honors, on Thursday, January 13, from 9 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.; and Tuesday, January 18, from 9 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Book Cards will also be available in the Office of Financial Aid, room C1310, on January 14, from 9 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.; on January 19 and 20, from 9 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.; and on January 21, from 9 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.

The Office of Financial Aid offers a $300, $500, or $700 book card advance to assist students with the purchase of books and supplies.
To be eligible, students must:

- Have completed a 2010/2011 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and been awarded financial aid;
- Be admitted to a degree-seeking program at GSU;
- Be registered for at least six credit hours;
- Maintain satisfactory academic progress; and
- Have sufficient financial aid to cover tuition and fees, plus the $300, $500, or $700 book card advance.

Book card amounts are based on registration hours at the time each card is picked up. Students are only eligible for one card in one denomination per term and are not allowed to increase the amount on the card.

Students who have not been awarded financial aid but have submitted a financial aid application, including all required supporting documentation, and who meet the criteria listed above, are eligible to receive a book card advance.

**CAPTE Accreditation Site Visit**

GSU’s Physical Therapy Department will host an open, public meeting with the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education’s (CAPTE) site visit team on Tuesday, January 11, at 5 p.m., in G-227. The meeting is being held in accordance with accreditation standards set by CAPTE.

Individuals planning to attend should contact Mary Tracy at 708.534.7290. Those individuals who are unable to attend the meeting with the CAPTE team are invited to submit their comments regarding GSU’s Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) program to the CAPTE website.

The Doctor of Physical Therapy program in the College of Health and Human Services is currently accredited by the CAPTE.

**Calling Commencement Volunteers**

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

The 2011 Winter Commencement Ceremony will be held on Saturday, February 5, at 11 a.m., at the Tinley Park Holiday Inn Select and Convention Center.

To volunteer, contact Pulchratia Kinney-Smith at ext. 7466 by Friday, January 21.

All commencement volunteers and employees working the event are asked to attend an orientation on Wednesday, January 26, at 10 a.m., in the Center for Performing Arts.