News and Events

**Big Brunch Today**

It’s time to enjoy a very special meal at GSU. FSI is hosting the next Big Brunch today, February 24, from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., in the Cafeteria Annex. To cut down on waiting in line, payment will now be accepted in the Cafeteria Annex.

This month the Big Brunch will feature an Omelet Cook Off between FSI director Bill Reich and Chef James, the new FSI Chef Manager.

For just $6.25, you can enjoy all you wish to eat of made-to-order omelets, bacon, carved turkey, stuffed manicotti, vegetables, mashed potatoes, salad, and dessert.

Bon Appétit!

**Celebration Time**

There is a lot to celebrate at the Campus Community Campaign wrap up on Monday, February 28, at noon, in the cafeteria. We will be celebrating the generosity of the entire GSU community.

Our new Provost, Dr. Terry Allison, has committed to donating a major gift over the next four years. His donation will establish an endowed fund that supports the goals of the GSU Promise. At the same time his generous donation is building the endowment, an additional annual donation will be used to immediately fund a scholarship that will be awarded to a GSU student in the creative arts who meets the GSU Promise criteria.

In addition to Provost Allison, many members of the GSU community – faculty, staff, and students – have helped make this year’s campaign a great success.

And there is still time for you to participate. You can designate which fund or project you would like to support - from the GSU Promise to the education programs of The Center for Performing Arts or from scholarships to the sculpture park. You can even choose to divide your donation among multiple worthy programs at GSU.

In addition to refreshments, there will also be a drawing for great prizes. Prizes include two GSU parking spaces valid for one year, with the winners picking the spaces; an overnight stay with
dinner for two at the Empress Hotel in Joliet; brunch for four at the Odyssey Country Club in Tinley Park; and a one year membership at the GSU Recreation and Fitness Center.

Everyone is eligible to participate in the drawing for prizes, and everyone is invited to celebrate the Campaign’s success.

Sign up today for the Campus Community Campaign. Contact your department’s CCC volunteer or stop by the GSU Development Office in Room D34200.

CCC volunteers are: Kyusuk Chung; Cheri Garey; Adrienne Gray; Mary Hession; Rosemary Hulett; Judy Freneau; Julie Labuda; Victoria Lloyd; Nancy Miller; Lydia Morrow Ruetten; Margaret Neumann; Lise Schneider; Jackie Small; Jessica Sprecht; Jill Stanley; Mike Sullivan; Lori Townsend; Merri Wilkerson; and Ayita Woods.

**Excellence Award Nominations**

Nominations for Excellence Awards are currently being accepted. Excellence Awards recognize valued and exceptional faculty member or academic support professional for outstanding achievement in one or more of the following areas: teaching/performance of primary duties, research/creative activity, and service. The awards reflect achievement in academic year 2009-10. Up to three Excellence Awards of $6,000 (one-time payment) will be awarded.

Letters of nomination should be submitted to the Excellence Awards Committee in care of Jill Stanley of the Provost’s Office. They are due by Thursday, March 10, by 5 p.m. Late nominations will not be considered.

Read the [memo from the Excellence Awards Committee](#).

Read the [evaluation criteria](#).

**Summer Session Registration**

Registration for summer session is open from March 21 through May 28. Classes begin on May 23 and end on August 7. Applications for admission are currently being accepted.

Students may take classes during the shorter summer term at convenient times to fit busy schedules. Classes are generally offered Monday through Thursday leaving the long weekend open for summertime activities. A full range of courses at both the undergraduate and graduate levels is scheduled.

GSU’s summer term is ideal for student continuing a GSU degree program. It is also the perfect time for students attending other universities to take classes and fill requirements while they are home for the summer.

For more information, call (708) 534-4490 or visit the [GSU website](#).
**Student Advisory Referendum**

Student feedback is being sought on the amounts stipulated for FY2012 (2011-2012) for the Student Activity fee, Student Center fee, the Career Services and Counseling fee, Computer Technology fee and Parking and Walk-Ways fee at GSU. The current recommendation for all fees with the exception of Career Services and Counseling fee is that they remain at the levels of FY2011 (2010-2011). The student advisory referendum will be submitted to the GSU Board of Trustees.

Student Advisory Referendum ballots will be available on March 1 and 2, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., in the Hall of Governors. All GSU students are encouraged to participate in this quick and easy way to offer your opinion.

**Bulls vs. Grizzlies**

The GSU Student Senate and Student Life are giving away tickets to the Chicago Bulls vs. Memphis Grizzlies game on Friday, March 25, at 7 p.m. Transportation to and from the game form the university is also included.

Only current GSU students are eligible to enter the drawing for two free tickets. To enter, visit the Student Advisory Referendum table on March 1 and 2, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., in the Hall of Governors. Students need not participate in the Advisory Referendum to enter the drawing. Only one entry per student.

**Minority Art: Inspiration, Obligation**

*Minority Art: Inspiration, Obligation* is the featured exhibit, discussion, and reception at GSU in celebration of African American History Month. The event will be held on February 28, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., with remarks at 7 p.m., at the Visual Arts Gallery.

This art exhibition will feature the work of world-renowned artist Kehinde Wiley. The artwork is on loan from the Rhona Hoffman Gallery in Chicago. Wiley’s portraits were initially based on photographs taken of young men on the streets of Harlem. The models, dressed in their everyday clothing, are asked to assume poses depicted in paintings or sculptures found in Western Art History. Wiley’s art also includes an international view with models found in urban landscapes throughout the world – such as Mumbai, Dakar, and Rio de Janeiro.

In addition to Wiley, “Minority Art: Inspiration, Obligation” also includes the works of regional artists who are African American, or who are doing artwork about the African American experience.
An informal discussion will address issues faced by minority artists, from finding inspiration in their minority status and culture to the pitfalls of feeling creatively stuck or obligated to produce art on limited subjects.

Although African American art is the focus of this event, the discussion topics are relevant to other minority groups and pertinent to the experience of many. Everyone is welcome and the event and reception are free and open to the public.

The Visual Arts Gallery and Student Affairs and Academic Services are sponsors of the event. For more information, contact Jeff Stevenson at ext. 4021.

KEC Closure

As part of GSU’s budget management efforts for the coming fiscal year, the Kankakee Education Center will cease operation as of March 1. All previously scheduled classes have been relocated to alternate facilities. GSU will continue to offer the Kankakee region access to a full range of degree programs and classes at our main campus and through off campus cohorts.

Right Copyright

Join members of the University Copyright Committee in viewing the Webinar, Copyright For Classroom Teaching. The session will cover uses of copyrighted material in the classroom when permission is not necessary; changes needed when a face-to-face course moves online; and opportunities and risks posed by commercial social media sites. All sessions will take place in D2401C in the Library.

Sessions will be offered at:
- 10:30 a.m. to noon, March 1
- 2:30 p.m. to 4 p.m., March 1
- 10:30 a.m. to noon, March 2
- 2:30 p.m. to 4 p.m., March 9

Alumni Matters – Benjamin Nuckels

Benjamin Nuckels has had an impressive career in political work. He recently served as Illinois Governor Pat Quinn’s campaign manager. He also worked for former Vermont Governor Howard Dean in the 2004 Iowa Democratic caucuses. In the 2004 general election, he did campaign field work in Wisconsin for Democratic presidential candidate John Kerry. Later he served as the Midwest campaign manager for The League of Conservation Voters. His Wisconsin experience led to a position as chief of staff to Wisconsin’s lieutenant governor, Barbara Lawton.

Benjamin received his BA in the Board of Governors Program in 2005.
**GSU Authors Celebrated**

The University Library is hosting the Faculty Authors Reception on Wednesday, March 2, from 2 to 3:30 p.m., on the library balcony. Faculty published works of scholarship will be on display.

Students, faculty, and staff are invited to attend and celebrate scholarship at GSU.

For more information, contact Judy Hanacek or Erin Engelbrecht.

**M.A. in Reading Info Session**

COE will host information sessions for certified teachers interested in earning a Master of Arts in Reading in an on campus graduate cohort program beginning in Fall 2011. An additional, optional bilingual/English as a Second Language endorsement will also be offered. For convenience, two information sessions will be held on March 7, from 1 to 2 p.m. and from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Both will be held in room D34015.

The cohort is open to only 20 successful graduate applicants. The program consists of 12 courses that lead to K-12 certification as a reading specialist, which is required for literacy coach and similar positions. Financial aid is available to qualified applicants.

For more information and to register, contact John Powers, Academic Advisor, at (708) 534-6363.

**Writing Center and ARC Services**

The Academic Resource Center will open for business during GSU’s Spring Break, March 14 to 18.

ARC staffers will be on campus to provide tutoring, counseling, and disability services during Spring Break. The GSU Writing Center will also be open.

For further information, call 708.235.7421.