News and Events

Convocation on Thursday
Members of the GSU community – students, faculty, and staff – are invited to Convocation 2011, on Thursday, August 18, at 3 p.m., in Sherman Hall.

President Elaine P. Maimon will deliver the State of the University Address. The event will also feature the naming of this year’s three Excellence Award winners.

Refreshments will be served beginning at 2:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

New Date for Summer Picnic
GSU’s Summer Picnic for faculty and staff has been rescheduled to Friday, September 16, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Food, games, prizes, and a fun-filled day in the sun are on the agenda, and it’s all free for faculty and staff. Activities include a beanbag tournament, closest to the pin contest, Scramble Board, bingo, Karaoke Idol, and Minute to Win It. Mark your calendar and don’t forget to RSVP to gsusummerpicnic@govst.edu by August 31.

Volunteers are needed to help make this event a success. Please contact Gina Ragland-Owolabi at ext. 7559.

The picnic is sponsored by the Civil Service Senate, the Provost’s Office, and the GSU Spirit Committee.

Honoring GSU Student Artists
President Elaine P. Maimon last week honored five student artists whose work will be displayed in the President’s Conference Room in the coming months.

Dr. Maimon hosted a luncheon for the students and members of the GSU art faculty to celebrate the artwork going on display. The president hosts similar events two or three times each year.

Student work is chosen according to merit and outstanding qualities from the GSU’s annual all-student exhibition or from individual graduate shows. The art faculty chooses works to be displayed in the conference room and also outside the President’s office. Visitors to the President’s office get to see first-hand the excellent work created by GSU arts students and faculty.

During the luncheon, students shared comments about their work and took part in an informal discussion led by Dr. Maimon.

“This is really a great way to celebrate and honor our art students,” said Jeff Stevenson, Visual Arts Gallery Director and University Lecturer.
Students whose work is on display in the current exhibition are Diana Lynch, Allen Moore, Tor Dettwiler, Paul Stephenson, and James Taddsen.

**Expanded Welcome Days Return August 22**

As another school year begins, Welcome Days return to GSU. Welcome Days activities are scheduled for four days during the week of August 22. Students are encouraged to participate in a full range of exciting events to kick off the 2011-2012 academic year.

Welcome Days activities have been retooled and expanded this year. The traditional Welcome Days take place Monday, August 22 and Tuesday, August 23 from noon to 6 p.m.

Welcome Days have been relocated outside to the patio and lake area. Activities include music, trivia for students, giveaways, ID validation, and an abundance of information. In addition, This Week at GSU (TWAG) will participate with an open studio for students to audition to become a TWAG host. The Illinois Secretary of State’s office will join us on Tuesday at 1:30 p.m. to provide a number of services.

To round out the week, the Clubs and Organizations Engagement Fair takes center stage on Wednesday, August 24. Members of student clubs will be share information with their fellow students. Each club will decorate its own table and a prize will be awarded to the club with the best table decorations. At the Student Community Resource Fair, on Thursday, August 25, vendors from the community are invited to share their resources with students.

In case of rain, Welcome Week activities will relocated to the Hall of Governors.

For further information, contact Sheree Sanderson at ext. 4552.

**JJC President Passes Away**

Dr. Gena Proulx, President of Joliet Junior College since 2006, passed away August 12 following a courageous battle with cancer.

On behalf of GSU, President Elaine P. Maimon offered condolences to Dr. Proulx’s family and the Joliet Junior College community.

“Gena and I were strong partners for four years, from the first day I became president of GSU,” Dr. Maimon said. “I will always remember her warmth, her graciousness, and commitment to students. As the years went on, we worked together on the Dual Degree Program and other initiatives to help community college students follow a quality pathway to university graduation. I always admired Gena’s intellect, leadership, and dedication to all that higher education can achieve.

“My thoughts and prayers go out to Gena’s husband, her children, and the entire JJC community. The loss is immeasurable.”

**Share Your 9-11 Story**

GSU is commemorating the 10th anniversary of September 11, 2001 by asking members of the university community to submit stories that will be read aloud at a public ceremony. Participants are asked to tell their stories about “where I was on 9-11.”

“Through discussing this anniversary at the university, we already have learned that some of our community experienced very painful personal losses on 9-11” said Reinhold Hill, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. “If there are individuals who would like to contribute stories, but who would not like to read aloud their own stories, we encourage you to contribute. We will find someone who will read your story with care and respect.”

GSU will host a public reading of the stories on Monday, September 12, from 1 to 3 p.m., in Sherman Hall.
Stories should be sent to Dean Hill by September 2. Submission may be sent by e-mail or by mailing them to Dean Reinhold Hill, in the College of Arts and Sciences. Stories should be no more than four double-spaced typed pages and no longer than 10 minutes in length.

Persons who are not on campus can also contribute stories. If they cannot read their story at the ceremony, other readers will be located.

Mobile Workforce Center
Helping people in the community find employment is the mission of the Mobile Workforce Center. The mobile unit will be parked near the university front entrance every Tuesday, from 9:30 a.m. to noon and 1 to 3:30 p.m.

Center services include resume development, access to online job boards and websites, instruction on conducting online job searches, and assistance from staff. The mobile unit has 11 computer stations equipped with Internet access, printer and copy machines, and wheelchair accessibility.

The center, housed in a large bus, travels to various Will County locations offering free services. Job search assistance is available to everyone and is not limited to Will County residents.

For more information, contact the Workforce Services Division of Will County at 815.727.4980.