News and Events

**Remembering Dr. Gary Lyon**
A memorial service in honor of the late Dr. Gary Lyon will be held on Tuesday, March 20, from 3 to 4:30 p.m. in the Center for Performing Arts. A reception will follow in the CPA Lobby.

Dr. Lyon was an admired member of the GSU faculty. He joined the chemistry department in 2001. He is remembered for his genuine warmth, compassion, and dedication to GSU and to helping his students achieve in the classroom and their careers.

Please join us in remembering a remarkable educator and friend.

**Criminal Justice Employment Opportunities**
The Criminal Justice Career and Internship Fair will be held on Thursday, March 22, from 3 to 6 p.m., in the Hall of Governors.

Current students, alumni, and community members are invited to attend. Potential employers are also invited to register as participants. This is an opportunity to match jobs and internships positions with qualified personnel. This event is free and open to the public.

**General Education Workshop**
Faculty and staff are invited to *Innovation and Creativity in General Education*, a March 27 workshop that focuses on GSU’s General Education planning. The workshop takes place from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on the Center for Performing Arts stage, and will include lunch.

Carol Geary Schneider, president of the Association of American Colleges and Universities is the featured speaker. She will discuss the national framework and best national practices of General Education.

The purpose of the event is to provide members of the university’s General Education Working Group with input so they can create the general education (GE) outcomes statements and recommend the structure for
lower division General Education courses, as well as any upper division courses that may fall in that category.

Participants also will discuss a GE Working Group timeline and a possible first-year kickoff event in the week before freshmen start classes in Fall, 2014. Before the workshop, participants will be asked to do some pre-work on exercise sheets dealing with General education outcomes, themes, and high impact learning.

RSVPs are essential for the workshop. Participants will be assigned seats at onstage tables and lunch will be served. Interested persons should RSVP to Penny Perdue at 708.534.4130 by March 23.

**Keys to Good Health 2012**

Learn the keys to good health at a series of workshops sponsored by the GSU Wellness Club. Workshops are presented by the Health on Earth Wellness Centers and are designed to help students, faculty, and staff improve their health and wellness.

The series begins with *Manage Stress Before It Manages You* on Wednesday, March 21, at 3 p.m., in the Center for Performing Arts lobby.

Learn how to add activity to a sedentary work day in *Stay Fit While You Sit* on Wednesday, March 28, at 1:30 p.m., in the Center for Performing Arts lobby.

**Commence Nominating Commencement Speakers**

The Commencement Student Speaker Committee is currently accepting nominations for the commencement ceremony to be held on Saturday, May 19. This year we will hold two ceremonies: at 10 a.m. for CAS and CBPA graduates, and at 5 p.m. for CHHS and COE graduates.

As a result, we will select two commencement speakers, one for each ceremony. We need candidates who represent all colleges, so please make a concerted effort to nominate deserving students for this prestigious honor.

Please complete both nomination forms and send them to Sheree Sanderson no later than Wednesday, March 28. Please note that nominees must be available for an interview on Friday, April 6, between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Link to nomination forms.
**Student Research Conference – 2012**

GSU will hold its 18th Annual Student Research Conference on Thursday, April 19. The conference provides students an opportunity to present their research work before an audience of their peers, and also provides a forum to highlight research accomplishments at GSU. Presentations will be made by students only. Faculty should encourage students to present their research and other scholarly work in this conference.

Registration and abstract submission forms are in the electronic format and are available at the conference [website](#). Further information and the conference program is also available at the website. Students and faculty need to fill out and submit forms on the website. Abstracts are to be submitted in the abstract submission form.

All attendees are required to register using the registration forms. Students are encouraged to attend the conference even if they are not presenting any paper. There is no registration fee. The deadline for registration and abstract submission is Monday, April 9.

The conference will begin at 9 a.m. and lasts until 5 p.m. It will have morning and afternoon podium presentations. Posters will be displayed right after lunch, which will be provided to all registrants. Certificates of merit will be awarded to all student participants.

**Cabaret Weekend at CPA**


Tickets are on sale for Cabaret Weekend at the GSU Center for Performing Arts. Cabaret Weekend brings rock and jazz, country and pop, all performed up-close to an audience seated at onstage tables.

Singer-songwriter Susan Werner performs Friday, March 30, at 8 p.m. Werner slides effortlessly between folk, jazz, and pop.

Willie Fortune as Willie Nelson comes to the GSU Center on Saturday, March 31, at 8 p.m. Willie Fortune developed the “Willie and Friends Show” with the permission, blessing, encouragement, and endorsement of Willie Nelson.

Dennis Florine performs on Sunday, April 1, at 4 p.m. Pumping passion into every
beat, Florine’s percussive acoustics are inspiring fans throughout the United States.

Cabaret Weekend shows offer a cash bar throughout the performances.

To purchase tickets or for further information, visit www.centertickets.net, or call the GSU Center Box Office at (708) 235-2222.

**Linen Donations Needed**

Donate clean, used towels and linens to help a good cause. The GSU Wellness Club has teamed with the Friends of Epilepsy Foundation of Greater Chicago for a towel and linen drive at GSU. The donations will help the foundation provide programs and services for more than 130,000 Chicagoland residents affected by epilepsy.

Purple Friends of Epilepsy Foundation donation barrels are located near the elevators in the Hall of Governors and in Student Life, room A2100.

For more information, contact Vanessa Newby at 708.534.4551.

**Etiquette Lessons and Lunch**

Learn the etiquette skills you'll need when meeting potential employers and clients in social settings during the Etiquette Luncheon for GSU students. The Office of Career Services is sponsoring this very informative lunch workshop on Tuesday, April 3, from noon to 2 p.m., in the Hall of Honors.

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

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.

**Mentoring Matters**

If you are a new or current counseling student and are feeling lost, overwhelmed, or simply looking to establish a connection, consider establishing a connection to a peer mentor.

The Counseling Peer Mentoring Program (PMP) provides peer mentors who are also classmates. Mentors are students who understand what you are experiencing. They can offer a different viewpoint from the academic advisor and counseling faculty. They can give you hints on what worked for them and let you know what to expect. A mentor gives you a contact person to help you navigate through the system.
The PMP will include social events for mentors/mentees and workshops on topics such as study tips, time management, and Blackboard/Portal tutorials.

Contact Bonnie Gregg for more information. Respond by April 6 for Summer 2012 participation.

**Brown Bag Tools and Toys**
The Faculty Scholarship and Teaching Center presents *Tools and Toys for Faculty - Technology Horizons*, this semester’s third Brown Bag lunch, on Thursday, March 22, from noon to 1 p.m., in the Hall of Honors. Based on a survey of faculty needs, the session will focus on tools available to GSU faculty that support and reinforce teaching around, between, out of, and in the classroom.

This session, led by Yevette Brown and colleagues from the Center for Online Teaching and Learning, will provide helpful information on:
- creating audio announcements and podcasts;
- narrating your Power Point and publishing it to Blackboard;
- adding video to your PowerPoint, and Screencapture using Camtasia and Captivate;
- producing and sharing video with your students; and
- creating a few other “high end” bells and whistles.

They will also introduce the new Faculty Technology Lab.

Bring your lunch, ideas, techniques you would like to share, and questions. Coffee, tea, soft drinks, and snacks will be provided by the Office of the Provost.

The next Brown Bag session, on April 26, will target assessment.

For more information and to register, contact Raven James or Tony Labriola.

**Competing in the IT Job Market**
Learn what you need to know to compete in the IT job market at a special panel discussion on Wednesday, March 21, from 6 to 7:30 p.m., in E-Lounge. IT professionals and directors will discuss the traits and training demanded by the IT market in the future. They will also discuss the education gaps exhibited by new entrants into the IT workforce and how job seekers can develop the skills they will need.

This event is sponsored by the GSU Computer Science Club. For more information, contact Dr. Steve Shih at 708.534.4547.
**GSU Library March Madness Continues**
Friends of the Governors State University Library are sponsoring a book and media drive during the entire month of March. It is GSU’s very own version of March Madness.

Bring in any books or DVDs that are collecting dust in a corner or taking up room on your bookcase. Drop off your used books or DVDs at the Library and fill out a simple donation form for tax purposes. It’s a win-win situation that helps the Friends continue their support of the GSU Library.

**Smoking Rules Will Be Enforced**
The Department of Public Safety has received a number of complaints about smoking within 15 feet of the entry doors. DPS asks that you be mindful and courteous to your GSU colleagues – co-workers, students and faculty -- when smoking.

DPS will enforce smoking violations with state citations. A person who smokes in an area where smoking is prohibited faces a fine of not less than $100 and not more than $250.