Presidents and Chancellors on Pension Reform

Today, the Illinois Public University Presidents and Chancellors publicly responded to Governor Quinn and top legislators on the topic of pension reform in Illinois.

President Maimon stated, “As the convener of the Council of Illinois Public University Presidents and Chancellors, I am pleased by our unity in calling for reasonable and pragmatic approaches to stabilize pensions and protect our employees, our universities, and the state of Illinois.”

President Maimon encourages university employees to be informed and engaged on this important issue.

View the letter.

Year End Processing Deadlines

Procurement and Business Services is reminding the GSU community to get those year-end business transactions submitted, completed, and paid with funds encumbered during FY2012.

For more information, refer to the memo - Fiscal Year 2012 Year End Deadlines.

June Board Meeting

The Governors State University Board of Trustees meetings scheduled for June 1 and June 8 have been rescheduled. All Board of Trustees meetings scheduled for this period will take place on Thursday, June 14 only, in the McGee Hall of Honors.

Any questions regarding the GSU Board of Trustees may be directed to the President’s Office at 708.534.4130.

Summer, Fall Registration Open

Don’t let the summer pass without taking a few classes. Summer registration continues through May 26. The summer term begins on May 21 and ends on August 5.

Registration is also open for Fall 2012 – remember, early registration provides the greatest selection of classes and times. Registration continues through August 25. Classes for the fall semester begin on August 20.

Applications for admission are currently being accepted.

For more information, call 708.534.4490 or visit the GSU registration website.
Faculty Grading Workshops

All faculty members will soon enter Spring 2012 grades into the myGSU portal. The Registrar’s Office is holding workshops to demonstrate the grading process. Faculty are invited to attend one of the sessions.

Grading Workshops will be held in the Academic Computing Lab:
• Monday, May 7, at 2 p.m., in Lab D2430
• Thursday, May 10, at 11 a.m., in Lab D2438

Sessions run approximately 30 minutes. Faculty members will also receive the Faculty Guidebook to the myGSU Portal from the Registrar’s Office via e-mail.

Get Ready for Pre-K

The Family Development Center is opening its doors for tours, information, and pre-enrollment screening. Parents and their three to five year-old children are invited to visit the FDC on June 6, 7, 12, and 13, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. to learn about the full and half day prekindergarten programs offered at the state-of-the-art facility at GSU.

The prekindergarten program boasts of a low student to teacher ratio and qualified educators following an enriching curriculum in a nurturing environment. Before and after school childcare is available and reduced fees are available to eligible families.

For more information and to register, call 708.235.7300.

Grants Generously Granted

The GSU Intellectual Life Committee recently awarded eight grants for programs for the fall semester. The GSU community can look forward to the following programs this coming fall:

- Jennifer Armstrong will present Yes you can! Enriching your child’s language and literacy skills
- Michael Griffin will present Before and After Deployment
- Jane Rhoades Hudak will present a lecture by Dr. Rony Berge
- Arness Krause will present Rhetoric of Women in Political Discourse
- Larry Levinson will present Challenging Structures and Changing our World
- Robbie O'Shea will present Handicap This!
- Carla Roberson will present You Are What You Eat!
- Lydia Morrow Ruetten will present a foreign film series
**Slammers vs. Miners**

Enjoy an evening at the ballpark and a baseball game played by the future stars of the major leagues. The Civil Service Senate is selling tickets to the Joliet Slammers vs. the Southern Illinois Miners game on Friday, July 20. The first pitch is at 7:05 p.m., at Silver Cross Stadium, 1 Mayor Art Schultz Drive, Joliet.

Tickets are only $10 each and must be purchased by July 11. For more information or to buy tickets contact Andrea Dalpolo at 708.534.4582.

**Scholarship Spotlight - Amanda Erlenbush**

Amanda Erlenbush of Westchester received the Donald and Helen Morrison Endowed Scholarship in Business. She is an undergraduate student in the College of Business and Public Administration, working toward her BA in business and human relations.

Amanda wishes to continue her studies after graduation and earn an MBA. Her goal is to become a business teacher and to help junior college students discover their hidden potential in business.

**Savings Plan Rep on Campus**

John Olson of VALIC will be on campus Wednesday, May 9, from 9 a.m. to noon, in the Library Conference Center (room D2417) to discuss 403B account options. Appointments are not required.

Please note that the limit on elective deferrals, the most that can be contributed to a 403(b) account through employee elective deferrals by means of a salary agreement is $17,000 for 2012.

Governors State University has authorized the following vendors under its Tax Deferred Annuity Plan under Section 403(b) of the Internal Revenue Code, to handle new business with its employees:

- VALIC; 800.892.5558, ext. 89470 - John Olson
- TIAA-CREF; 800.842.2005, ext. 5666 - Patrick Windle
- Fidelity; 800.343.0860, ext. “0,” if you do not have an account
- The Legend Group; 800.835.2158 - Neil Meldgin
**Comptia A+ at GSU**

GSU MIS student, Donald Washington, recently obtaining his Comptia A+ certification. Donald is the first student to take advantage of GSU’s academic partnership with Comptia.

Comptia’s A+ certification is mandated by the U.S. Department of Defense for computer hardware professionals and recommended by many top companies such as Microsoft, HP, and Cisco. Through GSU’s partnership, students receive discounted certification exams of up to 50 percent.

For more information on GSU’s partnership with Comptia or discounted exams, contact Steve Hyzny.

**Read Reconstructed**

Reconstructed is GSU’s new online art and literary journal and it is full of creativity. Student work is highlighted throughout the journal with presentations of poetry, fiction, non-fiction, artwork, and spoken word.

According to student editor Dan Petersohn, Reconstructed “is a place for students from any major to have an outlet for their creative work.”

Students interested in contributing their work to the next issue of Reconstructed, scheduled for publication in Fall 2012, are encouraged to contact the editors at reconstructed@govst.edu.

View Reconstructed at [http://www3.govst.edu/reconstructed](http://www3.govst.edu/reconstructed).

**Understanding the Environment**

GSU is offering weeklong environmental education opportunities, for credit and non-credit, this summer in cooperation with Sagawau Environmental Learning Center in Lemont.

Students in Terrestrial Biology will develop an understanding of the regional environments and learn teaching application through the use of terraria and aquaria. The course is from June 26 through 29, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Participants in Biological Field Science will compare similar habitats, study variation in plant communities, and investigate the effects of pollution through field methods of environmental investigation. The course is from July 3 through 13, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The third course is Forest Investigations, which includes in depth examination of local forest communities using field methods of analysis. The course is from July 23 through 27, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For more information, contact Nancy Kaczmarczyk at 708.235.5983.