News and Events

GSU Votes Registration Drive Begins

President Elaine P. Maimon, in a recent letter to the GSU community, urged students to exercise their right to vote in this fall’s national election. “Politically active, informed students ensure a better university, a better community, and a better nation,” she wrote.” Make sure that you are registered to vote and that you take your civic responsibilities seriously.”

Governors State is taking its civic responsibilities seriously with the 2012 GSU Votes initiative. GSU started a voter registration drive this week; it continues through September 27. The voter registration station, located in the Hall of Governors, is open Monday through Thursday from 1 to 7 p.m. Registering to vote takes just a few minutes. Persons wishing to register need two pieces of identification, one with a current address. Persons who have recently moved need to re-register. Information is also available at the GSU Votes station about current registration status and other questions.

The voter registration drive is sponsored by the GSU Student Senate. For more information, contact Brandon Sanders, student advisory committee representative to the Illinois Board of Higher Education, at 708.534.7362.

A number of events are planned on National Voters Registration Day, Monday, September 25. Activities will take place in the Hall of Governors between 4 and 7 p.m. The afternoon includes voter registration, refreshments, raffles, a DJ, line dancing, and a National Anthem sing-off. The event is open to the public. National Voters Registration Day is sponsored by the StrictlyteenzUSA, Rock the Vote, National Congress of Black Women, and Mass Vote.

The Illinois deadline for voter registration for this fall’s election is October 9.
The Maine Event
Pierre, the GSU Penguin, headed “Down East” when he took a trip to the Maine coast with Geoff Bates, director and curator of the Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park.

Pierre loves the ocean surf and tried out his boogie board in Maine’s salty Atlantic waters. Our penguin enjoyed the trip but balked at taking a boat ride to see some seals basking on the rocks at low tide, indicating it was "too close to dinner."

Send your pictures of Pierre’s summer travels to the GSU View and you’ll be eligible for fabulous prizes.

All entries for this summer’s Take Pierre on Vacation photo contest must be submitted to GSU View by September 14. For information on picking up your own GSU penguin for travels near and far, and how to enter the contest, visit Pierre’s webpage.

Labriola Honored at International Conference
GSU Professor Tony Labriola, from the Division of Digital Learning and Media Design, presented a keynote address at this summer’s 24th International Conference on Systems Research in Baden-Baden, Germany.

The address, Social Media: Timelines/Lifelines in Pictures, focused on images in Social Media as an increasingly dominant form of new “linguistic” or semiotic communication.

Labriola pointed out that Facebook now houses the largest collection of photos in the world – more than 60 billion – with 60 new photos uploaded every second. “Text becomes a footnote to the images,” he said. “We are assembling, activating, directing, and stage-managing our virtual selves in the Global Theater.”

During the conference’s concluding ceremony, Labriola was inducted as a Fellow of the International Institute for Advanced Studies for his outstanding scholarly contribution through his research in media and film education.

GS2U Workshop Focuses on Teaching Skills
You can refresh, revise, and renew your skills at a GS2U workshop on Tuesday, October 2, from 6 to 7:30 p.m., in the Hall of Honors.

The workshop, a collaboration between GS2U, Online Teaching and Learning, and the Colleague Project Management Office, offers assistance with Blackboard, the GSU portal, and online learning.

For more information, to register, or to suggest a future workshop topic, email gs2u@govst.edu.

Deadline Nears for GSU Scholarships
Looking for additional financial assistance at GSU? The GSU Foundation and Alumni Association have posted scholarships available for the Spring, 2013 term.

The deadline to apply is September 19. For details, visit www.govst.edu/foundationscholarships.
**Take Me Out to the Ball Game (for a Good Cause)**

Members of GSU’s Student Occupational Therapy Association (SOTA) are hosting a fundraiser to benefit their organization. Reduced-price tickets for the September 13 game between the White Sox and Detroit Tigers are on sale for $22. The game begins at 7:10 p.m. at U.S. Cellular Field in Chicago.

For tickets or additional information, contact Eryn O’Rourke.

**Grants Workshops Offered Next Week**

On September 13 and 14, Dr. Robert Porter will lead two grants workshops, hosted by GSU’s Office of the Provost and the Office of Sponsored Programs and Research. Both workshops are three hours long and will take place in Sherman Hall.

*Writing Successful Grants* takes place on Thursday, September 13, from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. This introductory workshop covers basic principles of good grant writing – starting with the phrasing of a compelling research theme to the actual construction of the proposal itself. The workshop focuses on the perspectives of grant reviewers and how to write in ways that meet their expectations.

*Strategies for Success in Sponsored Research* will be held on Friday, September 14, from 9 a.m. to noon. This workshop features three interactive modules:
- Learn how to assess whether a specific research idea matches what the sponsor wants to fund.
- Knowing how to communicate with the sponsor agency prior to writing the proposal is a critical first step.
- Participate in a mock review panel, reading and evaluating a sample grant proposal.

Dr. Robert Porter is workshop leader. Dr. Porter has presented grant writing workshops at leading universities and medical schools across the country. Currently Director of Research Development at the University of Tennessee, Dr. Porter has 30 years' experience as a tenured professor, private consultant, and research administrator.

For more information, and to register, contact Jennifer Morehead at 708.235.2846.

**Preventing Suicide**

The Academic Resource Center will host an information session on National Suicide Prevention Day, Monday, September 10, from noon to 1 p.m., in Room B1216. Learn the issues, warning signs, and assistance services available.

The program is free and open to the public. For more information, call 708.235.2228.

**Computer Science Club 2012**

The GSU Computer Science club is meeting Tuesday, September 11, at 5:30 p.m. in the Hall of Honors.

Club officers will discuss the newly formed Association of Computing Machinery (ACM) student chapter, Collegiate Cyber Defense Competition, October events for Cyber Security Awareness Month, Comptia Certification discounts, the sale of GSU Varsity Jackets, and much more.
Everyone is welcome to attend and learn what the GSU CS club is doing this year.

**Dance Your Way to Fitness**
You can dance your way to fitness at the GSU Recreation and Fitness Center.

Zumba workout classes will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., throughout the Fall semester. GSU students pay only $10. Center members pay only $40 and all others pay $100.

Everyone – students, faculty, staff, retirees, and community members - are invited to take advantage of the Recreation and Fitness Center. The Center is the perfect place to get fit and have fun with its indoor heated swimming pool, cardio and resistance training fitness room, full gymnasium, racquetball court, and fitness classes and programs.

Currently enrolled students enjoy full membership privileges and may use the facility for free and join classes at drastically reduced rates. Reduced rates are available for GSU faculty and staff, premium alumni association members, community college students, active military personnel, and senior citizens are eligible for membership discounts.

For more information about the Recreation and Fitness Center, visit [www.govst.edu/recfit](http://www.govst.edu/recfit) or call 708.534.4556.

**Scholarship Spotlight – James Parquette**

James Parquette of Oak Lawn received the Great Lakes Bank Endowed Scholarship. He is an undergraduate student in the College of Education and is pursuing a secondary education teaching degree in biology.

James would eventually like to obtain a master’s degree in educational administration. He looks forward to becoming a teacher and passing on the importance of education to others, particularly his young children.