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Office of Marketing and Communications

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In 1969, Governor Richard Ogilvie signed a bill announcing that Governors State University would welcome its first class of students in Fall, 1973. However, the four-year planning process was reduced to two years, and FC73 quickly became FC71. GSU is familiar with speedy transformation!

The words used to describe our current point in history have ranged from “renewal and reinvention” to “rapid renaissance.” No matter what words we use to describe our place in history, one thing remains true: GSU is an extraordinary place with endless potential. In partnership with our community college associates, GSU will be the premier choice for public higher education in Chicago’s Southland.

With so many changes taking place in our community it is no wonder some of us feel like we are at the top of the roller coaster crest, just waiting for the wild ride down the hill.

The FC14 In Motion Newsletter along with In Motion: LIVE!, a series of meetings running monthly September 2013 through May 2014, is designed to engage the campus community about the changes underway to welcome the First Class of 2014 as we continue to fine tune and refine services and programs that support GSU’s Transfer Student population.

We need your input into the evolution of this newsletter by submitting ideas for future articles or questions to include in a FAQ feature that will begin in the May edition. Send an e-mail message to engage@govst.edu with your questions and article ideas. Every effort will be made to get your ideas into print.

Follow the link to the rest of In Motion.
Public Universities’ Leaders Endorse IGPA Pension Plan

The 14 Illinois public university presidents and chancellors, including GSU’S President, Dr. Elaine Maimon, have unanimously endorsed a six-point proposal for addressing the state’s pension funding crisis as it relates to the State Universities Retirement System (SURS). In a letter to the governor and legislative leaders they called the proposal “a thoughtful and responsible approach.”

“We write to inform you of our unanimous endorsement of the reform proposal recently published by the Institute of Government and Public Affairs (IGPA) of the University of Illinois entitled, *Six Simple Steps: Reforming the Illinois State University Retirement System,*” the university leaders said. “We believe that, as a package, the steps outlined in this proposal represent a viable path forward for reforming the SURS pension plan. Compared to other options, it represents the most desirable long-term solution.”

The letter to Gov. Pat Quinn and the four legislative leaders, Democrat House Speaker Michael Madigan and Senate President John Cullerton, and Republican House Leader Tom Cross and Senate Leader Christine Radogno, was sent by the university presidents and chancellors on April 4. The General Assembly has returned this week from its spring recess and faces a May 31 deadline for adjournment.

The presidents and chancellors reiterated their continued collective interest in “working with you and others in the General Assembly to translate these ideas into legislation.”

Read the letter to Gov. Quinn and the six-point proposal.

Faculty Development Day Coming Next Week

GSU’s Faculty Scholarship and Teaching Center is presenting the Second Annual Faculty Development Day on Friday, April 19 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The event is also sponsored by the Office of the Provost, Center for Online Teaching and Learning, and Office of Sponsored Programs and Research.

Concurrent morning workshops will feature topics such as predatory publishers, funding opportunities, finding your “H-Index,” Mentoring Students 101, thinking out of the box but within IAI, open source legislation, and writing rubrics. Morning panel discussions will be located on the third floor of D-wing.
After lunch, an innovative and highly interactive rapid fire mentoring workshop is planned. Several fun, collaborative activities are taking place in the afternoon with planned topics like navigating tenure, evidence-based teaching, book authorship, grants – how to be successful, peer review publishing, and active teaching/student engagement. Lunch and the afternoon sessions are taking place in the Hall of Honors.

Please RSVP to Lori Townsend in the Provost’s Office. For further information, contact Tony Labriola or Raven James.

**Why Not? Asks Weekly Water Cooler Question**

GSU’s Why Not? program is back and members of the campus community are invited to submit constructive suggestions and ideas about ways to improve Governors State University's processes, procedures, and policies.

Why Not? now has a Water Cooler topic of the week. When the discussion opens, just chime in with your thoughts and comments. This week’s topic is “What's New in Your Office?”

Why Not? suggestions should:
- address improvements in the efficiency of a department, program, or procedure;
- improve services that support the university;
- eliminate unnecessary procedures or duplication of effort;
- save time, money, or materials; and
- contribute to the continuing growth and development of GSU.

Each contributor who submits a constructive suggestion to the Why Not? website will receive a participation reward, and will be eligible to win a Special Recognition reward.

Visit the [Why Not? website](#).

**Earth Week 2013**

GSU is celebrating Earth Week 2013 with the following activities. The overall theme for Earth Week is “Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Replenish, Restore” and all activities are based on those concepts.
Monday, April 22
- Recycling display throughout the day in Hall of Governors
- Family Development Center environmental education activity, Hall of Governors from 9 to 11 a.m.
- Earth Day menu by FSI using compostable serving ware
- Cooperative presentation between Facilities and NMSP featuring native restoration at GSU, Hall of Honors, from 11:30 a.m. to noon.

Tuesday, April 23
- Trash pickup, Environmental Research Preserve, 1 to 3 p.m. Volunteers meet at the south end of parking area, East Lot 2. Dress appropriately for weather.

Wednesday, April 24
- Tree planting, 10 to 11 a.m., Family Development Center

Thursday, April 25
- Book swap, Hall of Governors, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Bring in your used books and swap them out for others that are new to you. All books left at the end of the event will be donated to the Friends of the Library.

**Piano Men, Asner as FDR Coming to CPA**

Two big shows are coming to GSU Center for Performing Arts in the next week.

Musician and songwriter Jim Witter performs classic hits from the 1970s in *The Piano Men* tonight, at 7 p.m. in GSU Center. Witter will present his interpretation of unforgettable songs from Billy Joel and Elton John, including *Rocket Man, Just the Way You Are, My Life*, and more. This multimedia rock musical is a hit, receiving rave reviews from music critics all across North America. Tickets start at just $15, and range up to $45 for box seats. The majority of the seats are $30.
Seven-time Emmy-Award winner Ed Asner will take the stage at GSU Center as President Franklin D. Roosevelt. The legendary actor appears in *Ed Asner as FDR* on Wednesday, April 17, at 7 p.m.

Asner, best known for his roles in TV’s *The Mary Tyler Moore Show*, and its spinoff, *Lou Grant*, plays President Roosevelt in a riveting solo performance drama that takes us through FDR’s White House years, including the Depression, the steps leading up to World War II, and the war years.

Patrons get to see and hear FDR's fireside chats; his controversial packing of the Supreme Court, his personal life with Eleanor, his discreet but definite affair with Lucy Mercer, controversy surrounding the Pearl Harbor attack, and more details from his four-term presidency.

Tickets start at just $15, and range up to $55 for box seats. The majority of the seats are $40. High school students are just $10 since GSU wants to encourage teachers to bring their classes.

For tickets to either show, or further information, contact GSU Center’s box office at CenterTickets.net or call 708.235.2222.

**Criminal Justice Career Fair – April 18**

The Office of Career Services is sponsoring an employment and internship fair for people interested in positions in criminal justice, public administration, and related fields. The Criminal Justice and Public Administration Internship and Career Fair will be held on Thursday, April 18, from 2 to 5 p.m., in the university’s Hall of Governors.

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

**Fighting Belly Fat**

Learn ways to reduce your midsection at a healthy living workshop on Thursday, April 18, from 3 to 4 p.m., in A2110. Kim Kramer, a dietician at Ingalls Wellness Center, will lead the workshop, which is sponsored by the Recreation and Fitness Center and the Wellness Club.

**Psychology Club Pizza and Movie Night**
The Psychology Club will host a pizza and movie night on April 19 in the Hall of Honors. The event starts at 5:30 p.m. The movie *A Beautiful Mind* will be shown at 6:30 p.m.

**Secret Success Tips**

Students – college is a major commitment, and your academic advisors, faculty and peers want you to get the best from your education.

If you want to learn a few tips on academic success, come to GS2U’s workshop on *Secret Success Tips* from GSU faculty, advisors, and students, on April 24, from 5:30 pm to 7 p.m. in E-Lounge. You will learn about academic etiquette, effective communication with professors, classroom participation, and when to seek assistance and how.

For further information and to see future workshops and register for this workshop, go to www.govst.edu/gs2u.

**Summer Hours Announced for 2013**

Gail Bradshaw, Associate Vice President for Human Resources and Diversity, has announced four-day-a-week summer hours for Summer, 2013. The four-day work week is again being implemented to provide employees the opportunity for more time off during the summer months, save in transportation costs, and enable the university to realize other operational savings. The schedule will be in effect from Monday, June 14 through Friday, August 2.

Read the memo on this year’s summer hours.

**Graduate Student Reception – April 25**

Celebrate the end of the spring semester at the Graduate Student Reception, on Thursday, April 25 from 5 to 6:30 p.m. in E-Lounge. The event is sponsored by the GSU Graduate Student Organization.

The reception is open to all graduate students. It’s a good opportunity to mix
and mingle and have some fun, to meet other graduate students and members of the Graduate Council.

For more information, contact Erin Fletcher.

Start Saving for the 2013 Class Gift

Graduates, as you prepare for Commencement, leave a legacy for the future. Make an additional gift of $25 in honor of someone – a spouse, parent, professor, or friend – who contributed to your success. Consider donating $20.13 to the Class of 2013 legacy gift to the GSU Promise. Pick up a free piggy bank in room D34200 and start saving today.

Contributions are due by May 1. All graduate contributors and honorees will be included in a special tribute at Commencement. Contributions tax deductible to the full extent allowed by law. For more information, call 708.235.2188.

Nominations Being Accepted for Student Commencement Speakers

GSU’s Commencement Student Speaker Committee is currently accepting nominations for the commencement ceremony to be held on Saturday, June 8.

Two ceremonies will take place, at 10 a.m., for CHHS and COE, and the 5 p.m. ceremony, for CAS and CBPA. As a result, the committee will select two commencement speakers, one for the morning and the other for the evening ceremony.

Candidates are needed to represent all colleges, so please make a conscious effort to nominate deserving students for this prestigious honor.

Access the Student Commencement Speaker nomination form and fill out both pages of the nomination form no later than April 24.

In order for students to be eligible they must be willing to meet for an interview on Friday, May 3, between 10 p.m. and 3 p.m. Please be sure to share the information with your nominee before you submit the nomination.