Commencement Information Available Online

The countdown to Commencement 2013 has begun. GSU’s Commencement website is now available to provide useful information and answer questions about how to best get ready for Commencement on Saturday, June 8, at the Tinley Park Convention Center.

The Commencement website is GSU’s one-stop guide for graduating students, their families and guests, faculty, staff, and volunteers. You can find details on Commencement essentials – parking, tickets, instructions, flowers and photos, invitations, and more. Information is also included on other Commencement-related events, such as the June 1 Graduation Celebration and the June 6 Doctoral Hooding.

“The launch of the website is important because there are a number of details related to Commencement that graduates and their guests, as well as faculty and staff volunteers, need to know,” said Registrar Christopher Huang. “The Commencement website is a tool to disseminate this information quickly and efficiently to those attending and participating in this ceremony.”

Click here to access the Commencement website.

An Appreciation of Transformations

Thursday evening, as I sat in the front row on the stage in the Center for Performing Arts,— waiting with baited breath while listening to the eerie yet melodic voice of Anne Sexton reading over the speaker, and gazing upon an empty theater – I was transported into the performance of GSU’s inaugural theater production, Transformations.

I am compelled to share my experience with the GSU community. The sold-out performance was an energetic, artistic, and explorative evening, characteristic of university campuses across the country with long-standing theater traditions. Transformations, according to its
director, Patrick Santoro, “explores Sexton’s witty and cautionary voice…and explores ways in which our culture holds fast to the fairytale as a model for meaning, constructing identities, desires, and dreams.”

Dr. Santoro, a new faculty member in the College of Arts and Sciences’ Theater and Performance Studies program, flawlessly assembled an ensemble of actors. Eight female ensemble members, with undulated voices in unison, song, and monologues, wowed the audience in their retelling of Grimm Brothers fairy tales – *Rumplestiltskin, Cinderella, Snow White, Rapunzel* and more. It was as if the performers (Cherish Brown, Lynne Clayton, Keisha Dyson, Kimberly Hudson, Keyana Marshall, Roshunda Ross-Orta and Deirdre Webb) had performed together for years, not just the months leading up to the opening.

The show concluded with a post-show chat with the performers, Dr. Santoro, and two visiting faculty (Dr. Mary Been, of Lake Superior State University, and Jennifer Freitag, of Southern Illinois University – Carbondale), moderated by division chair Lori Montalbano, about the content and historical context of the play.

If the inaugural presentation of *Transformations* foreshadows the great work that is to come from the burgeoning Theater and Performance Studies programs and coursework, we are blessed. Bravo to the cast, crew, director, and the College of Arts and Sciences for sharing this special gift with the GSU campus students and community.

Rhonda K. Brown
Assistant Vice President for Marketing and Communications

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**Railroad Crossing Closed This Week**

The CN Railroad crossing at Stuenkel Road/ University Parkway will be closed for repairs today through Saturday, May 4.

Students, staff, and community members who access Governors State University via this railroad crossing will need to take alternate routes while repair work is taking place.

Drivers on Governors Highway or Stuenkel Road west of the crossing can
go south to Dralle Road and follow it to Old Monee Road, and then turn north to the university’s east entrance. They can also go north to Sauk Trail, turn right, and approach GSU on Richton Square Road and Crawford Avenue.

Access to the GSU from the east will be unchanged by the railroad crossing repairs.

Click here for a map showing alternate routes to GSU during the railroad repairs.

**Library Friends Host Book Sale**

The Friends of the GSU Library hosts its annual spring book sale on Tuesday, April 30, from noon to 5 p.m., in the Hall of Governors. Members of the Friends will be able to preview the sale items from 11 a.m. until noon.

Looking for presents for Mother’s Day? You just might find the right present for the mom in your life. You will also find a vast selection of books on many subjects, including psychology, counseling, health services, English, and literature.

This year’s sale features a silent auction for the large Rand McNally wall map that hung in the library atrium. The silent auction will begin at $5.

You can purchase a large bag of books for $5 or a small bag of books for $3. Individual hard copy books are a $1 and paperbacks are 50 cents.

“Your support of the Friends of the GSU Library allows the Friends to help maintain, enhance and improve the GSU Library as a vibrant research and literary resource for all at GSU and the community,” said Ann Manning-Nagel, President of the Friends of the GSU Library. “We invite all at GSU to stop by the Hall of Governors on Tuesday to show your support for GSU and the Library.”

For more information, contact FriendsofGSULibrary@gmail.com.
Physical Therapy Lecturer Recognized by National Organization

Joyce Sligar, PT, MBA, MA, CEEAA, has been named as a Certified Exercise Expert for Aging Adults by the American Physical Therapy Association’s Section on Geriatrics.

Physical therapists who receive the CEEAA credential must complete three courses of two days each and demonstrate expert clinical decision-making skills in:

- Designing and applying an effective examination and exercise prescription, and
- Measuring the effectiveness and reflecting the current evidence of exercise for all aging adults.

Joyce Sligar

Sligar is a University Lecturer (Senior Status) and Co-Director of Clinical Education for GSU’s Department of Physical Therapy. She has been with GSU since 1996. During that time, Sligar has made presentations on older adult topics to various professional groups, including the American Physical Therapy Association and the American Society on Aging. Sligar has also had extensive patient care experience providing physical therapy services to older adults.

 Clothesline Project on Campus Tuesday

In honor of Sexual Assault Awareness Month in April, the GSU Student Coalition for Diversity and Social Justice and the YWCA South Suburban Center are partnering to present the Clothesline Project and Silent Witness Demonstration on campus.

The exhibit will be on display on Tuesday, April 30, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., in the Hall of Governors. The Clothesline Project features a display of t-shirts made by our volunteers, staff, and clients representing the pain and healing of child abuse, sexual assault and domestic violence.

The Silent Witness Project features life-sized figures honoring those who have lost their lives to violence in our community.

For more information, visit www.govst.edu/diversity.

Contribute to 2013 Class Gift
Graduates, as your 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.

**Golf League Tees Off Tuesday**

GSU’s GSU Golf League begins its 2013 season Tuesday at University Golf Course, conveniently located across the street from GSU in University Park. Tee time is 4:30 p.m.

During the 2013 season, the League will play nine holes of golf every Tuesday at the course, weather permitting.

Everyone is encouraged to join in on the fun, regardless of their skill level. For information on joining the GSU Golf League please contact Hollie Campbell at 708.235.6813.

**Choral Concert Celebrates Spring**

*Celebrating the Spring Season* is the theme of the Second Annual Spring Concert, presented by GSU’s Choral Performance and Choral Practicum classes, on Saturday, May 4, at 3 p.m., in Sherman Recital Hall. The concert is free and open to the public.

“The choir students have worked very hard all semester and are very excited to share our music with the community,” says choir conductor Stacy Eckert.

The concert includes music selections of Bach, Gershwin, and some of Motown's greatest hits. Several students will be featured soloists. A free
reception follows the performance.

**Spring Open Market Coming Thursday**

The Civil Service Senate is presenting its Spring Open Market on Thursday, May 2, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. in the Hall of Governors.

The Spring Open Market is a perfect opportunity to pick up something for Mother’s Day, a birthday, or something for the kids. Several vendors and crafters will be on campus for the one-day event.

**Board of Trustees Meets May 17**

The GSU Board of Trustees committee meetings scheduled for Friday, May 10 have been canceled.

The Full Board of Trustees will meet on Friday, May 17, at 8:30 a.m. in the William D. McGee Hall of Honors. The meeting is open to the public.

Any questions regarding the GSU Board of Trustees may be directed to Joan Johns Maloney at 708.534.4131.