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Commencement 2013 was a joyous occasion for the thousands of participants who filled Tinley Park Convention Center on Saturday.

About 1,500 of those participants received bachelor’s, master’s, and doctoral degree. Their years of dedication and hard work were at the heart of GSU’s Commencement, and their efforts were applauded, loudly and repeatedly, by the convention center throng.

From start to finish, Saturday’s twin Commencement ceremonies were a moving tribute to GSU’s graduates, and to those who helped make their dreams come true – family members, other loved ones, and university faculty, administration, and staff.

Graduates were reminded that Commencement is a beginning, and that they should use what they have learned at GSU to help change the world for the better. In her address, President Elaine P. Maimon urged the graduates to help others, to help improve society, and to remain involved in activities at GSU.

Renowned journalist Maria Hinojosa, who received an honorary doctorate on Saturday, told graduates they have an important role in keeping the nation’s democracy strong. “Democracy means being fearless,” she said. “It requires the capacity to believe in our own voices.” All too often, she said, the country’s mainstream media has overlooked diversity in the U.S. That diversity needs to be covered by the media as the nation continues to move toward fairness and justice, she said.

Student speakers Michael Griffin and Shaniqua Jones received huge ovations from their fellow graduates.
graduates and the rest of the audience. Griffin related his version of the GSU experience, and that “strangers became friends, and friends became family.” Jones said she had her first experience with GSU in middle school 20 years ago and that always wanted to return to the university to continue her education. Subsequent events in her life, such as her marriage and the birth of her children, put those plans on hold. Now, Jones said, she knows the sense of triumph that comes with graduating from GSU.

Commencement is a time for thanks and GSU View would like to offer sincere thanks to the members of the GSU community who took part in all the Commencement Week events. Thanks to you, Commencement unfolded smoothly despite the many challenges. You helped make it an unforgettable occasion for everyone.

Karen Caesar-Smith, director of special events and Commencement coordinator, would like to give her personal thanks to everyone who helped make Commencement a success. Anyone with positive feedback or constructive suggestions should contact her at kcaesar-smith@govst.edu.

Dr. Karen D’Arcy Named Interim COE Dean

President Maimon announced Friday that Dr. Karen D’Arcy has agreed to serve as Interim Dean of the College of Education. Dr. D’Arcy will begin on June 16 and continue until a new permanent dean is appointed.

“We are moving forward promptly with that national search,” Dr. Maimon said in an e-mail to COE faculty and staff. CHHS Dean Beth Cada has agreed to chair the search committee. It is likely that the members of the search committee will be announced later this week.

Dr. Karen D’Arcy has served GSU for nearly three decades as a distinguished scholar, teacher, and administrator, Dr. Maimon said. Dr. D’Arcy has served as president of the Faculty Senate, has been a long-time Chair of the CAS Division of Science and Mathematics, and was Interim Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

“Science education at all levels has always been Karen’s passion, and throughout all her years at GSU she has worked closely with the College of Education,” Dr. Maimon said.

Dr. Maimon said she consulted with CAS Dean Reinhold Hills and Drs. Deborah Bordelon, Colleen Sexton, and Shannon Dermer of COE before appointing Dr. D’Arcy.
“Dean Hill’s generosity and Karen’s willingness to take on this responsibility allow us to move forward without disruption of divisional leadership in the College of Education,” she said.

“In addition, it is in everyone’s best interest that the interim dean not be a candidate for the permanent deanship,” Dr. Maimon said. “When Karen served as interim dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, she made a commitment not to be a candidate in her own college. She will, of course, not be a candidate for permanent dean of the College of Education.

“Please join me in thanking Karen D’Arcy for once again demonstrating selfless service to Governors State University.”

**Summer Hours Back for 2013**
GSU’s summer hours take effect this week and will continue through August 2. The university is once again implementing a four-day work week schedule to provide employees the opportunity for more time off during the summer months, savings in transportation costs, and to enable the university to realize other operational savings.

During the modified work week, employees will work a 37.5 hour week, Monday through Thursday within a daily range of hours between 6 a.m. and 11 p.m. Unit and department heads determine all departmental schedules and office hours.

June 14 is the first Friday during this year’s summer hours.

Since July 4 is on a Thursday this year, the university will be closed for the holiday and, during that week, employees will work 7.5 hours per day, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday.

All employees are encouraged to view the Summer Hours Frequently Asked Questions on the HR webpage by clicking the employee relations link.

**Get Ready for Flash Mob Tuesday**
The date and time: Tuesday, June 11, noon

The location: The GSU cafeteria

The event: Filming a flash mob video to promote GSU’s participation the national Let’s Move! initiative.

Dancers will be on hand for the filming. Anyone who does not want to be part of the video should avoid the cafeteria area during the filming.
The video will promote GSU’s joining *Let’s Move!* and the university’s Community Health Day on July 18.

GSU will recreate the beginning of the national *Let’s Move!* video.

GSU is partnering with the national *Let’s Move!* campaign, a comprehensive initiative, launched by First Lady Michelle Obama, that is dedicated to solving the problem of childhood obesity within a generation.

**Demand Response Program Helps Reduce Energy Consumption**

Starting this summer, GSU is working to reduce energy consumption by participating in the Demand Response Program. The university is working with EnerNOC, an energy management technology company that focuses on improving the way commercial, industrial, and institutional sectors use energy.

During the program, GSU is committing to a pre-established load curtailment plan. So, when initiated by EnerNOC, usually in the peak summer season, GSU should bring down its electrical load demand by 500 kW.

This is usually accomplished either by transferring campus’s electrical load to backup generators and or adjusting HVAC system set points to a broader temperature range. The university will also conserve energy by shutting down unnecessary loads, equipment, lights and rescheduling some activities to another time.

ComEd can call for Demand Response events during the program if there is the potential of the system overloading. ComEd will notify FDM when such events are necessary, and will give the university 24-hour notice.

The university’s set target is not especially challenging and can be easily achieved. Serious and upfront planning is considered a key element in the success of the program. The load demand level for GSU has been set initially to the 500 kW level, a reduction of about 25 percent of the campus peak load.

Over the next five years, GSU can earn a minimum of $54,000 in energy savings, with further savings coming with more load demand reductions. Based upon GSU’s first year’s real life work experience, GSU can adjust the pre-set target higher or lower, as appropriate.

**Generation on a Tightrope Author Appears Wednesday**

Dr. Diane R. Dean will share her research on the contemporary college student – and how her findings might influence our preparation for FC14 – on Wednesday, June 12, at in E-Lounge. Dr. Dean is Associate Professor of Higher Education and Administration in the College of Education at Illinois State University.
Dr. Dean, the co-author of *Generation on a Tightrope: A Portrait of Today’s College Students*, will make her presentation at 9:30 a.m., to be followed by a Q and A at 10:30 a.m., and a discussion on the implications regarding instruction and program development from 11 to 11:30 a.m.

As *Generation on a Tightrope* clearly reveals, today’s students need a very different education than the undergraduates who came before them: an education for the 21st Century, which colleges and universities are so far ill-equipped to offer and which will require major changes of them to provide. The book offers educators, researchers, practitioners, policymakers, and employers guidance and a much-needed grasp of the forces shaping the experiences of current undergraduates.

Persons planning to attend Dr. Dean’s presentation should RSVP to Lisa Carra at 708.235.7595.

The presentation is sponsored by the Division of Student Affairs and Support Services.

**Moeller Speaks at Lecture Series Wednesday**

This month’s Dynamic Leadership Lecture Series continues when Phillip Moeller presents *Creating a Shared Vision*, on Wednesday, June 12, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., in Engbretson Hall. Moeller served as president of Holland LP, headquartered in Crete, from 1987 to 2012.

Ronald E. Daly will present *The Leadership of Change*, on Monday, June 17, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., in Engbretson Hall. Daly is currently a board member of the AARP, the AARP Foundation, Metropolis Strategies, Loyola University of Chicago, and U. S. Cellular. He worked for R. R. Donnelley for 38 years, rising from the factory floor to the presidency of Donnelley’s largest business unit.

The series, free and open to the public, features speakers who will discuss aspects of management and governance related to their own lives as successful leaders. The lectures are sponsored by the College of Business and Public Administration. Advance registration is not required. Everyone is welcome.