GSU View

Graduate Application Deadline Fast Approaching

Graduation applications for spring 2014 and summer 2014 are due to the registrar’s office Friday, February 7, 2014.

A $50 non-refundable graduation application processing fee will be charged to students who submit an application.

Go to the Graduation and Commencement website and look under "Apply to Graduate."

W2 Forms Available Online

GSU employees who consented to receive electronic W2 forms may now access their 2013 W2 forms through the myGSU portal.

For Frequently Asked Questions regarding W2 forms, view the memo.

Students – Streamline Your Taxes

Students can streamline their personal tax process by signing up for an electronic 1098T form.

Students have the option of updating their student profile through GSU’s online portal to consent to receiving an electronic 1098T. Signing up for this service allows students to access, view and print their 1098T forms.

If you already gave consent, there is no need to take action.

For instructions on how to sign up, view the memo.

Auditions for “Still Life”

Auditions for “Still Life,” a documentary by Emily Mann, will be held February 4, from 8 to 10 p.m.

Based on real life experiences, “Still Life” explores the ways the Vietnam affected three lives: a Marine veteran, his estranged wife and his mistress. The three characters serves as a metaphor for the nation as a whole, still trying to understand and overcome the lingering trauma of the Vietnam experience.
Three performers will be cast. Those interested in auditioning should prepare a one to two minute monologue, either published or original. Auditions are open to students, staff, faculty and community members. No experience is necessary.

For more information and to sign up for an audition time slot, go to E 1541-D.

**Two Women. Two Stories. One Night.**

Chicago-based performers Medina Perine and Penelope Walker will be performing their one-woman shows “Hair Crownicles and Sugar Funk” at the GSU Center for Performing Arts for one night only on Friday, February 7, at 7:30 p.m.

Explore what it means to be a woman on a quest for balance and acceptance in the hilarious and poignant, “Hair Crownicles and Sugar Funk.” This no-holds-barred journey blends house music, dance and humor to deliver a message of empowerment that all women can relate to. Join Medina Perine on her personal quest to come to terms with her hair amidst peer pressure and social expectations. Then watch Penelope Walker dance her way through life with diabetes and a whole lot of humor, finding a sense of balance through family, fitness and spirituality.

Only 200 audience members will be seated onstage with the performers for this unique and intimate performance. Tickets are $25. Seniors (65+) pay $20. Students pay $10. Discounts are not available online.

This event is part of the One More Night series, bringing Chicago artists to the southland and is generously supported by The Chicago Community Trust. Our 2013-2014 Season is sponsored in part by a grant from The Illinois Arts Council, an agency of the State of Illinois.

Buy tickets online or call the box office at 708.235.2222.

**Hair, Health and Heritage in the 21st Century**

Before you see the presentation of “Hair Crownicles and Sugar Funk” at the GSU Center for Performing Arts on Friday, February 7, at 7:30 p.m., join the conversations.

A panel discussion and conversation on hair and body aesthetics among
black women, “Hair, Health and Heritage in the 21st Century,” will be held on February 4 at 6 p.m., in Sherman Hall.

The discussion will also include reflections on women’s self-perception and societal influences.

Co-moderators of the discussion include: Dr. Elizabeth Johnson, Assistant Professor in CAS and author of “Resistance and Empowerment in Black Women's Hair Styling;” Dr. Phyllis West, University Lecturer Senior Status, Department of Social Work and Tammara Winn, University Lecturer in Interdisciplinary Studies.

This event is part of the "One More Night" Pre-Performance Series.

**Student Leadership Institute Success**

Nearly sixty GSU students, 40 undergraduate and 20 graduate students, participated this week in the opening workshop for the second annual Student Leadership Institute based on the nationally recognized Leadership Practices Inventory.

Over the course of the next month, participants will choose from more than 20 workshops, with topics such as leading change, ethics and integrity, vision and goal setting, and multicultural issues in leadership. Participants will also meet with their leadership mentors; 45 faculty and staff who have volunteered to guide students through this leadership journey.

This distinctive co-curricular certificate program is designed for students seeking leadership development opportunities that will contribute to their personal development and help achieve their leadership potential. For more information, visit the Student Leadership Institute website. You can follow their experience on Twitter by using #GSULeaders.

**Extended Learning Spring Course Offerings**

It’s time to fulfill that New Year’s resolution to enrich your life through education.

Continuing education courses offered at GSU provide the opportunity to keep your professional licensure or certification current. Continuing education courses can also offer a pathway to career advancement or a new career development. These courses also offer enrichment and development opportunities.

Classes begin in February. To learn more, visit the School of Extended Learning website or call 708.534.4099.
Get Moving to the Recreation and Fitness Center

Get moving and get fit with a class at the Recreation and Fitness Center. Courses are restricted to GSU students and Recreation and Fitness Center members, unless otherwise noted.

**Aqua Yoga** - Yoga performed in a pool has all of the benefits of yoga and more. Classes meet Tuesdays from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. The fee is $15.

**Chi Waves** - Using water buoyancy to assist balance and incorporating Thi Chi, Yoga, and various dance moves. Class meets Wednesdays, from 11:15 a.m. to noon. Fees are $10 for GSU students; $15 for Recreation and Fitness Center members and $30 for non-member.

**Zumba** – Using dance and aerobic elements to get fit and have fun. Class meets Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Fees are $10 for GSU students; $40 for Recreation and Fitness Center members and $100 for non-member.

Stop by the Recreation and Fitness Center office in A1106, call 708.534.4556 or visit the [Recreation and Fitness Center website](#) for more information.

**FAFSA Completion Workshops**

The Office of Financial Aid will be hosting workshops every Friday in February to assist students in completing and submitting the Free Application for Federal Student Aid. The FAFSA application determines eligibility for grants, scholarships, loans and work study programs.

The workshops will be held on February 7, 14, 21 and 28, from 3 to 4:30 p.m., D2430. Students should bring their most recent Federal tax return and/or W2s. Filing early gives you the best chance at securing financial aid.

**An Evening with African American Researchers**

For the fourth year in a row, students from SOCW 3100 Social Welfare Policy I Class, taught by Dr. Asabi S.Yakini, of the Department of Social Work, will host “An Evening with African American Researchers” on Wednesday, February 5, at 4:30 p.m., in Sherman Hall.

Faculty members from social work, public administration, psychology, community health, physical therapy, occupational therapy, education and economics will present their research findings, methodologies, interpretations and recommendations. A question and answer session will follow the research presentations. Students are strongly encouraged to attend.

“In addition to strengthening students’ critical thinking skills, our hope is to generate excitement and interest in a discipline, to show students how
research impacts policy making, and to demonstrate how researchers engage people in meaningful action,” said Dr. Yakini.

The discussion is free and open to the public. It is made possible by a grant from the Intellectual Life Committee. For more information, email Dr. Asabi Yakini.

**Campus Dining - Menu and News Online**

Check out the [Campus Dining website](#) for its calendar of daily hot entrees at lunch and at dinner as well as the February Newsletter describing specials planned for the month.

**Get Your myONECARD**

Don’t forget to pick up your new myONECARD from the Office of Auxiliary Services and University Housing in C1330 or at the Welcome Center in the main entrance of D Building.

To learn more about the myONECARD, visit the [myONECARD website](#).

**ECE Students Share Experience**

Each semester, to help students prepare for their upcoming student teaching experience, Dr. Jeannine Klomes, professor of education, invites current student teachers to share a pot luck breakfast with students enrolled in EDEC Lab Three.

The purpose of this gathering is to provide those preparing to student teach with feedback and information from those currently engaged in the 15 week field experience. At the breakfast, EC majors network with the current EC student teachers to share stories and advice. Discussions range from how best to prepare for working with a classroom of children seven hours a day, five days a week, to topics about the most stressful verses rewarding moments. This annual social gives lab students the opportunity to learn from new supportive peers, the student teachers confirm their performance progress, and Dr. Klomes gains insight about how to improve EC course instruction.

“The gearing up for student teaching can be very intimidating because students are required to effectively integrate a wealth of college class material into the professional knowledge, skills, and disposition expected of beginning
teachers, thus having an opportunity to talk with those succeeding in this process is wonderful,” said Dr. Klomes.

**Know Your Rights and Responsibilities – Student Handbook**

A critical element of your success as a student at GSU is having a full understanding of what your expectations are of the university and what the institutions’ expectations are of you as a student, whether it be inside or outside the classroom.

The Student Handbook serves as a clearinghouse of policies and procedures that outline student’s rights and responsibilities as a valued student member of the GSU community. In particular, students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the student conduct and student grievance policies.

Information in the student handbook is subject to change and does not constitute a contract or guarantee with the university. The university expressly reserves the right to change, phase out, or discontinue any policy or program. Such changes take precedence over student handbook statements.

To view the Student Handbook, go to [www.govst.edu/studenthandbook](http://www.govst.edu/studenthandbook).

For more information, contact the Aurelio Valente, Dean of Students at deanofstudents@govst.edu.

**Meningitis Notice**

GSU, consistent with the American College Health Association and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention - Advisory Committee for Immunization Practices, recommends that students consider vaccination to reduce their risk for potentially fatal meningococcal disease.

For additional information, please refer to the index of [ACHA and other resources](http://www.govst.edu/studenthandbook) and the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](http://www.govst.edu/studenthandbook).

For personal assistance regarding all immunizations for you or a member of your family please see your healthcare provider.

This announcement is intended to promote public health awareness and practices, and is in compliance with the Illinois Meningitis Information Law (110 ILCS 690/35-120).
Tutorials on the Portal

A new section has been added to the myGSU Student Portal - an online resource called “How Do I ...”

Students can find online services tutorials on how to accept their financial aid awards, how to sign up for the tuition payment plan, how to register for and drop classes, how to find their class schedules and much more.

Click here to go to the student portal and view the “How do I ...” section.

Choices and Consequences – February 13

GSU celebrates Black History Month with a special presentation of “Choices and Consequences,” a play exploring the personal and professional trials, choices and consequences associated with being an African American man in today’s society. The curtain rises at 7 p.m. on February 13, in the Center for Performing Arts.

Seating is limited as audience members will be seated onstage providing an intimate and personal performance. Admission is free with a college ID. General admission tickets are only $10. Tickets are available online, 708.235.2222, or at the Center for Performing Arts box office.

The play is staged by CBC Productions and is sponsored by a university wide initiative in conjunction with Black History Month.

Dr. Ning Lu Named Grant Reviewer

Dr. Ning (Linda) Lu, Health Administration professor, has been selected to be a grant reviewer for the Chicagoland area Susan G. Komen Community Breast Cancer education, prevention and treatment program. Komen Chicago invested nearly $1.3 million in grants to 17 local originations in 2013. Dr. Lu, along with other reviewers, will evaluate the grant applications for 2014.

Dr. Lu has long held research interests in healthcare access, quality and utilization for vulnerable populations, including children, women, minorities, low-income families and rural residents. Before joining GSU in 2007, Dr. Lu conducted research to examine the disparities in the use of preventive care in Kentucky women. Her research, entitled “Trends and disparities in breast and cervical cancer screening practices in Kentucky women: 1991-2000,” was presented at the Annual Conference of the American Public Health Association in 2003.
**Donations Needed for the Annual Book Drive**

Clear your shelves of those new or gently used books, CD’s, DVD’s, cassette tapes and artwork you will never look at again. The GSU Friends of the Library will find a good use for them at the Spring Book Sale on Wednesday, April 16.

Donate to the GSU Library during regular business hours. Once in the library, go to the Friends of the GSU Library table and follow these three easy steps:

1) Place your items for donation in one or more of the green bags, and leave them on the table;
2) Fill out the donations/gifts to GSU Library Form found on the table. Please note whether you would like a letter of acknowledgement; and
3) Insert the completed donations/gifts to GSU Library form in the bag.

Donations help support the many worthwhile activities of the Friends of the GSU Library. For more information, email FriendsofGSULibrary@gmail.com.

**Recently Published - Sarah Wegley**

A story by Sarah Wegley, Library Operations Associate for Digital Metadata & Web Services, was recently included in the new book, “A Student’s Guide to the Deaf Experience: Stories from the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Community.”

Sarah was asked to contribute a story by the book’s editor. She chose to write about receiving her name sign in Costa Rica while on a trip with Discovering Deaf Worlds of Rochester, NY. Sarah hopes sharing her experience will help raise awareness of this worthy organization.

![Sarah Wegley](image)

**International Learning Scholarships Available**

Did you know GSU has scholarships available for you to study abroad in other countries?

The deadlines to apply for a study abroad scholarship are:
- For Summer 2014 semester: March 1, 2014
- Fall 2014 semester: June 1, 2014
- Spring 2015 semester: November 1, 2014
The Office of International Services is eager to assist anyone interested in any aspect of participating in learning outside of the United States. Let us help you.

For information about study abroad opportunities or for a GSU Study Abroad Scholarship application, please contact the Office of International Services in C3370 or via email.

**Library Student Advisory Team**

The first meeting of the GSU Library Student Advisory Team took place recently in the library. The focus of the group will be to provide input, recommendations, and leadership to Dean Lydia Morrow Ruetten and the library staff in terms of how to provide the very best content and customer service to the GSU student body.

"Thanks to the new Library Student Advisory Team for their input to make the library a better place," said Dean Ruetten. "It is a pleasure working with a student group representing all levels of our GSU Student Body."

Members of the team include: Dana Agusto, Critisha Ashley, Snehal Chavda, Natasha Lyn Dillard, Marcelina Jara, Katrina Koltz and Douglas Nanfeldt.

Meetings will take place on the first and third Wednesday of each month. For further questions regarding the GSU Student Advisory Team or if you are interested in becoming a member of the team, please contact Dean Ruetten.

**Colleague Users Group Meeting - Thursday**

The next meeting of the Colleague Users Group is Thursday, February 6 at 3 p.m. in the ACS Computer Lab D2430. Please note new day and time.

The meeting is dedicated to learning how to use pivot tables in Excel. The workshop, titled “There's More (and Less) to Pivot Tables Than You Think…,” will be presented by Linda Buyer, Interim Director, Institutional Research & Effectiveness. This is an extended hands-on session, so please contact the Colleague Project Office to reserve your seat.

CUG provides a monthly forum for members of the GSU community to share and discuss their experiences using the university systems. All faculty and staff members are welcome to attend this workshop.