President Elaine P. Maimon receives prestigious award from American Council on Education

The American Council on Education will give the 2014 Donna Shavlik Award to GSU President Elaine P. Maimon, a longtime leader in strengthening higher education through inclusion and diversity. The award will be presented at ACE’s 96th Annual Meeting in San Diego, during the Women’s Leadership Dinner Saturday, March 8.

ACE established the Donna Shavlik Award to honor the long and outstanding service of Donna Shavlik, former director of ACE’s Office of Women in Higher Education (now part of the Inclusive Excellence Group). Presented annually, the award honors an individual who demonstrates a sustained commitment to advancing women in higher education, through leadership and career development, campus climate and mentoring.

Maimon has served as an ACE Women’s Leadership presidential sponsor in Arizona, Alaska and Illinois and worked as a state coordinator in Rhode Island and New York. She was a member of ACE’s Women’s Commission. When ACE first organized the National Identification Program for Women, Maimon—then an assistant professor at Beaver College (PA) (now Arcadia University)—assisted the college president in organizing the Pennsylvania chapter.

“Elaine Maimon has worked tirelessly and effectively to expand access to higher education overall and advance the cause of women in higher education leadership in particular,” said ACE President Molly Corbett Broad. “She is an inspiring role model and frequent mentor through her own achievements and her sustained commitment to creating paths to success for so many others.”

GSU launches “Operation Mascot”

This week GSU will launch “Operation Mascot,” the university’s official search for a school mascot. The university is soliciting the help of students, staff, faculty and the extended community for suggestions for what the new mascot should be.
The mascot will be the university’s first. It is another achievement that accompanies other recent firsts, including the university's first freshman class and first student residence coming this fall, and several collegiate and recreational sports teams that will soon begin competition for the first time.

The university will begin taking suggestions from Tuesday, Feb. 25 until Monday March 10. Go to www.govst.edu/operationmascot to submit your suggestions. Anyone can submit a suggestion, whether they are affiliated with the university currently or not.

A search committee will take the suggestions and choose four finalists, then submit the finalists to a designer to sketch. The four finalists and their accompanying designs will be made public so the GSU community can vote for their choice. The mascot will then be chosen based on a combination of popular vote and university officials’ input.

The winner and three other finalists will receive prizes. In the event that more than one person submits the same idea chosen as a finalist, the prize will go to the person who submits the suggestion first according to the time stamp on the submission.

**Film screening in celebration of women’s history month**

The Office of International Services invites you to join a celebration of Women’s History Month and International Women’s Day with a film screening of “Not My Life,” directed by Robert Bilheimer. This film documents the dangerous practices of human trafficking and modern slavery on global scale. Our panelists will focus on the disproportionate effects of human trafficking on women living in the state of Illinois.

The event will take place at the Center for Performing Arts on March 11, 2014 from 5-7:30 pm. A reception hosted by Toastmasters and Lambda Pi Eta will take place after the conclusion of the panel discussion.

Representatives from CAASE, Chicago Dream Center and Farah Baqai will be on the panel discussing the topic of human trafficking and slavery in Illinois.

**Immunization records**

As students have returned for the spring semester, they may have noticed signs throughout campus that tell them they have to provide their immunization records.

Now that Governors State University will open its first on-campus residence, Illinois law requires all students to submit immunization records. For students registered for the Spring 2014 semester, the deadline is March 14. For new students registered in Summer or Fall 2014, the deadline to submit the records is September 2.
Students must complete the GSU Mandatory Student Information History form to comply with state law. The form can be found on the university’s immunization website at [www.govst.edu/immunizations](http://www.govst.edu/immunizations). There you can also find the Student Immunization Fact Sheet & Instructions, which provides specific guidelines regarding authenticity of documents and appropriate signatures. Once students complete the form and have it signed by a healthcare provider, they are to bring the forms to the Academic Resource Center, B1215. It can also be mailed to:

Academic Resource Center, B1215  
Governors State University/Immunization Compliance  
1 University Parkway  
University Park, IL 60484-0975

There are some exceptions. Those who are graduating in the spring or summer need not provide records. Also, any student born before Jan. 1, 1957 is exempt.

If you have previously submitted to your immunization history to your faculty/academic advisor in compliance with a specific requirement of your degree program, you are still required to submit your immunization history with the completed form to the Academic Resource Center (B1215) by March 14, 2014.

For those who have trouble obtaining their records, GSU partner Riverside Immediate Care in Monee is available to administer the necessary immunizations. Riverside Immediate Care is located at 25711 S. Egyptian Trail, Monee. Hours are Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 8:30 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. and Sunday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

**Black Women Rock show**

The Student Life Department presents the 2nd Annual Black Women Rock awards show Friday, Feb. 28 at 7:30 p.m. at the Center for Performing Arts. This show recognizes women in the Chicago Southland area for their success in philanthropy, the arts, political or social activism, business and scholarship.

The show will feature a fashion show and performances by De’Borah (a contestant on “The Voice”), Electric Ladies, Four Women, LAVAInk, Arletha Bolton and the Blue Angels. Also featured will be special guest speaker Dorothy Tucker from CBS News.

For more information, contact Vanessa Newby.

**Fashion show and contest**

The Office of International Services will host a multicultural fashion show and contest to celebrate International Women’s Day. The event will be Tuesday, March 4, from 4-5:30 p.m. in the Hall of Governors.

GSU clubs and individual students are invited to model an outfit to represent the country or a particular culture of their choice. Audience members will vote for the most creative looking outfit. All participants will receive a small gift. The winner will receive a tea set.
For more information, contact the Office of International services at 708.235.7611 or Anna Zapolska (gzapolska@student.govst.edu).

Celebrate Mardi Gras traditions

GSU welcomes the Chicago Jazz Philharmonic ensemble for “Mardi Gras Carnival,” March 1 at the Center for Performing Arts, for a celebration of food and music that gives New Orleans its distinct character.

The event begins with a pre-show party at 6:30 p.m. with a New Orleans-style buffet. The concert begins at 8 p.m. and features the rich musical culture of New Orleans. The ensemble brings the sounds of the world’s most famous street festival to life with jazz, blues, brass bands, Mardi Gras Indian melodies and more.

The ensemble is under the direction of Orbert Davis, co-founder, conductor and artistic director of Chicago Jazz Philharmonic – a 55-piece jazz-style symphonic orchestra. Davis is one of Chicago’s most sought-after musicians. He won an Emmy Award for a composition and production of an original score for the PBS documentary, “DuSable to Obama: Chicago’s Black Metropolis.”

Tickets for the show are $35. Tickets for the show and dinner are $60. For more information, contact the Center for Performing Arts box office at CenterTickets.net or call 708.235.2222.

GSU hosting information session/open house on doctor of physical therapy degree program

GSU’s Department of Physical Therapy will host an information session/open house for the entry-level Doctor of Physical Therapy degree program on Wednesday, March 26, from 4-7:30 p.m. in room D-34000.

GSU offers an on-campus, entry-level doctor of physical therapy degree for those interested in starting a career as a physical therapist. Information about prerequisite requirements, admission criteria and course curricula will be available. Attend to have your questions answered, meet faculty and students, and tour our classroom/laboratory spaces. Advisors will be available for individual consultation. Refreshments will be provided.

For more information, email Mary Tracy or call 708.534.7290.

Boot camp for grad students
New GSU graduate students can learn the tools they need to become strong academics and professionals with the 2014 Graduate Student Boot Camp. During this three-day boot camp, students can attend workshops on student publishing, professional branding, library resources, creating an effective resume and more.

**Workshop for pitching research**

The Office of Sponsored Programs and Research presents a workshop on how to market ideas in hopes to secure funding.

“Pitching Your Research Ideas: A Practical Workshop on Writing the Concept Note” will illustrate how to write a concept note to help market an idea to potential funding sources when a proposal hasn’t been solicited. The first of this two-session workshop will be Friday, March 7, from 10:30 a.m. to noon in room G262. The second will be by appointment on Friday, April 25, in room C3301.

Consultants Yvonne Chang and Sarah Nerenberg will facilitate. Both have experience developing proposals for government agencies, private clients, foundations and corporations. They currently support the development of proposals at nonprofits and educational institutions in Indiana and Illinois.

To RSVP, email the Office of Sponsored Programs and Research or call Jennifer Morehead at 708.235.2846. More information about this and other OSPR training and grant writing resources can be found at [www.govst.edu/ospr/training](http://www.govst.edu/ospr/training).

**Intellectual property seminar**

GSU will present a seminar on intellectual property fundamentals Friday, March 14, from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. The seminar will be in the Hall of Honors.

The Husch Blackwell law firm will collaborate with Southern Illinois University to conduct the “Intellectual Property Fundamentals – Copyrights, Patents, Trademarks and More” seminar. It will cover various intellectual property topics as they pertain to universities and other institutions of higher education and research. Some of the topics include patents, copyrights, trademarks, licensing and the potential loss of rights when submitting to publications.

To attend, RSVP to the Office of Sponsored Programs and Research or call Jennifer Morehead at 708.235.2846.

**Undergrad research submission deadline extended**

Council on Undergraduate Research (CUR) holds a biennial conference in even years in Washington, D.C. This conference is considered to be one of the most prestigious
conferences for undergraduate research activities. It features over 100 workshops, presentations by representatives of funding agencies, social interactions, and poster presentations. One of the goals of this conference is to encourage broad participation in undergraduate research.

This year the conference will be held June 28 - July 1. The deadline for the poster presentation has been extended to Feb. 28 due to inclement weather around the country. Please consider sending a submission to the poster session of this conference of your research that you have done with your undergraduate student.

The Student Life department may provide $500 toward the travel and registration costs of those undergraduate students who will present their research at the conference. Undergraduate Research Program (URP) will assist in providing the rest of the funds for undergraduate students. However, funds from Student Life and URP are limited, and all undergraduate students may not be funded fully.

For more information visit www.cur.org/conferences_and_events/cur_conference_2014/ or contact Shelly Kumar.

**Presentation on IT job market**

Learn what you need to compete in the IT job market at a special interactive presentation on Thursday, Feb. 27, from 5 to 7 p.m., in E-Lounge. Chief Information Officers, IT professionals and directors will discuss the traits are in demand by the IT market and how to interview for the jobs of the future.

This event is sponsored by the GSU Computer Science Club. For more information, go to www.govst-tech.com or visit the GSU CS club on Facebook.

**GSU Cyber Defense Team scores well in statewide competition**

The GSU Cyber Defense Team placed 5th in the Illinois Collegiate Cyber Defense Competition on Feb. 15, at Moraine Valley Community College. Students studying information technology, computer science and MIS comprised the team. They were Tamisha Rose (captain), Hinal Mehta, Jen Elentery-Mejia, Jose Arroyo, Kelly Wehrley, McClinton Hoover, Jim Potulny and Gina Richard. The team’s advisors were Steve Hyzny and Donald Washington.

The team began preparations in October. The task was to be in the operational role of a network security teams. The team spent eight hours of high pressure competition by defending and maintaining an operating network consisting of Linux and Windows computers and servers while being attacked by professional security personnel.

**On the road to sobriety**
Stephen Thorpe, a Chicago-born rock star from the 70s and 80s, will share his experience of going from a rock star who played with the likes of Three Dog Night, The Beach Boys and Chuck Berry to substance abuse and almost killing himself through alcohol consumption.

Thorpe will share his story Thursday, Feb. 27, at the GSU Naperville Education Center, located at 2244 95th St., Naperville. Thorpe’s presentation will begin at 7:30 p.m. in room 308.

Thorpe will tell how he chased the natural high of performing to using and abusing drugs and alcohol. Having been sober for five years, Thorpe now helps others see their lives with hope instead of the despair of drugs and alcohol.

**Video conference on identity**

Dr. James E. Marcia will present his research on the establishment of individual identity during a video conference March 6 at the GSU Naperville Education Center, located at 2244 95th St., Naperville. Dr. Marcia’s presentation will begin at 7:30 p.m. in room 308.

Dr. Marcia is internationally known for his extensive research and writings on psychosocial development with special attention to adolescent psychosocial and lifespan identity development. His landmark theory of identity achievement suggests that there are two distinct variables that contribute to the achievement of identity: Crisis (making active choices) and commitment (level of personal sacrifice and involvement).

**Anti-racism activist to speak in Naperville**

Ms. Jane Elliot, an internationally known anti-racism activist and educator will share some of the current projects she’s working on March 13 at the GSU Naperville Education Center, 2244 95th St., Naperville. Ms. Elliot’s presentation will begin at 7:30 p.m. in room 308.

Ms. Elliott is a recipient of the National Mental Health Association Award for Excellence in Education. She has exposed prejudice and bigotry for what it is; an irrational class system based upon purely arbitrary factors.

Best known for her, now famous, exercise where she divides her class based upon the color of their eyes and bestows upon one group privileges and on the other group impediments. Her work endures to this day and is featured on national TV specials.

**GSU table tennis team wins at regional tournament**
The GSU Table Tennis team beat the likes of Purdue University, University of Minnesota and Lindenwood University, the second ranked team in the country, at the National Collegiate Table Tennis Association’s Midwest regional tournament on Saturday. The team is the Midwest champions and will now move on the National Championship tournament this April in Pittsburgh. Team members who competed were Yuefan Lin, Oladele Iyodo, Yimin Jin and Wenjie Nie.

**GSU hiring orientation leaders and peer mentors**

New Student Programs is looking for students to participate in the GSU Orientation Leader and Peer Mentor programs.

Orientation leaders will assist new students and their families in their transition to GSU. Selected students will play an integral role in the success of the first year, transfer and graduate students and family members as they transition to the GSU community. These positions are for summer employment.

Peer Mentors will be integrated into the First-Year Seminar (FYS 1001) and will be recognized leaders throughout the university community. They will serve as group leaders, contacts between departments, peer educators and positive role models. These positions are for fall and spring employment.

To join the team, attend a mandatory information session in room B1215 in the Academic Resource Center. Sessions will be held:

- Wednesday, Feb. 26, from 3-4 p.m.
- Monday, March 3, from 6-7 p.m.
- Thursday, March 6, from 6-7 p.m.
- Wednesday, March 12, 3-4 p.m.

Apply now at [www.govst.edu/nsp](http://www.govst.edu/nsp).