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**Student Affairs Reports** 

**Student Affairs** 

2013

## Annual Report 2012-2013

Student Affairs and Services

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# Division of Student Affairs and Support Services



Civic Reflections Fellow Program including representatives from Truman College, Adler School of Psychology, University of Chicago and Governors State University.

## **Annual Report**

2012-2013





### **INTRODUCTION**



Welcome to our 2012-13 annual report, a year of capacity building for Student Affairs, as we prepare for the culmination of Governors State University's Vision 2015 strategic plan.

The Division of Student Affairs and Support Services aspires to be recognized as a vital contributor in creating an inclusive, supportive and engaged campus community focused on student success. Our efforts focus on delivering an innovative, comprehensive and integrated student life curriculum with learning outcomes that focus on self-efficacy and determination, personal and professional success, multicultural competence, leadership development, and civic engagement.

We take great pride in our contributions to the achievement of the University's mission "to offering an exceptional and accessible education that imbues students with the knowledge, skills, and confidence to succeed in a global society," and its efforts "to creating an intellectually stimulating public square, serving as an economic catalyst for the region, and being a model of diversity and responsible citizenship."

This report provides information about the breadth of programs and services sponsored by our team of dedicated and talented student affairs educators and academic enrichment professionals. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or comments about this report, or if you are interested in partnering with Student Affairs in creating, or expanding, programs and services for the Governors State University community.

Sincerely,

Aurélio Manuel Valente, Ed.D.

Dean of Students and Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs

## SASS DIVISIONAL LEADERSHIP TEAM



Aurélio Manuel Valente
Dean of Students and
Associate Vice President
for Academic Affairs



**Sheree Sanderson**Assistant Dean of Students



**Kelly McCarthy**Assistant Vice President for Student Support Services



Vanessa Newby Director of Student Life for Diversity and Wellness Programs



**Darcie Campos**Director of Career Services



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**Tamekia Scott**Coordinator of Community
Standards

For a complete listing of the Student Affairs team, please visit: http://www.govst.edu/studentaffairsdirectory/

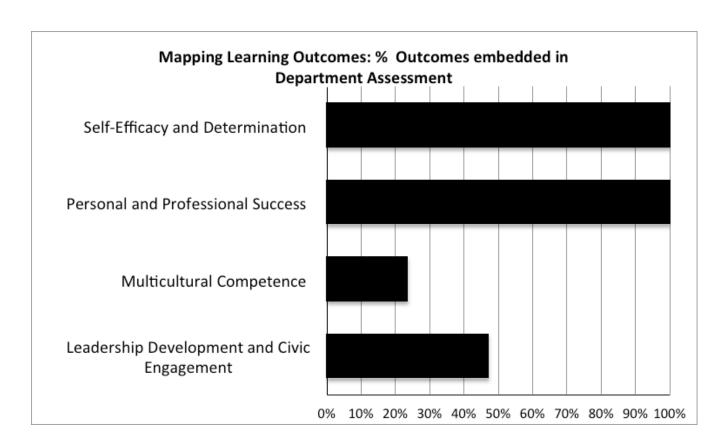
## STUDENT AFFAIRS AND SUPPORT SERVICES LEARNING OUTCOMES

The mission of the Division of Student Affairs and Support Services is to promote the academic, personal and professional development of our students and inspire them to be responsible citizens and leaders both on campus and in the community.

The Division of Student Affairs and Support Services aspires to deliver an innovative, comprehensive and integrated student life curriculum with learning outcomes that focus on self-efficacy and determination, personal and professional success, multicultural competence, leadership development, and civic engagement.

Students who actively participate in programs sponsored by Student Affairs and Support Services will achieve:

- Self-Efficacy and Determination by constructing an understanding of self, and commitment to personal responsibility, integrity and wellness, that guides their decisions and actions.
- Personal and Professional Success by learning and applying knowledge and transferable skills to achieve personal aspirations and professional and career growth.
- Multicultural Competence by thriving within diverse perspectives, experiences and environments and building their capacity for being advocates for equity and social justice.
- 4. Leadership Development and Civic Engagement by deploying their knowledge and talents to improve their communities, both as individuals and by mobilizing others towards positive sustainable change.



## SELECTED FINDINGS FROM LEARNING OUTCOMES

#### **OUTCOME:**

Students participating in the Leadership Institute (LI) will establish and nurture mentor relationships and consider how mentor relationship can be beneficial as a source for personal and professional development.

#### **FINDING:**

27 (96 percent) of the SLI mentors reported that their mentee utilized their relationship with faculty and staff for personal and professional development.

#### **OUTCOME:**

Students participating in the Leadership Institute will examine and assess areas of strength and development in terms of exemplary leadership by using the Leadership Practices Inventory.

#### **FINDING:**

23 students (96 percent) utilized the information and assessment of LPI (Model the Way, Inspire a Shared Vision, Challenge the Process, Enable Others to Act, and Encourage the Heart) in the assessment and improvement of their leadership potential.

#### **OUTCOME:**

As a result of participating in regular, one-on-one Writing Center appointments, students will be able to identify the systematized patterns of error in their own writing and correct those errors, leading to their elimination—zero systematized errors.

#### **FINDING:**

25 students (76 percent) eliminated or greatly reduced systematized patterns of errors.

#### **OUTCOME:**

As a result of participating in the Civic Reflection Fellows Program, students will learn civic skills, values and attitudes that support long-term civic engagement while facilitating reflective discussions.

#### **FINDING:**

All participating students demonstrated improved abilities to organize, lead and facilitate open dialogue.

#### **OUTCOME:**

Students who attend the women's self-defense class will be able to recall and utilize viable options, techniques and strategies to avoid and/or escape an attack.

#### **FINDING:**

All participants of the program expressed a heighten awareness of their surroundings and an inner strength/confidence because of being a part of the program.

#### **OUTCOME:**

Students who meet with a career counselor will be able to effectively market themselves to employers, in order to set themselves apart from their competition.

#### **FINDING:**

94.7 percent of participating students were able to correctly identify strategies for addressing the specific needs of an employer. Twelve (63.2 percent) were able to recognize appropriate transferable skills that could be incorporated onto a resume. Fourteen (73.7 percent) understood what best reflected a professional networking opportunity. Lastly, 7 (36.8 percent) were able to correctly define "Informational Interviewing."

## LEADERSHIP, PROGRAMS, SERVICES



Social Work Student Organization (SWSO) members with President Elaine Maimon (center), Faculty Advisor Dr. Phyllis West and Dean of Students, Dr. Aurelio Valente (far right).

The Office of the Dean of Students provides strategic leadership for the Division of Student Affairs and Support Services. In addition, the Office of the Dean of Students sponsors a series of programs and services that support student advocacy and community standards.

The mission of the Division of Student Affairs and Support Services — is to promote the academic, personal and professional development of our students and inspire them to be responsible citizens and leaders both on campus and in the community.

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#### **Dean's Office Highlights**

 A focus on assessment and evidence based capacity building was a significant effort during the 2012-13 academic year as we prepare for the culmination of Strategy 2015. Learning outcomes were introduced and each functional area participated in a modified self-assessment study based on The Council for the Advancement of Standards in Higher Education (CAS).

- The division launched a Student Leadership Institute that boasted over 145 applications to fill only 40 spots. In light of the overwhelming response, a Graduate Leadership Scholars program was developed to accommodate interest from graduate students. A distinctive feature was a mentoring component that involved 45 faculty and staff who volunteered their time to serve as leadership mentors to the student participants. In all, 54 students successfully completed both programs.
- As GSU transitions to a comprehensive four-year institution, the division sponsored a professional development three part program series entitled, "Who might our FC14 students be?" concluding with a presentation by Diane Dean, co-author of the book, "Generation on a Tightrope: A portrait of today's college students".
- The Student Concerns Program was developed to provide a centralized method that focuses on identifying and working with students who may be distressed or whose behavior is of concern. The Student Concerns Program is designed as an early-alert effort to ensure timely outreach to students that are believed to be in distress or acting in a manner of concern, and connect them to resources best suited to address the conveyed concern.

## **SUPPORTING STUDENTS**



ARC staff members

The Academic Resource Center strives to promote the personal growth of students and to enrich their academic experience. The Academic Resource Center (ARC) provides advising for undeclared students, mental health counseling, on-campus orientation, access services for students with disabilities, tutoring, testing, and writing center services to all GSU students.

In total, the Academic Resource Center served 9,223 visits virtue of its comprehensive services and coordinated four orientation programs hosting 2,553 new undergraduate, graduate students and guests.

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#### **ARC Highlights**

- Over 445 students sought out Math, Science, Statistics and Computer Science/MIS tutoring during the 2012-13 academic year. In total, this constituted a total of 929 visits.
- Nearly 145 students utilized business tutoring including such topics as accounting, economics and finance, for a total of 235 visits.
- There were over 4,350 visits to the Writing Center for the 2012-13 academic year.
   Innovative use of online and phone platforms for distance and part-time students constituted 2,212 (50.8 percent) tutoring appointments; this included 1,303 online tutorial services and 909 phone conferences.
- A total 1,749 visits to Disability Services included disability and testing accommodations, faculty consultations and career consultations.
- Over 108 undergraduate and graduate students utilized the Academic Resource Center for undeclared and non-degree seeking advising, for a total of 139 visits.
- The Counseling Center provides mental health counseling and coordinates outreach programming.
   In total, there were 743 visits for mental health counseling and 729 participants in outreach efforts for the 2012-13 academic year.
- 349 placement and testing appointments included 45 CLEP, 18 DSST, 93 ETS and 81 ASSD appointments.

## Jobs, Jobs, Jobs

The Office of Career Services provides a wide range of services available to currently enrolled students and alumni. Services include individual career advising appointments, assistance with resume preparation and interview skills and resume and cover letter critiques. In addition, Career Services coordinates job search skills workshops, customized workshops and career fairs.

In total, Career Services served 813 individual client visits and sponsored 52 programs and events at which 1,100 students, faculty, staff, corporate partners and community members attended.

#### **Contact Information**

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#### **Career Services Highlights**

- Individual consultations constituted a significant portion of the personal outreach by the career counseling staff. In total, 637 individual clients constituted 813 visits. Of the 637 clients, 447 (70 percent) were students, 47 (7.4 percent) were alumni members, 37 (5.8 percent) were members of the community and 96 (16.8 percent) were employers.
- Career, Internship, and Networking Fairs are the most visible programmatic efforts sponsored by Career Services and served 525 job seekers and hosted 101 employers during the 2012-13 academic year. The four annually sponsored fairs are: Business, Communication, & Technology Career/Internship Fair, which welcomed 154 job seekers and 28 employers; Health and Human Services Career/Internship Fair, which welcomed 176 job seekers and 36 employers; Education Career/Internship Fair welcomed 113 job seekers and 18 employers; and Criminal

Justice & Public Administration Career/Internship Fair which welcomed 82 job seekers and 19 employers.

- In addition to career fairs, the department sponsored 48 programs that included over the 2012-13 academic year class visits, workshops, and presentations that served 474 students.
- Two notable additions to Career Services programmatic portfolio included the Annual Professional Image Career Conference held in October 2012, and the advancement of graduate student life programs. The Annual Professional Image Career Conference attracted approximately 100 students, alumni and community members to improve their professional image. Graduate student programs included workshops on conducting research, public speaking, networking and social media and negotiating the job offer.



## GET FIT, HAVE FUN

#### The Recreation and Fitness Center (RFC) is

open to students, faculty, staff and community members. The RFC team is committed to improving the quality of life and fitness for all participants. The center offers a variety of attributes from fitness and athletics to health and wellness. The RFC facilities include an Olympic style pool, racquetball court, fitness room and gymnasium will give you the tools necessary to reach your total body wellness goals. The atrium Game Room includes an X-Box station, pool tables, ping pong table, and foosball table in addition to plenty of lounge space to relax.

An alumni and community membership totaling 1,160 guests, in addition to the GSU community, utilize the Recreation and Fitness Center for a total of 89,609 visits during the 2012-2013 academic year.

#### **Contact Information**

Campus Location: A1106

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#### **RFC Highlights**

- Of the 90,814 visits to the Recreation and Fitness Center, 32,303 (34 percent) visits were to the Pool, 23,111 (24 percent) to the Gymnasium, 33,429 (34 percent) to the Fitness Room, and 7,486 (8 percent) to the Racquetball Court.
- Of the 479 visits logged to the Game Room, 261 (53 percent) utilized the Billiards table, and 166 (35 percent) utilized Table Tennis, and 52 (11 percent) utilized the Foosball.
- A total of \$92,459 of revenue was generated during the 2012-13 academic year from membership fees and rental of the Recreation and Fitness Center facilities.

- A reenergized Sports Club program included Bowling, Table Tennis, Golf and Softball teams with Basket Ball and Volleyball teams currently recruiting players. The NCTTA Table Tennis Tournament was held at GSU on February 9th and were hosted by GSU Table Tennis Team and the Recreation and Fitness Center.
- The Recreation and Fitness Center sponsored Fitness Classes such as Yoga, Aquacise, Zumba, aerobics; in total, 400 students, faculty, staff and community members enrolled during the 2012-13 academic year.
- Notable inaugural and traditional programming efforts this academic year included: Fitness Exposed, 9th Annual Cancer Awareness Silent Auction and Relay for Life – GSU Cancer Crusaders. Members also supported our professional Chicago sports teams with a Bears Bash, Madden 2013 Tournament and watched as our Blackhawks won the Stanley Cup at the "Light the Lamp Rally."









### LIFE AT GSU



Student Club and Organization officers and advisors.

The mission of the Office of Student Life is to support and enrich the Governors State University educational experience through student involvement in its programs, student organizations and services. The staff strives to empower students through interaction in self-initiated or planned activities with fellow students, faculty members and staff. Thus, Student Life is predicated on principles in which the campus climate respects the rights of individuals and groups, encourages student success and ensures outlets for personal and professional development.

In total, Student Life and GSU recognized student organizations, sponsored 72 major programs and events at which 8,893 students, faculty, staff and community members attended.

#### **Contact Information**

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#### **Student Life Highlights**

 61 student organizations are sponsored through Student Life, newly recognized student organizations for the 2012-13 academic year include: ASL- American Sign Language, D.R.E.A.M (Disability Rights, Education Activism and Mentoring), GSO-Graduate Student Organization, Psi Chi Honor Society, Upsilon Epsilon Honor Society and ENACTUS.

- Student Life sponsored 52 programs and events with a total attendance of 7,711 students, faculty, staff and community members in attendance. Student Organizations sponsored 20 campus events with a total of 1,182 students, faculty, staff and community members in attendance.
- As part of a renewal of the Student Life Center, located on the second floor of A Building, Student Row was created and now houses the Student Senate, Illinois Board of Higher Education and Board of Trustees student representatives and will also house, the student organization of the year, Program Council, Student Enrichment Program, Student Coalition for Diversity and Social Justice, Club Sports and the Civic Engagement and Community Service Center (CECSC) office. In addition, both the GSU Food Pantry and the Veterans Resource Center made their debut in the Student Life Center.
- Notable inaugural and traditional programming efforts this academic year included: Student Sustainability Summit, GSU Rocks the Vote, Civic Reflection Fellows Leadership Program, Hunger and Homelessness Week, Non-Traditional Student Week, Annual Holiday Celebration, Presidential Inauguration and MLK Memorial Trip to Washington, D.C., Martin Luther King Celebration, Salute to Grads, GSU Idol, Enough is Enough — Campaign to stem societal violence in schools and communities and the First Annual Leadership Awards Banquet.

## SERVING VETS

Student veterans have likely made sacrifices and faced hardships unknown to most students. For this reason, the **Veterans Resource Center**, established in Fall 2012, supports student veterans in their transition between the military and civilian environment, and helps ensure that student veterans can thrive at GSU. The VRC serves as a central resource for information or assistance, whether it is regarding their VA benefits, GSU related topics, or civilian matters. Equally important, the VRC is also a welcoming space where student veterans can network with each other.

In total, GSU enrolls 567 veteran students, of which 493 (87 percent) receive aid requiring certification for various state and federal programs.

#### **VRC** Highlights

- The Veterans Resource Center was dedicated on the inaugural GSU Veterans Appreciation Day held on Thursday, September 6 as part of a daylong series that included a Veterans Employment Workshop and a Veterans Resource Fair in GSU's Hall of Governors. The fair showcased resources for veterans.
- A group of 24 student veterans were inducted into the inaugural class of SALUTE Honor Society which represent the foundations; Service, Academics, Leadership, Unity, Tribute and Excellence.



Veterans Day symposium panel participants

#### **Contact Information**

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- Deployment, Homecoming & Post Traumatic Stress Syndrome Symposium was held on March 20, 2013 and was sponsored by Friends of the Library, Intellectual Life Committee, GSU Student Senate and the Veterans Resource Center.
- Notable programming efforts this academic year included: 9-11 Commemoration Ceremony, Veterans Day Symposium, African American Military Contribution to American Freedom: Film Series The Miracle of Santa Ana, Salute to Women Veterans Reception and Vets for Success Seminar.



### **Student Affairs and Support Services Directory**

Updated: 1/22/2014

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