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# GSU Universe

Governors State University's Weekly Newsletter

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*"Diplomacy is to do and say the nastiest thing in the nicest way."  
Isaac Goldberg*

## Charter School: GSU Will Not Go Gently Into That Good Night

Circuit court judge Leslie Graves denied the university's request to stay the revocation of the charter of the GSU charter school at a hearing held August 19. She gave no reason for her decision. The university will seek an administrative review of the decision to revoke the charter. "Keeping the school open is in the best interests of the children," said Susan Kinsey, Director of the Family Development Center. The school district recently argued to the press that the charter school students performed below expectations. Fact is, the charter school children have outperformed expectations, according to independent evaluators. Call Chuck Connolly (4059) or Susan Kinsey (4378) for updates on the situation.

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## Ready to Go

The four charter school teachers will be ready to resume their duties on a moment's notice. Until the school reopens, two of the teachers will serve as student advisors in the College of Education; the other two will be teaching graduate and undergraduate courses in COE.

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## Mi Casa, Su Casa

There are now more than enough volunteers to welcome new students say Loraine Sibbet, Director of Student Life, and Larry Polselli, Executive Director of Enrollment Services. Volunteers include President Stu Fagan, Vice President John Tuohy, Provost Paul Keys, Assistant Provost Eric Martin, Dean John Stoll among many others. "Thanks to everyone who's taking time to help during Welcome Week," said President Fagan. "Hopefully, we'll send the message that we care about our students."

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## The pedagogical voice

A new book series co-edited by Dr. Rashidah Jaami' Muhammad is shedding light on some of the nation's most pressing education issues. The series – **Urban Voices, Urban Visions** -- deals with tough topics, including: student alienation; keeping young Black males in the classroom; and the debilitating impact of poverty on millions of at-risk students. The authors of the five-book series are teachers and academicians from across the country. The State University of New York Press is the series publisher. Dr. Muhammad and her co-editor, Dr. Diane Dubose Brunner, from Michigan State University, review manuscripts for acceptance into the series and edit the ones that are chosen. "What I like most about this series is that it provides a dynamic forum for

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teachers to examine their own lives and their pedagogues,” said Dr. Muhammad. For more information on the series, log in at [www.sunypress.edu](http://www.sunypress.edu).

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## GSUScholarship Sails

A first-time study by Dr. Linda Buyer and graduate student John Day shows that clinicians diagnose significantly more African-American children as having Opposition Defiant Disorder (ODD) than white children. In other words, clinicians appear to have a latent pre-disposition to diagnose African-American children with the disorder. “A case of racial profiling,” one person familiar with the findings of the study said. ODD is part of the disruptive behavior constellation that includes Attention Deficit Hyperactive Disorder. Children who are diagnosed with ODD often are labeled as difficult learners. “Some people think that ODD is a prelude to conduct disorder in teens. These kids tend to steal and ignore authority figures. They are the kids who are usually always in trouble with the law,” Day said. Buyer will present the study findings at the November annual meeting of the Psychonomic Society in Kansas City, Mo.

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## The attack of the pink flamingoes

Is this a photo of the original carriers of the West Nile Virus? NO! NO! They are the cherished trophies won by the Center for Extended Learning and Communications Services (CELCS) for outstanding work during the GSU Alumni Phonathon. Susan Inman and John Stoll are the reigning CELCSIAN's for the 2002 - 03 year. They were presented with these traveling trophies at the second annual CELCS picnic held on Friday, August 19<sup>th</sup> at Monee Reservoir. For the second year, CELCSIANS have funded

an end-of-summer bash as a way to say thank-you to volunteers who work the university's Alumni Phonathon.

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QuickTime™ and a  
Photo - JPEG decompressor  
are needed to see this picture.