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GSU View

University Newsletters

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## GSU View, 2008-05-29

Office of Public Affairs

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## **News and Events**

### **Kathleen Field Orr Leaves Legacy at GSU**

Longtime Board of Trustees member, Kathleen Field Orr informed her fellow trustees last Wednesday that she will resign from the Board on June 1. Lorine Samuels, Chair of the Board of Trustees, and President Maimon prepared statements expressing their appreciation for the exemplary service that Trustee Orr provided to the Board and the university during the past seven years.

Trustee Orr has been an exceptional advocate and enthusiastic supporter of GSU's growth and development. She has established a standard of incisive inquiry, by asking tough questions and encouraging the Board to seek out the difficult answers. Her work for GSU has and set an example of commitment for all members of the university community.

"The university has benefited greatly from Kathi's seven years of service," noted President Maimon. "This year, in particular, her expertise has been invaluable as we moved forward to obtain our first-ever bond rating and to address critical needs in deferred maintenance. We will all miss Kathi's special talent of posing questions that get to the heart of the matter."

Although she will no longer be serving GSU as a Board member, she will continue to remain supportive of and engaged with the university.

Best of luck to Trustee Orr as she pursues increased professional responsibilities and new endeavors. We look forward to her future involvement with, and contributions to GSU.

### **Dr. Maimon Goes to Washington**

Dr. Maimon will travel to Washington, D.C. in June to participate in a roundtable discussion with other university presidents, chancellors, and board members. This group, hand selected by three national educational associations, begin a process that ultimately will produce a set of best practices for institutions to utilize as they pursue effective university systems.

Declining state support, conflict over tuition hikes, increased calls for accountability and transparency, and the normal push and pull from various constituencies can all take a toll on an institution's relationships – with outside groups and within the institution itself. Now more than ever, university personnel at all levels need to work together to deal with the issues facing higher education today.

This roundtable discussion will be the starting point in determining how effective institutions remain so in the face of many obstacles. Many universities, such as GSU, have found a way to

work together, stay focused, and remain a vibrant, community-inclusive institution. Dr. Maimon will both be sharing the stories of our success and learning from other leaders.

## **Why Not Raw?**

Learn about the health benefits of eating raw foods and discover quick, new recipes today in the Hall of Governors, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. The Wellness Club is sponsoring a healthy food fair with samples provided by the South Suburban Food Co-op. Chef Carol Roberts, graduate of the Living Life Culinary School and Governors State University will demonstrate two delicious creations using raw foods.

## **Sculpture Park Tours Resume**

Join Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park docents, Nick Battaglia and Bernadette Maune, on a free and informative tour of the north side of the sculpture park on Sunday, June 1, at 2 p.m. Meet your guides on the patio behind the Hall of Governors for the one and a half hour tour, which will be cancelled in the event of thunderstorms.

## **Requisitions & Purchase Orders**

The Procurement Office wishes to remind the GSU community that Monday, June 2, 2008 is the last day to submit complete requisitions for purchases funded with FY 2008 dollars. A complete requisition must be approved with appropriate signatures, and be received in the Procurement Office before the close of business on June 2, 2008.

## **Two for Tuesday Sculpture Park Discussion**

Look up in the sky! It's a bird! A plane! No, it's "Falling Meteor" by Jerry Peart and "Flying Saucer" by Jene Highstein! Join Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park director and curator Geoffrey Bates for a discussion of two of the park's most celestial sculptures on June 3, at 12:30 p.m. and again at 3:45 p.m., in room D-1497. Bring lunch or a snack, enjoy the conversation, and learn how great art can fill the skies.

## **Commencement Volunteers Needed**

GSU has done its work so well; more than 450 graduates will be crossing the stage on June 7, at 11 a.m., at the Tinley Park Convention Center. To help celebrate their success and make their graduation day joyful, volunteers are needed. Their contributions are both greatly needed and highly appreciated. Volunteers are asked to please contact Karen Caesar-Smith at 708.534.6360.

## **Why Not Improve “Why Not?”**



The terrific response to the “Why Not?” program generated many great suggestions and resulted in many positive changes. One recent improvement is the implementation of an automated response system to “Why Not?” suggestions. This innovation streamlines the “Why Not?” response system, enabling responders to reply to suggestions promptly.

“Why Not?” responders recently received instructions on how to use the new system. They are encouraged to contact Bruce Crooks at x2183 or Catherine Cox at x2212, if there are any questions concerning the new response system. Questions on the “Why Not?” process should be directed to Starr Gill at x3990.

## **Support Special Olympics**

For another year and with great pride, the Department of Public Safety is hosting the Illinois Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run. The event will take place on Wednesday, June 11, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., on the university campus. All funds raised from the event go directly to special needs children in nearby communities to help defray the cost of attending summer camp.

All members of the GSU community are welcome to take part in the run and celebration. Children and families are also welcome. To participate in the run, please contact Officer Crystal Richards at 708.534.4900, to register.

Joggers, walkers, cyclists, and spectators are asked to meet at the east entrance (Crawford Avenue) of the campus at noon on the day of the event.

Volunteers are also needed to assist with the post-run festivities, located in and outside of the cafeteria annex. Activities include a barbeque and games. Ice cones and popcorn will be available for the children.

Those who have purchased a 2008 Special Olympics t-shirt are encouraged to show their support by wearing it that day. Attendees wearing their shirts will receive a free lunch, compliments of the Department of Public Safety.

Attendees without a Special Olympics t-shirt can make a \$5 donation, which entitles them to lunch (hot dogs, hamburgers, chips, juice, water, and snacks) and a Special Olympics pin.

For additional information, please contact Officer Crystal Richards at 708.534.4900.

## **Summer Institute Begins Monday**

The Summer Institute, on June 2 and 3, offers 17 free workshops and presentations designed to build knowledge and interest in new techniques and tools. The Institute provides an opportunity to share ideas and learn about the integration of instructional technologies in teaching and learning in both online and blended learning environments.

Featured presentations this year include “Here they come!: Kids, students, and new social media,” presented by local educational technologist Jeff Hunt on Monday. On Tuesday, “Media Machups,” presented by Dr. Jason Rhode, from Northern Illinois University, explains the new online media editing tools that make it possible for numerous individuals to collaborate in creating media presentations.

Breakfast and lunch are provided each day for registered participants. Presenters will receive a small token of appreciation and there will be a drawing for attendees for many great and wonderful prizes (and a few really small ones).

Register at [www.govst.edu/elearning/](http://www.govst.edu/elearning/).

## **Presidential Election Trivia**

To help prepare for the GSU Presidential trivia contest this fall and the upcoming election, the GSU Votes Committee has submitted tidbits of election and presidential information. Enjoy a summer of learning as we wend our way to Election Day.

### **Big winners and not so big winners**

The candidates who carried the most states were Nixon (1972) and Reagan (1984) with 49. The candidate who became President but lost both the Electoral College and the popular vote was John Quincy Adams (1824). He was elected by the House of Representatives.

### **Tall winners and not so tall winners**

The smallest President was our fourth president, James Madison, who stood five feet, four inches tall and weighed less than 100 pounds. The tallest president was our sixteenth, Abraham Lincoln. He was six feet, four inches tall.

