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GS Universe

Governors State University's Weekly Newsletter

July 28 – August 1, 2003

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“We are an intelligent species, and the use of our intelligence quite properly gives us pleasure. In this respect, the brain is like a muscle. When it is use, we feel very good”

Carl Sagan

The Move's Afoot, or Let the Games Begin

The move into the new Faculty Office Center will be off and running starting Tuesday, August 5. College of Health Professions will be the first to go, with the move of Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy starting and – it is hoped – completed Tuesday morning. Social Work and Addictions Studies will follow in the afternoon. Health Administration and the dean's area will follow on Thursday. Preceding the Tuesday and Thursday moves, ITS will move all computers and phones into the departments' new spaces. “Our phones will be down for a short time,” said Gail Mosier, CHP moving coordinator. “Faculty and staff will program their phones to go to voice mail, and we'll return calls as soon as possible. But we ask for a little bit of patience during the transition.” College of Business and Public Administration will follow the same essential game plan on the 12th and 14th, and College of Education will do likewise on the 19th and 21st. A special FOC Move Bulletin will be distributed by e-mail to provide more move-specific information to faculty, staff, and students.

Moratorium Reflects “Quality First” Philosophy

“Moratorium”: The word doesn't sound reassuring, but in the case of the School Psychology program's impending moratorium on new admissions, it should. The decision of the department to suspend new admissions to the program as of August 28 reflects a deep commitment to maintaining the NASP Accredited program at the highest level of quality. As Dr. Linda Buyer, division chairperson of Psychology and Counseling wrote in a recently letter to students, “Be assured, this temporary moratorium on new admissions does NOT mean that we are shutting down the program. In fact, we plan to complete our review and initiate any needed changes so we can reopen admissions in time for the 2004/05 academic year. We are merely trying to make sure that we take the time to ensure the professional quality of the program, add any necessary faculty, and make other changes to ensure that we continue to offer a superior education to potential school psychologists.” Of the decision, President Fagan said, “Our mission is clear: quality education of the highest standards – no matter what it takes. If a temporary suspension of new admissions is what it takes to keep the program at its very impressive level of quality, we have to stand behind that decision, and we do.”

Career Services: Making Moves

The Office of Career Services is on the move – in more ways than one. Dr. James Howley, recently appointed to the position of director of Career Services, has relocated to office B1215 in Student Development. “Relocating the office into Student Development will make Career Services more visible and convenient to students,” Howley said. “It brings us a little closer a ‘one-stop shopping’ set of services.” The phone number for the office remains the same.

Moving along in a less overtly physical sense, Howley's Career Services has developed a range of employment workshops through November that will culminate in a November 6 job fair. The workshops include everything from researching employers to writing resumes and sharpening interviewing skills. The currently schedule can be found online at www.govst.edu/users/gwelcome/careerservices.htm and will soon be posted on the Career

Services website. Also complete and available– and newly written by Howley himself – are several new resource guides, tailored to Governors State student populations. The include resume, interviewing, networking, job searching, and employer research guides that have a wide-range of application. Additionally and targeting more specific populations, Howley has written resource guides for health, education, and non-profit sectors as well as guide for job seekers with disabilities. The resource guides will be available online in time for the Fall Trimester.

El Valor Students Win Scholarships

Two students in the El Valor cohort for the bachelor's degree in communication disorders have been awarded scholarships from the Conference of Women Legislators, which is co-chaired by 1st District State Representative Susana Mendoza and 41st District State Senator Christine Radogno.

Cohort students Diana Gusman and Griselda Mata will each have \$2,500 in scholarship money available to them for the academic year, beginning in the fall trimester. The El Valor cohort is a particularly important partnership between CHP and the El Valor community center that directly addresses the shortage in bilingual, Spanish-speaking speech pathologists by offering bachelor's degree courses to students in the heart of a Chicago Hispanic community.

Meeter and Greeter Volunteers Needed

Let's be honest: getting around GSU's campus can present a...well, a challenge to new students. And the last thing we need is for a new scholar to wander around the wrong corner and into Minotaur country or beneath that sign that reads "Lasciate ogni speranza, voi ch'entrate." So why not give the new arrivals a friendly greeting and informative answers to their questions? Volunteer to be one of GSU's Meeters and Greeters during Welcome Days, August 28, September 2, and September 3. Volunteers are needed from 10:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. August 28 and 10:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. on September 2 and 3. Volunteers meet and greet new students for two hours and help them get a comfortable start here at GSU. To volunteer, contact Lorraine Sibbet (ext. 4555), Larry Polselli (ext. 3148) or Sylvia Wilson (ext. 4494) by Friday, August 8, with the time that you would prefer to work. Volunteers can meet and greet or work in the New Student Welcome Center.

ScholarShip Sails On: Communications

Dr. Michael Purdy attended a joint conference of the International Listening Association (ILA) and the World Communication Association in Stockholm, Sweden, July 16th – 20, and presented two papers: "Listening in Service" and "Medical/Health Care Practices and Effective Human Communication." He also presented on "Qualitative Research" on the panel "Listening Research in Action" and moderated a global connecting conversation panel: "Gender – How Can Communication Help Address 21st Century Issues? Toward a Feminist Theory of Globalization." Purdy is 2nd VP of the ILA.

ScholarShip Sails On: Counseling

"Mi Casa, Su Casa: The Role of Latino Social Service Centers as an Adjunct to Professional Counseling," a presentation by University Lecturer Jean Johnson and Adjunct Faculty Clyde Winters has been accepted for presentation at The Dennis H. May Conference on Diversity Issues and The Role of Counseling Centers. The 2003 conference will be held at the University of Illinois Counseling Center September 22 – 23. The theme will be "Diversity perspectives: Hope and Humor in Complex Times."

ScholarShip Sails On: Business

Dr. Akkanad Isaac will present "Service Level Agreements: Establishing Accountability in Academic Institutions" at the November 2003 Assessment Institute, Indiana University-Purdue University at Indianapolis. The presentation will argue that service level agreements can assure that contracted services deliver an acceptable level of quality within budgeted cost and in a negotiated time frame. SLA's, therefore, will enhance institutional accountability to the primary stakeholders in a university system.

ScholarShip Sails On: Business

Dr. Jun Zhao will present her paper “Using group-based simulation in online business education” at the 34th Annual Decision Science Institute Meeting November 22 - 25, 2003, at Marriott Wardman Park, in Washington DC. Zhao’s paper argues that management simulation and games used to create experiential environments, while generally effective in teaching strategic management, are usually group based and so pose unique challenges to their use in online courses. Zhao explores this issue and identifies strategies to improve the effectiveness of this teaching method in the online education environment.