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For Immediate Release

## Governors State University's College of Health Professions earns AUPHA certification

University Park, Illinois, December 16, 2005 - Governors State University announced today that its Bachelor of Health Administration degree program within the College of Health Professions has received recertification by the Association of University Programs in Health Administration (AUPHA).

The AUPHA certification is valid until 2010, and makes the program one of only sixty such degree programs accredited nationwide by the organization. Only those degree programs that meet rigorous educational standards earn certification. GSU's program underwent a thorough self-study, which was then reviewed by a group of experts and health profession peers chosen by the AUPHA.

AUPHA is a global network of colleges, universities, faculty, individuals, and organizations dedicated to the improvement of health care delivery through excellence in health administration education. It is the only non-profit entity of its kind that works to improve the delivery of health services throughout the world, and thus the health of citizens.

"Certification means that we've demonstrated evidence of academic quality, and also that we adhere to AUPHA's mission of advocating research on the management and organization of health service delivery," said Linda Samson, Dean of the College of Health Professions.

Samson said the health administration degree program has always been very strong, but added that the AUPHA certification assures that it meets or exceeds nationally recognized standards. "It is also important because most healthcare professionals must graduate from accredited programs to be eligible for licensure. Part and parcel to that is the benchmark certification sets for program quality," she said.

The certification continues a strong series of GSU successes, including the recent accreditation of the Master of Occupational Therapy and Master of Health Administration programs. Every program at the university that has a recognized national accrediting body is accredited. The university has long held overall accreditation by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of College and Secondary Schools.

For additional information about the College of Health Professions, call (708) 534-4388.