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10-27-2003

GSUniverse, 2003-10-27

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Recommended Citation

Governors State University Office of Public Affairs, GSUniverse (2003, October 27). <http://opus.govst.edu/gsuniverse/67>

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GSU **nAverse**

Governors State University's Weekly Newsletter

October 27 – 31, 2003

Published by the Office of Public Affairs

"The basic need of the creator is independence. The reasoning mind cannot work under any form of compulsion."

Ayn Rand

Provost Forum

Provost Paul Keys held his third Provost Forum Thursday in the Student Commons. Students raised questions about course offerings, student aid, book costs, fees and safety. Some concerns – such as program offerings and staffing – inevitably invoked GSU's state-forced budget refrain: a 22 percent reduction in state appropriations over the last three years – which Keys said has been responsible for significant cuts to every college's and program's budget – and the looming possibility of another midyear rescission of nearly \$1 million. Keys explained that the university has already cut as deeply as it can without considering program eliminations, a move already taken by the University of Illinois. He told students GSU continues to lobby against further cuts and added that students can take an active role by contacting their elected representatives and adding their voices to those fighting to make the case for higher education. Dave Weinberger of the Office of Financial Aid fielded an inquiry about Pell grants, which he said will be funded at this year's level or slightly higher. He added that changes in MAP grants will allow grants for full- or part-time students to be based on credit hours taken next year, as opposed to the full-time/half-time/quarter-time calculation made now. "This is good news for students," he said.

From Storage to Showcase: *Demeure No. 4*, "Lanleff" Joins GSU Sculpture Collection

The Art Institute of Chicago has donated French artist Etienne Martin's (1913-1995) *Demeure No. 4*, "Lanleff" to GSU. The four-ton piece was installed by crane Wednesday, on a site selected by Dr. Ora-Simcha Fagan, director of the Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park. Fagan was integral in securing the donation. "Lanleff" is both organic, rising from and integrating with its outdoor environment, and an autobiographical representation of the artist's life. "It invites entry and speaks to the sense of exploration a child experiences," said Stephanie D'Alessandro, the Art Institute's assistant curator of Modern and Contemporary Art. D'Alessandro was on site for the delivery and installation of the piece on a newly installed pedestal outside the Conference Center. "Dr. Fagan has chosen this site beautifully," she said. "The surroundings are perfect." D'Alessandro praised what she called an intelligent and well-informed selection of pieces for the sculpture park. "The Nathan Manilow is an exceptional sculpture park," she said. "Martin's work will be surrounded now by important work by other artists of his caliber. And it's close, so we can still come to visit it." Previously, due to its size and weight, *Demeure No. 4*, "Lanleff" has been difficult for the Art Institute to exhibit. Another Art Institute piece, Clement Meadmore's *Spiral*, located at the north University Parkway entrance, has been on loan to the university since 1984.

Provost Launches International Affairs Steering Committee

Provost Paul Keys has established a new International Affairs Steering Committee (IASC) chaired by Dr. Julia Yang, university professor of Psychology and Counseling. According to Keys, the IASC is part of the "new paradigm" he spoke to at last month's Convocation. "Now more than ever, this university needs to move forward," Keys said. "We can stagnate in the face of the current budget constraints, or we can find new ways of doing business and new areas for growth – in other words, a new paradigm. Given the circumstances, I think our mandate is obvious." Dr. Yang said that the IASC has both long- and short-term strategies to

internationalize faculty scholarship, curriculum and program exchange, and student service. "In the short term," she said, "the IASC will seek broad participation across faculty disciplines and among students. It will develop a wider campus conversation, promote multidisciplinary initiatives, and manage the processes involved with international exchanges. In the long term, IASC will engage the entire GSU community addressing the steps for GSU internationalization." In addition to IASC Chair Dr. Julia Yang, the committee includes Toni Tymkow, Adriela Fernandez, Heikki Heino, Rhonda Jackson, Eric Martin, Vreni Mendoza, Roger Oden, Roberta O'Shea and Nancy Shlaes.

Library Receives LSTA Grants: Part 1

Professor Mari Ellen Leverage has received a Library Services and Technology Act grant for research and reference, securing \$3,000 dollars in external funding specifically for research and reference books. Leverage will select the books, which should be in place for Spring/Summer 2004. Her primary focus will be on works that have interdisciplinary applications, with an emphasis on Addictions Studies, Social Work, and Political and Justice Studies. "With budget reductions, we need to secure external funding to make sure we keep our resources up to date," Leverage said.

Library Receives LSTA Grants: Part 2

Professor Paul Blobaum has received two LSTA grants awarded by the Illinois State Library. The first, "An Employee Health Resource Center," provides \$3,000 to establish a library of materials that GSU employees can use to improve their health and wellbeing, both at work and at home. "The work Human Resources has been doing to provide wellness workshops and programs for employees inspired me to write this grant," Blobaum said. "I wanted to help develop a collection of resources to support their efforts." His next move will be to partner with Human Resources to establish a committee that will help with the selection of materials, as well as the Resource Center's continuing development. Blobaum's second grant, "All Aboard the ScholarShip: Navigating the Seven C's," provides \$4,900 to create a regional workshop for scholars, faculty, and administrators that will apprise them of copyright laws, fair use policies, the development of essential institutional policies, and best practices. The University Library will partner with the South Metropolitan Regional Higher Education Consortium to create the workshop: look for it to come together in early 2004.

Pajama Madness Meets Reading Mayhem

Kids, stories, cozy blankets, and PJ's are all on the agenda for Pajama Reading Night, a Student Senate and College of Education event scheduled for Wednesday, November 12, at the Family Development Center. Here's the drill: Kids, lots of them, and all as cute as the proverbial button, will read together with their parents from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. "We're inviting all of the K through 3rd grade students from the four Crete-Monee grammar schools to join us," said Dr. Linda Buyer, interim chair of the Division of Psychology and Counseling. "Students from GSU are welcome to bring their children and join us, too." Linda Williams, president of the Student Senate, said, "This is a great event for promoting reading readiness and literacy. We're all really looking forward to this. It will be great for the kids. Parents, too." Dr. Robbie O'Shea, author of the children's book *I'm Brown But My Sister Isn't*, will be a special guest reader. Refreshments will be served, and there will be a scavenger hunt conducted in the appropriate scavenger hunt footwear: fluffy slippers. For more information or to make a reservation to attend, contact the Student Senate by November 5 at 709.534.7056.

What Would Joseph Campbell Say?

Joseph Campbell had a lot to say about myths in general, it's true, but probably less to say in particular about sex myths. Yet, fear not: our own resident psychology and counseling expert Dr. Jon Carlson will discuss sex myths on WGN's television Morning Show, Wednesday, November 12, during the 8 – 9 a.m. segment. This will be Carlson's second appearance on the show. He was interviewed on the air in August about his book *Time for a Better Marriage: Training in Marriage Enrichment*, which he co-authored with Don Dinkmeyer, Sr.

Coming to the Center for Performing Arts

November 14 at 8 p.m.: Chicago Jazz Ensemble in residence at Columbia College Chicago. November 15 at 8 p.m.: *Whose Line Is It Anyway?*