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For Immediate Release

Governors State University Establishes Friends of the Library

University Park, October 30, 2006 –The library at Governors State University is one of the largest research and literary resources in the community. To help support the library's vast collection and extensive services to both the university and the community, the Friends of the Governors State University Library was established.

On November 15, from 3 to 7:30 p.m., the library will host an open house showcasing the library's collection and services. Charter memberships in the Friends of the Library will also be available. Door prizes will be awarded and refreshments served.

The university library is the largest library in the area with more than 430,000 volumes, series back files, and documents. It also has over a million volumes of microforms and more than 26,000 volumes of audiovisual materials. It maintains 1,900 serial subscriptions, 75 journal indices, full-text databases, web-sources, and technology services. In addition to acting as a national depository of state and federal documents, the GSU library is also linked to libraries around the state offering limitless access to resources.

"The Governors State Library is an invaluable resource. Our library assists members of the community as well as students, faculty, and staff," explained Diane Dates Casey, Dean of Library Services and Academic Computing at Governors State University. "As the demand for our services and resources increases, our state funding continues to decline."

Through the efforts of the newly formed Friends of the Library, many of these issues will be addressed and supports and remedies developed.

"The Friends will be a vibrant organization to help the library maintain and extend our services to the community and our students," added Dates Casey.

Members of the Friends will have on campus access to the library's electronic databases, electronic subscription to the library newsletter, preview of book sale merchandise, and special invitations to programs and events.

"We hope people will join us at the open house and consider becoming a friend of the library," said Dates Casey. "The Friends of the Library brings together those who share a love of knowledge and a desire to promote the role of the library in society."

The Governors State University library is located at 1 University Parkway, University Park. For more information about the open house and the Friends of the GSU library, call (708) 534-4116.