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GSU View

University Newsletters

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## GSU View, 2009-08-20

Office of Public Affairs

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## News and Events

### **One, Two, Three Strikes...**

The Civil Service Senate invites all Civil Service staff to a picnic and softball game between *Gebe's Twinkie All Stars* and *Elaine's Grand Slam Cupcakes* tomorrow. The picnic begins at 11 a.m., in E-Lounge and on the patio. The softball game begins at 1 p.m., in the open field east of E-Lounge.

Team members will be chosen from the willing participants attending the festivities. Team members will change as work schedules allow.

The GSU Idol Contest adds to the festivities. Contestants may sing/rap/tap/yodel *Take Me Out to the Ballgame* between 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. The winner will be chosen by audience acclaim to perform at the softball game. Cheerleading cheers for either team will also be judged at the contest. The winning cheers will be performed during the game.

### **Not on the MAP**

Student recipients of MAP grants received a letter this week informing them that the current state budget does not provide enough funding for the Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC) to support the scholarship and grant programs they administer.

Based on the current funding level, ISAC will only be able to fund MAP Grant awards for Fall 2009 and will not pay any MAP Grant awards for Winter 2010. Additional or supplemental grant funds are not available to make up for the winter shortfall.

The Office of Financial Aid suggests the following alternatives:

- Student Employment (Federal Work-Study)
- Federal Direct Student Loans (Subsidized and/or Unsubsidized)
- Private Loans

Students who wish to take advantage of the alternatives must complete a Winter 2010 MAP Replacement Revision Request Form. The form is available on the [Financial Aid](#) website under the heading "Forms." Financial Aid will process the Revision Request Forms beginning November 2.

Contact the Office of Financial Aid at ext. 4480 with questions.

### **Blackboard Maintenance**

On Saturday, August 22, the GSU eLearning System (WebCT/Blackboard) will be down for maintenance beginning at 6 a.m. The system will be moved to newer servers and connected to a new IT infrastructure that will support GSU's continued growth.

The system will be down most of the day (an estimated 12 hours). A message will be sent out after the system is back on line.

## **FOC Entrance Closure**

From Monday, August 24 through Wednesday, August 26, the north exterior stairway, ramp, and entrance to the FOC (opposite the E-wing entrance) will be closed.

The south FOC entry (facing the parking lots) will remain open and available for use. Please contact Facilities with questions at ext. 4515.

## **SEEDS Peer Mentors**

A SEEDS Peer Mentor is a GSU student who provides guidance to Learning Community Cohort students from Morton College. Mentors receive training and a \$1,000 stipend to encourage, advise, and guide students to achieve in college and earn their degrees. Mentors serve as role models and assist their students in the transition to college life.

Applications are available at the GSU Latino Center for Excellence (A2133) and are due on September 4. Applicants must meet specific qualifications and mentoring requirements, but need not be members of an LCE cohort. For more information, call ext. 7609.

## **ScholarShip Sails to Tanzania**

Assistant Professor of Addictions Studies (and GSU alum), Dr. Jacque Elder, recently conducted five days of training at the Center for Disease Control in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. Dr. Eder was joined by two colleagues on the trip. The group trained physicians, nurses, social workers, outreach workers, and counselors how to conduct Brief Motivational Interviewing interventions with people suffering from HIV. The training focused on Africa's growing problem with alcohol consumption related to the dangers of mixing alcohol and ARV medications.

## **Best Part Time Job**

The GSU Foundation needs your help during its annual Phonathon. Student Phonathon callers help the Foundation raise contributions by calling alumni and reconnecting them with the university. Applicants must be friendly, persuasive, and dependable. The position pays \$8 per hour, part time. For information and to apply, call 708.235.2188.

## **ScholarShip – Research Funding Awarded**

GSU faculty and staff recently received new funding for their research and program activities.

Kim Boland-Prom, Ph.D., LCSW, of Social Work received funding from the Association of Social Work Boards for her research on sanctioned social workers.

Hilary Burkinshaw of CenterPoint Business Development Center received funding from the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity for a Procurement Technical Assistance Center.

Dianna Galante, Ph.D., of Mathematics received funding from Commonwealth Edison for Mathematics Teacher Education.

Philip Kletke, Ph.D., of Health Administration received funding from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality for his research on physician Medicaid participation.

Nancy MacMullen, Ph.D., of Nursing received funding from the Health Resources and Services Administration for the Nurse Faculty Loan Program.

## **Energy Auditors at Work**

You may have noticed people with clipboards, looking upward, and taking notes. They are energy performance contractors who are verifying quantities of ceiling mounted light fixtures that will be re-lamped with more energy efficient lamps throughout campus.

Starting this week, contractors will begin work in the cafeteria kitchen and dining area and will then move to other parts of the university. Facilities Development and Management will coordinate with university departments, the Registrar's Assistant, Public Function scheduling and the contractor so the work will proceed as smoothly as possible. The work takes 10 to 15 minutes per light fixture. The contractors work from 6 a.m. until 3 p.m. and work will likely continue through the New Year.

For more information, contact Facilities at ext. 4515.

## **Are you a Lincoln Laureate?**

Established in 1965, the Lincoln Academy of Illinois recognizes the accomplishments of individuals who it determines have brought honor to the State of Illinois by either their birth or residence in the state or by their commitment to the principles of democracy and humanity as exemplified by Abraham Lincoln.

Each year an outstanding senior from each of the four-year, degree-granting institutions of higher learning in Illinois is awarded the Student Lincoln Academy Medallion and thereby becomes a Student Laureate of The Lincoln Academy of Illinois. Student Laureates are honored for their overall excellence in curricular and extracurricular activities. The 2009 recipient will receive the Student Laureate Medallion, a certificate of achievement, and a check for \$150. Award recipients will participate in a processional of state, civic, and academic leaders at the award ceremony held in Springfield on Saturday, November 7, 2009, in the Old State Capitol. Governor Pat Quinn, President of the Academy, has been invited to present the awards. A luncheon will be held in recognition of the recipients following the ceremony in the Executive Mansion.

GSU is accepting nominations for the Student Laureate Award from the 2010 graduating class (baccalaureate degree). The Student Laureate Nomination Form is located on the [Student Life](#) web page under Applications, Documents, and Forms. Please complete the Student Laureate Nomination Form and return it to Sara Appel by Wednesday, September 30. For more information, contact [Sara Appel](#) at 708.534.4552.



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