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News and Events

Why Not Winner 09-09



Dr. Maimon recently surprised students, faculty, and staff in the cafeteria when she announced the Fall 2009 “Why Not?” winner.

The winner, Mary Rothenberg, suggested that volunteer teams made up students, faculty, staff, and community members be created. The teams would assist the university in a specific area, such as decorations or commencement. Mary also volunteered to help coordinate the volunteer teams.

She was awarded \$100 for her suggestion and was treated to lunch with President Maimon, Joan Vaughan, Vice President of Institutional advancement and CEO of the Foundation, and friend Kathleen Brennan.

Mary is Administrative Coordinator for The Center for Performing Arts.

H1N1 Flu Response

GSU, is aware of the current increased risk posed by the H1N1 Virus and is taking action to ensure public safety.

Bottles of Purell hand sanitizer were delivered again to each university office/department that handles mail. Departments requiring additional sanitizer may order more immediately using the [Central Stores reorder form](#). The university has also a stock of respiratory masks, should the need arise.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends four key ways to help protect you from getting the flu:

1. Wash your hands often with soap and water or use alcohol-based hand cleaners.
2. Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. If you

don't have a tissue, cough or sneeze into your elbow or shoulder--not into your hands.

3. Know the symptoms of flu. Do not go to class or work if you have symptoms. Symptoms include fever or chills and cough or sore throat. In addition, symptoms of flu can include runny nose, body aches, headache, tiredness, diarrhea, or vomiting. Stay home if you are sick for at least 24 hours after you no longer have a fever. If flu conditions become MORE severe, stay home for at least seven days, even if you feel better sooner.

4. Talk to your healthcare provider if you have questions and to find out if you should be vaccinated for seasonal flu and/or 2009 H1N1 flu.

Information about seasonal flu vaccine can be found at www.cdc.gov/flu/protect/keyfacts.htm. For more information, visit www.flu.gov.

Degree Audit Software Up and Running

With new degree audit software, GSU's Admissions office can significantly streamline the transfer process for community college students who wish to attend the university.

"We now have a process in place and systems that support the scanning of undergraduate applicant transcripts, the evaluation of the coursework listed on the transcripts, and the application of transfer credit to any undergraduate program offered at GSU," said Dr. Carol Cortilet-Albrecht, Assistant Vice President of Enrollment Services and Registrar.

With the installation of the software, Dr. Cortilet-Albrecht reported this week, the full degree audit process was successfully tested "from start to finish" last Friday. The Degree Audit Committee has been working for a year on a process to speed up the transfer of credits and other information. Last week's test represented "an important milestone."

GSU President Elaine Maimon praised the Degree Audit Committee's work. "I want to express sincere thanks to the Degree Audit Team for accomplishing significant strategic goals on time – in fact, earlier than scheduled – and under budget. This achievement is an important example of excellent teamwork, creative problem solving, and service to our students."

Because the new degree audit system went into production earlier than expected, the university has already begun processing the transfer coursework of students who have applied for admission to GSU in Winter 2010. Templates for transcripts from 15 college feeder schools have been built into the system, and requirements for all GSU undergraduate programs have been developed into program shells. General education requirements and core course equivalents for more than 40 transfer college feeder schools have been entered into the degree audit system.

“In the coming weeks, the new system will be demonstrated to faculty, staff, and other members of the campus community,” said Dr. Cortilet-Albrecht.

Director Honored

Hilary Burkinshaw, Director of the Illinois Small Business Development Center at GSU, will be honored by the *Business Ledger* as a recipient of the 2009 Entrepreneurial Excellence Awards for her Outstanding Service to Entrepreneurs. She will receive the award at the Annual Entrepreneurial Excellence Awards reception on September 24.



As the Director for the last 12 years, Hilary has been the Chicago southland region’s most proactive “helping hand” supporting individual business growth, development, financing and improvement leading to significant business growth and retention in the GSU region. Over the last 10 years, Hilary has worked directly with well over 1,000 clients that have created 37 new businesses, invested \$10 million in their existing businesses, created or retained over 1,200 jobs, bought 14 businesses at an investment value over \$7,000,000, and has helped over 200 clients obtain over \$80 million in financing.

Through Hilary’s vision and leadership at the Illinois SBDC, three Veterans Entrepreneurial Boot Camps have been hosted at GSU with attendance exceeding 175 veterans over the last year-and-a-half. This program was recognized in 2008 by the Illinois Entrepreneurship and Small Business Growth Association for its “outstanding, innovative, and best practices in the programs and services offered by member Illinois centers and the impact the program has had on the community, region, and state.”

Second Annual Latino Film Festival

The Governors State University Second Annual Latino Film Festival will showcase films that highlight the Latino art, culture, and society from Spanish-speaking countries.

Silent Love, a film from Mexico and Canada, will be screened on September 14 and 24, at 4:45 p.m. It is rated PG 13.

Bienvenido a Casa, a film from Spain, will be shown on September 22, at 4:45

p.m. It is rated PG 13.

El Brindis, from Mexico and Chile, will be screened on September 23, at 4:45 p.m. It is rated PG 13.

La Mirada de Clara, a film from Argentina, will be shown on September 21 And October 13, at 4:45 p.m. It is rated R.

Sonar no Cuesta Nada, is from Argentina and Columbia. It will be shown on October 12, at 4:45 p.m. It is rated R.

All the films will be shown in Engbretson Hall The films are subtitled in English. They are the property of the International Latino Center of Chicago and were shown during the past Chicago Latino Film Festivals.

The film festival is co-sponsored by the Spanish Reading Club and Title V/Latino Center for Excellence in recognition of Hispanic Heritage Month. All the screenings are free and open to the public. For more information, call ext. 4553.

UNBOUND at The Center

UNBOUND by Stacey V. Clark, a hilarious theatrical dramedy dealing with abandoning unrewarding relationships, will be presented on September 18 and 19, at 8 p.m., and September 20, at 3 p.m., at The Center for Performing Arts.

Buy one get one free tickets to all GSU faculty, staff, and students is available for the Friday evening show only. Visit the box office or call ext. 2222 for tickets.

Writing Center

The Writing Center provides assistance to undergraduate and graduate students with one-on-one tutoring sessions and beginning research and documentation help in the library. The Writing Center also offers online services at www.govst.edu/OWL.

Safety Tip – Smoke Detectors

In an effort to make us all a bit safer, the GSU Department of Public Safety is

providing safety tips.

DPS advises installation of smoke alarms in every bedroom, outside each separate sleeping area, and on every level of the home, including the basement.

- Interconnect all smoke alarms throughout the home so if one sounds, they all sound. Visit www.nfpa.org/assets/files/PDF/Research/Smoke for additional information.
- For the best protection, two types of alarms should be installed in the home, photoelectric for smoldering fires and ionization for flaming fires.
- Test alarms at least monthly by pushing the test button. Replace batteries in all smoke alarms at least once a year. If an alarm "chirps," replace the battery right away.

Smoke alarms are available for people who are deaf or hard of hearing. These devices use strobe lights and vibration devices.

LSAT Prep Class

The Academic Resource Center is offering a free LSAT preparation class on Mondays, beginning September 21 and ending on May 24. The class is from 7:30 to 10:20 p.m., in room A2202.

University tutor David Sparks of the Academic Resource Center will teach the preparation class for the Law School Admissions Test. Class work will focus on the three main areas of the test: reading comprehension, logic reasoning, and analytical reasoning.

Advance registration is required and seats are limited. For more information or to register, contact [David Sparks](#) at 708.235.3963.

Honorary Degree Candidates Sought

The Honorary Degree Nomination Review Committee is accepting nominations for candidates for an honorary doctorate degree from GSU. Letters of nomination should include authoritative vitae and/or biographical data, contact information (phone and mailing address), and other pertinent information.

The committee meets at least once in the fall and winter trimesters. According to the GSU Board of Trustees Regulations Section III B, the committee makes

recommendations to the President selected from honorary degree nominations submitted by faculty, students, staff, alumni, and Trustees.

Please forward nominations as soon as possible for consideration at the end of September. Nominations may be sent to [Paul Blobaum](#) or [Myisha Meeks](#).

ScholarShip Sails to an Art Gallery

Geoffrey Bates, director and curator of the Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park, recently served as curator and wrote a catalogue essay for an exhibit featuring works by Chicago painter, sculptor, and printmaker John Himmelfarb at the H.F. Johnson Gallery of Art at Carthage College, Wisconsin. *A Circulating Library: John Himmelfarb, Selected Recent Works* opened September 15 and continues through October 17.

Alumni News – Pedus Eweama

Pedus Eweama recently published his second book entitled *Nursing Stories: Ordinary People, Extra-Ordinary Journey*. Eweama's background spans the disciplines of nursing, occupational safety and health, and liberal arts. He has travelled widely and has special interest in the health of culturally and linguistically diverse populations, and is a keen medical missionary.

Eweama is the founder of Child Aid Survival and Development International (CASDI), a human rights organization dedicated to the rights of children in Sub-Saharan Africa. He graduated from the Board of Governors program in 2002. He lives in Perth, Western Australia, and is currently pursuing a Doctor of Medicine degree with particular interest in rural, regional, and remote medical practice.

