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Office of University Relations

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Faculty and Staff Newsletter
Office of University Relations
Governors State University
Park Forest South, Illinois 60466

GSU ARCHIVES
Box 4 #2

"At the rate at which knowledge is growing, by the time the child born today graduates from college, the amount of knowledge in the world will be four times as great. By the time that same child is fifty years old, it will be 32 times as great, and 97 percent of everything known in the world will have been learned since the time he was born."

-Hilliard

September 2, 1975

Vol. 5, No. 1

Comings & Goings...

A warm welcome to these new GSU faces:

- Joyce Bluth - Secretary, CCS
- Judy Brookshaw - Cashier, BO
- Edwin Cehelnik - University Professor, EAS
- William Erickson - Bldg. Mechanic, BPS
- William Freshe - Space Admin., BPO
- Frank Grebas - Food Service Mgr. (Automatique)
- Mark Hampton - Library Clerk, LRC
- Alice Ketcham - University Professor, EAS
- Kathleen Olson - Bookstore Clerk, BKS
- Henry Patterson - Police Officer, DPS
- Janice Schluntz - Secretary, BPO

Goodbyes to:

- Dixon Bush
 - Ann Cole
 - Frances Cook
 - Gerri Daum
 - Bruce Denner
 - Tom Dudman
 - Argentina Erdman
 - Elnor Foster
 - Pam Hemp
 - Dora Hubbard
 - Kathe Kiefer
 - Paul Leinberger
 - Cothron McMillan
 - Joyce Measner
 - Bruce Meyers
 - Marilyn Miller
 - Chris Murphy
 - Jim Murray
 - Richard Pollak
 - Mary Reynolds
 - Tina Stretch
 - Sylvia Torto
- and continued success.

GSU Veterans of Innovation:

Anniversaries for the month of September are:

- 6 years: Tom Layzell (Adm) (9/19/69)
- 5 years: Gerry Baysore (R&I) (9/01/70)
- Daniel Bernd (CCS) (9/01/70)
- Robert Hauwiler (A&R) (9/08/70)
- Paul Hill (U.A) (9/09/70)
- Al Martin (CCR) (9/01/70)
- Carl Peterson (LRC) (9/01/70)
- Barbara Purcell (AA) (9/01/70)
- Allene Schnaitter (LRC) (9/01/70)
- Al Sherman (CCS) (9/01/70)
- Gwen Siebert (SS) (9/22/70)
- Frieda Vazales (BPS) (9/09/70)
- Richard Vorwerk (LRC) (9/01/70)

The GSU community thanks you.
More next month...

PAY PARKING - SEPTEMBER 10

GSUers have been granted a brief reprieve on parking fees. The original target date for beginning operation of the new parking lot gates has been moved back to Wed., Sept. 10. The extra week should allow needed time for all new or unaware GSUers to be notified of the new arrangements and to buy the necessary tickets. Signs will be posted at the entrance to each lot to remind drivers of the Sept. 10 start date. Parking cards are now on sale in the Bookstore and Cashier's office at \$7.00 for one block, \$12.00 for the Trimester. Per entry fee is .50, also accepted by the new gates. Dick Struthers, recently appointed Coordinator of Parking asks the cooperation of the University community by keeping the "Visitors" lot open for guests.

THE GSU MUSIC EXPERIENCE...will play with the Chicago Chamber orchestra at Lincoln park Sunday, August 31, at 2:15 p.m. The concert will be held in the band shell. The two groups will also perform at the Museum of Science and Industry Monday, September 1, at 3:30 p.m. The GSU Music Experience, comprised only of students, won a recent tribute to the late Gene Ammons. Although not billed as competitive, the event featured semi-professional and collegial groups from the greater Chicago area. "Down Beat Magazine" and the Congress on Racial Equality (CORE) jointly sponsored the event and had encouraged the management of five of Chicago's jazz clubs to offer weekend engagements to the winner of the event.

GSU SELECTED...Cooperative Assessment of Experiential Learning of Princeton, N.J., has selected GSU, one of 30 institutions, as a CAEL field research site for the validation of assessment materials. As one of 12 institutions, GSU has been selected for the CAEL faculty development program, with workshops designed to provide consistent and continuous training and development. At the CAEL assembly meeting in Philadelphia in October, one of the sessions will be devoted specifically to field research. The first faculty development workshop will also be held in conjunction with the assembly meeting. Cooperative Assessment of Experiential Learning is a joint project of Educational Testing Service of Princeton and a group of colleges and universities with initial funding by the Carnegie Corporation.

CALLING ALL INSOMNIACS...Volunteers are needed for an insomnia treatment program to be held at GSU. The purpose of the program is to develop and systematically evaluate short-term treatments for individuals having sleep-onset insomnia, or difficulty falling asleep. Treatment is free, but to be included in the program individuals must make a commitment to participate for the entire period. For appointment or pre-treatment interview, volunteers may telephone ext. 2444 or 2394, or write to Dr. Perry Nicassio (HLD).

COLLEGE ON YOUR DOORSTEP...College courses published in the Chicago Tribune, offered for credit by GSU, will begin Saturday, September 15 or 20.

There will be bi-weekly discussion on campus beginning Tuesday, September 30. Coordinators in the College of Cultural Studies are Tom Kelly, professor of urban history; Sharyne Merritt, professor of political science, and Omar Peraza, professor of political science and Latino studies.

Further information may be obtained at GSU by telephoning Tom Kelly, ext. 2457, Dr. Clara Anthony, ext. 2441 or 2442.

"College on your doorstep" will be a two-course sequence for the Bicentennial year, discussing some of the fundamental issues of American society that are addressed by the American Issues forum.

The first course, "American Society in the Making," will explore America, its people and its land, their basic liberties and their government.

The second course, "The Molding of American Values," discusses patterns of working in America, the business society, America as a world power, and the shaping of American character and values.

A reader and study guide will supplement the articles.

DID YOU KNOW?...A Bicentennial year art project funded in part by the Illinois Bicentennial commission will have as co-director Joan Evanchuk (CCS). Joan will co-direct the project entitled "Woodcut as Pop Art--Then and Now" of the Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art, with a former Notre Dame professional.

The weekend-long series of events, to be held in February of 1976, will include print exhibitions, a woodcut workshop demonstration, films and lectures, and the inaugural exhibition of traveling exhibitions featuring the technique and history of woodcut art. The entire program is conceived as a pilot project, to be made available to the public as a study-pamphlet at its conclusion.

THE MYSTERIES...Music, poetry, religion will be "Theology for Lunch" discussion by Elmer Witt Wednesday noon, September 3, in D-1120.

THE COMPETENCY-BASED LIBERAL EDUCATION PROJECT

The University has been funded by the Fund for the Improvement of Post-Secondary Education of the U.S. Office of Education for "Developing, Testing, and Implementing a Competency-based Liberal Education Component of a Baccalaureate Program in an Upper Division University." The project will run for at least two years, (probably more)--with \$185,849 (including GSU contributions budgeted for the first year).

The project itself is the work of many hands, bringing to a focus ideas and plans that emerged almost with the beginning of the University before 1970. Even before assembling the planning staff and faculty, one problem that came to the fore was the challenge a University such as ours--dedicated to serving the interests of people who would not have opportunities for higher education were it not for our presence--would have in developing and including a genuine liberal education component in the individual programs of all students. We knew that the pressure would be to relate all decisions to the goal of "job efficiency"--a goal we knew to be not in contradiction to the values of liberal education, but not one which had yet been precisely formulated in terms of a competency-based curriculum.

In our proposal for funding we said, "...Governors State University can too easily be looked at as a transmission belt to increased income levels and nothing more. We refuse to accept that metaphor. We refuse to fall into the trap of claiming that our 'practical' students do not need a liberal education. Indeed, we would claim that of all college students in the American system, it is ours to whom the opening and liberating forces of a liberal education is most crucial. To be a citizen, knowledgeable about and a participant in the social and political structures; to have a sense of the relations among our past, our present, and our future; to be a carrier and student of our cultures--all of these are the rights and responsibilities of our graduates."

We begin by asking ourselves what competencies could be expected of a liberally-educated person and identifying the domains under which the competencies would be subsumed. These domains (in their present state of development) include (1) the nature and organization of knowledge, including conceptual and methodological frameworks of major discipline areas; (2) values and their integration with knowledge and action; (3) alternative modes of knowing, interpreting, and communicating experiences; (4) socio-cultural processes as these influence people's behavior and interactions; and (5) technology, especially in relation to information storage, retrieval, and application.

Our operational plan will proceed by:

- (1) defining and refining the competencies expected, and arriving at some agreement among ourselves, advisors, and consultants on just what these competencies are. This is the validation phase of the project.
- (2) developing the mechanisms for verifying achievement of these competencies. This is the assessment phase of the project.
- (3) identifying and developing learning modules and programs to aid students in achieving these competencies.
- (4) finally, bringing the liberal education competencies on-line into the regular programs for all students.

The project was developed by the co-directors with the advice and support of the Liberal Education Committee--an all University committee which worked for over a year at the highest levels to help work out the problems attendant on such large scale ambitions. What is most heartening is our perception of how the Liberal Education Project has been and will be a unifying force in the University. The deans, the vice-presidents, and the professional staff they have encouraged to participate, have been as helpful as could be--the project has been conceived as something that is all of our business and something that we can all contribute to. Even though it is expected that the most of the day-to-day work of the project will be conducted by staff from the Colleges of Environmental and Applied Sciences and Cultural Studies, we very early recognized that liberal education exists in and is equally important to the Colleges of Business and Public Service and Human Learning and Development.

We will continue our cooperative, intercollegial efforts. An advisory committee will be formed representing all colleges and we hope that faculty and staff from all units will be drawn in. The staff who will be released to work in the project have been identified and the work of the project has begun.

STUDENT ORIENTATION...will be held at GSU on Saturday, September 6, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Individualized student contracts, a competency-based system, a nongraded narrative transcript, interdisciplinary programs, and other differences will be discussed.

Financial aids program, student services, health insurance, advisor/advisee relations, program competency requirements, and other matters will also be covered.

A multimedia production, "Education/Living/Learning," will open the new student orientation in the University gymnasium. President Engbretson will give a general overview of the philosophy and history of Governors State.

Robert Lott, as director of student services, will briefly explain the relevant services as well as practices and policies in financial aids, admissions and records, cooperative education, and student services.

New students will then meet with their respective college dean, who will introduce them to the college's procedures and policies and give them an opportunity to ask questions.



The project has a dual thrust--not only is it important for the University and its students, but also for the national groups who are searching for ways to bring together the educational concepts included in the phrases "competency-based" and "liberal education." We believe that we have a great opportunity to demonstrate that the effects of liberal education can be defined and assessed--by instruments and methods appropriate to both liberal education and to our students. The funding, for example, provides for the hiring of a full-time evaluation/test developer, and for the organization of a panel of external consultant/evaluators. We will also be able to draw upon the network of institutions who work together in the Change in Liberal Education, group funded by the Carnegie Foundation. Thus we hope to meld our GSU institutional interests with larger national concerns about the nature and nurture of liberal education.

As the project develops we hope to continue in the spirit of cooperation and common concern that has given us the strong base with which we begin. We will be turning to many in the University for help. We need wide participation. There is plenty of work to do.

Daniel Bernd, Co-director
James Joseph Gallagher, Co-director
COMPETENCY-BASED LIBERAL EDUCATION PROJECT

EVENTS

MONDAY, September 1

University closed for Labor Day

TUESDAY, September 2

8:30 - 12:00
9:00 - 12:30
1:00 - 3:30
3:00

Thru Sept. 13 - prints and drawings by
Alma J. Alderfer; paintings and drawings
by Charles Western
Administrative Council (PCA)
Faculty Kickoff (CCC)
Professional Staff Picnic (Conference Center)
Search Committee for Asst. V.P. (B1109)

WEDNESDAY, September 3

8:30 - 10:00
10:00 - 3:00
10:00 - 12:00
12:00
1:00 - 2:00
1:30 - 2:30

Deans' Meeting (PCA)
Search Committee for Asst. V.P. (PCA)
SCEPP (D1120)
Theology for Lunch (D1120)
Guided Tour of Markham Prairie (front door)
Civil Service Affairs Subcommittee (D1120)

THURSDAY, September 4

3:00 - 5:00

University Assembly (CCC)

FRIDAY, September 5

8:30 - 12:00
1:00 - 2:00

Administrative Council (PCA)
Affirmative Action (PCA)

SATURDAY, September 6

8:30 - 1:00
9:00 - 12:30
1:15 - 3:30

BPS Orientation (B1318)
New Student Orientation (Gym)
Student Testing (A1102, F1101, B1501, B2501)

DIAL "INFO LINE" 534-0033 FOR RECORDED UNIVERSITY ANNOUNCEMENTS