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News and Events

Generosity Recognized

The GSU Foundation honored the recipients of scholarships and the donors who made the financial awards possible at a luncheon recently.



While thanking the donors, President Elaine P. Maimon noted that their generosity made educational opportunity a reality for many deserving students who would otherwise have to abandon their dreams of earning a degree.

In addition to Dr. Maimon, several scholarship recipients expressed their gratitude and what their scholarships meant to them. Julie Butler (pictured), recipient of the Lorraine Fontana Endowed Memorial Scholarship, spoke of the inspiration the scholarship provided. Nicole Olaya, recipient of the Accelerated Rehabilitation Centers Physical Therapy Scholars Award, said, "The scholarship gave me the opportunity to get my degree and the confidence to focus on my studies and achieve excellence."

Matt Gonzalez, recipient of the Great Lakes Bank Endowed Scholarship, summed up the students' sentiments, "I want to thank all the donors for providing educational opportunity to so many."

Cyberdrive Services at GSU

The Secretary of State's Mobile Service Unit will be at on campus Tuesday, May 4, from 1:30 to 7 p.m., in the Hall of Governors.

Services available at the mobile service unit include driver's license renewal, replacement, and corrections; State ID card renewal, replacement, and corrections; vehicle sticker sales; passenger and b-truck license plates, vehicle title and registration, parking placards for persons with disabilities, and organ/tissue donor information. In addition, vision tests and the written driver's license exam can be taken. No driving tests will be given.

The services provided are available to all qualified Illinois residents. State law allows driver's license renewal up to one year in advance. Proper identification is required for new and duplicate driver's licenses and state ID cards. Acceptable forms of payment include personal checks, cash, MasterCard, American Express, and Discover credit and debit cards.

For information, visit www.cyberdriveillinois.com.

Celebrate May 5

The Cinco de Mayo celebration at GSU begins at noon, on May 5, in the Hall of Governors. Tlazokahmatli, Aztec dancers, will perform at noon and again at 4 p.m. Samples of delicious foods will be available throughout the celebration and while supplies last.

Cheer the steps and swirls of faculty and staff in GSU's favorite dance competition, *Dance with the Faculty and Staff*, from 6 to 7 p.m.

The celebration is sponsored by the Association of Latin American Students, the Spanish Reading Club, and the Title V Latino Center for Excellence. Everything is free and everyone is welcome.

Commencement Student Speaker Applications Due

The Commencement Student Speaker Committee is currently accepting nominations for the spring commencement ceremony to be held on Saturday, June 12. Faculty, staff, and students are encouraged to nominate a deserving individual to give the student commencement address. Students may also nominate themselves.

To nominate a student, complete the [Commencement Faculty-Staff Recommendation Nomination](#) form. Nominated students should submit the [Commencement Student Nomination](#) form. All forms should be submitted to [Vanessa Newby](#) (room A2104) no later than Thursday, April 30. Applicants must be willing to meet for an interview on Friday, May 14, between noon and 5 p.m.

Don't Miss Out

The deadline to submit applications for civil service scholarships is quickly approaching. All applications must be turned in next week, by May 8.

Four applicants will be chosen to receive awards of \$250 each. Applicants need be enrolled in a minimum of three credit hours and must be a civil servant at GSU or married to or a dependent of a member of the GSU civil service.

For more information and an application, contact [Senantha Jenkins](#) at ext 4484 or download the [application instructions](#).

From GSU to Berlin

Chicago Heights, the experimental film produced through the GSU MFA program, has been selected for screening on closing night in next the four-day Black International Cinema Berlin.

Dan Nearing, associate professor of fine arts, will give a presentation at the festival. He will be joined by a representative of the United States Embassy and other filmmakers, at the opening ceremonies in Berlin City Hall, the site of President John F. Kennedy's famous speech in which he announced, "Ich bin ein Berliner."

According to Nearing, "The presentation reflects on the spirit of our production, handled almost entirely by GSU students, and how the film's process was affected by the powerful spirit of change in south Chicago in the summer of 2008, just a few months before the



election of our first black President.”

Woodruff Inspires

Lee Woodruff -- author, PR exec, *Good Morning America* contributor, and founder of Remind.org -- visited GSU's campus last week. Perhaps best known as the wife of ABC news anchor Bob Woodruff who was critically injured in Iraq, Woodruff took time to meet one on one and have lunch with GSU's physical therapy students.



During the frank discussion, Woodruff described the disheartening details of her husband's injuries and the long road back to wellness. She specifically talked about the huge role physical therapists played in Bob's physical recovery and her mental recovery. "PTs have the power of Gods," she told the students. "They affect both the recovery of the patient and their families. You have chosen a noble profession."

Woodruff also took part in a signing of her newest book *Perfectly Imperfect* before speaking to a larger group of students, staff, and community members. Describing herself as an open book, she answered candid questions from the audience and further discussed the exhausting nature of juggling her role as a mother of four with her career and the responsibilities of acting as a caretaker to her husband. The day's events were both heartwarming and inspirational.

Woodruff's visit to campus was sponsored by GSU's Intellectual Life Committee.



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