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GSU View

University Newsletters

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5-10-2010

## GSU View, 2010-05-10

Office of Public Affairs

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### Recommended Citation

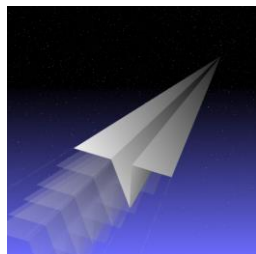
Governors State University Office of Public Affairs, GSU View (2010, May 10). <http://opus.govst.edu/gsuview/249>

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## News and Events

### Soaring over GSU



It's time for soaring planes and hanging gliders. The Annual GSU Fly-In, sponsored by the Civil Service Senate, will be held on May 12, from 1:30 to 3 p.m., in the Hall of Governors. For 25 cents, participants can enter their creations in two contests: longest distance flown and longest time in the air. For \$1, teams (2 to 5 people) can enter their airplanes, in the team longest distance contest, to win the right to display the GSU Flyer for one year.

Individual plane construction is limited to one sheet or smaller of 20lb. weight paper. Scotch tape and one paperclip (supplied by the Civil Service Senate) are allowed. The team plane can be any size or type of paper with glue, tape, staples, and one paperclip allowed. All planes must have wings. See you in the air.

### Enjoy the Picnic by the Lake

The GSU graduate celebration, Picnic by the Lake, is on Saturday, May 15, from 11 to 3 p.m. Faculty members are invited to join the celebration, interact with the Class of 2010, and enjoy lunch by the lake.

RSVP by May 13 to Sheree Sanderson, Director of Student Engagement and College Relations, at ext. 4552 or email [saasnews@govst.edu](mailto:saasnews@govst.edu).

### What's Cookin'?

The GSU cafeteria is preparing for summer in an entirely new way. On Thursday, May 13, FSI will be preparing barbequed food on the charcoal grill (weather permitting). Char-grilled food will be available from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 4 to 6 p.m. In order to take advantage of the new grilling station, patrons can purchase food tickets from the cafeteria cashier to be redeemed at the grill outdoors.

### It's Never Too Early...

GSU employees can plan for retirement at any age. GSU's HR department and the State Universities Retirement System (SURS) will present a retirement seminar on Wednesday, May 26, from 9 to 10:30 a.m. The event is open to all GSU employees and will be held in classroom D34115.

Lee Bridges of SURS will also take individual appointments for employees within four years of retirement only. To set up an appointment, please contact SURS at 800.275.7877. Appointments will be held in the CenterPoint Conference room (C3300).

## **DSST Exams Have Arrived**

The Academic Resource Center is now offering DSST (Dantes) proficiency exams. Just like CLEP exams, DSST exams can help students earn credits toward their degrees. Thirteen of the DSST exams will satisfy IAI General Education requirements. Students are encouraged to contact their academic advisor for approval of each exam.

For more information, contact Donna Rutledge at 708.235.3964.

## **Student to Compete in Chinese American Idol**

This week, GSU math student Eddie Rogers II, is learning 3 new songs that he'll perform at a music competition May 15 and 16 in California.



That's daunting enough for any singer. Since the three songs are in Chinese, however, Rogers' task is especially challenging. Chinese is not his native language, and he has never visited China.

Rogers, of Oak Forest, will travel to Los Angeles next week to compete in the North American finals of *2010 Superboy*, a singing competition sponsored by China's Hunan TV network. The competition, a search for new male singing talent, is sometimes called the Chinese equivalent of *American Idol*, only in the world's most populous country.

Four of 70 North American contestants will travel to China this summer for the final rounds of *2010 Superboy*." Rogers qualified for the North American finals at a regional competition last month in Chicago's Chinatown neighborhood.

Rogers has been singing Chinese songs around the Chicago area for 10 years. He appears a couple of times a year at Chinese-American benefits and other black-tie affairs. This year, he played a small part in a Chinese opera. Those appearances, he says, were strictly for fun. In addition to his studies at GSU, Rogers is a career counselor for disabled adults at Cornerstone Services in Joliet.

"But now it's getting exciting," he says. "This could open up some real possibilities for me. I hope to build some momentum, and sing my way to China."

Dr. Shenseng Zhao, Professor of Computer Science at GSU, who last year taught Rogers discrete math, is a big fan. He says Rogers' singing surprised him, and made him proud that he is a GSU student. Rogers sang a Chinese song in class at the end of his term with Dr. Zhao. "Eddie is the first GSU American student who has the ability and talent to cross the barriers between east and west," Dr. Zhao says.

Rogers started singing in Chinese in the late 1990s, while a student at North Central College. He took a class in Chinese and his teacher suggested that the students learn a song. Later, she recommended him for his first singing appearance before a Chinese-American association in the

Western suburbs. As a singer, he's won praise for his command of a language in which tones – similar to notes on a musical scale – need to be mastered.

Many Chinese speakers find it remarkable that an American is able to perform in their language, Rogers says. "I know that they like my command of the language," he says. "When I perform next week, I also want to be recognized for my singing ability."

View [Eddie Rogers performance on YouTube](#).

## **16th Annual Student Research Conference**

The 16th Annual GSU Student Research Conference will be held on Wednesday, May 26, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The deadline for submission is Friday, May 14, 2010. Registration and Abstract forms are available on the [conference website](#). There is no registration fee.

The conference provides students with an opportunity to present their research work before an audience of their peers, and will provide a forum to highlight research accomplishments at GSU. Students may present their work in podium presentation or poster presentation formats. Faculty are asked to encourage students to present their research and other scholarly work in this conference.

Lunch is provided to all registrants. All abstracts are published in the conference proceedings. Certificates of Merit are awarded to all student participants.

## **Retention and Diversity**

The Title V Latino Center for Excellence is sponsoring a free symposium for students, faculty, and staff from across the region on May 14, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The symposium will address the issues and concerns facing Latino and other students from diverse backgrounds.

The goal of the higher education symposium is to increase awareness of the social, economic, and cultural barriers that negatively impact student success in higher education. Increased understanding will lead to more effective teaching and academic advising at both the community college and university levels.

The keynote speakers, Dr. Christina Gomez and Dr. Frank D. Sanchez, are experts in issues surrounding access to education and equitable and fair education practices.

In addition to the keynote speakers, GSU faculty members, trained in best practices for providing equitable educational opportunities within the classroom, will share their discoveries and observations in breakout sessions.

This event is sponsored by the Title V Cooperative Grant with Morton College, the Latino Center for Excellence, Student Affairs, and the GSU Faculty Development Committee.

For more information, contact [Monica Teixeira](#) at ext. 7609 or visit the [symposium website](#).

## **Fashion Show for Haiti**

Supporting the rebuilding and empowerment of Haiti after the devastating earthquake is the goal of the *All Nations for Haiti* Fashion Show on May 21, from 7 to 9 p.m., in Sherman Hall.

GSU students, representing many different nations, will take part in the fashion show. Styles representing various cultures from around the world as well as current fashions will be presented.

All the proceeds will go to The Joseph Assignment, which works closely with relief and development organizations in Haiti. The show is hosted by the Black Student Union and the Department of Social Work. Sponsors include J. and D. Fashion Design, Chicago; Just Human, Dr. Yemonja Smalls; Takara, Oak Park; ITIAH, Chicago; Tribal Ware by Vincent Fleming, Chicago; Geraldinehaute couture by Geraldine Howard; and Flashy 44's by Terrell Gholston.

Advance tickets are only \$10. Tickets purchased at the door are \$15. For ticket information, call ext. 3969.



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