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News and Events

Meet the IRiS Human Resources and Payroll Team

While all the IRiS Project teams are experiencing looming deadlines, one team has been working non-stop getting ready to test their work: the Human Resources and Payroll Team.



Over the last month, testing payroll in the new Colleague system has been challenging, but productive. The past few weeks have demonstrated the importance of testing during new system implementation. Team members have run two successful payroll tests and, for their efforts, enjoyed a congratulatory visit from President Maimon and the Executive Sponsor Team, who surprised them with balloons and fruit.

The two test runs also helped them fix items, overcome obstacles, and correct issues prevalent in all new system processes. The big tests are yet to come. On November 22 and again on December 7, payroll will run their first “parallel tests” – running both the present CX system and the new Colleague system simultaneously.

Members of the Human Resources and Payroll Team are Debra Kappel, Pulchratia Kinney-Smith, Lillian Jung, Loretta Jones, Pete Mizera, Julia Jamison, Denise Jones, Janet Hart, Senatha Jenkins, Gail Mosier, Ayita Woods, Barry Ryan, and Vicki Wright. The team’s leader is Gail Bradshaw, Associate Vice President for Human Resources and Diversity.

Men and Women in Black and White

In preparation for the National Collegiate Table Tennis Association Regional Tournament at GSU, the GSU Table Tennis team is moving a table tennis table into the Hall of Governors on November 18 - GSU Spirit Day. As part of the festivities, the team will play all challengers, from 4 to 7 p.m. Challengers may also pit their skills against the table tennis playing robot.

Join the fun – wear black and white – and play table tennis. Support our

team!

And don't forget to catch the Spineless Pirate Production, *The Showdown*, starring the GSU Table Tennis Team on You Tube. The film was made by GSU students Matt Sass and Blake Labriola.

Sass and Labriola will also film the NCTTA Regional Tournament at GSU on Saturday, November 20. The competition begins at 9:30 a.m. with the opening ceremony. Everyone one is welcome to this free event.

[View *The Showdown*.](#)

Parent University Celebrated

U.S. Representative Jesse Jackson, Jr. joined President Maimon, University Park Mayor Al McGowan and the staff of the Family Development Center to celebrate the opening of the FDC's Parent University last week.

Rep. Jackson was integral in acquiring the funding for Parent University from the U.S. Department of Education. Parent University provides free workshops for parents on a variety of topics ranging from behavior management, to child enrichment, to effective parenting.



The celebration will included remarks by Rep. Jackson, Dr. Maimon, Mayor McGowan, Dr. Deborah Bordelon, Dean of COE, as well as a ribbon cutting, tours of the facility, children's performances, and refreshments.

At the Movies

On Friday, December 10, GSU students, faculty, staff, and board members will have the opportunity to see *Chicago Heights*, a film made by GSU faculty and students, at the Gene Siskel Film Center in Chicago.

The film, based on *Winesburg, Ohio* by Sherwood Anderson, was made on a very limited budget. It has been featured at international and national film festivals and earned a "thumbs up" from Roger Ebert. For more information on the film, visit www.923films.com.

Tickets are \$25 and include a special pre-theater reception, coach bus ride to and from the Siskel Film Center, and a theater ticket. For those not wishing to ride the bus, tickets for the reception and film only are available for \$10 each.

To reserve a seat, contact [Penny Perdue](#) at ext 4130.

Abri Credit Union

Representatives of Abri Credit Union, formerly Prairie Trail Credit Union, will be on campus tomorrow, November 16, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., in D1489. All Christmas Club members should stop by for a free gift.

Activities Continue

Global Entrepreneurship and International Education Week 2010 continues today a workshop on *Becoming an Entrepreneur in Today's Society*, at 7:30 p.m., in G227.

Enjoy a cup and conversation at the Small World Coffee/Tea Hour on November 16, from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m., in the Cafeteria Annex. At 2 p.m. in Engbretson Hall, learn how to translate study abroad experience into a workplace advantage.

On November 17, learn about study abroad opportunities from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., and about international volunteerism from 1 to 2 p.m., both in Engbretson Hall.

Three events are scheduled on November 18. They include a discussion of the legal aspects of post-education employment options for foreign students from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., and a presentation on travel through Switzerland, Austria, and Germany from 1 to 2 p.m. Both events are in Engbretson Hall.

The events conclude on November 19, with an open house at CenterPoint, C3300, at 2 p.m. Completion results will be announced, prizes given, and refreshments served.

Everyone is welcome to these free events, which are co-sponsored by CenterPoint and the Office of International Services.

Shopping for All

The Civil Service Senate is sponsoring a Holiday Arts and Crafts Fair on November 16, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., in the Hall of Governors. All proceeds from this event are used for the Civil Service Senate Educational Assistance Fund. The event is free and open to the public.

Tellebration! at GSU

Five master storytellers will delight and captivate their audience at *Tellebration!*, an free, international event on Saturday, November 20, at 7 p.m., in Sherman Recital Hall.

"This is the first time for *Tellebration!* in the south suburban area," said

Clayton, who is Office Manager in COE and an avid storyteller. "We are pleased to offer it at GSU and very excited about our lineup of outstanding storytellers."

All *Tellebration!* storytellers perform free of charge. All money or donated items from the GSU event will go directly to the Rich Township Food Pantry. For further information, contact Lynn Clayton at ext. 3075.

Hunger Management I

The Civil Service Senate is sponsoring a diet-busting bake sale on Tuesday, November 16, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. – or while supplies last – in the Hall of Governors.

Volunteers and donations of baked goods are needed. Contact Renee Rainey at ext. 7525.

Hunger Management II

Satisfy your hunger with churros and tamales. The Association of Latin American Students is sponsoring a churro and tamale sale on Wednesday, November 17, from 11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., (or while quantities last), in the Cafeteria Annex.

Tamales are \$1 each and come in pork, chicken, or cheese. Churros are only \$1.50 and come in blueberry, chocolate, plain, and strawberry.

Preorders must be submitted by Monday, November 15. On campus, see Monica Teixeira in A2132, ext 7609. Payment may also be made in advance. To order by phone or e-mail, contact David Corcoran at 630.347.2862.

Student Scholarship Information

The GSU Foundation and Alumni Association's list of scholarships and the application form are now available online.

Interested students must apply for scholarships by November 19. Students are not eligible if they are:

- Community College Honors Scholars recipients
- University employees
- Fall 2010 Foundation scholarship recipients

Call 708.534.4105 for information.

NMSP's Yes! For Lady Day Repaired



Yes! For Lady Day, a towering masterpiece at the Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park (NMSPP) was repaired last week following damage from gale-force winds in October.

Artist Mark DiSuvero's monumental sculpture, a tribute to the jazz singer Billie Holiday, consists of 30-foot-tall steel I-beams supporting two halves of a railroad tank car. The tank car sections are suspended from the I-beam frame by steel cables. As a result of high winds, the cable holding the lower tank car section snapped and the front of the piece fell to the ground.

"It was imperative that we made repairs as soon as possible since the piece is one of the signature elements of our collection, and one of the artist's most significant works," Bates said.

"*Yes! For Lady Day* is one reason people from around the world visit the Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park."



The park is open from dawn to dusk, 365 days a year, and admission is free. For more information about the sculpture park, visit the [website](#) or call ext. 4486.

Student Speaker Applications Online

Recognize the worthy, exemplary, soon-to-be graduating student! Nominations are now being accepted for Commencement Student Speaker for the winter commencement ceremony to be held on Saturday, February 5, 2011.

Nomination forms are available at the [Student Life website](#). Both nomination forms must be completed and sent to [Sheree Sanderson](#), no later than Tuesday, November 30. Students must be available for an interview.

Vet Counseling Available

GSU student veterans, servicemembers, and their families are eligible for free, confidential readjustment counseling at GSU.

Tony Wilson, from the Gary Area Vet Center, will offer readjustment counseling for individuals and groups every Wednesday, from 1 to 4 p.m., at the Academic Resource Center. Wilson, LCSW, is a Readjustment Counseling Social Worker.

For information, call 708.534.4090 or drop by the Academic Resource Center (B1215) on Wednesday afternoon to meet Tony Wilson.

Honored Veterans



Michael Griffin Veteran.

During the recent GSU Veteran's Day presentation, students, faculty, and staff honored the service of veterans. The event, *A Day of Recognition*, included a full honor guard and presentations by Dr. Cyrus Ellis, associate professor of psychology and counseling; Dr. Constance Edwards, retired faculty and nursing program director; and Michael Griffin, GSU student and Iraq War

Coordinator of the event were Lana Bilyk, Coordinator for Veterans and Military Personnel; Larry Chisausky, student and Viet Nam War Veteran; Dr. Lorri Glass, assistant professor of social work; and Bob Rakstang of CenterPoint.

DanceArt and Education

Transforming Urban Education through the Art of Dance, a special presentation and live performance by DanceArt, has been rescheduled. The presentation will be on November 22, from 5 to 6 p.m., in The Center for Performing Arts. A reception celebrating DanceArt's 10th anniversary will be held at 6 p.m., immediately following the presentation. Both the performance and reception are free and open to the public.

The event is supported by the College of Arts and Sciences Distinguished Lecture Series and the GSU Intellectual Life Committee.

Managing Debt Workshop

Managing your money requires discipline to keep spending under control so bills can be paid and savings can grow. Learn how to structure your spending at *Strategies for Managing Debt in Troubling Times*, an informational workshop on Tuesday, November 16. Sessions will take place from noon to 1 p.m. in Room B1241 and from 6 to 7 p.m. in Room B1215.

At the workshop, participants will learn economic strategies to start debt cancellation, basic money management, and budgeting tips. They will also learn about the relationship between debt and stress.

The GSU Academic Resource Center sponsors the workshop, which is free and open to members of the university community. Refreshments will be served.

For more information, contact [Tamekia Scott](#) at ext 2228.

Pierre and Friends



Pierre is having the time of his life. Lydia Morrow Ruetten and her husband Bryon took him to meet some live penguins as part of the *Penguin Experience* at the Shedd Aquarium in Chicago. Lydia, of the Library, was the grand prize winner in the *Take Pierre on Vacation* photo contest.



According to Lydia, Penguin #410 was quite taken with Pierre and everyone had a great time.



Student Sandi Gustafson, who took the first holiday pictures of Pierre several years ago, is busy hitting the books and is making sure Pierre does his share as well. Here he is in Business Communications class. "He's such a smart little fellow!" added Sandi.

While there is no ongoing contest involving photos of Pierre, we are still interested in seeing what the unofficial GSU mascot is up to. What will he eat on Thanksgiving Day? How will he light the Hanukkah candles? Will his stocking be hung by the chimney with care?

Help us answer these and other burning questions and we will publish your photos in the View. Remember, when you submit your photos to the GSU View, include your name and the department in which you work or the college in which you are a student.

