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GSU View

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News and Events

Commencement Weekend

GSU's Commencement Weekend brings the fulfillment of dreams to more than 2,400 members of the Class of 2012. After years of planning, sacrifice, and hard work, graduating students can breathe a sigh of relief, then celebrate with family, friends, and other loved ones.

Commencement Weekend begins tonight with the doctoral hooding ceremony for 42 students in the College of Health and Human Services. The students are receiving doctoral degrees in Nursing Practice, Occupational Therapy, and Physical Therapy, and the Transitional Doctorate in Physical Therapy.

Spring Commencement takes place on Saturday at 10 a.m. and 5 p.m., at the Tinley Park Convention Center. Admission is by ticket only.

GSU will award honorary doctorates to renowned glass artist Charles Lotton and Emmy-winning documentary filmmaker and journalist Laurens Grant. Lotton, of Crete, will speak at the 10 a.m. ceremony. Grant, who grew up in Chicago's south suburbs and now resides in New York City, will speak at the 5 p.m. ceremony.

Two graduating GSU students have been chosen to give Commencement addresses. Erin Fletcher, a Richton Park resident, will speak at the morning ceremony. Fredi Parks, of Park Forest, will speak in the afternoon.

GSU View congratulates the Class of 2012 for a job well done, and extends best wishes for the future.

Education Students Network

Each semester, Dr. Jeannine Klomes, GSU professor of education, organizes a potluck breakfast for Early Childhood Education (ECE) majors to network with the current ECE student teachers. Students graduating with a bachelor's or master's in ECE with Illinois teacher certification are qualified to teach children from birth through third grade. The purpose of this gathering is to provide those preparing to student teach with feedback and information from those currently engaged in the 15 week field experience.



"Gearing up for student teaching can be very intimidating because students are required to effectively integrate a wealth of college class material into the professional knowledge, skills, and disposition expected of beginning teachers," Dr. Klomes said.

During the breakfast, GSU student teachers discuss their most stressful task, most rewarding moment, most humorous flashback, and best piece of advice as teachers. Many questions are asked and information is shared.

"Making all ends meet is stressful, but taking things one step at a time works," advised student teacher Ashley Stechly of Valparaiso, IN.

"The most rewarding moment for me is when a child who has been struggling with learning a concept finally gets it," said Melissa Alaniz of Orland Hills.

Perhaps Kim Lemon of Sauk Village gave the soon-to-be student teachers the most encouraging advice. "After completing lab classes at GSU, I was prepared for student teaching," she said.

This was the sixth breakfast social sponsored by Dr. Klomes, and once again, outcomes were positive. "At the end of the social, both groups seem excited about their future career," she said.

Scholarship Spotlight – Runisia Henry



Runisia Henry of Matteson received the Saint Paul Federal Scholarship. She is a graduate student in the College of Business and Public Administration and is working toward an MBA with a concentration in accounting.

Runisia has more than 10 years' experience in financial services and would one day like to open her own accounting firm.

Tidy Window Sills Needed

FDM next week starts window washing in the G building. Please remove books, papers, and trinkets from the window sill in your office. This speeds the cleaning process and, more importantly, protects your materials from damage.

