

1-21-2011

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Recommended Citation

Office of Public Affairs, "Honorary Degree Recipient to Speak at GSU" (2011). *Press Releases*. Paper 588.
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For Immediate Release

Honorary Degree Recipient to Speak at GSU

University Park, IL, January 21, 2011– Marca Bristo, advocate for equal rights and equal access for people with disabilities, will receive an honorary degree from Governors State University in University Park. The honorary degree will be awarded on Saturday, February 5, during GSU's Winter Commencement. Commencement will be held at 11 a.m., at the Tinley Park Holiday Inn Select and Convention Center. More than 600 graduates will participate in Commencement.

Drawing on her expertise, Bristo will also deliver a presentation on civil rights, accessibility, and the effect and importance of the Americans with Disabilities Act on Friday, February 4. The lecture begins at 3:30 p.m., in the Hall of Honors on the campus of GSU. The presentation is free and open to the public.

Bristo was integral in the creation and passage of the landmark Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 for which she received the Distinguished Service Award of the President of the United States. She is the founding director and current CEO and President of Access Living, an organization dedicated to improving access and opportunity. Bristo has held three presidential appointments and one congressional appointment and served as a delegate to the U.N Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

GSU is located at 1 University Parkway, University Park, Illinois. For more information, call (708) 534-4130.