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GSU View

University Newsletters

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## GSU View, 2013-03-25

Office of Marketing and Communications

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## News and Events

### **Voting for Student Senate Elections Starts Today**



Online voting for GSU's Student Senate and other offices begins today and continues through Friday, March 29.

Students can access the ballot at <http://eballot4.votenet.com/govst>. Your user name is your last name; your password is your student ID number.

The following candidates are currently running for Student Senate:

- College of Arts and Sciences - Shaniqua Jones, Christopher Otten, Codjo Padonou, Russell Thomas, and Amanda Ziaja.
- College of Business and Public Administration - James Brown, Valencia Brown, Darren Heldt. and Shawnta Young.
- College of Education - Lisa Wallace.
- College of Health and Human Services - Michael Alexander and Crystal Locke.
- Board of Trustee Student Representative - Kayla Randolph-Clark.
- Illinois Board of Higher Education Student Representative - Imani Aloway, Regina Haynes, and Brandon Sanders.

Online voting and tabulation of votes are handled by an independent agency, Votenet Solutions.

For further information, contact [Sheree Sanderson](#).

### **GSU Unveils Regalia Purchase Program**

GSU is proud to announce the university's official Custom Academic Regalia Purchase Program. Many prominent schools design their own distinctive regalia for their faculty, the administration, and staff in academic appointments to wear during Commencement, Convocation, and other ceremonies. GSU is now part of that distinguished group.

A great number of GSU faculty, administration, and staff members are expected to debut their new regalia at this year's Commencement on Saturday, June 8.



GSU regalia fitting takes place April 2 and 3, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., in E-Lounge. Interested persons can be measured for regalia, place orders, and make payments at this event. Persons interested in renting regalia can do so at the fitting event. If you are unable to attend, please contact Karen Caesar-Smith at 708.534.6360.

The University has negotiated with Oak Hall Cap & Gown at a significantly reduced cost for the purchase of academic regalia by faculty, administrators and staff. To encourage active participation by faculty and staff in Commencement and other events that include the wearing of academic regalia, GSU will be funding 50 percent of the cost that has been negotiated for each regalia package. Oak Hall will process payment for employee's 50 percent via check, Mastercard, VISA, Discover, or American Express.

- Bachelor Gown-Venture Black, Hood, Cap with tassel, garment bag and initials in gown: \$219. (Employee pays \$109.50; GSU pays \$109.50)
- Master Gown-Venture Black, Hood, Cap with tassel, garment bag and initials in gown: \$249. (Employee pays \$124.50; GSU pays \$124.50)
- Doctor Gown w/Matinee Velvet, Hood, six corner tam with tassel and initials in gown: \$439. (Employee pays \$219.50; GSU pays \$219.50)

Because the university will be subsidizing the purchase of academic regalia by university employees, the university will no longer be providing employees with rented academic regalia. If employees prefer to rent academic regalia rather than purchase their own personalized regalia, each individual employee will be able to arrange rental of academic regalia with Oak Hall Cap & Gown at the employee's expense when they are on campus April 2 and 3.

## **Get Ready for Commencement at Salute to Grads**

Attention, soon-to-be graduates. You can get ready for Commencement 2013 at Salute to Grads on March 27 and 28, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., in the Hall of Governors.

At Salute to Grads, you can pick up your cap and gown, sit for portraits in graduation attire, and get all your Commencement questions answered. Refreshments will be available and vendors will be on hand. You can order a GSU class ring, diploma frames, announcements, and Commencement related items. Learn how to participate in the 2012-2013 class gift and all the advantages in joining the GSU Alumni Association.

For more information about Salute to Grads, call 708.534.4488 or send an e-mail to [regoffice@govst.edu](mailto:regoffice@govst.edu).

## **Brown Bag Workshop Focuses on Student Writing**

The next Faculty Scholarship & Teaching Center Brown Bag Workshop, on Wednesday, March 27, focuses on innovative methods for helping students improve their writing. The session takes place from noon to 1 p.m. in the Hall of Honors.

Kerri Morris, this year's Faculty in Residence Kerri Morris, will present *Write to Learn*.

Writing Across the Curriculum doesn't have to mean facing a stack of papers that requires time-intensive grading. Students can improve their writing and improve their learning of content material by writing in class without instructor feedback or with brief, focused feedback.

This workshop will focus on techniques and strategies to using writing to learn in your classroom and to improve your students' understanding of content material.

Bring a syllabus for your course and learning objectives to get the conversation going. Leave with teaching and learning strategies that use writing to help your students learn.

For more information, contact Faculty Scholarship & Teaching Center coordinators [Tony Labriola](#) and [Raven James](#).

## **HLC Forums on Tuesday, Wednesday**

Faculty, staff, and students are invited to attend an open forum about the Higher Learning Commission site visit. For your convenience, eight HLC forums have been scheduled. The dates, times, and locations of the eight forums are provided below.

As outlined in the March 11 edition of GSU View, HLC granted our university full accreditation in 2009. With that accreditation came a prescriptive recommendation for a 2013 HLC Focused Visit in the areas of "assessment and institutional effectiveness, including attention to general education and comparative outcomes for students in online programs." In preparation for the Focused Visit, GSU provided the HLC site team with a Focused Visit Report as evidence of the remarkable work that has taken place on campus in response to the 2009 Self-Study.

Additionally, this visit includes the final step in the approval process for our plan to welcome lower division students in fall 2014. As a part of the final step in the approval process, a Substantive Change Report was submitted to describe GSU's planned change in student body composition. Faculty, staff, and students are encouraged to read the posted reports at their earliest convenience.

The scheduled forums will provide the university community with an opportunity to ask

questions about both the Focused Visit Report and the Substantive Change Report. The questions and conversations will help us prepare for the HLC visit and help us shape a series of Town Hall gatherings that will be planned for spring and fall related to welcoming our "FC14"(First Class 2014) students. Questions can be directed to the Provost's Office.

HLC forums will be held:

- Tuesday, March 26, 9:30 a.m., Cafeteria Annex
- Wednesday, March 27, 2:30 p.m., Engbretson Hall
- Tuesday, April 2, 9:30 a.m., Cafeteria Annex
- Tuesday, April 2, 2:30 p.m., Cafeteria Annex
- Wednesday, April 3, 9:30 a.m., Cafeteria Annex
- Tuesday, April 9, 2:30 p.m., Cafeteria Annex
- Wednesday, April 10, 9:30 a.m., Hall of Honors
- Wednesday, April 10, 2:30 p.m., Hall of Honors

## **Sign Up for Student Sustainability Summit**

The South Metropolitan Higher Education Consortium is presenting the 2013 Student Sustainability Summit at Prairie State College on Friday, April 12, from 9:15 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. This event is planned for students and by students. The theme is *Sustainability in Our Communities – What's Your Community?*

In past years, GSU students have made presentations and attended workshops at the annual summit. Participants from Governors State are needed for the 2013 conference.

GSU students can [register for the event](#), which features presentations and workshops demonstrating how area colleges and universities are working to expand sustainable practices on their campuses. The registration deadline is April 5. All registrants will be entered in a drawing for an iPad. Winners must be present when the drawing occurs at the end of the conference.

Chad Pregracke, the conference's keynote speaker, is president and founder of Living Lands & Waters (LL&W), the world's only "industrial strength" not-for-profit river cleanup organization. Over the last 15 years, Pregracke, along with his crew and 70,000 volunteers, have removed 7 million pounds of garbage from our nation's rivers.

## **Salute to Women Veterans – March 28**

Women who have served our nation will be honored at a reception on Thursday, March 28, from 3 to 5 p.m. in the Student Commons.

*Salute to Women Veterans* is sponsored by the Office of the Coordinator for Veterans and Military Personnel, Student Senate, Student Life, and SVA@GSU.

For more information, contact [Keith White](#) at 708.235.2223.



### **'Celtic Crossroads' Takes Irish Music to New Heights**

Just when you think that you have seen the best that Irish music has to offer, a fresh new show from Ireland is taking the art form to a spectacular level of innovation and virtuosity. *Celtic Crossroads*, coming to GSU Center for Performing Arts on Thursday, March 28, at 7 p.m., does for Irish music what *Riverdance* has done to Irish dance.

*Celtic Crossroads*, incorporating seven world-class musicians playing more than 20 instruments on stage, is a fantastic spectacle. From start to finish, the performers present a captivating fusion of genres in the Irish music family -- Eastern European Gypsy, North American bluegrass, classical and jazz, and the various forms of Celtic music from around Europe and the rest of the world.

Tickets for *Celtic Crossroads* are \$15 to \$55. To purchase tickets, or for further information, contact the GSU Center box office at [www.centertickets.net](http://www.centertickets.net) or 708.235.2222.

### **Information Sessions This Week on China Trip**

Join the College of Education on an educational trip to China in May, 2013. The two-week trip will focus on education and psychology, with visits to South China Normal University in Guangzhou, a variety of cultural events and exchanges, trips to see the Terra Cotta Warriors and the Great Wall of China, and much more.

Learn more at information sessions on Tuesday, March 26, from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m., in E-Lounge, and Wednesday, March 27, 3:30 to 4:30 p.m., at the G262 (CBPA Conference Room).

The trip is open to all GSU students, alumni, and community members. Estimated cost of the trip including all transportation, lodging, and some meals is approximately \$2,500 to \$2,700. Exact dates, itinerary, and cost will be determined soon.

### **Contributions to a Global Society – March 26**

Women's History Month at GSU continues with *International Coffee Hour: Women and Innovation in a Global Society*, on Tuesday, March 26, from 3 to 4:30 p.m., in Engbretson Hall.

The coffee hour is sponsored by Student Life, the Office of International Services, and the International Cultural Organization.

Presentations will be made on the many contributions that women, all around the world, have made in the areas of science, politics, and human rights.

Refreshments will be served.

### **Movie Night Presents 'The Impossible'**

GSU Family Night at the Movies returns Friday, March 29, with *The Impossible*, a 2013 feature starring Naomi Watts, Ewan McGregor, and Tom Holland. The movie begins at 6:45 p.m. in the GSU Center for Performing Arts.

Admission is free for GSU students and their families. *The Impossible* has a PG-13 rating.

### **Holistic Health Symposium 2013**

You can discover the power of holistic healing and non-traditional health remedies at the Holistic Health Symposium 2013 on Saturday, April 13, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., in the Recreation and Fitness Center Gymnasium.

You can learn about holistic health lifestyle options at this daylong event, which includes presentations, demonstrations, and exhibits. This event is free and open to the public.

The Holistic Health Symposium is sponsored by Recreation and Fitness Center, the College of Health and Human Services, and the Wellness Club.

For information or to be an exhibitor, visit [www.govst.edu/wellnessprograms](http://www.govst.edu/wellnessprograms).

### **Eat Healthy, Feel Better**

A month of healthy living activities at GSU starts April 3 and 4 with two workshops on foods and meals that can make you feel better.

*Executive Eating*, on Wednesday, April 3, from noon to 1 p.m. in A2110, will offer ideas for those who work and want to eat healthy, too. The session is presented by Kim Kramer, an Ingalls Wellness dietician.

*Eat Chic, Chicago: Fuel Your Body and Feed Your Soul* will be presented Thursday April 4, from noon to 1 p.m. in the Student Commons, A2140. Registered dietician Amari Cheffer will give a presentation, including cooking demonstrations, that show how you can increase your energy through by eating foods that fuel you through the day.

The workshops are sponsored by the GSU Recreation and Fitness Center and the Wellness Club. More information is available at [www.govst.edu/wellnessprograms](http://www.govst.edu/wellnessprograms).

## **Be Prepared for Speaking in Public**

Get pointers on how to prepare for a speech or presentation at *Public Speaking for the Graduate Student*, on Thursday, April 4, at 3 p.m. in Engbretson Hall. This is the second of four events sponsored by the GSU Graduate Student Organization during the spring semester.

This workshop is for you if you need to know the basics of a presentation, or if you feel anxiety when you speak in front of an audience. You'll learn how to better understand your material and identify talking points in delivering your message.

## **Get Ready, Get Set for Mini Biathlon**

GSU will host an Indoor Mini Biathlon April 7 through 12 in the Recreation and Fitness Center. Participants can compete at their own convenience by completing a 3-mile bike ride and 2-mile run.

The competition is open to all GSU students and members of the Recreation and Fitness Center. Prizes will be awarded for best category time and best combined time. All participants will receive a gift. There will be competition in two divisions: 10 to 50 years of age, and 50 years of age and above.

Runs must be completed on the Recreation and Fitness Center Stex treadmill and biking must be complete on the center's recumbent bike. Times must be verified by a center staff member.

Register in Room A1106 or by calling 708.534.4945.

Proceeds of the event benefit the Illinois Special Olympics.

