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News and Events

[2013 GSU Graduates Ready for Commencement](#)

GSU will award bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees to approximately 1,500 graduates at Saturday's Commencement. GSU will host two ceremonies, at 10 a.m. and 5 p.m., at the Tinley Park Convention Center.

GSU will award an honorary doctorate to award-winning journalist Maria Hinojosa. Hinojosa, who was born in Mexico, grew up in Chicago, and now lives in New York City, will speak at the 10 a.m. ceremony.

Two graduating GSU students have been chosen to give Commencement addresses. Michael Griffin, of Carpentersville, will speak at the morning ceremony. Shaniqua Jones, of Harvey, will speak in the afternoon.

Admission to Commencement is by ticket only. Graduating students who still need to pick up their tickets and parking passes can do so at the GSU Registrar's Office from 9 a.m. to noon, and 2 to 5 p.m., through Wednesday, June 5.

[Dynamic Leadership Lecture Series Starts Tonight](#)

GSU's Dynamic Leadership Lecture Series begins tonight with an appearance by Father Michael L. Pfleger, the acclaimed senior pastor of St. Sabina Church in Chicago.

The series, free and open to the public, features speakers who will discuss aspects of management and governance related to their own lives as successful leaders. The lectures are sponsored by the College of Business and Public Administration. Advance registration is not required. Everyone is welcome.



Father Pfleger

Father Pfleger's lecture, *Leading a Community: Advocating for the Disenfranchised*, takes place tonight from 6 to 7:30 p.m., in the Center for Performing Arts. Father Pfleger, known for his commitment to equality and passionate stance against injustice, has been recognized for his fight against alcohol and tobacco billboards, drugs, and racism. His work has been profiled in the national media and he has been honored for his achievements with numerous regional and national awards.

Ana Dutra will speak on *Developing Tomorrow's Leaders*, on

Wednesday, June 5, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., in Engbretson Hall. She has served as Chief Executive Officer of Leadership and Talent Consulting at Korn/Ferry International since February 2008.



Ana Dutra

Phillip Moeller will present *Creating a Shared Vision*, on Wednesday, June 12, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., in Engbretson Hall. Moeller served as president of Holland LP, headquartered in Crete, from 1987 to 2012.

Ronald E. Daly will present *The Leadership of Change*, on Monday, June 17, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., in Engbretson Hall. Daly is currently a board member of the AARP, the AARP Foundation, Metropolis Strategies, Loyola University of Chicago, and U. S. Cellular. He worked for R. R. Donnelley for 38 years, rising from the factory floor to the presidency of Donnelley's largest business unit.

Patrick Rea will speak on *Is There Difference between Leadership in Military and Corporate Leadership?* on Wednesday, June 19, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., in Engbretson Hall. Rea has a long and distinguished career of professional achievements and dedicated public service. He is a retired brigadier general in the U.S. Army and Tinley Park village clerk.

Congresswoman Robin Kelly, of Illinois' 2nd District, will be the final speaker in this series, on Monday, June 24, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., in the Center for Performing Arts. Kelly will present *Political Leadership through Turbulent Times*.

Director of GSU International Trade Center Attends White House Forum

Hongxia (Mary) Ma, director of the Illinois International Trade Center at Governors State University, recently participated in the *Doing Business in Asia* forum at the White House in Washington, D.C.



The forum focused on the Obama Administration's commitment to rebalancing toward the Asia-Pacific region and deepening engagement across the Asia-Pacific region through trade and investment. It was hosted May 20 by the White House Office of Public Engagement, White House Business Council, and White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

"It was a great experience to attend the event at the White House," Ma said. "I am honored to be the only representative from the SBA Illinois International Trade Center to attend this important event."

Mary Ma at White House Dr. Ellen Foster Curtis, Dean of GSU's College of Business and Public

Administration, thanked Ma for attending the White House forum and praised her work at the International Trade Center. “This is a great honor for you, the ITC, and the University and is a tribute to all of the great work you have done in expanding exports from Illinois,” Dr. Foster Curtis said.

During the forum, Ma said, she explained the work of the International Trade Center at GSU, which helps clients throughout the Chicago area increase their trade opportunities with China and other Asian nations.

Doing Business in Asia was attended by more than 80 U.S. executives currently doing business or interested in exporting to that region. Executives were told that U.S. economic leadership in the region is critical in rebalancing trade.

Workshops on Writing Research Papers Start Wednesday

Students, do you need help with writing proper sentences or your overall writing style? Do you know about the online research resources in the library? Do you know how to use these resources without plagiarizing? Do you know how to get started writing a research paper? The Library and the Writing Center are working together to provide all GSU students with a series of five workshops to help you with your research papers.

Workshops and dates they will be presented are:

The Research Paper: Introduction to Online Library Resources

All workshops will be from 3 to 4 p.m. in the Library, Room D2401C

Tuesday, June 11

Wednesday, June 19

Tuesday, July 9

Thursday, July 18

Contact: Associate Professor Linda Geller at ext. 4136

Writing Strong Discussion Board Posts, Reflections, Critical Reviews, and Essays

Wednesday, June 5, from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the Library, Room D2417

Thursday, July 11, from 3 to 4 p.m. in the Library, Room D2401C

The Research Paper: Getting Started

Monday, June 10, from 3 to 4 p.m. in the Library, Room D2401C

Wednesday, July 17, from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the Library, Room D2417.

Contact: Becky Nugent at ext.2105

The Research Paper: How to Use Your Sources Without Plagiarizing

Tuesday, June 18, from 3 to 4 p.m. in the Library, Room D2401C

Tuesday, July 23, in the Library, Room D2417

The Research Paper: Finishing Touches

Thursday, June 27 from 3 to 4 p.m. in the Library, Room D2401C

Wednesday, July 31, from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the Library, Room D2417 For a more information, visit, www.govst.edu/writingcenter/default.aspx?id=28760.

Lifetime Achievement Award Goes to Social Work Professor

D. Frank Elam, an adjunct faculty member in GSU's Department of Social Work, recently received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Association of Social Workers, Calumet District, Illinois Chapter. Elam was recognized for his many years of dedicated, diverse and wide range of social work service.



During his 45 years in social work, Elam has been employed as a clinician, supervisor, administrator, educator, and consultant. Since 1978, he has also been a field instructor for interns in the professions of counseling and social work at all of the major graduate schools in the Chicago area. He is currently a clinical consultant for the South Suburban Family Shelter, a domestic violence agency based in Homewood. He has been an adjunct professor at GSU since 2006.

Frank Elam

After earning his MSW from the University of Illinois at Chicago, Elam began work as a school social worker. He continued his career as Director of Social Services at Trade Winds Rehabilitation Center in Gary, Indiana. At the time, this agency was the largest Easter Seal agency in the country.

Since then, Elam has worked in numerous areas of human services, including public schools, community behavioral health, domestic violence and child welfare (including foster care, developmental disabilities, and group homes). Through his small private practice in the south suburbs, he treats clients dealing with depression, anxiety, attention deficit disorder, learning disabilities, self-injury, gaming, and Internet addictions.

Say Aloha to Dr. Allison at Today's Reception



The Governors State University community is invited to say “Aloha!” to Dr. Terry Allison. Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, at today’s reception honoring his service to GSU and wishing him success and happiness in the future. It takes place from 2:30 to 4 p.m., on the Center for Performing Arts stage.

In lieu of gifts, Dr. Allison would appreciate if gifts were made to the Dr. Allison Endowed Scholarship for Creative Arts at GSU. To donate, call Gina Ragland at 708.235.7559 or visit the [Foundation website](#).

June Dining Coupons Available Online

Dr. Allison

Check out the [Food Service website](#) for its calendar of daily hot entrees and two dining service coupons that are valid during the month of June.

June 12 Session Offers Portrait of Today's College Students

Dr. Diane R. Dean will share her research on the contemporary college student - and how her findings might influence our preparation for FC14 - on Wednesday, June 12, at in E-Lounge. Dr. Dean is Associate Professor of Higher Education and Administration in the College of Education at Illinois State University.



Dr. Diana Dean

Dr. Dean, the co-author of *Generation on a Tightrope: A Portrait of Today's College Students*, will make her presentation at 9:30 a.m., to be followed by a Q and A at 10:30 a.m., and a discussion on the implications regarding instruction and program development from 11 to 11:30 a.m.

As *Generation on a Tightrope* clearly reveals, today’s students need a very different education than the undergraduates who came before them: an education for the 21st Century, which colleges and universities are so far ill-equipped to offer and which will require major changes of them to provide.. The book offers educators, researchers, practitioners, policymakers, and employers guidance and a much-needed grasp of the forces shaping the

experiences of current undergraduates.

Persons planning to Dr. Dean’s presentation should RSVP to [Lisa Carra](#) at 708.235.7595.

The presentation is sponsored by the Division of Student Affairs and Support Services.

Cancer Crusaders Top Goal at Relay for Life



GSU's team in the recent Colleges Against Cancer Relay for Life exceeded its fundraising goal during the all-night event at Marian Catholic High School in Chicago Heights. The Cancer Crusaders set a goal of \$1,000. To date, the team has raised \$1,958, with the total still going up.

Team members camped out overnight and took turns walking around the Marian track to raise money and awareness in the Relay for Life, sponsored by the American Cancer Society.

Team co-captions Doria Scott, Erin Markase, Vanessa Newby, and more than 50 GSU students, faculty, and family members stayed up all night walking in celebration and remembrance of loved ones.

"I am so grateful to have shared this with my family and to support my community," said Jacqueline Barnett, a member of the Cancer Crusaders. "We are looking forward to participating in this event in the years to come."

Session on COE China Trip Planned This Week

Join the College of Education on a two week educational trip to China on November 10 to 24.

Information sessions are planned Thursday, June 6, from 3 to 3:45 p.m., and Thursday, August 29, from 3:15 to 4:15 p.m. Both sessions will be held in G261, the COE conference room.

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.

This trip is open to all GSU students, alumni, and community members. Participants will visit Beijing, Xi'an, Guangzhou, and Hong Kong, and will be able to earn credit through a special topics course. Financial assistance may be available for GSU students.

The estimated cost of the trip, including all transportation, lodging, and some meals, is \$3,500 to \$3,700.

