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GSU View

University Newsletters

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Office of Marketing and Communications

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## News and Events

### **Holiday Party – December 6**

The GSU Board of Trustees and President Elaine P. Maimon invite all faculty and staff to celebrate the season at a holiday reception. The festivities will be on Friday, December 6, from noon to 2 p.m., in the Hall of Governors.

RSVP to Penny Perdue at 708.534.6364 or [pperdue@govst.edu](mailto:pperdue@govst.edu).

### **Stay Healthy - Get Your Flu Shot**

The entire GSU community – students, staff and faculty, and their friends and family can all get vaccinated against the flu. Riverside Medical Center will provide flu shots on campus on Tuesday, December 3 and Thursday, December 5, from 2 to 7:30 p.m., in the GSU Cafeteria Annex.

Each vaccination is only \$25, and receipts will be given for submission to insurance providers. Minors must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

### **Apply Today for On Campus Housing**



Applications are now being accepted from current GSU students to live on campus in the new Prairie Place. When it opens in August 2014, Prairie Place will offer students several residential accommodations. There will be suites for roommates with shared bath and apartments with single or double occupancy bedrooms with kitchen and bath. There will also be lounges, community kitchens, vending machines and laundry facilities.

To live in university housing, students must be enrolled at GSU in at least six credit hours each semester for fall and spring or three credit hours for the summer term. New students can use their user name and password to access the online housing application.

For more information and to apply, visit [www.govst.edu/housing](http://www.govst.edu/housing).

## **Lincoln Laureate Congratulated**

GSU's 2013 Lincoln Laureate, Ricca Louissaint was congratulated on her achievement recently by President Elaine P. Maimon.



Dr. Elaine P. Maimon  
and Ricca Louissaint

Each year an outstanding senior from each of the four-year degree granting institutions of higher learning in Illinois is named a Student Laureate of The Lincoln Academy of Illinois. Louissaint exemplifies the characteristics of Lincoln Laureates who are chosen for their commitment to the principles of democracy and humanity as embodied by Abraham Lincoln. Louissaint was honored for her outstanding contributions to the GSU community and her commitment to helping her fellow students.

In November, Louissaint and student laureates from around the state participated in a ceremony recognizing their achievement at the Old State Capitol in Springfield. Accompanying her at the ceremony were members of her family and Dr. Terri Christiansen, visiting professor of psychology. Christiansen nominated Louissaint for the award.

Louissaint is currently studying for her Bachelor of Arts in Psychology. She is a dedicated peer mentor helping guide fellow students who are working to earn degrees at both the community college level and GSU. In addition to her involvement on several student committees, she also serves as a representative from the College of Education on the GSU Student Senate and is President of the Psychology Club. After graduation next spring, Louissaint plans to attend law school and pursue a career in law and ultimately secure a judgeship.

## **Congratulations, Dr. Williams**

Dr. Michael Williams, Assistant Finance Professor in CBPA, recently published a co-authored lead article in the *Financial*

*Review (Does Index Speculation Impact Commodity Prices? An Intraday Analysis*. *Financial Review*, Vol. 48-3, pg. 365-383). Unlike prior literature, Dr. Williams finds that speculation in financial markets is not universally good or bad. Rather, speculation can become harmful when speculation is "excessive".

Specifically, speculators in financial markets make trades based future price forecasts. Speculators have a unique role in the economy in that they facilitate financial transactions between large, business-related traders. Yet, as noted in the article, an overabundance of speculators may attract uninformed, "positive feedback traders" who trade like herding animals (as



Dr. Michael Williams

opposed to rational and informed economic agents). Thus, speculators do not unilaterally destabilize prices. Rather, follow-on trading leads to the market distortions."

Dr. Williams' article is relevant to financial markets and the economy as a whole by providing a more nuanced, balanced view of different traders' role in a financial ecosystem. Additionally, the article does not advocate for the complete banning of a trading class, but rather argues that speculation is an important part of a trading environment.

### **Shopping Made Easy**



Looking for the perfect gift for the holidays? Stop by the Friends of the Library gift sale on Thursday, December 5, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., in the alcove south of the elevators on the main floor.

You will have a chance to purchase themed gift baskets such Home for the Holidays, Sleepy Time, American as Apple Pie, and Bear Hugs (pictured). Each basket will have a full description of what is included in the baskets so that you know exactly what is included. And each basket will be a big hit with whomever receives it - even if you give it to yourself!

### **Taxes Made Easier**

As tax season approaches, you can streamline your personal tax process by signing up for an electronic W-2 form. Financial Services is offering GSU employees the option to update their employee profile through GSU's online portal to consent to receiving an electronic W-2. Signing up for the service allows all employees to access, view, and print their W-2 forms.

If you already gave consent, there is no need to take action.

For instructions on how to sign up, [view the memo](#).

### **Road, Sidewalk and Parking Lot Closures**

- The inner roadway between the GMT building and parking lot West 2 will be closed Monday, December 2 through Wednesday, December 4 due to the installation of the housing project sanitary sewer line. Vehicles will still be able to access the A north accessible parking area from the east.
- Particular sidewalks leading to A building near the excavation will remain closed. Sidewalks will remain open into B building at all times from West Lot 1 and West Lot 2.
- The majority of parking lot West 2 remains closed to continue the installation.

We regret the inconvenience and appreciate your patience and cooperation during these closures. For further information, please contact the Facilities Development & Management office at 708.534.4515 or campus ext. 4515.

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