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GSU View

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The View

[GSU president awarded Donna Shavlik Award](#)



GSU president Elaine P. Maimon (right) receives the Donna Shavlik award from Molly Corbett Broad, president of the American Council on Education.

Governors State University announced this week that its president, Elaine P. Maimon, has won the 2014 Donna Shavlik Award from the American Council on Education.

The award honors an individual whose leadership demonstrates a sustained commitment to advancing women in higher education through actions or initiatives enhancing women's leadership and career development, campus climate, and mentoring of women at both the state and national levels.

“Elaine Maimon has worked tirelessly and effectively to expand access to higher education overall and advance the cause of women in higher education leadership in particular,” said ACE president Molly Corbett Broad. “She is an inspiring role model and frequent mentor both in how she has achieved success and in her sustained commitment to creating paths to success for so many others.”

The award was established in 1999 to honor the service of Donna Shavlik, past director ACE's former Office of Women in Higher Education. The award is presented each year at ACE's Women's Leadership Dinner during its annual meeting.

Maimon was nominated for the award by Governors State University provost, Deborah Bordelon.

[Dr. Colleen Sexton named associate provost](#)

GSU provost Deborah Bordelon announced that Dr. Colleen Sexton will be the next associate provost and associate vice president for academic affairs.

During the months of April and May, Dr. Sexton will serve as the associate provost designate, and she will also continue to serve as the chair of the division of education during the transition. She will officially assume the position on June 1, 2014.

To read Provost Bordelon's full memo, click [here](#).

[Great Colleges to Work For program](#)

The Great Colleges to Work For program – sponsored by The Chronicle of Higher Education and ModernThink, LLC – provides senior-level administrators and academic leaders with insights on the quality of the workplace experience and the competitiveness of their policies and benefits.

Governors State University is participating in The Chronicle's Great Colleges to Work For program, a study designed to recognize institutions that have built great workplaces.

Part of the program involves an employee survey distributed to a sample of each institution's full-time faculty, adjuncts, A and Ps, division chairs, ASP's, staff, and civil service (exempt and non-exempt) staff. The survey is designed specifically for higher education. On March 17, 2014, this survey will be distributed to a random selection of our employees.

If you receive the invitation, please take a moment to complete the survey. You will be representing not only yourself, but all your colleagues, so please take the time to share your feedback. The results of the survey will be factored into the overall scoring process which will ultimately determine the institutions recognized. After The Chronicle publishes the findings this July, GSU will receive a report that summarizes responses to the survey questions.

We encourage everyone's participation! A high response rate helps ensure accurate results and demonstrates the commitment of our workforce.

Please contact Joyce Coleman, Assoc. VP for Human Resources & Diversity or visit www.ChronicleGreatColleges.com, if you have any questions.

Celebrating women of character, courage and commitment

Governors State University proudly celebrates Women's History Month with a series of events throughout March. Prior to the 1970's, the topic of women's history was largely missing from general public consciousness. To address this situation, the Commission on the Status of Women initiated a "Women's History Week" originally celebrated in 1978 and chose the week of March 8 to coincide with International Women's Day. The celebration was met with positive response, and in 1987, the National Women's History Project successfully petitioned Congress to expand the celebration to the entire month of March. For complete and updated information, please visit our website www.govst.edu/diversity.

Women and STEM Tribute

March 1 – 31

Display Case: 1st floor, B-Building

When you are walking down the hall of the B-wing; stop and take a look at the display of exceptional women involved with STEM: Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics. For more information, email vnewby@govst.edu.

Panel Discussion with Movie Screening: "Not My Life"

Tuesday, March 11

6 – 8:30 p.m., Center for Performing Arts

A viewing of the movie "Not My Life" is followed by a panel discussion on the effects of human trafficking on women and children. For more information, email gzapolska@student.govst.edu.

Labor Unions in the 21st Century: What is your [S]Take?

Thursday, March 13

5 – 7 p.m.

Faculty office center (G Building) atrium

Dr. Dan Gilbert, who is an Assistant Professor at the School of Labor and Employment Relations, University of Illinois, Urbana – Champaign, will give a brief overview of the history of unions, perhaps with an emphasis on the role Chicago played, and talk about contemporary labor issues that might be more interesting to the students. For more information, email eruiz@govst.edu.

“Hot Flashes”

Wednesday, March 19

6:30 p.m., Center for Performing Arts

Free for GSU Students with ID. General admission is \$10.

“Hot Flashes” is a play about the strength of women, young and old, as they overcome obstacles, face their issues and become phenomenal in their own right. For event information, email vnewby@govst.edu.

PechaKucha Night

Wednesday, March 26

6 - 7 p.m., E-Lounge

PechaKucha Night is an event that comes in a presentation format, where you show 20 images, each for 20 seconds. Present your ideas, interests, hobbies at this event. For more information, email diversity@govst.edu.

“Our Bodies, Our Labor, Ourselves: Reproductive Technologies and Women’s Rights”

Thursday, March 27

4:30 – 6 p.m., E1540

This is a class that will discuss modern reproductive technologies such as surrogacy, in vitro fertilization, and prenatal testing as powerful resources. For more information, email balmassi@govst.edu.

Women’s Night poetry reading

March 27

5 – 6 p.m., café annex

Ladies are invited to participate in a poetry reading of your choice; selections must go along with the subject of women’s rights and/or women’s equality. For more information, email gzapolska@student.govst.edu.

Women’s History Month Closing Event: “Mama’s Place”

March 28

7 p.m., Sherman Recital Hall

Join us for a “Student Performance Spotlight” featuring Allen-Patricia Britten, this year’s GSU Idol winner, who performs highlights of her original production of “Mama’s Place.” This is a story of one mother’s daily challenges as she struggles to raise five scrappy children with limited resources and negative outside influences. Her story will move you from laughter to tears particularly when a social worker shows up at her door; she risks losing it all as she fights to uphold her Christian values against a system in opposition to her beliefs. For more information, email diversity@govst.edu.

If you have any questions, please contact Vanessa Newby or call 708.534.4551 for more information.

Call for programs

If you have any events, programs or open classes for Women's History Month, please send the details to diversityprograms@govst.edu to have them included in the calendar of events.

Women's History Month is in March. As in the past, Student Life is putting together a host of events to honor the month. As part of the events calendar, please consider hosting an open class if any of your content is relevant. The theme is Women of Character, Courage and Commitment – though your case can relate generally to Women's History Month.

To submit a presentation please complete the survey monkey at www.surveymonkey.com/s/openclasswhmspring14

Information about other events for Women's History Month can be found at http://www.govst.edu/Campus_Life/Multicultural_Programs/.

Boot camp for graduate students

New GSU graduate students can learn the tools they need to become strong academics and professionals with the 2014 Graduate Student Boot Camp. During this three-day boot camp, students can attend workshops on student publishing, professional branding, library resources, creating an effective resume and more.

The workshop runs through Wednesday, March 12. All sessions are free. Current or former graduate students are welcome to attend. For a list of the workshops and times, [click here](#). For more information, contact [Career Services](#) or [Katrina Klotz](#).

Theater and Performance Studies presents “Still Life”

“Still Life,” a documentary by Emily Mann and directed by Dr. Patrick Santoro, comes to Sherman Hall for two showings on April 17 and 18 at 8 p.m.

Shaped by the author from conversations with the people whose experience she sets forth, the documentary play explores the way that Vietnam has affected three lives: a Marine veteran, his estranged wife, and his mistress. The man confesses that he killed a Vietnamese family in cold blood and, carrying the seeds of violence with him, returned home to brutalize his pregnant wife. The wife, disillusioned and unhappy, wants to ignore the terrors that haunt her husband, believing that in time the awful memories will fade, while the mistress, an angry feminist, blames the man's destructiveness on the forces that conditioned him before he went to Vietnam. In the end, these three become a metaphor for the nation as a whole—still trying to understand, and overcome, the lingering trauma that is the bitter legacy of the Vietnam experience.

The production has mature themes. Tickets are \$10, \$5 for students. To order tickets, visit CenterTickets.net, or call the box office at 708.235.2222.

Campus Dining and myONECARD

The campus dining menu for March, as well as the newsletter, are now available online. Check out the campus dining website (http://www.govst.edu/Campus_Life/Campus_Dining/) for its calendar of daily hot entrees at lunch and dinner. Be sure to check out the March newsletter, which describes specials planned for the month.

Also, be sure to pick up your new myONECARD from the office of Auxiliary Services and University Housing (C1330) or the Welcome Center (D Building, Main Entrance). Click [here](#) for more information about myONECARD.

Labor unions in the 21st Century

Drs. Elizabeth Johnson, Serena Wadhwa, and Elizabeth Ruiz will present “Labor Unions in the 21st Century: What’s your [S]Take?” Thursday, March 13 from 5-7 p.m. in the faculty office center atrium.

The event’s main speaker will be Dr. Dan Gilbert, who is an assistant professor at the School of Labor and Employment Relations, University of Illinois, Urbana – Champaign. He is a cultural historian with special interests in work, global mass culture and social movements. His previous work involves sports and unions, and he’s taught contemporary labor problems. Dr. Gilbert will give a brief overview of the history of unions, perhaps with an emphasis on the role Chicago played, and talk about contemporary labor issues that might be more interesting to the students.

All are welcome to attend this free event and faculty is encouraged to bring their students.

Commencement news and updates

GSU commencement is going green by saving paper. Information and updates about commencement will no longer be sent through regular mail. It will be sent to your GSU email account and posted on the commencement website.

If you’re planning to walk at the Commencement ceremony in May, then come to the “Salute to Grads: Commencement Prep” event on March 12 and 13, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., in the Hall of Governors.

Eligible participants will pick up their caps and gowns, take pictures in them and visit with commencement vendors. Doctoral students will receive your caps and gowns at a later date through your academic program but come and participate in the festivities.

Participants must bring a photo ID and be in good financial standing with the university. More information about commencement is available online at www.govst.edu/commencement. For more information, contact 708.534.4500 or commencement@govst.edu.

Commencement is May 17, 2014. Participation in commencement is voluntary. If you plan to participate in the ceremony, remember to check your GSU email.

Faculty Scholarship and Teaching Center Workshop

On Tuesday, March 11 in room D1496, Dr. Colleen Sexton will give a presentation on the scholarship of teaching. After attending this presentation, attendees may view teaching in a different light.

The presentation explores what it means to work toward the highest standards of “groundedness, of openness, of clarity and of complexity.” To move scholarly teaching into the realm of the scholarship of teaching, it requires that instructors step back and reflect on the teaching they have done and recount in a way that can be publicly reviewed and built upon by peers.

The presentation will run from 3-4 p.m.

Book discussion—Alice Munro and One Book, One University



Dean Lydia Morrow Ruetten will lead a discussion of Alice Munro’s short story “Hateship, Friendship, Courtship, Loveship, Marriage” on Wednesday, March 12, from noon-1 p.m. in room D2401A, which is located in the library.

Dean Lydia Morrow Ruetten “Hateship, Friendship, Courtship, Loveship, Marriage” is also the title of a book of short stories by Alice Munro, winner of the Nobel Prize® in Literature 2013. The short story inspired the movie “Hateship Loveship,” which recently premiered at the Toronto Film Festival and stars Kristen Wiig, Guy Pearce, Nick Nolte, Jennifer Jason Leigh and Christine Lahti.

The story is a narrative featuring, Johanna, a matronly woman of middle age who has worked as a housekeeper and caregiver. Due to a very mean-spirited teen-age action, Johanna thinks that a man is in love with her for the first time in her life.

“The Intellectual Life Committee chose this book as this semester’s One Book, One University selection. It is fitting that during Women’s History Month we discuss a short story that some have said reflects Munro at her very best,” Ruetten said. “The Intellectual Life Committee invites you to bring your lunch and join in an hour of thoughtful discussion,” she said.

The Intellectual Life Committee is making the book available to students, through Dean Ruetten, for \$5 and is underwriting the majority of the cost. For a copy, contact [Dean Ruetten](#) or go to room D2419 the day of the discussion to purchase a copy. Two copies of this book are on reserve in the library: PR9199.3.M8 H38 2001. Copies of this book are also available in the book store at retail prices.

Last day for suggestions for “Operation Mascot”

Today is the last day for you to submit your suggestion for GSU’s first ever mascot.

The university is soliciting students, staff, faculty and the extended community for suggestions for what the new mascot should be.

Go to www.govst.edu/operationmascot to submit your suggestions. Anyone can submit a suggestion, whether they are affiliated with the university currently, or not.

A search committee will take the suggestions and choose four finalists, then submit the finalists to a designer to sketch. The four finalists and their accompanying designs will be made public so the GSU community can vote for their choice. The mascot will then be chosen based on a combination of popular vote and university officials’ input.

The winner and three other finalists will receive prizes. In the event that more than one person submits the same idea chosen as a finalist, the prize will go to the person who submits the suggestion first according to the time stamp on the submission.

Film screening for Women’s History Month

The Office of International Services invites you to join a celebration of Women’s History Month and International Women’s Day with a film screening of “Not My Life,” directed by Robert Bilheimer. This film documents the dangerous practices of human trafficking and modern slavery on global scale. Our panelists will focus on the disproportionate effects of human trafficking on women living in the state of Illinois.

The event will take place at the Center for Performing Arts on March 11, 2014 from 5 - 7:30 pm. A reception hosted by Toastmasters and Lambda Pi Eta will take place after the conclusion of the panel discussion.

Representatives from CAASE, Chicago Dream Center and Farah Baqai will be on the panel discussing the topic of human trafficking and slavery in Illinois.

Information and open house: Doctor of physical therapy degree

GSU’s Department of Physical Therapy will host an information session/open house for the entry-level Doctor of Physical Therapy degree program on Wednesday, March 26, from 4-7:30 p.m. in room D-34000.

GSU offers an on-campus, entry-level doctor of physical therapy degree for those interested in starting a career as a physical therapist. Information about prerequisite requirements, admission criteria and course curricula will be available. Attend to have your questions answered, meet faculty and students, and tour our classroom/laboratory spaces. Advisors will be available for individual consultation. Refreshments will be provided.

For more information, contact [Mary Tracy](#) at 708.534.7290.

Intellectual property information

GSU will present a seminar on intellectual property fundamentals Friday, March 14, from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. The seminar will be in the Hall of Honors.

The Husch Blackwell law firm will collaborate with Southern Illinois University to conduct the “Intellectual Property Fundamentals – Copyrights, Patents, Trademarks and More” seminar. It will cover various intellectual property topics as they pertain to universities and other institutions of higher education and research. Some of the topics include patents, copyrights, trademarks, licensing and the potential loss of rights when submitting to publications.

To attend, RSVP to the [Office of Sponsored Programs and Research](#).

Peer mentors and orientation leaders needed

New Student Programs is looking for students to participate in the GSU Orientation Leader and Peer Mentor programs.

Orientation leaders will assist new students and their families in their transition to GSU. Selected students will play an integral role in the success of the first year, transfer and graduate students and family members as they transition to the GSU community. These positions are for summer employment.

Peer Mentors will be integrated into the First-Year Seminar (FYS 1001) and will be recognized leaders throughout the university community. They will serve as group leaders, contacts between departments, peer educators and positive role models. These positions are for fall and spring employment.

To join the team, attend a mandatory information session Wednesday, March 12 from 3-4 p.m. in room B1215 in the Academic Resource Center.

Apply now at www.govst.edu/nsp.