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GSU View

University Newsletters

7-7-2014

GSU View, 2014-07-07

Office of Marketing and Communications

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Recommended Citation

Governors State University Office of Marketing and Communications, GSU View (2014, July 7). <http://opus.govst.edu/gsuview/711>

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Entrance to campus allowed from East entrance only during construction

Beginning Tuesday, July 8, the only available entrance to campus for motorists will be from the East entrance off Crawford Avenue. Two-way traffic from the North entrance off Stuenkel Road will no longer be available while construction crews resurface the Stuenkel entrance/exit roadway. Motorists may use the roadway leading to Stuenkel Road throughout the construction project as an exit only. Construction is expected to be completed by mid-August.



The State of Illinois Capital Development Board granted an authorization to proceed with the campus roadways and sidewalk improvement project at GSU.

The project will remove and replace approximately 4,000 feet of the University Drive curbed median, provide a re-configured theater loading dock to accommodate two way and truck traffic, and provide an increase in accessible parking near the A North entry doors.

The alumni path to the Metra station will also be removed and replaced with a wider path including new pavement near the grants office parking lot. New road pavement will be installed from University Parkway all the way to the Family Development Center. The project will be disruptive during construction, but we are excited about the improvements to our campus.

The Alumni path will be closed until finish of construction. Metra riders who use the path to come to the campus should use the [GSU Shuttle](#) or the [PACE bus](#). Check www.govst.edu for additional details as they become available.

Undergraduate open house coming Saturday

GSU will hold an open house for freshman and transfer students this Saturday, July 12, from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Open house will be an opportunity for students to see the campus; learn about the learning

communities that foster civic engagement, global citizenship and sustainability; get a glimpse into living on campus and learn more about campus resources and safety. Students can also learn about GSU's new, innovative education program for our first freshman class, which arrives on campus in fall of 2014.

GSU will have representatives on hand to talk to students about what they need to be successful college students, such as admissions, financial aid and career services.

To register for the open house, visit <http://www.govst.edu/FC14openhouse> or call 708.534.4490.

Admitted student day on tap for next week

Accepted freshmen will have an opportunity to learn more about what college at GSU is like during Admitted Student Day Wednesday, July 16, from 5 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Admitted Student Day offers freshman a chance to get more information about financial aid and housing options. It will also be a chance for them to meet their academic advisors who will help guide them through their first two years.

For more information, go to admission@govst.edu or call 708.534.4490.

Second new-student orientation session starts Tuesday

GSU will hold its second orientation session for freshman, graduate and transfer students July 7-9. The university received terrific feedback from parents after the first session on June 26 and the university is looking to build on that success.



Questions from new students and their families find their way to every phone extension and impromptu hallway conversations. With that in mind, faculty and staff can help make new students and their families feel welcome to the GSU family with the following information.

On Monday, July 7th, freshman students and their guests are invited to participate in the optional Early Arrival program. Early Arrival activities will consist of "Dinner with the Deans," an evening tour of the Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park and fun, games and activities with the energetic orientation navigators. This is a great opportunity for new students to get to know each other and make connections before coming to campus the next day for orientation.

- [Download the Freshmen Orientation Program Booklet](#) (pdf file)
- [Download the Freshmen Orientation Schedule of Events](#) (pdf file)
- [For updates, please visit our Freshmen Orientation website.](#)

The required portion of the freshman program will begin on Tuesday, July 8 with check in at 8 a.m. The welcome and introductions will begin promptly at 9 a.m. in Sherman Hall and breakout sessions follow immediately after. For this orientation session, we are expecting 70 students and 65 guests. The day will be engaging, high energy and informative for everyone.

Wednesday, July 9, GSU is expecting around 250 students to attend transfer/graduate orientation. Please take a moment to review the orientation information below and help answer questions that may find their way to you.

- [Download the Transfer/Graduate Orientation Program Booklet](#) (pdf file)
- [For updates, please visit our Transfer Orientation website](#)
- [For updates, please visit our Graduate Orientation website](#)

Check-in for transfer/graduate orientation will be from noon to 1 p.m. in the Hall of Governors, Wednesday, July 9. After checking in, students will be able to attend the resource fair, take ID pictures and participate in a campus tour. The welcome and university overview will begin promptly at 1:15 p.m. and the breakout sessions follow immediately after, so please feel free to join in.

The GSU community is invited and encouraged to share its experiences through social media. This is a great way for us to share photos, memories, and stories.

For our orientation sessions this summer, GSU will use the hashtags #new2gsu and #govst2014 to connect with everyone to the GSU social media scene.

Excited about welcoming new students? Tweet about it. Talk about it on your Facebook. Take a photo with students or colleagues and put it up on Instagram. Just use those hashtags for your posts, and maybe you'll see your orientation experience streaming live on the monitors around campus.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact New Student Programs at 708.235.6819 or via email at orientation@govst.edu.

Goodwin named president of non-profit education organization

Kristy Goodwin, GSU's director of recruitment and outreach, has been elected president of Resources for the Education of Adults in the Chicagoland Area. She is also the first African-American president in the organization's history.

REACH is a non-profit consortium of educational, civic and corporate organizations that provides adult students with information and accessibility to educational and financial resources.

Through REACH, adult learners enhance their personal growth, increase their career potential to themselves and their employers, and emerge as enlightened members of a global community.



Kristy Goodwin

Kristy has been a member of REACH for 12 years, having served in several capacities. She has seen many adult students receive scholarships from REACH to help in their education, which she feels is the highlight of this organization. Each year REACH gives four or five \$1,500 scholarships to adult students who are attending one of the member schools. Governors State University has had a couple of recipients of this award in the past and Kristy looks forward to a lot more applicants from GSU next year.

"Since becoming a member of REACH in 2002, and volunteering my time in various roles, I am elated to be the first African-American president of this wonderful organization," Goodwin said. "I look forward to serving along with some great leaders in building new memberships and new corporate sponsorships as well as offer stellar professional development to current members."

President's husband still finds ways to educate

Though he's retired as an educator, Dr. Mort Maimon – husband of GSU president Elaine P. Maimon – wrote this week in the Chronicle of Higher Education about how he continues to be involved in educating students.

Dr. Maimon writes about how he tutors students with writing and speaking and making a difference in their education, though he doesn't give grades. "Being able to engage practically and purposefully with my students at so crucial a time in their lives has enriched me and, I hope, them."

Read the full story [here](#).

Take charge of your life: How to get what you need

The division of psychology and counseling and William Glasser International invite you to attend a free workshop based on Dr. William Glasser's book "Take Charge of Your Life."

The information presented in this workshop will help you to:

- Gain effective control over negative feelings such as anger, guilt, and depression and choose more positive thinking behaviors

- Become more self-accepting and less critical of others
- Learn specific techniques for resolving conflict within oneself or with others
- Add to your happiness and connect better in important relationships

The workshop will be held July 19, 2014, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in room Room D34115. The instructors will be Dr. Patricia Robey, associate professor of counseling, and Kim Olver, senior faculty and executive director of William Glasser International. This workshop is free of charge and open to the public. CEUs are available.

To reserve your place in the workshop or for answers to any questions, contact Dr. Robey at probey@govst.edu or 708.534.4975

GSU to save money with energy program

GSU is participating in a program this summer that will not only save the university money on energy costs, it will relieve stress on the local power grid on days when energy demands are at their greatest.

GSU is taking part in what's called a demand response program that helps relieve stress on power grids by convincing large electric users to scale back on their electricity use. GSU is partnering with energy management company EnerNOC to oversee the program. EnerNOC enlists its users to be on standby and asks them to reduce their electricity usage when weather is expected to be particularly hot. Such a program avoids the need to build excess power generation to meet demands and helps prevent blackouts.



GSU chief operating engineer, Michael Sullivan, said the university can meet EnerNOC's request by transferring to backup generators, shutting off lights and adjusting the air conditioning system. However, the university would also like faculty and staff to participate in ways that don't affect productivity. Staff and faculty can help by moving to battery power when using laptops, turning off lights and unplugging unused appliances.

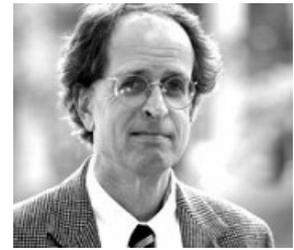
Facilities and Development Management will send out notification when the university will be asked to cut back on energy usage. Sullivan said the notification is usually sent out early morning, then the university will cut down on usage later that same day.

Over a five-year period, the university could save more than \$50,000.

For more information on the program, visit www.enernoc.com

Renowned education professor to talk about creating successful schools

GSU invites education leaders to gain valuable insight from one of the country's top industry scholars, Dr. Joseph Murphy, at a leadership conference hosted by GSU at the Congress Hotel in Chicago Sept. 25-26, 2014.



Dr. Joseph Murphy

Dr. Murphy is a Vanderbilt University professor who was recently named by Education Week as one of the Top Ten Educational Scholars in the U.S. He will present his newest research on the "DNA of Successful Schools: Community of Care & Academic Press."

Dr. Murphy will discuss how his findings help to create effective schools for all students by closing achievement gaps. His main focus is on two areas that he says must function together: Academic Press, which consists of all the academic activities and expectations in a school, and Community of Care, which is the type of support provided to students and teachers.

Register now for this important event that is sure to provide school leaders with key, practical strategies for creating lasting changes that improve schools.

Click [here](#) to register.

Meditation and Interfaith Prayer Room available to GSU community

Consistent with its focus on diversity and inclusion, GSU is committed to supporting people of all faiths fairly and to provide the GSU Community with access to facilities for personal observation of their faith traditions or quiet contemplation.



Accordingly, a Meditation and Interfaith Prayer Room is available year round in Building A, room 2150. The room is an accessible space, which can be used by people of all faith traditions and beliefs, and for those whom religion has no particular significance in their lives. The room may be used as a quiet space for people to sit and contemplate, to pray, to take a few moments to de-stress from a busy day, or to recover from a traumatic life event, such as bereavement. The Meditation and Interfaith Prayer Room is available on a drop-in basis, or can be reserved by contacting Student Life at 708.235.7362 or randr@govst.edu.

Payroll time records (timesheets) now in GSU portal

Payroll time records have been updated and are ready for use on payroll's portal page. The updated time records are now in a fillable PDF format and can be downloaded and printed out. The time records are coded by classification as follows:

E – Exempt

G – Graduate Assistant

N – Non-exempt

S – Student

U – Faculty

X – Extra help

The same procedure still applies to completing and submitting your time records given your classification. Paper copies of old timesheets will no longer be available in the Payroll department. New time records will go into effect July 1, 2014. Old timesheets will no longer be accepted by Payroll after September 30, 2014.

If you have any questions regarding the time records process, please contact Payroll at payroll@govst.edu or 708.235.7628.

If you have any questions regarding your employment classification, please contact Human Resources at HumanResources@govst.edu or 708.534.4100.

GSU gives students a chance to step up their STEM skills



The GSU secondary education math and science programs will offer a summer science, technology, engineering and math camp to family and friends of GSU employees. The camp will be held from July 21 through July 24, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The cost is only \$30 per student and will include lunch, all materials and a t-shirt.

Students who are going into eighth grade through 2014 high-school graduates are invited to take part in the exciting and fun adventure into STEM. Some activities will include launching bottle rockets, catapulting ping-pong balls, building bridges, and creating slime. For more information, contact Melinda Elliott at melliott@govst.edu.