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GSU View

University Newsletters

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3-17-2015

## GSU View, 2015-03-17

Office of Marketing and Communications

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A newsletter for students, faculty & staff



March 17, 2015 Vol. 15, Issue 3

## FEATURE

### GSU Fêted as the Nation's Most Innovative Small University

The nation's premier organization for higher education has honored Governors State University as the most innovative small university in the U.S. by naming it the winner of the prestigious 2015 ACE/Fidelity Investments Award for Institutional Transformation.



GSU President Elaine Maimon (center) holds the Ace Award bestowed to Governors State University. Also pictured are (from left): Kevin Reilly, presidential advisor for leadership, ACE; Molly Corbett Broad, president, ACE; Mark Becker, president, Georgia State University; Alexandra Taussig, senior vice president, Tax-Exempt Marketing and Business Strategy, Fidelity Investments.

The award, from the American Council on Education, recognizes the dramatic changes that have transformed GSU. These changes are the culmination of years of hard work by Governors State faculty, staff, administration, trustees, students, alumni, and friends.

ACE has membership representing more than 1,700 college and university presidents from both the public and private sectors, and the ACE award singles out Governors State for its transformation through innovation and its sound business plan. The award, with its \$10,000 prize, recognizes institutions that have responded to higher education challenges in innovative and resourceful ways, achieving dramatic changes in a relatively brief period.

While presenting the award, Alexandra Taussig, Senior Vice President of Fidelity Investments, praised the entire team at GSU for its "groundbreaking work" and singled out the "passionate and inspirational" leadership of President Elaine Maimon. Upon accepting the award, President Maimon replied, "On behalf of GSU, I want to thank ACE and Fidelity Investments for shining a spotlight on transformation through creativity, innovation, and a sound business plan. I'm glad that 'investments' is in the name of the award because public universities represent a return on investments."

GSU's success is notable in that it occurred in an era of contraction in state funding resulting in a 15 percent cut in appropriations over the past five years. GSU maintained the lowest tuition and fee rate of any Illinois state university, yet was still able to find innovative ways to incorporate a new state-of-the-art four year bachelor's program, the Dual Degree Program, and new on campus housing. Throughout this period of change, GSU was also able to develop new markets, increasing enrollment by 13.2 percent while enrollments at other regional public universities in Illinois were declining.

President Maimon summed up the secret to this GSU success story saying, "Nothing is more powerful in higher education than uncompromising commitment to student success."

GSU Provost Deborah Bordelon noted that this honor "affirms the positive impact the dynamic educational strategies implemented at GSU have on our students and our communities. Through these collective university-wide efforts, we have made GSU a national model."

The ACE award was given in two categories: one for institutions with student populations less than 5,000 FTE and another for larger institutions. Georgia State University with 32,000 students was chosen as the most innovative large university. Rick Mitchell, executive vice president of Fidelity Investments, which partnered in the award with ACE, said, "Georgia State and Governors State universities have shown exceptional leadership and achievement within the higher education community, and deserve recognition for their efforts to make higher education more accessible to all students."

**For more on GSU's and the ACE Award:**

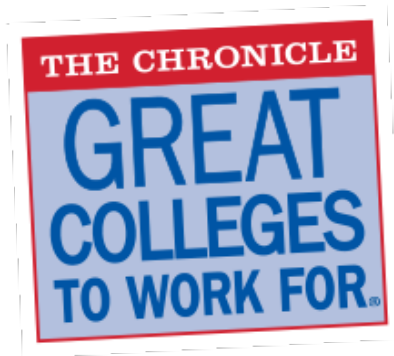
- [eNews Park Forest](#)
- [American Council on Education](#)
- [Georgia State University News](#)
- [Association of American Colleges and Universities](#)
- [Higher Education Today](#)

## BUZZ

### Chronicle of Higher Education—Great Colleges to Work For

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, A& P's, Division Chairs, ASP's, Staff, and Civil Service (Exempt and Non-exempt) Staff. The survey is designed specifically for higher education. On March 16, 2015, the survey was distributed to a random selection of our employees.

If you received 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.

Thank you, in advance, for your participation. Please contact Joyce Coleman, Assoc. VP for Human Resources & Diversity or visit [www.ChronicleGreatColleges.com](http://www.ChronicleGreatColleges.com), if you have any questions.

## **The Annual Student Leadership Awards**

The Student Leadership Awards will be held on Friday, April 24, in the Hall of Governors. This program is designed to highlight the achievements, of GSU Student Clubs and Organizations, as well as the staff, faculty, and administrators who support these groups. This year's event, will celebrate the students' many accomplishments, and reminded them of the impact that their student clubs and organizations have on the university and campus community. Nominations are currently being accepted in the following categories:

- Outstanding Student Club/Organization Award
- Outstanding Graduate Student Award
- Outstanding Undergraduate Student Award
- Freshman of the Year Award
- Rising Star Award
- New Student Club/Organization of the Year
- Program of the Year
- Outstanding Club/Organization Advisor
- Outstanding Support Staff
- The Elaine P. Maimon Award

GSU Students, Faculty, Staff and Administration are eligible to nominate by using the link below.  
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/StudentLeadershipAwards2015>

**Check Out Online Research Tools @ [www.govst.edu/library](http://www.govst.edu/library)**

Did you know that the library has a number of research tools that you can access online? They include:

Databases  
Lib Guides (Librarian-created research guides)  
Electronic Journals  
The Library Catalog (I-Share )

"Information is added to our collection regularly," noted Dean Lydia Morrow Ruetten. "For example, we recently acquired access to the database, **Opposing Viewpoints in Context**, which can be found in the Database A-Z list," she said.

**Opposing Viewpoints in Context** covers today's most timely social issues from Health Care to immigration and assists students in gathering research that has applications in a variety of student related activities including preparing papers, presentations and much more.

"Now that the GSU library is mobile-friendly, students are also invited to access the library using the myGSU mobile app," said Ruetten.

## Commencement Speaker Nominations

The Commencement Student Speaker Committee is currently accepting nominations for the commencement ceremony to be held on Saturday, May 16, 2015. There are two ceremonies; one at 10 a.m. and one at 5 p.m. ceremony. As a result, we will select two commencement speakers, one for the morning and the other for the evening ceremony. We will need candidates to represent all colleges, so please make a conscious effort to nominate deserving students for this prestigious honor.

Access the Student Commencement Speaker nomination form at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/SpringCommencementspeakernomination> and fill out both the nomination form and the recommendation form no later than April 3.

In order for students to be eligible they must be available for an interview on Friday, April 10, 2015 between 9 AM and 3PM. Please be sure to share the information with your nominee before you submit the nomination.

If you require additional information don't contact Sheree Sanderson, Assistant Dean of Students at: [ssanderson@govst.edu](mailto:ssanderson@govst.edu).

## Students! Are You Looking for a Quiet Place for a Group Meeting?



Look no further. The GSU Library has two dedicated group study rooms for students that are each fully equipped with a computer, wall monitor, a conference table, and a white board. Room #2 is also an enhanced collaboration room. Recently, we found a group of business students huddled together working on their capstone project. The group was discussing strategy and simulating outcomes for their ongoing group project.

"Being able to meet here for our group is like having our own mini-class in our own boardroom," offered Bradley Dunbar, a student in Business Administration. "These meeting rooms allow us to have privacy where we can discuss our project without our class competitors hearing our plans and strategy," he said.

The two conference rooms have become more popular and scheduling the rooms is easy and convenient. You can pick up a scheduling form at the Library Information Desk, or visit [www.govst.edu/library](http://www.govst.edu/library) and under the Quick Links visit the Group Study Rooms for scheduling.

"By having these rooms available, we are able to get a step ahead because we are able to meet, collaborate and prepare projects similar to what is happening in the business world today," said Jeremy Joyce, a Business Administration major. "It lets us have a real world insight to the future," he said.

## GSU's Department of Health Administration at the American College of Healthcare Executives



(left to right) Dr. Rupert Evans, DHA, MPA, FACHE, Chair of the Department of Health Administration; Dr. Ning Lu, Ph.D., MPH, Associate Program Director for the Master of Health Administration program, and a Full Professor in the Department of Health Administration, and Julie Andersen, External Program Manager and recruiter for the College of Health and Human Services.

GSU's Department of Health Administration is being represented at the American College of Healthcare Executives' 2015 Congress on Healthcare Leadership, March 16-19, at the Hilton Chicago. Posing in front of the Health Administration Department's information booth are (left to right) Dr. Rupert Evans, DHA, MPA, FACHE, Chair of the Department of Health Administration; Dr. Ning Lu, Ph.D., MPH, Associate Program Director for the Master of Health Administration program, and a Full Professor in the Department of Health Administration, and Julie Andersen, External Program Manager and recruiter for the College of Health and Human Services.

## The Experience Hub is Changing to Jobs for Jaguars

GSU students/alumni will be able to explore jobs and internships, RSVP for career events and share your resume with employers recruiting at our university. The look has changed, but the log-in remains the same! Look for the change Coming Soon!

### EVENTS

## Undergrad Open House Saturday, March 21

Governors State University will hold an undergraduate Open House on Saturday, March 21, from 10

a.m. to 2 p.m. "We will have information on admission requirements, financial aid, campus life and student housing, as well as specific undergraduate programs. Prospective students and parents will also be able to meet with Governors State faculty, academic advisors and financial aid counselors," said Yakeea Daniels, Director of Admissions and Student Recruitment.

"Potential students will find out exactly what they'll need to become a successful student here. We are glad to show off all that GSU has to offer and why we should be their first choice for higher education," adds Daniels.

Spanish language translators will be available at the open house. For more information or to RSVP, contact the Office of Admissions at (708) 534-4490 or [gsunow@govst.edu](mailto:gsunow@govst.edu). To register for Open House, go to [www.govst.edu/openhouse](http://www.govst.edu/openhouse).

## Dr. Daniel Goleman, Monday, March 23

Join us for a free lecture and presentation followed by a Q & A with Dr. Daniel Goleman Monday, March 23, 2015, at 5:30 p.m. in the Center for Performing Arts. Dr. Goleman will also participate in a free pre-lecture discussion with students, faculty and administrators at 3:30 p.m. on the CPA stage.



Dr. Daniel Goleman, author of  
*"Emotional Intelligence"*

Dr. Goleman is the author of the best-selling and influential book "Emotional Intelligence." He will present his new book "Focus: The Hidden Driver of Excellence" followed by a book and CD signing.

The presentation is sponsored by the Metropolitan Institute for Leadership in Education (MILE), College of Education, Teacher Quality Partnership Grant, College of Health and Human Services, and College of Arts and Sciences.

For more information, call 708.534.4024 or visit [www.govst.edu/mile](http://www.govst.edu/mile).

## NSA Presentation March 25

On Wednesday, March 25, Diana Parr from the National Security Agency (NSA), Washington, D.C. will give a presentation in the Hall of Honors from 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., on the NSA's Mission, Academic Alliances and Internship/Employment Opportunities. After her presentation, Ms. Parr will hold a Q&A session, meet and greet faculty members and tour GSU's computer and science labs. All interested faculty and students are invited to attend.

## How to Advance Your Career Workshop

Join Park Forest Village Manager Tom Mick and Park Forest Human Resources Manager Denyse Carreras on Monday, March 30 from 6-7 p.m. in Lecture Hall F1622 as they discuss methods designed to help you advance your career.



Tom Mick and Denyse Carreras

Topics to be covered include:

- Advanced résumé and interviewing tips
- Important qualities of a good candidate
- Common mistakes applicants make
- How to impress and make the most out of the April 16 Career Fair at GSU
- Important considerations for a job with local government
- How to compete for a promotion

For more information, contact Matt Gentry: [mgentry@student.govst.edu](mailto:mgentry@student.govst.edu). Sponsored by the Graduate Professional Network and Office of Career Services.

## The Cotton Mouth Club



Hip-hop and ballet? The music of OutKast and Michael Jackson. The 1920's and the 1980's. These odd couples combine to create an undeniably unique performing arts experience—and one with a message about violence. The Cotton Mouth Club, presented by Chicago Dance Crash, brings its characteristic fusion of dance styles, known widely on the Chicago contemporary dance scene, to GSU's Center for Performing Arts, Friday, March 27 at 8 p.m.

Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$10 for students with valid I.D. Adults 65+ save \$5. For tickets and more information, [click here](#), or call: 708.235.2222.

Funded by: The Chicago Community Trust and Affiliates and the National Endowment for the Arts. This program is partially supported by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council Agency.



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## Art Student's Donation an Inspiration

When art student Verana Stark was taking pictures at the GSU Martin Luther King, Jr. commemoration in January 2014, she wasn't expecting to create a work of art that would hang in the halls of the university. But art isn't known to keep a schedule. What happened next was a convergence of two artists resulting in a beautiful photograph called "Cherish the Moment," which Verana has donated GSU at this year's MLK program.



(L to R) President Elaine Maimon, Cherish Brown, Verana Stark and Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Deborah Bordelon

The photograph captures dancer Cherish Brown, in a moment of grace and elegance. Cherish is a Master's student in the Communication Studies program who has been dancing since she was five years old, studying ballet and jazz. She was dancing in the program honoring Dr. King when the photo was taken.

Verana explained that in photography, moving shots only happen once. "You can't capture that same moment twice. You have to think fast. And that was what I did. I took 14 photographs of Cherish that day. I later looked through my photos to post them and stopped at that particular shot. I could not believe that I captured such a beautiful moment."

Cherish was similarly amazed at how beautifully Verana captured those moments. "Movement is very tricky to capture, so I was blown away. It's amazing how dance tells stories and so does photography. Verana captured the spirit, emotion, and message all in a single photograph. "

Concentrating on her performance for the MLK commemoration, Cherish wasn't even aware the photo was being taken. "I was honored to be asked to participate in the program commemorating Dr. King. My focus was on that. I think the photograph captures me being completely in the moment of honoring Dr. King," she said. Verana said she too was in the moment when she took the shot. "My inspiration for that particular shot was a sudden connection; a harmonious connection to my soul. Her every move was art in the making. She was so peaceful, so gracious, so tranquil from the moment she emerged on stage. I immediately tried to capture every moment that I could," she said.

Few people would have ever seen the photo if a friend had not told Verana about the opportunity to have art work displayed in the President's Exhibit. "I had never heard of the exhibit before that day. I didn't have a lot of time to figure out which photo or artwork to submit to the art gallery. I sent a message to (GSU Art Gallery Director) Jeff Stevenson to see if he was still looking for work and he was. I sent him the "Cherish the Moment" photo, which was my favorite photo from my event photography position at GSU, and he thought the photograph was gorgeous. He asked that I print and frame the photograph as large as possible. I worked quickly to get it ready and my fiancé and I thought of the name together.

Only five works are chosen to be in the President's Exhibit, and when Verana's photo was chosen, she

was overwhelmed. "I was so excited that my photograph was one of five works chosen to be in the President's Exhibit. President Maimon invited the students whose work was on display to a luncheon. I insisted that Cherish be a part of the luncheon as well."

"My husband and I enjoy these lunches," said President Maimon. "It is inspiring to listen to our students talk about their passion for art. Verana's photograph is beautiful. "

In addition to her dancing, Cherish works as a production assistant in the Department of Digital Media, Marketing and Communications and as a reporter for This Week at GSU (TWAG). Last fall she played the role of Beneatha Younger in the GSU TAPS production of A Raisin in the Sun. "GSU has given me so many opportunities to develop my skills and talents; I can only hope it inspires others to keep growing and giving," she said.

Cherish recalled that the first time she saw the photograph in the President's exhibit she was "shocked." "How Verana captured the movement came out so beautifully, I couldn't believe it was me! I am deeply honored and grateful to have shared this experience with Verana."

It was when she realized how much people loved the photograph that Verana decided to donate it to the university. "I knew in the back of my mind that GSU is in the process of trying to set a program in place where the university purchases student's art or photography work. In knowing that the program was not in place yet, I thought it would be best to donate it; that way everyone can 'Cherish the Moment' of the merging of two artists in one work."

"We are grateful to Verana for contributing this beautiful and meaningful work of art to the university. We will cherish this act of generosity and shared talent for decades to come," President Maimon said.

The photo now is displayed in the university's art collection, inspiring all who walk past. "The photograph of Cherish Brown taken by Verana Stark eloquently captures the expressiveness and beauty that each brings to the creative process. We are very fortunate to have these artists actively involved in the university community as students and as student employees. Their passion for creative expression is evident in everything they do. Seeing Verana's photograph of Cherish in our hallway always brightens my day," said Deborah Bordelon, GSU Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs.

## **Faculty Members Become APICS Certified**

Congratulations to two of our CBPA faculty members on the successful completion of APICS certifications. These professional certifications represent intensive study over a period of years.

Dr. John Simon has completed the APICS Certified Supply Chain Specialist program and may now use CSCP after his name. In preparation for the exam, Dr. Simon had to master over 1,100 pages of content in 3 different modules, and pass a rigorous exam in each area: Fundamentals of Supply Chain Management, Supply Chain Strategy, Design, and Compliance, Implementation and Operations.

Dr. Tricia Kerns has completed the APICS Certified in Production and Inventory Management requirements which required mastery in 5 different modules and passing a rigorous exam in each. (Basics of Supply Chain Management, Master Planning of Resources, Detailed Scheduling and Planning, Execution and Control of Operations, Strategic Management of Resources) She may now note CPIM among her credentials.

APICS is the leading professional association for supply chain and operations management and the premier provider of research, education and certification programs that elevate supply chain excellence, innovation and resilience.

With these certifications under their belts, John and Tricia join more than 16,000 certified professionals worldwide and enhance their already impressive credentials as industry experts in the fields of supply chain, operations and manufacturing.

## **Grad Students Travel to Thailand**

For the second year in a row, a group of masters and doctoral counseling students from GSU spent the winter interim semester in Thailand learning about multi-cultural counseling. This year GSU counseling faculty Drs. Becky Michel and Cyrus M. Ellis joined Jon Carlson in providing the leadership and instruction.



Pictured from left: Dr. David Kleist, Dr. Becky Michel, Dr. Jon Carlson, Dr. Cyrus M. Ellis.

This year's group had the opportunity to interact closely with Thai professionals and to make a professional presentation to either the Shelter Care Workers of Thailand or the Royal Thai College of Medicine. Additionally the group traveled to Cambodia to visit Angkor Wat and Phnom Penh where they were able to receive extensive knowledge about the horrific crimes conducted by Pol Pot. While in Bangkok the group had a joint dinner with a group of counseling doctoral students from Idaho State University led by former GSU alumni Dr. David Kleist.

## SAVE THE DATE

### Spring Career Fair April 16

The Spring Career and Internship Fair will be held Thursday, April 16, from 2-5 p.m., in the Center for Performing Arts Lobby and Engbretson Hall. The fair is for people interested in jobs and internship opportunities in communications, technology, business and public administration, criminal justice, addiction studies, community health, and related fields.

Current students, alumni, and community members are invited to attend. Potential employers are also invited to register as participants. This is an opportunity to match jobs and internships positions with qualified personnel. This event is free and open to the public. For more information, call (708) 235-3974.

### 21st Annual Student Research Conference

GSU will hold its 21st Annual Student Research Conference on Tuesday, April 28.

**Conference:** The conference will provide students an opportunity to present their research work before an audience of their peers, and will provide a forum to highlight research accomplishments at GSU. All the presentations will be made by students only. Please encourage your students to present their research and other scholarly work in this conference.

**Registration and Abstract Forms:** The registration and the abstract submission forms are [available here](#). Please send the filled forms electronically by email to [skumar@govst.edu](mailto:skumar@govst.edu).

All attendees are required to register using the registration forms. Students are encouraged to attend

the conference even if they are not presenting any paper. Invite your students to attend the conference and join for lunch. However, students must be registered before the deadline of Friday, April 17, 2015. There is no registration fee.

**Deadline:** Registration and Abstract Submission Deadline: Friday, April 17, 2015.

**Program:** 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. The conference will begin at 9 a.m. and will have morning and afternoon podium presentations. The posters will be displayed right after the lunch, which will be provided to all registrants. Certificates of Merit will be awarded to all student participants.

**Conference Format:** Students may present their work in podium presentation or poster presentation formats. The podium presentations will be 15 minutes in duration followed by five minutes question/answer session. In the poster presentations students will display their work in small posters which will cover an area of 4' W x 3' H.

**Conference Proceedings:** All abstracts will be published in the conference proceedings.



#### Facebook Posts of the Week



*Response to our GSU Winning the ACE/Fidelity Investments Award for Institutional Transformation post:*

**Silvia Marie Benitez-Melby** Proud to be an alum!!!

**Dori Bellows** Congratulations Governors State!

**Keena Michon** Woot Woot!

**Do you have a story or event you want to submit for the GSU View?**

[Click here to learn about our submission guidelines.](#)



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