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GSU View

University Newsletters

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Office of Marketing and Communications

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gsuview

A newsletter for students, faculty & staff



November 24, 2015

Vol. 23, Issue 4

Happy Thanksgiving!



We have much to be thankful for at GSU. As we celebrate Thanksgiving, let's all take a moment to think about the great work being done at GSU and the difference we make in each other's lives. Tell us what you are thankful for. Go to FB or Twitter and use #ThankfulGSU to post your thoughts.

What are you thankful for?

- We are thankful for work that is challenging and yet so fulfilling.
- We are thankful for our students, who work hard every day to achieve their dreams and goals.
- We are thankful for faculty and staff who are engaged, creative, and innovative.
- We are also thankful for visionary leaders who inspire and challenge us all to be great.

News

GSU Named a Model of Excellence by National Business Publication



GSU is being honored by a national business publication as a "Model of Excellence" for its [Dual Degree Program](#) (DDP). [University Business](#) magazine has selected GSU as one of only 17 colleges and universities nationwide named to the program which honors colleges and universities that have implemented innovative, effective initiatives that are bolstering student success.

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President Maimon Addresses State Budget Stalemate on PBS



Click on the above to view [President Elaine P. Maimon on WTTW's Chicago Tonight](#) show discussing the lack of funding for public universities.

President Elaine P. Maimon appeared on the PBS program "[Chicago Tonight](#)" November 17 to discuss the state's budget stalemate along with the presidents from the University of Illinois, Northeastern Illinois University, and Chicago State University.

President Maimon told the panel: "I just can't imagine that our leaders would not see that the prosperity of our state depends on strong public universities." To hear more of the discussion, click the image.

President Maimon Gives Keynote Address at Education Summit in India

President Elaine P. Maimon gave the keynote address at the 8th Annual Indo Global Education Summit held November 14-15 in Hyderabad, India.

University leaders from around the world attended the summit, which had the theme "Educational Excellence without Borders," to explore opportunities for collaboration between their institutions and Indian universities.

President Maimon's address, called "Information, Knowledge, and Wisdom," reflected on the opportunities to focus on creating knowledge and gaining wisdom in an age when information is at our finger tips.

The event was sponsored jointly by FTAPCCI—Federation of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh Chambers of Commerce & Industry, OMICS International, and the Indus Foundation.

Artist's Message on Syrian Refugee Crisis Becomes Part of GSU Campus



GSU Provost Deborah Bordelon and Visual Arts Gallery Director Jeff Stevenson (center) welcome artist Troy Nickle (left) to GSU.

Jeff Stevenson was looking for a project to get his art class involved with in conjunction with GSU's [One Book One University](#) program of "Start Something That Matters." The result is a work of art that will have the university reflecting on the plight of [Syrian refugees](#).

[READ MORE](#) on page 14

Buzz

Thanksgiving Weekend Shuttle Schedule



Please note that the GSU Shuttle will be operating on a Holiday Schedule over the Thanksgiving Weekend. The [shuttle schedule](#) is available online.

Update Your Emergency Contact Information



Last week's winter storm is a reminder that weather can hit us without warning. Please remember to update your emergency contact information [by clicking here](#) so we can keep you informed about the status of the campus and class schedules in the event of a weather emergency. If you are unsure how to update your information, a short tutorial is provided.

"Professor Fraud" Named Chicago Board of Elections Commissioner



Assistant Professor of Accounting Bill Kresse was sworn in last week as a [Chicago Board of Elections Commissioner](#). Kresse is also a regular on Chicago media outlets, known as "Professor Fraud" for his expertise as a certified fraud examiner. He will fill the Republican seat on the three-member board, which has a mission of administering a transparent, impartial, and accurate election system.

GSU will Light up the Holidays at Parade



GSU will participate in the [Light Up the Holidays Parade](#), Friday November 27, at 5:30 p.m. in Joliet. Join us at the parade and wear your GSU gear! If you are interested in participating, we currently have four slots available. For more information contact [Sheree Sanderson](#) at 708.534.4552.

Enjoy Late Night Breakfast



Join us for Late Night Breakfast and the grand opening of the Lakeside Lounge, Monday, November 30, from 7:30-9:30 p.m. The event is free for students and there will be plenty of games, music, and prizes for everyone. The Library and Cube will also have extended hours during the event. Be sure to come out early for Open Mic Night at 6:30 p.m.

Coming Soon - The Lakeside Lounge



The Lakeside Lounge, a new space for GSU students to relax, study, discuss, or watch T.V. will take over the space now called the Cafeteria Annex. New amenities and furniture will turn the glass enclosed area into a bright, comfortable student lounge.

Students are invited to celebrate the grand opening of The Lakeside Lounge with the Late Night Breakfast on November 30, from 7:30-9:30 p.m. It will be a great time to enjoy both good food and the chance to relax during finals week.

Please note: From November 23 through December 11, no events will be scheduled in the former Cafeteria Annex. Events scheduled in the Spring 2016 semester in the former Cafeteria Annex will require a room relocation request. Contact [Event Scheduling](#) for more information.

Emerging Leaders Program Accepting Nominations

The Emerging Leaders Program immerses freshman in a process of personal development that lays the foundation for the exploration of leadership at GSU. Students participate in workshops, activities, and discussions where they encounter various social issues, including but not limited to multiculturalism, diversity and gender roles, racism, sexism, and religious and socioeconomic issues.

By actively engaging in all program sessions, the students will reflect on a greater understanding of leadership development, communication style and how it impacts their role as student leaders; realize the necessary skills for maximizing their leadership performance; identify the exemplary leadership principles by which they might lead, and develop a coherent plan for their involvement and student leadership experience.

Students may now [register](#) for the program through January 22, 2016. Faculty and Staff are also encouraged to [nominate a student](#), by sending their name. The program launch is set for January 28, 2016.

Sharing Books this Holiday Season



Throughout the month of November the [Student Education Association](#) (SEA) at GSU is holding a "Giving Tree Book Drive." The goal is to share the gift of reading to those less fortunate this year. During November, collection sites for book drop off will be at the Main Entrance, G-building Atrium, Athletics and Recreation building, and at Dr. Katy Hisrich's office (G236). They are collecting new and used books for children ages 0-18 years, as well as books for parents. Examples include literature, activity books, and magazines.

Hisrich said the Book Drive has been a success thus far. "We have collected over 250 books (mostly adult literature); we are still looking for more donations by December 3, especially children's books and magazines. During the last week of the semester, the SEA committee and members will sort the books and bring them to the homeless shelter, military base, and Ronald McDonald House."

Students-Enter the Literacy Autobiography Writing Contest



Students enrolled in English 1000 this fall are eligible to participate in the Literacy Autobiography Award Writing Contest. As a required assignment in the first semester, the Literacy Autobiography assignment asks students to reflect on how writing and reading have shaped their lives.

Students enter the contest by submitting their Literacy Autobiography by February 27, 2016. Winners will be announced by the end of March and honored at a luncheon. Entries will be judged by a committee appointed by the President's and Provost's offices.

Students are encouraged to continue revising their autobiographies after they have been graded - in preparation for the contest.

Awards:

- First place - \$200
- Second place - \$100
- Third place - \$50

- Honorable Mention - \$25

Awards are funded through the generosity of Dr. Elaine P. Maimon and Dr. Mort Maimon.

Spring 2016 Welcome Week Events Announced

The GSU campus comes alive with the start of the Spring 2016 semester. Welcome Week activities begin on January 18, 2016 and offer students the chance to get to know the university and each other. Here are some of the scheduled events:

- Monday, January 18- MLK Day of Service Projects-Pacific Mission Garden, and in collaboration with [ILCC](#) the [Civic Engagement and Community Service Center](#) will provide multiple service opportunities around Chicagoland, for more information or to reserve your spot, [email](#)
- Tuesday, January 19—The Student Leadership Exchange- Meet student leaders from various campus organizations and enjoy hot beverages and snacks between classes, 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Hall of Governors
- Wednesday, January 20—Obstacle Course- Test your physical skills in a fun obstacle course and participate in a variety of games and activities for FREE prizes
- Thursday, January 21—Club and Organization Fair- Learn valuable information about the registered GSU Student Clubs and Organizations, 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Hall of Governors
- Friday, January 22—Welcome Back Party- 10 a.m.-2 p.m., GSU Gym
- Saturday, January 23—FAFSA Workshop – Receive assistance in completing your FAFSA forms, registration is required, for more information, please [email](#)
- Monday, January 25—MLK Commemorative Program- Celebrate the life and work of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., in this annual celebration, 10 a.m., Center for Performing Arts.

New Way to Submit your News and Events to *GSU View*

Do you have a great story you would like the GSU community or the press to know about? Are you unsure how to submit your story or event to the *GSU View*, social media, or local press? Fear not, because there is now an easy way to submit all your news. Simply go to the new [Request for Event Promotion](#) page on the GSU website. Once there, you can decide where you want your news to be shared: *GSU View*, social media, community announcement in local press, or on the outdoor marquee. You can tell us who your target audience is and whether any pre-event announcements or follow-ups are required. Getting your story shared has never been easier!

Bookstore Open House for Faculty and Staff

Faculty and staff are invited to attend an Open House at the [GSU Bookstore](#) from November 30-December 4. Select items will be 25 percent off regular price. Discounts are for in-store items only. Not valid with other discounts or offers.

GSU Seeking Public Comments

Governors State University is seeking comments from the public about the University in preparation for its mid-cycle comprehensive review by its regional accrediting agency. The University will host a mid-cycle comprehensive visit February 22-23, 2016, with a team representing the Higher Learning Commission. Governors State University has been accredited by the Commission since 1975. The team will review the institution's ongoing ability to meet the Commission's Criteria for Accreditation.

The public is invited to submit comments regarding the university:

Public Comment on Governors State University
The Higher Learning Commission
230 South LaSalle Street, Suite 7-500
Chicago, IL 60604-1411

The public may also submit comments on the Commission's Web site by [clicking here on this link](#).

Comments must address substantive matters related to the quality of the institution or its academic programs. Comments must be in writing.

All comments must be received by January 22, 2016

Save the Date

Peer Leadership Poster Conference

On Tuesday, December 1, students in the undergraduate Principles of Peer Leadership course will be hosting a poster conference. The students have identified social change issues on the GSU campus and have taken one step toward creating a solution through their posters. The students will share the results and meaning of their projects from 2:30-3:00pm in the E-Lounge. Find out what solutions the students have created.

Master of Occupational Therapy Information Session

The [Department of Occupational Therapy](#) will host an information session for the [Master of Occupational Therapy](#) degree program on the first Wednesday of every month, from 5 to 6 p.m., in Room G 157 at Governors State University. The next scheduled information session will be held Wednesday, December 2. Attendees are encouraged to bring unofficial copies of transcripts. For more information, contact [Patricia Kalvelage](#).

Student Employee Recognition Reception



All on-campus student employees are cordially invited to attend the Student Employee Recognition Reception on Thursday, December 3, from 3:30-4:30 p.m., in Engbretson Hall. Mingle with fellow student workers while enjoying light refreshments. All Students who attend the reception will be entered into a drawing for a \$50 gift certificate to the GSU bookstore.

Student workers who attend at least three professional development offerings presented by the [Office of Career Services](#) will receive a Certificate of Professional Development which President Maimon will present to you personally at the reception. Students who attend and who are eligible for the certificate will also receive an additional ticket for the drawing. You can find a listing of qualifying events on the [Upcoming Events](#) page of the Career Services website.

Register Today for the 2016 Inclusive Leadership Conference

Students, faculty, and staff are invited to register for the 2016 Inclusive Leadership Conference. The

conference is designed to help students create an understanding and appreciation for cultural differences through self-awareness while encouraging them to be free of misconceptions and prejudices through social justice education. The conference is scheduled to take place Friday, January 29, 2016. [RSVP](#) before Friday, December 4. Please [email](#) or call x4551 with questions.

MILE Education Administrators Workshop

The [Metropolitan Institute for Leadership in Education](#) (MILE) at GSU is hosting a professional development opportunity for education administrators offering Administrators' Academy credits or CPDU's. The program, A Framework for Understanding Poverty AA1100, will be held on Thursday, December 10, from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. in the cafeteria annex.

The program will focus on designing schools and classrooms for students from diverse cultural backgrounds with highly regarded educator Lynda Byrd. This workshop is designed to help administrators better understand the research-based information on generational poverty and examines the inherent social and academic challenges that students raised in a culture of general poverty face.

The cost of the program is \$50 per person. Call 708.534.4024 or register at the [event website](#).

Do You Have Program Ideas for Black History or Sexual Assault Awareness Month?

Submit your program ideas today for the 2016 Black History Month Calendar and for Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

The 2016 theme for Black History Month is "Black Lives Matter." Cultural heritage months are an excellent way to expose and increase understanding and appreciation of cultural diversity for faculty, staff and students. Black History Month will provide shared learning opportunities designed to increase awareness, acquire knowledge, and develop competencies that will strengthen our campus community, broaden our understanding of diversity, and promote mutual respect and multicultural sensitivity. [Please click here to submit your program today](#). The deadline is Friday, December 11. For [more information](#) or inquiries please call x4551.

Sexual Assault Awareness Month is April 2016, but ideas for programs are now being accepted. The 2016 theme is "Prevention Is Possible." Please [submit](#) your program idea soon. The deadline for submission is Friday, January 29. For more information please contact [Kelly McCarthy](#) at or call x3966.

Nominate a Black Woman who Rocks!

"Black Women Rock" (BWR) celebrates the outstanding achievements of Black female students, faculty, and staff at GSU. Inspired by BET's Black Girls Rock, BWR aims to empower women to pursue their personal aspirations, encourage women to support others who are making positive strides and enlighten women on tools for success. The 4th Annual Black Women Rock will take place Saturday, February 27, 2016. We invite you to [submit a nomination](#) for the 4th Annual Black Women Rock Awards. The deadline for nominations is Friday, January 22, 2016. For more information or inquiries, please call x4551 or [email](#).

Sports

Basketball Teams Struggle through Winless Week



The [men's](#) and [women's](#) basketball teams were held winless in last week's games. On November 17, the men lost to Taylor University 94-55 in a game played in Upland, Indiana. Freshman Deon Thomas led the Jaguars with 12 points, seven rebounds and two blocks while junior Shane Roberts had 11 points and six rebounds.

On Saturday, November 21, the men and women played host to Mount Mercy College. Unfortunately for the Jaguars, both squads lost to their guests from Cedar Rapids, Iowa. The women lost 73-68, while the men came up just short in a 98-95 defeat.

Both squads will be traveling to Iowa over Thanksgiving weekend with the men taking on Waldorf College on Friday, November 27 and Wartburg College on Saturday, November 28. The women will be in the Hawkeye State to take on the University of Jamestown on Friday, November 27 and Presentation College on Saturday, November 28 in the Waldorf Classic Tournament.

Facebook Posts of the Week



Response to our post: President Elaine P. Maimon appeared on the PBS program Chicago Tonight:

Kevin Kredens Very good and thoughtful comments from President Maimon!



Response to our post: Celebrate International Education Week all week in the GSU Café!:

Melinda Culbreath That looks delicious. Could you please deliver these meals via Blackboard? I don't have to be at school this week.

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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Read More content from the GSU website follows.

GSU Named a Model of Excellence by National Business Publication

November 24, 2015



GSU is being honored by a national business publication as a "Model of Excellence" for its [Dual Degree Program](#) (DDP). [University Business](#) magazine has selected GSU as one of only 17 colleges and universities nationwide named to the program which honors colleges and universities that have implemented innovative, effective initiatives that are bolstering student success.

The DDP is a partnership with 17 Chicago-area community college partners, including the City Colleges of Chicago, which creates a seamless and structured pathway for community college students to complete both their associate and bachelor's degrees.

University Business senior editor Tim Goral said the DDP program stands out for its unique ability to guide students to degree completion by linking community colleges to a university. He cited the DDP as a strong pathway program that provides appropriate resources to ensure a smooth crossover for students.

Those resources include sending advisers -- not recruiters -- into the community colleges to help students there plan for the transition to a four-year school whether they plan to attend GSU or another four-year school. In addition to collecting and analyzing enrollment, retention and graduation data, GSU regularly conducts focus groups with its DDP students to solicit their feedback on how to improve the

program.

President Elaine P. Maimon said universities must do more to help make sure community college students remain on track to graduate. "Universities have not done anything to inspire students to have a coherent experience at the community colleges," she said. "We at the universities have a responsibility to partner with the community colleges to make sure the students have the best possible chance of having a coherent, quality experience throughout their four years."

Artist's Message on Syrian Refugee Crisis Becomes Part of GSU Campus

November 24, 2015



GSU Provost Deborah Bordelon and Visual Arts Gallery Director Jeff Stevenson (center) welcome artist Troy Nickle (left) to GSU.

Jeff Stevenson was looking for a project to get his art class involved with in conjunction with GSU's [One Book One University](#) program of "Start Something That Matters." The result is a work of art that will have the university reflecting on the plight of [Syrian refugees](#).

The book "[Start Something that Matters](#)" was chosen as the One Book One University offering because of the way it speaks to the three key initiatives at GSU: Sustainability, Global Citizenship and Civic Engagement. It encourages people to find ways to individually or collectively start something that matters and to make a difference in our local, regional and global communities.

Stevenson, who is the Director of the [Visual Arts Gallery](#), wanted to find a way to bring the GSU

initiatives to art in an outdoor space. His research led to [Troy Nickle](#), a Canadian artist who has done work in the past revolving around land conservation and environmental issues.



Sculpture Parks and Public Art students (from left) Dan Wronski, Lisa Campos, Kimberly Mayfield, and Brittany Vance were among the students who helped artist Troy Nickle with the art installation "The ache for home lives in all of us."

With the help of students in Stevenson's Sculpture Parks and Public Art class, Nickle created an art installation by digging out sod and soil in the shape of the Maya Angelou quote, "The ache for home lives in all of us." Nickle chose the quote because he believes it conveys the common desire in all of us to have a place to call home and belong, which the Syrian refugees don't have. The quote is now part of the landscape, located on the pathway to Prairie Place.

The artist hopes the piece will create a dialogue and shed more light on a crisis that continues to bring heartache to all those affected. "As opposed to what makes us different, I like the idea of what makes us the same. Through compassion, we can create a more tolerant world and even work for a more peaceful world. If we can create some empathy and compassion toward the plight of some of these people who are suffering tremendously, even on a small scale like this, it will be worth it," he said.

Geoffrey Bates, Director and Curator of the [Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park](#), said the work will be a welcome addition to the Park and hopes it will engage the university and expand people's awareness of what sculpture might and might not be.

The work is the first landscape piece Nickle has shown on a university campus and is meant to continually change and even devolve, depending on the season. It will eventually succumb to the elements and decay or fall apart.

But not before it delivers a powerful message.