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gsuview

A newsletter for students, faculty & staff



May 24, 2016

Vol. 29, Issue 3

News

2016 Commencement



The 2016 Commencement ceremonies were a complete success. Over 1,800 GSU students became graduates on May 14. In case you missed it, [highlights of all of the ceremonies](#) can be found online.

Karen Caesar-Smith, Director of University Events and Commencement Coordinator, extends her [gratitude and praises the efforts](#) of the many individuals who worked together to make Commencement 2016 a success.

GSU Online Featured in State Rankings

BestColleges.com has declared Governors State University to be one of the [top online colleges in the state of Illinois](#). Congratulations to Dr. Teri Sosa and the staff of the [Center for Online Teaching and Learning](#) on this major achievement!

Tornado Drill

GSU will be participating in a Tornado Drill on Tuesday, May 24 at 6 p.m. All persons on campus at that time are required to participate. If you are on campus when the alarm sounds, please proceed to the nearest tornado shelter and stay there until a member of the campus safety team directs you to leave the shelter. For faculty members who are in class at the time, please [guide your students to the nearest shelter](#). We know this drill will be a brief disruption to class instruction and the workday, but it is imperative to participate in preparation of tornado season and assessment of campus readiness.

There are separate checklists for [faculty](#) and [staff](#). Please familiarize yourself with the processes and procedures.

What's Happening to Flying Saucer?



The 1977 sculpture by Jene Highstein is undergoing major conservation this spring. According to Geoffrey Bates, Director and Curator of the NMSP, the sculpture has developed significant cracks along its northern face, making it time for repairs. The work, which has been approved by the artist's widow, should take about 2-3 weeks.

Students, staff, and visitors are cautioned to stay outside the orange fence during the restoration, as the piece is unstable without its customary coat of concrete.

Memorial Day

Campus will be closed on Monday, May 30 in observance of the national Memorial Day holiday. Please make note of the closure on your calendars.

Announcements

Occupational Therapy Info-Session

The Department of Occupational Therapy will be hosting an informational session on Wednesday, June 1 in G157 from 5 to 6 p.m. Attendees are encouraged to bring unofficial copies of transcripts. For more information, contact [Patricia Kalvelage](#).

Faculty Summer Institute

This year's one-day conference will be held on Tuesday, June 7. Keynote speaker Jillian Kinzie, PhD., is the Associate Director of the Center for Post-Secondary Research & NSSE Institute. Please plan to attend and hear Dr. Kinzie's talk on, "Conditions for Student Success." This collaboration with the Division of Student Affairs will be an interesting event for all faculty and staff.

Summer Grill and Chill



On Tuesday's during the months of June and July from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. (weather permitting), Arena Food Service, Inc. will be grilling on the Hall of Governors patio. Please join them for lunch at the Summer Grill and Chill program.

STEAM Camp at GSU

GSU is once again sponsoring STEAM camps this summer for middle and high school students. Camps are being held during two different weeks, and students may register for one or both sessions. Week 1 runs from July 18 – 22 and focuses on forensics. Week 2 will feature robotics and goes from July 25 – 29. Read more on page 4.

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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GSU STEAM Camp

GSU is once again sponsoring STEAM camps this summer for middle and high school students (ages 11 to 18). Camps are being held on two different weeks, and students may register for one or both sessions.

Hands-On STEAM FUN Week 1 runs July 18 to 22, 2016, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

This session features highly interactive activities in the following areas:

- **Forensics:** fingerprinting, synthetic blood typing, ballistics, fiber and footprint analysis
- **Ecology:** collect, examine and classify various specimens
- **Sustainability:** explore solar and wind technologies

This camp also includes a field trip to the Museum of Science and Industry. Students will be responsible for bringing a sack lunch to the museum (students will not have access to the

MSI Cafeteria).

Robotics STEAM Camp Week 2 runs July 25 to 29, 2016, from 9 to 5 p.m.

Students will design, build and program the micro-controller in an [Arduino](#) to navigate an obstacle course using data gathered from the device's ultrasonic and infrared distance sensors, gyroscopes and magnetometers.

For both camps

1. Students will be responsible for providing their own lunch, drinks and snacks or money to purchase lunch in the GSU cafeteria.
2. Both camps will have a maximum number of forty students.
3. Middle and high school students register for one or both of the STEAM camps.
4. In order to be considered **officially registered** for the camp(s), the completed registration form(s), permission slip, photo release form, and appropriate payment must all be received by or before the registration deadline of Friday, July 8, 2016. Please see registration form at the bottom of the page.

Frequently Asked Questions

- **Who will teach the STEAM workshops?** There will be at least one individual who has completed a teacher education program at GSU teaching the workshops. Pre-service teachers currently enrolled in a teacher preparation program at GSU will also be assisting. Additionally, GSU science faculty will also serve as volunteer instructors.
- **Have all teachers and pre-service teachers passed criminal background checks?** Yes, all individuals involved in teaching or assisting with the camp will have recently passed a certified criminal background check.
- **Where will workshops take place?** Most workshops will take place in one of the newly built science labs at Governors State University. Some activities must take place outside, on GSU's campus as open space is required for the activity.
- **What safety measure will be in place?** Safety is of foremost concern. A safety video will be required viewing by all participants on the first day of camp. All participants must wear long pants and closed-toed shoes each day. Safety glasses and gloves will be provided to all participants as needed. Safety concerns and procedures for all labs will be fully explained before each lab.
- **Will the schedule be strictly followed?** No, it is only a tentative schedule. There is one activity that must take place outside. That activity will be planned according to the weather forecast.
- **How will participants be chosen?** Participants meeting all requirements will be chosen on a first-come, first-served basis.

Applicants must:

1. meet the proper age requirements (ages 11 to 18)
2. have the application and supporting documents fully completed and signed by a parent or legal guardian
3. includes the camp fee, image release, permission slip, and complete registration

information

- **Are there any minimum grade requirements or specific math / science course prerequisites?** No. The goal of the STEAM camp is to explore and hopefully increase participants' interest in STEAM fields. We want the camp to be fun.
- **Registration Information** If paying online via debit or credit card, please complete and submit the registration form online, print the registration form, pay, complete the physical signature portion and submit. If paying by check, or cash, please complete the registration form online, submit, print the registration form, complete the physical signature portion and submit. Registration forms may be submitted via information below. Registration is not complete until parents and students complete and submit required forms, payment, and provide required physical signatures. Please maintain a completed copy of this form for your records. Registration must be completed and received by Friday, July 8, 2016.

[STEAM Camp Registration Form](#)

[STEAM Camp Campus Map/ Directions](#)

[STEAM Camp Week One Schedule](#)

[STEAM Camp Week Two Schedule](#)

[View a brief slideshow of 2016 STEAM Camp Students in action](#)

For additional information, please contact [Dr. John Sowa, 708.235.7513](#).