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GSU View

University Newsletters

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Office of Marketing and Communications
Governors State University

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gsuview

A newsletter for students, faculty & staff



September 11, 2017

Vol. 45, Issue 2

News

Governors State University Calls for Unity during 9/11 Day of Remembrance

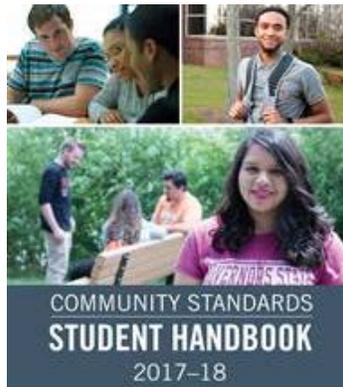


In honor of **September 11**, GSU's [Veterans Resource Center](#) hosted a Day of Remembrance honoring those lost in the 2001 national tragedy.

National unity was a running theme throughout speeches made during the ceremony by faculty senate president Dr. David Golland, Provost Deborah Bordelon, and GSU President Elaine P. Maimon.

Dr. Maimon reminded the GSU community of the importance of national unity as she praised first responders for their dedication to the nation during times of natural disaster, like this month's deadly storms, as well as in response to tragedies such as 9/11, created at the hands of humans.

2017–18 Student Handbook Details Student Rights and Responsibilities



Everyone on campus has a responsibility for helping the GSU community as we strive for academic freedom, integrity, excellence in scholarship, justice, diversity, and access to education.

Our [Student Code of Conduct](#), along with other university policies, provides clear guidance on what is expected of students as well as what they can expect from GSU faculty and staff. The [handbook](#) also provides the procedures that guide the Community Standards process, which aims to hold students accountable for violations of university policy, reflect on their behavior, and develop skills that promote personal and community responsibility.

Observe National Recovery Month with Sixth Annual Recovery Walk sponsored by Addiction Studies Alumni Club



This weekend, GSU's Addiction Studies Alumni Club is hosting its sixth annual Recovery Walk in observation of National Recovery Month. The event takes place Saturday, September 16 at 9 a.m. and includes free admission, door prizes, refreshments, entertainment, notable speakers, a recovery resource fair, and more! The walk begins at 10 a.m.

Same-day registration begins at 8 a.m. in the Hall of Governors, or you can pre-register [here](#). For more information, click [here](#).

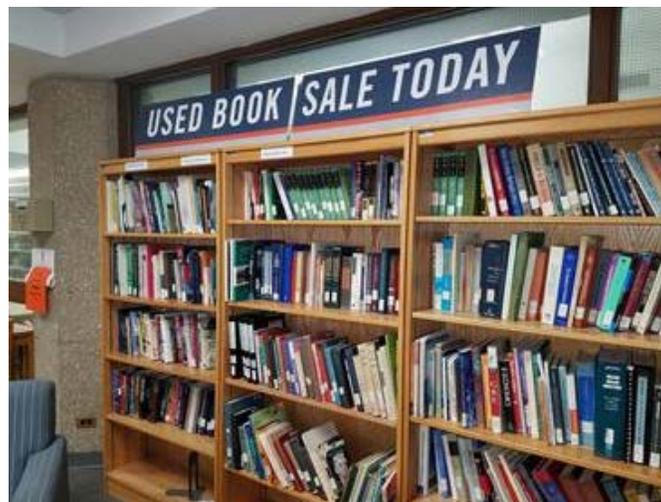
C200 Reachout at Governors State University



[C200](#) is a community of the most successful women in business, representing companies with more than \$1.2 trillion in combined revenue and employing more than 2.5 million people. They have partnered with Governors State University to host their [2017 Reachout event at GSU](#) on **October 20**. This event provides an exclusive opportunity for you to connect with corporate executives from C200.

C200 provides scholarships for women pursuing leadership roles in business. Currently, they are taking applications for their 2017 C200 Scholars—three female students will be awarded a \$5,000 scholarship. For scholarship requirements, deadlines, and to apply, click [here](#).

Fall Book Sale Extended



The annual GSU [Friends of the Library](#) Fall Book Sale taking place on the library balcony has been extended to **Thursday, September 14**. The books are located at the rear of the balcony on shelves and carts. Books can be reviewed when the library is open. Following is a run-down of the cost of the books that are on sale:

Non-Fiction:

Hardback: \$1.00 per book,

Paperback: \$0.50 per book

CDs, DVDs, VHS, \$0.50 each

All fiction is free.

The book sale is on the honor system. Please place your money in the coin box to the left of the bookshelves at the rear of the balcony. Contact [the library](#) with any additional questions.

Combined Undergraduate and Graduate Open House



All prospective students are invited to attend the second annual combined open house hosted by Admissions and Graduate Council. Register [here](#) to attend the open house on **October 14** from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

At the open house, prospective students may attend sessions on financial aid, admission requirements, housing, and much more—including a waiver code for their application fee! (Programs requiring application through the Centralized Application Service are excluded.)

For more information, email [Julie Anderson](#) or call 708.534.4086.

Announcements and Events

Global Service Learning Scholar



The [Office of International Services](#) is still accepting applications for the Global Service Learning Scholar Award. Thanks to the mini-grant to improve equity and inclusive excellence, we are able to offer one student \$750 to attend the Public Health Brigade to Nicaragua. Not only will this award help subsidize the program costs for the student but we will be following the student throughout their experience, pre-brigade, on-brigade, and post-brigade. This is an excellent opportunity for a student to monitor their own growth, develop leadership skills, and share their experience with the GSU community.

Apply by this Friday, **September 15**. Please note that other funding opportunities are available as well.

For more information, click [here](#).

LGBT History Month Submissions

October is LGBT History Month: a month-long annual observance held across the country in observance of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender history, as well as the history of the gay rights and related civil rights movements.

Submit your program [here](#) by **Friday, September 15**.

“We Are America”: Constitution Day at GSU

In commemoration of Constitution Day, the Dean’s Office of the College of Arts and Sciences, the Division of Arts and Letters, and Student Life hosts “We Are America,” a day of events dedicated to exploring the First Amendment through student and expert perspectives starting at 10 a.m. next **Monday, September 18**.

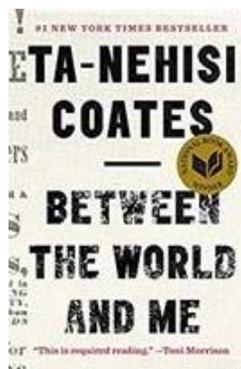
To view a [schedule of events](#), including a panel discussion among experts in their fields, a poetry slam, and a student narrative speech competition, click [here](#). For more information, contact [Jayne Goode](#).

“Indigenous Conquistadors: Indigenous Allies to the Spanish Empire”

All are invited to observe Hispanic Heritage Month by attending “Indigenous Conquistadors: Indigenous Allies to the Spanish Empire,” a presentation by [Dr. Laura Matthew](#), a historian of southern Mesoamerica during the Spanish colonial era. The event takes place on **September 19** at 5 p.m. and is co-sponsored by an Intellectual Life Grant, the College of Arts and Sciences, and the Association of Latin American Students.

To read Dr. Matthew’s bio, click [here](#).

Between the World and Me: Experiences of Being African American in the US and Abroad



All members of the GSU community are invited to attend an insightful and enlightening panel discussion inspired by the One Book One University selection: *Between the World and Me* by Ta-Nehisi Coates, on **Thursday, September 21** from 3 – 4:30 p.m. in Engbretson Hall.

GSU students will share their experiences of being African American in the U.S. and abroad in this panel moderated by [Dr. Phyllis West](#), Senior Lecturer in the Department of Social Work.

There will be a drawing for a variety of travel items, and refreshments will be served. Attendance is free, but all are asked to register [here](#). This event is sponsored by the [Office of International Services](#) through a grant from the GSU Intellectual Life Committee.

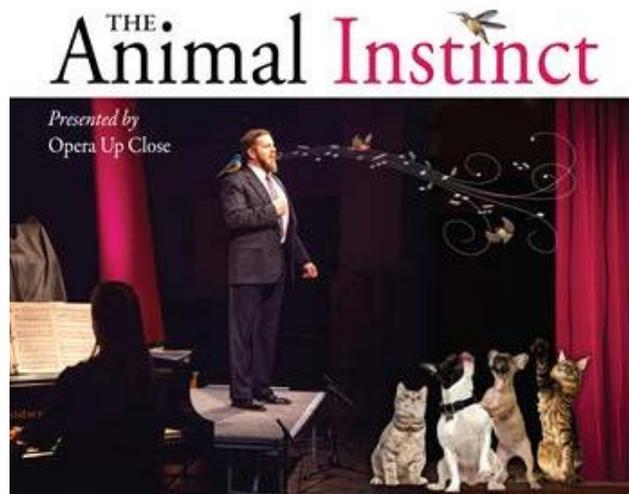
Student Education Association to Host Teacher Success Panel

The [SEA](#) will host a Teacher Success Panel on **Thursday, September 28** in the E-lounge. Several guest speakers are on the panel, including first-year, veteran, and retired teachers, as well as a professional edTPA coordinator and scorer.

Stephanie Henning and Jessica Dunahoo, the President and Vice-President of SEA respectively, wrote the National Education Association (NEA) Create Grant awarded to SEA that supported this event with Dr. Katy Hisrich as the P.I.

This event is open to any student in an education program. In order to attend, students are required to RSVP to Stephanie Henning by **September 21** with their name, email, division, major, and year in school. There are only 30 spots available, and they will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis (preference may be given to those students seeking licensure and those graduating in 2017 and 2018). Dinner will be provided to students who RSVP and attend the panel. Faculty may also attend the event, keeping in mind that dinner is reserved for students.

Lyric Opera Singers Pay Tribute to All Things Animal at CPA



The popular Opera Up Close series at GSU's Center for Performing Arts has done it again. Known for unique, themed pairings of opera, food, and wine, series producer John Concepcion stretches his creativity once again with an animal-themed feast of song. [The Animal Instinct](#) is the newest addition to the Center's innovative opera line-up, to be performed only on **September 24** at 4 p.m. Tickets are \$55 and include a sampling of "animal-friendly" vegetarian dishes including warm spinach and artichoke dip, caramelized onion and chevre tarts, exotic mushroom arancini, a glass of wine, and more.

[Read more . . .](#)

Got Talent? Student Talent Show Auditions



Get ready to show your talent during the Family & Friends Weekend Student Talent Show on Friday, October 6. [Student Life](#) is seeking a student to host and all forms of talent: musicians, rappers, singers, poets, dancers, comedians, actors, magicians, and more!

Auditions will be held on **September 26 – 27** by appointment. Please be prepared to audition on stage with your music and/or props. Act must not exceed three minutes; only one act per student audition with the exception of students auditioning to host. Not every act makes it in the show, so please prepare for your audition.

Register in the Hall of Governors or Student Life (A2100) no later than **Friday, September 22**. Email [Konya Sledge](#) or [Ashley Richards](#) with questions.

Operation Healthy



[Student Life](#) would like to welcome all GSU students to participate in the [Operation Healthy](#) events on **October 11** and **November 15** in the Hall of Governors. Students are encouraged to visit from 3 – 4:15 p.m. to get some fresh produce while supplies last. We look forward to seeing all of you and to promoting a healthier life style on campus!

Healing, Hope, & Restoration: Becoming the Author of Your Story



Join us for a fishbowl conversation with impacted men as they share their experiences as a starting point for healing and collective responsibility towards social change.

This event, sponsored by Generating Hope and Intellectual Life Grant, takes place **Monday, October 23** from 4:30 – 7:30 p.m. in Engbretson Hall. It is the fifth in a series of forums that focus on bringing awareness to the issue of mass incarceration and collateral consequences that exist after incarceration for returning citizens and their families.

For more information, email [Dr. Lorri Glass](#), or call 708.534.4919.

Highlights

Natalia Ermasova



Ask GSU Assistant Professor Dr. [Natalia Ermasova](#) how her public finance students affect change in the real world, and she will point to the Matteson Police and Elwood Fire departments. Ranking officials from both villages were in the economist's [Master's Public Administration](#) (MPA) classes and learned practical applications for the principles of fiscal management, budgeting, and cost/benefit analyses.

[Read more . . .](#)

OIS Mix and Mingle 2017



International students received a warm welcome to #GovState from local students and the [Office of International Services](#) at GSU. They got to know each other, learned about different cultures, and practiced their English. Click [here](#) to view photos on the [GSU Facebook page](#).

GSU First Annual Car & Motorcycle Show



In cooperation with the [GSU Library](#) and University Events Office, GSU's [Department of Public Safety](#) hosted its first Car and Motorcycle Show last **Friday, September 8**. A bounce house, food trucks, and music by a live disc jockey orchestrated the tone for the lively family event. Spectators viewed cars and motorcycles in support of Special Olympics Illinois.

To see photos of the event, click [here](#).

Introducing the UAAC Advisors

The [Undergraduate Academic Advising Center](#) (UAAC) is a new service now available to all undergraduate students. To usher in the UAAC, the GSU View will feature weekly profiles of the advisors who provide guidance for students at every level of the undergraduate experience.



This week's featured advisor is Stacy Amedeo. She says,

When I was a student, the main thing I wanted from my advisors was someone who wouldn't let me waste my time or my money by taking courses that I didn't need. I always worked a few jobs to pay my way through school, so I know the importance of a dollar, especially when you are spending those dollars on your education. As part of my professional philosophy, I say to my students, "I'm not here to waste your time or money." I know what it's like to be in their shoes.

Now that I'm a mother, I also understand the importance of life balance and self-care. When I'm working with my students who also have family obligations, I stress the need to make sure they figure out their right balance of school, work, and life. Too often I see students who are full-time workers and full-time parents or caregivers becoming overwhelmed. The key to life balance is to know when to ask for help. I'm blessed to have a great support system in my life, so I want to make sure I can provide real support for my students as they work through their academic journey here at GSU.

Pi Alpha Alpha Awarded Public Service Loan Forgiveness Grant

Congratulations to the GSU chapter of Pi Alpha Alpha, who have been selected to receive the 2017 Public Service Loan Forgiveness Grant from the Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration (NASPAA). Tasha Baker, a GSU alum and a member of Pi Alpha Alpha since its 2014 inception, is the writer of the award-winning grant.

Workshops & Trainings

A list of workshops for students, faculty, and staff can be found [here](#), including the next Office of Marketing & Communications Brown Bag workshop and WorkZone training.

Faculty: If you have not already done so, it's time to have a new headshot photograph taken. Please refer to the [schedule](#) to find a convenient time.

Do you have a story or event you want to submit for the GSU View?
[Click here to learn about our submission guidelines.](#)





C200 Reachout



Governors State University will host a C200 Reachout on Friday, October 20, 2017. Up to three \$5000 C200 Scholar Awards will be awarded to women undergraduate student at this event.



C200 is an international network of some of the world's top women corporate executives and entrepreneurs. C200's 400+ members represent more than 100 industries in North America and throughout Europe, Asia, Latin America, the Middle East and Africa.

Click Here to Register (<http://www.govst.edu/c200-registration/>)

The primary mission of C200 and its foundation is to fund, create and implement programs to inspire, support, foster, celebrate and advance future generations of women business leaders.

One of the primary ways they work toward this mission is by funding and participating in Reachouts at the high school, college and M.B.A. level. To date, C200 members have reached more than 12,000 students all over the world through more than 60 of these Reachout events.

At these intensive events, C200 members seek to demonstrate the value of pursuing a career in business to young women who may not have made their initial career decisions. They also participate in panels and roundtable discussions with students aimed at demonstrating the positive aspects of a business career, dispelling myths about pursuing a business career, and the many possibilities that exist within different fields.

C200 REACHOUT AT GSU

Mission vs. Major

Find out how students of all majors can find meaning and successful careers and meet professionals that want to help you get there. Students who RSVP will learn from and connect with C-level female executives during this rare C200 Reachout event.

Discussions topics will include:

- Culturally Conscious Leadership
- Caring for Your Whole Self
- Moving Beyond the Glass Ceiling
- Empowering the Next Generation of Women Leaders
- Collective vs. Competitive: Building Sisterhood in Different Spaces

C200 Scholar Awards

C200 Scholar Awards are provided to outstanding undergraduate students who exemplify extraordinary leadership potential, entrepreneurial spirit and a commitment to supporting other women. C200 Scholar Award recipients will receive both a financial gift and access to unique learning and networking opportunities. The winners will receive a monetary award in the amount of \$5,000 toward their education related expenses. C200 will provide Scholar Award recipients with incomparable access to its Scholar Network and interaction with our members through networking and learning opportunities.

Expectations for award recipients

C200's hope is to support you throughout your career and track your progress as you grow into a business leader. The organization expects you to give forward and support other women in their careers, work with integrity and leadership and pursue excellence. As a Scholar Award recipient, you will be asked to:

- Work with C200 to develop a profile for the C200 website to highlight your accomplishments and future goals
- Participate in the C200 Scholar Network
- Maintain contact with C200 and keep us informed about your career and accomplishments

- Commit to supporting other women throughout your career

How to apply

To apply, download and complete the application packet

(/uploadedFiles/Alumni_and_Donors/GSU_Foundation/GSU_Foundation_Inside_Pages/GSUReachout_C200_Scholar_Application(2).docx). Submit it via email to Cheri Garey (mailto:cgarey@govst.edu?subject=C200_Scholar_Award_Application) by midnight Sunday, October 8. Completed applications must contain the following:

- Typewritten, double-spaced, 500-word answer to essay question.
- Brief responses (no more than 150 words) to two short answer questions.
- Recommendation from a former employer or a professor on the form included in the application packet. The recommendation must be submitted by midnight October 8.
- Resume

If you prefer to submit your application online please click here (<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/C200scholarship>). Be sure to send the online recommendation form (<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/C200recommendation>) to the former employer or professors that will recommend you. *It is your responsibility to follow-up with your recommender to ensure they have submitted your recommendation.*

Award criteria

Scholar Award applicants will be evaluated based on application materials and demonstration of:

- Demonstrated financial need
- Evidence of Leadership
- Entrepreneurial spirit
- Integrity
- Commitment to giving back, particularly to supporting other women

Finalists will be selected for final-round consideration and will be asked to interview in person on Thursday, October 19. Recipients will be announced at the Reachout on Friday, October 20.

Click Here to Register (<http://www.govst.edu/c200-registration/>)

[Giving to Governors State University \(/Alumni_and_Donors/Giving_to_Governors_State_University/\)](/Alumni_and_Donors/Giving_to_Governors_State_University/)

[GSU Foundation \(/Alumni_and_Donors/GSU_Foundation/\)](/Alumni_and_Donors/GSU_Foundation/)



(<http://www.govst.edu>)

MENU



University Park, IL, September 11, 2017

Natalia Ermasova

Ask Governors State University (GSU) Assistant Professor Dr. **Natalia Ermasova** (http://www.govst.edu/Site_Navigation/Contact/Directory/nermasova/) how her public finance students affect change in the real world, and she will point to the Matteson Police and Elwood Fire departments. Ranking officials from both villages were in the economist's Master's Public Administration (<http://www.govst.edu/cas/mpa/>) (MPA) classes and learned practical applications for the principles of fiscal management, budgeting, and cost/benefit analyses.

"My students make the connection between numbers and how their lives and jobs will unfold. They run not-for-profits, police departments, and fire departments. When I show them how to read budgets and analyze data, they can see situations in local governments, such as Cook County and others across Illinois, more clearly because numbers don't lie," said Ermasova, the granddaughter of a Russian accountant whose expertise crosses both cultural lines and continents.

Her knowledge base includes financial and economic trends in the U.S., Germany, and her native Russia. She holds three doctoral degrees in economics, innovative management, and public finance and administration, and her research has been published in dozens of books and professional journals in both English and Russian. Ermasova was recently named a co-editor for a section of the *Global Encyclopedia of Public Administration, Public Policy, and Governance*, the world's first and most comprehensive source on the three fields.

As a distinguished Fulbright Visiting Professor at Indiana University, Ermasova conducted a comparative analysis of the fiscal systems in the U.S., Germany, Canada, and Russia in 2006. She credits that research project with leading her to Governors State in 2012. At that time, the GSU MPA program was under the College of Business (<http://www.govst.edu/cob/>). Today the College of Arts and Science (<http://www.govst.edu/cas/>) hosts MPA students who enjoy the benefits of a global standard of accreditation from the Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration (NASPAA).

A 2017 Faculty Excellence Award recipient, Ermasova's enthusiasm defies the stereotypical economist's understated demeanor, and she parlays her passion for research and teaching to connect with students. Her philosophy and approach have yielded four consecutive semesters of unwavering demand for this economist's proven model, netting her a perfect score on teacher evaluations for course and instructor satisfaction.

GSU Newsroom: What is the secret to consistently achieving a 100% approval score with your GSU students?

Ermasova: I strive to make the classroom experience one in which students feel rewarded. For example, I worked with two students to conduct and publish our research on tax implications for their agencies. Students also seem to appreciate my innovations. In 2015, I won a Fisk Mini-Grant to prepare a photo essay to help my MPA students understand the enormity and complexity of a budget. When I pieced together all the photos, it was much clearer and helped students later to do their own. I also play economic and budget simulation games in class. I encourage them to try different strategies, observe the results, monitor market fluctuations, and then pivot their direction.



GSU Newsroom: What are the so-called virtuous and vicious cycles and can you cite examples from today's US economy?

Ermasova: Robert B. Reich was President Clinton's secretary of labor. In 2013, he co-created the award-winning documentary *Inequality for All*. In the film, he discusses the virtuous and vicious cycles wherein economic and political cycles perpetuate themselves. In a virtuous cycle, widespread prosperity means more people are working and generating more money creating more prosperity. Conversely, in a vicious cycle, almost limitless political donations coupled with widening inequality creates a vicious cycle in which the wealthy pay lower taxes, making them even wealthier and widening the economic gap.

GSU Newsroom: Do you see a vicious cycle playing out in Illinois?

Ermasova: The growing wage gap between high school and college graduates motivates many students to get college degrees, but the high cost of college and the achievement gap are barriers for them. Here, higher education is expensive. In Germany, education is free; in France, education is free. I earned two of my PhD's for free. Here, my daughter's school costs \$63,000 a year. Two years ago, Dr. [Mary Bruce](http://www.govst.edu/Site_Navigation/Contact/Directory/mclark/) (http://www.govst.edu/Site_Navigation/Contact/Directory/mclark/) and I presented research about the achievement gap and horizontal disparity of school funding in Illinois. The students in wealthy school districts had an average of 51% higher proficiency on standardized tests than the students in poor districts. Further, the poorer school districts

receive about \$4,582 less per student per year less than the wealthy students. We argue that differences in per-student funding and the tie to local property taxes are among other contributing factors to the problem of social justice and the achievement gap in Illinois.

GSU Newsroom: You compared your career to the famous Russian nesting dolls. How so?

Ermasova: I love those colorful, wooden dolls. They are beautiful. There is a one big one on the outside that hides several successively smaller dolls inside. You open one and there's another one inside. I feel like the biggest doll represents my teaching style now. I'm all grown up. When I taught Finance and Taxation at (Russia's) Volga River Regional Academy of Civil Services, I lectured and the students memorized and tested. Then, I was like the smaller doll inside the bigger ones. Here, it's more active. I give a lecture and after the lecture is a full discussion. It's much more engaging teaching style.