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GSU View

University Newsletters

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## GSU View, 2017-09-26

Office of Marketing and Communications  
*Governors State University*

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# gsuview

A newsletter for students, faculty & staff



September 26, 2017

Vol. 45, Issue 4

## News

### GSU Nursing Program Ranked Among 10 Most Affordable



College Choice recently named Governors State to its list of [Most Affordable Nursing Degrees in Illinois](#). View the full list [here](#).

### Banned Books Week 2017: September 24 - 30

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This week is [Banned Books Week](#), an annual week by the American Library Association (ALA) that highlights the freedom to read by pointing to books that have been challenged most in the past year. Read [this story](#) by the GSU Newsroom to see how censorship of fiction has affected GSU student Promise Jackson and how GSU Assistant Professor Dr. Amy Vujaklija addresses the issue in her classroom.

The [GSU Library](#) invites all to stop by the library to view banned books on display in the library.

## Do the FAFSA

Did you know that your chances of receiving more grant money are better the earlier you complete the [Free Application for Federal Student Aid](#) (FAFSA)?

October 1 is the first day you can complete and submit your FAFSA, which makes it the day that you have the best chance of receiving federal (Pell) and state (MAP) grants.

While many misconceptions surround the FAFSA, the application process can be simple—if you come prepared. Click [here](#) to view a [list of documents](#) to gather in advance. Once you are prepared the process will take, on average, less than an hour.

## Get on the Move with Family & Friends—Register Today!

Family and Friends weekend “GSU on the Move” takes place this year from **October 6 – 7** and will feature free family fun, sports, music, food, and more! Bring the family, your church group, your neighbors, your sports team, or just yourself to engage with the GSU community. Students, parents, alumni, and friends will connect through fun-filled activities, most of which are free of charge.

Click [here](#) to view a schedule of this year’s Family and Friends weekend events, and visit the [Family and Friends website](#) to see the complete schedule of events, download the brochure, and register.

## 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—and receive a waiver code for their application fee! (Programs requiring application through the Centralized Application Service are excluded.)

Click [here](#) for more information and to register. For more information, email [Julie Anderson](#) or call 708.534.4086.

## Delayed Payroll Information Sessions

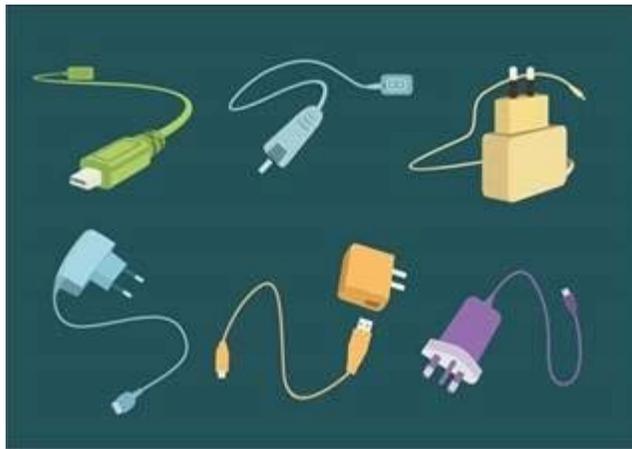
All employees and faculty who are currently on an anticipated payroll schedule are encouraged to attend sessions offered by Human Resources being held **Monday, September 25** through **Friday, September 29** in the Hall of Honors. HR will explain the process of transitioning to a delayed payroll pay schedule and what it means for you. Click [here](#) to view a schedule of sessions and register.

## Kappa Delta Pi International Honor Society



GSU is inducting the Alpha Iota Alpha chapter of Kappa Delta Pi, International Honor Society in Education. Provost Deborah Bordelon will accept the new chapter at the installation and first induction ceremonies taking place on Tuesday, October 10 from 3:30 – 5:30 p.m. in the E-Lounge. Space is limited. RSVP to faculty chair [Dr. Katy Hisrich](#) or student president [Jessica Dunahoo](#).

## Recycle Your Old Phone Chargers at the GSU Library



If you have phone chargers that you are not currently using, bring them to the GSU Library for recycling. Students often ask the library information desk if there is a phone charger available to borrow. “By collecting chargers from those who want to recycle them, we can have a selection of chargers to offer students in need while maintaining our commitment to sustainability,” said Diane Nadler, Library First Year Student Contact and Reference Desk Manager.

To recycle your chargers, place them in the recycle box located on the game bookshelf on the library balcony, or if you are in a hurry, please leave them at the library information desk. Email the [Library](#) with any questions.

## Career Services: An Important Stop on Your Path to Success

Are you a student in need of help with your resume, cover letter, job search, and much more? [The Office of Career Services](#) has staff available to help you navigate every path leading to your success.

Take the first step by visiting drop-in hours. Following is a list of the open drop-in hours where you can stop by without an appointment to obtain the help or information you need.

Tuesdays from 2 – 4:30 p.m., in B1215 in the Student Success Commons  
Thursdays from 3:30 – 4:30 p.m. with Alexis at the Library Technology Desk

Drop-in hours are on a first come first served basis. Email [Career Services](#) for more information.

## Announcements and Events

### 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.

## GSU Student and Faculty-Produced Film to Screen at Festival



*Searching for Lady Day: A Portrait in Steel* will be screening at the tenth annual [Naperville Independent Film Festival](#) on September 28 at 6 p.m. at Hollywood Palms Cinema located at the Westridge Court, 352 IL-59, Naperville, IL 60540.

The film will screen along with three other short films and be followed by a Q&A session with GSU's Joshua Young. *Searching for Lady Day* has also been nominated in the Best Documentary category at the festival.

Come support the film and find out how Billie Holiday inspired Mark Di Suvero's masterpiece sculpture 'Yes! For Lady Day!' located in Governors State University's Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park. Tickets are only \$10. Click [here](#) for more about the festival.

## Men's Leadership Summit 2017 – Call for Workshops

The Men's Leadership Summit is seeking workshop proposals for its 2017 conference held on **November 17**. This year's theme is "From Reasonable Doubt to 4:44: The Evolution of Maleness, Masculinity, and Manhood." Using the musical career of Jay-Z as a backdrop, the conference theme speaks to men discovering the influence of maleness, masculinity, and manhood on their journey to be leaders.

Click [here](#) to submit your workshop proposal by **October 6**. For more information, click [here](#), email [Intercultural Student Affairs](#), or call 708.534.4551.

## 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 men impacted by mass incarceration 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

### Leanne Cambric



[Leanne McClurg Cambric](#) is a potter whose vessels take the shape and color of her experiences and emotions. What emerges from the fiery kiln is as beautiful as it is useful and symbolic. Formerly a music major, Cambric speaks in melodious tones that often give way to an infectious laugh.

An assistant professor at Governors State University (GSU), Cambric says her ceramic cups, bowls, and urns are a channel for her to communicate with her audience.

[Read more . . .](#)

### Antoine Hawkins



The way Antoine Hawkins sees things, he's been on a path to change for himself, his family, his legacy, and the community around him for most of his life. An instinctive mentor, the [Dual Degree Program-Male Success Initiative](#) student—a key program at Governors State University that opens up a community college to university pathway for men of color—says that he "didn't find social work, it found [him]," and it was through the DDP-MSI that he was able to unite his natural strengths with a degree program and career.

Click [here](#) to read more about Antoine's experience in the DDP-MSI.

## Congratulations to 2017 DFI Fellows

The Diversifying Higher Education Faculty in Illinois (DFI) program board and the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) have selected three Governors State University students for the 2017 DFI Fellowship Program. The DFI program was established by the Illinois General Assembly and signed as Public Act 093-0862 on August 4, 2004. The program aids students to complete graduate degrees (master's or doctoral) leading to a faculty or staff position at Illinois higher education institutions. The goal of the program is to diversify the faculties and professional staffs at higher education institutions in Illinois, with the major emphasis being on the diversification of faculty.

Congratulations to the 2017 Governors State University recipients:

Derrick Brown, College of Arts & Sciences, Communications Studies  
Robert Clay, College of Education, Interdisciplinary Leadership doctorate program  
Linda Coleman, College of Arts & Sciences, Communication Studies

Additionally, GSU congratulates Konya Sledge of Student Life, a doctoral student at NIU, who was also selected for the DFI program.

## GSU Student Interns at the Washington Center



GSU junior Isaiiah Moore is currently completing an internship at the Washington Center in Washington, D.C. He [invites the GSU community](#) to hear more about his experience as an intern and to get an inside look at his work at the National Association of Federally Impacted Schools by visiting [his blog](#), which is updated weekly.

For more Information about the Washington Center Internship Program, contact [Darcie Campos](#), AVP of Student Affairs and Director of Career Services.

## GSU Library Spends Time with Potential Class of 2032

One of five preschool classes from GSU's [Family Development Center](#) is visiting the library for story time every Friday this semester from 10 – 10:30 a.m. Following story time, the children are invited to creatively interpret the story through crafts.

“Coming to the library gives children an opportunity to begin building a lasting appreciation and love for reading along with a friendship and comfort with the library,” offered Amy Holman, Library Circulation Manager and Storyteller. “It is so enjoyable working with the children and teachers and staff from the Family Development Center. Who knows? The children will grow up and just might decide to become a member of the GSU Freshmen Class of 2032!”

Click [here](#) to view an endearing thank-you letter from the preschoolers. Email the [Library](#) with for more information.

## Workshops & Trainings

A complete list of workshops for students, faculty, and staff can be found [here](#). Check out the Thought Leadership Workshop Series or workshops from Career Services.

**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.

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





University Park, IL, September 26, 2017

## Leanne McClurg Cambric

Leanne McClurg Cambric (<http://www.leannemcclurg.com/>) is a potter whose vessels take the shape and color of her experiences and emotions. What emerges from the fiery kiln is as beautiful as it is useful and symbolic. Formerly a music major, Cambric speaks in melodious tones that often give way to an infectious laugh.

An assistant professor at Governors State University (<http://www.govst.edu/>) (GSU), Cambric says her ceramic cups, bowls, and urns are a channel for her to communicate with her audience.

“A lot of my work is autobiographical in that most of what I make is functional and has a relationship to food and a relationship to the body. As a feminist artist, I have a strong connection with food and the body. So there’s the functional part about art delivering food to the body that comes from my body and was created by my hands,” Cambric said.

Raised in Alaska and educated in Minnesota and Louisiana, Cambric spent a decade studying, teaching, leading, and honing her craft in the bayou. At Louisiana State University, Cambric earned a Master of Fine Arts; she later taught and served as a resident artist there. She was an instructor and department chair of Art, Music, Theater, and Entertainment Technologies at Baton Rouge Community College before joining Southern University briefly.

In 2009, she was laid off—a loss that contributed to a series of traumatic events Cambric calls “intense”—and in 2012, Cambric joined the GSU College of Arts and Sciences (<http://www.govst.edu/cas>).



Cambric’s work is a mainstay in local and national art shows. The National Council on Education for the Ceramics named her Emerging Artist in 2007. In 2015, she won Best in Show at the Carbondale Clay Center’s juried show, *Clay National X: Ceramic Color the Endless Pursuit*, and she recently won first place at the prestigious *Strictly Functional*, a juried competition in which over 700 pieces were submitted and only 150—two of them belonging to Cambric—were accepted.

Next year, the ceramist will display at a new Kankakee gallery FEED founded by GSU art

alumni.

The art showcases help inspire young artists seeking a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree (<http://www.govst.edu/cas/art/bfa/>), Cambric said. “I want students to see a path as professional artists. My work and exhibition record allows them to see possibilities beyond academia.”

**GSU Newsroom: You’ve been in academia your entire life and consistently show your work on a national stage. How does one influence the other?**

**Cambric:** Academia allows me to make work that pushes the boundaries of the conventional functional object. I am lucky that my position at GSU encourages research so that I can focus on innovation instead of concern for the marketplace, in whether a work will sell or not.

**GSU Newsroom: You have a deep respect for two dimensional art, but three dimensional art is where you thrive. Why are ceramics so personal for you?**

**Cambric:** Making stuff by hand is critical to my own life. Growing up, we hunted and fished and did so many things with our hands. In ceramics, there's stuff you learn how to do. I know how to work with wood from working in the studio. There's a lot of stuff we have to construct. I know how to rewire an electrical kiln. Also, ceramics is a primitive art-making process that is physically demanding. Your body engages muscles you don't use for anything else. It's labor intensive and technical—chemistry is involved to make it a true balance of art and science.

**GSU Newsroom: Your recent work with urns carried dark images. Did this reflect a mood?**

**Cambric:** I lost a son and was making these urns as a tribute to every mother who has lost a child. I particularly empathize with mothers who are part of the 'club' of losing their child to racism and violence. I have black sons and worry about something awful happening to them. Because I lost a son, I may worry a little more over having to go through that grief again. So I made these urns that would sit on shelves in homes and reflect on my own relationship with people who died or just loss in general. They have a wood element and a clay element that both cradled and elevated them on a shelf or a wall. Things in your life change, and you have to figure out a way to pack it up and put it away. While the urns are functional objects they are largely aesthetically pleasing, symbolic sculptures.

**GSU Newsroom: Your pieces help you process loss. How does emotional recovery show up?**

**Cambric:** There's an E.M. Forster quote I teach my students, "*How do I know what I think until I see what I say?*" I don't have a good connection with what I'm doing in the moment—I just do it from a strong push internally. Reflectively, I look back and see all this crap was going on in my life and can see what I was making. Then I see a great sea of calm and look at what was going on in the work. I've shifted out of allegorical work now and am moving back into the abstract. Abstraction feels calmer to me. I am excited about the changes in the work I've been making in the studio lately, and I can't wait till my next exhibition.



University Park, IL, September 26, 2017

## Antoine Hawkins

The way Antoine Hawkins sees things, he's been on a path to change for himself, his family, his legacy, and the community around him for most of his life. An instinctive mentor, the [Dual Degree Program-Male Success Initiative](http://www.govst.edu/ddp-msi/) (<http://www.govst.edu/ddp-msi/>) student—a key program at Governors State University that opens up a community college to university pathway for men of color—says that he "didn't find social work, it found [him]," and it was through the DDP-MSI that he was able to unite his natural strengths with a degree program and career.

The program's goals are clear:

- To increase the number of men of color who enroll in the DDP at one of our partner community colleges, earn their associate degrees, transfer to Governors State University (or any other accredited, not-for-profit university that best meets their academic needs), and graduate with their baccalaureate degrees.
- To become a model for the community college-to-university pathway for men of color.

This is done through one-on-one mentoring and guidance, as well as community-building between peers.

"I was able to actually come here to GSU and participate in workshops and community outreach before I graduated from community college," Hawkins said. "It's kind of funny because when I speak to other people who were in the program ahead of me and we get to talking, I find out they thought I was a student here earlier because I was able to be here so often. They actually thought that I was already a student here at GSU."

Hawkins also said the MSI-DDP allowed him to familiarize himself with campus so "it wasn't that shocking aspect of being a fish out of water in a new environment" when he transferred to GSU.

"When I came here, I became a peer mentor with the DDP program," Hawkins said. "I didn't know a lot about social work at that time. I was a junior with an associate's from Prairie State, and I remember going into my academic advisor's office and being asked what I wanted to do. I said I wanted to help people. She asked what I meant by that, and I told her I liked talking to people and helping them with their problems. I've always volunteered through churches and things of that nature, and I did it at work all the time, too."

Work at that point was—in Hawkins' words—"a dead-end job in a warehouse."

"I loved the people, but I hated the job," he said. "I had the pleasure of quitting—I enjoy saying that—had the pleasure of quitting my job and actually have a part time job with [Gear Up](http://www.chicagogearup.org/) (<http://www.chicagogearup.org/>) now, which is based in Chicago through CPS. It's a mentoring program where we actually help students prepare for college."

Hawkins says he is "all in" when it comes to mentoring the teens because he "can relate to a lot of things that they're going through or have experienced."

"College wasn't a priority in my house. I'm a first-generation college student. My mom has a high school diploma, but no one before me in my family has gone beyond that. So I'm the first one. Unfortunately in our communities, in our families, education isn't always a priority."

Hawkins said that growing up in his household, there were two priorities: finish high school and don't have any kids until you do so.

"That's what my mother put into our heads since we were little. As we got older, it kind of shifted to: finish high school, don't go to jail, don't get caught up in the wrong crowd, but it was always a focus on high school and avoiding teen pregnancy. So it was kind of like, if you did those two things...you really did something."

Hawkins accomplished both, but he wanted more. At age 35, a married father of two teens, education was the way out, and he was willing to do the hard work to achieve it.



"[When I started college] I was working the night shift. I would get off work at 7 a.m., get a quick hour or two of sleep, go to class, and be in class until about 3 p.m.," Hawkins said. "It was tough, but I was determined—I wanted to do it, I had to do it. I ended up getting the [GSU Promise Scholarship](http://www.govst.edu/scholarships/) through the DDP which paid for my next two years here, so I earned a full-ride scholarship to Governors State. I was able to transfer here, come in as a junior after I graduated with my associate's degree, and continue my education."

Hawkins graduates in May 2018 and said that he plans to go on to graduate school at GSU.

"I'm passionate about what I do here, as far as mentoring, and I feel like I'm serving a purpose. That's what gets me going," he said. "After I get my Master's, I'd like to stay in the area and continue my work here, but I'll go wherever the need takes me."