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GSU View, September 25, 2018

Office of Marketing and Communications

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gsuview

A newsletter for students, faculty & staff



September 25, 2018

Vol. 58, Issue 4

News

Practice Rail Safety Week at GSU



#RAILSAFETYWEEK



September 23 – 29 is Rail Safety Week, a time to “raise awareness across the United States of the need for rail safety education and empower the general public to keep themselves safe near highway-rail grade crossings and railroad rights-of-way” ([Operation Lifesaver](#)).

Brandon Myers, Police Inspector and Commanding Officer for the CN railway police and GSU adjunct professor of [Criminal Justice](#), cautions the GSU community, “As you may be aware, we have a set of

tracks that pass over Stuenkel Rd. near Governors Hwy by the University. This is a very dangerous crossing especially when classes and the Metra is letting out.”

Join the conversation on social media using #RailSafetyWeek and #GovState.

LGBTQIA History Month and Chat with the Student Activities Council



LGBTQIA History Month is a month-long annual observance of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender history, and the history of the gay rights and related civil rights movements, held annually across the country in October. GSU has an array of events to celebrate the contributions of the LGBTQIA community.

Join an engaging LGBTQIA discussion regarding safety, understanding/tolerance, and being an ally on **Monday, October 1** at 6 p.m. in Engbretson Hall. Light refreshments will be served at this event hosted by Dr. Christienne Dyslin, Division of Psychology and Counseling, and Kenneth Vasser, Training and Education Specialist at the University of Illinois Cancer Center, and sponsored by the Student Activities Council (SAC).

For more information, please visit www.govst.edu/diversity or email diversity@govst.edu.

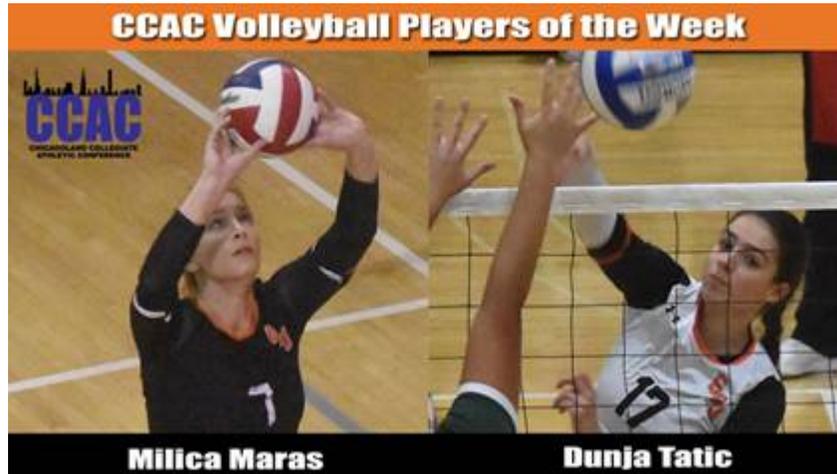
Celebrate Homecoming with GSU this November



GSU is hosting the 2018 Homecoming from **Sunday, November 4 – Saturday, November 10**. This year’s theme is “Salute to the Past, Cheers to the Future,” which embodies the essence of the university as we continue to build upon our great legacy and celebrate our transformation towards higher heights

and deeper depths of being a public square for our rich diverse community of students, faculty, staff, and alumni.

Two GSU Volleyball Players Named CCAC Players of the Week



Two members of the Governors State women's volleyball team have earned player of the week honors from the Chicagoland Collegiate Athletic Conference (CCAC).

Senior [Milica Maras](#) was named Setter of the Week while first-year outside hitter [Dunja Tatic](#) was chosen Attacker of the Week. The Serbian natives are the second and third Jaguars in program history to receive conference POW honors, joining Ashley Pickert who earned the award last year.

[Read more . . .](#)

Nominations Now Underway for the 2018 Student Lincoln Laureate



The 2018 Student Lincoln Laureate Award process is underway. Each year an outstanding senior from each of the four-year, degree-granting institutions of higher learning in Illinois is awarded the Abraham Lincoln Civic Engagement Award and thereby becomes the Student Laureate of the Lincoln Academy of Illinois. Student Laureates are honored for their leadership and service in the pursuit of the betterment of humanity and for overall excellence in curricular and extracurricular activities.

[Learn more, including details about the application process and awards.](#)

GSU Turns 50!



Let the countdown begin! January 2019 opens GSU's kick off of its 18-month celebration of teaching, learning, and serving Chicago's Southland for 50 years. This is a unique opportunity to share the university's historic milestones, myriad achievements, and many innovative firsts since its founding in 1969. This is also an opportunity to build support for the future by re-engaging alumni, cultivating new and potential supporters, and making a powerful case for investing in the university's next 50 years.

Host a 50th Anniversary Event

The 18-month celebration will include lectures, galas, and much more! If you would like to host an event, activity, or initiative, we encourage you to [submit a proposal](#). Proposals may be eligible for partial funding, and should be crafted to showcase the anniversary's theme and outcomes (outlined on the proposal submission page). The deadline to submit is **November 5** at 11:59 p.m.

For more information on how we are communicating about the 50th anniversary, please visit the communications toolkit [here](#).

#DoTheFAFSA Starting October 1



File your FAFSA as early as **October 1**—now less than a week away—for aid to pay tuition and fees for the upcoming academic year 2019-20 (including summer school).

GSU's Office of Financial Aid offers weekly FAFSA Friday workshops to help you with FAFSA completion. Workshops take place in the Cube on Fridays from 3:30 – 4:30 p.m., beginning **October 5**.

Save the Date: Fall All-Campus Symposium

Mark your calendar for GSU's Fall All-Campus Symposium to be held **Friday, October 19**. This semester's symposium theme is "The Adult Learner."

The day will begin with an 8:30 a.m. continental breakfast followed by the start of the symposium at 9 a.m. Lunch will be served and the day's work will end mid-afternoon.

RSVP's are required and may be sent to [Penny Perdue](#) (x4130).

Undergraduate and Graduate Open House



On **Saturday, October 13**, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Hall of Governors, GSU will be hosting its first Open House event of the fall. Representatives from undergraduate and graduate programs as well as other departments and divisions at GSU will be attending. [Register to attend](#).

For more information, contact [Julie Anderson](#) (708.534.4086).

Honor Domestic Violence Awareness Month with Lambda Pi Eta



October is National Violence Awareness Month. Receive a purple ribbon honoring survivors of domestic violence on **Monday, October 8** from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. in the Hall of Governors. For more information, contact [Michelle Sebasco](#) (708.235.3983).

The Second City's Latest Revue is Screwy Fun



You know The Second City by the many famous faces you see on TV, from Tina Fey and Amy Poehler, to Mike Myers, Steve Carell, and Dan Ackroid. Now, meet the next generation of comedy greatness when The Second City's Blue Company brings *Made in America: Some Assembly Required* to Center for Performing Arts at Governors State University on **October 6** at 8 p.m. [Read more . . .](#)

Discounted tickets for GSU students (\$10) and faculty and staff (\$25) are available through the box office only and not offered online. Visit the box office Monday – Friday, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. (open until 6 p.m. on Thursdays). Call 708.235.2222 for more info.

Curious Campus: A Learning Community Project



A first-year learning community is curious—and seeking your perspective. In a project modeled from NPR's Curious City, the students will be in the cafeteria area on **Monday, October 8** from 12:30 – 1:30 p.m. seeking answers to the questions “Where on campus do you feel most anxious?” and “Where on campus do you feel most at peace?”

Students will create inquiry cards with the questions on either side that, once completed, will be displayed on the windows near the cafeteria. Common themes observed will be used to inspire a short video, written by the learning community students and produced by DLMD.

Students participating are enrolled in First Year Seminar, taught by Dr. Novia Pagone, and Writing Workshop 1, taught by Dr. Kerri Morris, within a learning community project sponsored by General Education and a part of a Media Across the Curriculum (MAC) pilot.

Latino Heritage Month 2018



Latino Heritage Month, a nationally recognized celebration of Latino culture, takes place annually from September 15 – October 15. This year's program highlights include learning about policies impacting the Latino community, a visit to the Mexican American History Museum, and more.

[View a listing of Latino Heritage Month events.](#) For more information email diversity@govst.edu.

Weekly Mindfulness Practices in the GSU Library



This semester, Drs. Tim Pedigo and Maristela Zell are hosting meditation sessions and mindfulness practice for students, faculty, and staff in the GSU Library every Thursday afternoon from 3:30 – 4:30

p.m. Come to the library and follow the signs to the mindfulness practice location beyond the balcony and the quiet study area.

“When we operate from a mindful perspective, we take in our values, thoughts, and emotions as important information that help us respond, not react, to the challenges in life. As a consequence, we learn to be in the present moment while managing our thoughts, behaviors, and moods,” offered Dr. Zell.

Questions? Contact GSULibraryinfo@govst.edu.

Great American Bagel Pop-Up Pantry



Every Monday, Thursday, and Friday, the GSUXpress delivers students to the University Park bagel store, where they collect an assortment of donated bagels – cinnamon raisin to jalapeno to poppy seed – left over at the end of the day. On Monday and Thursday, the “pantry” springs up in the middle of campus about 3:30 p.m. On Fridays, it’s at Prairie Place.

The Great American Bagel Pop-up Pantry is part of a broader student resource initiative, GSU4U, run by the Office of Student Life to address the issue of hunger on campus. The need came to the forefront last year, and a recent study of 43,000 students found more than half the 76 GSU students surveyed reported being homeless or hungry to some degree.

For more information, contact [Civic Engagement](#) (x7454)

Announcements and Events

Films on Demand Free Trial Package



What do PBS, HBO, and Ken Burns all have in common? Their productions can be found on Films on Demand Master Academic Package being offered through the GSU Library. In addition, there is a trial offer to the Archival Films and Newsreels Collection dating back to pre-twentieth-century. To access these databases, click [here](#).

“We are pleased to be able to offer these trials to all in the GSU community,” offered Lydia Morrow Ruetten, Dean of the GSU Library. “Your feedback helps us assess the value of the databases. Is this something that you think we should purchase for our faculty and students? Please let us know by sending your thoughts to GSULibraryinfo@govst.edu.”

Latinx Identity in America



Alcohol consumption, popular culture, power, and resistance in Mexico: these are the topics that Dr. Áurea Toxqui explores to understand cultural identity. In her talk *From Mexico City to Peoria: A Scholar's View* on **Wednesday, October 3** from 3 – 4:15 p.m. in Room F1622, Dr. Toxqui will share how her personal and professional experiences in the U.S. led her to discover and develop her Latinx identity.

Attend the Premiere of Banana Season



GSU Professor of Film Sanghoon Lee invites members of the GSU community to attend [the Chicago premiere of his recently written and directed film Banana Season](#) at the Gene Siskel Film Center on **Friday, October 5** at 8 p.m. or **Sunday, October 7** at 5 p.m.

Banana Season was completed in the spring and is now in its festival circuit, which included its world premiere at Bentonville Film Festival in May and the Lighthouse International Film Festival in June. Both festivals are recognized by MovieMaker Magazine in articles such as [50 Film Festivals Worth the Entry Fee in 2018](#) and [The 25 Coolest Film Festivals in the World, 2018](#).

[Watch the Banana Season trailer.](#)

Careers in Technology: Expert Panel Discussion and Networking Reception



Tech leaders from different walks of life will present diverse points of view and career insights. Come listen, learn, and ask questions. Networking reception immediately following panel discussion. All GSU students and alumni who are interested in tech careers are welcome to attend.

The panel discussion will take place **Monday, October 8** from 6 – 8:30 p.m. [RSVP by October 4.](#)

Questions? Call 708.534.4977.

Before Columbus: Art and Archaeology of Mexico and Guatemala



All are invited to join Dr. Arthur P. Bourgeois, Professor Emeritus, for a talk about the artifacts on display in the Skylight Gallery and their history while enjoying some Mexican-style snacks in celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month.

This event, supported by a GSU Intellectual Life Grant, will take place in the Skylight Gallery, located within the GSU Library, will take place **Wednesday, October 10** at 12:30 p.m.

For more information, email GSULibraryinfo@govst.edu.

CPR for the Community and Workplace



The School of Extended Learning presents the CPR for the Community and Workplace workshop on **Saturday, October 13** from 1:30 – 4 p.m. After successful completion of the 2.5 hour workshop, participants will earn their CPR-AED card. GSU students, staff, and faculty will receive a \$10 discount. Enter promo code **CPR10** during check out.

Register [here](#). (Please note the corrected link from last week's GSU View).

For more information, please contact [Dr. Felicia L. Townsend](#), Director of Corporate and Community Education (708.534.3044).

GSU's School of Extended Learning Welcomes the Workforce Services Division of Will County for a Workshop Innovation & Opportunity Act Information Session



Please join the School of Extended Learning on **Tuesday, October 16** from 10 – 11 a.m. (location TBD) for an information and Q&A session on [WIOA](#). GSU's School of Extended Learning will discuss continuing education opportunities that are WIOA approved (which may lead to unique funding opportunities to continue your education), as well as WIOA-approved degree programming. GSU's Veteran's Resource Center and Office of Career Services also will be present for questions.

All are welcome, and refreshments will be served at this free event.

For more information, visit the [Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act at GSU](#), [Workforce Services Division of Will County](#), or contact [Michelle Sebasco](#) (708.235.3983).

South Suburban Family Shelter



Lambda Pi Eta will host keynote speaker Kerry Hill on behalf of the South Suburban Family Shelter on Wednesday, October 17 from 6 – 8 p.m. in Engbretson Hall. Toys will be collected for the resident children at the event (new toys only, please).

For more information, contact [Michelle Sebasco](#) (708.235.3983) or [Merri Wilkerson](#) (708.534.4012).

Juicing 101: Juicing for Life



Adding juicing to your lifestyle is a healthy practice, delicious, and life changing. Dawn Haley, Nutritional Health Coach, will share her own juicy story about her determination to nourish her body back to better health after a cancer diagnosis.

Dawn manages her health and speaks on the benefits of juicing and healthier eating. [In this course](#), you will learn how to juice, why you should, and what benefits you can expect, as well as sample refreshing, freshly squeezed juices, including orange, leafy green, carrot, and carrot apple juices.

[Join us](#) on **Wednesday, October 24** from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. Fee is \$10. For more information, please contact [Michelle Sebasco](#), 708.235.3983.

Save the Date: 2018 Men's Leadership Summit



The 2018 Men's Leadership Summit will take place **Friday, November 16** in Engbretson Hall starting at 9 a.m. This year's theme is C.R.E.E.D.: "Creating Rules of Engagement to Excel Daily." Using the backdrop of the forthcoming movie *Creed*, the theme speaks to the importance of leaders maintaining a posture of confidence and assurance to overcome unforeseen challenges and circumstances. [Submit your proposals for the 2018 Men's Leadership Summit](#) by **Friday, October 5**.

Learn more about this year's Men's Leadership Summit [Keynote Speaker Dr. Calvin Mackie](#).

[Registration](#) for the Men's Leadership Summit is open through **Friday, November 2**. This event is free to GSU students and \$25 for non-GSU students. For more information, please email diversity@govst.edu.

S.O.S.: Scars of the Soul

Join Lambda Pi Eta for a presentation of [Scars of the Soul](#), a heart-wrenching documentary that will help the GSU community understand the trauma of domestic violence and how survivors survive with a scarred soul. Guest speaker Dr. Nefertiti Nowell of Nowell and Associates will provide commentary.

Open to all in the GSU community, this event will take place **Tuesday, October 30** from 6 – 7:30 p.m. in Engbretson Hall. In continued support of Lambda Pi Eta's October 17 event, new toys also will be collected at this event for the South Suburban Family Shelter.

For more information, contact [Michelle Sebasco](#) (708.235.3983) or [Merri Wilkerson](#) (708.534.4012).

Nursing Student Town Hall and Professional Forum

On **Tuesday, November 13** from 4:30 – 6 p.m. in Engbretson Hall (B1200), members of the Department of Nursing faculty and advising team will host a professional forum to meet and converse with students. This gathering will allow students from all nursing programs (undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral) to meet the director, clinical coordinators, and instructors.

Sandy the GSU Therapy Dog



Hi All!

I always have the best time seeing old friends and meeting new ones! I will be on the balcony every Tuesday, so be sure to mark your calendars to come visit me between classes.

Sandy,
Your Very Happy GSU Therapy Dog

Highlights

Tim Gsell



What's the most abundant life form on the planet, accounting for half the biomass? If you guessed something too small to see even with the aid of a microscope, you guessed right. "Bacteria are all over the place, even in boiling water," said Timothy Gsell, Professor of environmental microbiology at GSU and coordinator for biology degree programs, including the [Bachelor of Science](#) and the Environmental Biology, Management, and Policy [Master of Science](#).

Microbiology has seen enormous changes in the span of Gsell's career. One of the most significant is the emergence of metagenomics, the study of genetic material recovered directly from an environmental sample. "For instance, to find out if there are Asian carp in Lake Michigan, look for its DNA in water samples. It's true for fish, and it's also true for bacteria," Gsell said. "I can get hundreds of thousands of bacterial species identified and describe their relative abundance with metagenomics data from one DNA

sample. Twenty years ago, I'd have to grow cells from each species individually and analyze their DNA one at a time. Metagenomics was a revolution.”

[Read more . . .](#)

Conversations with Leaders: Lydia Morrow Ruetten



Right in the center of campus, overlooking the Hall of Governors, the [Governors State University Library](#) is like the living room of the university—a welcoming place for faculty, staff, and students to learn and explore in the midst of art.

A high-profile destination, the [university library](#) is home to thousands of books and electronic journals, as well as group study rooms, [Sandy the Therapy Dog](#), the Skylight Gallery, and a host of events.

Dean Lydia Morrow Ruetten couldn't be more thrilled.

“When I walk out of my office and I see the library full of activity, it inspires me. It makes me happy like you wouldn't believe,” said Ruetten, who during her near 30-year tenure has watched the traditional 20th century book repository transform into a resource for the 21st century.

[Read more . . .](#)

Male Success Initiative Participants Return from Annual Off-Campus Retreat



On September 14 –16, during their annual off-campus retreat, participants of the [Male Success Initiative \(MSI\)](#) recognized one of their own, senior Devonte Davis, as the group’s first ever Mr. Retreat. A senior majoring in Business Administration, Davis said he joined the MSI because it just made sense. The retreat was a great bonding experience for the 11 of us who attended, and I encourage more guys around campus to join and consider going next year.”

At the retreat, the participants took part in teambuilding activities, leadership development workshops, and socializing, all which inspired much-needed male bonding. “The retreat is designed to get these guys off campus, away from the daily grind of their classes and the distraction of their friends, to focus on why they’re really in school,” said Sean Smith, MSI Coordinator. “The bonding they did there revealed some deep personal concerns about actually finishing school, but it also reinforced the support from each other to make sure no one failed — and not just in school, but in life. When they came back to campus, they were focused and motivated to continue that momentum and energy from the retreat.”

The mission of the MSI, a grant-funded program, is to increase the retention and graduation rates of male students of color at GSU. They meet twice a month, on the second and fourth Mondays, at 3:30 in room A-2150. For more information, visit the [MSI webpage](#) or contact [Sean Smith](#) (708.235.7619).

Workshops & Trainings

A list of workshops for students, faculty, and staff, including Writing Center workshops, CMS web editor training sessions, faculty profile updating sessions, Workzone training sessions, and more can be found [here](#).

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.](#)



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