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## News & Views, 2002-02-11

Office of Public Affairs

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# News & Views

## Governors State University

*In theory, there is no  
difference between theory  
and practice, in practice,  
there is. – Yogi Berra*  
--(Suggested by Paul Keys)

**February 11 – 15, 2002**

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### **What the Illinois Budget Crisis Means to Higher Education and GSU**

President Stuart Fagan and members of the Cabinet will discuss the impact of the State's deteriorating budget situation on Governors State at a university-wide meeting, 3 p.m., February 13, in Sherman Music Recital Hall. Dr. Fagan, Paul Keys, provost, Jeff Slovak, interim director of budget, and Chuck Connolly, interim executive director, marketing and communications, will discuss other subjects as well, including ways to reduce costs, academic initiatives, the upcoming contract negotiations, marketing programs to drive revenue, and plans for 2002. Dr. Fagan will also outline a program to improve internal communications, a top priority. "The rumors flying around Governors State are as thick as the geese over our lake," he said. "It's essential that everyone in the community knows the facts and understands the direction we're taking and the reasons for it."

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### **Student Affairs and Services Gets New Focus**

Provost Paul Keys has asked Patricia Carter, dean, Student Affairs and Services to develop new strategies to boost enrollment and retention. To provide time for Dean Carter to carry out her assignment, the division has been restructured. The division directors for Admissions, Financial Aid and the Registrar will report directly to Paul Keys. The heads of Student Development and Career Services and Student Life will report to Peggy Woodard, associate provost. The directors of Upward Bound, Student Support Services, Project SOAR and Project HOPE will report to Eric Martin, assistant provost.

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### **No Enron, Please.**

The administration will meet with the Finance Committee of the Board of Trustees on February 22. They will review the budget process, discuss changes in the current system of financial reporting, and review the financial statements of the Governors State University Foundation. The board committee will also review the recent findings of the university's independent and State auditors.

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### **"Dead Man (Now) Walking" at GSU**

Sister Helen Prejean, author of *Dead Man Walking*, will receive an honorary doctoral degree at our commencement ceremonies on June 2, 2002. The book was made into a movie, starring Susan Sarandon who won an Academy Award for her portrayal of Sister Prejean. *Dead Man Walking* is an eloquent cry against the death penalty. In fact, Sister Prejean is now the chair of an organization called The Moratorium Campaign, which is seeking a halt to the death penalty.

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## Call for Publications

Diane Dates Casey and her library team will recognize each person in the university who has published an article or book at a Faculty Authors' Reception on March 20, 2002, at 2 p.m. on the library's balcony. Send copies of your published books, articles and reviews with a brief annotation to Marie Turak in the library no later than February 28, 2002.

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## Technology Training in Full Swing

A good way to beat the winter blahs is to learn something new. The ITS Short Courses have resumed on campus with 47 days of technology training between now and the end of April. If you don't have time for a short course, stop by the Library Training Room on an "Ask Ingrid" day and see if Ingrid Stevens has the answer to your software question. Ingrid's training schedule is at [www.govst.edu/its/support/training/calendar.html](http://www.govst.edu/its/support/training/calendar.html). Contact Ingrid Stevens for more information at Ext. 2142 or [i-stevens@govst.edu](mailto:i-stevens@govst.edu).

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## OK, the Desk Goes Here, But Where Do We Put the Piano?

Paul Keys, provost, and John Tuohy, vice president – administration, are in the process of establishing a Master Planning Committee to determine the best use of space in the main campus building that will become open once the Faculty Office Center is completed. And even though the committee has yet to be finalized, they are ahead of themselves by establishing a subcommittee, chaired by the provost, to identify how physical space in the Center should be configured to accommodate the needs of each college. Members of the subcommittee include the deans of each college and division chairs.

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## Don't Cry, Kids

Construction of the Family Development Center remains on track for completion in August 2002. The Faculty Office Center has encountered an unexpected problem with the location of a sewer pipe, but is still on schedule. The mild winter helps.

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## "Imitation of Life": It's Never What It Seems

Throughout February, movies that capture the Black experience will be shown in Engbretson Hall. The line-up includes, *Amistad*, *Coolie High*, *Courage Under Fire*, *Imitation of Life*, *Malcolm X*, and *Men of Honor*. The dates are February 6-7, 11-14, 18-20, 25-26. The times are noon, 2 p.m., 4 p.m, and 6 p.m. Free popcorn for all.

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## If You Like It, E-Mail Us

The first issue of *News and Views* was positively received by many of you. Thank you for your vote of confidence. I'm also pleased to note that a few of you e-mailed news items for future issues. We're always interested in news or tips for upcoming issues of *News and Views*:

Departmental news/team events

Work-related or special events news

General interest stories: e-mail stories or ideas to [c-dennis@govst.edu](mailto:c-dennis@govst.edu) by Thursday at the close of the business day.