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## News & Views, 2002-03-25

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# News & Views

## Governors State University

We read that we ought to  
forgive  
our enemies; but we do not read  
that we ought to forgive our  
friends.

*Cosimo De' Medici*

March 25 – 29, 2002

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### **Gaudeamus Igitur, etc.**

Consideration is being given to holding this year's commencement off-site, according to Colleen Rock Cawthon, Coordinator of Academic Affairs in the Provost's Office, who is heading this year's commencement program. "The weather is always an issue," Rock Cawthon said. "Sometimes it's too hot, sometimes too cold, like last year when I graduated with my master's. It's usually muggy. Security is always a problem. This year safety is also an issue because of the construction projects on campus. And there is the matter of cost, which is a major concern this year. We can save more than \$20,000 by going off-site." The proposed off-site location is the TinleyPark Convention Center at 183d Street and Harlem Avenue. "The facility is only two or three years old," Rock Cawthon said. "It can accommodate 3,700 people, which means students can get more tickets than they have received in the past, and there's plenty of parking." The Faculty and Civil Service Senates have agreed an off-site commencement makes sense this year. The Dean's Council will be briefed on the proposal on March 26 and the Student Senate on March 27. President Stuart Fagan and his cabinet will make a final decision the same day. If the commencement is held at the Tinley Park Convention Center, then all commencements will be held on Sunday, June 2. (The Center is not available on June 1.)

The first ceremony would take place at 9:30 a.m. and the second ceremony at 3:00 p.m..

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### **Y'all Come**

More than 500 people visited Governors State's Open House on March 16. Of that number, about 350 people were prospective students, an increase of more than 100 from the Fall Open House. "The momentum is building," said Larry Polselli, Executive Director of Enrollment Services.

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### **April 13 Fund-Raiser for Scholarships: An Evening of C Notes**

Read that headline anyway you wish. First, it's an evening at the Center for the Performing Arts with jazz great Maynard Ferguson. Second, it's the annual GSU Foundation fund-raiser for scholarships. The Foundation event includes dinner, a silent auction, and, of course, Maynard Ferguson's magic and music. For more information, call Loretta Haddox at extension 4105.

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### **Thanks Alums for Great Support in Half the Time**

In just two weeks, more than 150 volunteers in the Governors State alumni phonathon raised nearly \$65,000. It took the Association four weeks to raise the same amount last year. "I just love my people," said Pat Matthews, Assistant to the Director of Alumni Relations. "And I love the GSU story we have to tell. Obviously, we made a connection with the enthusiasm of the volunteers and the message the university is sending."

## **Taking the Message to the Legislature**

President Fagan will lead a delegation of trustees, faculty, staff and union leaders to Springfield on April 3 to tell legislators about the unique services Governors State provides working adults and serious students. The team will suggest ways the legislature can soften the impact of State budget cuts on Governors State and higher education.

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## **Through the Eyes of Women**

Mark your calendars for three important presentations. On "March 26," Jacki Lyden, National Public Radio Correspondent, will speak on the lives of Afghan women. She recently returned from Kabul, Afghanistan and will share stories of Afghan women living in a world torn by war. On "March 27," Laura Washington, editor and publisher emerita of the "Chicago Reporter," will speak on how to get started ( and keep going) in journalism. On "March 28," Dr. Joyce Hughes, professor of law at Northwestern University, will discuss the experience of being an African American women in an environment where there are few, if any African American women. All presentations will begin at 6:30 p.m. Lyden and Hughes will be in the Hall of Honors, while Washington will hold forth in E-lounge..

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## **Insights into a Troubled World**

Myra MacPherson, author, lecturer and talk radio host, will present "Linking the Legacies of Vietnam to 9/11 and the War on Terrorism" on April 1 at 6:00 p.m. in Engbretson Hall as part of the Distinguished Lecture Series sponsored by the College of Arts and Sciences. Ms. MacPherson is author of the best-selling "Long Time Passing: Vietnam and the Haunted Generation." The book is highly regarded as the best study yet produced on the war's impact on America and the generation asked to fight it.

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## **Celebrate Spring and the Literary Arts**

On Sunday, April 7, the day the clocks move forward, Governors State will sponsor a performance by the Tallgrass Writers Guild Performance Ensemble, featuring readings from established and local writers. The program in Sherman Hall will begin at 1:30 p.m. Central Daylight Savings time.

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## **What's in a Name?**

There's still time to submit suggestions for a new name for "News and Views." Send your ideas to Carolyn Dennis.

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## **In Memoriam**

Carolyn Dennis of Public Affairs is the instigator, editor, and soul of this newsletter. Her mother passed away on Monday, March 18. Carolyn's mother was a special person, generous in spirit, courageous in adversity, and wise in life. "We are a family," said Chuck Connolly, Interim Executive Director-Marketing and Communications. "we share Carolyn's grief."

**There will be no issue of News and Views for the week of April 1. We'll return the week of April 8 with a new name.**