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Alumni E-Connections, 2009-04

Alumni Relations

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Governors State University Alumni Association



Dear Alumni,

It looks like spring is almost here and that means summer is just around the corner. Check out the new Vacation Education program below.

Vacation Education

What do a GSU alum and a high school senior have in common with a down-sized job seeker and a community college student seeking direction? They are all eligible to enroll in Governors State University's new six-week Vacation Education mini-term this summer.

Vacation Education courses run from June 1 through July 15 and require no pre requisites. The program is open to everyone, age 17 and over, including non-Illinois residents, those who wish to continue their education and those who have never taken a college course.

Application, submission of the \$25 application fee, and registration for specific courses may be completed simultaneously. Transcripts are not required.

For more information, visit www.govst.edu/vacationeducation.

Association Board Member Honored with Endowed Scholarship

Anthony Fontana, a professor at GSU, has established an endowed scholarship honoring the memory of his late wife and long time board member, Lorraine Fontana. The Lorraine Fontana Memorial Endowed Scholarship was established to assist students in MIS, Accounting, and Finance majors – Lorraine's areas of passion here at GSU. Donations from staff, friends, and alumni are now being accepted to enhance this wonderful scholarship. For information on how to donate, call 708.534.4128.

Alumni interested in establishing a scholarship may contact Rosemary Hulett in the Alumni Relations Office at 708.534.4128.

GSU 40th Anniversary

We're celebrating GSU's 40th anniversary through a yearlong series of events. Each month our e-blast will keep you up to date on events and programs being held on campus. Here's what's coming up:

DEADLINE – April 30 - 40th Anniversary Writing Competition

Don't forget to send in your submission for the 40th Anniversary Writing Competition – We want to hear from you! **What impact has GSU had on your life?** Put your story into words and be a part of GSU's history. The top submissions will be announced at the GSU Gala Celebration on November 7 and will be published in IMPACT, a magazine commemorating the 40th Anniversary. For more information, visit www.govst.edu/alumni and click on "activities." Submission deadline is April 30.

Free Lecture Series – April 15

The Civic and Community Engagement lecture series concludes with a presentation by the Honorable Abner Mikva, on April 15, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., in the Hall of Honors. The University Honors Program and the Political and Justice Studies Program are sponsors of the lecture series.

Mikva will speak on *Promoting Civic and Community Engagement*. As a former U.S. Congressman and Federal First District Court Judge, Mikva understands the importance of civic involvement and the need to promote it at all levels. He has also served as White House Counsel and on the faculty at the University of Chicago Law School – Mandel Clinic.

This presentation is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Dr. Larry Levinson 708.534.4578.

Free Panel Discussion on Middle East Peace Prospects

GSU is sponsoring an informal and interactive panel discussion on Middle East Peace Prospects on April 21, from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m., in the Hall of Honors.

Panel participants include Dr. Stuart Fagan, President Emeritus of GSU and Professor of Public Administration; Dr. Larry Levinson, Coordinator of Political and Justice Studies; and Dr. Khalil Marrar, Visiting Assistant Professor of International Relations from DePaul University. The moderator is Dr. Ellen Foster Curtis, Dean of the College of Business and Public Administration.

The panel is uniquely qualified both by their areas expertise and experience to comment on the prospects of peace in the Middle East considering the 2008 conflict and the recent elections in Israel. Dr. Fagan has visited Israel approximately 25 times over the past 40 years. On his most recent visit, he took part in a symposium on the current prospects for a negotiated Israeli-Palestinian peace. Dr. Marrar is an expert on U.S. – Middle East relations and policy. He received his Ph.D. from Loyola University, Chicago in 2007 and his dissertation was on "Arab Lobby and U.S. Foreign Policy."

Save the Date – 40th Anniversary Celebration – November 7

Mark your calendar for Saturday, November 7 for a special 40th anniversary celebration here on campus. This event features a special “*Tribute to the Motown Greats*” at the Center for Performing Arts. Watch your mail for more details.

Alumni Clubs Upcoming Events

Alumni Artforum club is on the road! Visit ArtChicago at the Chicago Merchandise Mart with the Artforum Club, Saturday, May 2. Meet at the University Park Metra Station, depart as a group and travel to the Merchandise Mart in Chicago, visit the two major components that make up the fair this year: *ArtChicago*, featuring more established galleries and their artists and *NEXT* fair, consisting of more avant-garde dealers featuring emerging artists and their work. You will experience a truly remarkable range of art styles, materials, and approaches. Several galleries will speak to the group. Lunch is on your own. Return with the group at 4:30 p.m. or return on your own. Cost: \$15 admission plus train fare and meals. Go to www.govst.edu/alumni for more details or call the Alumni Office 708.534.4128 to RSVP.

Alumni Addictions Studies next meeting is Monday, May 18 beginning at 6 p.m.

Alumni Dancers Club and Alumni Book Club – both clubs are in the works and will become active soon. Make sure you’re on the mailing list to receive invitations to these events. E-mail alumnirelations2@govst.edu to be placed on the mailing list.

Call the Alumni Office at 708.534.4128 to RSVP or for more information on any of our club activities. Alumni Association members may join any of our alumni clubs.

GSU alumni, friends gather in Arizona

Nearly two dozen GSU alumni and friends got a sneak preview of the sunny days ahead during a recent spring training game between the White Sox and Cubs in Arizona. President Elaine Maimon, Dr. Mort Maimon, and Vice President for Institutional Advancement Joan Vaughan attended the GSU-sponsored event at Camelback Ranch, the new Sox training facility in Glendale.

The outing began with a brunch hosted by the Maimons, then moved to Camelback Ranch for the first meeting of the two Chicago ball clubs at the new stadium. Cubs fans were obviously pleased with the outcome – the North Siders trounced the Sox by a 13-2 score. Regardless of who won the game, the day was a sunny success, and a perfect opportunity to make new acquaintances and reconnect with old friends.

More than 350 GSU alumni reside in the Phoenix area and plans are already in the works for future Southwest get-togethers. GSU is likely to sponsor another spring training event in 2010. The outing will bring more GSU good-will and fellowship to the Valley of the Sun, and give White Sox fans a chance to see their team bounce back from this year’s showing.

The Alumni Association and The GSU Foundation ...

Working Together to Ensure a Bright Future

The Alumni Association and the GSU Foundation work together closely to provide opportunities for students and alumni, ensure the university's future, and advance its mission.

GSU Alumni Association – GSU Alumni enjoy the company of good friends and the programs, services, clubs, networking events, and other benefits sponsored by the Alumni Association. Membership dues provide funding and support for these services, activities, and opportunities. Go to http://www.govst.edu/alumni/t_alumni.aspx?id=319 if you would like information on joining the Alumni Association

GSU Foundation – Special projects, student scholarships, and university development require more funding than tuition and state funds allow. The Foundation encourages financial support of university initiatives such as the President's Excellence Fund and the GSU Promise, from other foundations, corporations, businesses, community members, and alumni. The alumni phone-a-thon and mail campaigns are always a great success. Donations to the GSU Foundation are tax deductible to the extent provided by law. Go to <http://www.govst.edu/foundation/DonateIntro.asp> if you are interested in making a donation.

Many more events are being planned. I'll send you updates from time to time to keep you up to date. But feel free to visit our website at www.govst.edu/alumni at any time for up to the minute details.

Sincerely,

Rosemary D. Hulett
Associate Vice President for Advancement and Alumni Relations