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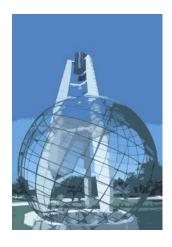
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GSUniverse

Governors State University's Weekly Newsletter

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"Leadership is your ability to hide your panic from others." --suggested by Virginia Eysenbach

Governors State Gets Early Childhood Block Grant Funds

Governors State University has received a renewal grant from the Illinois State Board of Education for early childhood programs. The grant provides \$334,000 for fiscal year 2003. ISBE wrote in the grant notification letter to President Stuart Fagan: "As a recipient of the Early Childhood Block Grant for FY02, your organization played an important role in constructing learning foundations for thousands of young children in Illinois. I would like to take this opportunity to commend you, your staff and your early childhood community partners for your work with young children and their families during the past year."



"There was a huge sigh of relief and a cheer that could be heard across the parking lot," said Dean Diane Alexander. That's how College of Education staff and faculty responded after finishing the Institutional Report for NCATE accreditation. The report represents three years of intensive work: research, meetings, collaboration with schools, organizing committees for designing, planning and policy making, and creating a unit-wide conceptual framework for curriculum. The comprehensive report was submitted on July 12 – right on time. Now, staff is building an exhibit room for an October 5 visit from the NCATE Board of Examiners.

The Weather Is Brought to You by Governors State in Good Old University Park

In the near future, portions of Channel 5's televised weather report may come courtesy of Governors State University. Starting Monday, July 22, Physical Plant staff will begin mounting a weather tower on top of the central receiving building (west of the Hantack House) for a GSU weather station. The biology faculty will analyze and package the information from the tower for distribution to Channel 5 news for local weather reports. GSU will be identified as the source for the data. Moreover, the biology faculty will have an opportunity use the information for research projects that analyze the impact of weather on the environment.

The Rebirth of the INNOVATOR

John DeYoung, GSU library technician, is the new student advisor for the *INNOVATOR*. He earned a bachelor's in Communications and master's degree in Communications and Training from GSU and was the *INNOVATOR'S* managing editor and movie critic. "My philosophy is that a newspaper must be fair, balanced and concise if it is to earn the respect of its readers," he said. "I will be on hand to offer the student editors advice on how to move in that direction." The first issue of the bimonthly newspaper is scheduled for distribution on August 19. "The rebirth of the *INNOVATOR* has been a high priority at the university," said

Lorraine Sibbet, executive director of Student Life, adding, "there has been a void and hopefully this is the end of it."

Learning In Context Gets New Director

Debra Wafford is the new director of the Learning In Context program at Governors State. The program, a collaboration between Prairie State and GSU, provides a free college education to qualified Ford Heights residents. Wafford comes to GSU from Prairie State where she served in various positions over the past 12 years, most recently as minority student transfer advisor and liaison for Learning In Context. "I have been working with Learning In Context since the beginning. I think it's an excellent program that has unlimited possibilities. I'm looking forward to working with all the advisory boards to reach those possibilities," Wafford said. She is a GSU alumnus. She earned a graduate degree in Educational Administration in 2000. She received a bachelor of science in business administration from Aquinas College in Grand Rapids, Mich., in 1982.

Taking Care of Business on the Back 9

The College of Business and Public Administration hosted its first Annual Golf Invitational on July 19 at Cardinal Creek Golf Course. CBPA Dean William Nowlin invited representatives from GSU's feeder colleges to participate. "This was a great opportunity for CBPA faculty and staff to interact in a social setting with our counterparts at community colleges to enhance our relationships with these colleges," he said. Keith Tillman from Joliet Junior College; Drs. Janet Davis and Nancy Thanneirt from Robert Morris College and Alice Mitchell and Preston Ford from Malcolm X College were among those who joined the faculty and staff from CBPA.

Chinese Connection, Part II

Charles Nolley, director, Communications Services, is working with education officials in China to produce a television documentary on the Pearl River delta. The annual economic growth rate in the delta is more than 20 percent, making it the fastest growing economic region in the world. In describing the importance of the documentary, Nolley said: "This staggering pace of development creates enormous strains on the environment and the goal of this project was to focus seriously on the need for systematic planning involving all of the stakeholders in the region." The Rockefeller Brothers Fund is financing the project. This will be Nolley's second documentary project in China. His first was a program entitled "Inside Beijing" which aired on Beijing and national Chinese television, as well as on several PBS stations, in the U.S. in the original English version.

Smashing the Glass Ceiling

GSU Alumni Director Rosemary Hulett-Cohee scored big as the coordinator and moderator of a forum on equity and opportunity held in Chicago this month. It was part of the International Assembly convened by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education. Hulett-Cohee brought in a panel of experts from across the nation to discuss survival techniques for minorities and women professionals in alumni relations, communications and development. She was also a panelist at another forum entitled *Alumni Programs: A Different Perspective*.