United Purpose Propels Third World Conference

Christina Carney
Section Editor
Many might have seen it offered as an Intercultural Studies course, either at the undergraduate level as ICS330, or at the graduate level as ICS530. This course can fulfill more than just an elective for many programs (check with your advisor), but be aware that there is much more to the conference than just three days of conference attendance with a nice lunch downtown. There are extensive writing assignments, usually in the form of conference session summaries and a research paper. In addition, there are about five sessions offered in a day, with up to three offerings at one time. The topics vary, and at this year’s 30th Annual Conference the first choices were water safety and technology, integrated approaches to community development, and a seminar on substance use, dependency, abuse, and treatment. Which session you might be attending will depend on which section you signed up for. Section A covers humanities, section B, global and political economics, and section C presented issues on science and technology.

The Third World Conference originally began thirty years ago, and was organized and held at Governors State University’s campus. It has continuously included speakers from all over the world who lecture on significant third world issues. The popularity and diversity of the conference “Third” Cont. on Page

Womens’ Forum Offers Prospective
SHE Conference Promotes Awareness
Lisa Aponte-Soto
Section Editor
“We gather to scatter. We come together and then go our separate ways, but hopefully we take something with us,” said Dr. Lorraine Babbett, director of Student Life and one of the organizers of Governors State University’s first annual women’s conference entitled SHE. The opening remarks appropriately set the vision of the conference for women to engage in activities, gain resources and make new friends. The event was held on March 27 offering an array of sessions from gender differences to self-improvement.

Of the various participating vendors, attendees benefited from great raffle prizes including a 27 inch color television and Target gift certificates. Also free mini-massages. Mary Kay products, fitness information, henna painting and fine Indian cuisine were provided by the International Student Organization. Ongoing entertainment was performed by GSU graduate Phylis Renee Marooni, a multi-talented singer-songwriter, whose blues and pop-rock vocals were inspired by Melissa Etheridge.

The first session, presented by the cast of SST Communications, provided a unique learning format on gender issues that was both comedic and controversial. While Linda Lamb’s financial management workshop provided women with useful tips in money matters, alternative health practitioners Dr. Jeanne M. Quaid and Victoria Koester taught participants the benefits of relaxation through breathing techniques and Tai Chi. Other workshops included exploring family values, entrepreneurship, creative potential, female intimacy issues, as well as yoga therapy and Qigong demonstrations.

GSU M.A. graduate and State Senator Debbie DeFrancesco Halvorson served as the lunch keynote speaker. “Change is eminent and necessary” for women’s issues. Therefore, “we need to empower ourselves. No one will do it for us,” said Senator Halvorson, who acknowledged the importance of raising the awareness of cervical cancer detection and research. Afterwards, Board Certified Loyola Medical Center physician Dr. Wendy Marshall presented vital information and statistics on the risk factors and early detection screening for breast diseases, osteoporosis, and coronary disease.

The conference concluded with an intimate gathering of women sampling the relaxation and healing benefits of aromatherapy, natural essences and massage therapy. Techniques introduced ranged from age-specific wrinkle prevention remedies to stress reduction baths. With over 50 participants ranging in age groups, the conference was a great success and well on its way to address women’s issues next winter.

Gibson’s The Passion of the Christ raises questions of bizness for some viewers. Read full story on Page 5.
GSU In Need Of Website Updates

Dear Editor:

I was concerned to see that after six years, no changes have been made with regard to current staff names, Gsu In and concerned to see the online involvement at any university that a student has a reasonable right to enjoy and is a shame.

"The INNOVATOR has been in continuous existence since 1971. It is a totally student run, tabloid-sized paper that publishes year round and has received numerous awards from the Illinois College Press Association, among them are awards for general excellence, 1985, and one for in depth reporting, 1987. The Video Magazine "shoots" the subject matter choice of a Panasonic S-VHS Reporter video camera, edited on a Samsung S-VHS video deck, and other special equipment available on campus (http://www.govst.edu/users/gsulf/studomedia.html)." Is there some page being ignored? More significantly, why is the responsibility of a product enjoyed by students, university staff, and visitors alike getting no coverage at all from the responsible parties/entities of Gsu In? Is there some reason to believe that the web site has a reasonable right to enjoy and participate in. I am certain that NOT an impression this fine school wants to impart.

Furthermore, the mere fact that the site is in that condition, and the fact that the student newsletter referred to on the site mentions a publication no longer in existence (the Innovator), while the Phoenix, a newspaper that seems to fairly address most students' concerns, lays in a state of virtual disunion, at least with regard to the web page itself, as a reason is given.

The INNOVATOR has been in continuous existence since 1971. It is a totally student run, tabloid-sized paper that publishes year round and has received numerous awards from the Illinois College Press Association, among them are awards for general excellence, 1985, and one for in depth reporting, 1987. The Video Magazine "shoots" the subject matter choice of a Panasonic S-VHS Reporter video camera, edited on a Samsung S-VHS video deck, and other special equipment available on campus (http://www.govst.edu/users/gsulf/studomedia.html). Why is the responsibility of a product enjoyed by students, university staff, and visitors alike getting no coverage at all from the responsible parties/entities of Gsu In? Is there some reason to believe that the web site has a reasonable right to enjoy and participate in. I am certain that NOT an impression this fine school wants to impart.

If I were a prospective student, however, the impression made upon me could unstate a bad taste in my mouth, and might significantly affect my decision to attend this university. Since it seems to be a reasonable right to enjoy and participate in, I am certain that NOT an impression this fine school wants to impart.

Now this reflects upon the university's efforts to recruit computer science majors is left for you to ponder.

In closing, it occurs to me that it might be wise to send this missive to some of the prominent professors here to raise the level of consciousness with regard to this message, we say, oversight. For the good of the university, I pray.

I remain,
Your student-at-large,Aloysius Nelson.

Hamilton Adams

Itemized Budgets Can Eliminate Confusion

Dear Editor,

In order to have a successful and productive organization and to eliminate any possibility of fraud and confusion, it is imperative that the group and its leaders adhere to the principles laid down by the nation.

On Friday, April 2nd 2004, at our first Fees and Finance committee meeting it was proposed to the Senate Chairperson that the forms used (Budget Overview for Clubs/ Organization) was which was proven to be incorrect by the fact that the forms were incorrectly completed by the majority of the Clubs.

The instructions for the document (Budget Overview for Clubs/Organization) states: Budget Overview form - This document is the initial monetary information available for FY 2005, including reserves you will have this year and/or revenues you anticipate from this year. Budget Overview: If FY05 Expenditures: Directions: Please provide a detailed budget overview on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event basis, which is on a per event baseline.
Rebuttal to March’s, “Campaign 2004”

Dear Editor,

In an effort to maintain a healthy dialogue and to have an opinion is good. For that individual to have that certain opinion without fact or reason to support it, renders that opinion simply a statement without worth. The political piece submitted by Jay Dobbs in last month’s issue of the Phoenix was an opinion without an absolute reason to support it.

Staff writer, Jay Dobbs, proclaims that George Bush is a good president. The fact is, the US will never have a “good” president as long as the president comes from the political party that does not have your best interest in mind.

The American people must yearn vocally and aggressively for a president that is among the people, not above the people. What happened to that “for the people” of the party’s platform? Addressing the American people, I believe is the only reason that the US Presidents of late are simply, “for their political careers,” and not “for their people’s careers”.

Moreover, Americans are squabbling between which Republican or which Democrat to choose from. But I say, to hell with both of them! The US needs a president that is worth the blind support Dobbs so prudently portrayed in his column for Bush last month, nor another man who has a mind to help the working class.

Needless to say, for the time being the lesser of two evils must do. As of now, Americans can decide to re-elect Bush, or send him packing. In assessing which of these men is better for the country, we must understand that on a specific issue, the issue of war. That, in my opinion, is the deciding factor.

It is clear that Bush is war hungry. It is clear that now, Mr. Kerry, does not get turned by the idea of war. So is war bad, or is it good? Neither, but one thing must be clear when answering this question. The issue of war should not be a matter of patriotism, pride, or virtuous arrogance as the Republicans would have you believe. War must be purely a matter of reason. We are, after all, dealing with human life here.

Do I believe it is necessary to go to war? Yes, Sometimes an oppressor must be suppressed, through whatever means that be. However, do I believe that the US was right in going into Iraq? and that the majority of the world was wrong when it opposed the war? No, I do not believe the US was right. Even as an Arabic whose heart is bleeding for those suffering in Iraq, I do not believe that the US was just in going into Iraq. Moreover, you must not allow the Republicans to convince you that you are “un-American” if you disagree with the current administration. There is absolutely no difference between dealing with unfinished business. Dare I say, Iraq, I believe, at the expense of countless lives both Arab and American, was an expression of pride? Yes I do! The reasons for which I believe that this country was wrong.

The point in the end is this: the issue of war should be a determining factor with respect to how you vote come November. One should not be blind to truth or reason simply because of the party or person that he is or she is a part of. Everyone makes mistakes, and just because you are a Republican or a Democrat, you should not discard reason and logic when it comes to the ballot in November.

Financial and political considerations aside, when you will see, if I was American and could cast a vote, I know who I would pick. I have the facts, I have the reason. You should. If I were to give you my opinion of either of those candidates I would say that Al Gore was more qualified for the job, because of his track record. John Kerry would say, “History repeats itself.” For the case of George Bush, both senior and junior I would say, “Dude, you were the one to lead us into the wrong direction of 9/11.” I feel that if we American and could cast a vote, I know who I would pick. I have the facts, I have the reason. You should. If I were to give you my opinion of either of those candidates I would say that Al Gore was more qualified for the job, because of his track record. John Kerry would say, “History repeats itself.”

After that session, I felt that the rest of the conference did not meet up to my newly established expectations. I saw complaints that I did not have much choice in which sessions I was to attend. I stepped into the role of someone in order for me to leave the conference without any complaints and present to me at a conference, which was my goal. The complaint was to count as a credit in the area I had signed up for, if I ended up choosing a presentation that did not interest me. I even went to a second session on “A Black Pastoral Theology,” or an “Introduction to Water Security,” for the 21st Century! Fit into a Humanities course. These sessions were all quite informative, but I am an undergraduate student nearing the end of my degree program, I did not see how any of these informative talks were going to be beneficial to my thesis. I suppose, presented being told what I had to listen to, especially when I had already highlighted a list of recommendations that I felt were the most interesting and applicable to me. Also, I would have liked to hear more about Asia, since most of my assigned sessions centered on either Africa or America. These were all very diverse topics, but after attending so much diversity, I had much trouble in putting them all together into a unified message. In fact, I felt more restless at the end of each day went on, as did several of my classmates.

The first problem we all shared occurred at the first day at lunch. As we were herded down the hall with many students from other colleges, such as the University of Chicago State University, the pack started to move into the luncheon, and then all of a sudden all GSU students were verbally ordered to stop and show their envelopes, in order to prove we had paid. This was embarrassing and degrading. Everyone already had to have a badge to enter, but we were shoved to the side to search for envelopes. In fact, one of my colleagues, who had paid his tuition, was still asked to show his envelope. Not only were we stopped once, but again ten feet later by another woman asking for our envelopes. One man, who was not given an envelope did not join our table for lunch, although he told us later that he had been allowed to. The second day, my classmates were totally unprepared for our first session, which was held on Mar. 6th in the Hotel Gettysburg Address. A Jordan: A Black Pastoral Theology written by Homer Ashby. At this point I must disclose a fact, which is the feeling that these people are not black. We come from different backgrounds, nationalities and religious beliefs. We all look different, but as a whole, we are all United States citizens. It us on edge and somewhat on the defense as well. First of all, none of us had even heard of this book, much less read it. The speakers were various professors, churchmen, ministers, etc. They criticized the book and spoke of the ever-widening gap between whites and blacks, and the black cultural identity. Several of the speakers were not very optimistic or encouraging. There was also a good debate over what the role of the church should be. I learned things such as 90% of all teachers are white, only 11.8% of eligible voters are blacks, and only 17% of all the students are blacks. If they started speaking about reparations for slavery, we non-blacks in the back row were not allowed to participate. While hearing some impressive questions from several members of the audience, there was a realization that especially impressed me with not only his knowledge, but also his eloquent words. I was surprised to hear that he was willing to reach out to all the African-Americans to recruit them to come to Africa to help develop the nation. When it came to most point I was right there with him, ready to follow until I was suddenly again, excluded. Have you not heard that the Bishop and Pastor of the Apostolic Church are coming to the city of Springfield? His speech was ending, and his message hopeful. He pointed out that “It is almost like a badge of honor to quote statistics at the lowest end, but to ignore the positive higher income of blacks.” In fact anyone could say that he was the only one directly running for office.

On the third day, we were again presaged at the required session of “Ali-"in America”, which began as an informal lecture but ended in shooting at which time we in the back row did crawl out of the room. One classmate felt especially, I elucidated and all cowered to complain. Overall, I believe the idea of the conference was not only to present many informative sessions and they certainly made me think and question much and that the entire conference, from the transition from a great idea into execution, the Third World spirit somehow got lost, missing the true message. We left with voices taking control over all capacities in the room.

The opinions expressed in “Letters to the Editor” on the commentary page and those expressed in the advertisements, do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the entire Phoenix staff or the administration, faculty and students of Governors State University.

All advertising is approved by the Phoenix's advertising management or provided free of charge by the Ad Council.
New Senate Secretary Joins Experienced Executive Officers

Jean Biba-Brown
Section Editor

GSU student senators elected the four executive officers into office on Friday, March 12. Newcomer Rhonda Green (secretary) joined incumbents Linda Williams (president), Derek Stevenson (vice president), and Elizabeth Green (treasurer).

The four executive officers bring a myriad of skills and experiences with them to their offices.

Secretary Rhonda Ward has always had an interest in government before she decided to run for office. An executive secretary for five years who has been responsible for large event planning, Ward has a wealth of experience to share with the senate.

Ward is currently a Board of Governors major who plans to pursue her master's degree in business administration. She loves to listen to and create music in her spare time, although she doesn't have much of it these days. The following quote from Edgar Allen Poe reflects Ward's philosophy of life: "Those who dream by day are cognizant of many things which escape those who dream only by night."

President Linda Williams has been serving as a senator for three terms; she has been president since March 2003. A graduate student in the College of Health Professions, Williams is a well-known leader on campus.

Vice President Derek Stevenson, a native of Scotland, is currently working on his master's degree in psychology. When he's not studying, Derek finds time to sing. Derek is also currently the vice president of the GSU soccer club.

Stevenson's motivation for running for political office was prompted by his desire to give back to the school he's been attending since his undergraduate days: "I want to ensure that students at GSU continue to receive a quality education even in these hard financial times," said Stevenson.

The senate's fight for a second commencement ceremony is one of its greatest achievements, according to Stevenson.

Treasurer Elizabeth Green decided to run for senate two terms ago on a whim after several friends encouraged her to obtain the required ten signatures.

Her business side showing through, Green said of her responsibilities as a student representative, "I would like to be part of the process of helping Governors State University attain a reputation of being a university where the professors teach with effectiveness as well as sincerity. The student is the customer."

Green continued, "All great companies treat their employees with respect and integrity. Everybody wins, and the company's reputation precedes itself."

When she's not studying, Green enjoys spending time with her nieces and nephews. She also enjoys a wide range of music ranging from opera to jazz. "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you," is Green's favorite inspirational saying.

For more information on the GSU Student Senate, please call (708) 534-7056 or e-mail them at s-senate@gsu.edu.
Film Offers Unique Twist
On Time Travel
Paramount Releases Timeline On DVD/VHS
Stephanie N. Blahut
Editor in Chief

Dubbed "Braveheart with a Twenty-first Century Twist," *Timeline* has been beaten and battered by critics for not living up to the notoriety and extensive resumes of its cast, crew and creators. Roger Ebert of The Chicago Sun Times, gave *Timeline* two stars in a November 2003 review.

"Just once I'd like to see a time-travel movie inspired by true curiosity about the past, instead of by desire to use it as a setting for action scenes," said Ebert.

"I have seen movies about the death of Jesus Christ before, but I have never seen one that touched me like *The Passion of the Christ*," said John Williams, an undergraduate student in business at Governors State University.

The Passion of the Christ shows a great deal of graphic scenery on how Gibson believed that Jesus was crucified.

"The Passion of the Christ is said to be the most controversial movie of the year. Some people believe that this film contained a great deal of biased teachings about what occurred during the Biblical accounts of the last twelve hours of Jesus' life. Gibson's portrayal caused some students to question his depiction of Jesus and the people of Jerusalem."

Actor Paul Walker stated that Donner specifically told him not to read the novel prior to shooting the film due to the confusion it may cause with regard to content changes.

"Imagine taking a 520 page novel and condensing it into a 120 page screenplay," said Walker in a November 2003 interview with the Phoenix. "You basically have to make the executive decision as to what should stay and what should go."

The film does offer a unique twist on an over-used time travel story-line, and it also offers an historical perspective on the chaotic, violent existence of the French and the English during the medieval period.

"I saw one that touched me," said Tiffany Braxton, a GSU student. "The Passion of the Christ is said to be the most controversial movie of the year. Some people believe that this film contained a great deal of biased teachings about what occurred during the Biblical accounts of the last twelve hours of Jesus' life. Gibson's portrayal caused some students to question his depiction of Jesus and the people of Jerusalem."

According to Payton, Mel Gibson had the opportunity to entertain viewers with this movie, but he failed when he decided to produce this movie, he should have had the truth in it as well. This is what is wrong with the world now. There is no truth in it. Everybody has their own agenda in everything they do," said the Rev. A. Payton of the True Christian Fellowship Church in Chicago.

Jean Biba-Brown
Section Editor
Take a walk around campus this week before final exams, and you'll find the usual buzz of activity.

Students are studying in groups or individually in the cafeteria, library, or any other quiet nook. Yet there's a different feeling in the air, an intensity, perhaps just below the surface. The pressure is on. Final exams, presentations, and research papers must all be turned in during that looming deadline of FINALS WEEK.

Telling to students, it's day everyone handles the pressure differently. Graduate students Charles Brown and Beth Anderson, who were studying together in the cafeteria, agree that teamwork helps them survive final week.

"Partnering helps a lot, working together with someone from class," said Brown.

Anderson, who works full-time as a special education teacher said that she must break things up and do short tasks throughout the week. Also studying with a group was Moira Conway, a graduate student in education administration. "It would have been nice to have a spring break to get everything done," said Conway.

Michelle Glackin observed that she doesn't stress out as much anymore, now that she has other responsibilities in addition to school. "My priorities are different. I'm more worried about my job," said Glackin.

Some students prefer to take the Zen approach and treat final week like any other. "I do the reading and I do the homework," said George Ceska, a graduate student in computer science who also works in the Student Life Services office. "Don't study for finals."

Ceska said that as a graduate student in computers, he mainly has presentations and programs due instead of final exams. Otherwise known as "Gorgeous George" to his fellow employees in Student Life Service, Ceska admitted that he knows the ropes after many years in school. "I've been here forever. I've been in college for twelve years."

Jackie Robinson, graduate student in media communications, was found holding up in the media lab working on a series of commercials for his advanced editing class. Robinson survives final week with "late night sessions, not going out much, writing through the night." Robinson works well under pressure. "Working on four to five hours sleep, that's my whole academic career."

Christina Swells, also a graduate student in media communications, admitted that this has been her most stressful trimester since she had to balance an internship with Fox TV, work in the media lab, and write her thesis. She hasn't even had time to think of what she'll do after graduation.

"I've been so busy. It's been so hectic but it's almost done. Time flies," said Swells.

The Phoenix office has moved...

Stop by and visit our new location in Room E 1500.

Senate Straight Talk
Current Events, Comments And Updates From The Student Senate

Donna Shaw
Student Senate Public Relations

We the GSU Student Senators have heard from many of you regarding follow-up on recent issues and topics of concern on campus. You should all know that absolutely nothing is ignored. Your concerns, ideas, or suggestions have gone ignored by Student Senate. That is why the Student Senate would like to use this monthly column as a medium for communication within the GSU community. We have heard and are representing many student concerns, and depending on the depth of each, we will try to address two each month.

April's topics for discussion will be the second commencement ceremony for graduates, and the ACS Lab printing fees.

The implementation of a second commencement ceremony has been a growing concern for many of our students. Previously, any student completing their last respective credit hour(s) for a degree receipt in spring/summer, had to wait until the winter session to participate in the actual graduation ceremony. While we have all heard the motto "patience is a virtue," let's keep it real. After the long study hours and pressure, we are ready to hear our name called as we commence to walk down the aisle with pride. For those of you completing studies this fall, get ready to celebrate. A 2nd commencement ceremony will take place in January 2005.

Per previous correspondence in regards to ACS lab printing fees, upon the return from the winter break we were all minimally shocked to find our second home, the ACS lab, equipped with card-reading machines (previously only used in the library). The purpose was to collect a newly assessed charge to only students, of $7 cents per sheet of printer paper used within the lab (that's 10 cents per copy without a card). The Student Senate was unaware of this fee and immediately challenged it by voicing these concerns to President Fagan and the Board of Trustees, organizing a town hall meeting to hear from you, and lastly meeting with Dr. Tuchy, Vice President. The results are as follows: ACS Computer Lab printing fees were temporarily halted (effective Feb.4, 2004). Since fees must be imposed, as they are with all other Illinois universities, Student Senate will support a charge of no more than 5 cents per copy for printouts.

That's all for now! As always, should you have any questions or if there are pending issues that you feel should be addressed, stop by or call the Student Senate Office, where you are always welcomed. Your feedback on these topics is encouraged.

Also, look for Student Senators throughout the campus wearing badges for easy identification. Finally, for your convenience our web site will soon be up and running.

GSU Calendar
Events can be viewed online at http://www.gouvst.edu/users/gwelcone/events/events.htm

Lecture with Dr. Quentin Young - April 29
Dr. Quentin Young, clinical professor of preventative medicine and community health at the University of Illinois Medical Center, will present a lecture titled "The Medicare Reform and Medicare Modernization Act of 2003 (HR 1) Fraud or Reform?" at GSU on Thursday, April 29, at 1:30 p.m. in room E-1622. For more information, contact Dr. Addison Woodard at 815-469-0371 or Jan Schultz at (708) 534-3103.

University Open House - May 1, GSU will hold its Graduate and Undergraduate Open Houses for new and prospective students on Saturday, May 1 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Representatives will be on hand from several university offices and programs to answer questions about financial aid, community college transfers, student services, colleges, and specific programs. For more information, contact the Admission Office at (708) 534-4999.

Speaking Engagement: Dr. Anthony Andrews - May 16, GSU Professor Anthony Andrews will be the featured speaker at the Roost to the White House series at the Park Forest Public Library located at 400 Lakewood Blvd., in Park Forest. Dr. Andrews will give his lecture, "Presidential Influence on the American Student," in the library's Ringrooming Room from 2:30 to 4 p.m.

Salute to Graduates Picnic - May 22, A day to celebrate! Student Life will hold a Salute to Graduates Picnic for graduates and their families on Saturday, May 22 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission for graduates and up to four guests is free. Games, a D.J. and family friendly events will fill the day. For more information, contact Student Life at (708) 534-4553.

CBPA Graduate Programs Open House - May 22, The CBPA will hold a Graduate Programs Open House for the Master of Business Administration (M.B.A.), Master of Public Administration (M.P.A.), Master of Science in Accounting (M.S.), and Master of Science in Management Information Systems (M.S.) programs from 9:30 a.m. to noon. For more information, contact the college at BPA INFO@goxst.edu or call Stephanie Wenzel at (708) 534-4934.

These three were flown 80 yards from the raunch caused by a drunk driver.

Carolina Brown was thrown 30 yards and not even her father, a doctor, could save her.

Friends Don't Let Friends Drive Drunk.

Photos by Jean Biba-Brown
Health Administration Students Honored

Dr. Kyusuk Chung
University Professor, Dept. of Health Administration

MHA student Lisa Aponte-Soto won the "Best Student Paper" award for her paper titled "The Evolution of Medicare Reform: The Enactment of the Medicare+Choice Program" at the Business and Health Administration Association 2004 conference held in Chicago last week.

Originally, this project was written as her term paper for her class HLAD718 Health Policy. She used several political science theories to trace the evolution of Medicare and the formulation of the Medicare+Choice (M+C) program from its inception to the most recent proceedings pending in the 108th Congress. We revisited the paper many times and submitted it to the conference committee.

A group paper entitled "Overview of Administrative Simplification Provisions of HIPAA" was also presented and published by Yinghao Joo, Lisa Aponte-Soto, and Shipra Gupta in the association's conference proceedings. Furthermore, Bob from the UCHA campus BHA program also presented his term paper.

The award committee said that all three papers were excellent and "impressive."

Health Administration student and Phoenix Health Columnist, Lisa Aponte-Soto is one student honored at the BHA Conference. Dr. Chung is encouraging health administration students to write papers and submit them to the 2005 BHA conference track committee.

Raising Cultural Competency Awareness in Healthcare

Lisa Aponte-Soto
Health Columnist

On March 11, the College of Health Professions sponsored a cultural competency training event, which provided both students and professionals the opportunity to receive a certificate of completion for four contact hours in "Delivering Health Care in a Multicultural World." The presenter, Dr. Josephine Campinha-Bacote, a leading scholar and practitioner on issues involving trans-cultural health care and mental health, shared her conceptual model, The Process of Cultural Competence in the Delivery of Healthcare Services: A Culturally Competent Model of Care.

Dr. Campinha-Bacote demonstrated how we can inappropriately label groups. She described cultural competence as a process that requires self-assessment of personal competency levels, which begins with self-awareness of one's prejudices, stereotypes and assumptions of other cultures. Without this step, practitioners cannot provide sensitive care to patients from different cultures. She recommends healthcare providers to approach all encounters as cultural encounters in order to learn from each other's differences.

While competence can help practitioners provide ethnic archetypes useful for diagnosis, these should not be used to stereotype or box ethnic groups into categories because doing so could result in misdiagnosing patients who do not fit into traditional risk groups. Variations still exist between and across cultural or ethnic groups. For example, even though African Americans have a higher prevalence for sickle cell anemia, this does not imply that other low-risk ethnic groups will not acquire the disease.

In December 2000, the Department of Health and Human Services Office of Minority Health implemented 14 national standards for culturally and linguistically appropriate healthcare.

"Wisconsin study sought to improve on their own, even those caused by bacteria. Increased resistance makes fending off bacteria with antibiotics less effective over time."

Antibiotics or antibacterial resistance in the United State is rising. "Recent resistance among Streptococcus pneumonia bacteria in particular rose from 21 percent in 1995 to 25 percent in 1998. The percentage of bacteria resistant to three or more antibiotic classes grew from 9 percent to 14 percent."

Today, more and more doctors recommend getting plenty of rest, increasing fluid intake especially water, and salt water gargles for sore throats rather than over prescribing antibiotics. "Some studies suggest the benefits of eating chicken soup and increasing vitamin C and Zinc intake or even consuming herbal supplements such as echinacea. For additional information on alternative treatments to the common cold visit www.DrWeil.com or write DrWeil.com@yop121.com."


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Giving The Gift Of Life

Savings Lives Through Blood Donation

Lisa Aponte-Soto
Health Columnist

Nearly 32,000 pints of blood are used daily in the U.S., which amounts to over 1 billion pints every year. With blood supplies are nearing all year long, the most critical shortage periods are the summer months and holidays due to the increased number of accidents. Just one donation can help save up to three lives!

Criteria For Potential Donors

Donors must be at least 17 years old (16 year olds with written parental permission), weigh at least 100 pounds, and be in good health. This means that 50 percent of the American population is eligible to donate, but only 5 percent volunteer. Every donation counts when it comes to such a simple, life-saving and altruistic gift.

The actual donation time is eight to ten minutes. However, the total process lasts for about one hour with registration, screening, donation and refreshments. Regular volunteers must wait at least 56 days between donations, and donors benefit from a mini-health screenings for blood pressure, temperature, pulse rate, and iron content.

Importance Of Minority Blood Donors

Although compatibility is not based on race, scientists believe that blood antigens unique to ethnic groups make same race donors a better match. In particular, genetic diseases such as sickle cell anemia that afflict one in 500 African Americans require up to four pints of blood on a weekly basis. Nurses even resort to soliciting volunteers.

Of the four blood types - A, B, O and AB - the majority of African Americans are type O or B. However, there are routine shortages for these types. Other racial and ethnic groups affected by this disease include Africans, Arabsians, Israelis, Greeks, Hispanics, Italians, and Turks.

How To Get Involved

Sponsoring a blood drive at your school or organization is a great way to contribute to this cause even if you are not eligible to donate. On March 24, GSU held a blood drive sponsored by LifeSource. The event was organized by the Student Life Department. Faculty, staff and students are encouraged to participate in future drives. To organize an event, contact 1-800-UNIBLOOD or visit http://www.americablood.org or LifeSource at http://www.lifesource.org.
Eye On Health: A Closer Look At LASIK

(NAPS)-According to a recent survey, the public’s understanding about laser vision correction or LASIK is not keeping pace with technological advances in the field.

The Gallup poll of men and women who wear eyeglasses or contact lenses and who have never had laser eye surgery, shows that:

One in five is fearful of the side effects or pain that they believe are associated with LASIK

More than half admit that they have never spoken with a doctor about the procedure.

Most admit that they know little or nothing at all about new advances in the field.

"These survey results show that most people are not taking the right steps to stay informed, or to make informed decisions about laser eye surgery," explains Andrew Caster, MD, clinical instructor of ophthalmology, UCLA Jules Stein Eye Institute and medical director, Caster Eye Center.

According to Dr. Caster, LASIK is a virtually painless procedure. He also explains that side effects — such as glare, halos and night vision problems — were of significant concern in the past, but that the potential for such unwanted side effects is reduced today given the use of new wave front-guided LASIK procedures like CustomCornea(r).

The CustomCornea procedure has been used by eye surgeons for more than a year to help improve both the quantity and quality of a person’s vision, and to reduce long-standing concerns about glare, halos and night vision problems.

“Anyone who might be considering LASIK needs to learn about this new wave front technology, and how it can potentially help improve their visual outcomes,” Dr. Caster says. “A qualified eye surgeon can address their questions, discuss the risks and benefits and help determine if they are a good candidate for the procedure.

To learn more about the latest advances in LASIK procedures, see your eye doctor and visit www.customcornea.com.