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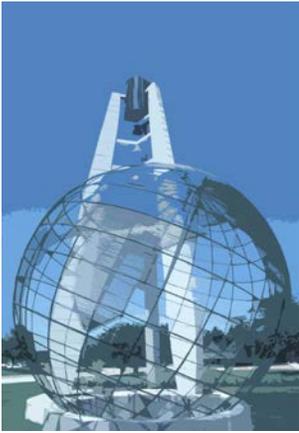
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GSU Universe

Governors State University's Weekly Newsletter

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"The man who does not read good books has no advantage over the man who can't read them," — falsely attributed to Mark Twain

Rocky Road in Springfield

Democratic gubernatorial candidate Rod Blagojevich released his plan for higher education this week. In response to rising tuition costs, Blagojevich said he would not approve a new state budget that included tuition increases unless universities reduce administrative costs as a percentage of their budgets; require a line item budget to replace the current "lump sum" budget, and withhold approval of new funding until the universities prove they are using the funds appropriately. In a reaction, the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) pointed that when adjusted for inflation state funding has declined nearly 11 percent since 1990. IBHE also noted that "...Illinois [is] ranked as the number one system of higher education in the country due in large part to its work on affordability." IBHE said it opposed the line item budget because universities require flexibility in allocating funds in a year when state funding has been cut 6.1 percent. Stuart Fagan, GSU President, said, "I agree that any tuition increase must be reasonable and that administrative costs be controlled. But we need to be very careful not to over-regulate higher education. It looks like we're heading for some interesting times in Springfield."

Fee Increases Fail to Pass Referendum

Proposals to increase mandatory fees by \$7 and establish a new fee failed to pass in an advisory student referendum. Only 7.1% of eligible voters participated.

Forget the Weather Channel: the GSU Weather Station Is on the Web

The GSU weather station is up and running on the Internet via the AWS network. AWS works directly with NBC, CBS, ABC and Fox television to provide viewers up-to-the-second weather information. To access information from the GSU weather tower, go to: <http://www.aws.com> and type in our zip code: 60466. Reports from the GSU station will be broadcast on Channel 5 (NBC).

Men Are from Mars, Women Are from Venus

Some of the nation's top relationship experts will be featured in a new video series to be produced this fall by the Center for Extended Learning and Communications Services (CELCS). The series is co-sponsored by the American Psychological Association, the most prominent professional organization in the country. Charles Nolley, CELCS director, said the new series will, "put the university in the forefront of the public's mind as the center of academic activity in this area." Some of the relationship experts scheduled for the show are: Dr. Karen Zager, author of a best seller on getting along with teens; Dr. Arthur Freeman, author of many professional and trade books on counseling couples, and Dr. Mark Stevens who will demonstrate strategies for working with men. For the first time, CELCS will offer the videotape series in a DVD format. Over the past three years, CELCS has produced and distributed videotape series on parenting, marriage, and other topics that

have earned national and international recognition. The relationship series continues the center's effort to create cutting edge education and training materials tailored for academicians and "how to" tapes for the general public. In preparation for the Fall taping, a new stage set has been built.

A new look for the CELCS

Other changes are on the horizons for the CELCS. With funds from the Capital Development Board, Nolley plans to upgrade the center's infrastructure, including rewiring for digital television production and transmission. "The current wiring was put into the studio 30 years ago. That's an eternity in terms of new technology," Nolley said. The main control room also will be remodeled and two new editing suites added.

"It's Better to Be Poor with Socialism...."

On September 18, Visiting Professor of History, Zhang Daren, will kick-off the College of Arts and Sciences Distinguished Lecture Series with a discussion of the status of the rich and poor in contemporary China. The lecture focuses on one of the social problems that China faces as it carries out its reform policies. Commenting on his lecture topic, Dr. Daren said: "In Mao's time, the slogan was 'it's better to be poor with socialism than rich with capitalism.' Since reform, things have changed a lot. Many people in China are proud of being rich and everyone is trying their best to become rich. My lecture will deal with these phenomena and efforts by China to solve the problem of polarization." The lecture will be held in the Sherman Music Recital Hall from 7:30 – 9:00 p.m.

GSUScholarship Sails On – On Time!

Some people who are habitually late, routinely break promises or exhibit other inconsiderate behavior tend to downplay the impact of their negative behavior on others. At least that's the finding from a recent study conducted by Professor Lori McKinney (CE). These individuals, known as repressors, behave badly because "they don't expect others to think badly of them," said Dr. McKinney. "As a result, they don't expect negative consequences to their actions. This can lead to difficulties in their relationships." The research investigated the way in which repressors predicted reactions to their inconsiderate behavior. The study was published in the August issue of the *Journal of Social and Clinical Psychology*. Dr. Leonard Newman, from the University of Illinois, is the coauthor of the study.

Lest We Forget...

At noon on September 11, President Fagan will lead a memorial service commemorating the victims and heroes of 9/11 in the Hall of Governors. Photography by Dr. Paul Schranz (CAS) will also be exhibited.