Found in the GSU Archives: The GSU Seal Commissioned to be Designed for $50 in 1969!

Alexis H. Sarkisian
Governors State University

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“There is so much GSU history housed in our University Archives,” noted Lydia Morrow Ruetten, Dean of the GSU Library. “As we begin our celebration of American Archive Month, we invite all in the GSU Community to be aware of the types of ‘jewels’ of information that we have about GSU and how this information supports all that we do here at GSU including our initiatives of Civic Engagement, Global Citizenship and Sustainability,” she noted.

A quick visit to Sarah Wegley, Library Operations Associate for Digital Metadata/Web Services/Archives, led to learning a great deal about how the GSU seal came to be designed. “We have the actual copies of invoices and documentation as to how the seal was commissioned. We also have design samples and an explanation as to the meaning of the seal in our newly designed archives room,” Sarah offered.

In an excerpted letter dated, August 18, 1969, from then President of GSU, William E. Engbretson to Mr. Thomas Greene of the Container Corporation of America, Engbretson writes, “It is my understanding that for a fee of $50, you will prepare one or more artistic conceptions of a proposed Governors State University seal for consideration. . . . “

“In addition, we have digitized highlights of our files along with a variety of other information and they can be found on OPUS at http://opus.govst.edu/archives, so it is possible to see President Engbretson’s letter to Greene along with researching other information on GSU history as well,” Sarah offered.
“November 3 between 4-6 PM is the official ribbon cutting for our newly designed GSU Archive Room here in the library,” announced Dean Ruetten. All in the GSU Community are invited to attend. In addition, we will also be celebrating the 10th Anniversary of the Friends of the GSU Library whose generous contribution helped to make the GSU Archives Room possible.

For more information about the GSU Archives, please visit, http://libguides.govst.edu/Archives or contact Sarah Wegley, swegley@govst.edu.

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Prepared by:
Alexis H. Sarkisian
Governors State University Library
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