

7-1-1985

## Inscapes, 1985-07-01

Office of University Relations

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### Recommended Citation

Governors State University Office of University Relations, Inscapes (1985, July 1). <http://opus.govst.edu/inscapes/27>

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Published by the Office of University Relations

GSU ARCHIVES

July 1, 1985

**SHE'S BEEN MOVIN' ON UP** — If it weren't for the photograph below, a question sure to stump most people hereabouts would be: "Who has the second longest employment record in the history of the university?"

Of course, you know, because you have looked at the picture of **Ginni Burghardt**, executive coordinator of Alumni Relations. When you read the Veterans of Innovation list for July, Ginni's name is right there at the top under 1970.



**Ginni Burghardt**

That was the year she came to work for a university which really wasn't as yet a university. It was just one year after the state legislature passed a bill creating a new regional, upper-division university in the model village of Park Forest South.

She was secretary to the dean of the College of Environmental and Applied Sciences (EAS). Through one reorganization after another that part of the university has evolved into the College of Arts and Sciences.

This is only one of the hundreds of changes at Governors State which Ginni has seen during those 15 years. Space does not permit a recitation of them all. Besides, what has happened to this upwardly mobile young woman is just as interesting, and, in some ways, just as indicative of the times as the transformation of Governors State University from a loosely structured, innovative institution into the mainstream of American higher education.

Ginni remained in EAS for five years. As the dean's secretary, she also served as office manager supervising as many as 14 other civil service employees. Just as important, she began to work on the A.A. degree at Prairie State College.

In 1975 she became the first administrative secretary in the Office of University Relations, which **Bill Dodd** had just established. A year later, she was named assistant director of development. That simply meant that she was, in fact, what would be called the alumni secretary almost any place else. The GSU Alumni Association, as we know it today, is, indeed, Ginni's "babv."

During this period, she also completed the A.A. at Prairie State and started right in on the B.A. at—where else?—Governors State. She completed that in 1981.

The ink was hardly dry on her diploma when she was appointed to her present position as executive coordinator of Alumni Affairs—that's the long way of saying "alumni director." Then, when the Office of University Development was created in 1984, she was given additional responsibilities in the area of fund raising to assist **Bill Dodd**, executive director.

(Incidentally, if you are wondering who holds the record for longest employment, it is **Leona Erickson** (UL)—by six months.)

Not bad for a young woman scarcely out of high school 15 years ago. But then, maybe not so unusual either, at a place like Governors State University.

**HONORARY DEGREE NOMINATIONS SOUGHT** — The university is calling for nominations for the **June 1987** Commencement exercises. There are two criteria for awarding honorary degrees:

Degrees may be awarded "in recognition of persons who have achieved a record of major distinction at the state or national level. . . . in exceptional cases, candidates may be considered, who. . . . have made an especially outstanding and significant contribution to the BOG, its universities, or higher education in Illinois. . . ."

Deadline for recommendations is July 15. Nominations should be sent to **Dr. Virginio L. Piucci**, Office of Administration and Planning.

**GSUings. . . Dr. Arthur P. Bourgeois** (CAS) lecturing at the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of African Art on "Reliquary Cults of Gabon and Beyond" in conjunction with the current exhibition "Masterpieces from the Musee de L'Homme. . . **Dr. Benjamin Weeks** (BPA) presenting "The Case of the Board's Dilemma" at the workshop of the Midwest Case Writers Association, University of Wisconsin-La Cross July 12, 13. . . **Dr. Reino W. Hakala** (CAS) being named distinguished scholar representing the Governors State chapter of University Professionals of Illinois at meetings of a committee on excellence in teaching, research and scholarship. . . **Dr. Akkanad M. Isaac** (CBPA) presenting three papers at the Joint National Meeting in Boston of the Institute of Management Sciences and the Operations Research Society of America, "Prototyping and Application Domain Modeling for the Design and Validation of an Expert System," "Information System Design Considerations in the Context of Linking Manufacturing Strategies with Corporate Strategies" and "Assessing Attribute Weights Via Interactive Decision Analysis Approach". . . **Dr. Hugh Rank** (CAS) consulting for Britain's National Consumer Council on corporate influence in American schools. . . **Dr. Mwalimu D.R. Burgest** (CHP) conducting a workshop on public safety for the University Park town meeting June 16. . . **Eileen Massura** (CHP) presenting psychiatric nursing reviews for students preparing to take their state board R.N. licensing examination in Pittsburg, Pa., Tampa, Fla., and Alexandria, Va. . . **Dr. Melvyn N. Freed** (CE) being issued a U.S. patent on a unique hand tool. . . **Dr. Paul O'Brien** (CBPA) speaking on "Taxation of Corporations: Compliance and Planning" at a recent meeting of the National Association of Accountants held in Chicago. . . **Marilyn Hart** (CBPA) being recognized in a resolution introduced into the Illinois Senate by **Sen. Aldo A. DeAngelis** (R-Olympia Fields) and **Sen. Richard F. Kelly Jr.** (D-Hazel Crest) for her enhancement of the technical skills of students enrolled in her seminars in statistics and quality control. . . **Dr. Helen Hughes** (CE) visiting hospitals and interviewing psychologists and psychiatrists in Shanghai, China. Also, in Berkeley, conducting a workshop on "Obstacles to Creativity" at the Women in Print Third National Conference, as well as giving a slide show-lecture on feminism in China for the same conference. **Loretta Jones** (ASR) being named an "Outstanding Young Woman in America" for 1984 in recognition of her professional contributions toward a better America.

**NOTE OF THANKS** — The participation and cooperation of the university community in helping to provide a fine ceremony for Governors State University graduates at our 15th Annual Commencement is sincerely appreciated, says **Dr. Virginio L. Piucci**, Office of Administration and Planning.

**SYMPATHY** — To the family and friends of **Donald W. Hansen, 37**, who died June 21 after a lengthy illness. Don was a continuing education coordinator in the Office of Special Programs and Continuing Education (SPCE) and an adjunct professor teaching urban politics through a SPCE independent study course.



**Donald Hansen**

He loved the university, believed in its mission and was committed to it in so many ways, says **Ginni Burghardt**, executive coordinator of Alumni Relations. "He was proud of his degrees from the university and had them framed, displaying them on his living room wall along with the plaque of appreciation from the GSU Alumni Association," she states. Don had been on the alumni board since 1977 and was a past president. Ginni adds that Don had a genuine concern for others and always had a bright word or a smile even when the going got rough.

In 1976 Don received the B.A. in public service from Governors State and the M.A. in public administration in 1980. He lived in Richton Park.

"The university community will sorely miss such a dedicated member of Special Programs and Continuing Education," states **Dr. David V. Curtis**, university provost.

**TOP PHONATHON VOLUNTEERS NAMED** — One hundred twenty volunteers participated in the fifth annual Alumni Phonathon this year. The sum of \$28,226 has been received to date, according to **Ginni Burghardt**, director of Alumni Relations. The average gift received is about \$22, she says.

Student organization members, civil service staff, faculty and administrators participated in the telephone drive to secure funds for the purchase of scholarships. **Nancy Froelich**, vice chairperson of the Board of Governors also participated in the phonathon. An additional two-night phonathon was held at the end of June.

The top three solicitors from each night, ranked in winning order below, will receive a gift certificate from an area restaurant:

**March 25**  
Susan Meiller  
Tommy Dascenzo  
Jeff Rylander

**March 26**  
Lee Burklund  
Mike Blackburn  
Beverly Komers

**March 27**  
Nancy Froelich  
Bill Dodd  
Bob Press

**March 28**  
Mel Muchnik  
Pat Smith  
Lee Burklund and  
Emily Hackiewicz

**March 29**  
Tony Peterson  
Bill Dodd  
Bob Abney and  
Floyd Williams

**April 1**  
Vivian Sherman  
Pat Smith  
Alis Ellis

**April 2**  
Jay Lubinsky  
Addison Woodward  
Lee Burklund

**April 3**  
Ben Weeks  
Becky Paquette  
Nancy George

**April 4**  
Bill Dodd  
Diane Barowsky and  
Jim Hester  
Larry Lulay

**VETERANS OF INNOVATION** — Congratulations to the following Governors State University staff members celebrating their anniversaries of employment during July:

<b>1970</b>	
Ginni Burghardt, UA	13
<b>1971</b>	
Ron Brubaker, CAS	1
Andrew Petro, CBPA	1
Virginio Piucci, AP	9
Jean Singer, UL	16
<b>1972</b>	
Hugh Rank, CAS	1
<b>1973</b>	
Barbara Clark, PERS	30
<b>1974</b>	
William Dodd, UA	1
Richard McCreary, CAS	1
John Payne, CAS	8
Bethany Harms, BO	19
<b>1975</b>	
Josephine Wiater, UL	1
Tom Stepke, BO	1
<b>1977</b>	
Arlene Hylander, BO	5
Linda Ayala, UL	18
<b>1979</b>	
Grace Hopkins, CE	1
Robert Jaynes, UR	9
Geraldine Kezis, SPCE	9
Evelyn Georgiadis, BO	23
Bonnie Winkofsky, SA	31
<b>1980</b>	
Catherine Swatek, BO	14



"Are you sure this is part of the creative problem-solving process?"