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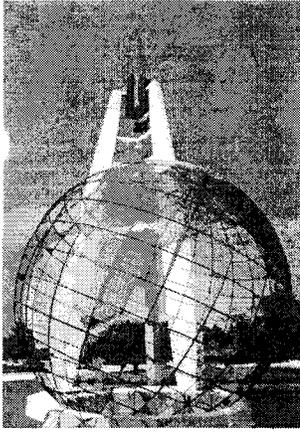
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GSU Universe

Governors State University's Weekly Newsletter

January 13 – January 17, 2003

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"Nothing in the world is more dangerous than sincere ignorance and conscientious stupidity." Martin Luther King, Jr.

Quo Vadis: Administration

The President's Cabinet set several administrative priorities at its retreat January 10. First, GSU will immediately initiate an independent review of all administrative processes involving students, from admissions to posting of grades. Second, GSU will extend childcare programs for students until 10:30 p.m., effective with the Fall Trimester. Third, GSU will provide ongoing customer service training for everyone who deals with students in an administrative capacity including enrollment, admissions, Registrar's Office, Business Office, and advising starting with the Spring/Summer Trimester. "We've tried this kind of thing in the past, but we weren't very effective because there was no follow-up," President Stuart Fagan said. "This time we're going to do it right. We will follow-up this time around. In addition to regular training sessions, we will monitor the performance of each department and survey students." Larry Polselli, Executive Director – Enrollment Services and Chuck Connolly – Executive Director – Marketing and Communications, will jointly share responsibility for directing this customer service initiative.

And Now the Local News, Courtesy of GSU

Midwest Suburban Publishing (publisher of the *Daily Southtown* and *The Star*) and Governors State are collaborating on the development of a community-based web site. The new site, which is expected to be open to the public in June, is intended to build a sense of community in the region by providing news and discussion groups on a variety of subjects, from schools to churches, from sports teams to local politics. The *Southtown* and *Star* will provide the news. GSU will provide technical support and the use of its web server. For the *Southtown* and *Star*, the new site is a way to expand their reach and service to the community. For Governors State, the site will raise the university's name recognition in the region. Chuck Connolly, Executive Director – Marketing and Communications, said, "This new project is one more way to meet the university's mission to provide service to the community." He added, "Newspapers have been trying to figure out how to use the web for the past few years. Midwest has come up with an interesting answer to that question. The fact that they're partnering with a university makes this project unique."

Graduate Studies On The Move

The new Faculty Associate for Graduate Studies and Research, Dr. Deborah Holdstein, chaired a transitional meeting of the Graduate Studies Steering Committee on January 15. Dr. Holdstein invited current Steering Committee members to continue their work on the Graduate Council, which will replace the Steering Committee. All current members – Marsha Davis, Robert Druzinsky, Jay Lubinsky, Eric Martin, Todd Rohman, Bill Wilkinson, and Jun Zhao – accepted. According to Holdstein, the initial focus of the Council will be to define a specific vision for graduate and professional education as well as methods for dealing with the nuts and bolts issues of day-to-day operations. "Ultimately," Holdstein stated after the meeting, "we agree that this will be a highly collaborative effort among deans, faculty, staff, and almost every office throughout the university, so establishing effective communication within the university will be one of our priorities."

Holdstein will divide her time between her CAS and Graduate Studies offices (Graduate Studies - Room C-1330). Her extension will remain the same for both offices: 4586.

Mi Casa, Su Casa

The Family Development Center will host an open house for the GSU community on January 28th, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., in the Center's Parent Education Room. The open house will celebrate the 4th anniversary of the Smart Start Program, which moved into the Center in October. Center Director Dr. Susan Kinsey notes that the open house will present an opportunity for the community to see the inside of this innovative facility and view its operations. It is also an opportunity for the GSU community and area residents to learn about the services of the Child Care and Exploratorium programs. Everyone is invited to attend. Cake and refreshments will be served.

Certificate, not cation

The distinction now has to be made between "certification," a term GSU has long been familiar with, and "certificate," which applies to several new programs at GSU. Officially launched for the Winter Trimester, the certificate programs are designed for people who are looking for short-term training that can enhance their career options and, in some cases, prepare them for outside certification through agencies like the Illinois Department of Professional Regulation. Graduate level certificate programs are now ready in the following fields: Accounting for Managers (ACMG), Health Care Informatics (HCIF), Health Services Research (HLSR), and Leadership and Organizational Development (LO&D). At the undergraduate or graduate level, certificates can be earned in Long-Term Care Administration (LTCA) and Stress Management (SMGT).

On-line Application Expands

The online application option continues to expand and now includes each of the new certificate programs. Non-degree seeking and undeclared students can also apply online. Online application for degree-seeking students will be coming in the near future.

Honoring Dr. King

A live, on-stage celebration of the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. will be held in the Center for the Performing Arts on January 30, from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. The event, titled "A Great Beacon of Light," has been coordinated with local schools through GSU's Student Life Unit and the Black History Planning Committee, chaired by Dr. Lorraine Sibbet. Nineteen schools have accepted invitations to the event, and 1,030 students from grades 3 through 9 are expected to attend. Bus transportation will be provided by Governors State. "This is an opportunity for us to connect with the community and provide an educational experience for students," Sibbet said of the annual event. GSU staff and faculty are invited to attend the celebration, which will kick off the Student Life Unit's series of planned Black History Month events.

Fit and Firm -- Open House

The Fitness and Recreation Center will hold an open house January 27th and 28th. Local community residents and GSU faculty and staff are invited to attend and take advantage of several events and offerings, which include tours and, during the open house, free aerobics instruction. Vendors, staff, and current members will be on hand to discuss nutrition, lifestyles, and the benefits of Fitness and Recreation Center membership. Three new Fitness Center additions – two treadmills and a dual hoist latissimas machine – will be in place for the open house as well. Open house hours are from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m.
