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1-27-2003

GSUniverse, 2003-01-27

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**Recommended Citation**

Governors State University Office of Public Affairs, GSUniverse (2003, January 27). <http://opus.govst.edu/gsuniverse/33>

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# GSU Universe

Governors State University's Weekly Newsletter

January 27 – January 31, 2003

Published by the Office of Public Affairs

*"When facts are few, experts are many."*

*Donald Gannon*

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## **Springfield: Dark Budget Clouds on the Horizon**

The Illinois State Senate Rules Committee has reported out a bill which would cap annual tuition increases of public universities at the level of the cost of living or five percent, whichever is less. In another development, the Governor has asked the Legislature to postpone his budget address until April. Traditionally, the budget address is given in February. There is no indication of the appropriation Governor Blagojevich will propose for higher education. President Stuart Fagan will attend an IBHE meeting on February 4. "This is a twilight zone for higher education," he said. "We have no idea what a \$5 billion state deficit will mean to higher education in general and Governors State in particular. I'll report to the GSU Community on what I learn at IBHE."

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## **Search for Interim Dean of COE Begins**

The first candidate to interview for the position of Interim Dean of the College of Education visited GSU January 31. He met with faculty and staff, as well as the president, the provost, and students. Candidates are from outside the university. A national search for a permanent dean will start soon after the interim dean is appointed.

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## **Search for Director of Career Services Underway**

Five candidates for the position of Director of Career Services will visit GSU in February. In addition to one-on-one meetings, each candidate will meet with the university community as well. Here is the schedule: February 5 – 4:30 – 5:15 p.m. February 19 – 4:30 to 5:15 p.m. February 24 – 4:15 – 5:00p.m. February 26 – 4:15 – 5:00 p.m. February 27 – 4:30 – 5:15 p.m. The meetings will take place in Engbretson Hall.

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## **A Friend and Colleague Departs: Wish Him Well**

Brandon Senter, Vice President for Development and Public Affairs, has announced that he will retire March 31 after 10 years of service with GSU. Under his leadership fundraising reached new heights, outreach programs to the community expanded, and GSU's profile in Springfield was raised. In a letter to the GSU community, President Stuart Fagan said, "We are better because of our association with Brandon. We wish him and his family every success and happiness as they move into the next phase of their lives." A national search to fill the development position will begin shortly.

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## **Year of the Grant: Progress Report**

The Congress is moving forward on the Federal budget for FY 04. Early indications are that earmarks for Governors State proposed by Senator Richard Durbin and Representative Jesse Jackson, Jr., will be included in the final Congressional budget resolution. Senator Durbin's proposal would provide support for technology and "smart classrooms." Congressman Jackson's proposal would provide support for the Family Development Center. President Fagan will visit with legislators in Washington, D.C. the week of February 10<sup>th</sup>. He will focus on getting Federal support in FY 05 for distance learning programs (especially as they relate to the military),

criminal justice programs (which can be tied in with programs for health professions, such as addictions studies), emergency management programs (which relate to Homeland Security), and technology programs, which cut across the board.

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### **GSU ScholarShip Sails: Additional Support for Research**

Provost Keys announced that he has revised the GSU Indirect Cost Formula for awards in Academic Affairs to provide additional support to faculty and staff who wish to pursue research. The change in formula will also support some extramural activities. The change was made after extended conversation with the deans and faculty. They are detailed in a January 27<sup>th</sup> memorandum from the Provost to Academic Affairs. For more information, contact Colleen Rock-Cawthon, ext. 4982.

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### **University Library Will Bring Everyone into the 21st Century**

Don't know Dreamweaver? Unsure about Power Point? Don't know the potential of Word? Most of us don't know the potential of Word. But we can learn more by attending the sessions the University Library is sponsoring on various software programs. Dreamweaver on February 7 and 14 from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. Power Point on February 7 and 14 from 2:15 to 3:15, and again February 21 and 28, from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. Intermediate Word (working with tables) February 21 and 28, from 2:15 to 3:15 p.m. Beginning Web Navigation, February 14 from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Fee for each workshop is \$50.

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### **Counseling on Counseling**

GSU professors Drs. Julia Yang and Hugh Crethar will be available during National School Counseling Week, February 3 to 7, to speak to schools and interested community organizations about the role school counselors play in guiding students to the realization of their full potentials. National Counseling Week is sponsored by the American School Counselor Association (ASCA). It is intended to highlight the important contributions school counselors make in guiding students to healthy, realistic, and optimistic aspirations and to define the day-to-day role effective school counselors play. For more information on how arrange for Drs. Yang and Crethar to visit and speak, contact the GSU's Division of Psychology and Counseling at 708.534.4840.

Beginning Excel February 21, from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Fee is \$50 per workshop.

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### **Get a Calendar – Mark That Date**

Once again the GSU Alumni Association is offering pocket calendars to the GSU Community. You can get yours at the Library's circulation desk. Please don't be greedy – take no more than two so everyone can have a calendar.

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### **GSU Celebrates Black History Month**

This year's theme is Breakthroughs. A schedule of events is attached.