Federal watchdogs have concluded that college textbook prices in California and the rest of the country have increased at twice the rate of inflation in the past two decades and that publishers are largely responsible.

The report being released today by the federal Government Accountability Office says there is a growing practice by publishers of including expensive new supplements and limiting the opportunity for students to purchase used textbooks.

In addition, the publishers are issuing frequent new editions and charge more in the United States for the same textbooks that they offer at discounted rates in other countries, the report asserts.

The report, which was requested by Rep. David Wu, D-Ore., found that college textbook prices had risen an average of 6 percent a year, nearly tripling from December 1986 to December 2004.

The overall price increase was 186 percent, compared with 72 percent for overall inflation. The report said students had spent an average of $898 during the 2003-04 school year for books and other supplies.

"Because textbooks may represent a substantial portion of the cost of tuition and fees for students attending some public institutions, any increase in textbook prices may affect affordability and access disproportionately for some students," the report says.

Textbook industry representatives said that all college costs had increased dramatically and that they were creating products that professors want and that best help students succeed.

Students spend an average of $898 in textbooks and supplies

Bruce Hildebrand, executive director for higher education at the Association of American Publishers in Washington, D.C., noted that the costs had not risen as much as tuition and other college costs.

Wu has already included an amendment in the pending College Access and Opportunity Act of 2005 that asks publishers to provide textbooks "ala carte" or "unbundled" from the supplements, such as CDs, and he is considering proposing further legislation based on the report.

"It becomes an accessibility issue, so if there is something that Congress can act on to address the issue, then the congressman will do that," said Wu's spokeswoman, Jillian Schoene. "Just bringing this situation to light might be enough."

The textbook industry has been under scrutiny during the past few years by the California Public Interest Research Group, known as CalPIRG, which accuses publishers of adding expensive unneeded extras and printing unnecessary new editions that make it difficult for students to buy used books.

Meriah Fairchild, higher education advocate for CalPIRG, said the government report confirmed what her organization had been saying for years.

"Given how important education is, the publishing practices cited in the GAO report are unacceptable," she said. Hildebrand countered that it was not fair to say that the costs of textbooks had risen dramatically without looking at how the products had changed, adding new technology to enhance teaching and learning.

He said publishers had chosen to invest in new technological materials that provide faculty with more instructional support, including online homework and quizzes. College instructors are asking for the new materials and want the latest information in textbooks, Hildebrand noted.

"But prices are less overseas, he said, because the American publishers have to be able to compete with local publishers and price the textbooks at a level where students will buy them. If prices were increased, the loss in sales would drive up prices in the United States, he said.

Fall Welcome Week edition

'Success thru Involvement'

Information on clubs and organizations, Phoenix student newspaper, Student affairs and services, ID validation, new student IDs

GSU services representatives on hand to discuss Child Care, Public Safety, Information Technology Services, International Student Services, University Library

Entertainment Caricature artist Bruce Carevato Wednesday Sept. 7 Pianist Kathie Nicolet Thursday Sept 8

Refreshments, Good stuff products and give-aways/door prizes Register to win free tickets to The Center for Performing Arts events

In the Hall of Governors Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Sept. 6, 7 & 8: 10:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Friday Sept. 9: 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

GSU will aid students displaced by Katrina

GSU welcomes students whose educational plans have been disrupted by Hurricane Katrina. The deadline for registration for most programs is September 12. The $25 graduate application fee will be waived for affected students. There is no undergraduate application fee.

Students will be admitted even if they are not able to provide transcripts in a timely manner.

In addition, out-of-state students affected by Katrina will be charged in-state tuition rates.

"We'll work with students on an individual basis to help them continue their studies in an affordable and supporting environment," said President Stuart Pagan.

Center for Performing Arts to pitch in to assist Hurricane relief efforts: The Center opens its season Oct. 1 with two performances of the National Broadway Touring Production of "Miss Saigon." After the evening performance, there is an "opening night" reception ($50). All net proceeds from the reception will be donated to hurricane relief efforts.

Follett's Bookstore to accept donations: All customers will be asked to drop a back in the bucket to aid relief efforts. Feel free to stop by with donations, even if you don't have anything to buy!
To keep it you gotta give it away

By John Madden

To keep it, you have to give it away? Yes, that’s right. To keep it you have to give it away.

One of the most puzzling aspects that society today is engulfed with is the hoarding of things. Our closets are stacked with clothes galore. Garages are packed with every piece of wood, tool, and nick-name you can imagine. Old gifts we no longer use, things we have been meaning to use, and assorted holiday decorations.

Our refrigerators are filled with frozen goods. Sometimes we have an extra refrigerator or a chest freezer to store more food anywhere.

No matter what is said, we are living in an abundant country. And the accumulation of ‘things’ may have developed into a way of life. Do we realize the abundance that we have in our lives?

Another form of abundance is the personal gifts we own. I’m not talking about material possessions, but inner talents and gifts. If you are reading this, you are either in the pursuit of a college degree, have some college already, or are aspiring to a higher level of education.

You have a basic or higher grasp of reading, writing, and mathematical skills. This puts you in the top 25% of the world’s population. You are able to afford some or all of your college tuition, books, and some of the little extras that are available on campus and in life. If you have money in the bank and drive a car, this puts you in the top 8% of the world with respect to wealth.

With the gifts that we hold dear to us, how do we use them? Do we heard them for ourselves? Or do we give them away when or where we can?

Some of us go through life wondering what is our purpose in life? A radical solution might be to give your life way! Think about it, you came into this life with nothing and you will leave it with nothing. So it only makes sense that the only thing we can do with our lives is to give it away. We can’t give away what we don’t have, only what we have.

And what do we have to give away? Our talents? Time? Money? Material possessions? Is there an elderly person that you know who needs a friend or someone to talk to? Are there organizations that you are interested in who could use your expertise or skills? Are there students on campus who are struggling academically that could use your help? Can you act, sing, write, or play an instrument? These gifts could be utilized by various organizations throughout campus.

The secret to abundancy is the paradox of the more you give, the more you have. Abundance comes in many forms:

Friends, inner peace, contentment, and true appreciation of beauty are but a few. The giving of time, your peace, your gifts, your talents, and most of all, yourself, leads to abundancy. And from giving it away, comes the most precious gift. That is a result of your generosity: love.

Editor: "Looking forward, Looking back" will be an occasional commentary from students sharing their thoughts about entering their last trimester at GSU. If you would like to submit your views, contact the editors at the Phoenix. Please, send us your thoughts!

By Larry Szulczewski

When I made the decision to return to school at GSU in April 2004 to complete my bachelors degree, my first real dilemma was whether I could manage the workload, or be able to compete in the classroom. After almost thirty years without seeing the inside of a classroom.

I suppose I didn’t have to worry. Here it is, September 2005, and I am entering my last trimester. The past year and a half has been wonderful. I am a communications major and have met some terrific people.

In the first class on my first day back then, it seemed that all the other students must have grown up together because they all knew one another. I wondered at the time if I could get to know people as well as these folks seemed to know one other.

Yet, in classes now, I regularly see Farah, Tracy, Jessica, Liz, and Pierre, and we seem as though we grew up together, because we did. We grew up as classmates.

As I look back on my time at GSU, I am glad I made the decision to return to school, and to do it here. I can finally say that I am no longer squinting to see the light at the end of the tunnel - I am standing nearly at the end of the tunnel.

At times this journey was tough and the tunnel drove me crazy, but the joys have more than compensated for any difficulties.

I am looking forward the future and what I will do next. And I am pretty stoked about it.

Larry Szulczewski is an undergrad majoring in communications.

The phoenix became a symbol of resurrection: burning in the fires, yet arising newborn out of the ashes.

In our ever-changing world of uncertainty and fear, the Phoenix still burns brightly as a symbol of rebirth from the ashes, and of the indomitable strength of the human spirit.

The Phoenix is Governors State University’s student newspaper. It is published twice monthly during the fall and winter terms, and monthly during spring/summer.

We welcome articles, suggestions, photos, commentary, cartoons, and letters to the editor on issues that concern the greater GSU population.

If you have a question about university policy, please send it to us, and we will attempt to obtain an answer for you. Literary, and other artistic works are also considered.

We reserve the right to edit submissions for brevity, clarity, appropriateness, legality, and interest to our overall GSU readership.

All submissions should be signed, and include the student, faculty, or staff member’s name, ID number, department, and phone number.

Phoenix Student Newspaper
Governors State University
1 University Parkway
University Park, IL 60466

Looking forward, ...
Looking back

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Phoenix Student Newspaper
Governors State University
1 University Parkway
University Park, IL 60466

Get paid to work for the Phoenix
BUSINESS/ADVERTISING MANAGER WANTED

GSU invites applications for a student Business/Advertising Manager for the Student Newspaper Beginning September 2005 for the 2005-06 Academic Year.

QUALIFICATIONS: A GSU undergraduate or graduate student with a 3.0 cumulative GPA and past experience with student or professional publications. Ability to communicate and persuade is a plus. The Business/Advertising Manager will receive a stipend or be paid on commission.

RESPONSIBILITIES: The Business/Advertising Manager will be responsible for contacting local, regional and national businesses as well as managing financial aspects of the Phoenix. The person will be assigned other responsibilities as needed regarding the production of the newspaper.

REVIEW OF APPLICATIONS BEGINS IMMEDIATELY AND CONTINUES UNTIL SUITABLE CANDIDATE IS IDENTIFIED. SEND LETTER OF APPLICATION, CV, NAMES/ADDRESSES/PHONE NUMBERS/EMAIL ADDRESSES OF AT LEAST TWO REFERENCES TO VANESSA NEWBY, ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF STUDENT LIFE, BY SEPTEMBER 19, 2005.

Correction: The story on the front page of the Aug. 8 edition of the Phoenix misidentified the school where Dr. Roger Oden earned his doctoral degree in political science. His PhD is from the University of Chicago.

Correction: In the education underground story in the Aug. 8 edition of the Phoenix, Lisa Lenburg's college affiliation was misidentifed. It should have identified her as a student in the College of Arts and Sciences.

We regret these errors.
By Larry Szelczewski

BA in Math degree program just added

This trimester marks the opening of a new Bachelor of Arts degree in Mathematics. The university's College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) has created the degree program in response to the growing demand state-wide for mathematics educators.

The program also targets students looking for a career as mathematicians or in a scientific field.

In addition to the BA in Math, the university plans to add a Secondary Teacher Education Sequence in Math, pending final approval from the IBHE.

The mathematics sequence will complement the current secondary education sequences in biology, chemistry, and English offered by CAS. "We've had a wonderful experience and created a good track record with the biology and chemistry programs," D'Arcy noted.

She said that the program will target several different student demographics, including those looking for a math degree to complement their current degree, returning alumni, and first time college students. "In many cases, students decide that they want to become teachers while they are attending high school," said D'Arcy. As a result, GSU will look to inform community college and high school students of the program so that they are aware of their options early on in their college careers.

As part of adding the new degree program, the college has added a new faculty member to its roster: Dr. Satoshi Takahashi. Along with his impressive academic credentials, Takahashi recently held a prestigious research appointment at the IBM Watson Research Center.

"We're proud to have an experienced researcher and faculty member joining us to complement the already excellent staff that we have in place," D'Arcy said.

For additional information about the Bachelor of Arts in Mathematics degree, contact Dr. Karen D'Arcy at 708.534.4526.

New Director of Student Involvement rolls up her sleeves to enhance Student Life

Sara Appel recently joined the Student Life unit as the Director of Student Involvement.

Appel recently worked in Missouri as the Coordinator for Commuter and Non-traditional Student Programming. She brings experience and expertise in event planning, recognition, diversity, advising, and strategic planning/goal setting.

Here, she will work with student clubs, organizations, social, cultural, and charitable events. "We've got a lot of fun things in the works," she says.

Dean William A. Nowlin
Cordially invites you to
Explore the possibilities of a graduate degree in the College of Business and Public Administration at Governor State University
University Park, Illinois

Saturday, October 22, 2005
Registration and Breakfast 9:30 to 10 a.m.
Program 10 to 11 a.m.
Q&A Session 11 a.m. to noon
R.S.V.P. by October 19, 2005
708.534.7051
BPA-RSVP@govst.edu

We offer M.B.A., M.S.-MIS, M.S.-ACCT, and M.P.A. degree programs.
# Fall 2005 Events Calendar

## Navigating Your Career Road Map

### "Road To Success" Series...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Road to Conducting a Job Search</td>
<td>TUESDAY 9/27/05</td>
<td>6:00 P.M.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>WEDNESDAY 11/30/05</td>
<td>6:00 P.M.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Road to Identifying My Skills</td>
<td>THURSDAY 9/29/05</td>
<td>6:00 P.M.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>TUESDAY 10/25/05</td>
<td>6:00 P.M.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Road to Writing Resumes/Letters of Correspondence</td>
<td>THURSDAY 10/6/05</td>
<td>7:30 P.M.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>TUESDAY 10/11/05</td>
<td>6:00 P.M.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>WEDNESDAY 11/9/05</td>
<td>6:00 P.M.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Road to Success &quot;Three-In-One Road Map&quot;</td>
<td>SATURDAY 11/19/05</td>
<td>9:30 A.M.-Continental Breakfast 10 noon-Workshop</td>
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<tr>
<td>Road to Interviewing</td>
<td>WEDNESDAY 10/26/05</td>
<td>6:00 P.M.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>THURSDAY 11/10/05</td>
<td>6:00 P.M.</td>
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<td>Road to Searching for Jobs in the U.S. (International Students)</td>
<td>WEDNESDAY 11/16/05</td>
<td>4:00 P.M.</td>
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<td>Road to Working the Career Fair</td>
<td>TUESDAY 11/1/05</td>
<td>6:00 P.M.</td>
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<td>WEDNESDAY 11/2/05</td>
<td>6:00 P.M.</td>
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<td>All-Majors Career Fair</td>
<td>THURSDAY 11/3/05</td>
<td>1:00 P.M.</td>
<td>GYMNASIUM</td>
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For more information contact the Office of Career Services at (708)-235-3974, B1215.
Wednesday Sept. 7 thru 20
Art Exhibit: "Twisted"

This exhibition of paintings by John P. Zilewicz Jr. will be in the GSU Art Gallery (E-Lounge). A reception will be held for the artist from 6 to 8 p.m. on Friday Sept. 9. For info and gallery hours, call 708.534.4021.

Beginnings Sept. 10
Workshop: GMAT Math Refresher

The College of Business and Public Administration will conduct a GMAT Math Refresher workshop that will be held over three consecutive Saturdays: Sept. 10, 17, and 24. Registration is $150. Email BPA-INFO@govsle.edu.

Thursday Sept. 15
Conference for Women in Business

ChIPIA & CenterPoint Small Business Development Center is hosting this conference for working women interested in furthering their business endeavors 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Oaklawn Hilton. Call 708.534.4929.

Thursday Sept. 15
International Students Orientation

Kick off the new trimester right by attending the International Students Orientation from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Engbretson Hall.

Thursday Sept. 15
Mariachi's and Taste of Our Culture

Listen to the engaging sounds of mariachi music at its best and sample some Latin American Food from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 6 to 7:30 p.m. in the Hall of Governors. Sara Appel at 708.534.4021.

Monday Sept. 19
A Taste of Latin America

Purchase coffees and hot chocolate from different Latin American countries accompanied with a churro! (ALAS fundraiser), 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 6 to 7:30 p.m. in the Hall of Governors. Sara Appel at 708.534.4021.

Tuesday Sept. 20
Movie: Motorcycle Diaries

The film The Motorcycle Diaries will be shown at noon and 5 p.m. in Engbretson Hall. This movie follows a gripping narrative of risk, determination, survival and redemption as it follows a brave young woman (Catalina Sandino Moreno, in an Oscar-nominated performance) on a life-threatening, life-changing odyssey from Colombia to New York when she accepts a job transporting heroin. Sara Appel at 708.534.4021.

Tuesday Sept. 27
Latin American Music

Hear the sweet rhythms of live music from Latin America from 7 to 9 p.m. in Sherman Music Recital Hall.
Get Ready. Get Set.
Get Your Child off to a
SMART START.

Explore the Family Development Center's SMART START Program. SMART START, one of the few programs based on the Reggio Emilia approach, is free to qualifying families through the Illinois State Board of Education. The program is tuition-based to non-qualifying families. SMART START provides activities, support, and education for children from birth to three and their families. SMART START Pre-Kindergarten takes children from ages three to five.

For more on SMART START, call 708.235.7330.

Located on the Governors State University campus.
Phoenix  September 6, 2005

Part-Time Package Handlers

- Earn $8.50-$9.50 per hour, with increases of 50¢ after 90 days and 50¢ after one year
- Consistent Work Schedule
- Paid Vacations
- Weekly Paychecks
- Weekends & Holidays Off
- Excellent Benefits (Medical/Life & 401K)

Learn more about Part-Time Package Handler opportunities at the UPS Hodgkins Facility (I-55 & I-294 • South Suburbs) and the UPS Earn and Learn® Program offered through Governors State University today! Please contact Todd Oliver at: 708-387-4884 x1535 or visit: www.upsjobs.com/chicago

Access Code: 3354

Equal Opportunity Employer
*Program guidelines apply
The new season is on sale now!
GSU students save 10% off regular ticket prices.
Call 708-235-2222 today!