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6-2000

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Recommended Citation
Governors State University Office of Public Affairs, @govst.edu (2000, June). http://opus.govst.edu/atgovstedu/36

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Governor George Ryan, Illinois’ First Lady, and a host of Illinois’ top leaders visited Governors State University in May.

This was the sixth roundtable discussion the governor held throughout the state.

The governor described the roundtable discussions as, “a chance to connect directly to state government.”

President Fagan introduced the governor by referring to him as “a champion of education.”

The governor pledged to meet again with a number of groups.

The governor is in support of a third regional airport at Peotone, and pledged to ask the presidential candidates their stand on the issue.

Ryan was praised for his moratorium on the death penalty. Ryan said that the commission studying the death penalty “is not going to act in haste.”

He said he will not go back to executions until he is satisfied the system is working without flaws.

Support for the Illiana Expressway linking Interstate 57 in Illinois to Interstate 65 in Indiana was pushed by a number of speakers. The governor reminded the crowd that the majority of the miles would be in Indiana.

The governor also said he supports the I-355 extension from Bolingbrook to New Lenox, but his support is balanced by the $500 million price tag.

He said he would not approve a toll increase to pay for the extension.

Overall, the governor’s visit cleared his position on issues and gave residents in the region an opportunity to share their concerns.

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Governor George Ryan addresses an attentive crowd in the Hall of Governors.

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June 2000

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Icons
@govst.edu will always report accomplishments that help GSU meet its mission statement. Look for these icons which will indicate stories that directly relate to GSU’s four goals.
Governors State University Signs Dual Admission Agreements

Governors State University made the transition from two-year associate's degree students to four-year bachelor's degree students easier by signing dual admission agreements with a regional community college and a City College of Chicago.

On May 4, 2000, an agreement between GSU and Olive-Harvey College was signed allowing GSU to work together with OHC, allowing students who have enrolled at OHC to gain automatic admission to GSU to finish their baccalaureate degrees.

A similar agreement was signed on May 11, 2000, with Prairie State College.

According to the agreements, students who meet the admission requirements for both colleges and formally request dual admission will be simultaneously admitted to each institution.

This will give students access to the resources available on GSU's campus, including the library and full access to the GSU Office of Admissions and other support services, such as financial aid. The dual admission agreement also allows students the opportunity to seek advisory help from GSU to make sure they are taking the right courses to make the transfer as smooth as possible.

The agreement with Joliet Junior College is scheduled to sign on June 22, 2000. Similar agreements with Moraine Valley Community College and Kankakee Community College are expected to follow. The agreements will commence this fall.
News/ Happenings

6th Annual GSU Student Research Conference

On Friday, May 26, 2000, GSU held its 6th Annual Student Research Conference. The conference provided students an opportunity to present their research work before an audience of their peers, and provided a forum to highlight research accomplishments at GSU. All presentations were made by students. The conference organizer was Dr. Shelly Kumar of the Science Division of CAS.

GSU receives E-Learning Design Award for online course

Dr. Mel Muchnik attended the University of Kansas on behalf of Governors State University and the University of South Australia on May 24 to receive an Honorable Mention citation for the use of online technology in the classroom.

The E-Learning Design Award celebrates innovative approaches to teaching using online technology.

Over the last three years, more than 70 Governors State University students have been involved in a collaborative learning experience with students at the University of South Australia in Adelaide, Singapore and London.

Through the use of a virtual classroom, students addressed topics on social issues involving media and technology.

Dr. Ingrid Day of the University of South Australia worked together with Dr. Muchnik of Governors State University and students in Media Communications in the College of Arts and Sciences in the course "Trends in Communications Technologies."

Dr. Day submitted the topic, "Communications and the Media," for recognition, and it was selected as one of the top 20 finalists from 136 submissions around the world.

Dedication of Hantack Barn

Governors State University is fortunate to have on its campus a combination gable/gothic architectural-style barn constructed in two distinctly different generations. Recently, it was restored.

The older Gable barn dates to the 1880s and the newer Gothic style dates to the early 1900s. Much of the work was concentrated in the Gable barn.

Solid wood beams were replaced and restored, walls removed and replaced, roof and decking replaced, battens installed, lightning rods restored and reinstalled, cupola's rehabbed, and siding removed, rehabilitated, and painted.

The goal was to make the building structurally sound, weatherproof the building and make it aesthetically pleasing.

The Hantack Barn holds important historical significance to the campus, and the university felt it needed to be preserved in its original form. It was important to the university that construction methods be historically correct as much as possible.

The services of Bob Przewlocki and Steve Gray of Preservation Trades, Inc., were acquired to provide the expertise needed to rebuild this structure. They were the only firm in Illinois specializing in the preservation processes involved in rehabilitating a barn of this type.

In conjunction with National Historic Preservation Week, a barn dedication and open house was held on May 18 at Hantack Barn.
Salute to Graduates

Pre-Graduation Family Picnic Friendship Food & Games were all a part of the celebration

Governors State University

June 2000 Volume IV Issue 12
Congratulations GSU Graduates!

1,441 students graduated at June Commencement
588 were graduate students and 853 were undergraduates!

Student Speaker Saturday, June 3, 2000
Rawsam Alasmart

Alasmart received a master of Business Administration degree from the College of Business and Public Administration.
Huerta received a master of Health Science in Communication Disorders. She also received a second bachelor's from the Communication Disorders program in 1997.
Navy College PACE

The BOG program at GSU has partnered with the Navy College PACE (Program of Afloat College Education) through the Middlesex Research Center (MRC).

PACE now offers GSU telecourses and access to the BOG/B.A. degree program to sailors on ships and in submarines around the world.

GSU cooperates with Coastline Community College of California and Dallas County Community College in offering on-duty sailors a 2+2 pathway to the BOG B.A. degree.

Through PACE, the BOG advisors have experimented with the use of videoconferencing for advising.

Lt. Scott McClelland, our first Navy College PACE graduate from the Board of Governors Degree Program.

(Left) Interim Provost Jane Wells and President Fagan adorn best-selling author Clifton Taulbert with his stole as one of this year's honorary degree candidates at Sunday commencement. Taulbert urged graduates to use everything they've been given to succeed.

(Right) A fiery Father George Clements delivers his commencement speech on Saturday after receiving an honorary degree. Being a socially involved priest for most of his adult life, Father Clements urged GSU graduates to remember those left behind. "Running in the race of life means not leaving anyone behind," said Clements.

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GSU recently nominated and awarded six faculty members tenure for the academic year 1999-2000. The following faculty members have all received 6th year tenure from GSU:

Dr. Soon-Ok-Park, College of Arts and Sciences; Dr. Park from Clarendon Hills is involved in the division of science and teaches computer science. She is also an undergraduate advisor in computer science.

Dr. Arthur D. Durant, College of Health Professions; Dr. Durant specializes in addiction studies and is a professor of health administration.

Dr. Mary Arnold, College of Education; Dr. Arnold from Chicago specializes in counseling in the College of Education. Her area of expertise is in marriage and family.

Dr. Larry Cross, College of Education; Dr. Cross of Matteson specializes in elementary education in the College of Education.

Dr. Diane E. McClellan, College of Education; Dr. McClellan of Crete works in the area of early childhood education.

Dr. Peggy Woodard, Student Affairs and Services; Dr. Woodard of Frankfort has received her tenure as an academic and career counselor in the Division of Student Development.

Cynthia Turner of Physical Plant Operations was the employee of the month for the month of May. Turner has been at Governors State University for two years. She enjoys her work here and thinks it's a nice place to work. Turner is spoken highly of by staff and co-workers who say she gets along with everyone in the university community.

Turner enjoys her co-workers and says that the people in housekeeping are good, hard workers who should be appreciated more.

Turner adds that she is able to do an outstanding job because she has been properly trained by the senior people in PPO.

"She willingly takes on additional tasks without being asked," and "Her efforts are sincerely appreciated by those who work in the F Wing," are just a few of the many compliments that Turner receives on a regular basis.

Upward Bound program on campus
at Governors State University

Upward Bound, one of the federally funded programs offered by the U.S. Department of Education, is now on campus at Governors State University. Upward Bound provides fundamental support to selected high school students in their preparation for college entrance.

The program provides opportunities for participants to succeed in pre-college performance and ultimately in higher education pursuits.

Upward Bound serves high school students from low-income families, and high school students from families in which neither parent holds a bachelor's degree.

The goal of Upward Bound is to increase the rates at which participants enroll in and graduate from institutions of postsecondary education.

All Upward Bound projects must provide instruction in math, laboratory science, composition, literature and foreign language.

Governors State University's Upward Bound Program will serve 50 low-income, first generation students from Bloom High School and Bloom Trail High School of Chicago Heights. Applications are now being taken for the summer Upward Bound program.

Classes will be held on campus at Governors State University from June 19 through July 31, 2000. Classes are Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Daily transportation is provided for students to and from Governors State University and for all scheduled field trips, including college visits in the states of Wisconsin, Indiana and Michigan. Guest speakers, workshops on test-taking and study skills, cultural enrichment programs, and a daily lunch are also provided. There is no cost for eligible participants.

The director of the Upward Bound Program is Sharon Spence.
Recognition on campus at GSU

Many recognition and award ceremonies were held during May and June

The Annual Student Life Recognition Night, "Leadership 2000," was held on May 19 in the Hall of Governors.

The ceremony included 75 students from GSU who have been selected as national outstanding leaders in "Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges."

Awards included All-American Scholars, National Collegiate Minority Leadership awards and National Collegiate Student Government awards.

Students who received these awards have met national criteria and were nominated by their college faculty. College deans presented the awards to recipients.

Suzanne Oliver recognized for twenty-five years of service to GSU.
(From left to right) President Stu Fagan, Suzanne Oliver, and Tim Arr, interim vice president for Administration & Planning.

News/Happenings

Jim Opon, associate director of Student Development for Career Services, was recently elected to the Midwest Association of Colleges and Employers (ACE) College Assembly 2000-2001. He is a part of the legislative body that votes on policy issues, budgets and manages the association. The regional association covers 11 midwestern states and is affiliated with the national association.

Lydia Morrow Rueten from the University Library was nominated and selected to attend the Regina V. Polk Women's Leadership Conference titled "Now Where? Guide Union Women into the 21st Century."

University Professor Mercedes Herrera-Graf has recently completed a book that will be published the spring of 2001. The title of the book is A Woman of Honor: The Civil War Years of Dr. Mary E. Walker.

Dr. George Garrett will present a paper at the Sir William Gladstone Colloquium on Higher Education Law as part of the Oxford University Round Table on Education Policy in England. Dr. Garrett's paper is entitled "Trick or Tort." The paper examines the problem of computer tampering and practical joking resulting in criminal activity and potential tort actions. Dr. Garrett teaches school law in the Division of Education at GSU.
New Principal appointed for GSU Charter School

Sharifa Townsend has been appointed as principal for the new GSU Charter School by its operating board. Townsend was chosen for the position because of her extensive background in educating children based on practices which are grounded in theory and the latest brain research, expertise in encouraging parent involvement and community collaboration, and experience in providing training and leadership to teachers.

"Our charter school will demonstrate true respect for children by believing that they are all strong, capable, and creative thinkers, thereby helping them to grow confident in their abilities, intelligence, and creative selves," says Townsend.

Townsend is presently a doctoral candidate at the Erikson Institute for Advanced Study in Child Development at Loyola University in Chicago.

District 201-U Superintendent Steven Humphrey said he is excited about Townsend being appointed principal of the Charter School.

"Townsend is an enthusiastic person who has a level of high energy that is needed to guide the new charter school. She brings a strong background and teaching philosophy that will be appreciated as we embark on the implementation of the process."

Illinois Board of Higher Education Meets at GSU

The Illinois Board of Higher Education holds monthly meetings at various colleges and universities throughout the state. On June 6, 2000, they met at Governor's State University for the first time.

The board acted on more than $1 million in grants designed to create new courses for the Illinois Century Network, a statewide online telecommunications system currently under development and scheduled to be completed next year.

The network will connect all schools, colleges, universities, museums and libraries into one learning network.

Included among the grants approved by the IBHE at this meeting: $350,000 for the Midwest Higher Education Commission Workshop; $150,000 for the Illinois Digital Academic Library; $90,000 for the Illinois Virtual Campus; $85,000 for Illinois Community Colleges Online; and $50,000 to a new project, the Illinois Virtual High School.

President Stuart Fagan said the university is more than prepared for the new challenges and opportunities presented by the refinement and expansion of computer based online educational technology and electronic distance learning.

"The university is developing a strategic plan to accommodate technological developments and changes in the student population," Fagan said.

"There's a need for change. Governor's State has a history of being an experimental university, and that's something that will serve us well in the future as these new developments are put in place."
Meet...Pamela Woodward

Pam Woodward is a longtime member of the GSU Foundation Board who has resided in the south suburbs for the past 21 years. She has a master’s degree in communications science from Governor State University and a master’s in psychology from the University of Illinois.

After teaching psychology for several years, Woodward joined Dean Witter as a financial advisor in 1983. She is now a vice president and financial advisor in the Matteson office of Morgan Stanley Dean Witter, where she uses her experience as a certified financial planner to advise individuals and businesses about their investments.

“My real love is in helping people who are making important decisions related to their investments and retirement accounts, because I know I can be of tremendous value to those individuals. I find the same personal satisfaction in financial planning that I found in teaching,” says Woodward.

Currently, Woodward serves on the board of the Abby Foundation, and she is chairperson of the Board of Directors of the Matteson Area Chamber of Commerce.

Over the past several years, Woodward also has served on the boards of the Illinois Philharmonic Orchestra, the GSU Alumni Association and the Homewood-Flossmoor League of Women Voters. Her hobbies include singing in the Lincoln-Way Area Chorale, gardening, traveling, cooking and bicycling.

Woodward’s many years of association with GSU, as a student, alumnus, adjunct professor and wife of Dr. Addison Woodward, chairperson of the Psychology and Counseling Division, motivate her to continue her contributions to the well-being of GSU, an institution that is very dear to her.