Seeds of Greatness at GSU

Dr. Elaine Maimon speaks at first annual Seeds of Greatness event. All SOG pictures are courtesy of Dr. Ramos of the Latino Center for Excellence

By Karen Mayo
Graduate communications student
GSU Student Senate Programming Chairman

"I knew GSU students had great accomplishments," exclaimed President Maimon. "This is exactly as I envisioned it!"

Excited and pleased at the scores of awards, poster presentations and powerpoint presentations that filled Engberston Hall November 2, President Maimon joined a standing room only crowd at the first annual "Seeds of Greatness" student achievement event.

Founded and Produced by Karen Mayo, Chairman of the Student Senate Programming committee, the Seeds of Greatness was an official presidential installation event held during the weeklong celebration of the installation of GSU's fifth president Dr. Elaine Maimon.

Seeds of Greatness showcased GSU's students' finest accomplishments by displaying visual, multimedia and actual trophies and awards from student's achievements. Additionally the Dean of each of GSU's five colleges nominated one winner that best represented success within that college for 2007.

Success took on a variety of colors from perfect 4.0 GPAs to healthcare legislature movements on Capital Hill in Washington DC. The Deans were careful to choose students who of course represented scholastic excellence but also represented community involvement and national achievements. This community outreach being consistent with President Maimon's new philosophy of GSU being an academic resources for the Southland.

The afternoon's keynote speaker, Judge Michael Stuttley, Juvenile Justice Commissioner and Judge of Markham courthouse, knows all too well the importance of a good college education. Judge Stuttley, a well respected community icon, pledged to continue to work hand in hand with GSU in the fight for creating quality educational opportunities for our Southland youth.

"I have sponsored many GSU students as interns in my courtroom," he said. "It is my pleasure to assist them any way I can. It is my pleasure to continue supporting GSU in creating positive internship experiences for your students."

Dr. Chip Coldren, GSU Criminal Justice department head, works closely with Judge Stuttley in identifying potential interns was on hand to give the judge a well deserved welcome. "I am very pleased at the outcome," said Karen Mayo, Producer and founder of the Seeds of Greatness event. "This event would not have been such a success without the entire senate and in particular Elka Duff, LaShree Valerie Hedwick and Sheryl Yarbough.

"These ladies were a tremendous help and I just want to say a special thank you to all of them. I am so pleased we were able to create such a positive event for the university. I think it is extremely important for students to see the accomplishments that other GSU students have achieved and to understand the great potential of a GSU education. It is encouraging!"

President Maimon, clearly delighted that GSU students were receiving well deserved accolades, seemed also pleased at reinforcing our community commitments at her direction. In support of the students the President's open door policy continued as she made herself available to students and in fact stayed through the entire event, something many were impressed with because she had such a full week of activities and even had two more events that night.

Before leaving President Maimon directed, "Let's leave these presentations up for the entire weekend, I am proud of our students and I'd like all of our weekend guests to see their work."

Consistent with her student friendly doctrine it looks like GSU is off to an excellent start.

Career Fairs offer opportunity to GSU students

By Steve Schering
Editor

Over 60 employers will make their way to GSU for two separate career fairs to be held in mid-December.

A Health Profession Career Fair will take place December 11 in the Center for Performing Arts lobby from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Several area hospitals and medical centers will be represented, including Holy Cross Hospital, Ingalls Memorial Hospital, Palos Community Hospital, Physiotherapy Associates, Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago, University of Illinois at Chicago and METT Therapy Services, just to name a few.

"We recommend you wear business attire and bring plenty of resumes," said Loretta Haddox, who helped organize the event. "You can visit career services to get your resumes brushed up."

The Criminal Justice and Public Safety Career Fair will take place December 13 in the Hall of Governors from 1 to 6 p.m.

The Army, Navy, Circuit Court of Cook County, Lemont Police Department, Matteson Police Department, New Lennox Police Department, Coast Guard, University of Illinois at Chicago and Department of Justice representatives are some of the over 40 employers who will attend the fair.

"We also recommend bringing plenty of resumes," said Cindy Conner, who helped to organize the Criminal Justice fair. "Dress conservatively, check our website for information and practice interviewing questions online."

For more information on the career fairs, call 708-235-3974 or visit www.govst.edu/careerservices.
GSU hires new Provost

By Steve Schering

Governors State University’s search for a new Provost is now over. President Elaine Maimon announced in a memo on November 28 that Dr. Jane Rhodes Hudak will assume the role of Provost in the spring of 2008.

Hudak is currently the Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences at Georgia Southern University.

“Dr. Hudak comes to us with exceptional experience and knowledge,” Maimon said. “She is committed to outstanding research and teaching and demonstrates a history of building partnerships with community constituents.”

In addition to holding a Ph.D. in Art Education from The Ohio State University, Dr. Hudak has made over 25 international presentations and 60 national and state presentations.

She also has held leadership positions in nine national and international organizations, including the National Art Education Association, the Council of Colleges of Arts and Sciences and the American Council on Education. Dr. Hudak also held a position in the International Society for Education through Art where she established their archive in Wiesbaden, England.

Dr. Hudak has also co-authored works by SRA/McGraw-Hill entitled Art Connections, now in its second edition. It is a best-selling elementary school art textbook series, used in the United States and Canada.

Other works by Dr. Hudak include Understanding Art: Teacher’s Edition and Exploring Art: Teacher’s Edition. She is currently working on a college text book on art and geology.

“I would like to extend special thanks to the search committee for conducting a model search,” Maimon said. “By starting the work this summer, the committee gave us a head start on attracting the best available candidates. Dr. Hudak emerged as the best match for us from a very strong pool.

“I want to thank the entire university community for making all three finalists feel welcome. We look forward to Dr. Hudak’s arrival and to her academic leadership.”

Former Provost Paul Keys chose to step down and Peggy Woodard became the interim Provost while the search was being conducted. Dr. Hudak was unable to be reached for comment.

International students...united holidays

By Cynthia Sims

Contributing Writer

Here in the United States, the holiday season is in full swing. Have you ever wondered how our international students at Governors State University celebrate?

I was given the opportunity to interview two wonderful students here from India. Muralikrishna and Saikrishna have been here in the United States, six months to a year in length, for the purpose of pursuing their education. They both had expressed some of the same traditions and values as we do. Their homes are united holidays.

There is much shopping, gift giving, and the same traditional values that the United States cherishes. Their ultimate reason for coming to the United States was a consensus between them both. Mahmod is a student here at GSU, who is not considered an international student, but his country of origin is Jordan.

He said that five percent of his country is Christian, while the other 95 percent are Muslims. They too celebrate the Christmas holiday the same as we do. The Ramadan is a 30-day fast done according to the setting of the moon. The holiday falls on a different day each year depending on how many Islamic holidays fall in a year.

According to Mahmod, “Our country has adapted some of the same traditional values as the people here in the United States. We want to be able to blend in naturally and feel that we can be part of the country that we have chosen to live in.”

As we can clearly see, our international students hold some of the same traditions and values as we do. But you didn’t even know that did you?

Happy Holidays to everyone here at GSU.

Writers’ strike impact analyzed

By Kate Starnes

(U-WIRE) — The University of California at Los Angeles Anderson School of Management released an economic report detailing the impact of the Writers Guild of America strike on the city of Los Angeles last Monday.

The report projects a much less severe economic impact on Los Angeles, a positive revelation considering the lack of a resolution between the WGA and the Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers after a month of picketing.

The two sides resumed negotiations last week but talks were put on hold until Tuesday after the AMPTP put forth a new economic partnership proposal. The proposal, entitled the New Economic Partnership, was the first since the strike began Nov. 5.

The 12,000 film and television writers of the WGA are picketing for increased residuals from DVD sales and receiving residuals from Internet reruns, such as pay downloads on iTunes and free advertising-supported views from websites like abc.com.

According to the UCLA School of Theater, Film and Television visiting professor and alumnus Jonathan Kuntz, the WGA dates back to the 1930s along with the Directors Guild of America and the Screen Actors Guild. These various creative entities collectively organized when studios suffering through the Great Depression cut salaries for their employees by 30 percent.

“Writers who were fairly compensated were the exception,” Kuntz said.

The strike has had the most immediate effect on the television side of Hollywood, halting production on live shows such as "Late Show with David Letterman," which have been in reruns since the strike began, and scripted shows show both daytime and prime time.

See ‘Strike’ Page 3
Caps and gowns, photographs, announcements and invitations displayed on tables with celebratory balloons throughout the Hall of Governors as a sign to the upcoming Winter Commencement Ceremony on Feb. 16, 2007.

"Salute to Graduates - Graduation Prep Days," is a 2-day event put on by the Registrar’s Office and Student Life to prepare graduating students for their big day.

The officers and assistants work together to make it a delightful and simple process for the students. Deirdre Webb and Mary Brown, Admissions and Records Officer/Graduation Counselors, and other assistants were at hand to direct students as the prepare for their graduation.

"Four hundred plus students have participated in the ceremony in previous years. For some students the ceremony is very important," stated Deirdre Webb.

Chay Wilson, Administrative Secretary of Student Life and a student prepares for her own graduation, while happily assisting other students with their caps and gowns. Jostens, the official GSU supplier of the caps and gowns, also displayed rings and invitations to make a graduation complete. A new supplier of rings and diploma frames is "Traditions," founded and owned by Reid Olsen. He designs and makes the frames.

GSU Alumni also had a table on display. Pam McCoy, stated, "The Alumni wants students to stay connected after they graduate to know what's happening at GSU. After the process of fitting for caps and gowns, looking at rings, and invitations a lunch was served in Engberston Hall."

To follow up this 2-day event, Saturday, February 2, 2008 from 11am to 4pm in Hall of Governors the "Salute to Graduates Lun" will take place.

Sara Appel, Director of Student Involvement, stated, "this event will allow non-traditional students graduating to bring their children and families for a fun day at GSU.

"There will be food, games, prizes and karaoke."

Jerry Nickelsburg of the UCLA Anderson Forecast, an organization within the management school specializing in both California and nationwide economics, wrote the economic impact report.

"One of the things that we do at the Forecast is to analyze the entertainment industry and the interest is in what impact might that be," Nickelsburg said.

While many in the media had estimated the economic damage of the current strike on Los Angeles as high as $1 billion, the Forecast was able to analyze production and personal incomes of those in the industry to see the real, much lesser effect of the picketing.

A lot of the Forecast's report focused on comparing the current strike to both the last and longest WGA strike back in 1988 as well as the averted strike in 2001. The Forecast uses databases that incorporate employment and income by industry to look precisely at the entertainment industry.

The Forecast focused on three main forces affecting the impact of the strike: inventory stockpiling within the industry in preparation for the strike, substitution to other media outlets and product changes.

Inventory stockpiling, which is what has kept so many scripted shows in new episodes weeks after the beginning of the strike is one practice employed in both of the most recent WGA strikes as well as in other labor disputes across the country.

"People act in their own self-interest to protect against adverse economic effects and they always do that in strikes. (It's) a natural part of the strike," Nickelsburg said.

In the Forecast, Nickelsburg reported that a surge in production as well as the hiring of 8,000 new employees within the industry this past September allowed those working on scripted programming to make some extra money to put away once the strike began and the paychecks stopped coming in.

"The producers want to produce those shows ahead of time and the (writers, directors and actors) want to work ahead of time to save money," he said.

"Together they produced those shows and both are reasonably well-positioned."

Unfortunately, service personnel and staff members of more current programming such as late night shows were unable to stockpile and many of those employees have been hit the hardest.

Carson Daly became the first late night host to return to work, reportedly to save his staff and crew members' jobs.

Meanwhile fellow late night host Jay Leno and Conan O'Brien have even begun to pay their non-writing staff members out of their own pockets after NBC let them go last Friday. NBC spokesman Rebecca Marks said that O'Brien is paying his show's staff completely on his own.

The increasing popularity of reality shows in the past few years will also decrease the industry's financial burdens, as they require no scripts and can continue to be produced at the same pace as before the strike.

While stockpiling and reality shows are two ways the industry has avoided bigger financial troubles, once these shows eventually run out of new episodes and if the strike still continues, Nickelsburg said he fears for the possibility of substitution.

"I think that's actually a real danger if you're not providing the entertainment that people are used to. The risk is increasing longer the strike goes on the more likely people will decide not to come back and go to other media. (It is an) incentive for both sides to come back quickly," Nickelsburg said.

One increasingly noteworthy form of alternative media is the Internet, with the rise of websites such as Youtube.

"As consumers demand the new technologies, they will help create an industry which will be a growing industry and an alternative to scripted television shows," Nickelsburg said.

As part of the report, the Forecast assumed that 10 percent of mass media consumers would eventually switch to alternative forms of entertainment and never return, the same percentage that switched during the 1988 strike.

Ultimately, the Forecast predicts an economic impact of $380 million, with an even smaller impact if the strike ends before March.

To put things in perspective, the Forecast pointed out that every year the entertainment industry produces $20 billion across industries the entire city of Los Angeles brings in every year.

Nickelsburg warned that nothing is certain because of the unpredictability of the strike itself.

"Do we know what's going to happen? No, because no one knows how it's going to play out," he said.
To have your photo, painting, cartoon, drawing, poem, song, or short story featured in the Art Ark, please submit your work with caption to the Phoenix by stopping by the office in E1500 or email your submissions to phoenix@govst.edu

Art Ark

Renovations
Oil on Canvas 2004

Dependence
Mixed Media 2006

Boundaries
Oil on Canvas 2005

Balancing
Oil on Canvas 2006

The Anatomy of Nature
By Lauren J. Shover

I create paintings based on plant cycles, microscopic views of cells, and human anatomy; and infuse them with emotions. In combining the tranquility of a fresh still-life composition with monumental depictions of flora in a surrealistic landscape, I seek to bring about a connection between internal thoughts and the act of taking a second look at details and surroundings. The inclusion of the human forms, such as hand and bone structures, reaffirms the ties between human and plant life; both are organic and cyclical. The unspoiled plant life, enclosed spaces, and expansive environments within the compositions reflect feelings of seclusion, shelter, self-confidence, change, growth and revitalization.

The act of slowing down and reconsidering an object or idea requires one to take additional time and energy. My imagery emphasizes details of larger objects, to show that to establish meaningful connections, we must allow ourselves to examine minutiae and appreciate the essential things in life.

With both oil and acrylic paints, I build layers and flowing gradations of color. The intensity of colors within each composition reflects the energy of each fruit or plant. The mixed media boxes demonstrate my desire to combine watercolors, chalk pastels and colored pencils, while uniting two-dimensional and three-dimensional formats.

Reflecting on these ideas inspires me to focus on important matters and labor through the disorder of daily life. Painting allows me to recognize the sensitivities within myself and creates opportunities to connect with others.
In Appreciation

A great, big ‘Thank You’ to my many friends at GSU for their support.

Our family is going through a difficult time, but with the support of so many we will prevail and be a closer family as well.

The Family of Nicholas Nagel
Ann Marie Manning-Nagel
Office of Career Services
Presents ...
College of Health Professions Career Fair
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2007 4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.
Center for Performing Arts Lobby

PLEASE DRESS PROFESSIONALLY &
BRING PLENTY OF RESUMES
For more information, please call: 708.235.3974

Office of Career Services Presents...

Criminal Justice and
Public Safety Career Fair

Thursday
December 13, 2007
1 to 6 p.m.
Hall of Governors

Remember...Dress Professionally and Bring Plenty of Resumes
For information, call 708.235.3974
Student King's: The Mist

By John Conrad
Associate Editor

As the film's tagline reads, "Fear changes everything." And believe me, it sure does.

The Mist is based on a 1985 Stephen King novella, and was adapted and directed by Frank Darabont, who also adapted and directed King's Shawshank Redemption and Green Mile for the big screen.

The story begins as a father and son leave mom at home and take a pleasant trip into a small New England town to buy some groceries. Isn't that how it always starts?

The pair got more than they bargained for, as a thick and fast moving mist comes in from the mountains and completely envelopes the town while they are in the supermarket. Isn't that how it always ends too?

Although there may be creepy beasties in the mist, the main thing these people have to worry about is fear. This is why I believe I liked this movie as much as I did. Sure, the people trapped in the supermarket are in a pretty tight fix already, but as fear rises and tensions begin to mount, the only thing they have to fear is fear itself.

Fear is crazy stuff; it makes people act irrationally in a situation where you definitely don't want to be irrational. It makes people go outside when they probably shouldn't, it makes people not trust one another when they probably should.

It also makes people find connections and answers in places where they probably shouldn't. In this case, the people turned to God...sort of. They turned to the town God-mum Carmody, who believes the mist is the beginning of a chapter known in the Bible as Revelations.

As creepy occurrences cause tensions to rise, many of the stranded shoppers turn to Mrs. Carmody's version of God. As the mentally unbalanced, Bible-banging Mrs. Carmody gathers followers, her group begins to look less like a congregation and more like a cult. And this cult follows her orders so unquestioningly, that I believe if they were asked to drink Jim Jones flavored Kool-Aid, they would be more than happy to oblige.

I'm not going to go into the story anymore for I fear giving away too much, but will tell you the ending is different from the King story, and it knocked my socks off.

This is truly a great horror film because while it does feature monsters, suspense, and some pretty gruesome attacks, these things are not the focus of the film, but rather a backdrop to develop the true story on. This movie, more than anything else, is about the strength of fear. It is shown how this fear can turn a bad situation dire, and quickly. It is this fear that drives the mob mentality that many experience in times of disaster, and this film captures this feeling wonderfully.

I give this film 3½ stars out of 4 and recommend it to King fanatics and horror fans alike.

Student Senate Corner: A Message From Student Senate President, Rosa Moran

ATTENTION STUDENTS: Elections for a new student senate will be held in February or March. If you would like to work with the university administrators and staff, and represent the student body you should plan ahead to campaign to get a seat on the student senate.

You can run for President, Vice President, Secretary, or Treasurer. You can also be a senator representing your own college. This experience should be listed on your resume.

The senate follows Roberts Rules of Order as well as bylaws of the senate and university. This would be a good experience for anyone who wants to be in a leadership position after graduation. Municipalities and School boards, city council, condominium associations and many more follow Roberts Rules of Order. All senators are compensated with a stipend for their service.

As the current President, I have experience as the Vice President and the Chair of Student and Academic Relations. I have been on the senate for almost three years now and I have much to share with any other student who would like to know more about the student senate. Feel free to contact me at presidentgsusenate07@yahoo.com or you can call me at 706/373-0147. I will be happy to help you in any way I can.

The student senate is busy preparing to get involved in closing this trimester and beginning a new one after Christmas. If you have any concerns as a student please come and see me and I will do everything I can to make sure you are happy with the results. I am usually in the cafeteria on Tuesday or Wednesday. I have a badge on so you know who I am.

Happy Holidays to all my friends at GSU! Special regards to our new administration that is so busy creating a student friendly university.

Solutions for Crossword & Sodoku found on page 8.
Crossword & Sudoku: solutions on page 7

Across
1. The oldest living thing is a quiet...
6. eastern standard time
8. Columbus rockcress
11. Magnolia (state flower)
12. Panacea or Snake...
14. daisy
16. Snowy
17. Where the moon cares...
19. GIC - grazing reduces fuels
21. Arizona sisters
23. a lighting fixture
25. Congress likely to kill
27. An major misstatement.
34. Land swap too hot
36. Belsky, A.J. and
37. Penalty for Unauthorized
42. Come with me
44. Investigation of
47. Lupinus subvexus subvexus
5. Parks service
16. State of both
21. Avalanche-lily genus (sci.)
22. Access, grazing among
25. Western Watersheds
28. Tribes criticize over
29. Coalition seeks funding
33. Eastern Kingbird genus (sci.)
35. As long as I know
36. Rancher Pleads Guilty:
38. The oldest living thing is a quiet...
41. Lupinus subvexus subvexus
3. Lupinus subvexus subvexus
5. Parks service graz­ing plan (AU)
19. GIC - grazing reduces fuels
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5. Parks service graz­ing plan (AU)

Down
1. Best
2. The Ocean State
3. Lupinus subvexus subvexus
4. Wildlands Project write
large (._. HR62)
5. Parks service graz­ing plan (AU)
6. Light and dark
7. Victoria for short
9. Inhibitors
10. Auditors Denounce
BLM Land Swaps
13. Forest service manager
not preserving Padre
15. State tree of Rhode Island
18. of Wildlife
20. the hillside no more
21. avalanche-lily genus (sci.)
22. Access, grazing among
raised by forest plan
25. Western Watersheds
Project Sues BLM for
Scheme to 47 Square Miles of Nevada Forest
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Recreation / Fitness
Center hours
Monday - Friday: 6 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Saturday: 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Sunday: Noon - 4 p.m.

Library hours at GSU
Monday - Thursday: 8:30 a.m. - 10:30 p.m.
Friday - Saturday: 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sunday: 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.

ACS Lab Hours
Monday-Friday: 8:30 a.m. - 10:30 p.m.
Saturday: 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sunday: 1:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.