Governors State: The Public Square

By Patrick Keis
Staff Writer

Dr. Elaine Maimon recently sat with a group of University Honors Students and discussed the idea of GSU as a public square.

"We are a diverse university and that is a wonderful," said Maimon, as she addressed the group lead by Dr. Levinson.

Instead of just lecturing, Maimon had the group sit in a circle so she could share ideas with everyone. The idea was to let everyone speak their ideas and concerns for GSU as a public square.

GSU is continuing their plan as being the most accessible university that it can be based on the idea that the school will learn from its community as much as its community will learn from it.

Several students voiced their concerns that GSU is still not quite as accessible as it can be. GSU is one of only three universities in the country that is an upper-division school.

This means that only offers classes that are towards your major and requires someone to have completed their general education requirements elsewhere.

Another concern was that people who took the train to school may have trouble walking to campus in the cold weather.

The Metra station is a good half mile away from the school and there is not an adequate pathway for people to walk on during the cold months.

Maimon assured the group that steps had already been taken towards making sure that everyone will have a chance to get to class no matter what mode of transportation.

Maimon also spoke on the idea that GSU offers a wide variety of classes that are requirements for a major.

"A university is a place where we learn in order to improve society," said Maimon.

Different types of classes are required so that students get a more rounded education and not only the classes that focus on emphasis of their major.

Maimon emphasized the real challenge to students is to focus on other things not just classes geared towards their major.

GSU currently offers 22 baccalaureate degrees, 26 graduate degrees and 22 certificate programs.

Javier Chavira, Professor of Art and Gallery Director at Governors State University immediately offered up his support, time, and space in the University Gallery for the event to the students.

"I am really proud of my students for organizing the event and helping such a worthy cause."

With all this, Chavira made a very selfless donation of his own art to the event, along with other generous faculty contributions following from GSU Art Professors Carrie Ohm, Jeff Stevenson, and Arthur Bourgeois.

Other GSU professionals including Professor Larry Levinson, GSU Sculpture Park Director Geoff Bates, and Student Life Director Sara Appel came out and supported the student run charity event by participating in the silent auction, some of whom had winning bids at the end of the evening’s auction.

"I continue to be amazed at the generosity and open hearts of so many," said Vicky Weis, Faye’s Light founder. "I want to thank Patty McWilliams, and everyone involved with this event, for their efforts in helping the Fine Arts Silent Auction be so successful. Faye’s Light is very grateful."

The event raised almost $7,000 for Faye’s Light, a lot shy of the club’s initial goal of $10,000, but the Board members of Faye’s are very grateful to all involved and are faithfully looking forward to another fundraising venture involving the fine arts. They have asked McWilliams and her fellow artists, along with the Art Forum Club to orchestrate a similar event for them next year, on a grander scale.

For more information about Faye’s Light, visit www.fayeslight.org, or phone (708) 431-3643.
GSU to host session for teachers interested in Masters, Type 75 certification

By Steve Schering
Editor

The College of Education will host an information session for certified teachers who are interested in earning a Master of Arts in Educational Administration in a cohort program to begin in the fall of 2008.

The information session about the cohort program will take place March 13 from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. in the Hall of Honors. This session is open to certified teachers in Illinois who have two years of teaching experience.

"Certified teachers interested in getting their Masters Degree and Type 75 certification are encouraged to attend," said Dr. Dor Fitzgerald. "Type 75 grants you principal certification in the State of Illinois."

GSU sponsors Education Career Fair

By Pooja Joshi
Staff Writer

The Office of Career Services at Governors State University is sponsoring a career fair for undergraduate and graduate students in the education programs.

The fair will take place Wednesday March 12 in the Hall of Governors from 2 to 6 p.m.

The fair is aimed at providing "on campus" employment opportunities for students. Potential employers will be on hand from both public and private institutions and will be representing all grade levels.

The expected turnout of employers is around 15-20 schools and universities in and around the Southwest and Northern suburbs of Chicago.

The expected participants would be students who are graduating by April 2008. Students majoring in early childhood education, elementary education, secondary education and special education are encouraged to participate.

The fair is open not only to GSU students but also to the community members and students from other junior colleges and universities.

There is no deadline for students to register and the fair is free to attend. Students that plan on attending the fair are encouraged to dress professionally and bring plenty of resumes.

For any questions, please feel free to call 708-534-3436 or e-mail Dr. Fitzgerald at d-fitzgerald@govst.edu.

Policing plagiarism in a digital age

By Andy Mannix
The Minnesota Daily

(U-WIRE)-When it comes to academic honesty, lifetime health and fitness lecturer Stacy Ingraham has no reservations about labeling herself a drill sergeant.

It's all laid out in her syllabus. But to make her stance clear, she reiterates it on the first day of class and throughout the semester. No baseball hats during tests (to eliminate the possibility of writing answers on the brim), no headphones (to eliminate the possibility of listening to recorded answers), and no cell phones (to eliminate the possibility of copying answers from a text message).

"Academic integrity is everything here, and there's a lot at stake," she said.

But somewhere amid the vast policy section of Ingraham's syllabus is a clause that some students might find surprising.

"Assignments need to be saved on a computer disk (CD, DVD or flash drive) for possible verification of the independence of producing assignment. Assignments will be subjected to computer analysis for duplication. Each student is required to turn in your disk at the end of the term.... Failure to turn in your disk could result in failure of the course."

This computer analysis is a Web site called Turnitin.com - a plagiarism detection tool the University has contracted with since 2001.

During the 2006-2007 academic year, Ingraham was one of 317 University instructors registered with Turnitin.

Ingraham said she became a registered user around 2003, after two-and-a-half years of a "nightmare" of plagiarism in her classes. She was exhausted and needed a helping hand.

"You'd rather put all your energy into teaching than to try to police plagiarism," she said.

Since implementing Turnitin, Ingraham said she's witnessed a drastic improvement in academic honesty.

"It has cut down on the incidents," she said. "I don't know if it's just the fear." Ingraham said she has busted about 20 plagiarizers with Turnitin, and has become such a faithful disciple of the site that she's trying to push the technology to the rest of the biology department.

Particularly with the increasing ease of plagiarizing brought on by the Internet, Ingraham said precautions like Turnitin are becoming more necessary.

"Students have always cheated and always will cheat," she said. "What we need is a stronger system to prevent electronic-based cheating."

However, not everyone is as enthusiastic about Turnitin as Ingraham.

During the past year, iParadigm, Turnitin's parent company, was sued by four high school students in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia, who claimed Turnitin violated their intellectual property rights.

As a result of legal and ethical questions the lawsuit raised, Turnitin is one of the points of focus of a two-week online workshop dealing with academic integrity that the University of Maryland University College began hosting Feb. 25.

University of Minnesota faculty members were invited to participate. Kimberly Bonner, executive director for the UMUC center for intellectual property, said the department chose to address Turnitin in the workshop because of its prominent influence on the academic integrity of a modern education system.

"In the digital environment, I think people have more of a desire - or need - for devices or tools that they can utilize to detect academic dishonesty," she said.

When discussing Turnitin, Bonner said it's necessary to address the legal issues.

See 'Plagiarism' Page 4
Audition

Sunday, March 9th
Sign-in: 9:30am • Audition: 10:00am
Lou Conte Dance Studio
1147 W. Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, IL 60607

Applicants must view an online presentation prior to audition. Visit disneycollegeprogram.com/epresentation.

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Check out our Web site at www.disneycollegeprogram.com/entertainment for further details and an online application.

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Outsourcing hits universities: Students can hire tutors from India

Leisy Hernandez
The Lantern

(U-WIRE) Undergraduate students tackling tough subjects can receive tutoring from overseas for a small fee.

Syed Hussain, a Harvard graduate, said he came up with the idea of starting a Web-based global tutoring company when he had difficulty getting help from affordable tutors. He said tutors charged him $70 to $80 an hour.

"It's not always easy to get in touch with them, as well," Hussain said.

The competition in the products and services category for the 2010 MassChallenge year attracted 154 entries. Tutors are available 24-7.

"It depends on the class," she said.

Goitte is paying a tutor $40 an hour this quarter for help with Math 132. She prefers being able to interact with the tutor in person.

"I can't sit with him, work with him," she said of online tutors. "I don't think I would do that on the Internet."

Matthew Katzfuss, a graduate student in statistics, also said it depends on the subject.

Katzfuss tutors undergraduate students for free in Cockins Hall.

"He didn't issue an opinion," Vaderly said. "All he did was take it off the trial calendar and say he would be issuing an opinion in the future. We have no idea what's going on with it."

Vanderly said depending upon the opinion issued, he might appeal

TURNITIN AT THE 'U'

Before every academic year, instructors at the University receive an e-mail reminding them that Turnitin is an available resource.

Leslie Zenk, assistant to the vice provost and dean of undergraduate education, is in charge of negotiating the University's annual contract with Turnitin.

In her second year with this duty, Zenk said she's heard a range of opinions on the technology from professors, but the University administration remains neutral.

"We neither encourage its use or discourage its use," she said.

Linda Ellinger, assistant vice provost of undergraduate education, negotiated the original contract with Turnitin in 2001.

She said the University made the decision to offer Turnitin in response to a suspicious local climate in the aftermath of a basketball team cheating scandal, as well as global questions about Internet-related plagiarism.

"If there was any one thing, it was the basketball scandal," she said. "Beyond that, it was just the times."

Of the more than 300 University instructors who use Turnitin, Zenk said 100 are "active" users, meaning that their classes submitted four or more papers to it last year.

Zenk said this number has remained consistent since the contract's adoption, despite a drop to 214 total University users during the 2005-06 academic year.

This year, the contract was negotiated at $15,073.75, Zenk said.

In the six years of contracting with Turnitin, Zenk said she is not aware of how the Web site has impacted academic integrity at the University.

"I don't really get the sense that plagiarism is any better or worse than it ever has been," she said.

Ellinger expressed a similar sentiment, suggesting that if the problem of plagiarism at the University is any better now than it was a few years ago, it couldn't be attributed to Turnitin, just as "you don't attribute the building of a house to a hammer."

EDITOR'S NOTE: This article is the first in a two-part series that examines the treatment of plagiarism. Next issue's article focuses on how plagiarism is reported.
To the single life

By Pat Smith
Contributing writer

Being a single parent is a tough road to travel, but the delights I have visited along the way were well worth the trip. When my daughter says she wants me to walk her down the aisle and looks forward to taking trips with me, I glow. My son wants me to live forever and won’t let me give in to the aches and limitations of old age I have begun to experience. I beam. When the kids say some of their best summer times were spent tent-camping with me, since there was no television and they could have all of my attention, I bask in the glow of their love.

It may have taken hard work and long hours to make their lives happy, but when I see how happy, caring and considerate my children have had as good a life as love can make it. It may have taken hard work and long hours to make their lives happy, but when I see how happy, caring and considerate my children have had as good a life as love can make it.

Since relaxers have dominated our culture for so long, many black women are curious about caring for their natural hair. Contrary to what some think, natural hair can be manageable, and easy to care for and style. Because most natural hair is dry, it does need moisture. Using moisturizing conditioners and shampoos will work just as effectively on natural hair as it does on relaxed or colored treated hair. You should also use a leave in moisturizer, which can compliment and provide sheen for the hair. Don’t forget to keep the ends of the hair clipped, this will guard against split and brittle ends. Yes, natural hair can have split ends too.

If you are color treating your natural hair, be sure to keep it moisturized and follow the manufacturer’s directions to keep the color looking its best.

A lot of natural-haired women wonder about straightening their hair and whether or not they can style the hair natural to straight and vice versa. If you want your wave or curl pattern to stay as it is then “pressing” or straightening is not a very good idea. Too much straightening can cause the hair to become permanently straight. This is not good if you like your natural look.

African-American women are having so much fun with this sweeping refreshment of style. More and more women are converting from permanently straight (relaxers) to permanently natural. So come on, join the fun, and remember if you try it and don’t like it, relaxers will be here for a long while.

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Women’s History: African-American Style

By Lynn Johnson
Contributing writer

It’s curly, it’s kinky, it’s twisty, it’s locked, it’s combed twist, it’s twisted, it’s roller wrapped, it’s a short afro, a long afro, it’s bold, it’s gold, it’s brown, it’s black, it’s silver, it’s braids, it’s flexible, it’s vibrant, it’s straight, it’s long, and everything in between. Yes, it’s natural afrocentric hair and it’s back with a vengeance!

Afrocentric natural waves and curls are taking the hair industry by storm, and there is a great appreciation for what was once unappreciated. African-American women are styling and profiling their hair magnificently. Everyone can see and realize the versatility and style shown off by black women, in the styling of African-American-natural hair.

We’ve come a long way since the 1960’s and 70’s. Today’s pop culture has turned what was once thought of only as afros and afro puffs into a phenomenon event envied by many. Sisters love it, brothers love it, and people of other ethnic backgrounds are mimicking it.

Of course, there are some who have always realized the beauty and elegance our hair has exhibited for decades. And, to you we tip our hats and applaud the originality you have sustained waiting for us to catch up. Well, we’ve caught up, and taking it to commercials, runways, corporations, universities and the like. You name it; we are doing it!
ENJOY OUR FASHION SHOW.
LEARN HOW TO DRESS FOR SUCCESS FROM OUR BUSINESS SAVVY FASHION SPONSORS.
- Tuesday, April 1, 4 to 6 p.m.
- The Center for Performing Arts

Enter the drawing to win prizes and fashion goodies.
Event and drawing open to students and community.

For information, call 708.235.3974

Make the best impression,
learn proper table manners for a business lunch or formal dinner
The Office of Career Services presents Dinner Etiquette Training

Enjoy a full dinner and learn the dos and don'ts of dining from GSU's own "Miss Manners."

Wednesday, March 19
4 to 6 p.m.
Cafeteria Annex

Limited seating
Pre-registration required at the Welcome Center or the Office of Career Services (A1120)
Students: $5. With registration for additional Career Service services only $2.

More information: 708.235.3974
A brief chat with...

1. What brought you to GSU?
I was drawn to GSU's history and mission; the dynamic new President; the terrific Provost Search Committee members; and I really liked the faculty and staff I met.

2. What is your favorite color?
Since I am an artist this is a tough question. Some of my favorites are: creamy white, blue-grey, black-watch plaid, blue and green, and watery celadon green.

3. What is your favorite food?
Indian, Thai, and Chinese cuisines; lobster; peanut butter and jelly sandwiches; ice cream; and almost anything my husband cooks for me.

4. What is your favorite TV show?
I do not watch much TV, but sometimes I watch PBS programs, Mad Money with Jim Cramer, and some news broadcasts.

5. What's it like to leave Georgia to come to Chicago?
Since I am from the Midwest, it feels like coming home.

6. What is one thing you have always wanted to do?
It is hard to limit it to just one thing, but top of the list today would be visiting Myanmar (Burma).

7. What was your favorite toy as a child?
A box of old wooden thread spools. I would use them to build a variety of sculptures.

8. Do you have any pets?
Yes, a black lab dog and a calico cat.

9. Last big purchase you made?
Our house.

10. What is your ideal evening?
Anything involving family, friends, good food and a crackling fire.

11. Sleep in or early riser?
Both.

12. If there is one person you want to meet, who is it and why?
I would like to have met Leonardo da Vinci.

13. What is your pet peeve?
Tardiness.

14. What is your favorite movie?
I don't have a favorite, but generally I like films based on Jane Austen novels, human interest stories, and mysteries.

15. Do you have a family heirloom?
Yes, many. My favorites are an 1810 cherry cupboard and family tin-type images.

16. What is your favorite part of the day?
Evenings.

17. Do you have any hobbies?
Yes, I like antiquing, reading, walking, international travel, music, and making things.

18. Where would you like to retire?
Here.

19. Would you say you are a pessimist or optimist?
Optimist.

20. What are the three words that best describe you?
Leader, creative, and people-oriented.

21. Who are your role models?
My mother and my eight grandmothers and my distant cousin George Washington Carver.

22. Last book you read?
My father recycled over to me Dan Brown's, Angles and Demons. I read about 5-6 books a week.

23. Chicago Tribune or Sun Times?
Both.

24. Thoughts on our recent snow-storm?
It was a beautiful wonderland while looking out the window!

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

ACROSS
1. Vault
5. To and
8. Feeling reverence and wonder
12. Press laundry
13. Ascend
15. French Sudan
16. Goddess of the moon (Roman Mythology)
17. Vampire
18. Backside
19. Food preparation nook
22. Drench
23. Earl Grey or orange pekoe, for example
24. Concept
25. Anagram of a glossy smooth fabric
27. Enemy
28. Judge tentatively
29. Place
30. Stories
31. Not amateur
32. Respond
33. Consumer Price Index
34. The sum
35. Guided
36. Gentle blows
37. Seats oneself
39. Cuddle
40. The founder of a family
41. Egg-shaped
42. Valley
43. Ostrich
44. Not false
45. Finish
46. Land
47. Temporary canvas dwellings
48. Compulsory force
49. Make furious
50. Small island
51. Pistol
52. Fast plane
53. Sea eagle
54. Imperiling
55. Squirrel's nest
56. Assistant
57. Temporary canvas dwellings
58. Pelvic bones
59. Where birds live
60. Obtains
61. A Great Lake
62. Anagram of "Wee"
63. Court case
64. Downwind
65. Frozen flakes
66. A type of marsh plant

DOWN
1. A glossy smooth fabric
2. Wild African sheep
3. Typeface
4. Decrees
5. Fruit tart
6. Frost
7. Leave out
8. American Medical Association
9. Guarantors
10. Otherwise
11. Weight-loss program
12. Scorched
13. A method of dyeing cloth
14. Inheritor
15. Assemble or modify written material
16. Anagram of "Ones"
17. Depart
18. Enemy
19. Judge tentatively
20. Place
21. Story
22. Judge tentatively
23. Not amateur
24. Consumer Price Index
25. Guided
26. Not winning
27. Enemy
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Recreation / Fitness
Library hours at GSU
Center hours
Monday - Friday: 6 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Saturday: 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Sunday: Noon - 4 p.m.
ACS Lab Hours
Monday – Friday: 8:30 a.m. – 10:30 p.m.
Saturday: 8:30 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Sunday: 1:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.