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## Inscapes, 1988-10-20

Office of University Relations

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**GSU Gets Pleasantries from O'Rourke...**For Brendan O'Rourke (PPO), there's nothing commonplace about his job "because each day when I walk through the door, I never know what I might end up doing."

One of his specialties is taking care of people in distress—especially those who've lost their keys, left them at home or locked them into desks, lockers and cars. O'Rourke is being given recognition as the October "Employee of the Month" for this special attention he gives staff and students.

O'Rourke said he has no special training as a locksmith. "It's just something I picked up. It's not hard. It's mostly making keys."



**Brendan O'Rourke**

But making keys isn't the half of it, **Ila Kline** (PPO) said in her nomination of O'Rourke. "Brendan is called to duty for all sorts of problems with keys. You can always count on Brendan's expertise," she said.

**Jill Stanley** (UL) cited just such a case of O'Rourke's cooperation in her nomination. "A good example of his efforts happened just this morning. One of the reference librarians inadvertently put the only key to the reference desk in her pocket after working last night, and due to illness, won't be in the office today. In response to my call to the PPO office, Brendan was here with a copy of the key within 10 minutes!"

"This is not the first time that Brendan has responded to our emergencies. When desk locks jam, people forget their keys or if we have any type of lock-related problem, Brendan consistently comes through for us quickly and cheerfully," Stanley added.

Another of his job specialties is making signs. He's got a great eye for that work, Kline said, giving suggestions on how a sign should look and what size is best. "What a surprise it would be," she said in her nomination, "if Brendan was told to make a nameplate for himself as 'Employee of the Month.'"

O'Rourke's job classification is operating engineer which puts him on the crew that operates the pumps, the fans and the heating and air conditioning units. "We try to keep the place running smoothly," he said. As a 14-year employee, O'Rourke has come to know the building by heart.

"I get a charge out of coming to work. The people here are so friendly, and I don't mean just the staff. You can always have a good laugh and a joke with anyone here."

Maybe that's because of O'Rourke's friendly Irish disposition. The Orland Park resident, who's proud of his Irish-Catholic heritage, has been to Ireland many times, in part to visit with family. His wife, **Mary**, is originally from Ireland. They have three children.

**Congratulations to Veterans of Innovation...**Employees who celebrate their anniversaries of employment in October are: 1971—**Michael Lewis** (CE), **Barbara Mucklow** (UL), **Phil Orawiec** (DPS), **Lucille Poroli** (PERS), **Vivian Martin** (BOG). 1972—**Joyce Gordon** (BO), **Stanley Ferry** (PPO), **Ila Kline** (PPO), **Ana Kong** (CAS), **Jon Mendelson** (CAS). 1973—**Susanne Hildebrand** (CHP), **Matthew Poroli** (PPO), **Debra Conway** (SL). 1974—**Lee Collins** (DPS), **Susan Morriss** (A&P), **Jean Brubaker** (UL), **Jay Lubinsky** (CHP), **Chris Tolbertt** (BO), **Sharon Browne** (ICC), **Suzanne Oliver** (ICC), **Michael Stelnicki** (CAS). 1975—**David Matteson** (CE), **Diane Cole** (REG). 1976—**Quemolia Owens** (UL). 1977—**Paul Schwellenbach** (BO/MR), **Annie Lawrence** (CHP). 1978—**Lucille Kerr** (UL). 1979—**Lonn Wolf** (CE). 1980—**Margaret Donohue** (OCW). 1981—**Robert White** (ICC), **Leone Middleton** (ICC). 1982—**John Oliver** (PPO), **David Sparks** (CLA).

**A Bake Sale "Thank You"...****Margo Ellman** (ASR) would like to thank everyone who contributed to the bake sale. According to Margo, this trimester's bake sale was a complete success.

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Governors State University  
**Inscapes**



**SUAA Monitors Retirement Funding...** When you retire from the university, you accept the best wishes of colleagues, and you expect the security of a check each month from the state of Illinois. But what you get in that check is dependent on what the Illinois Legislature appropriates and what legislators have outlined in state law, according to **Helen Hughes**, president-elect of the newly organized **GSU chapter** of State Universities Annuitants Association (SUAA).

Helen's working with the team of **Tom Deem**, president; **Adlean Harris**, membership; **Bonnie Ahlberg**, treasurer and **Ardis Pribyl**, secretary. Current employees, as well as those already retired, will reap the benefits of their lobbying efforts for changes and full-funding of the state university pension plan.

One of the first items on the group's agenda is working for a change in the law that limits the cost-of-living benefit. Helen said it is currently paid out at a rate of three percent for the year you retire. What SUAA wants is for the three percent to be paid as a cumulative amount. "We're petitioning the legislature to adjust the language of the law so that the three-percent payout is compounded," she explained.

SUAA is also very concerned with the repeated underfunding of the state's pension plans. For several years now, the state has failed to fund the retirement systems fund at 100 percent. SUAA believes the consequences could be grave for future retirees who may find the fund doesn't have enough money to cover their benefits.

A State Retirement Systems report to GSU, although not current, reiterates the problem. According to the report: "The Governor has used his amendatory veto to reduce the FY88 appropriation for the State Universities Retirement System to \$70.7 million, or 47 percent of estimated payout. The FY87 appropriation was \$81.4 million.

"This 13 percent reduction in the retirement system appropriation compares to a 4 percent reduction for other state agencies. The FY88 appropriation, as a percentage of payout, is the lowest in the history of the retirement system.

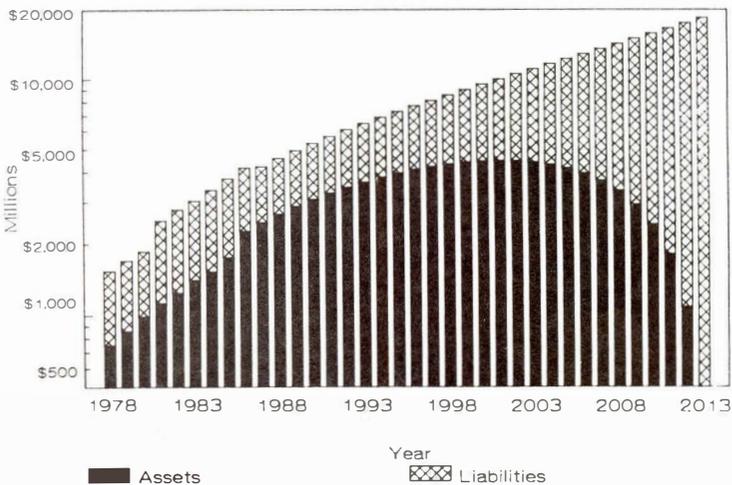
"A reduction in the appropriation to the retirement system does not reduce the cost to the state. A liability is created for the retirement system when an employee is paid salary. Currently, that liability is equal to 7.6 percent of earnings. When the state does not meet this liability at the time the employee receives a paycheck, the unfunded liability is increased and a loan is created that must be met by future taxpayers. This is a loan to meet a current operating expense. Thus, the state is not operating with a balanced budget.

"The state's supposed to pay now for benefits of the future. Instead, we're getting only 46 percent for benefits we're paying out now," **Jim Beedie**, of SUAA's Springfield office, said. "The remaining 54 percent we need for retirement benefits now is coming from our investments.

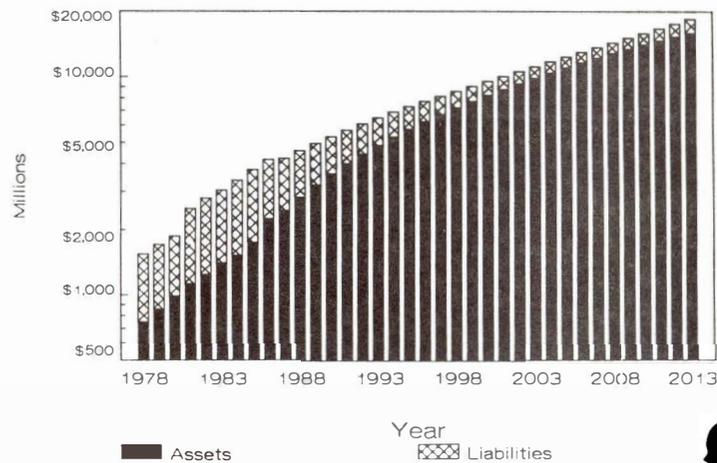
SUAA will also work for improved health benefits, including a basic health plan for community college annuitants, who share membership with state universities' employees.

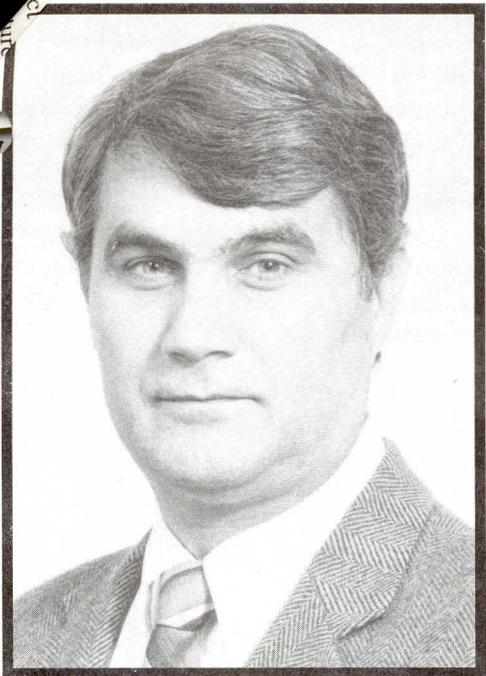
The GSU chapter of SUAA will conduct its fall meeting at 4:30 p.m., Nov. 4 in Engbretson Hall. All are welcome to hear **David Wiant**, state president of SUAA, discuss "Influencing Springfield." **Tom Deem** will give his report, and Helen Hughes will give a perspective from the Soviet Union as a result of her travels this spring in the USSR.

Projected Trend of Assets & Liabilities  
Current State Funding Practice



Projected Trend of Assets & Liabilities  
Required Funding





**Gerald Baysore**

**Associate Vice President, Academic Affairs  
1939-1988**

*Jerry Baysore, simply, was the best man I've ever known.*

**David Curtis, Provost**

*Jerry was someone you could always talk to.*

**Lynn Hostetter (A&P)**

*Jerry was the one guy who never had an enemy.*

**Virginio Piucci (A&P)**

*He was just a down to earth, sincere guy who always had a cheery hello.*

**Betty Leving (CE)**

*He spoke to everybody in the university, not just specific people. He was a genuinely kind person.*

**Joyce Gordon (BO)**

*When everyone was gone, Jerry was there working. He brought integrity, common sense and dedication to his profession and the university.*

**President Leo Goodman-Malamuth II**

*The catalog process involves a lot of pressures and time lines. Even though Jerry was under that pressure, he always stayed relaxed and didn't pass that pressure on. We always appreciated that.*

**Gary Fisk (ICC)**

*For 15 years, if something of quality came out of the third floor, you would be assured that Jerry was associated with it. He had a strong commitment to quality education which he exhibited often in his relations with the University Curriculum Committee. Jerry was, very simply, the nicest colleague on campus.*

**Brian Malec (CHP)**

*You knew you could count on Jerry. He was fair minded and reasonable. He was one of the administrators you knew was always there working hard for you.*

**Harriet Gross (CAS)**

*I can remember Jerry from my work on the Academic Program Review Committee. There are always differing opinions as members try and get their position approved. Jerry always took a positive attitude to getting the problem solved.*

**Otis Lawrence (CEEL)**

*I will miss Jerry's quick smile, his soft voice and unassuming nature. My respect for him will never end. I know that GSU is a better place because of him.*

**Mary Lou Tomaszewski (CBPA)**

**Two Types of Fellowships Available for Minorities...**The National Research Council plans to award approximately 25 Ford Foundation Postdoctoral Fellowships for Minorities in a program designed to provide opportunities for continued education and experience in research for native American Indians and Alaskan natives (Eskimo or Aleut), black Americans, Mexican Americans/Chicanos, native Pacific Islanders (Micronesian or Polynesian) and Puerto Ricans. Fellows will be selected from among scientists, engineers and scholars in the humanities who show greatest promise of future achievement in academic research and scholarship in higher education. Citizens of the United States who are members of one of the designated minority groups, preparing for or already engaged in college or university teaching and having the Ph.D. or Sc.D. degree, may apply for a fellowship award of one year's duration. The deadline for submission of applications is Jan. 13, 1989.

Also, approximately 55 Predoctoral Fellowships and 20 Dissertation Fellowships are to be awarded in a national competition sponsored by the Ford Foundation and administered by the National Research Council. Applicants must be United States citizens or nationals who are members of one of the minorities listed above. Application deadline is Nov. 14, 1988. More information can be obtained by calling Janice Schultz in the President's Office.

**UA/AR Prepare for Wagner House Reception...**In the next few months, members of the GSU community will receive an invitation to a reception at Wagner House. The staff at Wagner House, **Bill Dodd, Ginni Burghardt, Elaine Sherman and Katie Ball** want to assure everyone that they are still working for Governors State University. "Separation, it seems, can be traumatic," said Dodd. There have, in fact, been several recent unconfirmed reports of GSUers picking up their phones only to hear 'Wagner House calling earth. Wagner House calling earth! Come in earth!' Failure by GSU staff to respond positively to the above-mentioned invitations may lead, then, only to more severe symptoms of solipsism\* from the residents of Wagner House."

\**Solipsism*. The theory that nothing exists or is real but the self. Websters Dictionary, Second College Edition.

**Wagner House Dedication Oct. 18...****Percy Wagner**, the man who helped the state acquire land for the university, was honored at the dedication of Wagner House on Oct. 18. Wagner's contributions to GSU have been not only in his work for the university, but his support as well. Wagner gave a \$25,000 gift to the GSU Foundation for renovation of Krabbe House, now occupied by the foundation and alumni association staff. Wagner, now 94, was still active in real estate at the time the Illinois Legislature agreed to organize a new state university and locate it in Chicago's south suburbs.

**Staff Directory Update...**Please make the following changes in your staff directory...

Rajamma Nair (ASR) Data Entry Op. II Ext. 2518	Terry Rickhoff (UL) Library Clerk III Ext. 2327	Barbara Stapleton (UL) Library Tech. Assist. Ext. 2218
Brian Nowitzki (ACS) Man. Analyst Prog. II Ext. 2107	Margaret Gessner Library Clerk III Ext. 2327	Brenda Hatcher (A&P) Secretary IV, Trans. Ext. 2346
Tymeco Taylor (FA) Financial Aid Adv. III Ext. 2161	Doreen Shelton (CE) Secretary III, Trans. Ext. 2154	Edward Farmer (PPO) Building Serv. Worker Ext. 2181

Catherine Esquivel (SPCE), Research Associate, Ext. 2346

Delete Linda Heiser's name from your directory.

**GSUings...****John Ostenburg** (UR) being appointed to the Illinois Council of Economic Advisors, which is an advisory body to the Washington-based Institute for Illinois...**Dr. Sonya Monroe** (CHP) moderating a national videoconference held at GSU in September, titled "Experience of Grief" which involved participants by satellite from institutions around the country, as well as a local audience of professionals and volunteers providing services for persons experiencing grief...**Drs. Annie L. Lawrence and Mary Geis** (both of CHP) being awarded a grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services through the Great Lakes Geriatrics Education Center to sponsor a workshop on "Health Promotion Strategies for Older Adults." Dr. Lawrence is on the Advisory Council of the Great Lakes Geriatric Education Center, and both professors completed the Faculty Development course in geriatrics sponsored by the center...**Professor Maria Connolly** (CHP) being awarded the Eight and Forty Scholarship that is granted by the subsidiary of the American Legion Auxiliary. This scholarship is awarded to a nurse educator in doctoral education whose clinical research focuses on the prevention and treatment of lung and respiratory disease. Connolly is studying problems associated with ventilator patients at Rush University...**Professor Connie Edwards** (CHP) being promoted to the rank of colonel in the U.S. Army...**Dr. Aida Shekib** (CBPA) being elected president of the Calumet Chapter of the National Association of Accountants (NAA)...**Adjunct Professor J. Harvey Hensley** (CAS) participating in the first International Astronomical Union Colloquium on the teaching of astronomy at Williams College in Williamstown, Mass.

**Credit Union on Campus...****Carol Pilon** from the Will County Credit Union will be on campus, Wednesday, November 9, from 10 a.m. till 2 p.m. in Room D1702, Faculty Lounge. Please feel free to stop by; she will have Christmas club gifts, loan applications and payroll deduction forms. Carol is looking forward to meeting all current and prospective members. Come by and learn all you need and wanted to know about Will County Credit Union.