Reintegrative Justice Student Symposium, a chance of a lifetime

By Brenda Torres
Online Editor

On March 9, 2015, the Generating Hope Support Network, from the Social Work program held the Reintegrative Justice Student Symposium, at Engbretson Hall. Generating Hope is a support group that was formed by the Social Work Student Organization (SWSO).

The event's purpose was to raise awareness of the checkmark box added on the GSU admission application. In the fall, GSU added the box for students to check it if they have been convicted of a felony.

Dr. Lori Glass, a faculty member from Social Work Program, gave the welcoming and introductions to the event. She stated that the symposium was being held during Social Work Month, "The theme for social work month is 'social work paves the way for change', “

After the introduction, a small performance took place. A song, Walking Shoes by Mali Music was played. Based on the lyrics, the song was about empowerment. During the first two minutes of the song the audience sat and listened. Then for the last two minutes, students from Generating Hope stood up and walked in a circle around the audience. When the song finished playing, they remained standing and stated how education had changed their lives.

Later on, Dr. Glass also introduced Dr. Phyllis West and Dr. Ellen Walsh, who are advisors of Generating Hope as well.

A BSW student Jerry Davis, introduced the keynote speaker, Dr. Kirk Anthony James from the state of New York, Columbia University, School of Social Work.

Dr. James presented on mass incarceration and transforming education. His presentation was based on the history, statistics, consequences, healthcare, and democracy of incarceration. The second part of his presentation was his story of being incarcerated. He stated, “I can tell you the box doesn’t work. I can roll out in critical data to tell you why the box doesn’t work. I don’t want to do that, I want to utilize myself.”

“On April 13, 1994 I got arrested, and [had] never been in trouble before. I was in college studying criminal justice. I wanted to be lawyer, and my life changed in a blink of an eye,” said Dr. James.

Moreover, Dr. James stated that prison is a very isolated, a very lonely place. “It is essentially the darkest place you will ever see. I often tell people that I wouldn’t wish prison on my worst enemy.”

Continued on p. 6

Gender Matters Conference coming mid-April

By Kyle H. Horn
Editor in Chief

On April 17 and 18, GSU will host the 5th annual Gender Matters Conference. Gender Matters started as an academic conference, but has grown to include speakers from all over the world and across the U.S. During the conference, sessions will examine the worlds of gender, sexuality, transgender, safe sex, and how gender/sexuality play into home and school environments.

Registration for the conference costs $40 and can be paid at the door.

This year, the conference will focus on family life, exploring fatherhood, womanhood, body and identity, women in the workforce and more.

“I would like for you to look at the similarities and not so much the differences between the genders and the gender preferences. I would like for my students to be able to dismiss the stereotypes they’ve heard and to see a new application that they can use in their own construction of their own identity as it pertains to other genders and other gender preferences,” said Tammara Winn, the professor of the conference workshop and member of the conference planning committee.

The first conference in 2011 had 131 participants and has more than doubled just last year. When asked in an interview what he hoped participants take away from the conference, professor Jason Zingsheim, the original chairman of the conference and current planning committee member, responded with “a better understanding of how incredibly complex and contradictory gender and sexuality are.” He went on to explain that participants will be exposed to wide variety of research from many different disciplines and that the concepts of gender and sexuality are far more complex than what the general populace thinks.
Shot in the dark: the anti-vaccination crusade

By Brian Bock
Associate Editor

There’s a virus infecting the minds of new parents across the country. This virus doesn’t attack the physical body; it wages a campaign against public health and utilizes fear and misinformation as its weapon of choice. This new epidemic is the anti-vaccination movement.

Since the appearance of the now discredited 1998 paper by Andrew Wakefield in the medical publication The Lancet, parents have been concerned about the link between the MMR vaccine and the developmental condition autism.

Wakefield’s science was flawed, as his research was skewed in order to validate his hypothesis. Though his information has been fully retracted, the anti-vaccination agenda is still in fighting form.

It’s easy to tell the movement is gaining ground; one just has to look at the recent measles outbreak out of California. The outbreak was able to spread to Chicago, where over ten cases of measles were confirmed.

In the era of mass transit and air travel, public health must be a priority as the mechanisms that lead to a full-blown epidemic, such as close contact, are more prevalent in our populous society.

Of the measles cases in Cook County, over 90 percent of the patients were children who were too young to be vaccinated. These children paid a very real price for the unfounded paranoia of adults. Protecting one’s child will always be at the forefront of parents' minds, but it should never come at a price for another parent’s child.

Lookout Graduates!

You can submit a personal classified announcement to be published in The Phoenix April 22 issue.

These can be personal ads of congratulations, well wishes, and goodbyes to your friends and peers.

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The Experience Hub is changing to Jobs for Jaguars!

Governors State University students/alumni will be able to explore jobs and internships, RSVP for Career Events, and share your resume with employers recruiting at our school. The look has changed but your log in remains the same!
Dr. Ellen Walsh

Interview by Brenda Torres

Online Editor

The professor profile for this Issue is Dr. Ellen Walsh, the Humanities and Social Sciences Division of Arts and Sciences.

Phoenix: How long have you been in the field of education?

Walsh: I got my PhD relatively recently, in 2008, because, like many GSU students, I took a non-traditional route. I didn’t get my bachelor’s degree until later in life. I started teaching in graduate school and have been teaching for about a dozen years at the college level. Before that, I had been involved with teaching in other ways. I used to tutor children of migrant workers in western Massachusetts. They were High School students, Vietnamese and, Puerto Rican students. I worked in Boston with adults who had dropped out of high school and were getting their GED. I also taught English as a second language, when I first went back to school at a community college and, while in grad school in Pittsburgh, volunteered with a literacy project teaching adults to read.

Phoenix: Was teaching your first choice?

Walsh: No. Because most of my life I’ve worked outside of academia. I went to college for the first time straight out of high school, but that didn’t work for me. I found too many things that were more interesting to do than studying, including being involved in different political movements, the women’s liberation movement, anti-war movement. I left school and waitedress for quite a while and worked for a restaurant workers union. A union offered me a full-time organizing job. That was a big turning point for me to make a decision. I decided instead to get out of waitressing all together, so that’s when I went in a very different direction, into Latin American construction trades and woodworking. I worked as a laborer for a marine construction outfit, meaning that we were working in the seaport area, where we build boats. This was fabulous work, very liberating compared to waitressing— until that first winter outside. I had to go on the icy bridge to work. I still wanted to stay with that kind of work, but inside, so I worked as a custom woodworker for quite a while. Until I decided to go back to school for two reasons. One, some of the physical effects of that manual labor, in particular the chemicals used in finishing furniture, were making me sick. Also I needed more intellectual stimulation. I decided to go back to school and, like many GSU students, I was working full time. I was taking one course at a time at community college, two courses at a time. Then I realized it would take me forever to finish, so I made the decision to go to school full time and cut my work to part time and then cut my wage work out altogether except for work-study. When I went back, I wanted to study educational administration, because I was involved with the school board in the town where I lived. We made a lot decisions strictly on the basis of

financing, at the time when the state was cutting back funding. I’m afraid we are entering a similar period with our new governor, who will be making big cuts in education. My niece, who lived with me, went to the local high school, so, I knew what those cuts meant in the classroom. Thought if I went to school and learned more about educational policy that I could help find a better way to fund public schools. Then I sat in my first policy course and said “I don’t want to do this.” In the meantime, I had been taking Latin American study courses, because I love Latin America. Even though I wasn’t in school, I always did lots of reading on my own. I had been involved with solidarity groups working to stop our government’s aid to military dictatorships, in Central America because I didn’t want my tax dollars to go to killing people in El Salvador, who were fighting for basic human rights, living wages and land. Most of the traveling I’ve done outside of the country has been to Latin America, to Mexico, Guatemala, Peru, Ecuador. So when I went back to school I thought I’d take Latin American courses to feed my soul, which I think is really important. I encourage students at GSU to take some courses that interest you, even if they’re outside your major. So I decided to get an interdisciplinary major in Latin American Studies. I was enjoying teaching as a grad student and loved history, so I decided that I would go on for the PhD. to teach at the college level.

Phoenix: You majored in Latin American Studies. What got you interested in that?

Walsh: You know it’s really funny. I was interested in Latin America before I started doing the political work in solidarity with the people in El Salvador, Guatemala, and Nicaragua. I can’t really explain what drew me to do it, except that I have always been a reader and a lot about Latin America, Latin American literature and I liked it. After I dropped out of college on my first attempt, some friends and I traveled to Mexico, which really stirred my interest. After that, I started reading more about Peru and the Andes and said “the next trip I want to make, I want to go there.” I continued to read, do political work and educate myself about the history of the US -Latin American relations in order to understand how our legislature was funding murderers.

I then made this my profession, I feel really lucky that I have been able to both study and teach something that I love and to get a job doing that.

Phoenix: What courses do you teach at the university?

Walsh: Teach a variety of classes here at the university, including world history. I’m teaching three sections of that with the first year students this year. I have taught a sociology course that looks at how race, class, and gender shape our lives. I’ve taught social science methods courses, looking at ways to approach research. I’ve taught colonial Latin America and modern Latin America, which I will teach again next year. And introduction to Gender and Sexuality, I taught last year for the first time and will be teaching again in the fall. I’m going to be teaching a history capstone course next year too, where people will be working on their thesis or their internship. I’ve incorporated a lot of service learning into the world history course, which I completely redesigned, based on experiences that other faculty had with the first years in the classroom. The Social Work Student Organization had started another group, Project Salone, to raise funds and medical supplies to help the fight against Ebola in Sierra Leone. Salone is the local slang for Sierra Leone. I thought that was a great project and I hoped that the first year students would learn from and enjoy service learning and also to get the know the organizations on campus, if I could incorporate that in the course. So I redesigned the course and organized it thematically, looking at epidemic diseases throughout history.

Phoenix: You’re affiliated with the Gender Matters Conference here at GSU. Can you tell me about the conference?

Walsh: It’s an interdisciplinary conference, which means that scholars from all academic disciplines can present at it. This is the 5th conference. Jason Zingsheim from Communications & Gender & Sexuality Studies was in charge of it for the first four years and did a fabulous job. This year I’m coordinating it. We have accepted papers from historians, from literature scholars, psychologists, from sociologists, theater and performance people. It brings together different and approaches, transgressing disciplinary borders to examine gender from multiple perspectives. There were about 150 participants last year. We’re expecting about that same number this year. Many people coming from the Midwest, but we have people coming from outside the country, though the majority local. Many IDSS students will participate as part of a course on gender. Some of Dr. Blount’s psychology students are presenting posters at the conference. The Theater and Performance Studies Program is doing a play, “Kimberly Akimbo.” And we’re also having a feature performer David Hanley Tejeda, from Bloomburg University, doing both a performance and workshops. His performance deals with identity, about having a Latino and non-Latino parent, and the differences between being Latino in the Midwest and California. He performs on April 17th and that is free to the public, thanks to the generosity of an Intellectual Life Grant from the library. The conference takes place on April 17th and 18th. We welcome people to come. Students who want to volunteer have just half a day and then attend the rest of the conference free. If interested, they should contact me at ewalsh@gsu.edu. For the first time, student clubs (ALAS and SWSSO) are providing food. This helps us, because they’ll provide good food and helps them raise money and their profile.

Phoenix: What is your favorite part about teaching?

Walsh: That’s a tough question, because there’s so much I enjoy about it. I love it when I can see students “get” something in a deep way, when they grasp a concept or understand how or why something happened. I enjoy it when students both feel and understand how someone from another time and place thought about and acted on something they experienced. I like seeing students get engaged in a debate in a way that pushes them to stretch their thinking, to meaningfully consider the implications of what they saw or did more deeply to understand the implications and complexities of an argument. I like watching students stretch their thinking to better understand the contexts of another time & place.

Phoenix: What does GSU mean to you?

Walsh: It’s an interdisciplinary community, where people support each other, where people can work at translate their professional experience, their personal experiences, to the classroom to better understand their own world and why history matters.

Dr. Ellie Walsh, Photo courtesy of Brenda Torres
Verdict on Chris Kyle “American Sniper” murder case

Eddie Ray Routh found guilty of the murder of Chris Kyle. Photo Courtesy of the Chicago Tribune

By Bob Meyers

Bob Meyers
Staff Writer

On February 2, 2013, Chris Kyle, the now-famous Navy SEAL veteran and sniper, was killed along with his friend Chad Littlefield at a shooting range in Erath County, Texas called Rough Creek Ranch Lodge Resort.

Another friend, former U.S. Marine Eddie Ray Routh, allegedly was the killer.

According to the BBC, Routh was a diagnosed schizophrenic who was suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder after having been in Haiti during the Haiti earthquake relief effort and Iraq during the Iraq War.

According to the Warfighter Foundation, Routh never saw combat. According to the Washington Post, Dan Lamothe, Routh’s mother, Jodi, had asked Kyle to assist her son through the journey of coping with PTSD.

Chris Kyle and Chad Littlefield were shot 90 minutes after arriving at the shooting range.

On February 11, 2015, just after over two years since the actual murders, the “American Sniper” trial began. The Clint Eastwood film of the same name that was based on Kyle’s autobiography was released to limited theaters Christmas Day 2014 and worldwide on January 11.

Routh pled not guilty by reason of insanity. His lawyers have tried to get the location of the trial moved due to the release of the film. Additionally, they tried to prove that Routh was not in the right state of mind at the time of the crime.

Jurors rejected the defense and, on February 24, Routh was found guilty of the murders of Kyle and Littlefield. He was immediately sentenced to life in prison with the possibility of parole, according to NPR.

There is a Rabbinic requirement that four cups of wine are to be drunk during the seder meal. This applies to both men and women.

The Passover tradition

Matzo Crackers. Photo courtesy of wikimedia.com

Orbis

Fighting for Consumers’ Rights: Net Neutrality
by William Wright

After almost a year of public debate, in which Internet Service Providers such as Comcast, AT&T and Verizon faced off in battle with tech giants like Google, Apple, Microsoft, Netflix and Facebook, the Federal Communications Commission passed new Net Neutrality Rules on February 26.

The new rules will go into effect 60 days after the draft of the regulations is published in the Federal Register. That publication may be delayed because the FCC must also publish dissenting opinions from two Republican members. The FCC says the new rules are designed to ensure the internet will stay as it is now: a free and open platform upon which all information is equal, and both users and businesses have unlimited access to everything the internet has to offer.

The biggest change is that broadband will be reclassified as a regulated public utility. It is likely that this change will face legal challenge by internet service providers, as happened the last time the FCC tried to regulate the providers in 2010.

The other new rules are designed to ban internet providers from implementing proposed changes to their service, such as data caps (in which ineligible home internet service would be restricted to a certain amount of data, and would have to pay extra for any data used over that point), restricting access to information behind paywalls (in which, for example, individuals would have to pay extra every month to be able to access Facebook and Twitter on top of their monthly internet bill), and tiered internet service (a measure which would affect both businesses and individuals, an idea which has been put into practice recently when Comcast artificially slowed down user’s access to Netflix until Netflix paid extra for faster service).

Without the new rules, the internet could be more like cable TV. Instead of paying just for access, individuals might pay for access, the quality of that access, and type of content they receive. In addition to the monetary and service quality issues this brings about, many have voiced concern over giving ISPs the power to control the content their customers see.

However, lawmakers were quick to fight back, with Rep. Maria Blackburn (R-TN) filing the “Internet Freedom Act” within a week of the FCC’s ruling, co-signed by 31 of her Republican colleagues. The bill would essentially nullify the FCC ruling in the eyes of the law, and prohibit the FCC from issuing another ruling on the issue of Net Neutrality.

Media outlets were quick to point out that Rep. Blackburn’s election campaign received $80,000 from ISPs. Her bill is likely to be difficult to pass through Congress, with the public support overwhelmingly in favor of Net Neutrality. If the bill does pass, it is almost certain President Obama would veto it, in light of his public statement in support of Net Neutrality.

One of the main fears was that if the FCC failed to pass the Net Neutrality Rules those Americans with just one internet service provider in their area would be left with either sub-par service or no service at all.

Opponents to the FCC ruling argue that the free market should be allowed to determine who pays for what service. They argue, for example, that a medical imaging service should have the right to pay for expedited service.

The passing of the Net Neutrality Rules could have an impact on another major ruling that is looming for the FCC – the potential $45 billion merger between Comcast and Time Warner Cable. The proposed merger would give the two companies a total share of 50% of the U.S. internet market.

A Reuters poll found that the majority of Americans oppose the merger, and 74% believe it would result in higher internet and cable prices for everyone due to reduced competition in the market.

Each cup is connected to a different part of the seder: the first cup is for Kiddush, the second cup is connected with the recounting of the Exodus, the drinking of the third cup concludes Birkat Hamazon and the fourth cup is associated with Hallah, according to reformjudaism.org.

The Seder lasts for one night in Israel and two nights outside of Israel.

According to myjewishlearning.com, those who celebrate Passover recite many psalms known as hallel, which are said at both Kiddush, the second cup is connected with the recounting of the Exodus, the drinking of the third cup concludes Birkat Hamazon and the fourth cup is associated with Hallah, according to reformjudaism.org.

The Seder lasts for one night in Israel and two nights outside of Israel.

According to myjewishlearning.com, those who celebrate Passover recite many psalms known as hallel, which are said at both day and night.

Passover is known for what is called the Omer. The Omer symbolizes what was offered and brought to the Temple in Jerusalem. The Omer recollection lasts for 49 days and takes place during the Shavuot.

The Shavuot holiday is the anniversary of the reception of the Torah, which is always read at the Sabbath morning services in the Jewish culture.
The Islamic State in Iraq and Syria, or ISIS, has been recruiting college students in the United States, according to the Central Intelligence Agency.

According to CIA estimates reported by the Christian Science Monitor, about 2,000 Westerners have traveled to Iraq and Syria, many via Turkey, to join ISIS. Of these, more than 100 have come from the US, at least 500 from the UK, and more than 700 from France, according to estimates from CIA authorities in those countries.

Last October, Mohammed Khan was arrested at O’Hare International Airport where he was planning to board a flight to Vienna prior to heading to Istanbul and, ultimately, Syria. It is in Syria where Khan was hoping to join ISIS, according to CNN.

ISIS has been successful because they look for teenagers who feel lost and lack a sense of purpose or identity, say intelligence sources.

“The general picture provided by foreign fighters of their lives in Syria suggests camaraderie, good morale and purposeful activity, all mixed in with a sense of understated heroism, designed to attract their friends as well as to boost their own self-esteem,” Richard Barrett of The Soufan Group, a security intelligence provider for the government, wrote in a report called “Foreign fighters in Syria” last summer.

ISIS also uses the internet to lure potential recruits by using social media to try to appeal to a sense of religious obligation. Additionally, ISIS creates videos that resemble movie trailers. Mijaad Nawaz, co-founder of the Quilliam think tank, told CNN, “We are way behind. They are far superior and advanced than we are when it comes to new media technologies, social media, when it comes to video production qualities, and in disseminating their propaganda over the Internet.”

Freedom of Mind founder Steve Hassan talks about how ISIS is exhibiting cult-like behavior when deceiving recruits. Freedom of Mind is an organization that exposes cults and cult-like behaviors.

“They’re reading the messages, they’re hearing the messages -- not just from us but from the hundreds of Islamic clerics who have said that this is a perversion of Islam, from the hundreds of Islamic scholars who have said the same thing,” Stengel concluded.

According to CNN, in late February of this year, three New York men were arrested and charged with conspiring to provide material support and resources to a foreign terrorist organization.

“W e have evidence that there are young people who are not joining because we have somehow interceded,” Under Secretary of State for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs Richard Stengel said last October.

“They tend to be more inclusive, better organized and better financed than their more moderate counterparts. They also tend to be more assertive and have more of an impact on the battlefield, and so enjoy greater local standing, which makes them still more attractive to foreign fighters looking to make their own impact.”

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the town of Iguala, Guerrero, Mexico, 43 students were directed towards the disappearance. The disappearance of Ayotzinapa college male students in Iguala, Guerrero, Mexico, 43 Ayotzinapa college male students disappeared. The disappearance of the students was directed towards the formal mayor, José Luis Abarca, of the town according Política MX.

According to El Universal, a Mexican online source, Abarca stated, “While I was at University of Pennsylvania I started a reentry program. The program was about individuals whose criminal patterns show that they are unfit to be in or on campus community.”

A few years later, Dr. James was sent to Attica, a prison in New York, where they offered a college program. “I had the opportunity to experience this program. I can honestly tell you that accessing this college program, I got an associate’s degree there, and to this day it is the degree that I am most proud of. I had been challenged in prison to think about myself other than as a prisoner. That was such a powerful experience.”

On March 25, 2003, Dr. James was released from prison with an Associate’s degree. Since then he has received a Bachelors, Masters and a Doctorate.

Furthermore, Dr. James stated, “I was at University of Pennsylvania I started a reentry program. The program was about helping people to really understand issues of mass incarceration. I was able to train social workers to go into the prisons and work with men and women who were coming out of prison.”

Dr. James elaborated, “This is about generating hope, transformative education. Transformative education is about generating hope. Currently, all statistics show that the box doesn’t work.”

“I’m so honored and blessed to be here in this room. What you do when you leave this room is the most important thing,” said Dr. James. Following, Dr. James did Q-and-A with the audience. Generating Hope students collected index cards with questions from the audience and read them to Dr. James to answer them.

One student asked, “How will banning the box affect that there are individuals whose criminal patterns show that they are unfit to be in or on campus community.” Dr. James response was, “I think it is really important that we treat each situation as an individual, but also it’s very important that we create opportunities that allow people to better their lives. Because if we don’t allow people to better their lives were going to see a consistency in the behavior that lead them to the path they were on.”

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Call For Nominations

Student Leadership Awards 2015

Nomination Deadline
Friday, April 10, 2015

Submit Your Nomination
https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/StudentLeadershipAwards2015
In honor of Women’s History Month, I would like to acknowledge four women who currently have sculptures displayed in the Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park: Chakaia Booker, Yvonne Domenge, Mary Miss and Christine Tarkowski. These women have been pioneers in their own right, and they have contributed to the world of art in the 20th and 21st century. At the 2014 event “Carts and Cocktails” hosted by the NMSP, I had the opportunity to meet Chakaia Booker. Booker is an international artist whom currently has a solo exhibition at the NMSP entitled “Don’t Tread on Me”. This solo exhibition series showcases three of Booker’s sculptures, “Meeting Ends”, “Serendipity”, and “What’s Not”, running through October 31, 2016. Chakaia Booker was born in 1953 in Newark, NJ. She graduated from the City College of New York in 1993 with an M.F.A in Sculpture and Ceramics. Her materials of choice is tires. She has exhibited nationally and internationally with over 40 solo presentations. Herpiece “Serendipity” was created for an exhibition at Metro Tech campus in New York in 1998. This piece currently sits within a ponds distance of “What’s Not” (on the grounds of NMSP). The body of water between these two sculptures creates an unspoken call and response. This is indicative to Booker’s heritage and rich range of historical and cultural associations. Booker’s works are well suited for the open presentation that is characterized by the Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park. With a career that spans over 20 years, she has honed her skills and developed a true relationship and understanding of her chosen material.

The Visual Arts Gallery of GSU is hosting a 100% Art Open. This exhibit celebrates regional artists and will be displayed from March 16th culminating on April 10th with a closing reception from 5pm to 8pm, which is free and open to the public. John Lustig will curate, review and remark on artwork exhibited. Artist to be featured: Tim Arroyo, Fermin Barbosa, Richard Benoit, Cathy Bordenaro, Jonathan Casserilla, Javier Chavira, JB Daniel, Jeff Decker, Sherri Denault, Dawn Diamantopoulos, Pam Eberlin, Brian Espel & Jennifer Traff, Jan Glazar, Gretchen Jankowski, Mary Beth Kosut, Barbara Leahy-Edwards, Jean Lewis, Christina Loraine, Janice F Meister, Scott Mossman, Renee Klyczek Nordstrom, Raul Ortiz, Gail Otterson, Beth Parin, Gary L Price, Angie Redmond, Yemonia Smalls, Margie Glass Sula, Chris Tozer, Angelica Trevino, Garry Vettori, Michael Wasmowski, Bill Will. Make sure to mark your calendars for “30 Miles, 30 Artists, 30 Inches”. Until your eyes hit the next issue of The Phoenix “May your life be immersed in art and your mind filled with creativity.” Ashieka Daniels.

Chapaie

On March 6, Chappie was released. The sci-fi action thriller features Dev Patel, Hugh Jackman and musicians Ninja and Yo-Landi Visser. The film follows a police robot about to be decommissioned, irreparably damaged, that is stolen and reprogrammed to be able to think and feel for itself. Unfortunately, Chappie is brought up in the care of three gangsters. The protagonist, Deon Wilson, finally has finally cracked the code to true artificial intelligence. Luckily, he works for a robot manufacturing company but despite his emotionally moving pitch to the CEO, he is not allowed to test his AI program. In a fit of panic he steals the damaged robot that would become Chappie. Shortly after he sets out for home, Deon is kidnapped along with his stolen comrade. His kidnappers allow him to try his AI program on Chappie but insist on raising him to be a gangster to help them pull their crime of the century. Unfortunately, Chappie is brought up in the care of three gangsters. The protagonist, Deon Wilson, finally has finally cracked the code to true artificial intelligence. Luckily, he works for a robot manufacturing company but despite his emotionally moving pitch to the CEO, he is not allowed to test his AI program. In a fit of panic he steals the damaged robot that would become Chappie. Shortly after he sets out for home, Deon is kidnapped along with his stolen comrade. His kidnappers allow him to try his AI program on Chappie but insist on raising him to be a gangster to help them pull their crime of the century. Unfortunately, Chappie is brought up in the care of three gangsters.

Chappie. Photo courtesy of Flickr.com

IMDB gave Chappie a rating of 7.3/10 and Rotten Tomatoes gave the film an audience score of 64%.
This year I believe people are trying to take sex in their relationships to a different level. It's like they all of a sudden speakseless on some occasions with the work some couples or individuals when they've been into sex and sexual gratification. After during research on this topic there is one, type of relationship to be discussed is BDSM because there is a lot of controversy on whether or not being in this type of relationship is abusive or just a different way of showing affection and getting sexual gratification. BDSM, which stands for Bondage, Discipline, and Sadomasochism, is the talk of 2015. This acronym may push people to believe that BDSM is about inflicting and receiving pain but it is actually the opposite. Yet both parties, leaving them must be given, as the practice willingly. For in BDSM the submissive (or “Dom”) power over them, and they do so out of trust and respect.

In a dominant and submissive relationship, it is called “The Gift”, meaning it is consensual. It is an agreement for power exchanges. Given my research, I found that for most people when safe words are not put into place an individual has the potential to be abused. The safe words are put into play for the sake of self-resolution of power Dom actions of sexual aggression when limits are reached for them. From my understanding, it is all about what you want as an individual in your relationship sexually and mentally. This type of relationship is not just about sex, it is about being able to switch roles to gratify oneself well as all partners' needs. In a dominant and submissive relationship, men have the opportunity to be the Dom because they are seen as having the chance to be dominant. It gives couples freedom from societal norms of roles for men and women.

There was a lot of controversy over the movie “50 Shades of Grey” and people found that the Dominant and submissive relationship between the characters were abusive because Anastasia was a virgin and Christian Grey was well known with Dominant and submissive relationships. Watching some of the trailers, I found that some of the scenes with them could be considered as abusive because I how can you make decision not being fully informed. Then in some instances, she was crying because she was hurt psychologically. I believe she could not wrap her mind around, something in the scene of getting injured from someone getting gratification from someone getting gratification. In the movie, she was crying because she could not wrap her mind around, she was crying because she loved him so much that she loved him so much, she was crying because she loved him so much. The safe words are put into place an individual has the potential to be abused.
Meet with Employers — Get a Job

Thursday, April 16
2 to 5 p.m.
Hall of Governors, Center for Performing Arts Lobbies and Engbretson Hall

Dress professionally. Bring plenty of resumés.
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P: How active is GSU’s model government, in regards to other schools?

AH: Considering this our first year, we made our mark. The first night there we were recognized as one of the schools that joined in for the first time and by the time we left many people knew who we were. Although there were many schools, the networking at the Model Illinois Government becomes so tight knit. Being the leader of our team at GSU, I emphasized to our team in getting to know many of the people from schools that have been there before, allowing us to get more recognition. Many of the universities that attended have actual organizations devoted to this simulant, which is what we suggested to the professor, and they are looking into. It’s a great experience that many students would enjoy from all types of disciplines.

PH: I heard that GSU’s MIG went to Springfield recently, can you tell us more about the trip?

AH: We did. We went to Springfield and stayed at the best Hilton ever. It was the tallest building in Springfield overlooking the whole downtown area. Within GSU’s team we were all assigned either house or senate, than assigned different committees that we knew we would debate on for the three days after arriving. The Hilton was near the Abraham Lincoln Museum, which we all enjoyed, but also near the new and old state capitol which many of us experienced debating in.

PH: Has your work with MIG inspired you to work in government after you finish at GSU?

AH: It absolutely has. I’m thinking about running for office down the line. The friendships and connections made from GSU and other universities at the stimulant process made me so interested in continuing for a possible career in government or being our local representative. It’s something so gratifying and you become so thankful to have a voice and show your patriotism through your ideologies on certain bills.

Student Spotlight

By: Brian Bock
Staff Astrologer

Aries (Mar. 21–Apr. 19)
You are sceptical of astrological advice today.

Taurus (Apr. 20–May 20)
You will be sceptical of astrological advice today.

Gemini (May 21–June 21)
You will be sceptical of astrological advice today.

Cancer (June 22–July 22)
Saturn is in omni-retrograde, you should remain still until July.

Leo (July 23–Aug. 22)
You will start a confrontation with an actual crab.

Taurus (Apr. 20–May 20)
You will be sceptical of astrological advice today.

Virgo (Aug. 23–Sept. 22)
You will be sceptical of astrological advice today.

Libra (Sept. 23–Oct. 23)
You will be sceptical of astrological advice today.

Scorpio (Oct. 24–Nov. 21)
You’re receiving a letter from Hogwarts today.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22–Dec. 21)
Your day will be as vague as this other thing.

Capricorn (Dec. 22–Jan. 19)
You really shouldn’t have ate a burrito after 8 p.m.

Aquarius (Jan. 20–Feb. 18)
You will bring someone a beverage today.

Pisces (Feb. 19–Mar. 20)
You will win your competitive table setting competition today.

Horoscopes

Across

2. A subculture often associated with some angry teenagers
4. The bottom of your shoe
7. Fingerpin synonym
8. A series of tubes
9. Pronoun for oneself
10. The result of rain on a sunny day
12. The essence of a human life
13. A large predatory dinosaur, short arms
16. Suburban elixir, 'There’s one on every corner'

Down

1. Fat fruit
2. A subculture often associated with some angry teenagers
3. To throw a monkey _____ in the plan
4. An act of kindness and generosity toward others
5. A tall bird native to Australia
6. A series of tubes
8. A series of tubes
9. The bottom of your shoe
10. The result of rain on a sunny day
11. The bee’s evil cousin
12. The essence of a human life
13. A large predatory dinosaur, short arms
14. A scourge that devastated humanity
15. Akin to a cow in content, but to chocolate by name
17. 'Beam me up ___'
Hard times call for unorthodox measures: new take on increasing revenue

Prairie Place quad to be repurposed

By Kyle H. Horn and Brenda Torres
Editor in Chief

In an effort to increase revenue for the university, GSU officials have decided to take inspiration from Illinois farming roots. They intend to repurpose the quad at Prairie Place to function as livestock pastures. The porch area would also be renovated as well to act as shelters for livestock during inclement weather.

The animal of choice is tentatively believed to be Bos Taurus commonly known as cows. According to GSU agricultural administrator Kelly Bauer, hired specifically for the project, “Cattle is the best option at the moment due to the constraint of space. A small herd of about a dozen would thrive under the conditions that will be provided after the appropriate changes have been made.”

Bauer continued to explain that over the next two years more land is likely to be repurposed behind the quad to support a family of pigs and by 2020 chickens and other fowl will have shelters and likely be free roaming.

“I think this is a great way to help bring in extra money,” said GSU student and prairie place resident Cochran Spile. He did continue to mention apprehensions about having a ground level apartment as opening a window could lead to unwelcome visitors.

“This change will also represent a great opportunity for students,” said Prairie Place grounds manager Carl Contadino. “Students will be allowed to work on the Quad farm to help reduce rent or tuition costs.”

Though feedback has generally been positive, some students have voiced issues with the prospect of having cows outside their rooms or facilities smelling like manure, not to mention the noise.

“Do commuting families have cows and pigs in their backyard? No. Do other universities take away student areas for animals? No. This is the most ludicrous thing I have ever witnessed.” Said GSU Professor Dr. Chris Cross.

Despite some outcry over the decision, GSU will be moving forward with the renovations on the first of May. The actual livestock is expected to arrive sometime over summer break. The next year will certainly be an exciting time for the university and Prairie Place residents.

Bold new plan to fill empty class rooms

By Kyle H. Horn
Editor in Chief

In keeping with GSU’s push to increase income, the decision has been made by school officials to begin renting out unused classrooms as living space to the general public.

“We have so much space available with access to basic utilities. With very minor modifications these classrooms can become perfectly viable living space,” said Gloria Von Slew, Director of Alternative Solutions for the university.

The minor modifications she mentions include soundproofing, in-room water, and the addition of a kitchen area. The rooms will be treated as loft style apartments so no walls or dividers will be added.

Rent is projected to be around $400 a month, all utilities included, a reasonable price for the area.

“Prairie Place just is not for me and you can’t beat the price especially with a roommate,” said student and prospective renter Samantha Clemenze.

Expect to see some changes to various rooms around campus and remember to welcome your new neighbors.

Unexpected threat to campus

By Kyle H. Horn
Editor in Chief

Students are being cautioned to avoid the seemingly innocuous geese around school grounds. Gangs of the fowl have been seen chasing students and staff and even attacking the school itself with visible damage around the outside of E and F.

Until their eggs have hatched and their fledglings grown expect to travel in groups and avoid the beasts at all costs. If you find yourself under attack, give up. You made your choice.

The geese are expected to leave near the end of spring but until then, survive.

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A final look at the Quad at Prairie Place