The last GSU trimester is upon us. While school officials are excited about the switch, for many students very real concerns exist.

The switch, which was announced in January, will be implemented with the fall semester which begins Aug. 30. The change allows GSU's calendar to coincide with the academic schedule of other schools in Illinois and across the country. As the trimester system now stands, students from other schools wishing to enroll at GSU are locked out due to differences in the trimester and semester calendars. Before the spring semester of other universities concludes, GSU's summer semester is already well underway. School officials maintain the switch will provide these otherwise shut out students with access to GSU's programs and ensure a smoother transition for transfer students.

However, the change does present some questions for existing GSU students and faculty. Michella Smith, who is enrolled in the B.A. in Psychology program is concerned that there is not enough time between the end of the current summer trimester and the new fall semester.

"I feel that by the time the new semester starts in the fall, I'll be burned out," says Smith. "We didn't get a spring break, only had a week between the winter and summer trimester, and now we won't get much of a break between the summer and fall, it's just too much."

The shorter breaks in 2010 were required for the transition, but breaks are expected to be longer under the semester system and will include a spring break as well as a much longer winter break between semesters.

Smith is also hoping that the switch will not delay the completion of her program. "I'm planning on attending fulltime next summer to finish up my program, but if this switch requires us to attend classes twice a week instead of the once a week attendance of the trimester, I don't know if I can do it," she said.

Dr. Peggy Woodard, Associate Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs, says that the university is exploring a variety of options with the hopes of maintaining the once-a-week meeting schedule for summer semesters.

"You guys are basically our constituents," Woodard said. "The last thing we want to do is make things difficult for our existing students."

According to Woodard, the university is exploring a number of options to keep the existing schedule in place including hybrid classes—a mixture of face-to-face and online classes. Another option on the table is the possibility of adding 30 more minutes of class time for each class.

"We're exploring a few different options and it's great for us to receive feedback from the students on which options would work best," she said.

Dr. Woodard said that although the university is making the switch to accommodate prospective students, it will also benefit current GSU students who want to transfer to new programs with other universities.

Brandon Williams, a new MBA student who transferred from Chicago State, says he knows the switch is coming but doesn't know very many details. Brandon says while he'd like to be more informed about how the switch will affect his study plan, it's not a big deal if he has to stay an additional semester to complete his coursework.

While some students are concerned about the switch and its effects on their pending graduation dates, faculty at GSU are excited about the switch.

Mark Kundla, Professor of Media Studies, says he thinks it's a great idea. "I can't tell you the number of complaints I get from students from other universities who would like to take summer courses at GSU but are prevented from doing so because of the scheduling differences," he said.

‘Semester Switch’
Cont. on Page 5

Fresh Vegetables on Campus?

By Danyale A. Lucado
Contributing Writer

No time for the hustle and bustle of your local grocer? Take a relaxing stroll through GSU's first annual Farmer's Market right here on campus.

The market, which was sponsored by GSU Spirit (Special Program Initiative Review and Implementation Team) features local farmers offering a wide selection of fresh grown fruits, vegetables, herbs, flowers, and homemade breads. Jill Stanley, the Market Manager, says it was introduced as a way for the committee to engage the local community and give them an opportunity to visit our campus.

"We don't have a local produce provider in University Park, so this was a great way to provide a service to the community and give them a reason to visit the GSU campus," Stanley said.

Among the vendors are Jeffrey Farms, The Herb Basket, and Hello Honey, which offers delicious honey produced by local beekeepers Allen and Amanda Bolt.

Stanley says although the market is starting with only four vendors, she believes more will join.

"If we build it, they will come," she said. "We are very excited about the market. I think it's really going to do well." According to Stanley, the committee will continue accepting applications up until the last week of the market. To participate, vendors should be licensed and complete the Participation Agreement.

The market is located at the south end of Parking Lot D and runs every Thursday from 1-6pm, June through September. For further details, please contact Jill Stanley at 708-534-4982.

Helpful Resources
Page 7
Gulf Spill Shows U.S. Energy Woes

By Central Florida Future Editorial Board

U-Wire

As we follow the aftermath of the catastrophic oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico, we can’t seem to get Sarah Palin’s infamous “Drill, baby, drill” chant from the 2008 presidential campaign out of our heads. She should promptly drill her foot inside her mouth.

And perhaps President Barack Obama should too, considering less than a month before the monstrosity, he supported offshore drilling as part of his new energy policy. Talk about awkward.

How many major oil spills does it take for our government to realize that, hey, perhaps drilling a gigantic pipe 35,000 feet into the ocean beneath rock and into an oil rig could be incredibly detrimental to the environment should something go terribly wrong? We hope only two.

Remember the almost 11 million gallons of crude oil spilled by Exxon Valdez in 1989? Probably not, unless it was aired on VH1’s I Love the 80s.

Long story short, in 1989, the oil tanker hit the Prince William Sound’s Bligh Reef, spilling crude oil into the Alaskan coast.

Not quite a result of offshore drilling, but an ecological disaster nonetheless.

We have barely begun to see the environmental and political implications of the spill in the Gulf. This spill is not being controlled, it’s wasting tons of an already scarce material (think of the friend who starts spilling his or her beer after one too many), while killing already endangered animals. But good thing our economy is in perfect condition to be further destroyed.

Oh wait.

On the bright side the spill may cause Obama to re-consider his new position on offshore drilling.

Florida Sen. Bill Nelson has already said he plans to filibuster any bill that would expand offshore drilling into Florida, but don’t get excited just yet.

Expanded offshore drilling was meant as a compromise with the right so they would push for more “green” legislation and alternative energy policies. Yeah, we don’t get it either. It’s like a conundrum, wrapped in a mystery, covered in oil.

So what do we do now aside from staring at our televisions, flabbergasted about the images of crude oil spewed over the Gulf of Mexico while politicians give us the turn-around and energy giant British Petroleum plays the blame game? We re-think our addiction to oil.

As Americans, it is practically inherent that we be large consumers of the stuff. We are energy connoisseurs, and according to a recent article in Time, 37.1 percent of our precious energy is supplied by oil. This high percentage explains the need for offshore drilling in the first place, but we can’t ignore its harmful effects on the environment. Let’s just say there’s a reason why Florida beaches look prettier than Texas.

We also cannot ignore the fact that big oil executives tend to flaunt the oxymoronic phrase “safe offshore drilling” to fickle senators.

Sept. 11 should have prompted us to address our reliance on oil or at least reform our energy policies, but, unfortunately, it only promoted offshore drilling as an alternative to foreign dependence on oil.

Basically here’s what needs to happen and it needs to happen quickly: America should spend more than a measly $18 billion on clean energy research. If we are going to resort to offshore drilling, then the regulations must be tougher and we need to see actual follow-through when it comes to the creation and use of alternative energy.

Read more at: http://www.centralfloridafuture.com/gulf-spill-shows-u-s-energy-woes
GSU and Community Colleges Join Forces to Boost Degree Completion Rates

By Steve LaVoie
Contributing Writer

GSU and community colleges throughout the region formed the Chicagoland Alliance for Degree Completion during a ceremony on campus April 30. The Alliance's aims to combat the low percentage of students who start at a community college and go on to earn a bachelor's degree.

According to the new group's statement of principles, only 10 percent of students who attend community college right out of high school go on to complete a four-year degree after six years of study. For African-American and Hispanic students the numbers are even lower at 5.9 percent and 3.1 percent respectively.

In addition, the statement says, "Only 21 percent of students enrolling at Illinois' community colleges graduate with associate degrees in three years." Again for African-American and Hispanic students the graduate rates "alarmingly" low at 9 percent and 13 percent, respectively.

The Alliance plans to help increase the number of students who complete their bachelor's degree by collaborating to help make the transfer process easier by establishing degree completion centers and dual admission agreements like the one GSU recently signed with Kankakee Community College. The group also pledges to work together to help students secure financial aid assistance and increasing public awareness and interest.

GSU president Elaine Maimon said she hopes the group has as big an impact as the GI Bill and the community college movement of the 1950's. Maimon called the Alliance a "21st century initiative."

GSU hosted presidents from 10 of the community colleges who are part of the Alliance at a summit. One of them was Dr. Charles Guengerich, president of Wilbur Wright College in Chicago, who said GSU is a "unique institution for community college students." Guengerich said he feels his experience as a community college student is the best thing he brings to the group.

The summit was held during Community College Counselor Day. Community College Counselor Day is an event where counselors from the community colleges in the area come to learn about new initiatives like the Alliance that aim to make the transition from community college to GSU as seamless as possible.

Luncheon Helps Students Learn... Their Manners

By Tanille Day-Walker
Contributing Writer

Should you start with the big fork or the little fork while dining? Where should your thumb be when shaking hands? These questions and more were answered during the 2010 Etiquette Luncheon sponsored by the Office of Career Services. The event, held on Tuesday March 23rd in the Hall of Honors covered everything from portraying a professional image to professional dining skills.

Believing I had manners I down to a science, I, like many of the events participants, was surprised by how much I did not know about professional etiquette. The OCS covered and demonstrated proper hand shake techniques. Do you 1-2-3-pumps release? Before the event, I was guilty of turning a handshake into a hand-holding experience.

Participants were even given a fashion show where professional business attire was modeled by whom else but the OCS staff. Many can probably handle dressing to par but once you're all dressed and have someplace to go-like a business luncheon for example, do you know when to use which fork or what to do with your napkin?

As students started lunch they learned to use the shorter fork for their salad and the longer fork for their mango chutney chicken and green beans almandine. Their napkins stayed in their lap, not on the table.

According to organizers if your business luncheon happens to be an interview you need to know what fork to use and all other proper dining activities as your luncheon just may be a test.

But what if your cell phone rings in the middle of the meal? The ringer should be turned off or on vibrate and if you must answer it leave the table to take the call but only for two to three minutes. But if you can't move away from table don't answer the call.

When in doubt one should follow the lead of the host. How do you know who the host is? The host is usually the individual that has arranged the event.

If you couldn't make it to the etiquette luncheon on campus, the Office of Career Services is hoping to have another event at a local restaurant.
Student Life
The Diversity Committee and FSI celebrates

GAY PRIDE MONTH

June 1 – Distribution of Gay Pride Ribbons
(Ribbons are available at the Welcome Center and the Cafeteria)

June 14 – Lunch and Learn 11:30 a.m. -1:00 p.m., Engbretson Hall
PFlagMetro Chicago
(Parents, families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays)
PFlag offers Support, Education and Advocacy

June 15 – LGBTQ Pride Panel Discussion
5 p.m., Engbretson Hall

Panelists
Dr. Raven James
Shannon Lauridsen
Dr. Cheryl Mejta
Tom Vizzard, III
Dr. Jason Zingsheim
Dr. Jim Howley, Moderator

Gay Pride Month events are free and open to the public. For additional information contact S. Sanderson at 708-534-4552 or s-sanderson@govst.edu
No Substitute for the GSU Substitute Academy with Resources Workshop

By Contributing Writer

Have you ever thought about Substitute Teaching but thought: When? Where? And how? All of these questions and more were answered during the GSU Substitute Academy with Resources Workshop (STAR).

Until recently, I believed Substitute Teachers had to possess a background in Education. I was both surprised and pleased to learn in Illinois that holding a Bachelor’s degree in any major can apply for a Substitute Teaching Certificate. The excitement with my newfound knowledge was further increased when I learned GSU would hold a workshop for those interested in substitute teaching.

Sponsored by Metropolitan Institute of Leadership in Education (MILE) and presented by GSU Alternative Certification Partnership Director, Dr. Karen Peterson, GSU Cohort Director, Dr. Dor Fitzgerald and Recruitment Coordinator and Academic Advisor & Mentor, GSU Alternative Certification Partnership, Eileen Lally, the STAR workshop covered who qualifies to substitute teach, what is expected of a Substitute Teacher, what is expected of a Substitute Teacher, hours. Thus, a Substitute Teacher’s contribution when specific classroom management techniques during a school day is as critical as when the Classroom Teacher is present.

The STAR workshop stressed the importance of students being busy every minute of the school day. I asked my nine year old daughter how she is taught by substitute teachers. She said, “It’s fun because I get to talk to my friends and play around, but then it usually gets boring.” She further explained, “And when our Teacher gets back, we have to work really hard the next day.”

I realized today, as things continue to change so rapidly and the opportunity to learn new things is presented at nearly every waking moment, it is important that children be actively engaged in learning at all times—especially during school hours. Thus, a Substitute Teacher’s contribution during a school day is as critical as when the Classroom Teacher is present.

Interdisciplinary Madness!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>I work in</th>
<th>but get paid by</th>
<th>My Advisor is in</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(Lab)</td>
<td>(Program)</td>
<td>(Department)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(another Department)</td>
<td>(Research Center)</td>
<td>(Basement of another building)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Most of my classes are on</td>
<td>yet technically, my degree is in</td>
<td>So basically, I belong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Stuff I haven’t seen since High School)</td>
<td>(Major other than my undergrad)</td>
<td>(Nowhere)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Interdisciplinary madness!
Outdoor Farmers Market

Buy Local, Buy Fresh

Every Thursday
Rain or Shine
1 to 6 p.m.
June thru September

GSU Campus –
South end of Parking Lot D

Featuring:
Locally harvested fruits
and vegetables
Artisan baked goods
Organic products for the home

1 University Parkway
University Park, IL 60484
Directions: www.govst.edu/directions

Vendor spaces are still available.
Call 708.534.4982
for more information.

Crossword & Sudoku found on page 8.
Game Review: Dark Void Zero

By Steve LaVoie
Contributing Writer

Dark Void Zero itself looks, sounds, and plays like a real NES (Nintendo Entertainment System) game. No 3D graphics or overly dramatic plot to be found here. You play a test pilot recruited by Nikolai Tesla to stop an alien race known as the Watchers from using a stable portal to Earth to conquer the planet. Gameplay consists of exploring the levels by foot or jetpack blasting aliens and collecting keycards to access previously locked areas.

Overall the game is solid, the controls are responsive, the levels are well designed, and using the jetpack is intuitive and fun, you can either hold the jump button to fly upwards or double-tap the button to enter hover mode which allows you to fly wherever you want expect for spugly line areas that take away the jetpack. The graphics look great considering the era they were meant to imitate, and the music may not be licensed rock music or a sweeping orchestral piece but it is still catchy. The only issue is with the length, while the replay value is high considering there are three difficulty levels and a classic high score table allowing you to aim for a higher score, there are only three levels, but the game is only five dollars, and is still more than worth every penny.

Steve's Rating: 9.5/10
Similar titles you might like: Megaman 9 and 10, Konami's Rebirth series.

Need Help? Tap Into Available Resources

By Tanille Day-Walker
Contributing Writer

The past couple of years have been challenging for many people. As job loss and salary cuts continue, it is important for individuals to realize there is help out there. Under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), there are several programs that will receive billions of dollars in federal funding to prevent Americans from becoming homeless, ensure medical assistance is available, aid in securing employment and training, food and energy assistance, and child care assistance.

However, support will not come to you. You have to be proactive and seek help. When I was laid off a few months ago, I asked the Employment Security office (IDES) staff for other resources. Believe me, they won’t offer it up unless you ask for the information. So ask.

I then drew up a list of my expenses, such as the mortgage, utility bills, medical insurance and groceries. I looked for programs that offered assistance with those important bills that all still needed to be paid- even after you’ve been laid off.

Don’t believe you are eligible for assistance? Many qualifying income guidelines have increased. This significant change means many more people will be able to receive services they may not ordinarily qualify for. Here’s a partial list of some of the resources I found in my search for help during a tough time.

Making Homes Affordable:

Helps struggling homeowners get relief and avoid foreclosure by modifying or refinancing their mortgage. It also includes the Home Affordable Foreclosure Alternatives Program for homeowners who are interested in a short sale or deed-in-lieu of foreclosure.

http://makinghomeaffordable.gov/

Comprehensive Housing Program:

Provides counseling and mortgage assistance to homeowners who are delinquent and/or at risk of losing their home. Homeowners may receive up to $60,000 in mortgage assistance. Information regarding emergency shelter and services for homelessness can also be obtained.

Contact: 1-800-571-2332.

Illinois WorkNet:

Federally funded service that aids individuals in securing employment, going back to school, upgrading skills and change careers. Vocational training is also available.

http://www.illinoisworknet.com

All Kids Program:

Offers uninsured Illinois children healthcare services ranging from doctor visits and hospitals to vision care and prescription drugs and more. Parents pay monthly premiums, but rates are significantly lower than they are on the private market.

http://www.allkidscovered.com/

FamilyCare:

Healthcare coverage for families with children 18 years old or younger. Covers doctor visits, dental care, specialty medical services, hospital care, and more. If you have health insurance you may qualify for Family Care Rebate which helps pay for your insurance premiums or Family Care Premium which helps cover medical services that your plan does not cover.

http://www.familycareillinois.com/

Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP):

Assists eligible households with their winter energy bills. ComEd Residential Special Hardship Fund, provides one time grants of up to $1,000 to eligible households with a demonstrated hardship.


CEDA Weatherization Program:

Utilizes state-of-the-art technology to make homes more energy-efficient for qualifying clients in Chicago and suburban Cook County.


Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP):

Helps families buy the food they need for good health. Benefits are provided on an electronic card that is accepted at most grocery stores.

http://www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=33698

DHS Child Care Assistance Program:

Provides working families with access to quality, affordable child care. Families are required to cost-share on a sliding scale, based on family size, income and number of children in care.

http://www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=30355

Remember, this is only a partial list of the programs I found in my search. Many churches and townships also have food pantries and other resources that help families. And be sure to complete your census form. Accurate census data helps the government figure out where funds for assistance programs are needed. So get counted, because if really does matter. Even if you don’t need assistance, someone in your community does. Pass it on.
What's Going on at GSU?

SGSU Spring Commencement
Tinley Park Convention Center
Sat June 12/2010
11:00 AM to 1:00 PM
MAIN,D1,HOG1 Hall of Governors

DPS Special Olympics
Torch Run
Wed June9/2010
10:00 AM to 3:00 PM
MAIN,D1,489 Cafeteria Annex

BSU Bake Sale
Thu June17/2010
5:00 PM to 7:00 PM
MAIN,D1,HOG1 Hall of Governors

SS10 Faculty Submit Grades
Block 2
Mon June29/2010

Commemoration Event Schedule
June 2010

Thursdays, June 10
Doctoral Hooding Ceremony – Sherman Music Hall
• 9:00 a.m. – Faculty and student lining, Room 304
• 10:45 a.m. – Vows
• 11:00 a.m. – Ceremony begins

Fridays, June 11
Commencement – Tinley Park Convention Center
• 11:00 a.m. – Ceremony begins

Saturday, June 12
Commencement – Tinley Park Convention Center
• 9:00 a.m. – Faculty breakfast and lining in St. Andrew Room
• 10:45 a.m. – Ceremony begins
• 11:00 a.m. – Ceremony ends

Sunday, June 13
DPS Special Olympics
• 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Marriage vs. The Ph.D.

Marriage

Typical Length: 7.5 years

Begins with:

Culminates in a ceremony where you walk down an aisle dressed in a gown:

Usually entered into by:

50% end in:

Involves exchange of:

Until death do you part?

Ph.D.

7 years

A proposal

A thesis proposal

Foolish young

Bitter divorce

Bitter remorse

people in love

Vows

Know-how

If you’re lucky

If you’re lazy

If you plan to participate in either ceremony, please make sure Karen Canan Smith has your name entered in time for May 28. Karen can be reached at x6360 or kmcanan@gsu.edu.

Crossword & Sudoku: solutions on page 7

Across

1. French pancake
2. A country in southeast Asia
3. Coop
4. A wading bird
5. An endangered species
6. A small picture inserted within another
7. Vended
8. Bricks off
9. Artist’s workstand
10. A city in Tunisia
11. Strange or spooky
12. French pancake
14. A country in southeast Asia
15. Chinese food
16. Baking appliance
17. A small picture inserted within another
18. Vended
19. Be bothered by
20. An oil-producing seed
22. Whistle
23. Chinese revolutionary
24. Smoothed
25. Close
26. No
27. Singer
28. "Oh my!"
29. Where horses compete
30. Helmet shaped
31. X X X X
32. Mongoose-like carnivore
33. A city in Tunisia
34. Tooth
35. Strange or spooky
36. A country in southeast Asia
37. Wading bird
38. Anglo-Saxon slave
39. Location
40. Bee
41. Beer
42. Crossword &
43. Artistic workstand
44. Where birds compete
46. The protruding part of
47. Genus of
48. Where birds compete
49. Strongly
50. Not against
51. Defaced
52. Abuzz
53. Horned
54. Book
55. Not against
56. Behead
57. Wicked
58. Horned animal
59. Book
60. Downwind
61. Anagram of "Dote"
62. Makes a mistake
63. A country in southeast Asia
64. A country in southeast Asia
65. A country in southeast Asia
66. A country in southeast Asia
67. A country in southeast Asia
68. A country in southeast Asia
69. A country in southeast Asia
70. Steigh
71. Stowe

Down

1. Fashionable
2. In Nevada
3. Formerly
4. Verse writer
5. Bury
6. Lariat
7. Found in some skin
8. Look amorously
9. Make unhappy
10. Proficiency
11. Pertaining to birds
12. A literary style
13. Finished 21: Negatives
25. V V V V
26. No (slang)
27. Singer Fitzgerald
28. "Oh my!"
29. Where horses compete
30. Helmet shaped
31. X X X X
32. Mongoose-like carnivore
33. A city in Tunisia
34. Tooth
35. Strange or spooky
36. A country in southeast Asia
37. Wading bird
38. Anglo-Saxon slave
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67. A country in southeast Asia
68. A country in southeast Asia
69. A country in southeast Asia
70. Steigh
71. Stowe

If you wish to advertise in the Phoenix, please call 708-534-3068, or e-mail at phoenixad@govst.edu