Record-breaking commencement for GSU

By Emily Leary
Contributing Writer

With 650 graduates receiving diplomas, GSU's 40th anniversary commencement ceremony was one for the record books. The ceremony held at the Tinley Park Convention Center on Feb. 5 was the university's largest graduating class in its 40 year history, and the second graduating class of doctoral candidates from the College of Health and Human Services.

Hundreds of students crossed the convention center stage receiving diplomas from GSU's many programs, from Business Administration to Media Communications.

Sharon Evans, Director of the Office of Admissions, said there are a number of factors contributing to GSU's record-breaking numbers. "One huge reason for the numbers is that a lot of people are going back to school due to being unemployed or their positions are being eliminated," she said.

Evans also said that GSU departments really work together to ensure students have every resource available to them not just to be admitted to the university, but to see their programs through to completion.

"It's the personalized service provided to the students here at GSU--the work of all of these departments, student affairs and student life, financial aid, the advisors, we all work together to show students that we care," said Evans. "We're showing them that we want them to graduate, we want them to get a job, and we want them to have a good experience, so they tell others. Word of mouth is very powerful."

GSU President, Elaine Maimon's messages to the class were strong and simple: "Keep learning and help others. Bring a heightened sense of curiosity to all activities. Remember those who helped you."

For most, graduation is a time for celebrating and rejoicing in what has been accomplished. For others, it's merely a stepping-stone to the next part of life.

Marquita Webb of Chicago, who received her bachelor's in Early Childhood Education, says she is "just excited" over the accomplishment of completing her degree.

Continued on Pg. 3

Student Senate candidates prepare to win your votes

By Kimberly Snapp
Contributing Writer

That lonely bitter cold walk from the last parking spot in the lot to a campus entrance could all be changed among other issues with the Student Senate elections approaching on February 21st. Student body senate elections are important for all GSU students to participate in. Voting will take place February 21st through February 25th at https://eballot.votenet.com/govst.

According to Lisa Wallace, current Student Senate President, there are three very important roles the student senate takes on. The first thing the student senate does is, "recommends policies concerning student life and affairs," according to Wallace. This would involve things like student fees, student governance, and student service organization.

Another according to Wallace would be, "Advice on academic matters and administrative appointments in student services." The last would be coordinating meetings with student administrators to present student concerns, views, and governance issues to the administrative staff to help get those things addressed.

The student senate's mission statement is as follows, "The mission of the Student Senate is to promote the general welfare of GSU students. This is accomplished through the representation of student concerns, viewpoints, and interests regarding governance issues to the administration, staff, and faculty."
Student Senate
Continued from pg. 1

Through this work, the Student Senate will strive to improve the quality of academic and co-curricular experiences at GSU and provide developmental opportunities for its members.

Duties of the student senate are laid out according to the Governors State University Constitution, Robert's Rules of Order, and the Governors State University Student Senate Bylaws. They are to attend the mandatory GSU Student Senate Leadership Conference and attend executive committee and committee meetings that apply.

Not just anyone can apply to be on the student senate there are criteria that must be met. Undergraduate candidates must be enrolled for a minimum of six credit hours at GSU. In addition to that they must maintain good academic standing with a 2.0 GPA. Graduate candidates must be enrolled in three credit hours and maintain a 3.0 GPA.

They are also not allowed to be a Student Senate Executive Committee Member, Editor-in-Chief of any official student publication, managing editor of any official student publication, GSU Board of Trustees Representative, Illinois Board of Higher Education's/Student Advisory Committee Representative, or be a chairperson of the Student Communications Coordinating Committee.

Students are actively encouraged to campaign for themselves because students will not vote for someone they don’t know. The student senate is the voice for all of the students at Governors State University.

There was a Student Senate candidate forum held in the Hall of Governors on February 9th. There candidates gave a short version of why they would be a good student senate member. If you missed out on this opportunity to meet the candidates be sure to keep an eye out for their campaign flyers on student senate boards and other places on campus. Below is a list of the candidates.

- Andre Barnett, CBPA
- Shawnta Young, CBPA
- Pamela Hernandez Lombardi, CHHS
- Jada Nettle, CAS Running for Board of Trustee
- Siqi “CK” Wu, CBPA
- Megan Clarke, CAS
- Brendan Hollandsworth, CAS Running for Board of Trustee
- Betty Campbell, IDSS
- Lisa Wallace, COE Running for President
- Anthony R. Cozzi, CAS Running for Illinois Board of Higher Education Representative
- Adrienne Farmer, CAS
- Erin Fletcher, IDSS
Commencement
Continued from pg. 1

Webb is looking forward to attending National-Lewis University for her master’s in Early Childhood Administration.

For Maurae Gilbert of Oak Forest, graduation was the middle of a long journey. Gilbert received her Master’s in Public Administration in Early Childhood Administration.

“Change and the lives of others,” said Zurawski. She says she chose to earn a master’s degree in Political and Justice Studies because she wanted to change her life and the lives of others.

“I hope to inspire people. I want them to realize that they can help others in this world. If we all work at it, this world could be a better place,” she said, reminding the crowd that, “Change is not just a presidential campaign slogan, it’s an action.”

Honorary Doctorate recipient, Marca Bristo, showed graduates that even physical limitations are no barrier for success. As the President and CEO of Access Living, she is committed to enabling Chicagoans with disabilities to live full lives.

Bristo, who is in a wheelchair herself, served on the congressional task force that helped write the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. She delivered these strong words as the film played:

“Those who read the book found it harder to understand,” according to Lee. The book is a collection of short stories describing events and struggles of a number of residents in 20th century Winesburg, told through the eyes of the town’s reporter.

GSU’s film-makers thought they could parallel the story to that of residents living in nearby Chicago Heights. “We tried to portray life in the South Suburban area, especially regarding the African American community,” said Lee.

The idea was to also relate the book with the community that GSU is placed and those living in the area and connected to the school.

“Most of the staff were of GSU,” said Lee.

The One Book, One University selection is Winesburg, Ohio. This year’s selection is Winesburg, Ohio, a 1919 novel adapted into an independent film by GSU film professors, Daniel Nearing and Sanghoon Lee. The award-winning film was based on the Sherwood Anderson novel and switched its title to Chicago Heights named for the local, south suburban town in which GSU’s more modern adaptation took place.

Filming of the movie began in 2008 and was completed in 2009. “It was sort of challenging to make the book into a film,” said Lee.

The one element that wasn’t a big issue was the funding of the film. Lee and Nearing found a unique way to keep production inexpensive, spending approximately $1,000 on the film, according to Lee. The two were able to cut costs for the film by using university resources. “We used media lab equipment and free actors,” said Lee. The actors were found among GSU’s student body.

Lee says that those who viewed the film had differing opinions, mostly based on whether or not they had read Winesburg, Ohio. “It was up to the audience to form their own opinions. Some read the book and understood the film better,” he told me.

Moviegoers already familiar with Winesburg, Ohio had a quicker grasp of Chicago Heights than those who didn’t. “Those who didn’t read the book found it harder to understand,” according to Lee.

The book is a collection of short stories describing events and struggles of a number of residents in 20th century Winesburg, Ohio, told through the eyes of the town’s reporter.

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“Most of the staff were of GSU,” said Lee.

The One Book, One University discussion of Winesburg, Ohio will be held on Wednesday, March 9th from 5 to 6pm. GSU President Elaine Maimon will give an introduction followed by a discussion panel that will include Nearing, Lee and English Department Associate Professor Rosemary Johnsen.

GSU favorite chosen as new One Book, One University selection

By Evan Dozier
Contributing Writer

This semester’s One Book, One University selection is Winesburg, Ohio, a 1919 novel adapted into an independent film by GSU film professors, Daniel Nearing and Sanghoon Lee. The award-winning film was based on the Sherwood Anderson novel and switched its title to Chicago Heights named for the local, south suburban town in which GSU’s more modern adaptation took place.

According to Lee, the idea to use the novel as a basis for the film came from Nearing, who was a personal fan of Anderson’s work.

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Garbage woman inspires graduates

By Jake Calgaro
Contributing writer

Can’t imagine maintaining studies while working long hours and raising a young child? Well, this is the reality for GSU student Mac-Z Zurawski, who was the student speaker at this year’s commencement ceremony on Feb.

Zurawski is a single-mom, who has worked as a trash collector for the city of Chicago for the past 12 years. She calls herself the “garbage woman” and said working full time has made it difficult to keep up with her studies while attending GSU.

“I worked on weekends from the second I got off work on Friday, all the way till Sunday night,” she said. During the week days she wouldn’t get around to studying till around 9 or 9:30 pm. But she still managed to get good grades and earn her Master of Arts in Political and Justice Studies from GSU. Being able to provide for her 7-year-old son is said to be Zurawski’s inspiration for pursuing the degree.

Taking the stage in front of GSU’s largest graduating class ever, Zurawski says she wasn’t nervous at all about the speech. “It was a great opportunity to give a speech in front of that many people,” she said, concerned only that she’d be able to keep their attention.

Despite her demanding schedule, Zurawski also finds time to give back to the community, teaching English to a small group of students at the Aquinas Literacy Center in the McKinley Park/Bridgeport neighborhood.

Zurawski is an inspiration in her home, community, and among her academic peers.
GSU STUDENTS....Win a Free I-POD SHUFFLE
Submit your picks for the Oscar winners at the Feb. 27 Academy Awards and the student with the most matches wins an I-POD SHUFFLE. If more than one student picks the most Oscar winners, we will draw a name and notify the lucky I-POD SHUFFLE winner. FYI this drawing is for GSU students only, faculty staff is not allowed to participate.

Your picks may be submitted via email to phoenix@govst.edu or dropping this form off at the Phoenix Newsroom E1500. GOOD LUCK

And The Winners Are:

Best Movie _______________ Best Director _______________
Best Actor ________________ Best Actress ________________
Best Supporting Actor ________________ Best Supporting Actress ________________
Original Screenplay ________________ Original Song ________________
Documentary ________________ Cinematography ________________

83rd Annual Academy Awards
THE OSCARS
February 27th, 2011

Student Name: ____________________________
Student ID: ________________________________
Student Email: ____________________________

Governors State University
PHOENIX NEWSPAPER

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• An age group ranging from 21 - 65
• Savvy Consumers with Discretionary Dollars

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Advertise upcoming events, student club announcements, workshops, seminars, job fairs, public speakers, help wanted, for sale ads or general information of interest to our students.

To take advantage of this unique advertising opportunity, please contact Erron White at phoenix@govst.edu.
GSU CELEBRATES
African-American HISTORY MONTH

Join the GSU faculty, staff, and students as we host the following events in celebration of Black History Month:

Tuesday, February 8, 2011
Drumming through African American History/UMOJA People
History 451 class will host a presentation on debunking myths about Kwanzaa and acknowledging black women in America’s history, whose contributions to society often go unnoticed.
Hall of Governors, 5:00 - 6:00pm

Monday, February 21, 2011
Girls on the Wall
Film Screening & Discussion
A group of incarcerated teenage girls get a shot at redemption in a most unlikely form: a musical based on their lives. As they write and stage their play, the girls must re-live their crimes, reclaim their humanity, and take a first step toward breaking free of the prison system.
Guest Speaker: Mariane Kaba, 4:30-6pm
Engbretson Hall

Traditions and Symbols
GSU Welcome Center
Everyone is invited to participate in a quiz dedicated to the Traditions and Symbols of African American History.
Each Monday in the month of February, a new quiz will be available at the Welcome Center. A prize will be given to the first person that answers all of the questions correctly. Please bring your finished quiz to the Welcome Center on Fridays no later than 3:00 p.m. Note: The second week of February, answers are due on Thursday, February 11th.

Wednesday, February 23rd
GREEK LIFE
Meet representatives from The Divine Nine (Alpha Phi Alpha, Alpha Kappa Alpha, Kappa Alpha Psi, Omega Psi Phi, Delta Sigma Theta, Phi Beta Sigma, Zeta Phi Beta, Sigma Gamma Rho, and Iota Phi Theta) from 3-6:30pm,
Hall of Governors
Greek Step Show, 6:30 - 9:00pm, Engbretson Hall

Monday, February 28, 2011
“Minority Art: Inspiration, Obligation”
Regional African-American artists whose work details the African American experience.
Featured Artist: Kehinde Wiley
Reception to follow, 6-8pm GSU Visual Arts Gallery (E-Lounge)
Governors State University’s Center for Performing Arts offers an abundance of performances to inspire GSU students and the surrounding communities.

You may have seen its tall walls when walking through the sculpture park at GSU or its ticket booth lurking in the halls of the B Wing and wondered, why haven’t I been inside? The Center, according to their website, “Enhances the cultural landscape of Chicago Southland.”

The Center for Performing Art’s mission statement is “simply to present the finest in world-class performing arts entertainment and education to the citizens of Chicago Southland at affordable prices.”

The Center opened its doors in 1995 after 10 years of fundraising to get the institution going. They earned nearly $2-million dollars and earned $6.2-million in state grants. This allowed for them to build what is said to be a beautiful view of the Manilow Sculpture Park and nearly a 1200 seat platform in the theater.

Before The Center’s cultivation there was a small curriculum at GSU for the performing arts, it closed up shop around the same time. The Center for Performing Arts opened to the public according to Burt Dikelsky, Executive Director. He concluded the performing arts didn’t fit in with the career based programs here, is more than likely why the performing arts dwindled out.

Even though there is no curriculum base around The Center, Dikelsky mentioned the immense support the university provides. Unlike many other theater centers they have no rent. He also mentioned, “It is unique in that respect because GSU provides support and guidance for programming decisions. GSU is dedicated to the success of The Center.”

Due to this immense dedication from the university The Center is trying to get students more involved. They are currently holding meetings with students to get ideas on what The Center can do for better student awareness and involvement.

Some future projects to get students involved in The Center Dikelsky mentioned are based around simply using the facility. We have a new Forensics and Debate team at GSU. With their growth Dikelsky hopes an opportunity to host a collegiate event at the center would arise. As well, the College of Arts and Sciences has been working with youth in area schools and they are encouraging the GSU students to use The Center to hold programs for these kids.

One thing Dikelsky learned from these meetings with GSU students was awareness about The Center needs to be broadened. Even though they use social mediums such as Twitter, email, and Facebook for updates, students mentioned they would like to see more in the student newspaper. They will be working on getting the word out to students.

The meetings brought up points like price points for students. Dikelsky mentioned prices are affordable now, but they would like to offer a student price to give students an incentive for involvement.

In addition to the great pricing on programs offered at The Center, one key feature drawing many patrons to the theater is the ample free parking on campus. It may be a drive from the city, but free parking compared to the parking garage draws many people to the theater.

Another feature that has given The Center a name in the communities is the program centered on education and youth. It is called Arts in Education. They put on performances to benefit and educate school children. These programs even include curriculum guides to help teachers plan lessons around what will be learned at the performances.

Another benefit of Arts in Education is the Medhurst Children’s Fund. They donate tickets to underserved schools so they too can learn and be inspired by the arts.

Picking shows for The Center, according to Dikelsky “is a combination of things.” The Center belongs to the Association of Performing Arts Presenters (APAP and Midwest Arts. The APAP has 2,000 members worldwide.

According to Dikelsky The Center must go through a process just as other theaters do in order to showcase the programs they want. Dikelsky says, “The Season historically and traditionally runs fall to spring.” This gives them time in the late summer to look at what is coming in the future year.

Dikelsky mentioned The Center has been open for about 17 years. This time frame along with surveying audiences throughout the year has given them, according to Dikelsky an “Inkling of genres.”

This knowledge of what genres will sell to the surrounding community and the students at GSU is taken to the regional conference for bookings. This is usually held in a big city. Last year it was Indianapolis. Next year it will be Minneapolis.

This three day event gathers 500-600 agents representing shows and artists. You pick out shows based upon the information you’ve gathered throughout the year. The other parts of the equation, Dikelsky mentioned, include past attendance, number of seats, how the performances are routing themselves on a tour or will be flown in, and the cost of the artist.

Some upcoming performances at Governors State University’s Center for Performing Arts are presented on the next page.
## Upcoming Performances at ‘The Center’

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<th>Feature</th>
<th>Date and Time</th>
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<th>Event</th>
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<td></td>
<td>02/19 8 pm</td>
<td>Sat</td>
<td>Frank Catalano Quartet</td>
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<td>02/23 9:45 am</td>
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<td>Lot's Go Science</td>
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<td>02/23 Noon</td>
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<td>02/26 7:30 pm</td>
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<td>Dennis DeYoung: The Music of Styx Unplugged With Special Guest Openers The Mojo Daddies</td>
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<td>03/16 10 am</td>
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<td>Macbeth</td>
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<td>03/19 8 pm</td>
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<td>Ava Logan</td>
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<td>03/20 1:30 pm</td>
<td>Sun</td>
<td>Mouse Cookie Party</td>
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<td>03/20 3 pm</td>
<td>Sun</td>
<td>If You Give a Mouse a Cookie and Other Story Books</td>
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<td>03/21 9:45 am</td>
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<td>If You Give a Mouse a Cookie and Other Story Books</td>
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<td>Movie</td>
<td>03/25 TBD</td>
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<td>Movie Screening of Classic Hitchcock Thriller</td>
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<td></td>
<td>03/26 6 pm</td>
<td>Sat</td>
<td>Alfred Hitchcock's The 39 Steps On-Site Soup and Salad Café</td>
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<td>03/26 8 pm</td>
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<td>Alfred Hitchcock's The 39 Steps</td>
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<td>03/27 4 pm</td>
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<td>La Traviata—Concert Version</td>
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<tr>
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<td>04/08 9:45 am</td>
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<td>Beauty and the Beast</td>
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<td>04/10 2 pm</td>
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<td>In The Mood Pre-Show Dining at Scrementi's</td>
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<td>04/10 4 pm</td>
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<td>In The Mood</td>
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<td>04/20 9:45 am</td>
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<td>Through the Eyes of a Friend—The World of Anne Frank</td>
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<td>Mama's Night Out</td>
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<td></td>
<td>05/10 9:45 am</td>
<td>Tue</td>
<td>Winnie the Pooh Sign Stage on Tour</td>
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Crossword: solution found below

ACROSS
1. Soft surface texture
2. Fizzy soft drink
3. Delicate
4. Distant in manner
5. Actual
6. Deliberate act of omission
7. Field sport
8. Depression
9. Supple
10. Tropical starchy tuberous root
11. Bird with a brush
12. Dessert
13. delicate
14. Menagerie
15. Conclude
16. collar
17. Object of art
18. Poem
19. Simian
20. Sire
21. Stupefy
22. Niche
23. Portent
24. Sign of assent
25. Frozen water
26. Rebellion
27. Tum or place at an angle
28. Remake
29. Tum or place at an angle
30. One, some, every or all
31. Actual
32. Deliberate act of omission
33. Seep
34. Merely
35. Menagerie
36. Conclude
37. Accomplish
38. Adjacent
39. Sign of assent
40. Sign of assent
41. E-Lounge
42. Number in a brace
43. Swallow
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71. Nutrition

DOWN
1. Not at any time
2. Stage whisper
3. Soft surface texture
4. In a manner
5. Hard surface texture
6. In a manner
7. Soft surface texture
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Happenings
What's Going on at GSU?

Campus Community
Campaign Wrap Up
February 18
Noon
Cafeteria

NCTTA Regional Tournament
9:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.
February 19
Rec & Fit Gym

Student Senate Elections
February 21 - 26

Girls on the Wall
Film Screening and Discussion
Guest speaker:
Mariame Kaba
February 21
4:30 - 6:30 p.m.
Engbretson Hall

Education Employment Internship Fair
February 22
3 - 6 p.m.
Hall of Governors

Greek Life - Information
February 23
3 - 6:30 p.m.
Hall of Governors

Step Show Demonstration
February 23
6:30 - 9 p.m.
Engbretson Hall
Sponsored by Student Life

Minority Art: Inspiration, Obligation
Exhibit and Reception
February 28
6 - 8 p.m.
Visual Arts Gallery
E-Lounge

Faculty Authors Reception
March 2
2 - 3:30 p.m.
Library Balcony

Step Show Wrap Up
February 18
6:30 - 9 p.m.
Engbretson Hall

Student Senate Elections
February 21 - 26

Goings-on @ GSU
Courtesy of the GSU View

IF MOVIE SCIENCE WAS MORE LIKE REAL SCIENCE

Doomsday Movies Would Be So
Less Dramatic

Scientists Would Not Be The First
On Earth To Observe

Troubled Genus Movies Would
End More Tragically

College Roadtrip Movies Would
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