GSU to create new programs

By Nicole Marie Pratt
Contributing Writer

Dr. Terry Allison became GSU’s Provost of Academic Affairs only last July and already his plans are underway to enhance the GSU learning experience. His main goal is to map out a 10-year academic plan and to expand degree programs.

“For a university of GSU’s age, we don’t have very many programs here,” Allison said last September.

He admits, in comparison to other colleges, GSU has very few programs in the area of Arts and Sciences, which Allison would like to expand.

The Provost would also like to see more Masters programs such as Masters in Fine Arts and PhD’s. “I’d like to broaden programs in the high professional level such as Doctoral and Nursing degrees.”

Allison says that some programs, though, will come earlier than others.

“Our over-all strategic plan is that we will expand undergraduate programs more than the graduate in the beginning because students cannot start their masters without their undergraduate first,” he said.

GSU used to offer an MA in Psychology in the past and Allison said it is important for students to know that it is a priority in the 10-year plan to bring the Psychology program back. Other programs in the plan include adding an EDS (Educational Specialist Degree) and adding new concentrations in the Nursing field.

The Academic Plan Committee has also been working with Allison to improve the academic experience.

Continued on Pg. 5
those that have found the scholarship application process difficult because they do not fit into certain categories or any ethnic group."

I would venture to say that finding scholarships for these young men is no harder than it is for any other student. There are numerous scholarship opportunities available to students, regardless of race or gender. In fact, none of the scholarships offered at GSU this semester have any racial or gender-based requirements.

Nonetheless, scholarships for minority students are available for those students who have been historically underserved and often subject to unequal access to quality academic resources, prior to college attendance.

With the state of elementary education in this country, the fight to level the academic playing field is still a battle yet to be won. As a product of Chicago Public Schools, I know first hand the experience of going from being in the top 10 percent of my high school senior class, to nearly failing in my first year of college. Students in predominately minority attended schools simply are not educated to the same degree as students attending schools in more affluent school districts.

Although the FMAFE website does not indicate any use of federal funds, (which makes this non-sense legal) the organization is working to establish scholarships specifically for white-male students. Their goal, according to fmafe.org, is "to financially assist young Americans seeking higher education who lack opportunities in similar organizations that are based upon race or gender." The website further states "In a country that proclaims equality for all, we provide aid to those that have found the scholarship application process difficult because they do not fit into certain categories or any ethnic group."

I'm not interested in handouts. I like to work for my success. It gives me a sense of pride and achievement that cannot be removed by any man or woman on earth. Put me on a level playing field and I can rise with the best of them. But I'm still tying my laces, justice must be accounted for before a winner can be declared.

I and other minorities look forward to the day when we don't have to wear our wounds on our sleeves and demand the fairness that our country's forefathers labeled as constitutional rights. We look forward to the day when America really feels harmonized with the plethora of cultures that completes the diverse face of our nation, instead of feeling the unsaid inadequacy that many of us feel as we walk into offices and organizations where we are the token minority representative.

We can prove our validity in any academic or business setting in which we have access to a seat at the table. However, there is no place in this country that we are prepared to encounter the WHITES ONLY sign our grandparents were subjected to, whether it's next to a water fountain or on a scholarship application. Below are a mere few of the scholarships available this year to all Americans, regardless of race or gender:

Answers.com Scholarship Program, The SuperCollege Scholarship, Cappex A GPA Isn't Everything Scholarship, Wishing Works Scholarship, Media Scholars Program Scholarship, All About Education Scholarship 2011, SanTrust Off to College Scholarship Sweepstakes, B.Davis Scholarship, The Kor Memorial Scholarship, PsychologyDegree.net Academic Scholarship, Keep the Drive H.S. Journalism Awards Scholarships, American Legion H.S. Oratorical Scholarship Contest, National D-Day Museum Online Essay Contest Scholarship, Google Global Science Fair Scholarships, College JumpStart Scholarship, SOAR Scholarship 2011, Standout Student College Scholarship, Do-Over Scholarship 2011, American Red Cross Bloodstock - Summer Scholarship Program, Best Buy Scholarships
Minority Greek Life Organizations Visit Governors State University

Fraternity and Sorority Shields (from left to right: Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Mu Theta Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.; Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Tau Phi Sigma Multicultural Fraternity, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Xi Mu Zeta.

By Evan Dozier
Contributing Writer

On Wednesday, February 23, 2011, Governors State University held an event introducing various fraternities and sororities focused on attracting minority students, yet open to any student in general who is curious about Greek life.

The idea to hold the event was in response to concerns regarding possible extra-curricular activity growth at GSU. It was to encourage students to learn more about Greek life, possibly to include them in school activities. Student Senate member, Betty Campbell, shed light on the event’s purpose. “The event is for students who have an interest in Greek life, and we’re basically trying to accommodate student’s interests,” said Campbell.

One such organization was the Tau Phi Sigma Multicultural Fraternity. It was established at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Its member and spokesperson for the event, Omar Diaz, explained the chapter’s role in serving minorities. “Our chapter was founded in 1992 and serves minorities in the community. There aren’t enough Greek fraternities for minority males to choose from,” said Diaz.

Tau Phi Sigma has a lot to offer, with chapter membership size being a factor. According to Diaz, 300 members have been initiated since 1992. He explains opportunities available for those interested in becoming involved with the chapter.

“With smaller organizations, you have a greater chance for leadership opportunities. Relationships with fraternal brothers are more personal and alumni are often personally known,” said Diaz.

He goes on to comment on his personal experience. “People there are genuine and they helped me to venture out to other fields of interest,” said Diaz.

There are specific traits sought for in those interested in joining. “We look for those who want to better themselves. They have to have a broad sense of what it is to succeed and accomplish,” said Diaz.

A featured sorority at the events was the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Xi Mu Zeta Chapter of Markham, IL. They are a graduate chapter first chartered in 1989. Member Carliss Clifton explains her group’s focus. “Service is one of the things we strive for,” said Carliss.

This chapter serves the community as well. According to Carliss, the chapter affiliates with and participates in certain organizations such as “Stork Nest” and “March of Dimes”. Sorority sister Sonja Guyton comments on scholarships given and one of the projects Zeta Phi Beta participates in.

“We participate in projects assisting young, single mothers and also sponsor scholarships. The “Pearl Foundation” is the source we use to fund the scholarships,” said Guyton.

There are 60 members belonging to the chapter, though it is part of several in the community. There is much to offer for anyone interested in joining. “We set certain objectives and participate in various services, such as school activities,” said Carliss.

Other community service opportunities involve making the holidays better for those without. According to Guyton, a toy drive was held this past holiday season for children less fortunate as well as a homeless shelter Christmas party.

Sister Delma Hunter explains what is expected of potential members. “We are looking for dedicated women willing to make a difference in the world. We need those who are hard working who have the same interests as the chapter,” said Hunter.

Here, working with young women and girls is applied. “We offer school supplies and school clothes,” said Hunter.

The Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. is another local sorority chapter. It stems from the original founded on the Howard university campus in 1908. One member, Tina Burke, gave insight into her chapter’s main goal. According to Burke, the purpose of the sorority is “Supreme service to all mankind”, which is its mission statement.

This is also a smaller chapter. “There are about 77-78 members in our local chapter called Lambda Tau Omega, said Burke.

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority provides various opportunities for potential sisters. “We provide an opportunity to work in community service, a chance to improve the quality of life for people worldwide, and promote peace and sisterhood,” said Burke.

This chapter has a standard concerning community service. According to Burke, the current administrations programmatic theme is “global leadership through timeless service.”

There are high expectations for those who wish to join this chapter. “We seek women who have excellent academic standards, proven leadership skills, and those who are involved in the global community through advocacy and service,” said Burke.

Another featured sorority was the “Mu Theta Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.” It was chartered on the campus of Lewis University in 1975. According to chapter president, Janai Segers, it is an organization based on service and sisterhood.

This particular chapter has 5 members. The Mu Theta Chapter offers members various skill development opportunities.

“We help sisters to develop existing skills and to uncover skill they may not have known they had. Our mission constructively develops our members,” said Segers.

Another sister, Alexis Jenkins, elaborates on this. “We’re a sisterhood in general that tries to develop our members, and develop with them in serving the community on a large scale. We also want to provide them with more services,” said Jenkins.

According to Sister Eboni S., those curious about joining must have enthusiasm, lots of energy and creativity, and a passion for sisterhood and the sorority at large.

Symbolizing service also is the Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority. It was founded at Butler, University in Indianapolis, IN in 1922. According to member Chuya Grady, the sorority’s slogan is “Greater Service, Greater Progress.”

Grady states that it is a graduate chapter with 25 members. For those curious, there is much opportunity to get involved. “We offer sisterhood and community involvement,” said Grady. Here too are some developments potential members can participate in. “Our chapter supports “Operation Big Brother” Here, we offer school supplies year round to those who can’t afford it.

Other involvements regard young mothers and those who are ill. “We participate in “Project Reassurance” in support of teen and unwed mothers, as well as the “March of Dimes” and “St. Jude’s Children’s Hospital,” said Grady.

According to Grady, some of the standards for those interested in the chapter are a commitment to service and sisters who choose to learn and grow in the organization.
Sign Up for tickets to see Chicago Bulls vs. Memphis Grizzlies

The GSU Student Senate and Student Life are giving away tickets to the Chicago Bulls vs. Memphis Grizzlies game on Friday, March 25, at 7 p.m. Transportation to and from the game from the university is also included.

Only current GSU students are eligible to enter the drawing for two free tickets.

To enter, visit the Student Advisory Referendum table on March 1 & 2, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. in the Hall of Governors. Students need not participate in the Advisory Referendum to enter the drawing. Only one entry per student.

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GSU's Summer Session just round the corner

Registration begins March 21
Classes begin May 23.

Whether you're a current student or are studying at another university, GSU has the summer courses that meet your needs. Enroll today!
Governors State University's satellite campus in Kankakee will cease operations due to budget cuts in March.

Operations at the Kankakee Education Centre located on Schuyler Avenue in the city of Kankakee will cease operation as of March 1st. Eric Matanyi, Director of Public Affairs and Marketing, mentioned that the decision was made in late 2010 to stop operating the satellite center.

The decision comes due to the imbalance of revenue made at the education center verses expenses. Matanyi said, “It varies from year to year but fiscal year 2010 expenses to run the center were $150,000.” Enrollment wasn’t high enough to keep it open.

Matanyi assured, “We’re not pulling out of Kankakee region, we still have a commitment to that region.” He mentioned the dual degree program as one way they will continue to serve the Kankakee Community for affordable higher education. He also stated, “The new University still sees Kankakee as a viable place for a presence.”

The main satellite campus GSU uses is the Naperville Education Center which is not in jeopardy of being shut down according to Matanyi. He also mentioned that there are nearly 40 other locations that are used as satellite centers that are either in high schools or park district buildings that will also remain open.

According to Matanyi there are two criminal justice programs that are taking place at the center that will be moved to the Kankakee City Police Department and one communications workshop, COMS 310, which will be moved to Kankakee Community College’s campus.

New Programs at GSU
Continued from pg. 1

Most might find it surprising that Governors State University does not have a theater program and Allison, a theater buff, has intentions on forming one.

"Adding a theater program is a very good possibility with the plan; We already have the Center for Performing Arts Theater and all its credentials.

He would also like to see a student theater/club started someday. Starting a music program is less likely though, "I doubt we’ll end up with a music program in the 10-year phase," Allison stated. "Music is a tough program to get approved. It’s national. We don’t have the accreditation like we already have with theater."

Allison also mentioned the possibility of more athletic programs added, "We will slowly add student sports. That is in the making."

A concern with the expansion plan is whether there will be present program cuts. Allison confirmed that GSU is not planning on cutting programs in order to add and expand others. He stated, "The only way a program would be cut is if there are faculty cuts within that certain program. There will be more faculty hired for the expansion of programs."

Before the 10-year plan for academic and degree expansion can take off, the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) has to approve these programs. IBHE’s approval is also required in order to add and expand Doctoral programs.

The programs will operate on the regular budget and Allison says; “It’s all about a careful budget.”

Adding onto the building, such as the new science labs in the E and F buildings soon to be built, requires state funding and has to be approved by the Capital Board of Illinois. To make more room for the new programs, GSU will keep its portable building and will have multi-use divided classrooms. They are going ahead this spring for construction to begin in the summer.

“"In addition to funding and growth, Title III Part A: Strengthening Institution Program will help build and expand the new academic programs at GSU through funds," Allison said. “The Finance aspect of the plan and to push up deadlines are under discussion.”

After the plan is reviewed by the Board of Trustees and Faculty Senate, the academic plan will be posted publicly on GSU’s website through the new IRIS online system.
Confessions of a Doctoral Student

Deb Majewski
Contributing Writer

OK, I confess, I am terrified. Well, maybe not terrified, but I definitely have heightened anxiety. It all started about a year ago when I heard that GSU was actually, finally going to go ahead with the Doctorate in Counseling Education and Supervision that the division had been visualizing for so long.

Wow, it was finally a reality. Oh sure, over the 6 years since I graduated from GSU with my Masters in Counseling, people have asked me when I was going to get my doctorate. The first few years I looked at them as if they had just said something dirty to me; there was no way I was EVER going to go back to school. After all, now that I had graduated, I could read what I wanted, take naps on the car and do what I wanted, I thought I could, and I love that part of it. But it gives me joy to rebel against this forced torture. It also makes me laugh so that I don’t take myself too seriously, which is important in this program.

So here I am, I’ve made it to the second semester ... alive ... sane (sort of) .... and still a little anxious, but much more excited about the course and accomplish all that was required of me, I could see that it was possible I might survive this after all. In the advanced theory class I got to make a DVD of myself teaching a theory. The idea of doing that was initially terrifying; but again, doing it and getting positive feedback has helped me become more aware of what I’m capable of and raised my expectations of myself.

All in all, that is pretty exciting stuff. This semester, I have my first counseling practicum. I am back to square one and forced (against my will I might add) to tape my work with clients.

I am always happy to learn some way to improve my practice, I’m just mad that it’s not on my terms. As usual, I am seeing that operating outside of my comfort zone has led to advancement of my skills and growing confidence.

My other class, Advanced Statistics however, is presenting its own set of headaches. I am trying to convince myself that the class is not some kind of assassination plot designed to kill me.

The jury is still out on that one.

I admit that my aversion to anything math related is showing. I have a binder that I keep all the millions of handouts, ok, I exaggerate, thousands of handouts that we need, and I have titled it “I have a bad Statitude,” which is my new motto.

But it gives me joy to rebel against this forced torture. It also makes me laugh so that I don’t take myself too seriously, which is important in this program.

I am consistently challenged, prodded and pushed to perform and produce beyond what I thought I could, and I love that part of it. I can feel myself developing and growing.

So here I am, I’ve made it to the second semester...alive...sane (sort of)....and still a little anxious, but much more excited about the program and my future.

So until my next confession, I shall drive forward in the immortal words of Buzz Lightyear, “To infinity and beyond!!”

Career Services
Continued from pg. 1

One of the tools the Career Services staff recommends is an online business networking site called LinkedIn. The site allows registered users to maintain a list of contact details for people they know and trust in business. Campos said that social networking is a big part of finding a job these days.

To help job seekers prepare for those nerve-wracking interviews, mock interviews can be scheduled during the Career Preparation Week even. Participants should wear a suit just as they would for a real interview. The interview will last from 15 to 45 minutes and will include questions targeted for the career the student is seeking. If the person wants to work at IBM, then the career services person will become a boss from IBM, she said.

Mock interviews will be conducted from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. March 9 and walk in scheduling is allowed.

Career Counselor Jessica Specht said another new thing this year is a discussion on self-awareness from noon to 1 p.m. March 8. This is designed to help people keep their confidence and self-esteem up.

“It’s tough going from a backpack to a suit,” Specht said. She said that they try to help people accumulate new resources in looking for a job. It offers a new perspective for people who are either new to the job force, or people who have been looking for a job for several years.

Pre-registration for many of the activities is appreciated and can be done by calling 708-235-3974 or stopping by the Career Services in room A1120.
Steve’s Reviews
You Don’t Know Jack (PC)

By Steve LaVoie
Contributing Writer

You Don’t Know Jack, “the irreverent trivia party game” is an absolute blast, but some features are strangely absent on the PC version.

You Don’t Know Jack, or YDKJ for short, is the first entry in the trivia series of the same name in a few years. The game features 73 “episodes” where 1 to 4 players (or 1 to 2 players on the PC) answer 9 multiple choice questions and a “DisOrDat,” which gives two categories and seven items with players deciding which category the items belong in. In multiplayer players can use the “Screw Your Neighbor,” which forces the other player to answer the question in 3 seconds, and if they get it wrong the player who screwed them can earn extra money but if the screwed player gets it right then the player who used the screw loses money.

The finale of each episode is the “Jack Attack” where players buzz whenever they think a pair of words match, if they are right they earn a hefty amount of cash but each time they are wrong they lose that much cash. Of course whoever has the most cash after the dust settles is the winner.

While the game has very little visual appeal with only some brief animated segues between questions, where the game shines is the writing. YDKJ doesn’t generically ask “What method was artist Jackson Pollack known for,” instead the questions asks what his supervisor would say if he was a sandwich artist at Subway. The heard but not seen host Cookie Masterson’s snarky remarks makes losing hundreds of dollars on a wrong answer enjoyable. The funny fake commercials which play in the main menu and after episodes return from previous installations and advertise everything from the “Fat Mouth Fascist Fish” to a three day energy drink.

The fake products however now have an impact on gameplay in this installment. Each episode has a “Wrong answer of the game” sponsored by a company or product. One wrong answer in each episode somehow references the sponsor, and if a player picks it, they get more cash than if they picked the right answer, along with unlocking a prize for the prize gallery. It sounds like a minor addition but it makes the game more challenging and exciting by making players look twice at the wrong answers.

There are two issues with this PC version that keep it from getting a higher score. One is it only allows for two players on the same keyboard, while the console versions allow four, and the first game released way back in 1995 allowed for 3 players on the same keyboard, so apparently people can’t crowd around a keyboard like they could back in the day. Also as of this writing the Xbox360 version has extra episodes available for download while the PC version currently has none available. At least the PC version is ten dollars less than the console versions, but if you have an Xbox360, I would recommend that version over the PC port.

2 ½ stars out of 4
Available for: PC (reviewed) Xbox360, PS3, Wii, Nintendo DS

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

Across
1. Intense adverse criticism
5. Skewer
9. Stitches
13. Racing sled
14. Overwhelming fear and anxiety
16. Ellipse
17. Assist in wrongdoing
18. Assuage
19. Abnegate
20. Trials
22. Trader
24. Record of events on a voyage
26. Story
27. Incantations
30. Conundrum
35. Actor's prompt
36. Dig
39. Worthless material
40. Deficiency
42. Mythological water nymph
44. Stable gear joining two draft animals
45. Be of use to
47. Virtue
49. Annoy

Down
1. Musical notation
2. Part of the ear
3. Historic periods
4. Large hemispherical drum
5. Health resort
6. Part of the hand
7. Reoess
8. Jewelled headdress
9. Soft drink
10. Tied
11. Have need of
12. Cunning
15. Oscillation
21. Exchanged for money
23. Chickens
25. Narrow secluded valley
27. Smooth in manner
28. Smooth brown oval nut
29. Close violently
31. Frozen
32. Orchard
33. Manufacturer
34. Peak
35. Marine mollusk
37. Compete for something
38. Corn spikes
41. Tools for a specified purpose
43. Aromatic herb
46. Decorative fabric
48. Work hard
51. Coniferous tree
53. Riches
55. Nobleman
56. Keep aside for future use
58. Morass
59. Opaque gem
60. Small wooded hollow
61. Concludes
63. To a greater extent
64. Painful sore
65. Halt
66. Angry dispute
68. Up to the present time

Happenings
What's Going on at GSU?

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

Regard, Resist, and React
Featuring Wafaa Bilal
Art Exhibit
March 4 - 25
Visual Arts Gallery

Human Trafficking Presentation
March 4
9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Sherman Hall

MA Reading/ESL Endorsement Information Sessions
March 7
1 - 2 p.m. or 4:30 - 5:30 p.m.
D34015

Career Preparation Week
March 8
10 - 11 a.m.: Job Search Strategies
Noon - 1 p.m.: Interpersonal Presentation and Social Networking
1 - 2 p.m.: LinkedIn: Get Connected!
Room B1241

Career Preparation Week
March 10
Myers-Briggs Seminar
10 - 11 a.m.: Assessment
11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.: Assessment results Refreshments served Room B1241

Goings-on@GSU
Courtesy of the GSU View

Collecting

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