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Dear Faculty and Staff –

GSU's commencement this past Saturday was historic. For the first time since our founding in 1969, doctoral graduates crossed the stage to receive their diplomas. Many thanks to Karen Caesar Smith and the commencement committee for doing a wonderful job.



The ceremony itself would not have happened without their hard work and dedication. Nor could it happen without the many GSU faculty and staff who volunteer their time on a summer Saturday. I want to thank each and every person who devoted time and energy to make this a truly special day for our graduates. Watching all the graduates— bachelor's, master's, and doctoral— receive their diplomas is a special honor and I am well aware of the endless work it takes to make that happen.

The Commencement itself was the culmination of a week of outstanding activities: the Kanfer lecture, the thank-you party for David Curtis, the Hooding Ceremony, and the Honorary Degree conversation, reception, and dinner. Thanks to all for making GSU shine during all these events. Peter and Brooke Schjeldahl, Lew and Susan Manilow, and other special guests were most impressed with GSU. Your efforts created a life-changing experience for the graduates and also portrayed GSU at new levels of achievement and prestige.

This note comes with my best wishes to all for a productive and restorative summer.

Sincerely,
Elaine P. Maimon, President

Board of Trustees – June 11, 2010

GSU's Board of Trustees met on Friday, June 11. Concluding a long process, the Board unanimously approved a five-year contract with Datatel, Inc., who will provide GSU with a long-awaited, much needed upgrade to the university's Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP)

system. This system touches everyone at GSU—students, faculty, and staff—and affects all processes—admissions, registration, hiring, scheduling, you name it. Datatel was one of four vendors that made presentations to the university community in March and April. Those presentations were designed so every faculty and staff unit at GSU had the opportunity to be part of the evaluation process.

President Maimon reported to the Board that the new ERP project will be formally launched at a June 22 kick-off event. Watch your e-mail and the GSU View for more information and encourage everyone to attend. Dr. Maimon said that the implementation of the system will be time-consuming and challenging but that the project is key to our transformation into a model twenty-first century university.

The Board awarded tenure to eight faculty members. They are:

- Yvette Brown, Division of Digital Learning and Media Design
- Mary Bruce, CBPA
- Melanie Ellexson, CHHS
- Diana Galante, CAS
- Pam Guimond, CAS
- Taida Kelly, COE
- Nancy Miller, COE
- Ravi Nigam, CHHS

Congratulations to these faculty members. We celebrate with you as you reach this milestone in your careers.

The Board also took the following actions at this meeting:

- Award of a construction contract to L & H Signs, Inc., of Reading, Pennsylvania, for internal and external directional signage.
- Award of a construction contract to RDS Construction, of Tinley Park, for the renovation and remodeling of Enrollment Services.
- Award of a professional services contract to LCM Architects, of Chicago, for the Renovation of Science Labs under a National Science Foundation Grant.
- Award of a one-year software maintenance and service contract to Jenzabar, the university's current ERP provider. Approval of a preliminary operating budget for the 2011 fiscal year. The preliminary budget anticipates that projected revenues and expenses at the university in FY11 will each come to \$52,426,670.

In her report, Board Chair Lorine S. Samuels noted that the meeting was taking place during graduation weekend, always an exciting time at GSU. Samuels attended Thursday night's hooding ceremony for GSU's first doctoral students and said it was an unforgettable experience that filled everyone in Sherman Hall with enormous pride. She saluted the university's efforts to establish the doctoral program and the professionals in the College of Health and Human Services and the administration who spearheaded the effort.

Samuels also said she had attended the April 28 Scholarship Luncheon and the May 17 Delta Mu Delta induction ceremony, where she talked to students about her own business

experiences and was inducted as an honorary member of the international business administration organization. She said both events illustrate the opportunities that GSU provides to students and that our students are making the most of those opportunities. Samuels also indicated that the Board is currently working on the yearly review of the President's performance. She noted that the review, which is still in progress, has been positive and the BOT is committed to Dr. Maimon's leadership.

Dr. Maimon, in her report, said that GSU is holding its own- financially in the midst of challenging fiscal times for Illinois universities. She said the university's PBAC budgeting process has led to the sound and effective management of budget allocations. Dr. Maimon thanked student trustee Bryce Johnsen, Interim Provost David Curtis, and departing Dean Eric Martin for their extraordinary service to GSU.

In his report, Dr. Heikki Heino, president of the Faculty Senate, asked that faculty be included in a comprehensive review of Dr. Maimon's performance, which the Board plans to undertake next school year. Trustee Samuels said internal and external input would be part of the review.

The Board approved resolutions honoring Student Trustee Bryce Johnsen, who is stepping down after a one-year term, and longtime faculty member and administrator Dr. David Curtis, currently the Interim Provost, who is retiring at the end of June.

