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GSU View, 2012-03-01

Office of Marketing and Communications

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News and Events

[Pension Forum](#)

Whether you are recent hire or one nearing retirement, pension reform is an important issue. GSU is sponsoring an important forum to help employees understand the complex issues surrounding pension reform.

Steve Cunningham, Vice President of Human Resources and Compliance at Northern Illinois University, will discuss pensions on Tuesday, March 6, at 1 p.m., in Sherman Hall. Cunningham has conducted extensive research into pensions.

All GSU employees are encouraged to attend.

[Three Cheers for GSU Table Tennis](#)



The GSU table tennis team triumphed at the NCTTA Midwest Regional Tournament held on campus last weekend. The GSU team won second place behind Lindenwood University in the competition for the regional title.

GSU will now advance to the NCTTA national competition, to be held this April in Plano, Texas.

[Speak Out at Commencement](#)

The Commencement Student Speaker Committee is currently accepting nominations for the commencement ceremony to be held on Saturday, May 19. This year we will hold two ceremonies: at 10 a.m. for CAS and CBPA graduates and at 5 p.m. for CHHS and COE graduates.

As a result, we will select two commencement speakers, one for each ceremony. We need candidates who represent all colleges, so please make a concerted effort to nominate deserving students for this prestigious honor.

Please complete both nomination forms and send them to Sheree Sanderson no later than March 28. Please note that nominees must be available for an interview on Friday, April 6, between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Link to [nomination forms](#).

[March Madness in the GSU Library](#)

Friends of the Governors State University Library are sponsoring a book and media drive during the entire month of March. It's GSU's very own version of March Madness.

Bring in any books or DVDs that are collecting dust in a corner or taking up room on

your bookcase. Drop off your used books or DVDs at the Library and fill out a simple donation form for tax purposes. It's a win-win situation that helps the Friends continue their support of the GSU Library.

GSU Cyber Defense Team

The GSU Cyber Defense Team will compete in the Illinois Collegiate Cyber Defense Competition on March 3, at Moraine Valley Community College. Students studying computer science at GSU comprise the team and Stephen Hyzny, university lecturer, is the faculty sponsor and coach.

Teams of eight students from around the state will spend the day in the operational role of network security teams. The teams will defend and maintain an operating network consisting of Linux and Windows computers and servers while being attacked by professional security personnel.

Good Luck, GSU!

Books for a Good Cause

With recent bookstore closings in our area, it is becoming more difficult to browse the shelves for the ideal gift or the perfect read. The GSU Student Education Association (SEA) is bringing the bookstore experience to you.

SEA is sponsoring a book fair on March 7 and 8, from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., in the Cafeteria Annex. Books on sale include selections for preschoolers through adults. All proceeds from the sale benefit the SEA.

Spring Break Library Hours

The University Library will be open regular hours during Spring Break (March 12 - March 19).

The Library is open Monday through Thursday, from 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Sunday, from 1 to 5 p.m.

ICA at GSU

The Illinois Counseling Association GSU Student Chapter will hold its first meeting of the year on March 6, at 6:30 p.m. in the cafeteria.

All psychology and counseling students are invited to attend to learn more about the benefits, opportunities, and professional connections that involvement in ICA offers.

For more information, contact Tiff@gsu@gmail.com.

Salute to Grads

Graduation preparation is under way with Salute to Grads, March 7 and 8 from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., in the Hall of Governors.

Graduates are able to order announcements, class rings, cap and gown, take graduation photos, and receive commencement information. Be diligent, make sure that you attend the event, and get a good start to your graduation ceremony.

GSU Capoeira Club

Looking for a fun and exciting way to keep fit and bring some diversity into your life? Capoeira combines fighting, self-defense, dancing, acrobatics, music, and Afro-Brazilian traditions to create a unique cultural experience that is also a full-body workout.

The GSU Capoeira Club is the place for training in capoeira kicks, sweeps, escapes, cartwheels, and other movements. It is also where you can learn to play traditional capoeira instruments, sing capoeira songs in Portuguese, and the history capoeira.

Training sessions are Monday and Thursday evenings at 7 p.m. in the racquetball court at the GSU Recreation and Fitness Center. Sessions are led by GSU student and club president, Danny Rio, with guest instruction by Contra-Mestre Denis and others.

For more information, email GSUCapoeiraClub@gmail.com.

Success at the APICS Competition

GSU operations management students did extremely well at last weekend's Great Lakes APICS Student Case Competition. GSU's squad – comprised of Gracia Martinez, Alethia Pollard, Daniel Rodeghero, and Monica Zaczyk – finished eighth out of 31 teams from Illinois, Wisconsin, Indiana, Minnesota, Ohio, Michigan, and Texas.

Participants were scored according to their responses to a number of hypothetical supply chain challenges. Teams were also rated on their Power Point presentation, interaction with the audience, time management, and organization.

GSU's team scored higher than squads from Ohio State University, Northern Illinois University, Illinois Institute of Technology, and Bradley University.

Martinez, Pollard, and Rodeghero are graduate students in business. Zaczyk is a CBPA undergraduate.

Exhibit Explores Ancient Roots of Modern Art



Javier Chavira's *El Guerrero* (The Warrior) is included in of an exhibit of Mexican art currently at the City Arts Center in Oklahoma City.

Chavira is an associate professor of art at GSU.

Miradas: Ancient Roots in Modern and Contemporary Mexican Art is on loan from the Bank of America collection. The show was curated by Cesareo Moreno of the Museum of Mexican Art in Chicago, and the bank's staff.

Read a [review](#) of the show in the Daily Oklahoman.

Math Alum Earns Honors

GSU alum Michael Bickham, seventh and eighth grade math teacher at Jerling Junior High School in Orland Park, was named one of the ABCDE honorees for 2012 by the Orland School District 135 Board of Education. This is the first time a first-year

teacher has won this award.

The ABCDE Award is an employee recognition program that gives parents and community members the opportunity to recognize district staff members who go "above and beyond the call of duty every day."

Bickham graduated from GSU in 2011 with his degree in mathematics education.

Women's History Month - 2012

GSU celebrates Women's History Month in March with discussions, a film series, and a special performance.

The film series begins on Monday March 19, at 5, in the Cafeteria Annex, with *Breaking Our Silence: Gloucester Men Speak Out Against Domestic Abuse*. This 11 minute documentary focuses on the activist efforts of men in Gloucester, Massachusetts, who take a stand against domestic abuse and bullying. A discussion will follow the screening. Refreshments will be served.

War Zone will be shown on Tuesday, March 20, at 5 p.m. The location will be announced. This documentary is 45 minutes long and focuses on first-hand, direct confrontations with men sexually harassing women. A discussion will follow the screening. Refreshments will be served.

The film series concludes with *Reviving Ophelia: Saving the Selves of Adolescent Girls* on Thursday, March 22, at 5 p.m., in the Cafeteria Annex. This 38 minute film examines the developmental challenges facing teenage girls in today's world and provides a medium to discuss how females can empower themselves while dealing with historical stereotypes, toxic influences, and pressures of pop culture. A discussion will follow the screening. Refreshments will be served.

Singer Marcy McReynolds will perform and a discussion will follow on Wednesday, March 21, at 5 p.m., in the Cafeteria Annex.

Women's History Month activities are free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served. The activities are sponsored by the College of Arts and Sciences, Student Life, ARC, and a grant from the Intellectual Life Committee.

One-on-One Language Training for Children at GSU

Free, one-on-one language instruction for qualified middle school children is being provided by Governors State University as part of a research study. All instruction is conducted by a certified, trained speech-language pathologist.

The summer language intervention program provides one or two hours of instruction per week for nine weeks. Instruction focuses on building knowledge of advance sentences that are important for reading comprehension, writing, following verbal instructions, and verbal expression in middle school and beyond.

Participation is based on eligibility screening, which takes place in March and April. Students must have a documented language or learning disability, be between 10 and 14 years old, have normal hearing, and meet certain reading and language criteria.

The Summer Language Program is part of a language treatment study supported by a grant from the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders. The study is designed to train speech pathologists in effective language development techniques and to examine their effectiveness on student learning.

Transportation to and from the university is not provided. For more information, and to register your child for evaluation, contact [Dr. Catherine Balthazar](#) at 708.534.4592.

Scholarship Spotlight - Nick Billone



Nick Billone of Tinley Park received the David Bernstein Scholarship in English. Nick is an undergraduate student in the College of Education. He would like to become a high school teacher guiding his students through a century's worth of literature.

Nick wishes to continue his education and receive a master's degree in English. He also wishes to become a writer and teach at the collegiate level as well.



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