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GSU View

University Newsletters

5-10-2012

GSU View, 2012-05-10

Office of Marketing and Communications

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Recommended Citation

Governors State University Office of Marketing and Communications, GSU View (2012, May 10). <http://opus.govst.edu/gsuview/462>

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News and Events

Two Student Commencement Speakers

GSU will award bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees to more than 2,400 graduates at Commencement, on May 19. For the first time, GSU will host two ceremonies on a single day.



Two graduating GSU students have been chosen to give Commencement addresses. Erin Fletcher, a Richton Park resident, will speak at the 10 a.m. ceremony. Fredi Parks, of Park Forest, will speak at the 5 p.m. ceremony. Fletcher and Parks were both nominated as speakers by faculty members and chosen as worthy representatives of the Class of 2012.

Fletcher is receiving a bachelor's degree in interdisciplinary studies at Commencement. She will continue her studies at GSU, working toward a master's degree in communications and plans to pursue an Ed.D. in Leadership. She was recently elected to a one-year term as student trustee on the GSU Board of Trustees. She is a two-term student senator, a member of the Black Student Union, the Wellness Club, and the Honors Council, which provides input on the year Honors Program lecture series and other activities.



Parks is receiving a master's degree in education. Parks says she always knew she wanted to be a teacher. After working 12 years for a not-for-profit foundation, she entered GSU's Alternative Certification program, which trains career changers for the classroom and prepares them for careers in challenging, underserved schools. Parks is now teaching sixth grade at Maya School in Harvey.

Spring Commencement will take place on Saturday, May 29, at 10 a.m. and 5 p.m., at the Tinley Park Convention Center. Admission is by ticket only.

Pierre is Waiting



If you have not picked up your new Pierre yet, what are you waiting for?

Entries in this summer's *Take Pierre on Vacation* photo contest must include images of the new Pierre.

While there are lots of similarities between the new and old Pierres, the previous little guy is so out of fashion. The new Pierre sports the new GSU logo and it is his picture we want entered in the contest.

So visit the Office of Marketing and Communications located in C1310, and pick up your new – and improved – Pierre. Take him on vacation and send us the pictures. Fame and glory may await you if your image is chosen for one of our three fabulous prizes.

For contest details, visit the [Take Pierre on Vacation](#) contest website.

There's More Than Corn...



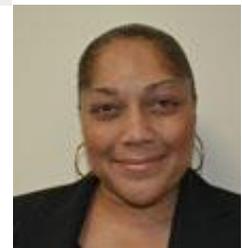
Antoinette Harman, graduate of Ivy Tech Community College in Indiana, was recently awarded a GSU transfer scholarship. Courtney Kohn Sanders, VP of Enrollment Management and Marketing at GSU, presented Antoinette with the award at the Ivy Tech commencement ceremony on May 5.

Antoinette is transferring into GSU's bachelor of health services program this fall. Upon her acceptance, she noted her desire to express the importance of higher education to her children. She noted that her accomplishment proves that anyone can be successful if they set their mind to it.

Scholarship Spotlight – Deborah Harris

Deborah Harris of Glenwood won the Cita Milbergs Scholarship in Communications. She is an undergraduate student in the College of Arts and Sciences' communications program.

Deborah is currently employed as an advertising account executive and wishes to use her degree to advance in position. She plans to continue her education and pursue a masters' degree in the future.



PT Student Run Raises \$1,400

Last weekend's gloomy skies failed to prevent more than 80 runners and walkers from competing in GSU's second annual Run 4 Rehab, a 5K run and 2-mile walk, sponsored by GSU's Physical Therapy Student Association (PTSA).



This year the PTSA members raised \$1,400, more than three times the amount raised last year. The Run 4 Rehab is designed raise funds for the Miami-Marquette Challenge, a national competition between physical therapy schools to collect and distribute money for physical therapy research grants around the country. DPT students Amy Flaherty and Andy Jellema served as co-director for the event.

PTSA strives familiarize and enhance the students with knowledge of and participation in professional organizations such as the American Physical Therapy Association, Illinois Physical Therapy Association, and other physical therapy related special interest groups; develops and augments leadership skills in students; promotes service learning through community outreach programs; enhances students' and the public's knowledge of the physical therapy profession and Governors State University's physical therapy program.

