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GSU View

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Office of Marketing and Communications

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News and Events

GSU Featured in 11/26/12 Chicago Tribune article

The Chicago Tribune today focused on GSU's transition to a university with a four-year undergraduate program.

You can read the [Tribune article](#).

General Education Courses Open New Horizons



In her Sunday column in the Northwest Indiana Times, President Elaine P. Maimon addressed the importance of general education courses.

Dr. Maimon *"It is imperative for students to use the freshman year to excel in required general education courses,"* Dr. Maimon writes. *"These liberal arts courses provide the foundation for college majors - and for life. They also offer opportunities for exploring careers - some that students never even knew existed."*

You can read [Dr. Maimon's column](#).

Gay Straight Alliance – November 28

Gay Straight Alliance (GSA) will meet on Wednesday, November 28, at 3 p.m., in E2590. The Gay Straight Alliance's mission is to create a safe place for LGBTQ people and their allies to build friendships, and develop a GSA presence on campus.

Meetings are held weekly during the semester. The GSA plans meetings and fundraisers. Everyone is welcome to participate in an organization dedicated to the belief that everyone should be free to express their sexual identity and gender without discrimination.

Attend World AIDS Day Events – November 29

Information and discussion are the themes of GSU's World AIDS Day program, on Thursday, November 29. Learn the real facts and get honest

answers at this daylong event.

- Film Screening - *Philadelphia* - 9 to 11:30 a.m., Engbretson Hall
- Film Screening *Endgame: AIDS in Black America* - noon to 2:30 p.m., Engbretson Hall
- Workshop: Psychological Impact of AIDS/HIV - noon to 12:45 p.m., CPA Lobby
- Workshop: Sexually Transmitted Infections and Protection Negotiation - 12:30 to 1:30 p.m., Cafeteria Annex
- World AIDS Day Awareness Fair - 1 to 4 p.m., Hall of Governors
- Free, Confidential AIDS Testing - 1 to 3 p.m., ARC
- Workshop: Safe Sex - 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. CPA Lobby
- Workshop: History of AIDS/HIV - 2:30 to 3:30 p.m., Cafeteria Annex
- Workshop: Living with AIDS/HIV - 3:30 to 4:30 p.m., Engbretson Hall
- Panel Discussion: The Impact of AIDS/HIV - 4:30 to 5:30 p.m., Engbretson Hall

All events are free and open to the public. The Academic Resource Center sponsors World AIDS Day events at GSU.

Holiday Cheer – November 30

The Student Senate and Student Life are sponsoring a holiday celebration for all GSU students on November 30, from 6 to 10 p.m., in the Hall of Governors. Students are invited to enjoy great music and food, have the chance to win wonderful prizes, and enjoy performances by Audrey Cher LaBranche, winner of the GSU's Got Talent contest, and comedian Calvin Evans.

Students are asked to bring non-perishable food items to donate to the GSU Food Pantry, and are reminded that they must be present to win prizes.

The festivities continue at an after party at the University Golf Club, 23520 Crawford Avenue, University Park. There is a \$3 cover charge for the after party.

For more information, contact studentsenate@govst.edu.

Trustee Eileen Durkin's Agency Wins Two Workplace Awards

Community Counseling Centers of Chicago (C4) recently received an unprecedented two prestigious awards recognizing human resource innovation and employee satisfaction: the National Best and Brightest Companies to Work For and The Chicago Tribune Top 100 Workplaces.



Eileen Durkin

GSU Trustee Eileen Durkin is president and CEO of C4. The awards mark the third such honor earned by C4 in a single year. This summer, C4 was named one of Chicago's 101 Best and Brightest Companies to Work For by the National Association for Business Resources (NABR), which announced its national award this month.

"It is an extraordinary honor to win three workplace awards in a single year," Durkin said. "We are thrilled to be recognized as having some of the highest quality human resource initiatives in the country. C4 has a long history of providing its consumers with exceptional care. It's wonderful to be recognized as an exceptional place to work as well."

C4 currently employs a staff of 275, which includes both mental health professionals and administrative personnel. The agency provides mental health and substance use services to more than 10,000 adults and children annually at five sites. Founded in 1972, C4 is the state's largest provider of crisis services for children.

C4 was among 254 companies vying for the Chicago Tribune Top Workplace Awards, which were announced at a November 12 reception hosted by the Chicago Tribune. Winners were determined solely by employee feedback gathered by WorkplaceDynamics, LLP, a leading research firm on organizational health and employee engagement.

The Best and Brightest Award winners are based on evaluations by an independent research firm that measures employee satisfaction in key categories, including employee compensation and benefits, opportunities for enrichment and development, recruitment practices, communication and shared vision, diversity and inclusion, and work-life balance.

Student Trip to Presidential Inauguration Planned

Student Life has organized an experiential educational learning opportunity for 38 students to attend the Presidential Inauguration and MLK Memorial. This will be an opportunity to experience our government in action, and be a part of the historical landscape.

GSU's entourage will travel by luxury coach bus to the inauguration and stay at the Ramada Plaza in Hagerstown, about 45 minutes from Washington, D.C. The bus will depart at 6 a.m. from GSU on Sunday, January 20. President Obama's inauguration and parade will be held January 21. The bus will depart for GSU on Tuesday, January 22, returning to campus that evening.

Drs. Elizabeth Johnson and Phyllis West will accompany students on the trip. Students attending will be required to submit an essay and

participate in civic reflection discussions about this phenomenal experience based on the criteria that Drs. Johnson and West establish. The writings will be presented as part of Black History Month presentations.

The cost per student is \$200 for the two night stay, and \$65 for the bus, for a total round trip cost of \$265. Meals are not included.

There are only 38 available seats and hotel rooms. Reservations will be secured on a first come, first served basis, A \$135 deposit must be submitted to secure a reservation.

Interested students can attend an information session on Tuesday, November 27, at 3 p.m., in A2134.

For additional information, contact [Johnsie McAuley](#) or [Sheree Sanderson](#).

And Now, the Winners

Here's our recipe for a summer of fun.

You start with all the hopes and dreams that go into planning a great vacation. Then, when it's time to go, you add in one extremely portable penguin.

Pierre the Penguin, once again, was the perfect travel companion as GSU students, faculty, and staff visited the four corners of the world this summer. Pierre's travel itinerary included the Brazilian rainforest, the Great Barrier Reef in Australia, ancient ruins in Turkey, and visits to Paris, London, and Jerusalem. Being an aquatic animal, he was always glad to be in – or next to – a large body of water.

GSU View is grateful to everyone who sent in photos for the 2012 Take Pierre on Vacation Photo Contest. We were gratified to find a much higher percentage of student entries than we saw in the last contest two years ago.

We've been asked if photos of Pierre can be submitted to GSU View for trips this winter, or any other times when there's no contest. Our answer is a resounding yes. We're always glad to get pictures of Pierre. Pick up your own Pierre the Penguin in C1312. See Tom Houlihan or Lindsay Gladstone.



On to the winners:

First place – Jackie Ryon, Occupational Therapy student. Jackie took Pierre along on a motorcycle trip

through the Great Smoky Mountains. We were bowled over by the picture of Biker Pierre – that’s a side of him we’ve never seen before – and were very impressed by the picture of him on a boat that is just his size. Jackie reported Pierre “got his wild thing on” while riding The Tail of the Dragon-Deals Gap, an 11-month stretch of highway with 318 turns. As first place



winner, Jackie will receive two tickets to the Penguin Encounter at Shedd Aquarium, and one GSU folding chair with carrying bag.



Second place – Samantha Szkola, Master of Social Work student. Samantha took a prize-winning photo of Pierre perfectly framed by a crown atop Wellington Arch in London’s Hyde Park. The crown was part of the U.K.’s celebration of Queen Elizabeth II’s Jubilee Year.

We’re pretty sure Pierre is the only penguin to be crowned in London during the Jubilee. Samantha described how she took the picture. “I just steadily held Pierre up there,” she said. “It took several tries for a clear picture.” Samantha wins a GSU folding chair and a copy of the book, “Pierre the Penguin,” about a distant relative at the San Francisco Science Center.



Third place – Diane Gohde, University Lecturer. She submitted this picture of Pierre with a cardinal being tested for West Nile Virus. Diane and Tina Whitney, her colleague on the biology faculty, helped collect data for the West Nile Virus Research Project in Oak Lawn. They mist-netted birds, banded them, and checked their overall condition. This is, of course, not a vacation picture but it’s an outstanding photo and shows Pierre making good use of his time – and helping his fellow birds. Diane will receive a GSU folding chair.

Honorable mention – Kristy Goodwin, of the Admission Office, submitted a charming photo of Pierre “sandbathing” on Santa Monica Beach in California. Jamie Viebach, a graduate assistant in Environmental Biology, submitted a picture of Pierre on a lake in Wisconsin’s North Woods – it’s a photo that makes you go “ahhh.” Kristy and Jamie will receive GSU pennants signed by Pierre the Penguin.

Once again, thanks to everyone who submitted photos. To us, you are all winners.

Celebrate Giving at GSU – November 27

The Office of Development cordially invites all GSU employees to enjoy pizza, beverages, and fellowship in recognition of *Giving Tuesday* on

Tuesday, November 27. *Giving Tuesday* is a movement to create a national day of giving. It is a response to Black Friday and Cyber Monday, two days in the holiday season that are explicitly centered on consumption.

"We welcome this opportunity to thank those who have participated in the Campus Community Campaign and encourage those who have not to join in the excitement of this year's theme -- MAGIC, Making A Greater Individual Commitment," said Jackie Small, director of the annual campaign.

The event will be held from 5:30 to 7 p.m. in the upper lobby of the Center for Performing Arts. Pizza will be provided by Chicago Dough Company and beverages are from Chicago Brewery and Grill. The Office of Development will draw tickets to win prizes which include theater tickets and a HP PHOTOSMART 7510 printer. Winners must be present to receive prizes.

Drawing tickets and contribution forms are available from Campus Community Campaign volunteers. This year's campaign volunteers are: Clarissa Anagnos, Family Development Center; Margaret Brady, CHHS; Colleen Buche, Department of Public Safety; Lisa Carra, Student Life; John Cook, COE; Lynn Dimaggio, Library; Mona Douglas, COE; Adrienne Gray, CBPA; Patricia Guy, Center for Performing Arts; Rhonda Jackson, CAS; Elizabeth Johnson, CAS; Sheryl Jones Harper, Business Office; Bettie Lewis, Office of Procurement; Victoria Lloyd, Digital Learning and Media Design; Rashidah Muhammad, CAS; Laura Owens, Civil Service President; Robert Sinclair, CBPA; Pam Stipanich, CHHS; Patricia Thompson, CAS; Michael Trendell, CBPA; and Ayita Woods, Human Resources.

This year's campaign ends on November 30.

For additional information, contact [Jackie Small](#) at ext. 2188 or [Will Davis](#) at ext. 7494.

Intellectual Life Grants 2013 Awarded

Intellectual Life grants for Spring 2013 were awarded recently. Recipients are:

- 2013 Women's History Month Celebration - Crystal Blount
- Second Spring Symposium on Mindfulness and Contemplative Practices in Higher Education - Maristella Zell and Tim Pedigo
- Africana/Hip-Hop Dance with Riley - Elizabeth Johnson
- "Art Gathering: The Collector" - closing reception and panel discussion - Jeff Stevenson
- Cracking the Code: Race and Relationships in the 21st Century (film viewing and discussion) - Elizabeth Johnson

- GS2U (Giving Support 2 U) Workshop Series - Bonnie Gregg, LaTonya Holmes, and Tina Hughes-Burke
- Hope Constitutes Change: A Restorative Approach for Students Faced with a Criminal background - Terry Banies, Darryl Cooke, Patricia Miller, and Lorri Glass
- Media Studies and Social Work connect through experience: A cross discipline transmedia collaboration - Deborah James and Maristela Zell
- Speaker on Veterans and Suicide Prevention - Ann Manning-Nagel
- Veterans Writing Group - Robin Thompson
- Veterans Writing Group Reception and Reading - Robin Thompson

Literacy Zone 2013

The Literacy Zone is an 11-week, one-to-one program that pairs students experiencing reading problems with teachers who have the skills to help them. Students meet on the GSU campus with certified, experienced teachers enrolled in the Master of Arts Reading Program at GSU.

Enrollment is limited and based on the number of tutors available. Students will be accepted in the order in which the completed application and registration fee are received. There is a \$70 registration fee. Snacks are provided at each session. Transportation is not provided.

For more information, contact Dr. Cathy Toll at 708.534.4122.

Dining Services Survey

The office of Auxiliary Services and University Housing needs your assistance. Please take a few minutes to answer a short survey regarding dining services at the GSU café. Your responses will be used to assist the university in enhancing the dining program at GSU.

The survey will be available online from through Friday, December 7. To access the survey, please click:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/2QPHQDL>

Thank you for your time, input, and completing the survey.

Timely Timesheets

The Human Resources and Payroll staffs have been working during the past month to input all the data in Colleague that is necessary for the automated leave plan feature to go live effective January, 2013. This feature will allow you to see a summary of your earned accrued leave on your pay advices and also allow you to review the details of your earned accrued leave by specific type (vacation leave, non-compensable sick leave, compensable sick leave, cumulative and non-cumulative sick leave, personal leave, etc.) on the Leave Plan Summary page. In order for this

to happen, we need everyone's cooperation. Therefore, November timesheets for all employees must be completed and submitted to the Payroll Unit no later than November 30. Leave accrual reporting for employees whose timesheets are not submitted by November 30 will not have an accurate leave accrual record in January when the Leave Plans go live in Colleague.

It is imperative that you submit your timesheets in timely fashion in November and every month or pay period thereafter.

\$30,000 Stipend – Learn More – December 4

Learn how to earn elementary or secondary (biology, chemistry, or mathematics) teacher certification and secure a teaching position through GSU's Alternative Certification Program. Information sessions will be held on Tuesday, December 4, at 7 p.m., in Engbretson Hall.

The Alternative Teacher Certification program offers a way to earn a teaching certificate and embark on a new, rewarding career in education. The Teacher Quality Partnership (TQP) leads to a Masters of Art in Teaching (MAT) in Urban Teacher Education in elementary or secondary (biology, chemistry, or mathematics). TQP provides an opportunity to co-teach for a year with a certified teacher, a \$30,000 stipend, and a 25 percent reduction in tuition. TQP is made possible by a grant from the U.S. Department of Education.

This program is open to college graduates with a bachelor's degree. The application deadline for the Alternative Certification program, beginning Spring 2013, is December 15, 2012.

For more information, call 708.534.4399 or visit www.govst.edu/altcert.

Civil Service Day – December 5

It is time to enjoy the fun, music, and camaraderie of the 29th Annual Civil Service Day. This year's show, The GSU Community Revue and Variety Show 2012, begins at 10 a.m., in Sherman Hall. Everyone is welcome to enjoy the show.

The Civil Service Day banquet lunch will be served immediately after the show. All Civil Service employees are invited to attend the banquet. Please RSVP no later than Friday, November 30 to [Kelly Robinson](#) at ext. 3997.

