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GSU View

University Newsletters

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11-25-2014

## GSU View, 2014-11-25

Office of Marketing and Communications

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## President Maimon Announces New Executive Vice President: David Meadows

I am pleased to announce that Mr. David Meadows has accepted our offer to become GSU's next Executive Vice President, effective April 1, 2015. Mr. Meadows brings with him an impressive 25 years of experience in finance, administration and budget operations, spending the last seven years at Virginia State University. [Read more on page 9.](#)

## Chicago Live! Lives Up to Its Reputation



Chicago Tribune's Rick Kogan on stage with GSU's mascot, Jax the Jaguar, during Chicago Live!

Chicago Tribune's **Chicago Live!** returned to the CPA stage for the third straight year last Thursday night. The eclectic show brought together rock, doo-wop, baseball, politics and puppetry in an entertaining show that was recorded for later broadcast on WGN Radio.

The Trib's Rick Kogan interviewed the coach of the Jackie Robinson West Little League World Series United States Champion Team before bringing out several players for a quick Q&A. When asked what they wanted for Christmas, the players proved that fame hasn't gone to their heads. Like most kids their age, their wish lists included favorite shoes and video games.

Kogan's almanac, always a show favorite, wove together Chicago's 1967 snowstorm, baseball games at Wrigley and Thanksgiving. The Second City performers injected comedy throughout the show, in

contrast to the serious discussion of state and Chicago politics by Bruce Dold, Kristen McQueary and Eric Zorn, all from the Tribune.

Stormy Weather thrilled the audience with their a cappella doo-wop performance, and a special appearance by Willie Rogers, whose vocals remain as powerful as ever.

The duo known as Redgrave open and closed the show with their blend of blues and rock. Helping to introduce Redgrave was GSU's very own Jax, who also joined Kogan on stage at the beginning of the show.

Kogan's interviews with Henry Farag, founder of Stormy Weather, and master puppeteer Blair Thomas rounded out the evening.

A pre-show reception raised funds for GSU scholarships and featured an impromptu performance by Stormy Weather.

[See more pictures of Chicago Live!](#)

## GSU is Ready for Winter. Are you?



It's almost Thanksgiving, which means that winter weather conditions are just around the corner. It's important for the entire GSU community to understand how the university will communicate with you when inclement weather conditions impact the campus with late start, closures, etc.

The university will notify the GSU community using four methods:

1. A message will be posted on the front page of university's website: [www.govst.edu](http://www.govst.edu).
2. An email will be sent to your GSU email account.
3. A text message will be sent to the phone number that you have on file with the university.
4. A phone call will be made to the phone number that you have on file with the university.

GSU will notify the Emergency Closing Center [www.emergencyclosingcenter.com](http://www.emergencyclosingcenter.com), where you will find the status of Chicagoland area schools, businesses, daycare centers and organizations.

Within the Emergency Closing Center website you can sign up to receive email notifications when the university is closed.

## **IMPORTANT: Is Your Contact Information Up to Date?**

It's critical that your contact information is up to date so we can keep you informed. Please make sure that GSU has your current contact information.

If you are a student: Please complete a *Change of Student Information* form and submit it to the Registrar's Office. This form is available online at [http://www.govst.edu/Admissions/Registration\\_and\\_Enrollment/Student\\_Information\\_Change\\_Forms/](http://www.govst.edu/Admissions/Registration_and_Enrollment/Student_Information_Change_Forms/). You may submit the completed form including a copy of your picture ID via fax to the Registrar's Office at 708.534.1640 or you may drop it off in person at C-1300. If you have any questions, please contact the Registrar's Office at 708.534.4500 or by email at [Regoffice@govst.edu](mailto:Regoffice@govst.edu)

If you are a faculty or staff member: In the myGSU portal, under the Faculty & Staff Resources tab and HR/Employee forms, you will find Name/Address/Phone Change fillable form for you to complete. To update your contact information, complete the change form and submit it to the Human resources Department, C-1360 or electronically send the form.

If you have any questions, please contact Human Resources at 708.534.4100 or by email at [GSU-HR@govst.edu](mailto:GSU-HR@govst.edu)

## **Coming Spring 2015: Student Meal Purchasing Plan**

GSU students will soon have the option of purchasing a Declining Balance Meal Plan. Starting spring semester 2015, this convenient and flexible meal plan will allow students to have monies available specifically for food and beverage purchases on campus. The cost of the meal plan will be deducted directly from the student account. Students who have sufficient financial aid will be able to pay for the meal plan with financial aid like any other charge on their student account.

The Declining Balance Meal Plan will be accepted at the:

- GSU Café
- Prairie Place C-Store
- And to pay for food and groceries purchased via
- the GSU Eat Well on Campus app.

For more information about the Declining Balance Meal Plan options and to submit an application please go to: [www.govst.edu/housing/MealPlan](http://www.govst.edu/housing/MealPlan).

## **Everything You Need to Rock Finals Week: THE GSU LIBRARY JAM!!!! December 1, 2 & 3**

The GSU library will be open and a stress free zone from 8:30 a.m. to midnight next Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. The CUBE will be also be open from 8:30 a.m. until midnight.

And that's just the beginning of why successful exam-takers will make the Library the place to be:

- Warm beverages will be provided by the Library and food services.
- Snacks will be available at scheduled times outside of the Library.

LIBRARY JAM and keeping the library open during finals is a big idea that started with GSU students. "Students showed a great deal of initiative and leadership in making the request. Keeping the library open is in line with our goal of offering a number of resources to help all students be successful with their end of semester exams, papers and projects. We in the library see ourselves as a partner with students and faculty in achieving success and academic excellence," said Lydia Morrow Ruetten, Dean of the GSU Library.

"A special thanks also goes to the faculty and staff who have so generously agreed to give their time, energy and effort to helping students during LIBRARY JAM. Without them, LIBRARY JAM would not be possible," added Ruetten.

### **LIBRARY JAM Schedule of events**

#### **Monday**

Get guidance from:

- Library  
CUBE
- Writing Center: 11-7p.m.  
English Professors: 6:30-10 p.m.
- Arc tutors:
  - Math / Statistics / General chemistry: 12-4 p.m., 7:30-10:30 p.m.
  - Science: 4-8 p.m.
  - Writing professors: 11a.m.-12 p.m., 1-6 p.m.

#### **Tuesday**

- Relax with mindfulness yoga/meditation in library – 7,8,9 & 9:30 p.m.  
(Bring your own mat or beach towel).
- Fuel up with late night breakfast from 9-11 p.m.in the cafeteria.
- Blow off steam with music/dancing/games in the cafeteria annex.

#### **Wednesday**

Get guidance from:

- Peer mentors: 5-11 p.m.
- Writing professors: 11a.m.-12 p.m., 1-2 p.m., 5-7 p.m.

Be sure to check out the GSU library web page for an updated Library Jam schedule and surprises.  
[www.govst.edu/library](http://www.govst.edu/library)

Follow us on twitter #gsulibraryjam

Questions? Contact Library Dean Lydia Morrow Ruetten at [lruetten@govst.edu](mailto:lruetten@govst.edu).

## The Secrets to Surviving Finals Week



The week we've all been preparing for since August is on the doorstep – Finals Week starts next Monday. It's a time that can be full of stress – and sleeplessness – particularly if you're new to college life or just returning after years away. But don't worry. We all live through it. Some GSU faculty and staff have shared their memories and their recommendations for navigating Finals Week.

"In 1981 after finishing my associate degree at Oakton Community College I transferred to Illinois State. My new ISU friends were convinced that my community college experience did not prepare me to survive my first "real" finals week. They had it wrong. At OCC I learned the importance of advance preparation. In the end, it was I who tutored them prior to our spring '82 finals. Sure, I made the mistake of a few all-nighters. I succumbed to those mostly because I suffer from PMS (Paranoid of Missin' Something). I knew my friends were laughing, having fun, drinking copious amounts of caffeine and snacking on cheap pizza. I joined those fun, yet fruitless, study sessions only to learn that the less sleep I got, the less information I remembered for the exam. After a few sleepy exam periods I stopped caring about everyone else having fun at finals week all-nighters and saved those fun college nights for when exams were over! From that point forward the best advice I gave students preparing for exams was to start caring about final grades beginning on the first day of class. It's a little hard to learn 15 weeks of class material in a few nights of panic. I also believe in getting a good night's sleep before exams to improve memory and recall, asking for help to reduce anxiety and ... pace yourself on the caffeine! I'm so glad Starbucks didn't exist when I was an undergrad! "

**Dr. Randi Schneider**

***Association Vice President, Enrollment Management***

"My undergraduate finals week experiences are from the 'old days'. We not only had a curfew to be in the dorm but we also had a lights-out curfew. The challenge was to make sure that no light was visible in the corridor from under the door or around the door frame or from the outside by a light in the window. Many a finals week night was spent cramped in and studying by closet light with a towel packed under the closet door."

**Dr. Catherine Brady**

***Interim Chair, Occupational Therapy Department.***

"Yes, I remember my second semester at a school in Michigan, in which I signed up for all morning classes and made it to only a handful. The week before and the week of exams I had such stomach pains that I spend most of the time laying down in bed, eating very little and getting up only to take the exams. Of course the stomach pains left when exam week was over. So I guess I could say: It'll all be

good once it's over? Ha!! It's a memory I'll never forget!"

**Jan Haan, Staff Clerk**  
**CHHS Dean's Office**

"Receiving my paper back from my professor, I was amazed to read his comment: 'This reads like you wrote it in the back seat of a car on your way back to campus after a weekend at home.' How did he know? "

**Penny Perdue, MBA**  
**Executive Assistant to the President**

"Remember that going through these stressful times only makes you stronger. You are capable of accomplishing your goals as long as you work hard. Now, grab your ear lobes and repeat after me: 'Woosah'."

**Roshaunda Ross**  
**Director, Dual Degree Program**

## **GSU Joins the National Cyberwatch Center.**

GSU has become a member of the National CyberWatch Center. The Center, funded by the National Science Foundation, is a consortium of higher education institutions, businesses and government agencies whose mission is to lead collaborative efforts to advance cybersecurity education and strengthen the national cybersecurity workforce. Consortium members collaborate to share best practices, methodologies, curricula, course modules and materials, and to provide faculty training and support

Joining the center will strengthen the Information Technology degree program at GSU, allowing students and faculty to participate in many collaborative training and research events with other schools across the country. The Center's members include 72 community colleges and 72 universities in thirty nine states. GSU's IT degree will also enhance its standing in the cyber community by beginning the process to create a cybersecurity center at GSU.

Students completing the Information Security certificate courses as part of the Information Technology degree meet the requirements of the Committee on National Security Systems, qualifying them for certain government jobs in the area of cybe-security.

GSU's next step is to begin the process of becoming a Center of Academic Excellence following stringent requirements set forth by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. The CAE designation will assist GSU students in their studies and demonstrate that an education at GSU is meeting the toughest standards set forth by the US Government.

## **CORRECTION**

In last week's edition of the GSU VIEW, the keynote speaker at Women's Leadership Symposium: SHERO or Sharing Her Story of Empowerment, Resilience and Opportunity, **Dorri McWhorter**, was incorrectly identified. We apologize for the error.



SHERO attendees surround keynote speaker, YWCA of Chicago CEO **Dorri McWhorter**, in the back row.

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Happy  
Thanksgiving  
from  
Governors  
State  
University  
to you &  
your family.

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Do you have a story or event you want to submit for the GSU View? [Click here to learn about our submission guidelines.](#)



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# News

## GSU Announces Its New Executive Vice President

November 24, 2014

GSU is pleased to announce that Mr. David Meadows has accepted GSU's offer to become our next Executive Vice President, effective April 1, 2015. Mr. Meadows brings with him an impressive 25 years of experience in finance, administration, and budget operations, spending the last seven years at Virginia State University (VSU).

During his tenure at VSU, a public land-grant institution, Mr. Meadows served on the President's University Council as Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, overseeing a \$187 million budget. He was responsible for the oversight of \$250 million in new university construction and renovations including four new residence halls, a 6,500 seat multi-purpose center, a central library, three academic buildings, and two athletic fields. Mr. Meadows also served on the VSU Foundation Board, the VSU Research Foundation Board, and directed the annual Strategic Planning and Capital Planning processes.

Prior to his position at VSU, Mr. Meadows was the Director of Budget Operations and Strategic Budgeting for the Government of the District of Columbia, where he managed a \$7.5 billion operating budget. His duties included oversight of budget formulation, execution, monthly forecasts, revenue analysis, and strategic performance of the District of Columbia's budget processes.

Mr. Meadows holds a B.B.A. in Business Administration and Finance from Cleveland State University, and an M.B.A., Summa Cum Laude,

### The Latest On Twitter



Are you considering graduate school? Watch WCIU You And Me This Morning today at 6:30 a.m. for advice from our...

<http://t.co/DrzBYOgGmN>  
 March 02, 2015

GSU President: 31.5 percent cut 'devastating'  
<http://t.co/MNhZ3ecT9S>  
 March 01, 2015

Now You Can Access the GSU Library on the My GSU Mobile App! Want to easily check your I-Share account? Need to...  
<http://t.co/WPckB2rb9S>  
 February 27, 2015

from Averett University, Richmond, VA.

We appreciate the services of AGB Search and its President, Dr. Jamie Ferrare, who identified outstanding candidates for our consideration. Special thanks to the search committee, chaired by Provost Deborah Bordelon, for working efficiently and effectively.

In January 2015, Executive Vice President Gebe Ejigu will begin a leave of absence to prepare for the next chapter of his contributions to GSU. Gebe's administrative work has always been motivated and informed by his commitment to students. Beginning in August 2015, Gebe will take on a classroom role, applying teaching abilities, which he has demonstrated every day in mentoring his colleagues. With a Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin, he will teach a range of courses in organizational behavior and business practices. He is also eager to develop courses, applying research from his recent Fulbright experience in China. In addition, I am grateful to report, he will serve as Special Adviser to the President.

As Gebe assumes a new role at GSU, it is appropriate to reflect on his enormous contributions to the university over the last seven and half years. If I were to itemize those accomplishments, this memo would become book length. Gebe's financial wisdom has made it possible for GSU to grow and thrive—to navigate troubled waters. From day one, when he led the team to take on campus safety concerns to our current status as a dynamic full service university, Gebe's leadership is evident everywhere. He successfully directed and guided the completion of over \$60 million of campus improvement initiatives including the renovation of the E&F Wings, 22 major deferred maintenance and building renewal projects, Prairie Place, the design and installation of a new signage and way finding system, the Cube and Library project, and replacement of the outmoded administrative computing system. He was the architect of our current resource allocation (PBAC) and management system. He set the stage and led the planning for competitive athletics; he enhanced GSU's international presence; and so much more.

Most important, Gebe has worked with all of us to establish an ethos of integrity, respect, and commitment to students.

We continue that tradition, as David Meadows joins our team.

