Education and Healthcare Initiative Holds Kick-Off Event

As part of GSU's Teacher Quality Partnership (TQP) grant, the university is working on an exciting initiative regarding coordinating education and health resources. The Southland Education and Health Initiative is a partnership with the Illinois Education Association and Cook County and state pediatricians, spearheaded at GSU by Professor Karen Peterson.

Initiative members include the American Academy of Pediatrics – Illinois Chapter; Consortium for Educational Change; Cook County Health and Hospitals System; Governors State University and the Illinois Education Association (IEA), as well as School Districts 132 (Calumet Park), 148 (Dolton Riverdale) and 169 (Ford Heights).

These education and health care leaders gathered at Governors State for a kick-off event for this exciting new collaboration. Some of the participants who were at the kick-off event included: Jo Anderson, Co-Director of the Consortium for Educational Change, who just returned from DC where he
was Special Assistant to Secretary of Education Arne Duncan; Audrey Soglin, Director of the Illinois Education Association, and David Soglin, Director of Pediatrics for the Cook County Health System and Stroger Hospital. Also in attendance were Dean Evans from the College of Education and Dean Cada from the College of Health and Human Services.

The goals of the Initiative are to coordinate care and services between health care and education organizations, increase family and community wellness and access to preventative care, mitigate the impact of childhood trauma and build resiliency in children and communities and identify results-based practices that could inform a policy agenda around these issues.

"We are very proud that Governors State is involved in this important initiative linking health and education. For too long service delivery has been fragmented. The children of promise in our region deserve coordinated services in order to optimize the work of educators and health professionals," Professor Peterson said.

GSU Celebrates Black History Month

Join Governors State as we celebrate Black History Month with a full program of interesting topics and events designed to educate and enlighten. There are art exhibits, music, a movie screening, informative panel discussions and a vendor and resource fair scheduled throughout February. Click here for a complete list of events.

Ten GSU Basketball Players on Athletic Director Honor Roll

GSU Jaguar basketball had very successful seasons, with both the men's and women's teams posting winning records. But in addition to their winning ways on the court, the student athletes on both teams came through in the classroom as well. Ten of the 27 student athletes will be on the Athletic Directors Honor Roll.

These 10 honorees all had GPA's of 3.0 or higher this fall; one had a 3.5 and one had a 4.0! GSU Athletic Director and men's head coach Tony Bates stresses academic achievement for students on all the teams. "There are a lot of places kids can go and just be basketball players, but not here. You have to be successful in the classroom as well. The wins will come, but the foundation of being students first is paramount to me," he said.

Here are the student athletes on the GSU Athletic Directors Honor Roll:

Men's Basketball
Ammanuel Melaku Ayalew
Des'Nique Harris
Saieed Ivey
Friends of the GSU Library Annual Book Drive Begins!

Looking for a place to donate some of your new or gently used books, CD's, DVD's, cassette tapes and artwork? Look no more! The GSU Friends of the Library are planning for the Spring Book Sale on Wednesday, April 8th.

Bring items that you would like to donate to the GSU Library located on the second floor of the Main Entrance or D Building during regular business hours. Once you get to the library, ask for the Friends of the GSU Library table on the balcony where you will see Green Friends of the GSU Library bags and a Donations/Gifts to GSU Library form. Then, follow these three easy steps:

1. place your items for donation in one or more of the Green bags, and leave them on the table;
2. fill out the Donations/Gifts to GSU Library Form that is on the table. Please be sure to note whether you would like a letter of acknowledgement; and
3. place the Donations/Gifts to GSU Library form in one of the books where it can be found.

If you have any questions, please send them to FriendsofGSULibrary@gmail.com.

Undergraduate Open House Monday, February 16
Governors State University will present the transformation of the university at an undergraduate Open House on Monday, February 16, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. With the innovative Freshmen academic program, recently renovated science, health science and technology classrooms and labs, and the opening of the first on-campus student residence hall, GSU has a lot to showcase.

"We will have information on admission requirements, financial aid, campus life and student housing, as well as specific undergraduate programs. Prospective students and parents will also be able to meet with Governors State faculty, academic advisors and financial aid counselors," said Yakeea Daniels, Director of Admissions and Student Recruitment.

"Potential students will find out exactly what they'll need to become a successful student here. We are glad to show off all that GSU has to offer and why we should be their first choice for higher education," adds Daniels.

If you know someone who would be interested in attending GSU, please let them know about Open House. For more information or to RSVP, contact the Office of Admissions at (708) 534-4490 or gsunow@govst.edu. To register for Open House, go to www.govst.edu/openhouse.

**Are you Ready for Transfer Thursdays?**

Transfer Thursday is when you visit GSU, submit your completed application and official transcript(s), and get your admission decision all in the same day. If you have earned your Associate degree or at least 45 semester hours of college coursework; have 2.0 or higher cumulative GPA and can obtain official transcripts from your previously attended institutions(s) you are ready for Transfer Thursday!

So if you are ready to complete your undergraduate degree or are anxiously awaiting your admission and want to avoid the stress, Transfer Thursdays are perfect for you! Tour our campus, learn how to finance your education, speak with an admission counselor, and learn about student resources.

The next Transfer Thursday is February 5, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., but are held intermittently throughout the semester. Click here to register.

**Faculty: Get Your Story Told**

We want to hear from you, faculty! If there is an accolade you have received, a program or project or student you are especially proud of, or if you think there just isn't enough light being shined in your direction, we are here to help!

The *GSU View* would like to see our dedicated faculty members get recognized for their efforts in making Governors State a better place for all of us.

We also want to let the outside world know about the great things going on at GSU by doing stories for the GSU website, as well as social and traditional media. Get your story told! Contact Phil Allen at pallen2@govst.edu.
Don't Forget to be Social!

GSU's social media presence is going strong! You can find us on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, YouTube and Google+ by clicking on the icons at the top of the GSU View. You will notice our new dedication to social media, with interesting and informative posts that will keep you connected to GSU. Don't miss out!

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