NEWS

Students Take Budget Cut Message to Springfield, Legislators

On April 22, GSU students, staff and friends boarded a bus to Springfield to rally against the proposed budget cuts to higher education in Illinois. The GSU contingent was determined to have their voices heard by state legislators and the Governor of Illinois. Rallying beneath the statue of President Abraham Lincoln outside the Capitol Building, the group let passersby know in no uncertain terms where GSU students stand on the issue of budget cuts to Illinois public higher education.

The Springfield trip was the culminating event in a GSU Student Senate campaign entitled #SaveOurEducation. The campaign included writing postcards informing government officials about the university’s positive contributions to the state and to voice opposition to the proposed cuts, writing letters to the editor to newspapers, tweeting and posting facts about GSU on social media.

In Springfield, the students delivered the postcards to their state legislators. They also delivered a Change.org petition to Illinois Gov. Bruce Rauner’s office. The petition was signed by hundreds of GSU supporters and others who care about Illinois public higher education. The petition, which can be signed here, was presented in a large book to the governor’s staff.

While at the Capitol, the students met with State Senators Napoleon Harris-D (15th) and Michael
Hastings-D (19th), and Rep. Anthony Deluca-D (80th). Rep. Will Davis-D (30th), a GSU alumnus, recognized the large contingent from the floor of the Illinois House. Outside on the Capitol steps, GSU students held a sign-waving rally. Student Senate member, Doria Scott, said, "I am not only advocating for myself but for my children and grandchildren."
To see video of the GSU student trip to Springfield, click here.

**New Food Vendor for GSU**

Arena Food Service, Inc. has been awarded a five year concessionary agreement to be the University's Food Service, Catering and Vending partner. The agreement is effective July 1, 2015. Arena will replace Food Services, Inc. (FSI) which has been the University's food service partner since August 2009.

Founded in 1985, Arena Food Service has become one of the largest independently owned and operated food service management and catering companies in central Illinois.

Arena Food Service will provide full retail services in the GSU Café and C-Store at Prairie Place. Daily specials, themed meals and a loyalty card program will be part of the program offerings in the GSU Café. The Arena Lifestyles program featuring fresh, innovative menu creations, wholesome ingredients prepared in a healthful manner will also be one of the featured offerings in the Café.

Arena Food Service, Inc. has an outstanding reputation as a premier caterer for first class events and will offer a variety of tiered catering services to accommodate our catering needs on the GSU campus. The Arena Food Service, Inc. catering guide will be posted on the Dining webpage (www.govst.edu/dining) within the next few weeks and any department or student organization wanting to plan a catered event after July 1, 2015 should contact Arena at the contact information provided on the dining webpage.

Anyone with questions about the food service, catering and vending program at GSU should contact Betsy Joseph, Director of Auxiliary Services & University Housing ejoseph@govst.edu.

**Road Construction Will Improve Access and Connect GSU to Interstate 57**

Construction has begun to widen the section of Stuenkel Road between Cicero Ave. and Governors Highway.

The new construction is part of a larger project that will include the East/West section of University Parkway on the northern edge of campus and will eventually extend University Parkway/Stuenkel Road all the way to the new interchange currently under construction on I-57.

According to the Illinois Department of Transportation, motorists can expect delays and should allow extra time for trips through this area. Drivers are urged to pay close attention to flaggers and signs in the work zones, obey the posted speed limits and be on the alert for workers and equipment.

While it is expected that the road will remain open during construction, drivers coming from the north and west via Cicero may wish to avoid the construction by taking Sauk Trail east from Cicero to Governors Highway and then turn right and proceed south to Stukenkel Road.

The full project is expected to be completed in 2016 and will eventually make GSU more easily accessible to motorists. Further information on alternate ways to get to campus can be found at: http://www.govst.edu/Directions/
**Intellectual Life Grants Awarded**

The Intellectual Life Committee is pleased to award eight grants for Fall 2015 projects to:

**Elizabeth Johnson** – Constitution Day: Meet the Characters and Constitution Day: 21st Century Voting Reforms

**Andrae Marak** - Women Drug Traffickers: Mules, Bosses, and Organized Crime

**Daniel Nearing** – Documentary Filmmaking in Chicago

**Candice Robbins, Tenille Wallace & Mazna Patka** – Social inequities exist, now what?

**Suzette Shepherd & Tammara Winn** – The Unconscious Veil of Suicide: Recognizing the signs and characteristics of the potential for Suicide

**Dwight Vick** – Real Men Read (RMR): The Impact of Adult Males Have on Children’s Classroom Reading Habits in Bronzeville Schools and How the Nonprofit Program Can Impact South Suburban Elementary Schools

**Stephen Wagner & Maristela Zell** – “Start Something that Matters” summit

**Maristela Zell & Tim Pedigo** – 3rd Spring Symposium on Mindfulness and Contemplative Practices in Higher Education

The Intellectual Life Grants are awarded for up to $500 for events taking place between August 10, 2015 and December 4, 2015 that promote and increase awareness of the arts, humanities and other intellectual topics of universal interest. Please be on the lookout for events related to these grants that might include lecture series, faculty research salons, workshops, panel discussions, film screenings, exhibits, presentations in local communities and field trips.


The committee would like to thank everyone who applied for a Fall 2015 grant, and look forward to the variety of events and programing this Fall. For more information about the Intellectual Life Committee, please contact Lydia at lruetten@govst.edu or visit the website inside the portal.

**The Annual Student Leadership Awards**

Did you vote for your favorite club, outstanding student or program? The Annual Student Leadership Awards are on Friday, May 1, in the Hall of Governors. Be sure to come out and celebrate the achievements, of GSU Student Clubs and Organizations, as well as the staff, faculty, and administrators who support these groups.

Awards will be presented in the following categories:

- Outstanding Student Club/Organization Award
- Outstanding Graduate Student Award
- Outstanding Undergraduate Student Award
- Freshman of the Year Award
- Rising Star Award
- New Student Club/Organization of the Year
- Program of the Year
- Outstanding Club/Organization Advisor
- Outstanding Support Staff
- The Elaine P. Maimon Award

**Addictions Studies Students Earn 2nd Place Award**
In late March, two students of GSU’s Master of Health Science in Addictions Studies attended the 2015 Illinois Counseling Association’s 5th Annual Southern Conference, held in Collinsville.

The results are in!

The poster presentation by two future graduates of GSU’s Master of Health Science in Addictions Studies/Addictions Counseling Concentration has garnered a 2nd place award at the recent 2015 Illinois Counseling Association’s 5th Annual Southern Conference, held March 20 in Collinsville. There were a total of 11 posters presented at the conference.

The students, Sandra Knezevic and Shirley Washington, conducted a joint poster presentation on “Understanding Stress Reactivity across a Culturally Diverse Population among Children Affected by War Zone Complex Trauma.”

The Illinois Counseling Association is a partnership of associations representing professional counselors who enhance human development.

**Art Students Give Grade Schoolers Free Lesson**

On April 15, students in Dr. Jane Hudak’s class, Methods of Teaching the Creative Arts, taught children...
from Medgar Evans Elementary School in Ford Heights right before they saw a musical theater performance at GSU's Center for Performing Arts.

College of Arts and Sciences faculty member Hudak said, "This was a wonderful opportunity to collaborate with a local school and for GSU students to participate in a servant leadership project. The Center for Performing Arts provides great educational, age-appropriate theater for children and GSU's College of Education students teaching these particular fourth graders an arts lesson involving music, drama, dance and/or art made the experience a 'win-win' for all involved."

20 Students Represent GSU at Occupational Therapy Conference

The Department of Occupational Therapy at Governors State University was well-represented at last week's 95th Annual American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) Conference and Expo, held in Nashville. A total of 20 students went to the conference; there were three student/faculty poster presentations, plus faculty panel and podium presentations.

Pictured at GSU's information booth are (left to right) Caren Schranz, DrOT, OTR/L, Assistant Professor of Occupational Therapy; Hannah Verburg, Master of Occupational Therapy student; Kristen Kozy, Master of Occupational Therapy student; Breanna Foley, Master of Occupational Therapy student; Elizabeth Wanka, DrOT, OTR/L, Assistant Professor of Occupational Therapy; and Catherine Brady, Ed.D., OTR/L, Interim Chair of the Department of Occupational Therapy. Also in attendance at the conference (not pictured) were Melanie Ellexson, DHSc, MBA, OTR/L, FAOTA, Associate Professor of Occupational Therapy, and Cynthia Carr, DrOT, MS, OTR/L, Associate Professor of Occupational Therapy.

COMMENCEMENT MAY 16

Graduates, Tell Your #MyGSUStory

For the next few weeks, leading up to Commencement Ceremonies on Saturday, May 16, the GSU View will be running a special Commencement Section. There will be stories on the Honorary Degree recipients, the Student Commencement Speakers, and Student Singers.

During that time and through the Commencement Ceremonies, graduates are encouraged to share their stories about what GSU has meant to them by posting to #myGSUstory on Facebook and Twitter.

Graduates, let us know how GSU has changed your life and what you will be doing now that you are a Governors State alum! We will feature some of your Facebook and Twitter posts in the View and on our social media sites. You can also email the GSU View. Tell us your GSU Story!
Commencement Questions? CLICK HERE!
Do you have questions about Commencement? If you are you worried about ticketing, parking, what time to be there, or anything else that crosses your mind, chances are the answers can be found at the Graduation and Commencement webpage. From driving directions to the Tinley Park Convention Center to videos on how to wear your regalia during the ceremonies, the webpage is your go-to place for everything GSU Commencement.

Multi-Generational Graduates Make the News
Did you miss our story last week on our Multi-Generational Graduates? The Daily Southtown has written about them as well! Click here to read about this special GSU family in an article written by Angela Denk.

BUZZ
Freedom from Smoking Classes at GSU!

The Will County Health Department, along with GSU is offering the American Lung Association’s Gold Standard Freedom from Smoking Program to all GSU students, staff, and faculty beginning Monday, May 11. The program includes eight sessions and features a step-by-step program for quitting smoking. The program is $25 per person and will be held in Room C2316 from noon-1:30 p.m. To register, contact Julia Jamison at jjameison@govst.edu.

FA Link Allows Bookstore Purchases and Rentals with Financial Aid
Students, making purchases at the GSU bookstore is easier than it’s ever been with FA link! You can use your GSU ID to purchase school supplies and text books and more!

FA Link will be available prior to the first financial aid disbursement of each semester beginning for the Summer 2015 semester. You will be able to purchase or rent books using FA Link during the following time periods:

- **Summer 2015**—April 20, 2015 – May 9, 2015
- **Fall 2015**—June 1, 2015 – August 15, 2015

For more information on FA Link:
http://www.govst.edu/FAlink

Social Media and APP Directory
The Marketing Department is putting together a GSU Social Media and APP Directory. The directory...
Library Survey Through April 29

Do you have five minutes? We need your help and thoughts. The GSU Library is conducting a survey to determine how well we are meeting the needs of those in our GSU community. You can find the survey at https://www.research.net/s/W37L6X6. The survey will be available until 10:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 29. We invite you to take the survey. Your thoughts and opinions will be greatly appreciated.

Free Screening of The Hunting Ground April 28

The Academic Resource Center will present a free screening of The Hunting Ground, a Sundance film festival documentary Tuesday, April 28, at 7:00 p.m. in F1622.

The Hunting Ground is a startling expose of the epidemic of sexual assault on U.S. campuses, institutional cover-ups, and the brutal social toll the crimes take on survivors and their families. Like the student activists featured in the film, we all need to get involved in a big way and talk about these issues.

There will be a panel discussion immediately following the screening.

You can watch the trailer here:
Vacation Education at Governors State University

Take advantage of the ultimate summertime college opportunity... the chance to pick up a class you need to fill a General Education requirement while you have the time and none of the stress.

Vacation Education at GSU offers Gen. Ed. courses at convenient times – when you have the time. Our flexible summer schedule accommodates your need to work as well as your need to have a summer break by offering daytime and evening classes. Click here for more information.

Food Donation Box is Easy to Find

Students in Dr. Daniel Cortese’s Social Inequalities class were given a project to create awareness as well as relocate and make campus food pantry drop-offs more visible and more accessible for students wishing to donate. Students created a flyer and posters to attract attention to the new drop-off location. The donation box is now located near the staircase in the D Building. Students, faculty and staff are asked to donate non-perishable food items such as canned food, granola bars and instant oatmeal pouches.

EVENTS

Poetry on the Prairie April 27

You are invited to a Poetry Slam celebrating National Poetry Month, Monday, April 27 from 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. in the GSU Library.

Join prof. Rashidah Muhammad and other poetry lovers in presenting their poetry. Come share your own original poetry!

Light refreshments will be served.
For more information, please contact Rashidah J. Muhammad rmuhammad@govst.edu.

Library Jam – April 27-30

Library Jam is a week-long mix of events, activities and refreshments in the GSU Library to help students get ready for finals. Library Jam will take place April 27-30 week during the regular library hours of 8:30 a.m.-10:30 p.m. “With finals just around the corner, we wanted to offer students a stress free place to come study, relax and get ready for finals,” said Lydia Morrow Ruetten, Dean of the GSU Library.
“We want to make sure that students are able to get many of their academic needs met during Library Jam which is why we have our librarians and a variety of tutors available in the library,” said Ruetten. Other events will be taking place in the library such as the Poetry Slam on Monday at 7:30 p.m. on the balcony, the Artists Reception with Jeff Stevenson on Thursday from 2:30-4 p.m., and meditation sessions.

Events may be added daily. Please drop by the library, check out the library website at www.govst.edu/library or follow us on Twitter at #GSULibraryJam.

Communication Disorders Prevention Fair April 28

The GSU community and members of the public are invited to learn ways to prevent Noise-Induced Hearing Loss (NIHL) and stroke in young adults when the Department of Communication Disorders hosts a Prevention Fair on Tuesday, April 28, 2015, from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. in GSU’s F Lobby. Activities will include:

- Check Your Hearing
- Play the “Do You Know Your Decibels?” Game
- Learn to Act F.A.S.T.
- Food, fun and prizes.

This program is made possible by a grant from the GSU Intellectual Life Committee.

Spring Open Market Wednesday, April 29

The GSU Civil Service Senate is hosting the 2015 Spring Open Market, Wednesday, April 29 from 10:30 a.m.-6 p.m. in the Hall of Governors. Come join our vendors and crafters as they sell their unique products. Buy gifts for birthdays, Mother’s Day or “just because.” The event is free and open to the public. For more information, call (708) 235-7559.

Sexual Assault Awareness Month Events
April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM) and GSU is holding a number of activities throughout the month. SAAM events at GSU will provide an opportunity for education and discussion for students, faculty, and staff. Wednesday, April 29 will be Denim Day to help raise awareness concerning the prevalence of sexual violence and victim blaming in our society. Click here to see the entire SAAM schedule of events.

**CAS Student Achievement Reception April 29**

GSU’s literary journal, *Reconstructed*, published its first print edition in the fall. The College of Arts and Science will honor the student writers and artists who contributed to the Fall 2014 edition with a reception, which will be held Wednesday, April 29, from 1-3 p.m. in the E-Lounge. The reception will also honor winners of student gallery shows and contest finalists of the first ever interdisciplinary Art of Science competition. The Student Achievement Reception is the first event of its kind for the College.

**Volunteer at WE Day April 30**

Students and faculty are encouraged to attend the Volunteer at WE Day! on Thursday, April 30 from 7 a.m.-3 p.m., at the Allstate Arena in Rosemont.

Why Volunteer?

- See the greatest leaders and performers of our time, including Common, Jennifer Hudson, Selena Gomez and more!
- Support youth who are making a difference, locally and globally
- Give back to the community in a fun, easy and meaningful way
- Take part in an unforgettable volunteer experience

To learn more about We Day and to sign-up go to [https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/GSUWeDay2015](https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/GSUWeDay2015)
Lambda Lambda to Celebrate Graduating Nurses May 3

Members of Lambda Lambda, GSU’s local chapter of Sigma Theta Tau, International—the Honor Society of Nursing—will celebrate all graduating nurses and National Nurses Week with a recognition banquet on Sunday, May 3 from 5-10 p.m. at the University Golf Club in University Park.

“Ethical Practice Quality Care” is the theme for National Nurses Week 2015. All nurses, family members and friends are invited to attend the celebration, which will feature appetizers and dinner, a silent auction, a poster session, distinguished speaker, spoken word artists, music and a raffle.

Tickets are $50 per person. Individuals interested in attending this event may make a credit card payment to Paypal.com (account: lambdalambda.nursingsociety.org), or they may send a check to Lambda Lambda, c/o Shirley Comer, F 1519, Governors State University, 1 University Parkway, University Park, IL 60484.

Additional information may be obtained by contacting University Lecturer Dr. Shirley Comer of GSU’s Nursing Department, 708.235.2133.

SAVE THE DATE

Call for Applications: Fisk Technology Mini-Grant

The Faculty Scholarship and Teaching Center and The Center for Online Teaching and Learning announce the call for applications for the Fisk Mini-grant for Technology in Education. The grant program supports faculty in improving instruction for online, hybrid and web-enhanced courses.

Purpose: Purchase of hardware and/or software to improve or augment instruction for online, hybrid or web-enhanced courses.

Amount: Maximum award equivalent $400

For more information, contact Barbara Mandel, bmandel@govst.edu or Center for Online Teaching & Learning Room D1445 by 5 p.m. on Friday, May 15. The number of awards will be determined by concept merit and availability of funds.

Grant recipients will be announced at the Faculty Summer Institute on Wednesday, June 3.

Social Media Workshop Series

Our incoming first-year students, born after 1995, have been characterized as “digital natives,” meaning they operate “anytime, anywhere.” They expect access to people, goods and services via their digital devices nearly 24/7, from wherever they choose to be. (Levine & Dean, 2013). Conversely, faculty, staff and administrators, who were not born into the digital age, are described as “digital immigrants.”

As a follow-up to Eric Stoller’s and Diane Dean’s presentations, a collaboration between the Summer Faculty Institute entitled “Re-imagining Education for the 21st Century” and the Student Affairs Summer Professional Development Conference, GSU will be hosting a series of social media workshops. These workshops will serve as introductions to the various social media platforms and are designed for beginners with a focus on how to leverage these tools to increase communication with “digital natives” and to supplement curricular engagement.

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All workshops will be held in B2203 with a 50 person capacity. If there is sufficient interest, these workshops will be repeated in early Fall, 2014.

Workshops co-sponsored by Student Affairs, University Library and the Faculty Scholarship and Teaching Center (FSTC).

Please Register with Lisa Carra lcarra@govst.edu

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**OHRP Research Community Forum**

The Office for Human Resource Protections will present a Research Community Forum: “Human Subjects Research: Current Challenges in the Modern Research World at GSU Tuesday, July 28. Elizabeth Buchanan, Ph.D., Endowed Chair in Ethics and Director of the Center for Applied Ethics at the University of Wisconsin-Stout, will give the Keynote speech, “A New Internet Research Ethics Program.” Early registration is $110 through July 14. Additional information can be found at: [http://www.ohrpijuly15.illinoisstate.edu/](http://www.ohrpijuly15.illinoisstate.edu/).