All-Campus Symposium Friday, September 23

We are still accepting registration for Friday's all-campus symposium, featuring Dr. Alma Clayton-Pedersen. If you plan to attend but have not registered, contact Penny Perdue by Wednesday, September 21.

Dr. Clayton-Pederson is a Senior Scholar with the American Association of Colleges and Universities and the CEO of the Emeritus Consulting Group. She is an expert on the topic of diversity – exploring ways in which a diverse campus (such as GSU) can also be a campus of inclusion and equity.

This symposium will also explore ways to use data and research to measure the effects of our initiatives and practices.

We hope you can join us on Friday, September 23, 8:30am until mid-afternoon (lunch will be served).

President Maimon Charters New Campus Inclusion Team

This week President Maimon convened the newly chartered Campus Inclusion Team (CIT), a committee of students, faculty, and staff from a cross-section of disciplines university-wide, charged by President Maimon, to be "proactive, thinking, and planning strategically" about issues of diversity and inclusion on GSU's campus.

The CIT, chaired by Dr. Rupert Evans, will advise on the formulation, review, and application of policies and guidelines that promote and support the full contributions of the University's diverse faculty, staff, and students.

After a summer of increased tension nationwide, including in the Chicagoland area, President Maimon wrote a campus memo to reassure students, staff, and faculty that GSU would continue to be a safe and welcoming place that lives its mission as a public square where dialogue and collaboration are encouraged across all lines of uniqueness within our community. Read the memo on page 8.

National Preparedness Month – Active Shooter Forum

September is National Preparedness Month, which serves as a reminder that we all must take action to prepare, now and throughout the year, for the types of emergencies that could affect us where we live,
work, and visit.

In the spirit of preparation, GSU's Emergency Response Team will be hosting a campus forum, "Active Shooter: What Can I Do?" The forum will be held Thursday, September 22, from 10 – 11 a.m. in Engbretson Hall.

At this forum, the Emergency Response Team will discuss campus readiness and response efforts, highlight outreach and educational resources, and answer questions about what you can do to prevent and, if needed, respond to an active shooter.

**GSU is the 4th Most Affordable Online Four-Year College in Illinois**

For years, GSU has offered the lowest tuition and fees of any public university in the state of Illinois. Now a new study, published by OnlineColleges.com, a site that publishes information about today's top online colleges and degree programs, recently published an article that ranks Governors State University as the No. 4 most affordable four-year college in Illinois, out of 69 schools! This new study confirms that we are realizing our mission—making a high quality education accessible and affordable.

**President Maimon on WGN and NPR**

President Elaine Maimon was a guest on The Steve Cochran Show last week where she discussed the impact of the Illinois state budget on colleges and public universities. This week Dr. Maimon reviewed a book for NPR, The Lesson Plan, which debunks several myths about higher education, while calling attention to the real challenges educational leaders face in the 21st Century.

**42nd Annual Student Lincoln Laureate Award**

Each year an outstanding senior from each of the four-year, degree-granting institutions of higher learning in Illinois is awarded the Abraham Lincoln Civic Engagement Award and becomes the Student Laureate of The Lincoln Academy of Illinois. Student Laureates are honored for their leadership and service in the pursuit of the betterment of humanity and for overall excellence in curricular and extracurricular activities.

2016 award recipients will receive the Lincoln Academy Student Laureate Medallion, a certificate of achievement, and a check for $1000. They will participate in a processional of state, civic, and academic leaders at the award ceremony held in Springfield on Saturday, November 12, in the Old State Capitol. A luncheon will be held in their honor following the ceremony in the Abraham Lincoln Doubletree Hotel.

GSU is accepting nominations for the Lincoln Academy Student Laureate Award from the 2017 graduating class (baccalaureate degree). Self-nominating students must submit a faculty letter of recommendation to be considered. Nominations are due by Friday, October 7. For additional information, contact Student Life at SLCO@govst.edu or 708.235.7362.

Click here to access the Student Laureate Nomination form.

**Secure Money for Your Education**

**Don't miss your chance to secure money for your education.** You are now able to file your 2017 – 18 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) as early as Oct. 1, 2016. The earlier submission date is a permanent change. You are encouraged to apply early to maximize financial aid opportunities, including the Illinois MAP grant.

Beginning with the 2017 – 18 FAFSA, students will be required to report income information from an earlier tax year. For example, on the 2017 – 18 FAFSA, students/parents will report their 2015 income information, rather than their 2016 income information. This change is referred to as Prior-Prior Year taxes. For assistance, contact Financial Aid.
FAFSA Completion Workshop

For help completing your FAFSA and guidance searching for scholarships, attend one of the FAFSA Workshops sponsored by the Office of Financial Aid and Office of Admissions. The first workshop is on Saturday, October 1 from 10 a.m. – noon. Other dates are scheduled. [Click here to register online.]

Events

Psychology & Counseling Information Session

If you're considering a career in school psychology, join the School Psychology program for an information session, Thursday, September 21 at 6 p.m. in G261. [Email for more information.]

Welcome Back to School Basket Sale

Be sure to stop by the Friends of the Library Welcome Back to School Basket Sale, on Thursday, September 22, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. in the D Wing Atrium. There will be a variety of baskets and gifts from which to choose. All contributions to and funds raised through the efforts of the Friends of the Library go directly to supporting initiatives that enhance the GSU Library.

The Friends of the GSU Library organization is celebrating 10 years of supporting the GSU Library in 2016. To learn more about the GSU Friends of the Library please visit their [home on the Web.]

Education Abroad Fair and Symposium

There will be an Education Abroad Fair in the Hall of Governors on Thursday, September 22 from 1 to 5 p.m. Representatives from various organizations will be on campus to showcase their programs abroad. The Education Abroad Symposium will take place in Engbretson Hall from 3:30 to 7 p.m. GSU students who studied abroad this past year will share their experiences at this time. [Please check out our website for more details.]

Comic Books, Graphic Novel & Superhero Cinema Society Meeting

Want to have a Comic-Con here at GSU? Do you like to talk about comic books? Interested in superheroes? Attend the next meeting of the GSU Comic Books, Graphic Novels, and Superhero Cinema Society meeting. It will be held on September 22, from 2-3 p.m. on the Library Balcony. Not only will you be part of a great group, you will also help develop the first ever GSU Library Graphic Novel Collection. For information please contact [John DeYoung].

Register and Volunteer for Family & Friends Weekend

GSU is gearing up for Spirit Week 2016, October 3-6, followed by Family & Friends Weekend, October 7-8. Please mark your calendar, [register], and [sign-up to volunteer] for one of the many events scheduled throughout the week.

Family & Friends Weekend provides the semester's first opportunity for students to showcase their new school to family and friends. It's also a weekend for alumni to reconnect with their alma mater. If you're interested in volunteering for this fun-filled weekend, please [sign up] by Friday, September 30. Your contribution will make this event a huge success.

Faculty/Staff vs. Student Basketball Game
Students, faculty, and staff, sign up today to be a member of the Faculty/Staff or Student team for the Inaugural Faculty/Staff vs. Student Basketball Game. This event will be held during Spirit Week on Thursday, October 6 from 5 – 6:30 p.m. in the gymnasium at GSU. Show your Jaguar Pride and register by Wednesday, September 28 to participate. We look forward to seeing you on the court.

Presidential Debate Watch

The university will host a Presidential Debate Watch on September 26 at 8 p.m. in the G-Wing Atrium on the first floor. Please join us live to watch the first debate between Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton and Republican nominee Donald Trump. If you can't attend the event, you can follow the conversation by using the hashtag #govstDW.

GSU to Host State Universities of Illinois Articulation Conference

On September 30, GSU will welcome admissions representatives from Illinois public universities and high school guidance counselors to its campus during the annual State Universities of Illinois Articulation. More than 250 guidance counselors will attend the event to learn about programmatic updates, policy changes, and more. The event will take place in the Center for Performing Arts and the Hall of Governors from 7:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. To participate in the conference, register online.

Recovery Coach Training

The College of Health and Human Services has space available in the next Recovery Coaching Training session. Sessions will be Friday, October 7, 14, 21, and 28 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. 32 CEU's will be given. Please contact Laura Owens for more information at or phone 708.235.2134.

GSU Hosts 25th Annual National Depression Day Screening

Governors State University is hosting a campus-wide National Depression Screening Day® event, an annual campaign to bring public attention to the critical needs of students living with depression and other mood disorders. The screening event will be held in the Hall of Governors on Thursday, October 6 from 11 a.m. until 5 p.m. and will mark 25 years of large-scale mental health screening efforts by Screening for Mental Health, a Boston-area non-profit. More...

Jaguar Jump Week

October 10 – 13 is Jaguar Jump Week 2016. The week includes events to help students explore their interests, learn more about GSU's academic programs, and solidify career goals. The week will culminate with a Major Fair with representatives from all GSU undergraduate academic programs on Thursday, October 15 from 3 – 5 p.m. in the E-Lounge.

Workshops and panels include lunch or dinner, and all GSU students are invited to participate.

You can learn more and register online, or contact New Student Programs at 708.235.6819.

Inclusive Leadership Conference

Mark your calendar now! The 2016 Inclusive Leadership Conference will be held at GSU on November 11 and 12. The conference is designed to create understanding and appreciation amongst students for diverse identities through social justice education. An increased self-awareness encourages students to be free of misconceptions and prejudices as leaders. The Inclusive Leadership Conference helps students understand the intersection of leadership, diversity, and social justice.

More information will be shared as the event approaches. You can email diversity@govst.edu with queries.
LGBT History Month Program Submissions Sought

LGBT History Month is a month-long annual observance of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender history and the history of the gay rights and related civil rights movements held annually across the country in October. If you have ideas for a program offering, please submit your program by visiting Survey Monkey. The deadline for submissions is Friday, September 23.

Black Women Rock Planning Committee

Inspired by BET’s Black Girls Rock, “Black Women Rock” (BWR) celebrates the outstanding achievements of African American female students, faculty, and staff at Governors State University as well as community members in surrounding areas. The program will honor the contributions of black women who are making significant impact in their field. Student Life is looking for students, faculty, and staff to serve on the planning committee. If interested, please forward your name, email address, and phone to diversity@govst.edu by Friday, September 30.

Live Chat Now Available in the Library

Are you an off-campus student in need of help with your research? Are you in class and discussing a topic that needs immediate clarification? Are you a member of the GSU community in need of specific information, but are not able to come into the library? Your GSU Library is offering LIVE CHAT to meet your needs.

Between the hours of noon and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, visit the library web site, www.govst.edu/library, click on the Live Chat widget, and submit your question through Live Chat Instant Messaging (IM). You will be able to submit your question and receive feedback live and in real time.

“This is a service that we have begun to meet the immediate needs of those who are not able to come to the library,” said Diane Nadler, GSU Library First Year Liaison and Reference Desk Manager. “We have started with this time frame to determine interest and usage, and we will be monitoring usage to determine if we need to expand or change our hours of service.” she said.

If you have questions regarding the GSU Library Live Chat, please contact Diane at dnadler@govst.edu.

Remember, the GSU Library is Your Research Resource 24/7.

Faculty Profile Page Update Made Easier

One of a student's first and most accurate introductions to a professor can be the faculty profile page on the GSU website. The information included on that page is what you, the faculty member, want the students and community to know about you: your education philosophy, achievements, and background. Updating your page is the best way to present the most accurate information.

To make the updating process easier, the Office of Marketing & Communications is providing a new
online submission form. With this submission form, faculty can simply go online and complete their information. Faculty profiles will be updated each week by marketing staff. All faculty members are encouraged to complete the form to enhance their pages with the inclusion of areas of expertise, website(s), and social media handles. This information will be searchable and useful to students and members of the press. Please note that because new search fields have been added, **ALL** faculty members should fill out the new submission form.

The Office of Marketing & Communications will be taking headshots in E1522, between noon and 2 p.m. on September 1 and 16, October 3 and 17, November 1 and 16, and December 1 and 16.

Do you have a story or event you want to submit for the GSU View? 
[Click here to learn about our submission guidelines.](#)
Date: July 13, 2016

To: GSU Community

From: Elaine P. Maimon, President

Re: Message to the GSU Community

2016 has been a disturbing year. The sequence of national tragedies has affected all of us. Event after event has caused us to stop, mourn, and reflect. For students, in the process of learning about their place in the world and their responsibilities to the various communities of which they are a part, these events can be especially disturbing.

Rest assured, GSU remains a safe place. A place to hold difficult conversations. A place to explore issues, theologies, and beliefs. A place where differences are embraced and respected.

Universities, especially ours, are places of safety and exploration. Regardless of our experiences, beliefs, or backgrounds, we come together, forming a community where students, along with faculty and staff, are both encouraged to explore new ideas and supported as they do so.

One of Governors State University's greatest strengths lies in our diversity. Age, race, religion, nationality, sexual orientation, physical ability – by any measure, GSU has always been a diverse campus. These differences strengthen us.

In the weeks and months to come, GSU will announce a variety of ways in which members of our community can explore and share their thoughts and fears and discuss possible solutions. We will continue our tradition of addressing the tough issues, of finding ways for our students, faculty, and staff to express themselves in a respectful way while listening to others doing the same.

As always, GSU offers counseling to help deal with the pressures, fears, and anger many of us are experiencing. Please reach out if you need help exploring your feelings, if you have a specific issue you would like assistance with, or if you just need to talk.

GSU is a family. And, like a family, we support each other. That will never change.