News

GSU President on “Chicago Tonight”

Wednesday night, just as the Cubs were gearing up to clinch the World Series, President Elaine P. Maimon, along with three other Illinois university presidents, joined Eddie Arruza of “Chicago Tonight” for an update on the ongoing Illinois budget crisis and its impact on public universities.

President Maimon once again reassured GSU students that GSU will accept the liability for the Illinois MAP grants, holding GSU students harmless, even as the school awaits reimbursement from the state. This means GSU students will not be asked to repay the MAP money credited to their accounts — even if the state does not release those funds. “We are doing all we can to protect our students,” said President Maimon, “so our students will not have to return their MAP money, no matter what the state ultimately does.”

Students! Have You FAFSA’d?
Earlier this month you were encouraged to take a pledge to complete your FAFSA by November 30. Have you lived up to your promise? Have you completed the FAFSA?

It’s important to file early because there have been two major changes to FAFSA filing this year. First, this year students have been able to apply as early as October 1. If you don’t apply early, money that could have been yours will be allocated to someone else. Second, students now report earlier income information. Instead of waiting for 2016 tax information, students (and parents, as appropriate) must report their 2015 income information instead. Moreover, Monetary Award Program grants, which provide grants to Illinois residents who demonstrate financial need based on the information provided on their FAFSA, ran out of funding mid-February this past year, and the same is likely to occur this year. Therefore, the sooner you complete and submit your FAFSA, the better the opportunity for you to get the most money.

Read more on pages 8-10 and Go FAFSA!

**GSU Shares FAFSA Expertise on WCIU’s “You & Me”**

Dr. Randi Schneider, Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management, was a guest on WCIU-TV’s morning show, “You & Me,” on November 1. She explained recent changes to the FAFSA, defined “prior-prior,” and answered questions from hosts Jeanne Sparrow and Melissa Forman. You can watch the segment [here](#).

**Match the Maimons Campaign**
The GSU Foundation is pleased to announce the Match the Maimons Campaign. Through December 16, GSU President Elaine P. Maimon and Dr. Mort Maimon will match all new or increased donations, dollar for dollar, up to $54,000. Although the Match the Maimons Campaign emphasizes the success of GSU’s students via scholarships, your gift can go towards any program at GSU. To learn more about the campaign and participate, click here.

### Afterschool Program Development Conference

GSU was well represented at the recent All Stars Project conference on afterschool program development, held Thursday, October 20, at East-West University in Chicago’s South Loop. GSU’s Dr. Crystal Harris, University Lecturer, Division of Psychology and Counseling, was a featured speaker and several other faculty members and students were also in attendance, as reported in the Chicago Defender. This was All Stars Project’s third annual conference and it drew 170 community leaders, representing 94 different organizations, as well as officials and youth from Chicago’s underserved communities.

### Events

#### Election Day Mannequin Challenge

Think of your favorite pose, and then meet us with your friends and colleagues in the Hall of Governors for a 60-second standstill.

At exactly 12:20 and 3:20, an announcer will say, “Freeze!” That's when you strike a pose. There will be a 60-second countdown and when the time has ended you can relax the pose and continue with your regular schedule.

For those of you who aren’t sure what this is: there’s a new social media trend, going viral, called the Mannequin Challenge. A bunch of people all freeze in poses at the same time and the video is hilarious.

The videos will be posted on the university’s social media channels. Don't be late.

#### Keep Calm and Vote with Yoga/Meditation and .1K Race/Walk
Schedule a boost for your health and well-being on Election Day, Tuesday, November 8, by participating in the .1K Race/Walk or a Meditation & Yoga session (or both!) from 11 a.m. – 6 p.m. in the Hall of Governors.

The GSU Veterans Resource Center is sponsoring the .1K Race/Walk. Your start time is up to you, and along the 328-foot way you can visit with service dogs in training from 1Pet1Vet, representatives from VA counseling services and the U.S. Army, and GSU Library’s Veteran Book Collection.

After the walk/run, enjoy a session of meditation & yoga hosted by Dr. Maristela Zell, Dr. Phyllis West, and Rashidat Boston, YTT, CPT.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Instructor</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>11 – 11:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Dr. Maristela Zell</td>
<td>Meditation</td>
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<td>Noon – 12:45 p.m.</td>
<td>Dr. Phyllis West</td>
<td>Yoga</td>
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<td>1:30 – 2 p.m.</td>
<td>Dr. Maristela Zell</td>
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<td>2:15 – 3:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Rashidat Boston</td>
<td>Meditation &amp; Yoga</td>
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<td>3 – 3:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Dr. Maristela Zell</td>
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<td>4 – 4:45 p.m.</td>
<td>Rashidat Boston</td>
<td>Meditation &amp; Yoga</td>
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<td>5 – 5:45 p.m.</td>
<td>Rashidat Boston</td>
<td>Meditation &amp; Yoga</td>
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Ana Dutra Book Signing with Networking Social

Business leader and author Ana Dutra, best-selling author of “Lessons in LeadershiT: Detoxing the Workplace,” will discuss her work on Thursday, November 17, from 5:30 – 7 p.m. in E-Lounge. Dutra is the CEO of Executives’ Club Chicago, a senior executive organization focusing on networking and leadership development. She is a Chicago United Business Leader of Color and Nueva Estrella Latina Award winner, and has more than 28 years of business experience specializing in growth strategies, management, and executive consulting.

Mark your calendars for this premiere event. The first 50 RSVPs at www.surveymonkey.com/r/anadutra will receive a FREE copy of Dutra’s book, “Lessons in LeadershiT: Detoxing the Workplace.” You must be present to claim your copy, and RSVPs made after the book quota is met will be entered in a drawing for a free book on the evening of the event.

This event is sponsored by the Office of Development, the Office of Career Services, and the Graduate Professional Network.

Seeking 2017 Black History Month Program Submissions

Black History Month is an annual celebration of achievements by Black Americans and a time for recognizing the central role of African Americans in U.S. history. The event grew out of “Negro History Week,” the brainchild of noted historian Carter G. Woodson and other prominent African Americans. Since 1976, every U.S. president has officially designated February as Black History Month. Other countries around the world, including Canada and the United Kingdom, also devote a month to celebrating black history.

Please submit your program by Friday, December 9, by visiting https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BHM2017.

For more information, email diversity@govst.edu or call ext. 4551.

Elton John Tribute at GSU

Get up close and personal for a performance of Elton John’s greatest hits. In “Goodbye Yellow Brick Road,” the audience will be seated on the stage for an intimate experience as Chicago-based nationally
touring recording artist Jess Godwin offers chart-topping piano-based hits like “Your Song,” “Rocket Man,” and “Benny and the Jets.” Godwin has sung with Kristen Chenoweth, written songs for Dance Moms, and is a hit on iTunes and Spotify.

The performance is at GSU’s Center for Performing Arts on November 19 at 8 p.m. Tickets are $36 for adults, and admission includes an Elton-John-inspired drink. Order online from CenterTickets.net or by phone from 708.235.2222.

This production is presented by Artists Lounge Live, and is supported by contributions from First Midwest Bank and the Illinois Arts Council.

**Hunger and Homelessness Week**

Hunger and Homelessness Week is November 14 – 17, with events designed to bring greater awareness of hunger and homelessness to the students of GSU. Specific information is at https://govst.collegiatelink.net/organization/volunteer_hours/calendar/details/1079171

**Hiring Orientation Leaders and Peer Mentors**

New Student Programs is hiring Orientation Leaders and Peer Mentors. Both of these leadership positions are actively involved in assisting new students with their transition to GSU. Read more about each position here.

Applications are due Friday, February 3, 2017. Access the online application here.

To be eligible to apply for the Orientation Leader or Peer Mentor positions, every applicant must attend one of the following mandatory information sessions. Attending one of the November information sessions is highly encouraged in order to have an opportunity to participate in the January orientation sessions.

Wednesday, November 16, 12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. (Room B2203)
Thursday, November 17, 3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. (Room B2203)
Friday, November 18, 2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. (Room B2203)

Questions? Contact the Office of New Student Programs at fye@govst.edu or 708.235.6819.

**Make It Happen: Join Program Council**

Make your mark in GSU history and develop leadership and professional skills. The GSU Program Council is seeking innovative and creative students. Members plan, promote, and present events from a student perspective for the GSU campus and community. If you enjoy planning social, recreational, and co-curricular activities, join us in A2110 from 3 – 4 p.m. every Thursday. GSUPC is open to all Governors State University students.

Contact ksledge@govst.edu with questions.

**School Psychology Awareness Week**

The Student Affiliates of School Psychology are hosting a week's worth of events to celebrate School Psychology Awareness Week (SPAW). Our theme is “Small Steps Change Lives.”

The events include:
Monday: Box Top / Book Drive in the D Wing Atrium
Tuesday: Yoga 5:15 – 6 p.m. (Free! All are welcome)
Thursday: Bully Prevention Workshops at local elementary schools
Friday: Richton Park Book Reading (All ages welcome!)
Date Change for Inclusive Leadership Conference

The Inclusive Leadership Conference, designed to help our campus community create an understanding and appreciation for multiple identities through self-awareness, while encouraging them to be free of misconceptions and prejudices through social justice education, will be held on January 20, 2017. This year's theme, "Stop the Violence: Listen, Learn, Lead!!!," addresses how violence impacts multiple identities of diversity. Participants will learn ways that their background and skills can play an influential role in ending violence "one leader at a time" through social change.

Workshop proposals are due December 9: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/inclusivegsu
Registration is open until December 9: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/inclusive2016
For more information, call 708.534.4551 or email diversity@govst.edu

Unlearn, Relearn, Learn: American Genocide

The topic for this Unlearn, Relearn, Learn is American Genocide and the program will shed light on the history of genocide towards Native Americans from Thanksgiving to today.

Facilitated by Dr. William Kelley, University Lecturer, Anthropology/Sociology, the program will be held on Tuesday, November 8, at 3:30 p.m. in B2200.

This program series will provide an opportunity for the GSU community to unlearn myths, stereotypes, and fallacies about various subjects, relearn the truth, and learn ways to shape their understanding that will aid in bridging cultural divides in the campus community.

Participants will be exposed to current cultural issues as well as a challenge to the GSU community to realize the benefits of living in a multicultural world.

For more information, email diversity@govst.edu or call 708.534.4551

For Students Only

GSU Student Game Night is this Thursday, November 10, from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m., in the library’s Stress Free Study Zone on the balcony. Students are invited to come to the library with friends, pick out a board game from the many games available, and spend timing relaxing and playing on the balcony. Students are also welcome to bring their own board games.

“We see the library as the living room of the university,” said Lydia Morrow Ruetten, Dean of the GSU Library. “It is the place on campus where students can study, conduct scholarly research, and relax.”

Questions? Contact asarkisian@govst.edu.

2016 Pre-Kwanzaa Celebration

Come celebrate and be a part of the inaugural Pre-Kwanzaa Celebration. This event will be held on Friday, December 2, at 7:30 p.m. in Sherman Hall. Highlights will include keynote speaker Dr. Lasana Kazembe, traditional African dance performances, and other activities, as well as vendors. This celebration will reflect a key element of Kwanzaa: to bring the community together so that it can collectively reflect on “the rich resource(s) and meaning of a people’s culture” and to individually and collectively affirm how they will contribute to enhancing the culture (according to Malauna Karenga, the creator of Kwanzaa).

This event is free and open to the public. For more information, email diversity@govst.edu or call
Paid Internship Opportunities with Sports Broadcasting

You don’t need to be a sports enthusiast to land one of these internships! You do need to be willing to learn on the job, have the desire to learn as part of a production crew, and be interested in gaining real-world broadcasting experience.

Students are needed to fill crew positions for sports broadcasting productions during this GSU Jaguar basketball season. Students who have taken MST 2100: Intro to Media Production, or who have equivalent media production skills, are welcome to apply.

If chosen, you will register for up to 3 internship credits for Spring Semester 2017 before beginning the job. This internship program is under the auspices of the Media Studies Program, in partnership with the Department of Digital Learning and Media Design and GSU Athletics.

Contact Mark Kundla (mkundla@govst.edu) by November 8 for details.

Workshops & Trainings

Looking for GSU workshops and training opportunities?

This week's list of opportunities — including Faculty Profile Page update information, Veterans Entrepreneurial Boot Camp, information sessions on applying to be an Orientation Leader or Peer Mentor, workshops from the Office of Sponsored Programs and Research, the **Who Am I Identity Development Workshop**, and the Global Lunch Lecture Series — can be found on pages 11-14.

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

Chicago, IL, November 04, 2016

Have You FAFSA'd?

Earlier this month you were encouraged to take a pledge to complete your FAFSA by November 30. Have you lived up to your promise? Have you completed the FAFSA?

The FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) is a vitally important document that each college student needs to complete in order to qualify for any type of financial aid.

It's also important to file early because there have been two changes to FAFSA filing this year. First, this year students have been able to apply as early as October 1. If you don't apply early, money that could have been yours will be allocated to someone else. Second, students now report earlier income...
Have You FAFSA'd?

Information. Instead of waiting for 2016 tax information, students (and parents, as appropriate) must report their 2015 income information instead. Moreover, Monetary Award Program grants, which provide grants to Illinois residents who demonstrate financial need based on the information provided on their FAFSA, ran out of funding mid-February this past year, and the same is likely to occur this year. Therefore, the sooner you complete and submit your FAFSA, the better the opportunity for you to get the most money. Still uncertain? Here are some key reasons why the FAFSA is an essential tool for you — and one that should be completed as soon as possible.

1. Money toward College

Completing your FAFSA is a key step towards easing the burden of the cost of college, allowing you access to state and federal grants, federal loans, work-study opportunities, and scholarships from your school. In addition, the FAFSA itself is free and easy; all it takes is 30 minutes of your time.

2. Time Wasted is Money Lost in Illinois

MAP grants come from an overburdened and limited state fund and are awarded on a first-come, first-served basis.

Dr. Randi Schneider, Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management at GSU, stresses that MAP grant deadlines, set by the Illinois Student Assistance Commission, usually fall in February, and come with little advance warning. Further, according to the ISAC website, “grant funding is likely to be depleted prior to the filing deadline dates.” This means that if your FAFSA is not on file well before the end of November, even if you are eligible for a MAP grant (of up to $2,000 per semester), you will not receive any funds.

3. GSU Needs Your FAFSA

GSU awards several of its own institutional scholarships, and you could be eligible for some of that money, but your FAFSA must be on file before you can be considered.

The FAFSA must also be completed in order for the GSU financial aid team to prepare your financial aid package. The sooner your FAFSA is on file, the sooner they can begin, and the sooner you will have access to the details of your financial outlook for the upcoming school year. You'll be glad to have more time to plan.

4. Let the Experts Determine Your Eligibility

Don’t make the mistake of assuming you will not qualify for financial aid. Along with federal loans, a completed FAFSA also determines eligibility for federal grants and Work-Study positions (jobs available through school that help students earn money toward the cost of their education). Financial aid packages commonly offer some combination of the
three, and they can make a big difference toward reducing post-college debt.

5. The Sooner You File, The More Time You'll Have to Revise

Early filing also allows more time to make corrections and to complete the verification process, if necessary. Dr. Schneider says that “verification is a random process that requires students and/or their family to provide additional documents related to financial aid eligibility.” While not everyone will experience verification, many people do unwittingly make simple mistakes on their applications. If either happens to you, you’ll be glad you filed your FAFSA early. The more time you leave for corrections, the better your chances of having a properly completed application on file before deadlines for quickly diminishing funds, like the MAP grant.

Don’t Delay!

Now is a critical time for your financial future. Don’t risk missing out on money that will help pay for college.
Workshops and Training Opportunities

Faculty Profile Page Update Made Easier

Faculty members: did you know posting your profile on the GSU website can yield higher search engine results for you? Since GSU's website employs Google Search as its engine, posting your profile means any searches for you, your areas of expertise, or even keywords within your CV will result in a higher search engine listing result for your profile.

This also means that academic colleagues, as well as those within your research community with shared fields of interest, can learn more about you and the breadth of your work in one centralized academic location. In addition, your areas of expertise will be easily discernable to media members seeking subject-matter experts for commentary and insight.

Finally, you can facilitate contact through other channels by presenting your professional personal website or social media presence as part of your profile.

Click on this link for the online submission form and we will have your profile up within a matter of days.

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

GSU STAR Student Success Network Training Sessions

On September 19, GSU launched the STAR Student Success Network for undergraduate students – a new online platform designed to improve student success and facilitate communication among students, faculty, and advisors across campus. The STAR Student Success Network gives undergraduate students a palette of tools that connects students with faculty, advisors, and GSU services in their individual success network … all at their fingertips.

Faculty and Advisors utilizing GSU STAR can:
Workshops and Training Opportunities

· Receive a wealth of information on a student in one place
· Send students flags, referrals, messages, and kudos
· Use the “Flag” feature and see which staff members are working with your students
· Set your office hours and let students book appointments with you

Currently, GSU STAR is available for freshmen, sophomores, and juniors.

Faculty and Advisors of undergraduate students who haven’t set up their STAR accounts are encouraged to attend one of the workshops below.

Simply click on your preferred date. An email will automatically open; hit send to reserve your seat. A calendar appointment request will be sent to you. Please accept the request to confirm your attendance.

Please choose one:

- **Tuesday, November 8, 2 – 3:30 p.m. in D2430H in the Cube**
- **Thursday, November 10, 2 – 3:30 p.m. in D2430C in the Cube**
- **Monday, November 14, 2 – 3:30 p.m. in D2430C in the Cube**
- **Thursday, November 17, 2 – 3:30 p.m. in D2430C in the Cube**

Student Evaluations of Instruction

Please attend upcoming training sessions (in D2430F, The Cube) or contact Institutional Research (oir@govst.edu) if these times do not work for your schedule.

November 9, 10 – 11 a.m.
November 11, 10 – 11 a.m.
November 15, 10 – 11 a.m.
December 5, 10 – 11 a.m.

If you have questions about the Educational Policy governing Student Evaluations of Instruction (SEI Policy – Policy 39), please contact Andrius Tamulis and the Education Policy Committee (EPC). If you have any questions about procedures, please contact Institutional Research at oir@govst.edu.

Veterans Entrepreneurial Boot Camp

Veterans learned many useful skills during their military service that make them uniquely qualified to be successful business owners. The Small Business Development Center of Illinois at GSU recognizes this and is sponsoring the 2016 Veteran’s Entrepreneurial Boot Camp on Thursday, November 10, from 8 a.m. – 3:30 p.m., to help veterans translate their specific skills and apply them in business development.

The boot camp includes opportunities to network with veteran and civilian business owners, presentations on business finance, government contracting, how to kick start your business, and opportunities specific to veteran-owned businesses.

For more information and to register for this free event, click here.
Who Am I Identity Development Workshop

The is a provocative, highly interactive workshop designed to allow men of color to be transparent and use imagery, lively discussion, and other activities to assess and (re)define who they are. Participants will leave the session armed with information, resources, and a frame of mind that will help them to become more sure of their self-identities as men of color.

This workshop will be held Thursday, November 10, at 4:30 p.m. in Engbretson Hall. Jason Thomas of 3 Seeds Mentoring will serve as the facilitator.

The Male Success Initiative is a multifaceted enrichment program focused on employing strategies to assist in the retention and graduation of Black and Latino male students.

For more information about this workshop or the Male Success Initiative, please email msi@govst.edu or call 708.534.4551.

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Global Lunch Lecture Series

The Office of International Services continues to provide enrichment to the GSU community by sponsoring its Global Lunch Lecture Series. Please join us for the
following lecture.

Wednesday, November 30, 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. in the E-Lounge

Peace Corps Ethiopia: "Yechallal!" (It is possible!) Former Peace Corp Volunteer and Foreign Credential Evaluator, Shelley Tekeste