News

What Are You Thankful For?

In challenging times, it’s important to remember that we have much to be thankful for at GSU.

We are thankful for our community—
- Hard-working students with exciting dreams and goals
- Creative and engaged faculty who care deeply about student success
- Dedicated staff who appreciate how special this place is
- Visionary leaders who inspire and challenge
—and as we celebrate this holiday of gratitude, let's all take a moment to think about the great work being done at GSU and the difference we make in each other's lives.

Happy Thanksgiving! #THANKFULGSU

**Thanksgiving Holiday Closing**

The university will be officially closed for four days: Thursday, November 24 – Sunday, November 27. Some departments or services will close early on Wednesday, November 23; details and exceptions are on page 10.

**Save the Date: Holiday Party**

The faculty and staff holiday party will launch at 1 p.m. in the Hall of Governors on Friday, December 9. #GivingTuesday at GSU

The Governors State University Foundation invites you to share its philanthropic spirit by participating in #GivingTuesday, November 29, the global day of giving that seeks to transform the way we think about, talk about, and participate in the giving season. As we approach our 50th anniversary, the GSU Foundation encourages you to make a gift of at least $19.69 to commemorate the founding of Governors State University in 1969.

As a GSU community member, demonstrate how much you care about this amazing place on November 29, and take advantage of a dollar-for-dollar match provided by Drs. Elaine P. and Mort Maimon through the Match the Maimons Campaign.

You can make an immediate difference in the lives of our students by supporting any program that fits your interest. Every dollar raised from new, increased, or additional gifts between now and December 16 will be matched with an equal donation from President and Dr. Maimon — up to $54,000!

This year, with your help, we'll make a difference across our campus, demonstrate our Jaguar Pride, and provide a promising future for both our current students and generations to come.

Beat the crowd; make your #GivingTuesday gift early.

**Maimon Has “Uplifting” Meeting with Advisors**
On Tuesday, November 15, President Maimon met with the university’s professional advisors for a wide-ranging discussion. This meeting was the final meeting in a series that Dr. Maimon has been conducting with units all across the campus. While she has given a budget update at each meeting, the discussions then move towards topics specifically interesting to each particular group.

The advisors and Dr. Maimon talked about the challenges of effectively communicating with students, the importance of completing the FASFA, and how best to encourage students to take “15 to finish.”

“Even in the midst of this challenging time in our state, these meetings with GSU faculty and staff have been uplifting,” said Dr. Maimon. “Our colleagues are dedicated to student success and are working hard, in spite of uncertainties, to attract, enroll, retain, and graduate students.”

**Library Archives Ribbon-Cutting and Friends Anniversary**
November 3 was a two-event day for the GSU Library, featuring both the ribbon-cutting for the newly remarneled GSU Library Archives and the celebration of the 10th Anniversary of the Friends of the GSU Library. President Maimon, Provost Bordelon, Dean of the Library Ruetten, and Ann Manning Nagle, President of the Friends of the GSU Library, were on hand to cut the ribbon.

The archives room houses a number of physical and print artifacts related to the rich history at GSU. In addition, material can be found digitally on OPUS.

"We are always collecting content for the GSU Archives," said Dean Ruetten. "Content can include publications, records, and historical materials of significance to the university. If you have print materials that would enhance this collection after being digitized, or if you have materials in PDF, jpg, or other digital formats, please contact OPUS staff at opus@govst.edu," she suggested.

The GSU Library is your research resource 24/7!

**Students: You Took the Pledge — Have You Completed the FAFSA?**
Earlier this month you were encouraged to take the #CompleteMyFASFA pledge and complete your FAFSA by November 30. Have you lived up to your promise?

The FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) is the most vitally important document that each college student needs to complete in order to qualify for any type of financial aid. Don’t let the myths about FAFSA mislead you: Last year many GSU students lost thousands of dollars in free money because they didn’t fill out their FAFSA. If you could use a little (or a lot) of help paying for college, the FAFSA is essential, and for the best chance to secure all of the financial aid you are eligible for, your FAFSA should be completed by November 30. The more you wait, the greater the chances are that someone else will receive money that could have been yours. If you skip it entirely, you will fail to be eligible for any funds at all.

**College of Business Co-Hosts Event with Junior Achievement**
On November 7, more than 130 high school students visited the GSU campus for a day-long event featuring instruction on financial literacy as well as other topics such as how to apply for college, financial aid assistance, and the importance of business majors and the careers they can obtain. The student guests were from Harlan, Kankakee, Richards, and Hillcrest High Schools. The event was a partnership between GSU’s College of Business and Junior Achievement. Marcia Boyd, Associate Director of Admissions, and Dr. Olu Ijose, Division Chair of Management, Marketing, and Entrepreneurship, were guest speakers for the event.

**Colleagues Collaborate on Article About Collaboration**

Christopher Huang, University Registrar, and Hugo Solano, Director of Applications Systems, co-wrote an article about how their offices collaborate when implementing technology. It was published in AACRAO Connect, an online newsletter of the American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers.

**Jaguar’s Final Race is a Good One**

GSU senior Stephanie Clarkson finished the women’s cross country season by competing in the NAIA National Championships on Saturday, November 19, held at Principia College in Elsah, Illinois. Clarkson finished 155 in a field of 334 runners, concluding her college athletics career with a performance her coach called “a phenomenal race.”

**Emergency Readiness**

**New Emergency Alert System**

Rave Alert is the new official emergency notification system used to communicate with students and employees during severe weather and campus emergencies. GSU recently licensed this service to offer the quickest and most reliable communications possible.

Students and employees are automatically subscribed to the Rave Alert system through their GSU email account; however, we rely on you to make sure we have your most up-to-date contact and emergency contact information.

**Updating Your Personal and Emergency Contact Information**

With upcoming weather changes, we ask that you please take a moment to make sure we can reach you or your emergency contact in case of an emergency, if there is a university closing, or some other event that requires rapid, wide-scale notification of the community.

**For Students**

To update your personal contact information, please complete the Change of Student Information form and return it to the Registrar's office.

You can update your emergency contact information in the myGSU portal. The information provided is stored directly in our database and will be used only in case of emergency. Click here for a tutorial on how to update your emergency contact information. The process takes less than 10 minutes.

**For Faculty and Staff**

Update your contact information by sending an email to Human Resources with a subject line that reads "Update My Contacts."

To update your emergency contact information, go to the myGSU portal. Under Online Services, select "Employees," then select "Employee Profile" and "Emergency Information." You will be able to add and/or edit your contacts. After you enter the information, click "Add Contact." After editing or changing
Intellectual Life Grant Recipients Announced

Thirteen spring and summer grants representing programs and disciplines at GSU have been awarded by the Intellectual Life Committee. The list of recipients and grant topics is available on OPUS. “We received outstanding submissions for this grant cycle,” announced Lydia Morrow Ruetten, Dean of the GSU Library and Chair of the Intellectual Life Committee. “We encourage those who did not receive a grant to consider re-applying. We will make the announcement next semester if we are able to offer grants for Fall 2017.”

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 708.534.4551.

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.

Holiday Schedule for GSU View


Deals

Faculty Staff Appreciation Day Sale at the Bookstore

In honor of Faculty Staff Appreciation Day on Thursday, December 1, from 11:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. you will enjoy 25 percent off on your clothing and gift purchases at the bookstore.

If you can’t make it to the bookstore in person, shop online and receive the discount by using promo
Events

Library Jam is November 28 – December 1

Students: Do you need help preparing your final writing assignments, or with math or science? Check out the schedule of tutors who will be in the library offering assistance each day from Monday, November 28 – Thursday, December 1. Tutors will be on the library balcony. Just drop in. (See schedule on page 11.)

“We know that the end of the semester is always a stressful time for students needing to complete their work,” said Lydia Morrow Ruetten, Dean of the GSU Library. “Library Jam is a partnership with faculty to offer students support with their assignments while also offering some breaks to relieve their stress.”

Lunch-and-Learn Fishbowl Discussion Series

Join the Black Student Union and Generating Hope on Wednesday, November 30, from 12:30 – 2:30 p.m. in the Hall of Honors for a lunch-and-learn discussion of “The Status of Our Civil Rights: Where are We Today?”

Students and members of the Fishbowl will discuss a variety of civil rights topics from marriage equality, racial/ethnic equality, and religious rights, to immigrants’ rights, education equality, voting rights, and more.

Fishbowl discussions offer observers and participants the gift of being able to listen to broad range of discussions as well as join the discussion by sharing their valuable perspectives.

Free pizza and refreshments will be served!

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, vendors, and other activities. This celebration will reflect a key element of Kwanzaa: bringing 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 708.534.4551.

Workshops & Trainings

Looking for GSU workshops and training opportunities?

This week’s list of opportunities — including Faculty Profile Page update information, Safe Zone Training, information sessions on applying to be an Orientation Leader or Peer Mentor, and the Global Lunch Lecture Series — can be found on pages 12-14.

Do you have a story or event you want to submit for the GSU View?
Click here to learn about our submission guidelines.
Chicago, IL, November 21, 2016

GSU Thanksgiving Holiday Closing

The university will be officially closed for four days: Thursday, November 24 – Sunday, November 27. Some departments or services will close early on Wednesday, November 23; see below.

- **Bookstore** will be closed.
- **C-store** will be closed for a different four-day period: closed Wednesday, November 23 – Saturday, November 26. C-store will reopen on Sunday, November 27.
- **Cafeteria** will have shortened hours on Wednesday, November 23, open only from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. It will reopen on Monday, November 28.
- **Fitness and Rec Center** will be closed, with the exception of the basketball game on Saturday.
- **Men’s Basketball** invites community members to return to campus to cheer at a home game on Saturday, November 26, at 3 p.m. The opponent will be the Wartburg College Knights from Waverly, Iowa. Go Jaguars!
- **Library** will close at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, November 23, and remain closed for the entire break. It will reopen on Monday, November 28, at 8 a.m.
- **Prairie Place** will remain open over the Thanksgiving break and shuttle service will continue over the four-day period, following a revised schedule.

**Voicemail.** As with any closing or planned absence, please remember to update voicemail greetings to reflect the change. Do this for your office phone and ensure it is done for your general office line. Don’t forget to change it back when you resume your regular schedule!
Chicago, IL, November 22, 2016

Library Jam Tutors and Breaks

November 28 – December 1, 2016

Writing Tutoring

Kerri Morris Monday Noon – 1 p.m.

Chris Greiner Monday 9 – 11 a.m.

Thursday 10 a.m. – Noon

Amy Vujaklija Monday 11 a.m. – Noon

Tuesday 11 a.m. – Noon

Brad Smith Wednesday 2 – 3 p.m.

Math Tutoring

Arjun Monday 2 – 4 p.m. (MATH 1423, 2281, 2290, ECON 2301, 2302, 3404, ACCT 2110)

Patrick Tuesday 3 – 5 p.m. (MATH 1423, 2100, 2281, 2290, ECON 2301, 2302, STAT 2700, 3700)

Rebecca Wednesday 2 – 4 p.m. (CHEM 1113, 1141, and MATH 2100)

Beth Thursday 12 – 2 p.m. (BIOL 1500, CHEM 1141, MATH 2100)

Special Jam Breaks

Mindfulness Tuesday 1 – 2 p.m.

Meditation Thursday 1 – 2 p.m.

Improv/comedy Wednesday 3 p.m.

Doggies on Campus TBA
Chicago, IL, November 22, 2016

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 December 1 and 16.

Student Employees: Attend Three Career Service Workshops, Receive Your Certificate of Professional Development, Get a Chance at a $50 Gift Certificate from the GSU Bookstore!

Although the 2017 Student Employee Recognition Reception takes place April 18, 2017, when you receive your Certificate of Professional Development (from President Maimon) you will receive an additional entry in the drawing. (Winner must be present.) To obtain the certificate, you must be a student employee and attend at least three approved career activities or workshops during the 2016 – 17 academic school year.
Below are several opportunities, and registration is NOT required for any of these activities.

Watch your email for more information, and feel free to contact the Office of Career Services for more information via phone (708.235.3974) or email: career@govst.edu

**FALL CAREER SERVICES PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES:**
Health and Human Services Career and Internship Fair – Tuesday, November 22, 2 – 5 p.m., Center for Performing Arts Theatre Lobbies

**SPRING CAREER SERVICES PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES:**
Walk-In Open Hours, 3:30 – 4:30 p.m.: Tuesdays in Room C3380, Thursdays in the Atrium Hallway
How to Destress in the Workplace – Wednesday, January 18, 2017, 3:30 – 4:30 p.m., Hall of Honors
Black Inventions – Wednesday, February 8, 2017, noon – 5 p.m., Hall of Governors
Natural Hair in the Workplace – Wednesday, February 15, 2017, 3:30 – 4:30 p.m., Hall of Honors
Bullying in the Workplace – Wednesday, March 15, 2017, 3:30 – 4:30 p.m., Hall of Honors
Getting the Best Out of Career Fairs/Resume Prep Lab – Thursday, April 6, 2017, 2 – 3:30 p.m., B1241
2017 Spring Career and Internship Fair – Thursday, April 13, 2017, 2 – 5 p.m., Center for Performing Arts Theatre Lobbies and Hall of Governors
Job Search Strategies – Wednesday, April 19, 2017, 2 – 5 p.m., Hall of Honors
Diversity in the Workplace – Wednesday, April 26, 2017, 3:30 – 4:30 p.m., Hall of Honors

**Safe Zone Training**

Wednesday, November 30, 2016, 2 – 4 p.m., B2203

SafeZone is a training program open to faculty and staff ONLY at this time. The goal of this program is to raise awareness about the dynamics of gender and sexual orientation while exploring different ways to embody inclusive allyship for people of all orientations, genders, sexualities, identities, and levels of being out. Participants must RSVP at https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/safezonefall16 by November 28th.

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

**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.

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.

**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.

**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: "Yechalla!" (It is possible!) Former Peace Corp Volunteer and Foreign Credential Evaluator, Shelley Tekeste