Elaine Maimon
President of Governors State University dedicated to making college a reality for everybody

BY JENNIFER WEIGEL
Tribune Newspapers

Elaine Maimon has always felt at home in a classroom. I was the top student at my Philadelphia urban high school and... got a full scholarship to the University of Pennsylvania," says Maimon, president of Governors State University in University Park. "Education was very much the norm in my household. There was never any question that I was going to go to college."

Maimon earned her bachelor's, master's and doctorate degrees (all in English) from the University of Pennsylvania before starting her career teaching English at Haverford College in Pennsylvania. She continued to teach English at various colleges and universities throughout her career, in addition to holding executive positions at several campuses across the US. Her focus, Maimon says, has been "to help students become independent writers and thinkers," and to help people realize their potential.

"I think I'm born to do it," she says. ""I've been doing it for 20 years, and I'm still doing it," she says."

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