

March 2016

**Fun Fact: Teachers with 10 or fewer years of experience now constitute over 52% of the teaching force.**

## IEA Student Program Conference "Jump, Jive and Teach"

On April 8th and 9th the IEA Student Program will be hosting the Spring Conference in Bloomington IL. This is an amazing opportunity to take part in beneficial professional development as well as meeting and working with future teachers throughout Illinois. Over the weekend students will choose four sessions to register for that can be chosen from a full list on the website, here are some examples.

- "Seeing" the Common Core Classroom
- Understanding Contract Basics of Your First Teaching Contract
- Working With Students in an Active Elementary Classroom
- And many more to choose from.

In addition to the four sessions there are also many different social and team building activities, raffles, competitions and much more. You can register at [www.ieasp.org](http://www.ieasp.org) to save your spot with the IEASP and you can email Michael Flood at [mflood2@student.govst.edu](mailto:mflood2@student.govst.edu) for more information and to fill out the GSU Travel forms.

## Upcoming Events

### March SEA Meetings

- **March 8th:** 2:30pm –4pm  
Room D34000  
*Organizing Donations*
- **March 9th:** 7pm—11pm  
Lakewood Bowl Richton Park  
*Bowling Night!*
- **March 28th:** 3pm—4pm  
Room G160  
*Packing Up Care Bags*
- **March 30th:** 3pm—4pm  
Room G160  
*Creating Baby Blankets*

**"A good teacher is one who makes himself progressively unnecessary." Thomas Carruthers**

## Calling All Members!

Throughout February the SEA has been collecting donation items for the Ronald McDonald House as well as the PADS Women's Shelter and our local Military. We now need help from our members to organize, sort and deliver these donations. We will also be writing thank you letters to our Military and creating blankets for the McDonald House. Stop by any of our March meetings to get involved in these great projects!

## College Students

- ◆ Registration begins for Summer 2016 courses on March 21st.
- ◆ All students can celebrate that GSU's Spring Break will arrive March 14th! Classes will resume Monday March 21st.
- ◆ Do you struggle with procrastination? This month's featured Lifehack article talks about the "2-minute rule" and how to use it productively. [www.lifehack.com](http://www.lifehack.com)

## Teaching Tips

- ◆ **Wait Time** When working with students it is important to provide at least 5 to 10 uninterrupted seconds for the student to answer.
- ◆ **Go Green** Using a red pen when grading often creates a negative outlook in the child's mind. Try using a green pen instead!
- ◆ **Research Based** It is important to use research driven practices in the classroom and should be implemented into the daily lesson plans.

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### Registration Open for ESL and Bilingual Courses

Registration is now open for the Spring 2016 ESL and Bilingual Endorsement courses offered in Arlington Heights, Chicago, and Berwyn. These courses are offered via National Louis University. Those interested in taking these courses can register online or by mail. The full course catalog and program can be found at [www.thecenterweb.org/irc/pdf/catalog.pdf](http://www.thecenterweb.org/irc/pdf/catalog.pdf) and registration can be found at <https://thecntr.org>.

### 3rd GSU Mindfulness Symposium

On March 25th from 8:00am to 5:00pm the 3rd GSU Symposium on Mindfulness and Contemplative Practices in Higher Education in Engbretson Hall. This all day event will discuss the different ways that mindfulness can be incorporated into the classroom. There will be a variety of presentations, workshops, and panels for viewers to see and enjoy. Free registration at [www.govst.edu/mindfulnessreg/](http://www.govst.edu/mindfulnessreg/)

### Bowling!

March 9th: 7pm to 11pm

Join us at *Lakewood Bowl* in Richton Park to play a couple games and have some fun!



### Six Steps to a Successful Semester

As the semester reaches its halfway mark it is important to remember these six steps to help stay on track all the way to finals!

- Stay on top of your reading.
- Pace yourself.
- Communicate.
- Collaborate on inspiration.
- Give yourself a break.
- Organize everything.

Read about each point in depth online at <http://gsunews.govst.edu/six-steps-to-a-successful-semester/>

### Is Kindergarten the New First Grade?

The effects of No Child Left Behind have left a distinct mark on the modern day education system. With an added emphasis on improving test scores, grades have increased the amount of academic content at every level. This includes kindergarten as well. What was once a year of mastering social skills and understand how to learn has become just as content driven as the years ahead. Over the last decade there has been a dramatic increase in literacy and math skills being taught in kindergarten classrooms. There are pros and cons to both sides of this. The full article can be found at [neatoday.org](http://neatoday.org).

### SEA at GSU Resources

Website: [seaatgsu.wordpress.com](http://seaatgsu.wordpress.com)

Facebook: [facebook.com/SEAatGSU](https://www.facebook.com/SEAatGSU)

Twitter: [@SEAatGSU](https://twitter.com/SEAatGSU)

COE Website: [www.govst.edu](http://www.govst.edu)



### IEA/NEA Resources

IEA Home Page:

[www.ieanea.org](http://www.ieanea.org)

NEA Home Page: [www.nea.org](http://www.nea.org)

Registration: [www.ims.nea.org](http://www.ims.nea.org)