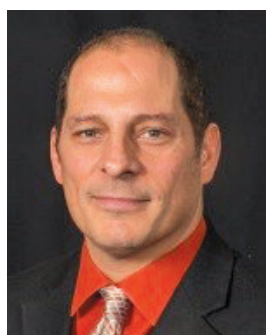


COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES ALUMNI NEWSLETTER



SPRING 2019

Dean's Welcome Message: *Connect, Learn, Leverage*



Andrae Marak, *Dean
College of Arts and
Sciences and Graduate
Studies*

Welcome to the College of Arts and Sciences Alumni Newsletter. Our goal is to help you stay connected to and foster deeper relationships with fellow alumni, faculty, and students. We hope that you find activities and events that support you as a lifelong learner and provide new and exciting ways for you to interact with other alumni, faculty, and current students.

We are exceptionally proud that much of the content in our newsletter was produced by our students.

As you read, please [let us know what you think](#), what you find most helpful, and what you might like to see in future issues of the newsletter.



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Alumni Profile: Seth McClellan, GSU's Hardest Working Man in Film



Seth McClellan graduated from Governors State University in 2007 with a [Master of Fine Arts in Film](#).

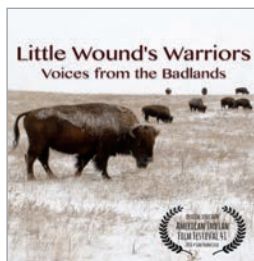
While studying, Seth worked hard to gain academic leverage and networked his way into a graduate assistant position in the University's Media Lab. McClellan said, "I made my first film as I worked in the Media Lab as a graduate assistant. To learn the craft of filmmaking without running up huge student debt, [was of] tremendous value." After graduating from GSU in 2007,

McClellan was offered a position as an adjunct professor here at GSU, and in 2008 was offered a position at Triton College, where he is the director of the film program and a tenured instructor. As a Mass Communications Professor, McClellan teaches digital video, advanced digital video, video editing, film history, and news writing, and was even credited with developing the university's current video program.

Additionally, McClellan has had a successful career in media where he has experience behind and in front of the camera. McClellan's professional career consists of producing films, freelancing as a writer, editor, producer, and cameraman. Behind the camera, Seth has landed principle roles in commercials and films that have been featured at the Sundance Film Festival. McClellan's most recent film, *Little Wound's Warriors*, a documentary exploring the epidemic of teen suicides on First Nations reserves, has screened at nine festivals over the last few months, including the Sydney Indie Film Festival in Australia in September 2018, and was called "stunningly beautiful" by Time Out Chicago. [View the official trailer.](#)

Alumni Profile: Seth McClellan

Continued from cover



Seth McClellan credits much of his success at GSU to the amazing staff and resources offered here at the school to students and alumni. Seth advises all students to utilize resources offered on campus, as they were a great asset to him in developing his professional and academic career.

Alumni Profile: Finding Courage at GSU, Meet US Air Force Colonel Susumu Uchiyama



Susumu Uchiyama graduated from GSU with a [Masters in Analytical Chemistry](#) in 2004. He leveraged his degree as a forensic biometric officer for U.S. Central Command in the Air Force. During his time on active duty in Afghanistan and Iraq, he oversaw chemical residue

analysis of explosives and conducted DNA analyses. One of his most interesting assignments was helping to track down Uday Hussein using a method of genetic DNA analysis called liquid chromatography. His research team was able to differentiate the real Uday Hussein's DNA from 5 decoys using this method.

Mr. Uchiyama also served as a commanding officer of the Afghan National Police Advisors Team, leading a 300 person unit. He described his first experience in combat when he saw that explosives were aimed at his base: "These signals started going out, and we saw it was inbound. That was my first combat and I wasn't prepared for it [...] I had to make sure nobody got hurt or killed. You have to escape the falling debris and get out. Control your temper; no panicking [...] make sure everyone gets down, then once it stops, get out. Stay calm."

He said that GSU helped him to develop courage and confidence, which gave him resilience during combat: "Even in a tough situation like combat in Iraq or Afghanistan, GSU has helped me learn to cope with struggles and traumatic experiences. My overall experience at GSU helped me, particularly in war." Like the military, Mr. Uchiyama notes, GSU offers a multicultural experience which creates a sense of unity and collaboration.

Mr. Uchiyama currently serves as a lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Air Force Reserve. He volunteers for the VFW American Legion, serving as a drill sergeant at memorial services. He has lived all over the world and is fluent in five languages. He recently returned to his hometown, Joliet, with his family.

By Samantha Schmidt

Faculty Emeritus Profile: Karen D'Arcy



Dr. Karen D'Arcy is a Professor Emeritus of Analytical Chemistry. Prior to her emeritus status, Dr. D'Arcy served as the Interim Chair of the Division of Chemical and Biological Sciences and Professor of [Analytical Chemistry](#). Dr. D'Arcy has worked with both undergraduate

and graduate Analytical Chemistry. She has taught Introduction to Organic Chemistry, Equilibrium Theory, Water Quality, Aquatic Biology, and a host of other science courses. In addition to teaching, Dr. D'Arcy has served and chaired many committees within the university, including faculty senate, strategic planning, academic program review committee, as well as faculty and administrative search committees. She was also one of the faculty members that spearheaded the renovations of the science laboratories, which was done to incorporate better ventilation, add additional safety enhancements, and prevent interruptions of simultaneous classes.

As a dedicated philanthropist, Dr. D'Arcy gives a large percentage of her time to the local communities, the university, and foundations that provide research to improve human experiences globally. She consistently volunteers at Habitat for Humanity, a non-profit organization focused on assisting people of the community become homeowners, based in Joliet, IL. Dr. D'Arcy also serves on The Board of Trustees for The Conservative Foundation, a local non-profit that works to save land and rivers via land conservation.

Currently, she serves as a volunteer for [GSU's Summer STEAM camp](#), where students engage in college-style classrooms, equipped with current and retired faculty members and teaching aides.

Dr. D'Arcy encourages students to study and take advantage of the opportunities that GSU offers, like becoming a student-tutor which enables students to study and help others. Dr. D'Arcy believes, "Knowledge means nothing if you don't share with others. Civic engagement helps you to fulfill your purpose to your community. Never stop educating yourself and your community."

[GSU's Summer STEAM Camp](#)

[Habitat for Humanity](#)

[River to River](#)

[The Conservation Foundation](#)

Are You the Buggy Whip? Leveraging Career Services as an Alumni

The buggy whip, a leather device used to drive horse and buggy wagons in the years before automobiles were dominant is often seen as a metaphor for obsolescence, or the failure to innovate, update, or change. As a GSU alumni, you know that it is critical to keep your skills current, your intellectual curiosity fed, **periodically reflect on your personal and professional goals**, and help others achieve their goals.

Whether you are in a stable position, looking for a new career, looking for a promotion, please think about reaching-out to [Career Services](#). Career Services can help you define, focus, accelerate and accomplish your career and development goals.

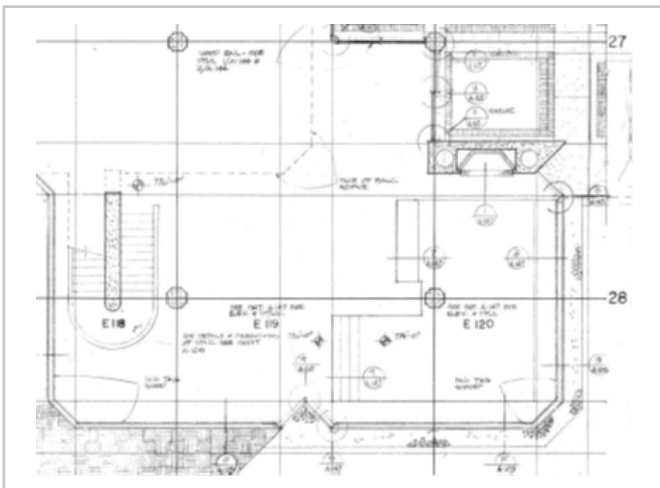
Then and Now: GSU's E-Lounge Renovations



Recently there have been a few changes to the look of the E-Lounge, current home to GSU's Art Gallery.

As noted by Louis Schultz, an alumnus here at Governors State University, the lounge areas were initially created for

socializing and studying. As built, the E-Lounge featured a fire place and sunken seating area known as the "pit". Currently, the space has evolved into dual roles as both a meeting and exhibition space. E-lounge and the attendant art gallery have hosted art exhibitions from both GSU students and other notable artists. The art artifacts on display in the 2000s were provided by Professor Arthur Bourgeois. Several artifacts he provided are still displayed around the GSU campus. Bourgeois also conducts conferences regarding artifacts received by the university with participation from students, faculty, and staff that are open to the public.



Current director of the Art Gallery, Jeff Stevenson, has introduced several exhibits for Governors State University and is heading the current exhibition. Take a walk through the exhibit in the E-Lounge, take a load off and gather and study with friends in this artistic environment.



If you would like more information about the changes that have occurred with the E-Lounge and any other lounges within the university, you can reach out to [Paul Blobaum](#), University Archivist and Reference Librarian.

If you would like more information about the Art Gallery you can reach out to [Jeff Stevenson](#), Director and Curator, Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park and Visual Arts Gallery. If you have an exhibit or artwork you would like to submit for display within the university click jstevenson@govst.edu.

Do YOU know who the faculty meeting in E Lounge are? If so, please [let us know](#) and we will update the archives.



Alumnus Joins College Advisory Board



The College of Arts and Sciences welcomes [Master of Public Administration](#) alumnus, Christopher L. Torres, to the college advisory board.

Christopher Torres is the South/Southwest Regional Director for [Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Chicago](#). With 153 programs at 154 locations throughout Cook and Lake Counties, Christopher and his

staff engage the two regions that serve the greater southland of Cook County.

Christopher started as a Site Manager for The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC). This is a USDA food and nutrition program administered by the Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS) and is operated by Catholic Charities. The Centers provide a variety of WIC-approved foods for eligible participants in Chicago. The food centers also provide access to social services, nutritional education, job training, and educational programs.

Christopher's background is in operations and management. He is a servant leader who works with community partners, two regional advisory boards, parishes, and the greater community to serve those in need.

The [College of Arts and Sciences Advisory Board](#) was established as a small, informal group of "friends of the college" in 2009 to enhance the connection between the college, alumni and the greater community.

The CAS Advisory Board serve as a "sounding board" for present and proposed programs, activities and issues relating to the College of Arts and Sciences. The Advisory Board identifies opportunities for Arts and Sciences students and alumni to enrich their education, career, and cultural opportunities through internships, mentorships, social activities and other beneficial experiences, assists in the development and maintenance of external support and participate in the ongoing strategic planning process for the college.

Stay Connected

Stay connected to your friends and get updates on campus events. Join the [Alumni Association](#) to stay in the loop about professional development, networking, reunions, public speaking events, performances and more!

[Please contact us.](#)



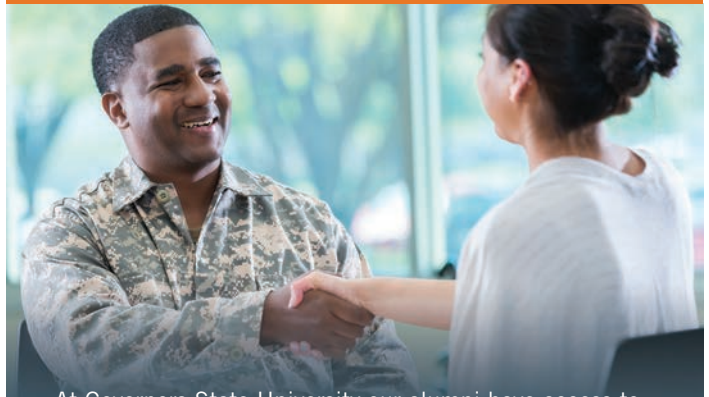
Give Back

When you join other alumni in giving back, you are collectively making a powerful impact on students following your legacy at GSU. Your tax deductible gifts help to educate all who are willing to put forth the effort to pursue education at the highest levels attainable, ensure faculty is fully equipped with resources to provide the best academic programming and centers of excellences, ensure the road towards that education remains accessible to all, remain an Arts and Cultural Center in the greater Chicago area, and to ensure our students are confident they have received the education and preparation that allows them to compete in the workforce. Please consider giving \$50 or more to provide a pathway to preparing future alumni with the best education possible.



[Please Donate](#)
[Contact Us](#)

Career Services



At Governors State University our alumni have access to the Office of Career Services for life. Whether you are an alum looking to develop a job search strategy, in need of a resume critique, mock interviews or finding ways to further explore and identify career options, we can assist.

Please call the [Office of Career Services](#) at 708-235-3974 to schedule a Career Counseling session; available in-person, via phone, or Skype.

We also offer alumni and employer access to our [Jobs for Jaguars](#) job and internship database.

Whether you are looking for employment or if you're an alum looking to hire a student intern or an GSU graduate, Jobs for Jaguars is for YOU!

Visit [Jobs for Jaguars](#) to create an alumni or employer account today.

CONNECT WITH US



Below, please find links to a wide variety of activities and events that support your connection to the GSU community.

CAREER SERVICES

[The Office of Career Services](#) is available to help you navigate pathways to success! Career Services' job is to walk you through an exciting journey to discover a place of professional and personal fulfillment, satisfaction, and contribution.

On-Campus Upcoming Career Fairs and Special Events

All CAS alumni and students are welcome to attend Career Service events below:

Spring Career & Internship Fair

Date: Tuesday, April 30, 2019

Time: 2 – 5 p.m.

Location: Hall of Governors

Students, alumni, and community members are welcome. Dress professionally and bring plenty of resumés! This event will focus on careers in education, business and technology, communications, and nonprofit.

Contact the Office of Career Services
708.235.3974.

Learn about [upcoming Career Services events](#).

GSU LIBRARY

The GSU Library has a great deal to offer alumni. You are invited to visit the library either in person or [online](#).

At the library, you can access all of our databases, and review our library catalog. In addition, we encourage you to visit the library online, where you can learn about various library events and activities. Come see our art exhibits in the Skylight Gallery! Attend the many workshops that we offer each semester!

Visit the GSU Library to access the [Open Portal to University Scholarship \(OPUS\)](#). Here, you can explore a plethora of scholarly articles, dissertations and historical data on a global basis. [Visit OPUS](#).

Friends of the Library

Date: Every Monday

Time: 12 – 1 p.m.

Location: D2417 Library Conference Room

ALUMNI RELATIONS

GSU Foundation Annual Scholarship Golf Outing

DATE: Tuesday, June 11, 2019

TIME: 7:30 am registration; 8:30 a.m. shot gun start

LOCATION: Odyssey Country Club, Tinley Park

\$125 per person

Proceeds benefit student scholarships

Sponsorship opportunities available

708.534.7892

CONNECT WITH US



SCULPTURE PARK/ART GALLERY

Sculpture, Wine & Dine 2019

DATE: Saturday, September 14, 2019

LOCATION: GSU Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park

RSVP Myisha Meeks
mmeeks@govst.edu
708.534.4105

Visit the [Visual Arts Gallery Facebook Page](#) for additional information about artists' talks and receptions.

Save the Date: Upcoming GSU Events

BFA Student Exhibition

DATE: May 2, 2019

LOCATION: E-Lounge

Reception with *Reconstructed
Literary & Fine Arts Journal*

Summer Solstice Tour

DATE: Saturday, June 22, 2019

Summer Solstice Sunset Celebration – arrive around 6:30 p.m. “Ravinia” style (bring your own picnic snacks and beverages) enjoy ambient tunes with our guest DJ next to the bonfire near the lake, take a walk around the park and watch the sun go down through the geometric angles of “Phoenix” which is sited to frame the sunset on the Solstice. FREE family friendly event.

Yoga and Walking Meditation in the Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park

DATE: Wednesday, August 21, 2019

TIME: 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Meet in front of *Paul*, by Tony Tasset (front main parking lot). Suggested donations of \$10 per person.

Join Liz Smith of [serendipityyogaandwellness.com](#) for an opportunity to merge yoga, meditation and creative expression. Begin with a 45-minute yoga class designed for individuals with all-levels of yoga experience. Following class, you will be led through a walking meditation in the Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park. Participants will stop at each piece of art for a guided meditation designed to inspire creativity, peace and artistic expression.

Be sure to dress comfortably to move and walk. Participants should be able to bear weight in the hands and kneel. Bring water and a yoga mat. If you do not have one, extras will be available.

The event will be rescheduled if it rains, but we're optimistic it will be great weather at 5:30 p.m.

Contact: [Sherri Denault](#), Education and Outreach Coordinator with questions.

CONNECT WITH US



CENTER FOR PERFORMING ARTS

About the Center

Each year, the Center for Performing Arts presents more than 50 performances offering diverse, high quality and affordable cultural and arts education experiences to more than 60,000 people. We welcome CAS Alumni to join us for these special upcoming performances. Whatever your cultural tastes, we have something for you.

YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS THIS!

Center for Performing Arts Theatre event in 2019 for CAS Alumni:

Best of Broadway Emerald City Summer Camp

DATE: June 17–21, 2019

TIME: 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

[More Info | Buy Tickets](#)

The Ultimate Queen Celebration Starring marc Martel

DATE: Saturday, April 27, 2019

TIME: 8 p.m.

[More Info | Buy Tickets](#)

Emerald City Theatre Performance

DATE: Friday, June 21, 2019

TIME: 7 p.m.

(Tickets are \$10 each)

CAS Alumni can bring family or friends to this event. This summer camp is perfect for children or family members between the ages of 8 – 15 that enjoy theatre and acting. We encourage all participants and family members to attend the grand finale performance at the end of the summer camp.

Camp Registration Fee: \$250 (includes Emerald City Theatre camp t-shirt and Friday hot dog lunch)

Space is limited to 60 campers

Reserve your camper's spot: 708.235.2222

[More Info](#)

CONNECT WITH US



EXTENDED LEARNING

Extended Learning caters to CAS Alumni for whom it may be challenging to take on campus daytime classes or for those who balance work and family schedules or active military service. We know that many CAS Alumni want to continue learning for a lifetime. The School of Extended Learning is designed to meet those needs and more. Governors State University's School of Extended Learning is dedicated to helping learners reach their full potential.

Contact us at continuinged@govst.edu or 708.534.4099.

[View Extended Learning Courses and Programs](#)

Certified Associate in Project Management Preparation Course-CAPM® ONLINE

Governors State University School of Extended Learning's Certified Associate in Project Management (CAPM)® Exam Preparation ONLINE Course breaks down complex topics for anyone who is interested in or are just starting out in project management. This online course is a hands-on approach covering a wide range of topics, all reinforced through pre-recorded videos on each of the knowledge areas and practical examples with comprehension being tested at the end of each area with sample exam questions. Governors State University is a proud Registered Education Provider (R.E.P) with the PMI® with all material being approved through the PMI®. The textbook is an additional fee. For more information, please contact Felicia L. Townsend at 708.534.3044 or ftownsend@govst.edu. The next class at GSU will be July 15, 2019 to August 19, 2019.

Lean Six Sigma Black Belt Certificate Program

Students will complete a Lean Six Sigma project from inception to completion. Dates and times are flexible; please contact Amy Barsha at abarsha@govst.edu or 708.534.4565 to set schedule with instructor. The next class at GSU will be **February 1, 2019 to June 1, 2019**.

Lean Six Sigma Green Belt Certificate

The Lean Six Sigma Green Belt certificate program will focus on both Advanced Lean Techniques and Six Sigma "Green Belt" methodologies. Detailed and real-world examples of lean thinking will be reviewed with hands - on examples to enhance the learning experience. Learn how to integrate theories of business, statistics, and the elimination of waste with the goal of achieving tangible results. Six Sigma methods will include project planning and various statistical tools to equip the student to be Green Belt certified and a practitioner of Lean Six Sigma at their organization. The course is offered Hybrid (4 in class and 3 online) or 100% online. Textbooks are an additional fee. Please contact Amy Barsha at abarsha@govst.edu or 708.534.4565. Dates for the next sessions, are **June 8, 2019 to July 20, 2019**.

Tai Chi

Trying to find ways to reduce stress and to just feel better? Well here's an option, join us CAS Alumni for Tai Chi for beginners. Tai Chi is an excellent way to reduce stress and feel better. Slow, concentrated movements come together with breathing and rhythmical movement to enhance your wellbeing. Please contact Michelle Sebasco for more information at msebasco@govst.edu or 708.235.3983.

Yoga for All

Looking for more fitness classes? Join us CAS Alumni for Yoga for all session. Yoga is a great way to increase flexibility, improve health and physical fitness, and reduce stress. Please contact Michelle Sebasco for more information at msebasco@govst.edu or 708.235.3983.

CONNECT WITH US



OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL SERVICES

Study Abroad Events and Info Sessions

All are welcome to attend the info sessions. Most faculty-led study abroad programs allow students from all disciplines to apply. You are not required to attend an info session prior to applying but it is helpful for meeting the faculty leaders and getting the most information you can about the program.

Business & Culture of South Africa

Dates: December 9 – 22, 2019

OPEN TO ALL GSU STUDENTS

GSU students will travel with GSU faculty to Johannesburg and Cape Town.

Grants and scholarships available!

Come to an info session for details or visit the GSU Faculty-Led Study Abroad Page to RSVP!

INFO SESSION:

Thursday, May 30, 2019 at 4 p.m.

LOCATION: D1496

France

Transnational Crime & Sustainable Planning Initiatives (Paris)

Dates: May 3 – 12, 2019

Faculty: Dr. Vincent Jones & Dr. Susan Gaffney

Course Options: CJUS 4000/7320 and/or PADM 8000

Application Deadline: December 1

INFO SESSION:

Date: Tuesday, November 13 at 7:30 p.m.

LOCATION: Engbretson Hall

Ghana

Public Health Brigade

Dates: May 24 – June 2, 2019

Faculty: Dr. Phyllis West & Dr. Nicole Koonce

Course: SOCW 5000 / CDIS 8000*

Application Deadline: December 1

INFO SESSION:

Date: Monday, November 12 at 3:30 p.m.

LOCATION: E-Lounge

Date: Thursday, November 29 at 3:00 p.m.

LOCATION: F1622

CONNECT WITH US



STUDY ABROAD EVENTS AND INFO SESSIONS CONTINUED

Vietnam

Business & Culture of Vietnam

Dates: June 28 – July 9, 2019

Faculty: Dr. Carlos Ferran
Course: MGMT 3000/5000

INFO SESSION:

DATE: Wednesday, November 7 at 5:30 p.m.

LOCATION: Engbretson Hall

DATE: Tuesday, November 20 at 3:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Engbretson Hall

Germany

Multi-Level Governance in Europe

Dates: June 22 – July 3, 2019

Faculty: Dr. Natalia Ermasova & Dr. Mary Bruce
Course: PADM 8000 or POLS 4090/8000 or
CJUS 4000/8000

INFO SESSION:

DATE: Thursday, November 8 at 4:00 p.m.

LOCATION: C1317

DATE: Tuesday, November 20 at 4:00 p.m.

LOCATION: C1317

QUESTIONS?

Please contact the

[Office of International Services](#)

ois@govst.edu

708.235.7611



STEAM SUMMER CAMP

Governors State University is once again offering hands-on science, technology, art and mathematics **(STEAM) Camp** fun for summer 2019!

Through a series of fun, highly interactive activities, students will learn basic concepts in the visual and performing arts, chemistry, engineering, mathematics, physics, and robotics and more.

Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math

Middle and high school students (11 to 16)



Session One: Monday, July 15 to Friday, July 19, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.



Session Two: Monday, July 22 to Friday, July 26, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.



Steam Camp Plus: additional activities, Monday to Thursday, 3 to 5 p.m.
Additional fee: \$60 per session, per camper.

Additional information and scholarships available:
www.govst.edu/steamcamp

Thank You to Our Student Contributors

We are extremely proud to showcase the efforts of our students. A special thank you to our students for their work on the newsletter.

Katrina Barner – Community Health Major

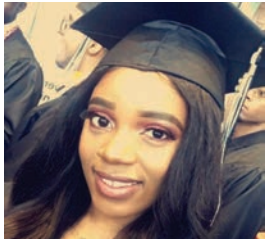
Katrina Barner is a Community Health specializing in Pre-Health Professions major. Her overall objective is to apply for the APN Nursing program next semester and continue with her Bachelor's degree at Governors State University.

Brittany Bledsoe – English Major



Brittany Bledsoe is currently an adult student working to complete her BA in English after she gives birth to her first child. Brittany plans on continuing her education at a local law school in Illinois once she receives her degree from GSU.

Candace Burton (Alumni) – Business Major



Candace Burton graduated in 2018 with an undergraduate degree in Business Administration with a concentration in entrepreneurship. Candace said, "All my life I knew I wanted to practice law and eventually open my own practice". Candace main goal is to enter the

field of real estate law and eventually transfer over into estate planning closer to retirement. In the mean time she plans to have several small businesses and large investments. Candace wants to inspire other young minorities through the education of real estate holdings and philanthropic contributions.

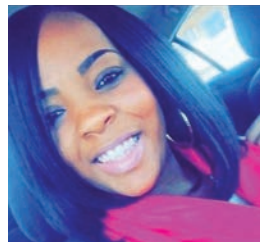
Tamar Clark – Health Promotion Major



Tamar Clark is a senior here at Governors State University. Tamar is majoring in Community Health and her concentration is Health promotion. Tamar Plans on creating her own business being a health expert studying everything there is to know about health. Tamar hopes

to make an online fitness and health business promoting and teaching others healthy living while being a personal trainer and nutritionist.

Christina Williams – English Major



Christina Williams is a senior at Governors State University majoring in English. Upon graduating, Christina plans to continue her education and earn a Master of Communication which will enable her to pursue a career in the Public Relations field. Christina works as

the Public Relations Manager for GSU's Reconstructed Literary and Fine Arts Journal; a University journal ran by students that features the submitted works of GSU English and Arts students. Additionally, Christina works as a student-worker for the College of Arts and Science (CAS) Deans office and has assisted with the publication and editing of the first CAS Alumni newsletter. When asked about her CAS Alumni newsletter experience Christina stated, "It is a pleasure to be a part of a university publication that hopes to engage alumni and create a sense of community between GSU alumni and GSU current students".

Thank You