

Division of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management



Male Success Initiative (MSI) participants meet with President Maimon during Spring 2019 Chat with the President.

Annual Report

2018–19

INTRODUCTION



Aurélio Manuel Valente

*Vice President for Student Affairs
and Enrollment Management*

Campus Location: C1310

Web: www.govst.edu/studentaffairs



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Welcome to our 2018-19 annual report. On the cusp of concluding our divisional strategic plan entitled *Reaching Vision 2020*, the division refreshed its strategic focus areas to reflect organizational changes since 2015 when the plan was first authored. In that process, we realized the tremendous momentum towards accomplishing our goals and objectives. Since 2015, *Reaching Vision 2020* has provided us with focus and accountability, creating opportunities and possibilities for our division while ensuring we keep our eye on our contributions to GSU's *Vision 2020*. As we near the end of our plan's implementation, we also focus on the future, and most notably, build on our momentum as we prepare for Strategy 2025.

While there was progress in the development and continuous improvement of our programs and services, GSU like most institutions in Illinois continues to experience enrollment declines. In our fifth year as a comprehensive institution, GSU enrolled 4,857 students, a decrease of 6.6% from 2017-18 largely due to significant declines in graduate and international students. We welcomed 203 students to our fifth freshmen class, retained 106 sophomores (53.3%) and maintained a near-capacity occupancy rate (96%) in Prairie Place – 267 students – for the fourth consecutive year.

A highlight of 2018-2019 was the completion of our second Kresge Foundation grant which focused on the dissemination of our nationally recognized [Dual Degree Program](#), expansion of our Male Success Initiative – both on campus and at our community college partners – and establishment college-bound programs at high schools in our service region. Over the course of the three years, there were nearly a dozen presentations at peer-reviewed conferences and GSU hosted its second summer institute with 51 participants from 17 institutions. At GSU, the Male Success Initiative (MSI) recorded 50 participants in Fall 2018 with an impressive 97% persistence rate for Spring 2019. Additionally, [GSU signed Memorandums of Understanding](#) with Prairie State College, Moraine Valley Community College and South Suburban College to expand MSI programming at these key community college partners. Lastly, the College Pathways Program expanded its programming at Crete-Monee High School and [signed Memorandums of Understanding](#) with 3 Seeds Mentoring and the Gloria J. Taylor Foundation, community-based TRiO programs. The College Pathways Program also launched its inaugural [S2S Conference](#), a student-driven and student-led effort with both high school and college students helping to plan logistics and deliver the presentations.

Successful completion of the Kresge Foundation grant is just one of the many divisional highlights of the 2018-2019 academic year. This annual report provides information about the breadth of programs and services sponsored by our team of dedicated and talented student affairs educators and enrollment management professionals. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or comments about this report, or if you are interested in partnering with Student Affairs in creating or expanding programs and services for the Governors State University community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Aurélio M Valente".

Dr. Aurélio Manuel Valente

Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management

MISSION, VISION, AND LEARNING OUTCOMES

Student Affairs and Enrollment Management | Mission Statement

The mission of the Division of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management is to provide a seamless and supportive pathway from prospective student to alumni, focused on personal and academic success and ensuring that students are career ready and positioned to be leaders and active citizens in the community.

Student Affairs and Enrollment Management | Vision Statement

At a transformative time for Governors State University, the Division of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management will be recognized as a vital contributor in creating an inclusive, supportive, and engaged campus community focused on student success.

Student Affairs and Enrollment Management | Learning Outcomes

The Division of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management aspires to deliver an innovative, comprehensive and integrated student life curriculum that promotes self-efficacy and determination, personal and professional success, multicultural competence, leadership development, and civic engagement.

Students who actively participate in Student Affairs programs and services will achieve:

- **Self-Efficacy and Determination** by constructing an understanding of self and a commitment to personal responsibility, integrity, and wellness that guides their decisions and actions.
- **Personal and Professional Success** by learning and applying knowledge and transferable skills to achieve personal aspirations and professional and career growth.
- **Multicultural Competence** by thriving within diverse perspectives, experiences, and environments, and building their capacity for being an advocate for equity and social justice.
- **Leadership and Civic Engagement** by deploying their knowledge and talents to improve their communities, both as individuals and by mobilizing others towards positive, sustainable change.

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ACADEMIC RESOURCE CENTER

The **Academic Resource Center (ARC)** expanded its services as New Student Programs transitioned under the ARC to form a stronger support system for First Year Students. The Academic Resource Center provides support for students in academic recovery, GSU STAR assistance, Access Services for Students with Disabilities, ARC tutoring, Writing Center services, and New Student Programs. The department continues to grow with the implementation of new programs and early alert initiatives aligned with the *Reaching Vision 2020* goals. These new initiatives have sparked growth in services and student utilization in GSU STAR, the Writing Center, ARC tutoring services and peer mentor interaction with students.

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Fax: (708) 235-3961
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web: www.govst.edu/arc

Department Highlights:

- During spring 2019, the ARC saw an increase in submission of midterm grades and Early Alert Progress Surveys. The department continues to offer midterm support for both undergraduate and graduate students. In fall 2018, 1,852 students received 2,854 midterm grades and in spring 2019, 2,248 students received 4,065 midterm grades. In reviewing midterm grades data from fall 2018, 24.5% of undergraduate students who received an F and 58.9% of undergraduate students who received a D for a midterm grade, completed the semester with a grade of C or higher. Efforts to support students receiving midterm alerts made a positive impact on student performance. In addition to midterm grades, GSU STAR distributed Early Alert Progress Surveys during the 2nd and 6th week of courses; during fall 2018, faculty completed 168 Early Alert Progress Surveys and 93 surveys were completed in spring 2019.
- Two programs, Pathways to Academic Recovery and the Back on Track Program (BOT) continue to assist students in academic recovery. In spring 2019, 42 lower division academic recovery students registered for the Pathways to Academic Recovery workshop series. As a result, 31 (74%) of students completed the program and received a passing grade. In fall 2018, the Back on Track Program had 5 out of 8 (63%) of students complete the program and 2 out 3 students (67%) completed the program in spring 2019.
- During the 2018-19 academic year, the Writing Center recorded 2,179 student contacts with 819 face-to-



Tutoring is available in the Academic Resource Center where student success is our number one priority!

face appointments, 629 Growl contacts, 541 library contacts, and 37 class visits. Writing consultants served 190 students through workshops; of this total, 7 attended the Graduate Writing Boot Camp and 22 attended the campus-wide Back to Basics forums. These numbers reflect a slight increase in Writing Center student contacts from the previous academic year.

- A total of 159 students participated in ARC tutoring with a total of 836 contacts in math, science, statistics, and business. As part of ARC's *Reaching Vision 2020 goals*, Supplemental Instruction (SI) extended services to support both lower and upper division students. The ARC provided SI assistance in six science courses. During the 2018-2019 academic year, there were a total of 234 SI visits. In addition, ARC tutoring applied for and received level 1 certification through the College Reading and Learning Association (CRLA). Tutors began training through the CRLA program during the fall semester and 6 out of 7 tutors employed during that term completed the requirements and received certificates.

ADMISSIONS AND RECRUITING

The **Office of Admissions** provides assistance to prospective students and applicants during the selection and admission process. The office provides admission counseling appointments, campus tours, group presentations, and hosts a number of recruitment events to showcase our university to students and their families. Our team works with various departments throughout the university to provide the best experience possible to future Jaguars.

In addition to outreach and recruiting, a team of admission representatives works hard to provide timely admission decisions to applicants, and an admission processing team manages the intake of all application materials, document scanning, and evaluation of admission applications. The department is in the final stages of implementing an automated acceptance email system that will dynamically insert conditional admits, honors, merit, AIM HIGH and other relevant information regarding the student's acceptance taken from fields in the colleague system. This will allow GSU to better communicate expectations and opportunities to help increase the University yield.

During the 2018–19 academic year, the Undergraduate Admissions Office received more than 9,359 inquiries, 7,344 new applications into the Colleague system, and issued 4,203 admission decisions (both admitted and denied), representing a 57.2% admission application completion rate.

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web: www.govst.edu/admission

Department Highlights:

- Automated the Honors Program regression within the Colleague system to determine candidates. The Honors Program is on track to exceed its largest entering freshman cohort.
- Campus visits and tours continued to leave a positive impression on our prospective students and their families; 48 high school and college group visits (an increase of 57% from 2017-18) for a total of 2,489 prospective students visiting our campus and touring the university with the Undergraduate Admissions Office (a 130% increase from 2017-18). With our dedicated student staff servicing these groups, we are now able to offer a personalized experience with a focus on service.
- Undergraduate Admissions Office hosted our fourth annual National Signing Day event on May 9, 2019, in the Center for the Performing Arts. Nearly 200 new freshman students and their family members celebrated their decision to

attend GSU in the Fall 2019 semester. We were also able to recognize all nine of our merit-based scholarship recipients, our AIM HIGH scholarship recipients and all students who qualified for book scholarships.

- In an effort to build relationships with our direct admit freshmen, we offered our first ever Jaguar Scholar Night on April 10, 2019. Twenty-nine students and nearly 50 family members packed the room to learn about the Honors Program, living in Prairie Place, AIM HIGH, Pathways, and had the opportunity to pre-register for some of their fall courses before any other freshmen. This also gave us an opportunity to collect confirmations to the Honors Program and registrations for the summer R.O.A.R programs earlier than in years past.
- The Undergraduate Admissions Office and the Honors Program recorded the largest number of qualified students and applicants for the 2019 merit scholarship program. In February 2019, GSU awarded two Presidential, two Provost and five Deans scholarships for the Fall 2019 semester.
- On May 13, 2019, the number of admitted freshmen for Fall 2019 exceeded the total number of accepted students from Fall 2018.
- On March 11, 2019, the number of direct admits for Fall 2019 exceeded the total number of accepted students from Fall 2018.
- New transfer student enrollment for Fall 2018 increased by 14% (N=99) from Fall 2017. Part of this success was due to the development of Express Admissions which identified applicants ready for acceptance, rendered acceptance on the spot and conducted personal phone calls to the newly admitted students. This, along with a transfer recruitment campaign, helped achieve Fall 2018 growth.
- The office continues to refine its primary market with a special intention of establishing stronger feeder high schools and strengthening community college relationships. Our new territory management plan establishes application, admission and registration goals by high school and community college. Part of this initiative includes increasing professional connections and communication with our academic partnerships.
- Undergraduate Admissions continues to work on lead generation with the purchase of prospective students in GSU's primary Illinois and Indiana markets. Approximately 23,000 prospective seniors, juniors, and sophomores from local high schools who live in the 40-mile radius were contacted. As a result, 4,761 high school students received additional communication about admission events.

ATHLETICS AND RECREATION

The **Department of Athletics and Recreation** encompasses seven varsity athletic programs (men's and women's basketball, men's and women's golf, men's and women's cross country, men's and women's soccer, and women's volleyball) as well as clubs for bowling, cricket, table tennis, and softball. The Athletic and Recreation Center is open to students, faculty, staff, and community members, and its facilities include an Olympic style pool, racquetball court, fitness room, and gymnasium, offering the tools necessary to reach total body wellness goals. In addition, the atrium game room includes an X-Box and PlayStation, as well as 3 large screen televisions for gaming, billiards table, table tennis, and foosball table in addition to plenty of lounge space to relax. The Center's team is committed to improving the quality of life and fitness for all participants.

In addition to students visit, 11,762 alumni and community members also utilized our facilities, for a total of 33,145 visits to the Athletics and Recreation Center during the 2018–19 academic year.

Contact Information: **Campus Location: A1106**
Phone: (708) 534-4556
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Web: www.GSUJaguars.com

Department Highlights:

- Of the 11,762 visits to the Athletics and Recreation Center, 52% were to the fitness room, 31% were to the swimming pool, 13% were to the gymnasium, and 4% were to the racquetball court. Additionally, the game lounge logged 3,597 visits, and 62 students participated in fitness classes.
- \$52,791 of revenue was generated during the 2018–19 academic year from membership fees and rentals of the Athletics and Recreation Center facilities. \$12,418 of revenue was generated during the 2018–19 academic year from athletic events.

Athletics Year-in-Review:

- GSU's sports offering expanded to nine teams with the addition of men's and women's soccer for the 2019-20 school year.
- Boasting an 86.7% graduation rate, GSU graduated its first, four-year class of student-athletes. All told, 20 active and former student-athletes received degrees during May Commencement.
- Volleyball student-athlete Milica Maras became the first Academic All-American in school history. Cross country runner Kaila Konecki made Academic All-District.

- Freshman Dunja Tatic became the first Jaguar volleyball player to earn All-CCAC First Team recognition.
- Women's Basketball set a program record for victories (16) en route to its first winning season. GSU upset 21st-ranked Saint Xavier to end the Cougars' 35-game conference win streak.
- Men's Basketball reached the CCAC Tournament Championship Game for the second-straight year.
- Men's Golf won three team titles and recorded its highest-finish ever (fourth place) at the CCAC Championships. The team also competed at the 33rd PGA WORKS Collegiate Championship in Port St. Lucie, Florida, achieving a runner-up finish in the NAIA Division.
- Women's Golf graduated Kendall Paris as the program's career scoring leader.
- Women's Cross Country scored in all six meets.
- Men's Cross Country placed two runners (Jake Diaz, Matthew McNeil) on the CCAC All-Academic Team.
- Five GSU student-athletes were honored as NAIA-Daktronics Scholar-Athletes.
- Twelve student-athletes received CCAC All-Academic Team accolades with Rachel Distor being named to two different teams (women's basketball and golf).



International Students Ivana Novakovic, Milica Maras, and Dunja Tatic, recorded 4.00 grade point averages during the 2018-19 school year. (Photo credit: Charles Beard Photography)

AUXILIARY SERVICES & UNIVERSITY HOUSING

Auxiliary Services & University Housing (ASUH) provides support and high-quality services to the students, faculty, staff, alumni, and guests of the Governors State University community.

Our primary goal is to support the educational mission of the University and enhance the quality of the student experience. We strive to provide superior services for the best interests of students and the broader University community. ASUH is responsible for the programs and services associated with University Housing, the GSU Bookstore, Campus Dining, Catering & Vending, and myONECARD.

Contact Information: **Campus Location: C1330**
Phone: 708.235.7110
Email: housing@govst.edu
Web: www.govst.edu/housing
www.govst.edu/dining
www.govst.edu/bookstore
www.govst.edu/myONECARD

University Housing Highlights:

- For the fourth year, University Housing administered a Quality of Life (QoL) survey to the students living in Prairie Place in the spring semester. Fifty students (21.11%) responded to the survey. The survey data will be used to inform the development of Strategic Goals and Objectives for 2019-20.
- The Prairie Place Residence Hall Student Staff (Assistant Residence Hall Director and Resident Assistants) participated in a variety of training during 2018-19 which included the Para-Professional Student Leader Training Day and the Opioid Prevention Workshop provided by Vantage Clinical Consulting LLC. During the Para-Professional Student Leader Training Day, Prairie Place Student Staff was able to connect with other student leaders and share conversations on diversity and Title IX/Responsible Employee during each respective session. Additionally, the Opioid Prevention Workshop provided the Prairie Place Student Staff with an opportunity to learn about a topic that was relative to their experience as a student leader in the community and a better understanding of their role in Prairie Place in the event of an Opioid-related crisis.

Auxiliary Services Highlights:

- Arena Food Services, Inc. created a survey in 2018-19 to solicit information from Prairie Place residents about the C-Store. Based on information received from students, Arena Food Services adjusted their hours for the C-Store to accommodate students' needs.



Prairie Place Residence Hall Director, Candice Sewell, and front desk receptionists Bradley Jackson and Diamond Johnson (left to right in photo), are excited to welcome students to the 50th anniversary celebrations!

- The Make the \$0.25 Difference Campaign was implemented in the café back in July 2016 to support the GSU Food Pantry; in 2018-19 the campaign generated \$140. Arena Food Services is also providing the GSU Food Pantry with fresh fruits and vegetables at wholesale cost from their vendor for the Operation Healthy program whereby fresh fruit and vegetables are distributed to persons in need on a monthly basis.
- In calendar year 2019, the bookstore will carry clothing and gift items to support the 50th anniversary of GSU. Items include; t-shirts, hooded-sweatshirts, polo shirts, coffee mugs, pens, and key-chains. The Follett Bookstore also introduced an advisory committee to the GSU campus that began in the Spring 2019 semester and will meet once a semester moving forward. The committee is made up of faculty, staff, and students. The charge is to provide the bookstore with guidance in regard to campus matters as they pertain to the store operating policy and procedures. In addition, the committee serves as a resource for the bookstore to share new processes and services to be analyzed and considered for implementation at GSU
- In the 2018–19 academic year, 2,181 myONECARDS were issued by the Department of Auxiliary Services & University Housing and the GSU Welcome Center.

CAREER SERVICES

The **Office of Career Services** provides a wide range of services available to currently enrolled students and alumni. Services include individual career counseling sessions, assistance with resume and cover letter preparation, job and internship search strategies, interviewing skills, career exploration, and much more. In addition, Career Services coordinates job search skills workshops, customized workshops, and career and internship fairs.

In total, Career Services served 1,160 individual client visits, which included individual counseling sessions, open hour visits, and walk-ins. Career Services also sponsored and/or participated in 104 programs and events which 2,341 students, faculty, staff, corporate partners, and community members attended.

Campus Location: Student Success Commons, B1215

Phone: (708) 235-3974

Fax: (708) 534-1173

Email: career@govst.edu

web: www.govst.edu/careerservices

- **Departmental Highlights:**

Individual career counseling sessions constitute a significant portion of the personal outreach by the career counseling staff. In total, 839 individual clients were served in private counseling sessions. The department also served an additional 321 students for walk-in hours, for a total of 1,160 served.

- Career, internship, and networking fairs, along with on-campus interview days, are the most visible programmatic efforts sponsored by Career Services. This year Career Services hosted and served 491 job seekers and 96 employers during on-campus recruitment events. This included the

Student Employment Fair, the Spring Career and Internship Fair, the IDOC interview days, and the Illinois Cooperative Work Study interviews for student interns. Additionally, Career Services participated in 104 career development programs and events this past year, with 2,341 students and GSU community members in attendance.

- The Illinois Cooperative Work Study Grant program received continued funding this past year, with an award amount of \$36,647.61 for FY19. To date, all of the funds have been allocated. Additionally, we have received an award amount of \$36,125.51 for FY20 that will allow us to continue the good work we are doing to place students in valuable paid internship experiences and to build strong relationships with employers.
- Career Services continues to support the student employment experience. This year we hosted our first student employee on-campus orientation, as well as participated in National Student Employment Week. We offered a series of professional development workshops that allowed students an opportunity to focus on strengths development, identifying and maximizing transitional skills, and overall professional development. As a closing event, with approximately 100 students and administrators in attendance, we held a Student Employee Recognition Reception. Roderick K. Hawkins, Deputy Chief of Staff for the Office of Engagement for former Mayor Rahm Emanuel, served as the keynote speaker for this event. Forty-eight students received certificates of professional development to recognize their efforts shown by attending three or more professional development workshops throughout the academic year.



GSU administrators and Deputy Chief of Staff for the Office of Engagement for former Mayor Rahm Emanuel, Roderick Hawkins, come out to recognize the accomplishments of student employees during National Student Employee Week.

COUNSELING AND WELLNESS

The **Counseling and Wellness Center** provides healthcare and counseling services for GSU students by supporting their psychological and physical health, wellness, and well-being needs. Our medical and behavioral health teams work with students as partners by providing confidential, compassionate and high-quality care.

- Advocate Health Center provides comprehensive physical health support, such as diagnostic testing; wellness screenings; consultation and education; basic physicals; and sexually transmitted disease testing for GSU students.
- Counseling Services provides individual, group, and couples counseling, consultation and referral assistance, and crisis support for GSU students.

Contact Information: Campus Location: A1120
Phone: (708) 235-7334
Fax: (708) 235-3961
Email: studentcounseling@govst.edu
Web: www.govst.edu/counseling-and-wellness

Departmental Highlights:

Health Services: The Advocate Health Center served 1,068 GSU students, an increase of 15.7% from 2017-2018. In addition, Advocate performed over 226 STI screenings and administered over 593 vaccinations to students.

Counseling Services: During the 2018-2019 year, there were 1,339 counseling appointments with an additional 192 triage/walk-in appointments. Additionally, the Center sponsored 98 outreach events (96% increase), with approximately 1,933 students in attendance. The Center increased the amount of workshops/presentations to enhance visibility, establish an inclusive community, and develop collaborative partnerships that are focused on student learning such as Title IX programming events: Resource Fair, Bystander Intervention trainings, Clothesline Project, Take Back the Night, Denim Day, and Men's Response (see below).



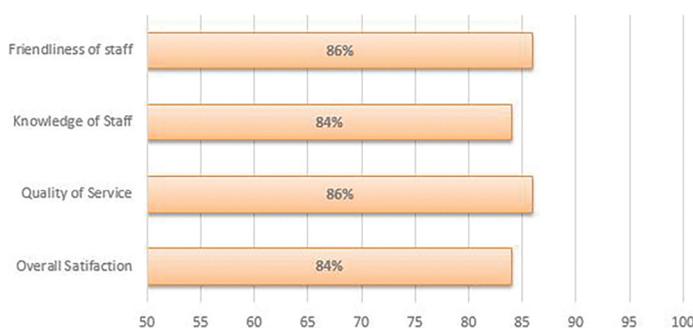
TITLE IX UPDATE:

The Advocating for Sexual Assault Prevention (ASAP) team implemented a variety of outreach programming to the GSU community. Outreach events consisted of tabling events, bystander training, and educational workshops.

- In 2018-2019, approximately 365 students participated in prevention and awareness programming.
- 60 students participated in The Hook Up event, an interactive workshop focusing on sexual violence and bystander intervention.
- New this year, the ASAP team presented at 63 classes with 787 new students in attendance for workshop entitled "Not on our campus: Sexual Assault Prevention at Governors State University."
- In April, Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM), the following programs were provided:
 - o 100 students participated in the 7th Annual Clothesline Project
 - o SAAM Resource Fair
 - o Active Bystander Training
 - o Take Back The Night
 - o Denim Day
 - o Men's response to sexual assault
 - o Sex signals: stop, go slow, and go on
 - o Scars of the Soul Documentary

For more information about ASAP and ways to get involved, visit www.govst.edu/asap.

Client Satisfaction





DDP Staff and Student Participants at the DDP & MSI Career Symposium

The **Dual Degree Program (DDP)** is a unique partnership between GSU and 17 Chicagoland community colleges that provides full-time students who have earned between 12-45 college-level credit hours with an excellent pathway to earn quality, accessible, and affordable associate and bachelor's degrees. In addition, DDP provides transition services and programs to DDP students who choose to attend GSU. DDP students have nothing to lose and everything to gain by enrolling in this free program.

In total, 322 students were newly enrolled in DDP this year. To date, 749 students have transferred to GSU through DDP.

Contact Information: **Campus Location: A2128**
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Web: www.govst.edu/ddp

Department Highlights:

- DDP is proud to report that over 87% of DDP students who have completed their associate degree and enrolled at GSU have graduated, transferred, or are still enrolled and pursuing their degrees.
- The Dual Degree Program enrolled 322 new students during the 2018-2019 academic year; a 58.6% increase compared to 2017-2018.
- DDP students currently enrolled at GSU improved their average GPA from 3.33 to 3.52 (spring 2018 to 2019.) GSU Promise Scholarship recipients average GPA increased from 3.48 to 3.53, and DDP Honors Scholarship recipients continue to have an average GPA of 3.89.
- During 2018-19, a record number 101 DDP transfer students graduated from GSU with their bachelor's degrees. Sixty-one of those graduates were honored with cords, intertwining GSU's colors with those of their community college, at the 2019 DDP Graduation Celebration and Cording Ceremony in May.
- Between September 2018 and May 2019, the DDP Student Transition Assistants coordinated nine monthly community service projects. A total of 95 DDP student volunteers worked over 345 hours. Service projects were hosted at several community agencies, including Habitat for Humanity Chicago, Respond Now, Lincoln Way Special Recreation Association, Richton Park Senior Center, and Prairie State College.
- The Male Success Initiative and DDP joined forces to host Welcome Back Socials at the beginning of both fall and spring semesters, as well as DDP's annual Scholarship and Career Symposiums. Student participation increased an average of 28% for the year's events.
- DDP successfully collaborated with the Center for the Junior Year (CJY) to host new programming at three community college campuses and facilitate an interactive group activity during DDP's spring Induction Ceremony. Students at Prairie State College, Daley College (City Colleges of Chicago), and Joliet Junior College learned how pairing with a CJY Peer Mentor can positively impact their success at both the community college and GSU, while also learning about the benefits of the Dual Degree Program. Students who attended DDP Induction in April engaged in a "GSU Land" game that introduced them to the many resources GSU provides for academic, career, and personal support.

FINANCIAL AID AND REGISTRAR

The **Office of Financial Aid** is tasked with processing and awarding federal, state, and institutional aid to students based on eligibility. Further, it exists to assist students, faculty, staff, and prospective stakeholders in the understanding and management of financial aid awards and processes.

In the 2018-19 academic year, the Office of Financial Aid processed nearly 5,500 student files and transmitted over \$48 million in funds from federal, state, institutional, and external sources. Below are the total amounts (fall and spring) for a few of the types of aid received by students to assist with college expenses.

2018 – 19	Amount
Federal Pell Grant	\$ 7,800,083
Federal SEOG	\$ 235,247
Federal Direct & PLUS Loans	\$ 31,028,959
Federal TEACH Grant	\$ 23,350
State of IL MAP Grant	\$ 5,155,955
Ch33, MIA/POW, IVG, & ING	\$ 1,371,138
Institutional & Foundation Aid	\$ 1,855,114
External Scholarships/Sponsorships	\$ 155,509
Alternative Loans	\$ 601,625
	\$ 48,226,980



The mission of the **Office of the Registrar** is to provide exceptional, student-centered service, delivered with integrity and care, to make life easier for the GSU community.

Contact Information: **Campus Location: D1400**
Phone: (708) 534-4480
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Email: faid@govst.edu
Web: www.govst.edu/finaid

Contact Information: **Campus Location: C-1300**
Phone: (708) 534-4500
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Email: regoffice@govst.edu
Web: www.govst.edu/registrar

Department Highlights:

- Students are now eligible to receive year-round Pell Grants. This allows a student to receive Pell aid for the summer semester, even if they attended in the fall and spring semesters.
- Continue to provide students with fast, reliable information so they can make important financial decisions about attending GSU.

By the numbers:

Registrar Office	2018-19	2017-18	2016-17	2015-16
Forms Processed	1,650	2,235	6,031	4,727
Manual Registrations	1,292	1,223	1,322	1,903
Grade Changes	568	469	612	746
Transcripts	7,600	7,562	6,840	7,523
Degrees Posted	1,337	1,197	1,169	1,667

INTERNATIONAL SERVICES

The **Office of International Services (OIS)** is committed to the internationalization of Governors State University while providing culturally sensitive services to a diverse population. We strive to attain the quality of students who are able to matriculate and graduate and to create an environment that is conducive to a successful academic, personal, and professional experience. OIS advances the University's academic mission through knowledge and expertise in international recruitment and admissions, immigration and study abroad advising, and cultural programming.

Contact Information **Campus Location: GMT168**
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Email: ois@govst.edu
Web: www.govst.edu/ois

Department Highlights:

- 93 international students were enrolled for Fall, 2018; 26 undergraduates and 64 graduate students, and 3 in ESL, an overall 54% decrease from Fall, 2017. In total our international student population represents 24 countries. The top four countries are India (59 students; 63%), Vietnam (5 students; 4%), Nigeria (5 students; 4%), and Serbia (3 students; 3%).
- 609 international Alumni participated in OPT or STEM OPT in Fall 2018.
- 74 students participated in study abroad (in addition to that, there were 2 community members and 1 non-leading faculty member) in the following countries: Panama (17), France (13), Ghana (12), Thailand (8), China (8), Costa Rica (5), Brazil (4), Portugal (2), Scotland (2), Italy (1), Spain (1), Uganda (1) sponsored by the following colleges: CAS (26 + 1 Alumnus), CHHS (25), COE (20), COB (2)
- To assist with recruitment efforts in India, OIS added an India Country Manager position to the team. The Country Manager is based in Chennai, India, and is tasked with recruiting and supporting applicants in the admissions and immigration processes, providing pre-departure information, establishing articulations and partnerships with Indian institutions, and fostering relationships with our external recruitment partners.
- With the assistance of private donors and the GSU Foundation, OIS was able to continue the Excellence in Equity Grant proposal of having a Global Service Learning Scholar. The funds allowed OIS to fully fund two students to serve abroad, enhance their personal and professional development and be an example for other GSU students. Each

student selected was a first-generation college student who never left the U.S. prior to serving abroad. The transformation of these individuals is immeasurable.

- 6 faculty-led programs and sent 74 students abroad to 11 countries. New programs included a Legal Empowerment brigade in Panama, Transnational Crime and Sustainable Planning Initiatives in Paris, Education in China and the Public Health Brigade to Ghana. These opportunities are expanding worldviews for each student who attends and the bonds they make are everlasting. Additionally, several students are going abroad for a second time, either on another GSU faculty-led program or independently.
- OIS hosted a variety of educational events that involved global topics. This year OIS teamed up with Career Services to cover career preparation for international and study abroad students. Dr. West also hosted a rich discussion on the impact of the transatlantic slave trade on mass incarceration. This was well attended and requested to continue the discussion into the next academic year.
- OIS had a very successful Diwali Celebration and Multicultural Fashion Show. These are two ways in which cultural diversity is celebrated on campus. The Diwali Celebration was interactive and allowed domestic students to learn about some Indian festival traditions such as wearing sarees, henna and decorating oil lamps. The Multicultural Fashion Show had around 30 participants representing 14 different countries. Following the fashion show, there was an international food tasting with Student Affairs. This Culture Fest was part of the new Spring Fest.



OIS staff celebrate graduating international students during the first annual international student graduation reception.

NEW STUDENT PROGRAMS



Alpha Lambda Delta 1st Induction Ceremony.

The **Office of New Student Programs (NSP)** provides academic preparation and support for lower division students from the point of enrollment until they transition to their chosen majors. Services provided to lower division students include academic advising, leadership development, major selection, and academic pathway development. Campus-wide orientations for all incoming students (first-year, transfer, and graduate) are also coordinated by New Student Programs.

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Department Highlights:

- In collaboration with the GSU community, NSP coordinated 4 ROAR New Student Orientations for incoming first-year students and their families. During these orientations, a total of 210 first-year students and 100 guests were welcomed to Jaguar Nation.
- In collaboration with the GSU community, NSP expanded the number of sessions for transfer students, making them

available consistent with registration periods. In total, 12 transfer orientations were offered, an increase from 4 in 2017-18. During these orientations, a total of 255 transfer students and 90 graduate students learned about campus resources and tips for success. Sessions included a Transfer Student Panel and Writing for Graduate Research Papers.

- The fifth annual Emerging Leaders Program (ELP) immersed 12 lower division students in various activities that illustrated the different styles of leadership. Over the six week program in Spring, 2019, these students strived to answer the question “What type of leader do I want to be?” and created a leadership development plan for their years at GSU. 85.71% of ELP evaluation respondents indicated that they would be more involved in leadership opportunities on campus after this experience.
- In 2018, GSU established a chapter of Alpha Lambda Delta (ALD) and inducted 47 students during 2 induction ceremonies. The mission of Alpha Lambda Delta is to encourage superior academic achievement among students in their first year in institutions of higher education, to promote intelligent living and a continued high standard of learning, and to assist students in recognizing and developing meaningful goals for their roles in society.

STUDENT LIFE

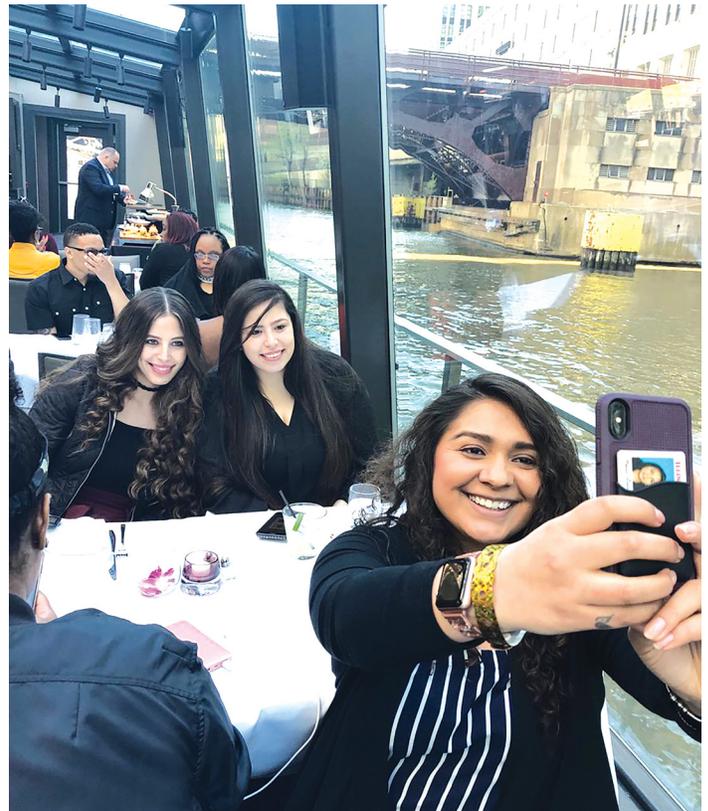
Student Life is predicated on creating programs and services that are holistically integrated learning opportunities for students through high impact practices. Student Life has continuously worked to provide programming that speaks to an ever-growing and changing diverse student population at Governors State University. This year we are excited that we were able to further our commitment to student engagement by providing more depth to the programming we do versus breadth to ensure we are meeting the needs of our students. Student Life is comprised of Campus Programming, Clubs & Organizations, Leadership Programs, Civic Engagement, and Intercultural Student Affairs, which houses the Male Success Initiative.

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Department Highlights:

- Student Life sponsored 172 programs and events with a total attendance of 19,818 students, faculty, staff and community members. Student Life provided service to 32,202 students, faculty, staff, and community members. GSU is home to 73 active clubs and organizations. Six were added during this academic year. Clubs and organizations sponsored 194 campus events with an attendance of 5,881 students, faculty, staff, and community members.
- The Center for Civic Engagement and Community Service facilitated 2,891 hours of community service, valued at \$73,518. Notable service initiatives included Alternative Spring Break in Costa Rica, Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week, Operation healthy and monthly service trips.
- 40 student organizations, 7 departments, and 5 off-campus vendors participated in the Student Organization Fair this year. Two food vendors served an approximate 600 people and exhausted all of their supplies! The new event location (D-main entrance) on the Carillon provided maximum exposure for the GSU community and will serve as the location moving forward.

- This year's Men's Leadership Summit theme was CREED, Creating Rules of Engagement to Excel Daily. 81 students from GSU, community college partners, and external agencies participated. The keynote speaker was Dr. Calvin Mackie and 6 concurrent workshops were offered.
- The SHERO Women's Leadership Symposium theme was "From One Queen to Another" with 3 keynote speakers including alumni, and 4 concurrent workshops. There were 72 participants at the conference.
- 20 direct admit freshman and newly admitted transfer students were recruited to attend the Service and Leadership Seminar (SLS). The seminar uses the Social Change Leadership Model as a framework for developing the program curriculum and activities. Participants learned about injustices people in different communities are facing and developed an awareness of self and others through celebrating diversity and exploring social identities. They navigated the intersection of leadership as an action and social justice as everyone's work and how they can accept their role in affecting positive sustainable change in the world.
- Over 30 faculty, staff, and students served as members of the Homecoming Committee.



Student Affairs inaugural graduation cruise was enjoyed by all!

PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT: S2S COLLEGE PATHWAYS CONFERENCE

STUDENTS INSPIRE STUDENTS IN INAUGURAL S2S CONFERENCE



What's the difference between high school and college? What's a good way to plan financially for college? And how do you know which college or university to go to?

High school students looking ahead often get plenty of advice on these topics from family members, teachers, and guidance counselors, but

there's nothing like hearing from college students who navigated the same territory just a couple of years ago and figured out how to forge their own successful paths.

"Parents can tell you a lot of things about college, but seeing someone who has just transitioned is more impactful," said Dajza Mitchell, 21 of Glenwood, a junior at Governors State University. "We have more experience with what [students] have to deal with now from day-to-day."

Mitchell was among GSU students who shared their expertise at the S2S Engagement Conference on March 1. Hosted by GSU's College Pathways Program called "Level Up: Navigating the Road to Success," it drew more than 100 south suburban high school students and at least two dozen GSU students for a day-long discussion of how to transition successfully from high school to college.

The event was designed to be student-driven and student-led, which meant students from both high school and

college helped plan the logistics, create presentations and run the conference, said Kristy Goodwin, Director of the College Pathways Program.

"It's good for high school students to hear from GSU students as well as their peers," she said. "And it gets high school students involved in what adults do in their careers, like giving presentations and figuring out how to keep your audience engaged. They're learning stuff they ordinarily wouldn't experience until later in life."

Among them was Daniela Saavedra, 17, a senior at Thornton-Fractional North High School who lives in Calumet City. As a panelist speaking on involvement and engagement, she said one of her challenges has been time management. "When I was younger, I'd procrastinate with assignments. I could do them at the last minute and still get a good grade," she said. "But I learned that that doesn't always work out. AP classes can be overwhelming. And it's hard to balance what you need to do with what you want to do."

Describing how he decided which school to attend, panelist Pete Brassea, a GSU senior majoring in social work, said, "I looked at location and affordability. To me, diversity was important. And I wanted to go to a place where I wasn't in a class with 100 other students. I wanted the professor to know my name."

Both he and Mitchell also credited their success in part to the Dual Degree Program, the unique, award-winning partnership between GSU and 17 Chicagoland community colleges that supports students in earning an associate's degree first.

"It had a tremendous effect on me," said Mitchell.

The conference, which Goodwin said may become an annual event at GSU, clearly resonated with participants. "It was definitely worth it," said Terrell Steele, 15, a sophomore at Crete-Monee High School who lives in University Park and is contemplating a career as a professional chef.

"I got to gather a lot of info like how to manage financial aid, how to deal with stress, and about the different curriculums and activities," he said. "And you've got to have fun because college goes by fast."

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