

# Division of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management



Representatives from Advocate Healthcare joined GSU administrators and students to celebrate the opening of the new Health and Student Counseling Center on Monday, August 21, 2017.

# Annual Report

2017–18

# INTRODUCTION

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Aurélio Manuel Valente

*Vice President for Student Affairs  
and Enrollment Management*

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/GSUveep



@GSUveep

Welcome to our 2017 – 18 annual report. After a nearly three-year budget impasse, June 2018 finally brought some long-awaited relief with a state-appropriated budget and a much-needed sense of stability that allowed for institutional planning rather than crisis management. However, despite the issuance of a budget, the damage inflicted by two years of stability, and the corresponding lack of uncertainty in public higher education, was real and directly resulted in declining enrollment after years of double-digit enrollment growth.

In our fourth year as a comprehensive institution, GSU enrolled 5,185 students, a decrease of 10.9% from 2016 – 17, largely due to significant declines in graduate students and international students. We welcomed 200 students to our fourth freshmen class, retained 117 sophomores (53.9%) and maintained a near-capacity occupancy rate (97.2%) in Prairie Place—277 students—for the third consecutive year.

While commencements are always a reason for celebration, our 2018 Commencement Ceremony was truly historic given the graduation of our inaugural freshmen class. Scattered in the midst of 1,100 graduates at the Tinley Park Convention Center were our first graduates who enrolled as freshmen: the first class of students to spend their entire four years of college at GSU. To recognize this moment, both May graduation ceremonies featured a graduating student who enrolled in our first freshmen class. In the morning ceremony, an overjoyed Justin Smith, graduating with his degree in entrepreneurship from the COB, kicked off his speech with the declaration: “We made it!”

At the evening ceremony, Simone Jones said what resonated with her most was living in Prairie Place. “The sense of being part of a community gives you that extra push to be better and be a good role model for that community.” Prairie Place, the university’s first residence hall, also opened its doors in 2014 as part of our transformation from an upper-division commuter institution to a comprehensive residential institution.

Bookmarked by our fall 2017 enrollment numbers and joyous memories of our historic commencement in summer 2018, our division made significant progress on year three of our five-year strategic plan Reaching Vision 2020. 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

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## 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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# REACHING VISION <sup>20</sup>/<sub>20</sub>

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## Contributing to the GSU Strategic Plan

Our *Reaching Vision 2020* plan demonstrates how the division contributes directly to GSU's Strategic Plan while also articulating the unique strategic opportunities within the division of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management. Articulating that contribution through our Reaching Vision 2020 strategic planning process, particularly in the midst of such challenging times in higher education, is critical to ensuring we serve our students and our community by fulfilling our mission.

2017 – 18 marks year three of our five-year strategic plan. While this annual report highlights some notable accomplishments, a full dashboard of progress towards focus area goals can be reviewed at <http://www.govst.edu/reachingvision2020/>.

### Selected Highlights Towards Our Strategic Planning Objectives

**Athletics and Recreational Activities:** In only its second year of competition, the Men's Basketball team captured the Chicagoland Collegiate Athletic Conference (CCAC) regular season and tournament titles. GSU also earned its first berth into the NAIA National Tournament. Additionally, the Men's Basketball team finished 14th in the final NAIA Division II Men's Basketball Coaches' Top 25 Poll. Jalen Miller received CCAC Player of the Year accolades while Tony Bates was named CCAC Co-Coach of the Year.

**Academic Resource Center:** In an effort to improve outcomes and support for students on academic probation, the Center restructured the Lower Division Academic Recovery Program (LDARP) and created a new Pathways to Academic Recovery course. Transitioning the LDARP workshop program to a class model proved very successful. In spring 2018, 46 lower division academic recovery students registered for Pathways to Academic Recovery courses and, as a result, 83% of students completed the program and received a passing grade, compared to spring 2017 with a 9% completion rate.

**Career Development and Graduate Student Programming:** After a two-year budget impasse, Illinois reinstated funding for the Illinois Cooperative Work Study Grant Program in late December, and GSU was allocated \$34,466.84. To date, all of the funds have been allocated to 11 employers for 15 students placed; another three students are expected to be placed.

**College Pathways Program:** With the support of the Kresge Foundation, GSU launched an innovative program with Crete-Monee High School to improve college readiness and encourage baccalaureate degree attainment in high potential students. In the first year, 29 students participated in the Hidden Stars program, designed to be scalable and replicable in future years.

**Diversity Education and Leadership Development:** The Men's Leadership Summit, with the theme "From Reasonable Doubt to 4:44: The Evolution of Maleness, Masculinity and Manhood" drew more than 125 participants. Kevin Powell served as keynote speaker, and the conference used the musical career of Jay-Z as a backdrop and spoke to men discovering the influence of maleness, masculinity, and manhood on their journey to be leaders.

**Dual Degree and Transfer Student Programs:** More than 85% of the DDP students who have completed their associate degree and enrolled at GSU have graduated, transferred, or are still enrolled and pursuing their degrees.

**Health and Student Counseling Center:** The addition of lower division and residential students to the university's student body has generated a growing need for basic health and wellness services on campus. To address this growing need, GSU partnered with Advocate Healthcare and launched a health center in conjunction with expanded counseling services. In its first year of operation, the new Health and Student Counseling Center has seen 1,934 clinical health visits and 1,800 counseling sessions.

**New Student Programs:** With coordinated institutional efforts and campus-wide support, first-year students entering in fall 2017 earned an average 2.26 GPA, the highest average first semester GPA since the admission of first-year students in fall 2014. Moreover, the fall to spring persistence of first-year students rose to nearly 80%.

**Student Advocacy:** The Office of the Dean of Students (ODOS) launched GSU4U, an initiative to strengthen support for student success. GSU4U connects students to campus and community resources when they are facing personal difficulties, such as food and housing insecurity. In its first year, GSU4U has trained more than 50 faculty and staff ambassadors and helped more than 100 students apply for SNAP benefits.

# ACADEMIC RESOURCE CENTER

The **Academic Resource Center (ARC)** (ARC) strives to promote the personal growth of students and to enrich their academic experience. ARC provides support for students in academic recovery, GSU STAR assistance, Access Services for Students with Disabilities, tutoring, Writing Center services, and New Student Programs. In 2017 – 18, ARC continued its expansion and growth as part of the new Student Success Commons with the transition of New Student Programs and Disability Services now under its portfolio of program and services.

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## Department Highlights:

- ARC had an exciting year, with the development and implementation of early alerts initiatives. The department continues to focus on submission of midterm grades for both undergraduate and graduate students. In fall 2017, 2,145 students received 3,773 midterm grades and in spring 2018, 1,784 students received 2,474 midterm grades. Intervention efforts following midterm grades proved equally successful with 41% of undergraduate students who were earning a “D” or “F” midterm grade received a final grade of “C” or better for fall 2017 and spring 2018. In addition to midterm grades, ARC helped launch GSU STAR Early Alert Progress Surveys. As a pilot, General Studies faculty completed surveys during the third, sixth, and twelfth week of courses to track students’ progress. During fall 2017, faculty completed 164 Early Alert Progress Surveys, and 91 surveys were completed in spring 2018.
- Two programs, Pathways to Academic Recovery and Back on Track (BOT), continue to assist students in academic recovery. The Academic Resource Center restructured the Lower Division Academic Recovery Program (LDARP) and created a new Pathways to Academic Recovery non-credit course. Transitioning the LDARP workshop program to a class model was a huge success. In spring 2018, 46 lower division academic recovery students registered for Pathways to Academic Recovery



Tutoring is available in the Academic Resource Center where Student Success is their number one priority!

courses. As a result, 83% of students completed the program and received a passing grade. This is a great success compared to spring 2017 with a 9% completion rate. Back on Track continues to be strong with an 89% completion rate, the same rate as AY 2016 – 17.

- During the 2017 – 18 academic year, the Writing Center recorded 1,913 student contacts with 709 face-to-face appointments, 563 Growl contacts, and 425 Library contacts. Writing consultants served 210 students through workshops; of this total, 20 attended the Graduate Writing Boot Camp and 73 attended the campus-wide Back to Basics forums, two new programs instituted this year. The Graduate Writing Boot Camp, a day-long session offered twice each semester and once during the summer, provides distraction-free time for grad students to work on capstones, theses, or dissertations. As such, it is intended for graduate students who are nearing the end of their coursework. The Back to Basics forums provide all members of the GSU community with broad remediation in language, focusing on such topics as grammar, punctuation, editing, and proofreading.
- A total of 187 students participated in ARC tutoring with 787 contacts in math, science, statistics, and business. As part of ARC’s Vision 2020 Goals, Supplemental Instruction (SI) extended services to support both lower and upper division students. ARC provided SI assistance in ten math, science, and statistic courses.

# ADMISSIONS AND RECRUITING

The **Office of Admissions** offers assistance to prospective students and applicants during the selection and admission process. The office provides admission counseling appointments, campus tours, group presentations, and 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. During the 2017 – 18 academic year, the Office of Admissions received more than 7,943 inquiries, 7,077 new applications into the Colleague system, and issued 4,505 admission decisions (both admitted and denied), representing a 64% admission application completion rate.

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## Department Highlights:

- With the new document imaging system in place for a full year, Enrollment Management continues to improve the integration of the CRM (Customer Relations Management) and the Colleague ERP system to improve efficiencies and service to students. Along with the Lexmark implementation, we were also able to create a workflow that automates the Colleague process to move completed files from applied to complete without manual intervention, and move files to review sooner.
- Admissions hosted our third Signing Day and Scholars Recognition event on May 9. Nearly 120 new students and their family members celebrated their decision to attend GSU in the Fall 2018 semester.
- Transfer Thursdays continue to be a successful GSU admission program. This year we had 347



Participant at the Signing Day and Scholars Recognition for the White House Reach Higher campaign.

students register to attend a Transfer Thursday event. Of the 347, 192 attended, and 152 students (43% yield) were approved for admission (a 5% increase from 2016 – 17).

- Campus visits and tours continued to leave a positive impression on our prospective students and their families; 45 high school and college group visits (an increase of 4.7% from 2017 – 18) for a total of 1,420 prospective students visiting our campus and touring the university with the Office of Admissions (a 2.7% increase from 2016 – 17).
- The Recruiting and Outreach team continues to grow our prospects by representing GSU in the high schools and community colleges of Illinois and Indiana. The Admissions team targeted 27,000 prospective seniors, juniors, and sophomores from local high schools who lived in the 40-mile radius for outreach. As a result 4,260 high school students received additional communication about admission events.
- The Admissions Office implemented new communication campaigns targeting inquiries, applicants, admitted, and deposited students to promote conversion and yield activities. Our inquiries, for the first time, consistently included FAFSA filers who selected GSU (aid year 2017 – 18 and 2018 – 19) without submitting an application, no shows (after scrubbing by National Clearinghouse) and prospective student inquiries. These students are continuously (every 7 – 10 days) being contacted by emails, voice messages, and text messages to help inform them about their next step in the enrollment process.

# 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, and women's volleyball) as well as clubs for bowling, cricket, softball, and table tennis. 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 station, billiards table, table tennis, and foosball table in addition to plenty of lounge space to relax. The Center's support team is committed to improving the quality of life and fitness for all participants.

In addition to student visits, 807 alumni and community members also utilized our facilities, for a total of 41,211 visits to the Athletics and Recreation Center during the 2017 – 18 academic year.

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### Departmental Highlights:

- Of the 41,211 visits to the Athletics and Recreation Center, 22,102 (54%) were to the fitness room, 12,454 (30%) were to the swimming pool, 9,941 (11%) were to the gymnasium, and 1,048 (3%) were to the racquetball court. Additionally, the game lounge logged 1,209 visits, and 128 students participated in fitness classes.
- \$63,990 of revenue was generated during the 2017 – 18 academic year from membership fees and rentals of the Athletics and Recreation Center facilities. \$11,572 of revenue was generated during the 2017 – 18 academic year from athletic events.

### Athletics Year-in-Review:

- Men's Basketball captured the Chicagoland Collegiate Athletic Conference (CCAC) regular season and tournament titles. GSU also earned its first berth into the NAIA National Tournament.



Charles Beard Photography

Men's Basketball CCAC 2018 Champs

- The Jaguars finished 14th in the final NAIA Division II Men's Basketball Coaches' Top 25 Poll.
- Jalen Miller received CCAC Player of the Year accolades while Tony Bates was named CCAC Co-Coach of the Year.
- Women's volleyball set a program record for wins in a season (15), finishing 13-6 against non-conference opponents.
- The men's and women's golf teams competed at the 32nd PGA Minority Collegiate Championship in Port St. Lucie, Florida.
- Men's Golf won two team titles and recorded five Top-3 finishes. Sophomore Casey Domke became the first golfer in school history to shoot in the 60s, carding a final-round 69 at the CCAC Championships.
- Women's Golf earned its first dual match win in program history.
- Women's Cross Country scored in five of six meets.
- Men's Cross Country presented its team MVP award to freshman DeVenchie Catron.
- Seven student-athletes were honored as NAIA-Daktronics Scholar-Athletes.
- Fifteen student-athletes earned CCAC All-Academic Team accolades.

# 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 and vending, and myONECARD.

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[www.govst.edu/bookstore](http://www.govst.edu/bookstore)

[www.govst.edu/myONECARD](http://www.govst.edu/myONECARD)

### Departmental Highlights:

#### University Housing:

- For the third year, University Housing administered a Quality of Life (QoL) survey to the students living in Prairie Place in the 2018 spring semester. Fifty-two students (21.11%) responded to the survey. On the 48 specific questions, 29 showed an increase in aggregate satisfaction; 16 showed a slight decrease in satisfaction and three were at a satisfaction level consistent with 2015 – 16 and 2016 – 17 survey results. The survey data will be used to inform the development of Strategic Goals & Objectives for 2018 – 19.
- The Prairie Place Residence Hall Student Staff (Assistant Residence Hall Director and Resident Assistants) participated in a variety of training during 2017 – 18 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.



Abby Miller, Patrick Santoro, and Lyle Evans at the Welcome Back Picnic to kick off the semester.

### Auxiliary Services:

- Arena Food Services, Inc. created a survey in 2017 – 18 to solicit information from Prairie Place residents about the C-Store. Based on information received from students, Arena Food Services, Inc. added two hours to the C-Store's hours of operation to accommodate students' needs.
- The Make the \$0.25 Difference Campaign implemented in the café back in July 2016 to support the GSU Food Pantry generated \$231.77 in 2017-18. Arena Food Services, Inc. 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.
- As part of the 2017 – 20 Bookstore Concessions Agreement extension negotiation with the university, Follett Higher Education Group added a Library Textbook Program into the agreement. The new program, to be reviewed annually, involves Follett identifying the top 50 required textbook titles with a new retail price of \$50 and higher as measured by class enrollment three weeks before the start of the term. These textbooks will be provided to the GSU Library to be placed on reserve for students to use.
- In the 2017 – 18 academic year, 2,196 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 1,181 individual client visits, which included individual counseling sessions, open hour visits, and walk-ins. Career Services also sponsored and/or participated in 100 programs and events at which 2,493 students, faculty, staff, corporate partners, and community members attended.

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## Departmental Highlights:

- Individual career counseling sessions constitute a significant portion of the personal outreach by the career counseling staff. In total, 748 individual clients were served in private counseling sessions. Of the 748 clients; 657 (88%) were students, 45 (6 %) were alumni members, 17 (2%) were members of the community, and 29 (4 %) were employers. The department also served an additional 433 students for walk-in hours, for a total of 1,181 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 658 job seekers and 86 employers during on-campus recruitment events. This included the Student Employment Fair, the Spring Career and Internship Fair, the Occupational Therapy Interview Day, the IDOC interview days, and the on-campus mock interviews for Deloitte. Additionally, Career Services participated in 100 career development programs and events this past year, with 2,493 students and GSU community members in attendance.
- After a two-year budget impasse, Illinois reinstated funding for the Illinois Cooperative Work Study Grant Program in late December, and GSU was allocated \$34,466.84. To date, all of the funds have been allocated to 11 employers for 15 students placed; another three students are expected to be placed before the grant term ends at the end of July.
- Career Services continues to oversee student employment experiences, including a summer internship program for students in the arts, humanities, and social science areas as part of the integrating career preparation and liberal education grant. Additionally, we offered a wide range of programming for all students that focused on strengths development, identifying and maximizing transitional skills, and overall professional development.



The Student Employee Recognition Reception was held to recognize student employees who went above and beyond in their quest for continued professional development. Pictured are some of the student recipients, who were awarded Professional Development Certificates by President Maimon.

# DIVERSITY EDUCATION AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

## Diversity Education and Leadership Development

includes Intercultural Student Affairs (ISA), which plays a critical role in helping to create an inclusive and welcoming campus community for all. Intercultural Student Affairs goals include: 1) develop campus-wide diversity awareness programs and social justice education efforts; 2) aid in the retention of underserved student populations; and 3) serve as a resource to culturally diverse student organizations.

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### Leadership Programs:

- Hosted the Men's Leadership Summit "From Reasonable Doubt to 4:44: The Evolution of Maleness, Masculinity, and Manhood" featuring Kevin Powell as the keynote speaker. Using the musical career of Jay-Z as a backdrop, the conference theme speaks to men discovering the influence of maleness, masculinity, and manhood on their journey to be leaders. There were more than 125 participants.
- Hosted SHERO Women's Leadership Symposium featuring GSU students, alumni, and community members as speakers and workshop presenters which yielded 73 participants.
- GSU's second LEAD Capstone participant, Danielle Terry, presented "Women Lead the Way," a leadership mentoring project which paired adult learner women of color with traditionally aged women of color to promote sisterhood of success strategies.
- The CEO Leadership Program hosted 16 workshops with more than 20 faculty and staff members serving as facilitators and mentors.
- The fourth annual Emerging Leaders Program (ELP) took place in fall 2017 and immersed 13 lower division students in various activities that illustrated different styles of leadership. Over the six-week program, 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.



Participants in the Male Success Initiative

### Diversity Education:

- Expanded interfaith programming by hosting 11 programs, including a speaker series on the intersectionality of faith and culture as well as multi-faith conversations in partnership with the Counseling Center.
- Sponsored five Safe Zone and workshops and developed an implementation plan for the student version of Safe Zone training. We also implemented Train the Trainer for Safe Zone 1.0 and 2.0 facilitators.
- Created the Intercultural Development for Equity and Success Lab (IDEAS LAB), an innovative program designed for faculty, staff, and students to engage in a think tank acknowledging social inequities that may limit student success. The topics were DACA Students and the Trans Phenomenon. As a result of the IDEAS LABs, efforts are being made in collaboration with marketing to make resources and services more visible to undocumented students as well as to inform the campus community on who DACA students are and ensure a welcoming environment for this population of students. Additionally, a review of the university's diversity statement will take place to ensure it includes the language of gender expression. Finally, there will be a task force created to address increasing the number of unisex/gender-neutral restrooms to support our ever-changing campus demographics.
- Cosponsored over 51 cultural awareness programs with student organizations and campus departments which yielded more than 5,312 participants in total.

# DUAL DEGREE PROGRAM

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 credits hours 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, 231 students were newly enrolled in DDP this year. To date, 655 students have transferred to GSU through DDP. During 2017 – 18, more 80 DDP transfer students graduated from GSU.

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## Department Highlights:

- More than 85% of the DDP students who have completed their associate degree and enrolled at GSU have graduated, transferred, or are still enrolled and pursuing their degrees.
- DDP welcomed 132 new GSU transfer students during the 2017 – 18 academic year. The Fall 2017 semester welcomed a total of 93 new GSU transfers – DDP's largest cohort thus far!
- DDP students enrolled at GSU have an average GPA of 3.33. GSU Promise Scholarship recipients have an average GPA of 3.45. DDP Honors Scholarship recipients continue to have an average GPA of 3.9.
- Between August 2017 and June 2018, the DDP Student Transition Assistants coordinated eight monthly community service projects. A total of 106 DDP student volunteers worked more than 332 hours. Service projects ranged from packaging dry goods for distribution to food-insecure communities and serving holiday lunch to members of a local senior center.
- In partnership with the City Colleges of Chicago, DDP awarded its first recipient with the DDP Chicago Star Scholar Scholarship!
- To strengthen the partnership between DDP and the Male Success Initiative (MSI), DDP began including MSI students in its programming and events. MSI participants, or students participating in both DDP and MSI, made up 22% of attendance at the spring Career Symposium, 12.5% at the April Community Service, and 5% at the End-of-the-Year Social.



DDP Student Transition Assistants plan monthly community service events for all DDP students to participate in. Image features the November 2017 service event at Greater Chicago Food Depository in Chicago, IL.

# HEALTH AND STUDENT COUNSELING CENTER

The **Health and Student Counseling 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 you 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.

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## Departmental Highlights:

### Health Services:

Since August 2017, the Advocate Health Center has served 1,934 GSU students, of which 611 (31.6%) were new students. In addition, Advocate performed more than 77 STI screenings and administered more than 542 vaccinations to students.

### Counseling Services:

During the 2017 – 18 year, there were 1,800 counseling appointments and 50 outreach events, with approximately 1,041 students in attendance. The Counseling Center also offered a variety of group-counseling sessions, including a depression and anxiety group, gender questioning group, LGBT support group, health relationships group, and an interfaith group. Additionally, the annual National Depression Screening day event held in October yielded 150 in-person screenings.



February 2018: Cassandra Brooks, FNP-C, and Matt Setchell providing Heart Health Screenings for Heart Disease Awareness Month.

## 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 2017 – 18, 314 students participated in prevention and awareness programming.
- 82 students signed a pledge acknowledging that they are committed to helping create a culture of consent, bystander intervention, and survivor support.
- In April, Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM), the following programs were provided:
  - o Sixth Annual Clothesline Project on April 24, 2018, in the Hall of Governors.
  - o Yoga for trauma survivors
  - o Bystander training
  - o Sexual violence in the LGBTQ community
  - o Survivor Support: drop-in hours for counseling
  - o Men's response to sexual assault
  - o Sex signals: stop, go slow, and go on
  - o two-part film screening, Audrie and Daisy.

For more information about ASAP and ways to get involved, visit [www.govst.edu/asap](http://www.govst.edu/asap).

# 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 2017 – 18 academic year, the Office of Financial Aid processed nearly 6,000 student files and transmitted more than \$55 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.

## 2017 – 18

	<b>Amount</b>
Federal Pell Grant	\$ 8,288,357
Federal SEOG	\$ 191,195
Federal Direct & PLUS Loans	\$ 37,578,337
Federal Perkins Loans	\$ 241,378
Federal TEACH Grant	\$ 27,464
State of IL MAP Grant	\$ 4,847,430
Ch33, MIA/POW, IVG, & ING	\$ 1,790,480
Institutional & Foundation Aid	\$ 1,909,571
External Scholarships/Sponsorships	\$ 135,298
Alternative Loans	\$ 866,687
	<b>\$ 55,634,829</b>

### Contact Information:

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 Web: [www.govst.edu/finaid](http://www.govst.edu/finaid)

### 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.



We've had a few new staff members join the team this year:

- In November 2017, Jason Vignone, (pictured center), Associate Registrar, joined the team, overseeing office operations.
- In January 2018, Teresa Maréz, (pictured right), Health Records Technician, joined the team, overseeing student immunization records, which are now maintained by the Registrar's Office.
- In June 2018, Stephanie Juarez, (pictured left), Assistant to the Registrar, joined the team, providing administrative support to the office.

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:

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 Web: [www.govst.edu/registrar](http://www.govst.edu/registrar)

### Department Highlights:

- In April 2018, prerequisite checking registration began with fall 2018 registration. This was a collaborative effort which involved the Provost's Office, college deans, division chairs, program coordinators, academic advisors, and Information Technology Services.
- By the numbers:
  - ✓ Grade changes: 669
  - ✓ Manual registrations: 1,392
  - ✓ Applications for degree: 1,550
  - ✓ Transcripts processed: 7,572

# STUDENT INVOLVEMENT AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

**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 were excited to further our commitment to student engagement by providing more depth to the programming we do to ensure we are meeting the needs of the students. Student Life is comprised of Campus Programming, Clubs & Organizations, Leadership Programs, Civic Engagement, and Intercultural Student Affairs (which also houses the Male Success Initiative).

## Contact Information:

Campus Location: A2100

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Web: [www.govst.edu/studentlife](http://www.govst.edu/studentlife)

Twitter: @GSUStudentLife

Facebook: [gsu4studentlife](https://www.facebook.com/gsu4studentlife)

## Departmental Highlights:

- Student Life sponsored 172 programs and events with a total attendance of 18,417 students, faculty, staff and community members and provided service to 30,005 students, faculty, staff, and community members. In 2017– 18, there were 88 registered clubs and organizations and 8 new clubs: in total, they sponsored 171 campus events.
- The Center for Civic Engagement and Community Service (CECSC) serves as a clearinghouse for students, faculty, and staff to create awareness and understanding of global issues and civic responsibility and creates a pathway for students' participation in community service. CECSC manages and maintains the GSU Food Pantry and assists GSU students with food insecurities through programs such as "Operation Healthy." Operation Healthy serviced more than 410 students. CECSC also collaborated with Chicago Survivors to certify students in Mental Health First Aid Training.

- Restructured Student Activities Council to reflect the needs of our student body.
- Increased collaborations between Athletics and Student Life to enhance student engagement at athletic events and recreation center.
- Sponsored more than 212 programs and events in collaboration with clubs, organizations, and departments.
- GSU received the silver award from the All in Challenge in recognition of GSU's student political engagement.
- Hosted ten students in Houston, TX for Alternative Spring Break.
- Established partnership with American Bagel Company to serve as a pop-up food pantry to alleviate food insecurity on campus.
- Opened Jaguar Closet as a resource for students to utilize for professional attire on job interviews and classroom presentations, yielding 39 participants to date.
- Developed relationship with area churches to position GSU as a food depository that will receive food for the Food Pantry to serve our students.



2017 Service and Leadership Seminar Participants

# COMMUNITY PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

## GREAT AMERICAN BAGEL SPONSOR POP-UP PANTRY

The students hurriedly push a cart of bagged bagels through the Governors State University Hall of Governors and a line starts forming at a table at the far end of the hall.

“It’s like this every week,” said Student Senator Trauvel Crawford, also student coordinator of the Center for Civic Engagement’s Community Service Council, which runs a Great America Bagel Pop-up Food Pantry three times a week on campus. Crawford was joined on a recent pickup by fellow Senator Kendall Wright and Service Council member Terrance Lee, Jr.

Every Monday, Thursday, and Friday, the GSUXpress delivers the students to the University Park bagel store, where they collect an assortment of donated bagels – cinnamon raisin to jalapeno to poppy seed – left over at the end of the day.

On Monday and Thursday, the “pantry” springs up in the middle of campus about 3:30 p.m. On Fridays, it is at Prairie Place, home to nearly 300 students.

The Great American Bagel Pop-up Pantry is part of a broader student resource initiative, GSU4U, run by the Division of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management to address the issue of food insecurity on campus. Dr. Robert Clay Interim Director of Student Life and Intercultural Student Affairs reports that the need came to the forefront last year through a recent study of 43,000 students at 66 two- and four-year schools. More than half of the 76 GSU students surveyed report being homeless or hungry to some degree.

Chris Lettieri, President of the Great American Bagel, said he wants to help meet a need. “Instead of throwing out our end-of-day bagels, we donate them to GSU and other 501c charities, such as P.A.D.S. and homeless shelters, to people in need. We try to help those folks who can use it.”

Crawford, a senior studying marketing, said he is promoting good will.



Volunteers (L to R) Terrance Lee, Jr., Kendall Wright, and Trauvel Crawford.

“I love volunteering and just took the initiative to do what no one else would. One day I might need something like this, so I’m paying it forward.”

Reprinted from GSU Newsroom, April 20, 2018.

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**Support our sponsor by visiting the Great American Bagel location in University Park.**



450 S. Cicero Ave  
University Park, IL 60484  
Phone: 708.534.5320  
6:30 a.m. – 3 p.m., Mon.—Sat.  
<http://www.greatamericanbagel.com/>

# DEPARTMENT DIRECTORY AND CONTACT INFORMATION

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## Student Affairs and Enrollment Management

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## Office of the Dean of Students

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## Admissions

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## Academic Resource Center

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## Athletics & Recreation

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## Auxiliary Services & University Housing

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## Career Services

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## Dual Degree Program

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## Financial Aid

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## Health and Student Counseling Center

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## Student Life

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## International Services

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## Registrar

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