



**GSU TV Live Production Center
Promoting Local Journalism**
From sportscasting to live events, the students of GSU
get hands on broadcasting experience while engaging in
a comprehensive student-led programming education

Letter from the Dean



Jason Zingsheim
*Dean, College of Arts
and Sciences*

Welcome to the seventh annual issue of the College of Arts and Sciences newsmagazine, ArtSci. In the following pages, you will see just a glimpse of recent work being accomplished by our faculty, students, and alumni as they endeavor to shape our world and our shared futures. In the stories that follow, student contributors invite us to step up, speak out, and join in being part of the solutions to our society's problems. If you are not already, I welcome you to become an active part of our CAS community. If you are already a member, please continue welcoming others into our ever-growing community. Our incredible diversity serves as both a reflection of, and an invitation to, the shared future of our region and our country. And our College's use of high

impact practices – such as this student-written newsmagazine and the multiple examples of collaborative, hands-on experiential projects it highlights – provides our students with the skills that employers desire, and our communities with well-prepared leaders.

We are again indebted to ArtSci's faculty advisor Dr. Christopher White (English) and his team of dedicated students – Noah LaFond (English MA), Hannah Leonard (Communication BA), Tim Miller (English BA), Clair Naylor (English BA), Saad Shalabi (English MA) and Paul Tucker (English BA) – whose stories illustrate only some of the many examples of impactful, experiential opportunities that the College of Arts and Sciences provides for its students and our community.

GSU's mission is to offer an exceptional and accessible education that prepares students with the knowledge, skills, and confidence to succeed in a global society. In this issue you'll learn more about how CAS faculty are engaged in cutting edge research on genomic sequencing of sharks; increasing the efficiency of power grids; and documenting the history of incarceration, policing, and protests. You'll read about how we are working to amplify the stories of our communities as students turn out the vote, celebrate Black authors, produce monthly episodes of GSUTV and prepare for the launch of our new radio station. You'll see our dedication to training educators of the future working with UIC postdoctoral scholars, equipping practitioners of restorative justice, and preparing our alumni to succeed as professionals in their field.

GSU continues to have an incredibly positive impact on the region both through the wide range of academic opportunities that we offer as well as through our community outreach via the Center for Community Media; the Center for Performing Arts; the Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park; the Art Gallery; and the Biological Field Station. Whether you are joining us for a community event or returning to continue your education, we hope you feel the same sense of belonging expressed by our graduates. You can also stay connected by donating to scholarships to support our students, by volunteering your time and expertise, or creating internship and job opportunities for our current students and alumni. Please contact me (CASdean@govst.edu) and let me know how we can work together. I look forward to hearing from you.

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We're on the Air!

By Paul Tucker

In April of 2022, GSU aired their first episode of GSUTV. Since then, the group has continued to run a new episode every first Tuesday of the month at 8:30 p.m. The program can be accessed on Homewood/Elmhurst Public Access TV Comcast Channel 19, but if you miss it, there is no need to worry. Each month's episode re-airs every Tuesday at 8:30 p.m. and can also be found on their YouTube channel.

I like to tell my students, "Practice doesn't make perfect, practice makes preparation. And if you're prepared then you're ready to go."

GSUTV Continues to Send Student-Led Programming to Television

Each episode offers multiple segments. Student reporters discuss local, national, and international stories. Other than the usual news stories, the episodes also cover what is taking place in sports, entertainment, and even video games. GSUTV caters to the interests of every member of the community, and the goal of each episode is to tell the public what is going on in the world around them.

The program has a great deal of work put into it, and is completely student run. Faculty advisor Professor Jessica Scott (Media Studies) states that while she is there to give guidance, the students deserve all the credit: *“The students write their own scripts, shoot and edit their own videos, make the graphics, and then our lead producer edits the entire show and sends it off to Comcast.”* Students have full control over the show, and they are spending multiple hours

working on every month’s new episode. The hard work put in by the students, who are either volunteers or paid interns, prepares them for their future careers in television by letting them practice real world skills. Professor Scott says, *“I like to tell my students, ‘Practice doesn’t make perfect, practice makes preparation. And if you’re prepared then you’re ready to go.’”*

If being a part of GSUTV interests you, Professor Scott says it is open to anyone who has taken Introduction to Media Production (MST 2100), but students who haven’t yet taken the course can also be considered if they have prior production experience. To learn more about how to get involved with the program, or to access its YouTube channel, visit:

govst.edu/gsutv

The logo for GSU TV, featuring the letters 'GSU' in a bold, black, sans-serif font, followed by 'TV' in a white, bold, sans-serif font inside a black square. The letters are slightly offset and have a subtle shadow effect.

The place for news, sports and culture

Shifting the Tides

By Paul Tucker

GSU Biologist Sequences Shark Genomes in Breakthrough Research Work

One of GSU's own Biology professors, Dr. Nicholas Marra, was recently part of a team of scientists that published a breakthrough research article on endangered sharks in the journal *iScience*.



Dr. Nicholas Marra

Dr. Marra, who discovered a deep interest in evolutionary biology in his university years, has found sharks and other organisms fascinating since early childhood. Once it came time for him to conduct his postdoctoral research at Cornell University, his interests came full circle when he joined a group of scientists who were part of a

lab at the vet school. Most of the work done at Cornell was in publishing the genome of the white shark, but the paper that was published in *iScience* was the result of ongoing work in two other species: the shortfin mako and the great hammerhead. Dr. Marra was able to contribute to this research while here at GSU, and he was even a co-author of the article.

The group's main research interest was to sequence the genome of the endangered shark species. Marra notes that sharks are a "really important lineage relative to understanding vertebrates because they're the most basal, or lowest order that we have that has an adaptive immune system." And yet, not much research had been done on the genetics of sharks up until his group began to study them. Together, they collected tissue and conducted many different runs of sequencing. Dr. Marra states that the white shark genome they sequenced using this technique "ended up being about four and a half to six billion base pairs depending on the estimate" which took about two years to put together.



The group was able to sequence the genome (which is the entire genetic makeup of the shark), and that genetic information can lead to further findings as well. The group of scientists can now try and predict past population sizes, discover what causes population shifts in different groups, as well as have the opportunity to find consistent patterns of the evolution of genes.

Looking to the future, this data could open pathways towards even more research. As Dr. Marra states, "one of the great things about genomics is we get so much data that it often produces many more questions."

Lighting the Way

By Hannah Leonard

Assistant Professor of Computer Science joins GSU Faculty

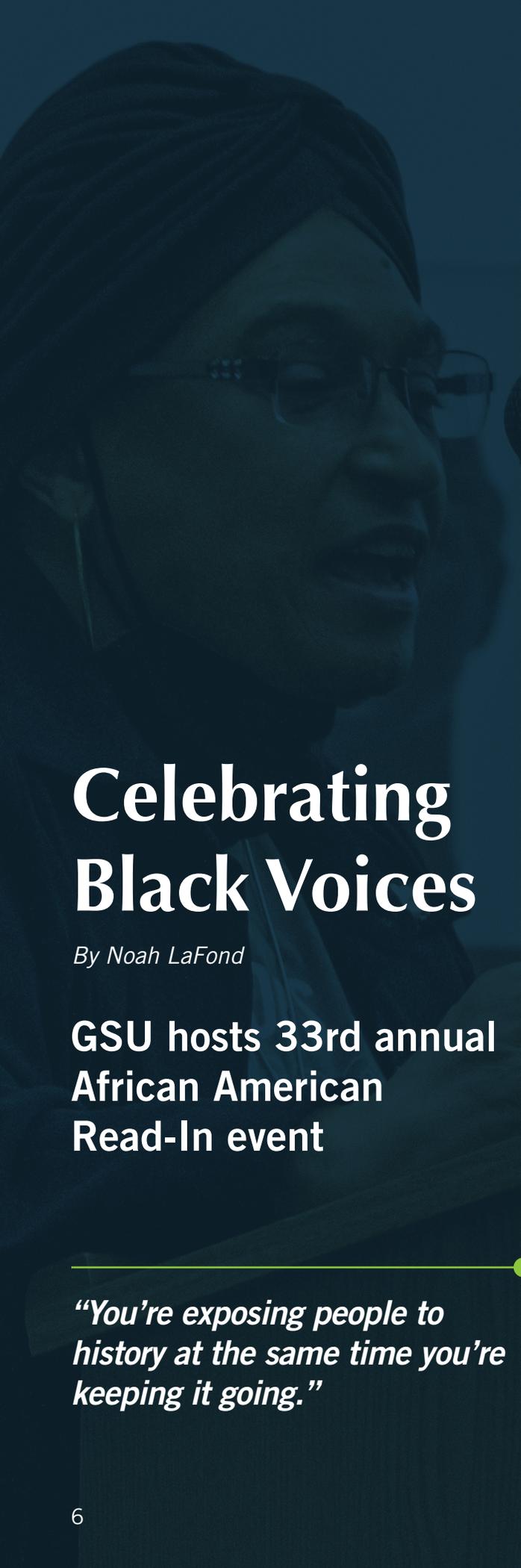
At the beginning of Fall 2022 Dr. Yunchuan Liu joined GSU as a new Assistant Professor of Computer Science. Coming to us after finishing his PhD at the University of Nevada, Dr. Liu was drawn to GSU for its “Safety, beautiful campus, and 40 minutes’ drive to downtown Chicago.”

Dr. Liu’s research interests include Machine Learning, Data Mining, and Power Systems. He appreciates the hard work that comes with research. “The most rewarding [parts of research] also come from the most challenging task...so I always believe pain comes with joy, no pain no gain.”

He recently published a paper about the efficiency of power grids. Lately, there has been a shortage of energy supplies that result in power outages. Dr. Liu is working to figure out how to use the right amount of clean energy to generate power. The shortage of resources like oil, gas, and electricity can lead to higher prices and difficulty accessing resources. The energy crisis can be disheartening, but Dr. Liu has hope. “The crisis provides more potential chances [for solutions].... And the climate change and energy crisis would make renewable energy more in demand.”

Dr. Liu appreciates working at GSU because it is a teaching-oriented school with less emphasis on research: “I can find lots of learning materials and less stress on research. And I believe some fundamental discoveries jump out when you are ready,” Dr. Liu says. Dr. Liu really likes teaching and hopes to mentor his students and help them reach their career goals.





Celebrating Black Voices

By Noah LaFond

GSU hosts 33rd annual African American Read-In event

“You’re exposing people to history at the same time you’re keeping it going.”

Every year during Black History Month, GSU joins a community dedicated to celebrating Black voices through the National African American Read-In. Founded in 1990 by the Black Caucus of the National Council of Teachers of English, this nation-wide event has united over 6 million participants to promote literacy and put a spotlight on African American writing. Read-In events take place practically anywhere people are able to congregate, from churches to college campuses. Here at GSU, Dr. Rashidah Muhammad (English and Secondary Ed) has been organizing the event since she began her tenure here nearly 30 years ago. Since that time, the event has been embraced by the community, welcoming students, faculty, staff, administration, friends and family of GSU. “It’s a natural part of the fabric of Governors State University during Black History month,” Muhammad states.

This year’s Read-In marks the first year that it has returned to meeting in person since 2020, after being held exclusively online in 2021 and 2022 due to the COVID 19 pandemic. While being online meant a more distant experience, it also helped bring the community together by allowing people to participate from across the country. For this year’s gathering, readers were able to attend in person or virtually via Zoom. The GSU event typically draws in around 50 readers, with many more observers in the audience.

At the Read-In, community members are invited to read passages from any work of their choice, with one rule: the work’s author must be African American. From poetry and novel excerpts to songs and more dynamic spoken word performances, anything goes. “You can go backwards to Sojourner Truth or Sam Cooke, go all the way up to President Obama,” Muhammad expressed. “People can bring in whatever they want to and that’s the great part about the read in. You’re exposing people to history at the same time you’re keeping it going.”

Local writers are also encouraged to share their own work and shine a spotlight on current lived experiences. Every reader’s choice is unique, and the power of reading aloud enables them to put themselves into the work. Readings at this year’s event included historical icons like Maya Angelou and Frederick Douglas, as well as more modern writing and poetry from local authors. One speaker, Dr. Muhammad’s son and GSU alumnus Abdul-Jaleel Ramadhan Muhammad, even gave an incredibly dynamic presentation of his own writing, which was all the more notable since he wrote the piece while in the audience during the event. “It’s a big celebration of African American voices, some of whom we may not have heard before,” Muhammad reflects. “It’s a celebration of big voices, little voices, all the voices.”

The African American Read-In takes place at GSU every year in February. Be sure to participate in the event next year!



“You think that you wouldn’t be good at something until you actually try it”

Making Moves in Media

By Tim Miller

GSU alum finds niche in broadcasting

John Redfield is a recent alumnus of GSU after graduating in 2022. He transferred to GSU in search of a fresh start and chose to major in media studies. He said, “I just took a leap and I happened to find my niche in media.”

Redfield stated that GSU helped him to discover that niche and led him into reporting: “I always want to give a shout out to Professor Jessica Scott, for sure. She definitely helped me out with [broadcasting].” His professors, classes, and his experience with GSU TV have prepared him for working in the news.

Soon after graduation, Redfield landed a job in Ottumwa, Iowa as a multimedia journalist at KTVO News where he works both on and off camera. Redfield expected to work behind the scenes, so being thrown into a camera-facing role surprised him: “I wanted to be behind a camera. I never wanted to be in front of the camera at all...you think that you wouldn’t be good at something until you actually try it.” His appearances on KTVO have even led to strangers recognizing him on the street.

Although Redfield enjoys working in the news, his ultimate goal is to pursue filmmaking in Hollywood someday: “I have created short films while I was at GSU, so my ultimate goal is to create TV shows, maybe movies.” Redfield stated that GSU not only helped with introducing him to reporting, but various film classes have gotten him interested in movie making as well.

Redfield has recommended GSU to many people and will continue to do so because of how GSU has helped him. To anyone hesitant to pursue a career in broadcasting, Redfield said, “if you’re interested, don’t have doubt. Just go do it. Because you never know. You may end up like me and like being in front of the camera.”



Preparing Post-Docs for Teaching Careers

By Noah LaFond



GSU/UIC Collaboration Continues through the IRACDA Program

G SU and the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) have a longstanding tradition of collaborating on federal grants. In 2020, GSU rekindled this collaboration with UIC's Colleges of Pharmacy and Medicine to become the first institutions in the midwest to participate in a program that partners one research-based institution and one teaching-intensive institution to provide post-doctoral scholars with a variety of experiences in research and teaching. This program, the Institutional Research and Academic Career Development Award (IRACDA) grant, is funded by the National Institute of Health (NIH) to develop the skills of postdoctoral scholars in biomedical-related fields and help guide their paths towards positions in academia.

“This program is helping me to balance research, mentoring, and teaching”

The grant is active from 2020 until 2025, and in that time GSU and UIC hope to guide nine postdoctoral scholars through the program. Each scholar is guaranteed funding for three years, with potential for a fourth if it is necessary for the scholar. Dr. Derick Jones was the first to complete the program, and has moved on to become a professor at Columbia College. Five scholars are currently at various stages of the GSU/UIC program, and two more scholars are planned to begin next year.

In the program, post-doc scholars split their time between developing their research at UIC and practicing their teaching skills at GSU. As one scholar in the program, Dr. KaReisha Robinson, identified, “What drew me to the program was the fact that it offered a teaching component, something I never had before. This program is helping me to balance research, mentoring, and teaching.” GSU site coordinator John Sowa recognizes that the program helps alleviate a key gap in post-doctoral knowledge: “The way we have our PhD education system, we don’t get a lot of opportunities to learn how to teach, so it’s kind of baptism by fire when you get that chance.”

At GSU, scholars are paired with a teaching faculty mentor in a field related to their discipline, such as chemistry, biology, or math, and they shadow that professor alongside other training opportunities. In the second year of the program, scholars typically begin teaching a laboratory course under supervision from their faculty mentor, and are given the option to teach other courses in their third year. While some scholars continue to teach laboratory courses, others take the opportunity to add new courses to the GSU curriculum. One scholar, Dr. Brita Rued, taught a Natural Products workshop that explored the use of plants in medicine, and another, Dr. Elizabeth Kaweesa, resurrected the Intro to Toxicology course that hadn’t been taught at GSU for several semesters.

In addition, other professional development opportunities are made available, from discussing their work with the media, to writing grants, to presenting their research at the IRACDA annual conference. “One of the things we want to teach them,” Dr. Sowa expressed, “is how to be faculty members.”

Looking to the future, GSU and UIC hope to continue the IRACDA program when it comes up for renewal in 2025.

Calling All Radio Fans

By Saad Shalabi

GSU Radio Station Coming Fall of 2023

A new radio station is coming to GSU and plans to launch in fall 2023. Through the hard work of faculty advisor Dr. Lara Hrycaj (Media Studies) and the staff of the Division of Arts and Letters, much progress has been made in developing the groundwork for the upcoming station.

As anyone passing by the library balcony has probably noticed, WhisperRoom sound enclosures have been constructed. These enclosures are pre-fabricated, nearly soundproof structures used by musicians, podcasters, and other radio stations. One of the biggest advantages of using pre-fab sound booths like WhisperRoom is that they will allow the station to get up and running faster than building a new structure from scratch. In addition to the sound enclosures, a secondary location in the Digital Learning and Media Design (DLMD) facilities will house the computers and equipment necessary to broadcast the station.

The station will begin as an internet/streaming app, with the hope of becoming a broadcast station if licensing can be obtained. With that goal in mind, one of the projects currently underway is the development of a student handbook that will provide guidelines on how

“One of the goals of the station is to give the students a sense of community”

to propose shows, as well as the FCC rules the station will need to abide by in order to obtain licensure in the future.

The goal of the radio station is to be student-focused, with students in all positions from host to production director. Dr. Hrycaj is also hopeful that the entire GSU community will be a part of the station, from students in non-media majors, to faculty and staff, to the wider Southland community we serve. Audio production classes are now included as part of the Media Studies curriculum, and a 1-credit hour Radio Staff Training Workshop will be available starting in the Fall 2023 semester for any student not in a media major, as well as anyone else interested in working with the station in some capacity.

Dr. Hrycaj is open to a wide variety of programming suggestions, from music to podcasts to public affairs shows. “One of the goals of the station is to give the students a sense of community,” she says. “A place where they can discover new things.” For more updates on this exciting project, information can be found at:

govst.edu/gsu-radio

New Faculty Book Publication Deconstructs America's Police System

By Clair Naylor

In fall of 2022, GSU Criminal Justice professor Dr. Jarrod Shanahan and his co-author Dr. Zhandarka Kurti (Loyola, Criminal Justice) published *States of Incarceration: Rebellion, Reform, and America's Punishment System* (Reaktion Books). The book is a history chronicle of incarceration and policing in the United States, as well as a documentation of the George Floyd protests in 2020. Drs. Shanahan and Kurti wrote the book as an extension of their previously published "Prelude to a Hot American Summer," which posed the question of why George Floyd's murder plunged the nation (and world) into a rebellion against American policing. *States of Incarceration* expands on this question, seeking to understand this radical change at such a particular moment in history, and why so many people became interested in attacking the institutions of incarceration and policing.

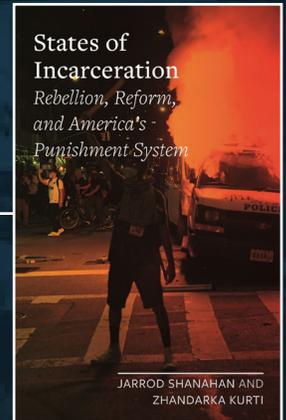
To capture the spirit of the 2020 Rebellion, Dr. Shanahan conducted his research by studying personal accounts of Americans who had participated in the Rebellion themselves. He had the book proof-read by the same online community who had provided their stories to ensure that the book was as accurate to their experiences as possible. In the book, Dr. Shanahan discusses the public perception of Americans regarding the protests. Some protests were a mix of peace and violence, and the sensational accounts of violence in the media were what really captured American interest about the issue of policing. A majority of the marches and protests were calm, but Shanahan points out that "the spectacular scenes out of major cities were what captured the most media attention."

Dr. Shanahan argues in the book that there has been an attempt by the media to re-define the events of the summer into an inaccurate picture of the reality of the protests. "The state has been erasing the amazing things that have been happening and re-defining the protests of 2020 as wholly peaceful, while ignoring the truth. The truth is, this was a militant moment, and the ugly and the beautiful should be on display."

Dr. Shanahan encourages anyone interested in the events of 2020 to read the book: "Anyone interested in the system, if they love it or hate it, would benefit from reading the book. ... It's a book for activists, and those who have political questions and it is written to be welcoming to the next generation of activists who become interested in these political issues." Dr. Shanahan continues: "It's for fellow scholars and newcomers, and is written to be accessible to all, whether they come from an academic background or are curious to know more."



Dr. Jarrod Shanahan



"Anyone interested in the system, if they love it or hate it, would benefit from reading the book"

Restoring Justice, Serving Communities

By Saad Shalabi

GSU Criminal Justice program introduces a Restorative Justice approach



Justice is an important concept for any community, including GSU. In keeping with the university's commitment to civic engagement, GSU offers students the opportunity to learn about restorative justice through several graduate and undergraduate courses, and a new graduate certificate program. Directed by Professor Ben Almassi (Philosophy) and Professor Joao Salm (Criminal Justice), who brings a wealth of real-world experience and international leadership, this curriculum seeks to “prepare students with the foundation of restorative justice so they can take it out to their communities.”



Dr. Joao Salm

Per Dr. Salm, restorative justice is founded on five key principles: humanizing values, relationships, collective and individual responsibility, addressing harm, and strengthening community. These principles are enacted through four main practices, which are peacemaking circles, family group conferencing, victim offender mediation, and truth and reconciliation commissions.

“Restorative justice is a non-punitive approach to justice,” Dr. Salm tells us. Whereas criminal justice is focused on punishing the offender, restorative justice is oriented around how to address harm suffered by a community. “In a nutshell,” Dr. Salm says, “what restorative justice asks is, when something happens,

who has been harmed? The criminal justice system... asks what laws have been violated, and what kind of punishment did you deserve for violating that law. Restorative justice is about relationships.”

Dr. Salm sees restorative justice as potentially more proactive in its approach than traditional criminal justice. Because of its focus on community healing and civilian-driven engagement (rather than the punishment of crimes), restorative justice can be used to bridge gaps between communities and state organizations on wide-ranging issues like police violence and unclean drinking water. And for future issues, a restorative justice approach is likely to reduce political conflict and encourage communal problem solving.

GSU's restorative justice courses, and the new grad certificate, are designed to provide students with both a theoretical and practical understanding of restorative justice, which can then inform their own efforts beyond GSU. Dr. Salm believes that the best way to implement restorative justice practices is through student-led initiatives. “I think GSU's role is not to create these [community] programs but to provide...our students with the knowledge and the skills that they need in order to co-create RJ-led initiatives and programs in their communities.”

Students interested in learning more about restorative justice can contact Dr. Salm (jsalm@govst.edu). Or, for more information on the Graduate Certificate in Restorative Justice, visit:

govst.edu/resj

“Restorative justice is about relationships.”

Changing the Criminal Justice Classroom

By Clair Naylor

“I don’t have a student who does a Service Learning Project who feels exactly the same as they did before.”

Faculty Member Promotes Service Learning in Law Enforcement Training

In 2021, Dr. Caron Jacobson (Criminal Justice) became a Media Research Institute Fellow, and developed a documentary entitled “Service Learning to Influence Social Change in Criminal Justice.” The documentary promotes service learning (opportunities to learn about subject matters through active engagement with the community) in Criminal Justice Curriculum.



Dr. Caron Jacobson

The documentary addresses “dualistic thinking” in law officers and how to remedy it with empathy and service learning in the classroom. “Dualistic thinking” is the idea that police officers do not treat offenders with empathy. Dr. Jacobson explains: “When we look at any show that has to deal with criminal justice, the bad guys are going away, and we [the police officers] are the good guys. Again that whole belief system simply fuels the system that we have today.”

Dr. Jacobson became interested in Service Learning while working with a reentry program meant to rehabilitate people returning from the prison system. “I noticed a lot of dualistic speaking and that allowed [those working in the program] to do really unethical things toward this group.” Dr. Jacobson noticed that ex-prisoners experienced unfair treatment like being overcharged for run-down apartments, with the justification that “it was okay because it’s them.”

In her own classroom, Dr. Jacobson is using Service Learning to instill empathy in her students, as well as

teaching critical thinking skills that allow students to place themselves in the shoes of someone who has committed a crime. “We talk about empathy a lot in the classroom, and students do reflection journals on the topics that we raise.” One of these reflections asks students to journal about a time that they have been stopped by police. For example, most white students who were pulled over for speeding reported that they did not have a problem with police because they “obey the law,” while students of color reported that they had issues despite being pulled over for the same reason.

Dr. Jacobson says that these journals prompt critical thinking skills in her students to make them more aware of the biases that exist in law. Along with this, Dr. Jacobson has her students engage with Service Learning. Projects like Zoom calls with returning citizens (as seen in the documentary) show students chatting with these folks, and eventually becoming more relaxed around them. The projects create a human-first perspective in the students: “[The students are] surprised they’re just like you and me.”

Dr. Jacobson believes that Service Learning should be implemented in Criminal Justice curriculum everywhere. “I don’t have a student who does a Service Learning Project who feels exactly the same as they did before.”

Anyone interested in viewing “Service Learning to Influence Social Change in Criminal Justice” can scan this QR code:





GSU Goes All In for Student Voter Turnout

By Tim Miller

GSU has been awarded the All-In Most Engaged Campus award for voter turnout in the 2022 midterm election. GSU was recognized thanks to Dr. Crystal Harris's work with the Voter Education Initiative.

Through the Voter Education Initiative, Dr. Harris (Interdisciplinary Studies) organized many student events during the midterm election that helped increase voter turnout at GSU. One project was "Ask Every Student" where a group of students sat in the main

entrance and gave away free popcorn while speaking to students about registering to vote. There was also a town hall after the midterm election that gave people who voted and those who didn't a platform to reflect on their experiences.

In response to achieving the award, Dr. Harris said, "There must be thousands of campuses who have these kinds of programs so for us to be in the top 300 is a big deal, I'm really proud of our team." The award



also comes as a particular honor because it was GSU's first year participating in the All-In Challenge. When looking at campuses to distribute the award, All-In uses a report from the NSLVE (The National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement). The NSLVE report provides the voting rate of college campuses, with GSU being at 66.3%. The report also matches the enrollment data of campuses to the voting record and measures certain statistics like gender, age, race, and major among students. This will help GSU identify areas of focus to improve voter turnout in future election years.



Although voter turnout has increased at GSU in recent years, Dr. Harris believes that talking about voter education should become a constant part of campus life, and not just during an election. To achieve this, she said that most voter education will happen in the classroom. Dr. Harris said, "it's really easy for college students in particular to be like, 'Oh, I'll just not worry about it,' so we really have to change that mindset because if young people are not voting in their best interest, nobody else is voting in their best interest."

"If young people are not voting in their best interest, nobody else is voting in their best interest."

CHRISTOPHER WHITE, PH.D.

FACULTY ADVISOR FOR ArtSci MAGAZINE



I've had the pleasure of serving as Faculty Advisor for ArtSci since 2018. In that time we've produced five annual issues with dozens of stories showcasing the extraordinary accomplishments of our CAS faculty and students. I want to thank Dean Zingsheim for supporting ArtSci and providing students with invaluable opportunities like this for hands-on, high-impact pre-professional experience.

ArtSci is an entirely student-written magazine. The student writer-editors research, conduct interviews, then draft and workshop each story. We then work together with MarComm designers (Carollyn Hamilton for our first four issues, and Michael Scalzo most recently) to produce the handsome publication you now see before you.

Over the years I've loved learning more about our college and all the outstanding work and fascinating goings-on here, often behind the closed doors of labs, tucked back in the DLMD studios, or off-site at various internship or community service locales. But most of all I've loved working with the students and coaching them through the steps and skills of magazine copywriting. In truth, they've made the work a lot of fun and mostly pretty easy—with all the talent, curiosity, generosity, and communal spirit they've brought to the job.

This year, my last as Faculty Advisor for ArtSci, has been a particular pleasure. Our four new members—Hannah Leonard, Tim Miller, Clair Naylor, and Paul Tucker—gamely greeted the challenge of an unfamiliar writing task, conducting their research, interviews, first drafts, and then learning to trust themselves and their peers in the workshop sessions where each story draft was intensively reviewed and revised by the team. Our two senior members—Noah LaFond and Saad Shalabi—provided splendid mentorship for their peers, mixing humor and helpful wisdom gained from their past experience with the magazine. Here's to this year's staff, and their future!

Our Student Writers



NOAH LAFOND

I am a graduate student in the English MA program, and I tutor in the GSU Writing Center. I'm really excited to be back at GSU after graduating with my BA

in English in 2021. Outside of GSU, I'm always looking for new interesting stories to sink my teeth into, and my fascination with the written word is only outmatched by the never-ending list of books I still need to read.



SAAD SHALABI

I am a graduate student in the final year of my Masters in English program. This is my second year writing for ArtSci. I enjoy the different skills

that I get to practice as a writer/editor for the magazine. I am interested in cool stories, and working for ArtSci has introduced me to topics I might not have had the chance to learn about otherwise. I still like writing about anything other than myself.



PAUL TUCKER

I am an English major who is constantly consuming every form of media. I love being able to learn about the world around me, and outside of reading and

writing, I am listening to music, painting, watching movies, and spending time in nature every chance I get. I am pursuing my Masters in English in the fall, and although I might not know what the future holds, I look forward to discovering it along the way.



TIM MILLER

I am an English major and creative writing minor in my final year of undergrad. I have had a passion for writing since I was

a child, and while I may be graduating from GSU, I know I will keep writing and learning for many years to come. I also plan to tackle the large pile of non-fiction books I've acquired over the past few years.



HANNAH LEONARD

I am a Strategic Communications major who loves writing and improv shows. When I'm not at school or work, I'm rewatching episodes of

the brilliant show 30 Rock! It's smart and dumb comedy rolled into one. Whether it's a profile about a student or a work of fiction, I hope to become a stronger storyteller. With ArtSci, I believe I can be.



CLAIR NAYLOR

I am an English major who loves all things geeky! My favorite genre of literature to both read and write is fantasy, but I also enjoy the odd

sci-fi or historical fiction. When I'm not reading, I'm with my two beautiful labs, my family, or playing DnD. My dreams for the future are to possibly publish a poem or two, and to keep my creative spark no matter what life throws at me.



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