



June 25, 2008

President Davila:

Hello. I'm Robert Davila, president of Gallaudet University. Welcome once again to *Bob's Vlog*. Now that the spring semester is concluded and graduation is over, summer has arrived at Gallaudet University. You will be surprised to know how busy Kendall Green is during the summer months of June, July, and August. We have programs for children, teenagers, adults, and senior citizens. Many of those programs that the college offers during the summer are overseen by the College of Professional Studies and Outreach, CPSO. With me today are three individuals from CPSO: Dr. Joseph Innes (Jay), Dr. Simon Guteng (Simon), and Deborah DeStefano (Debby). These three are here to tell us about what's happening on the Gallaudet campus during the summer months. First, Jay is interim dean for the College of Professional Studies and Outreach. Simon is director of the Gallaudet Leadership Institute's Professional Studies and Enrichment Programs, GLIPSEP. That's a unit of CPSO. And thirdly, Debby is director of program services for CPSO. All three are Gallaudet alumni. Jay got his doctoral degree from Gallaudet in 2000,

and both Simon and Debby are alumni twice over. Both got bachelor's degrees and master's degrees from Gallaudet University.

Before joining the faculty as a professor in the department of education in 1988, Jay worked at MSSD in many positions, including assistant principal. In 2002, he was asked to establish the Gallaudet Leadership Institute (GLI) and, under his stewardship, the program began. The institute continues to offer a variety of programs – for example, the deaf women's leadership program in 2006 – and it is now developing a program that will address professional development and leadership needs for providers of services to deaf children, ages 0-3.

Simon has served as a faculty member in the Department of Education for nine and a half years and he has directed or co-directed the department's "Project Success," a collaborative teacher preparation program between Gallaudet and the Fairfax County public school system. He has also been actively involved in advocacy for people with disabilities in Nigeria. He has served on the boards of various organizations that focus on improving the lives of deaf and hard of hearing people in Nigeria.

Debby has worked at Gallaudet for 29 years in a number of important administrative positions. She started at the Clerc Center and later on continued at Gallaudet. She worked at MSSD for 14 years as the assistant dean of student life, a career development teacher, and

assistant principal. Then she served as director of admissions at Gallaudet for nine years and as executive director of enrollment services for five years. She also is the proud mother of two recent Gallaudet graduates.

We want to thank our visitors this morning for participating with us today. I have some questions for you, and your answers will help our audience to understand how busy Gallaudet is during the summer and how many things are happening on our campus. It will be very informative, I am sure. I want to start by asking Jay a question. First of all, Jay, can you give me a quick overview of the newly established College of Professional Studies and Outreach and explain a little bit about the different units and functions that are a part of that college?

Dr. Jay Innes:

Sure. It's interesting that while the college itself is new as CPSO, actually all of the units and functions were already here at Gallaudet. They were in different places. Some were in the Graduate School, some were under CLAST, the College of Liberal Arts, Sciences, and Technologies, and some were under the Clerc Center. What we did was realign several different units and functions into four areas. One is GLIPS. That group focuses on the leadership institute, professional studies, and enrichment programs, under Simon. The second group is LPI, the Language Planning Institute. That group is under Dr. Steve Nover. We use a particular sign when referring to Steve which indicates that he is quite tall. They focus on teaching ASL as a

second language and also on providing bilingual education training for many different schools for the deaf all across the country. The third group we have includes the Gallaudet regional centers. That's the regional, national, and international outreach unit. As we know, Gallaudet has five different regional centers strategically located in the U.S. That group is now connected and integrated with all of our different outreach programs and professional studies units. The fourth group, Debby's group, is the Program Services Unit. We established that in order to provide centralized support services for summer planning, registration, marketing, conference management, related event functions, and so forth. Our programs provide services to undergraduate students, graduate students, and adults, including those specifically designed to provide professional development to adults who can't normally let go of their work and life to come to Gallaudet for a year or two. So, we modify our programs to include online learning, weekends, and summers – especially our summers here.

President Davila:

Wow, that sounds like a plate full of important services that are going to people outside of Gallaudet University. That's really very impressive. Let me turn now and ask Simon a question. While you have programs and services on a year round basis, summers are one of the busiest times for you. Tell us about the programs that you are offering and to whom are you offering them.

Dr. Simon Guteng:

Certainly. Summers are one of our busiest times. Right now we are offering up to 111 undergraduate and graduate courses. We offer these during the summer. Also, we are offering up to 10 leadership programs including, for example, the Deaf Women's Leadership Program that you recently mentioned. Also, Social Leadership Management, and Consumer, Family, and Community Advocacy Leadership, and there are several others – up to 10 that we offer. Also, we offer summer youth programs. There are three for high school students who are deaf and we include high school students who can hear, also. We also offer summer sports camps for high school students. We are also offering programs to meet the needs of senior citizens here this summer.

President Davila:

Wow, that is truly a huge amount of activity. No wonder Gallaudet is so busy during the summer months. That's impressive. Thank you for your response.

Let me ask Debby a question too. In addition to programs of learning, what other incidental programs and learning activities does a summer at Gallaudet provide to people who come here?

Ms. Debby Destefano:

We are in an excellent position to educate our diverse community and individuals who come here to our campus. Many of them are coming

for the first time. We provide “networking nights,” and special events. They can play “ASLingo,” they can sit back and watch guest speakers. It is truly a community effort. We have conferences. In the past we averaged two a year but now we are planning for nine! In fact, we have a conference this week hosted by the Department of Counseling, and supported by us. I can say with confidence, when our visitors come to Gallaudet and truly taste the Gallaudet experience, once they leave, they will want to come back.

President Davila:

I think that’s a wonderful indication of the value and the quality of the program when you said, just now, that people will want to come back. That’s the best demonstration of success. I’m glad to hear that.

One more question for Simon. Do you have a program designed to help high school students and their families who are planning for college later on, and how do you offer transitional help to those people who are planning to come to college later?

Dr. Simon Guteng:

Certainly. Yes, we do have three summer youth programs offered this summer. One, specifically, is called *Knowledge for College*. It focuses on preparing high school deaf students from mainstream programs and residential schools to make decisions about the best college of their choice. It prepares them on how to make choices of colleges,

prepare for college, find scholarships, write application letters, and all of that. Yes, we do have that.

President Davila:

Well, that's very good, really, because that's very much needed. I think transition support for young people who are thinking about and planning to go to college is critically important, and our research indicates that students who get that kind of support are more likely to succeed in college later, so it's good to hear that.

I have a question for Jay. What new initiatives will you be working on this coming year?

Dr. Jay Innes:

In the first year for CPSO, our focus is to become more organized as a single unit. I think the fact that we have many programs already up and running this summer is really a testimony to their work and the work of many other people. I want to mention also that all of our programs involve faculty and professional staff in teaching the content part of their work, so we're really always thankful for an enthusiastic faculty. We know there are plenty of those individuals here at Gallaudet. We hope to continue to focus on expanding the unit, adding additional leadership training programs and responding to our alumni and other professionals in various fields who are requesting more varied approaches, including online and so forth. Also, we want to increase the number of conferences so that the true

knowledge that our faculty and students produce here is spread out more. Thirdly, we are trying to shift some of our focus to developing degree programs online, like many other universities already have. So I think in the next 12 months we will see some very carefully developed expansion of the work and focus.

President Davila:

Wow, that's really impressive, and it clearly shows why Gallaudet is such a busy place at all times of the year, not just summer but also during the school year. I can see it's going to be a very busy school year like it has been so far. So, one more question for you, Jay. How can a person desiring more information about what's happening get some more information about these things mentioned in our meeting this morning? How can a person get some more information?

Dr. Jay Innes:

First, I would say they can go online. Just go on the Internet and type [cpsso.gallaudet.edu](http://cpsso.gallaudet.edu). All of our programs, information, and services are listed there. Even better, if they can, they can come visit us on the fourth floor of the Hall Memorial Building where our offices and services are located. The third way is we are constantly marketing our efforts at different conferences, so people visiting the NAD conference or other groups' conferences should look for our Gallaudet booth. We have information there, ready for them to take.

President Davila:

Thank you, Jay, for your clear response. I want to really thank the three of you for joining us today. Surprisingly, the programs offered by CPSO are not the only summer programs happening on this campus. I want you to understand that, too. Some of the other programs offered are for children in the Child Development Center summer camp and also the Children's Instructional Summer Program. That's a summer camp for 120 deaf and hearing children. They integrate deaf and hearing children. That camp has been run by Gallaudet University for many years. I think it began in 1968. At the Clerc Center they are offering also a Summer Institute, a dynamic learning retreat, and they offer 13 different trainings on different topics over four weeks. You can find out more about those programs by going to Gallaudet's website. These are examples of additional activities that are happening at Gallaudet, but today we are hearing from Jay, Debby, and Simon about programs that they manage, and I have to tell you, manage very well. They reach out to many, many people both here at Gallaudet and outside of Gallaudet, also. I want to give our audience an indication of the amount of work, the amount of service, that Gallaudet provides every year, and the demand for those services increases every year, also. So, thank you very much for joining us and for watching *Bob's Vlog* today. We will see you again soon. So long.