



Office of the Will County Board
Herbert Brooks, Jr., Speaker
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Board's chief of staff confirmed as higher ed trustee
Friefeld marks over three decades of service to Will County

JOLIET, IL – Will County Board's Chief of Staff Bruce Friefeld was unanimously reconfirmed last week by the Illinois State Senate as a Governors State University Trustee, an unpaid position.

"On behalf of the entire board, I congratulate Bruce on his confirmation and successful tenure of service to one of our state's great institutions of higher learning," said Speaker Herbert Brooks, Jr. "Will County and the state of Illinois are better places because of the time, energy and devotion he has given over the past 30+ years. We appreciate the wealth of knowledge and expertise he brings to the role of chief of staff on a daily basis."

Friefeld was originally appointed to the Governors State University (GSU) Board of Trustees, in 1996. He served as the chair of the board from 2000 to 2007. This marks his 17th consecutive year of service to the University Park school. During his tenure, Friefeld has been a champion of quality education while keeping GSU's undergraduate tuition the most affordable in the Chicagoland region. He was also a member of Illinois' Civil Service Merit Board from 2003 to 2007.

The longtime Mokena resident began his career in public service following his election to the Mokena Village Board of Trustees in 1983. Two years later, Friefeld was elected Supervisor of Frankfort Township. In 1988, he was appointed as legal counsel to the Will County Executive and later served as a special assistant in the Executive's Office. Since 2004, Friefeld has held the Board's chief of staff position.

Friefeld received his law degree from DePaul University College of Law and was admitted to the Illinois Bar in 1974. He is also a veteran of the United States Naval Reserves. His local community service includes past president of the Mokena Chamber of Commerce as well as Mokena Lions Club. In addition, he was a member of the Lincolnway High School Foundation for Educational Excellence.

GSU is the only public university in Chicago's south suburban area, serving approximately 7,750 students. The upper division school provides affordable and accessible undergraduate and graduate education to culturally and economically diverse students.

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