

School Of Education Kicks Off Its Alumni Association

The GVSU School of Education officially kicked off its Alumni Society this fall with a football game rally and election of officers.

After the election of officers earlier in the fall, T-shirts, tailgating and cheering on the defending NCAA Division II national champion GVSU football team was the first order of business for the Alumni Society, which helped cheer on the Lakers to a victory over Michigan Tech on Oct. 4.

The chairperson for the School of Education Alumni Society is Teresa McDougall. She may be contacted via e-mail at tmcdougall@gpsk12.net.

Tricia McCrea is serving as vice chair, while Susan Laninga is the special events chair. Other officers include secretary/treasurer Beverly Rannow and recruitment and retention chair Dennis Schultz.

"An alumni society is a great way to keep in touch with friends and college classmates, and will be a way of actively participating in the growth of the School of Education," said Clay Pelon of GVSU's Community Outreach Office. "We hope to line up some fun events and some service opportunities that will help our membership grow."

"We want to showcase all the great teachers who have graduated from Grand Valley."

Activities planned include an alumni mentoring program, which will bring together alums with GVSU juniors and/or seniors to help provide a support system for future colleagues. The group will meet once every semester and will match alums and future alums with similar interests. Additional information may be obtained by e-mailing Pelon at pelonc@gvsu.edu.

"It's a great way to help our future educators and to build some new life-long friendships," Pelon said.

Community service and volunteer events are also being planned such as pre-public film screening for teachers at the giant IMAX movie screen theater at Celebration Cinema in northeast Grand Rapids.

The School of Education honors its own at each graduation. Nominations for the Outstanding Educator Award for the Spring of 2004 will be accepted through February 9. The candidate must be a graduate from the School of Education, have five years in the field and demonstrat-



School of Education Alumni Association director Clay Pelon, right, fires up the troops during a GVSU football victory over Michigan Tech.

ed examples or evidence of excellence in teaching or administration. Nominations may be made by contacting McDougall at tmcdougall@gpsk12.net.

The School of Education is also looking to update its list of alumni who graduated prior to 1985. Those alums are requested to e-mail Pelon at pelonc@gvsu.edu.

Additional information about the Alumni Society and a signup survey form may be accessed on the School of Education's web site at <http://www.gvsu.edu/soe/>.

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