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FORUM

Tuesday, August 26, 2008

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

Published by News & Information Services

Convocation ceremony welcomes students, faculty

The traditional opening of Grand Valley's academic year provided both an opportunity to welcome new students and give faculty and staff members a status report on the university.

President Thomas J. Haas addressed faculty and staff members in his second Opening Address on August 22 in the Louis Armstrong Theatre in the Performing Arts Center. Following that address, faculty and others processed into the Fieldhouse Arena for Convocation.

During the Opening Address, Haas gave updates on building construction, North Central Association re-accreditation progress and Grand Valley's strategic plan. The strategic plan, he said, includes expanding relationships with area community colleges and other partners, broadening the fundraising base, being fiscally responsible and engaging in community development.

Haas said assessing the university's strategic plan and goals can be done best by assessing outcomes. "We've tied those outcomes to accountability," he said. "To define success at Grand Valley is to define the outcomes like student success, access and affordability, diversity, partnership with the state, efficiency, public-private partnerships and economic development."

He then thanked the Board of Trustees for their leadership at the July meeting on two resolutions: approving household benefits and setting tuition rates. "The Board of Trustees made strategic decisions that fulfill



Photo by Amanda Pitts

University Academic Senate Chair Kristine Mullendore addresses the audience August 22 at Convocation in the Fieldhouse Arena.

promises to our students and state," Haas said. "Household benefits and approving budget and tuition rates set our future in such a positive way."

Many first-year students attended the Convocation ceremony and heard

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Across Campus

Grand Valley again ranked by national publication

For the third time in a row, Grand Valley has been selected as one of "America's Best Colleges" by *U.S. News & World Report*.

Grand Valley ranked 37th out of 67 Midwest schools in the Best Universities-Master's category, for providing a full range of undergraduate and master's programs. Grand Valley also tied for first in the new "Up-and-Coming Schools" category in the Midwest for Best Universities-Master's.

The "Up and Coming Schools" were identified by top college officials in the spring as schools that have recently made the most promising

and innovative changes in academics, faculty, students, campus or facilities.

Also this month, Grand Valley was the only Michigan school cited in a new guide of "cutting-edge green" colleges and universities, recognizing the university's commitment to sustainability — a commitment that considers environmental, economic and social responsibility.

Grand Valley was included in the *Kaplan College Guide 2009*, which this year focuses for the first time on environmentally responsible schools and green careers. The guide, produced by Kaplan Publishing, features 25 green private and public colleges from across the nation. The section provides students with a look inside the classroom, around campus, and at student life, while shining a spotlight on

what's good for the globe at each college.

New CLAS advising center opens

Betty Schaner has been named director of the new College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Academic Advising Center.

The center, located on the ground floor of Mackinac Hall in Suite C-1-140, is a consolidation of several previous CLAS advising centers with centralized services for students and faculty members. Formerly there were separate advising centers for psychology, arts and humanities teacher certification, and the SMART Center, which served students in the

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Across Campus

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sciences and mathematics. Schaner had served as director of the SMART Center for seven years.

“This center is a wonderful resource for students from all CLAS majors and minors,” said Schaner. “We have a very talented group of advisors ready to help with a myriad of needs.”



Photo courtesy of Monica Johnstone

Betty Schaner sits in the new College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Academic Advising Center, in Mackinac Hall.

The center acts as a single source for information, forms and procedures on everything from general education and basic skills, to pre-professional advising for students seeking entrance into graduate programs. “This is in no way meant to replace connections students make with faculty advisors, but to complement them,” Schaner said. “We can also facilitate students needing to make that connection.”

The center is open Mondays through Thursdays from 8 a.m.-6 p.m. and Fridays from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. An open house is scheduled for the morning of September 24. For more information call x18585.

RMSC has new home

The Regional Math and Science Center has moved to a new location on the Allendale Campus. The center is now located in newly remodeled space on the first floor of Mackinac Hall.

“The new space was designed to help us better serve in linking Grand Valley with the K-12 education community in mathematics and science,” said Karen Meyers, new director of the Regional Math and Science Center. “Our new facilities allow us to continue to offer quality programs that enhance science and mathematics teaching and learning in our region.”

Meyers was named director; former director Mary Ann Sheline is now grants coordinator for the center.

New A/P representatives



Photo by Bernadine Carey-Tucker

New representatives to the Administrative/Professional Committee are pictured. Back row, from left, Paul Reitemeier, Greg Wilson, Tom Norman, Michelle Rhodes, Ben Rapin, Scott Richardson and Brian Bowe; front row, from left, Aaron Haight, Melonie Bates, Mindy Early and Kathleen Wright. Missing are Cassonya Carter Pugh and Jeff Marcinkowski. For more information about the committee, visit its Web site at www.gvsu.edu.

FORUM

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Faculty and staff members can find an online “Sketches” submission form on the Web at www.gvsu.edu/forum.

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GVNOW

Other publications by the News and Information Services Office include: To see video features and daily campus news, visit Grand Valley’s online publication, GVNow, at www.gvsu.edu/gvnow.

GRAND VALLEY magazine

Grand Valley Magazine is published quarterly for the university community. Visit its Web site at www.gvsu.edu/gvmagazine.

Grand Valley State University is an affirmative action/equal opportunity institution.

GVFaces

Linda Fox Office Coordinator, Sustainability Initiative

When Linda Fox began her career at Grand Valley eight years ago, she never would have thought her work environment would take such a unique change.

Fox started working at Grand Valley as a secretary to the dean of business in 1998. Four years later she was asked to work on a report with Norman Christopher, director of the Sustainability Initiative at Grand Valley.

“That report was basically to see what Grand Valley was doing to be sustainable. It was a baseline report because there was nothing to go back to see where it had started,” said Fox. Sustainability encompasses environmental, economic and social responsibility.

Fox’s main job was to collect data to see how much electricity Grand Valley used daily and weekly in buildings and for transportation, as well as to track how often the buses ran. It took Fox and Christopher a year to complete the report. They are now working on a second report and Fox projects that the statistics will improve.

“I think the numbers in the report will be much better, we’re finding different ways to do things, being smarter about our buildings. All of the buildings constructed in the past few years have been green build-

ings. I think administration understands that we have to be sustainable, not just as people, but we have to be sustainable as a university,” said Fox.

According to Fox, sustainability isn’t something that’s only growing at Grand Valley, but it is becoming known around the world.

“We definitely have growing pains,” she said. “We went from the first report to doing reports for different organizations; some presentations have gone across the United States promoting sustainability.”

She enjoys her work as the office coordinator for the Sustainability Initiative and assistant to Christopher. In her spare time, she spends time with her husband, and her newest inspiration, her grandson.

“I have my first grandson who is 1-year-old, and I want him to be able to live comfortably in a non-polluted environment,” Fox said.



Linda Fox

What's Ahead

Exhibit pays tribute to Korean ceramics

The Grand Valley Art Gallery begins a new season with an exhibit that pays tribute to both traditional and modern techniques in ceramics.

Artists have been creating ceramics in Korea since about 6000 BC. "Function or Submarine: New Work by Hoon Lee," includes ceramic art based on celadon from the Koryo Dynasty (AD 918-1392) and buncheong from the Choseon Dynasty (1392-1910), as well as modern techniques.

The exhibit had a soft opening on August 22 and will be on display through September 26. A reception with the artist will be held on Thursday, September 4, from 5-7 p.m., in the GVSU Art Gallery, Performing Arts Center, on the Allendale Campus.

Admission to the reception and exhibit is free.

Lee has been coordinator of the ceramics program since coming to Grand Valley's Department of Art & Design in 2004. The Korean-born artist works primarily at performance-based installations, though his vast interest and experience in ceramics play a role in many of his projects.

Of the many pieces created for the exhibit, one non-ceramic piece rises above the others. Hanging from the ceiling of the exhibit is a 12-foot submarine skeleton Lee fashioned from thin strips of bamboo, in part as a tribute to the bamboo tools used in ceramics.

"A submarine is a special type of container whose shape resembles the traditional bottles of early Korean ceramics," said Lee. "I thought it would also be a fun way to make reference to the many pieces of ceramics on the sea floor

from sunken ships that imported Korean ceramics to Japan centuries ago."

For more information on the exhibit, contact the Art Gallery at x12564, or visit www.gvsu.edu/artgallery.

Reception set for affirmative action officer

A reception is scheduled for Thursday, August 28, to formally welcome Ken James, assistant vice president for Affirmative Action. The reception will start at 4 p.m. at the Alumni House; faculty and staff members are invited.

James had worked for Mercy Health Partners as director of management and learning development for its Human Resources department. He started working at Grand Valley, in the Inclusion and Equity Division, on August 11.

Fall Arts Celebration

Talent from across the globe comes to campus

Since its start in 2003, Grand Valley's Fall Arts Celebration has featured the champions of arts and humanities for the benefit and enjoyment of the entire community.

"Our Fall Arts Celebration not only reflects a full range of possibilities, but also helps us make sense of many places unfamiliar to us," said Fred Antczak, festival spokesperson and dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

The celebration begins on Monday, September 8, with Debut: A Department of Music Collaboration, from 8-10 p.m., in the Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus. The collaboration of faculty and students will celebrate new faculty members in the Department of Music.

Featured performers will include Mark Markham, piano; MingHuan Xu, violin; Mark Williams, trombone; and Henry Duitman, conductor, performing works by Saint-Saens, David, Prokofiev, and Beethoven. Grand Valley's acclaimed New Music Ensemble, under

the direction of Bill Ryan, will also perform.

These additional events listed below are planned for the celebration. Tickets are required for Dance Stars Across America, "Coast-to-Coast." All other events are complimentary.

- **Wednesday, September 24**

Distinguished Academic Lecturer: Stephen Greenblatt presents "Cultural Mobility: The Strange Case of Shakespeare's Cardenio," at 7 p.m. on the second floor of the Eberhard Center, Pew Grand Rapids Campus.

- **Tuesday, October 7**

Art Gallery Exhibit: "Separation as Together: Soonjung Hong and Eunmee Lee," Korean Ceramists at GVSU; opening reception with the artists is from 5-7 p.m., GVSU Art Gallery, Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus.

- **Friday and Saturday, October 24-25**

Dance Stars Across America "Coast to Coast" performances at 8 p.m. Friday and 2 p.m. Saturday at the Louis Armstrong Theatre in the Performing Arts Center.

- **Wednesday, October 29**

Poetry Night: An Evening of Poetry and Conversation with Natasha Trethewey and Paul



Henry Duitman



Mark Markham



Mark Williams



MingHuan Xu

Muldoon begins at 7 p.m., second floor of the Eberhard Center.

For more information call x12180, or visit www.gvsu.edu/fallarts.

Across Campus

Migration marks new Honors College

Grand Valley's Honors College students took a moment on August 24 to honor the past and dream about the future in a ceremonial migration from the college's old home to its new, state-of-the-art green facility.

The Honors College moved into the new Glenn A. Niemeyer Learning and Living Center on the Allendale Campus. Approximately 450 honors students will live and learn in this cutting-edge

facility. Administrators call it the optimal environment for motivating students to grow and develop skills on their way to becoming leaders. The facility is named for Glenn A. Niemeyer, who retired from Grand Valley in 2001 after 38 years of service. He was a pioneer faculty member and served as the university's first provost from 1980-2001. Grand Valley's former Honors College facility — which was also named for Niemeyer — housed about 250 students.

In honor of the new academic year, students, faculty and staff gathered at the old Honors

College building and, after some remarks and reminiscences of the learning that took place there, processed across campus to the new center. At the college's new home, previous director Johnnie Callahan gave a brief history of the college.

"We're identifying with the past, but we are moving toward the future," said Jeff Chamberlain, director of the Honors College. "There's continuity and change within the same event. We're going into a bigger and better future, while still building on the past."

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

General Events

**Art Gallery Hours: Mon.-Fri. 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Thurs. 10 a.m.-7 p.m.**

Through Sept. 26

Gallery Hours: Art Exhibit: "Function or Submarine." PAC 1121. Call x12564 for more information.

Thurs., Aug. 28

1 p.m.: Mathematics Department hosts Teaching Circle on Advising Math Majors. MAK D-2-123. Call x12302 for more information.

4 p.m.: Inclusion and Equity Division hosts Welcome Reception for Ken James. Alumni House. Call x13296 for more information.

Sports

Thurs., Aug. 28

6 p.m.: Cross Country hosts Laker Kick Off Classic.

Fri., Aug. 29

6 p.m.: Soccer hosts University of Tampa.

Faculty and Staff Sketches

Sketches

Andrew Kurt, visiting assistant professor of history, attended the NEH summer institute, "The Medieval Mediterranean and the Emergence of the West," in Barcelona, Spain.

William Crawley, associate professor of criminal justice, wrote an article, "The Vocabulary of Quitting: Exploring the Relationship between Language and the Desired Cessation of Drug Use," published in *Critical Approaches to Discourse Analysis Across Disciplines*.

Michael P. Lombardo, professor of biology, gave a presentation, "The Sexual Transmission of Microbes during Copulation in Tree Swallows," at the International Society for

Behavioral Ecology's 12th biennial congress at Cornell University. The paper was co-authored by **Patrick A. Thorpe**, professor of biology, and a graduate student.

Steve Glass, associate dean of the College of Interdisciplinary Studies and professor of movement science, was selected by the Center for Community Leadership as a member of the 2009 Leadership Grand Rapids class.

Cheryl Boudreaux, assistant professor of sociology, began her term as vice president of the Society for the Study of Social Problems at the organization's 58th annual meeting in Boston; she continues to chair its Family Division. She gave a presentation, "Globalization, Technocratization, and Legitimation of the

Other: Changing Images of Love and Marriage," at the meeting.

Steve Mattox, associate professor of geology, wrote an article, "How Gender and Race of Geologists are Portrayed in Physical Geology Textbooks," published in the *Journal of Geoscience Education*.

Teresa Castelao-Lawless, professor of philosophy, gave presentations, "Science and Value Theory: The Problem of Teaching in the Humanities," in Coimbra, Portugal; and "Is Discontinuous Bergsonism Possible?" in Vancouver, Canada. She also participated in a summer course, "The History and Philosophy of the Biomedical Sciences," in Vienna, Austria.

Convocation, Opening Address provide welcome for students, faculty and staff

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remarks directed to them by Haas, Provost Gayle R. Davis, University Academic Senate Chair Kristine Mullendore and Student Senate President Autumn Trombka.

Davis introduced the academic regalia to students, saying the costumes paid homage to centuries of tradition of people pursuing academic dreams.

Haas told the audience of recent construction project completions, Laker Turf and the Glenn A. Niemeyer Learning and Living Center, in addition to renovations to Mackinac Hall and Kirkhof Center. He then highlighted national accolades and rankings for Grand Valley from *U.S. News & World Report*, *Kaplan* and other publications. (See related story on page 1.)

"You've chosen a great place, but we dream and plan for more," he said. "To continue our standards of academic excellence, in addition to the new facilities, we've added more than 30 faculty members — outstanding individuals from all over the world who join the others on the faculty



Photos by Amanda Pitts

Above left, President Thomas J. Haas addresses faculty and staff members during his Opening Address in the Louis Armstrong Theatre. Provost Gayle R. Davis speaks during Convocation. At right, student Jacquelyn Davis sings 'My Man's Gone Now' from 'Porgy and Bess.'

and staff who are committed to your successes."

Mullendore, professor of criminal justice, said the new students who have spent a week or so in orientation have something in common with faculty, who have spent a week or so in meetings. And despite coming from different backgrounds and different high schools, she said the students

do have one thing in common. "You chose to come to Grand Valley, and I hope you continue to make wise choices while you're here," she said.

