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FORUM

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

Published by News & Information Services



GVSU readies for wind assessment in Lake Michigan

A research buoy was dedicated in Muskegon Lake on October 7 that will aid offshore wind assessment studies conducted by Grand Valley, the University of Michigan and Michigan State University.

The research buoy, one of three in the world, is an eight-ton, 20-by-10 foot boat-shaped structure that can measure wind characteristics up to 150 meters above the water using advanced wind sensor technology. The WindSentinel buoy was constructed by AXYS Technologies of British Columbia, and will come equipped with a Vindicator laser wind sensor manufactured by Catch the Wind Inc. of Virginia.

The launch of the buoy in the Great Lakes is the first introduction of this technology anywhere in North America, said Arn Boezaart, director of the Michigan Alternative and Renewable Energy Center. "The research buoy and laser pulse technology represents the most advanced wind measurement technology available and will help to dramatically increase data affecting the development of those resources," he said.

Boezaart was joined at the dedication by President Thomas J. Haas; Charlie Standridge, assistant dean of engineering and computing;

and Guy A. Meadows, director of the U-M Ocean Engineering Laboratory.

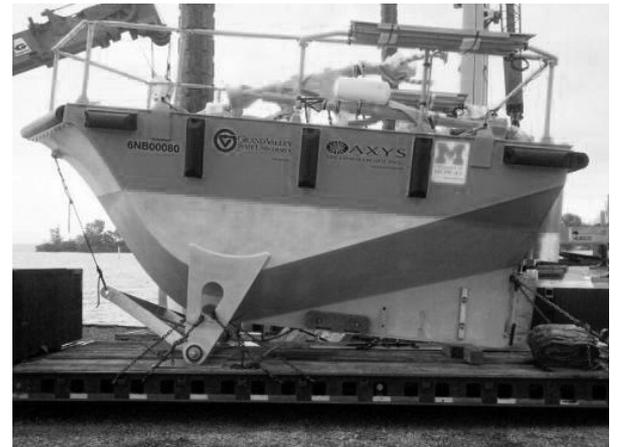
Following a week of tests on Muskegon Lake, the buoy will move four miles offshore on Lake Michigan for a month-long trial.



Arn Boezaart

Real-time data will be transmitted from the platform to researchers at Grand Valley, U-M and the Michigan Natural Features Inventory of Michigan State University. The research will provide information to support possible future development of offshore wind energy technology in the Great Lakes. MNFI research will focus on bird and bat flight patterns and migration studies.

The primary objective of the Lake Michigan offshore wind assessment is to gain a better understanding of the potential of offshore wind energy, as well as other physical, biological and environmental conditions on the Great Lakes. The research will provide information for the



A research buoy will be tested in Muskegon Lake before moving to Lake Michigan to aid with offshore wind assessment studies.

future development of offshore wind energy technology. In June 2010, the project secured \$3.3 million in grants and research funds, including a \$1.33 million energy efficiency grant from the Michigan Public Service Commission.

Funding partners include the U.S. Department of Energy, Michigan Public Service Commission, We Energies, U-M and Sierra Club.

Across Campus

Actors raise awareness about dating violence

Students often jest about "Facebook stalking" to find out what others are up to around campus. But for students and faculty organizers of the ReACT program, unwanted attention can be a legitimate threat to someone's well being.

ReACT is a collaborative effort between the Women's Center and School of Communications' theater program to better educate students on the dangers of not only stalking behavior but sexual assault and dating violence.

The program is funded by a grant from the U.S. Justice Department that was awarded to the Women's Center last year.

Allison Metz, visiting assistant professor, said



Photo by Amanda Pitts

Students perform a skit during a ReACT presentation October 3 in the Kirkhof Center.

the ReACT troupe of student actors also want to raise awareness among bystanders so they may be able to help instead of not knowing what to do.

Students gave a presentation October 3 in the Kirkhof Center, performing scenarios common to college life, such as a campus party. Audience participation is encouraged following each skit.

Metz said ReACT is available for classroom presentations; contact her at metza@gvsu.edu.

Open enrollment period begins soon

The open enrollment period for health benefits will run October 25-November 9.

During that period, benefit-eligible faculty and staff members are reminded to review their options online, www.gvsu.edu/

continues on page 2

Across Campus

continued from page 1

healthwellness, click on “2012 Open Enrollment.” Group presentations about health benefits are planned through October 25; to see dates, visit the website and click on “Important Dates.”

Students design, build toy for museum

Children visiting the Grand Rapids Children’s Museum are playing with a new educational tool designed and constructed by Grand Valley engineering students.

The project began when Jan Stone, exhibit and community relations manager for GRM, approached the School of Engineering last year seeking assistance in replacing the more than 10-year-old bubble tower. “We have more than 150,000 visitors each year and most of them use the bubble tower, so it was time to find a new one,” she said.

In January, engineering professor Wael Mokhtar assigned two groups of senior students the task of developing the new bubble tower, which was completed in August.

One requirement for the new bubble tower was to have it be wheelchair accessible. “This could very well be the first bubble tower in the nation that is wheelchair accessible; I’ve never seen one before,” Stone said. “The students had so much knowledge of materials we didn’t know existed. They knew what they were doing.”

Communicating with Stone and others from the museum in layman terms then receiving feedback and translating into technical terms



Engineering students designed and built a new bubble tower for the Grand Rapids Children’s Museum.

was a challenge for students, explained Mokhtar. “That’s what it is like in the working world, though, so it was a great opportunity for the students to experience what it’s like to work with a client,” he said.

Alumnus discusses repeal of military policy with class

The repeal of the U.S. military’s “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” policy was good news to Trevor Thomas, a Grand Valley alumnus who worked extensively toward that goal as he directed communications for two lead groups on the issue.

Thomas served as the director of communications for Servicemembers Legal Defense Network, and served as deputy director of communications for the Human Rights Campaign for three years. Thomas also directed the communications rollout of Lady Gaga’s internationally recognized efforts to help spotlight the repeal by asking young people to call their senators.

Thomas visited Grand Valley September 22, days after the repeal, and spoke with Liberal Studies Chair Wendy Burns-Ardolino’s class.



Trevor Thomas

“One aspect of our efforts was culling through 10,000 military service members’ stories to select a couple of dozen that were featured in a national series,” said Thomas. All of the stories were shaped into personal letters and sent to President Obama, sharing the service member’s experience and asking for support of the repeal.

Thomas said social media and mainstream media played a large role in getting the groups’ message heard. “By posting the stories online, they began to generate their own traffic in social media, grassroots media and blogs,” he said.

Thomas received a bachelor’s degree in broadcast journalism in 2005, and began his career at WGTV-TV and WOOD-TV. In 2008 Thomas served as LGBT specialty media director for the Democratic National Convention Committee, and worked on the communications team for Michigan Gov. Jennifer Granholm.

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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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Other publications by the News and Information Services Office include:

Grand Valley Magazine, which is published quarterly for the university community. Visit its website at www.gvsu.edu/gvmagazine.

Visit Grand Valley’s online publication, GVNNow, at www.gvsu.edu/gvnow, for daily news updates and video features.

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

GVFaces

John Rosick Assistant Director of Intramurals

When John Rosick is around, students know they are in for a good time.

As assistant director of intramurals, Rosick is in charge of making Grand Valley’s intramural sports program run smoothly. Rosick manages dozens of student workers and graduate assistants within the Campus Recreation department.

Rosick is a native of Larksville, Pennsylvania, and earned a bachelor’s degree from Penn State University in parks and recreation management.

The number of participants in intramural sports at Grand Valley continues to increase. Rosick said more than 3,580 students played on an intramural team last year. Soon students will enjoy new recreation fields, which are now under construction by Laker Village

Apartments.

“I’m pleased with the support we get from the university community,” Rosick said. “Intramurals are a big part of student life here.”

The most popular sport is basketball, Rosick said, but soccer is the fastest growing, with 107 teams playing last fall.

When he’s away from work, Rosick said he enjoys traveling with his wife, Carly Hilinski-Rosick, assistant professor of criminal justice at Grand Valley, and cheering on his beloved Philadelphia Phillies.



John Rosick



What's Ahead

Fall study abroad fair set

The Padnos International Center will host a study abroad fair on Tuesday, October 11, from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. in the Kirkhof Center, Grand River Room.

Faculty directors, study abroad alumni and representatives from international study abroad institutions will be on hand to advise and answer questions. For more information, visit www.gvsu.edu/studyabroad or call x13898.

Workshop to focus on aging well

Health and Wellness will host a workshop featuring two physicians who will address common aging questions.

“How to Grow Vitality and Energy with Age” is set for Tuesday, October 11, at noon in the Kirkhof Center, room 2266. It will be repeated at the DeVos Center, room 302E, on October 18.

Drs. Melissa Brown and Michelle Gianturco of MMPC will discuss how to age well and obtain a high quality of life. Register for either session online at www.gvsu.edu/seminar.

Her Story series begins

Natalia Gomez, associate professor of Spanish, is the first speaker in the annual Women's Center Her Story series.

The noon presentation is set for Tuesday, October 11, in the Kirkhof Center, room 2204.

The campus community is invited to submit names of people for future Her Story presentations. Submit names and contact information via email to Jo Ann Wassenaj at wassenaj@gvsu.edu.

Vicims will be remembered at event

The lives of six women and girls killed during the Grand Rapids shooting rampage in July will be among those remembered during the Silent Witness event sponsored by Grand Valley's Women's Center.

Silent Witness is an annual event to remember women and children in Michigan who have died because of domestic or dating violence;

it's held during October, recognizing the month as domestic violence awareness month.

The event is set for Wednesday, October 12, beginning at 12:30 p.m. in the DeVos Center courtyard.

Speakers will include Charisse Mitchell and Lesley Coghill from the Center for Women in Transition. For more information, contact the Women's Center at x12748.

Presentation will highlight disability awareness

Richard Bernstein, familiar to many as the lawyer in TV commercials, will give a presentation on campus to highlight October as Disability Awareness Month.

Bernstein, blind since birth, is an attorney with the Bernstein Law Firm in Farmington Hills. His presentation is set for Wednesday, October 12, 2:30 p.m. in the Cook-DeWitt Center. It is free and open to the public.

Committed to helping clients with disabilities, Bernstein successfully represented the Paralyzed Veterans of America against the University of Michigan in a lawsuit centered around seating at Michigan Stadium. He also won a case that forced the city of Detroit to fix broken wheelchair lifts on its buses.

He has received numerous honors, including named as a “Michiganian of the Year” by the *Detroit News* and “40 Under 40” by *Crain's Detroit Business*. Bernstein also served on the board of governors at Wayne State University for eight years.

For more information about Disability Awareness Month events, visit www.gvsu.edu/dss.

Grad school fair planned

Students can meet with representatives from more than 25 universities at the Graduate School Fair, set for Thursday, October 13, from 10 a.m.-1:30 p.m. in the Henry Hall atrium.

The event is sponsored by the Counseling and Career Development Center and Graduate Studies. Questions can be directed to the Counseling Center at x13266.

Immigration expert to speak on globalization

The co-founder of the Harvard Immigration Project will speak about the impact of globalization on business and education during a Professionals of Color Lecture sponsored by the Seidman College of Business and Office of Multicultural Affairs.

Marcelo Suarez-Orozco will give a presentation on Thursday, October 13, beginning at 6 p.m. in the DeVos Center, Loosemore Auditorium. The event is free and open to the public.

Suarez-Orozco is a professor of globalization and education at New York University. His book, *Latinos: Remaking America*, is a comprehensive study of the fastest-growing ethnic group in America. The Harvard Immigration Project dedicates itself to promoting immigrants' rights by providing outreach, advocacy and legal representation to immigrants.

For more information about the event, call the Office of Multicultural Affairs at x12177.

Speaker to address racism in today's society

The keynote speaker at the Association for Integrative Studies Conference will discuss how racism remains in our discourse, even by people who are appalled by racism.

Victor Villanueva leads the English department at Auburn University. His presentation, “Rhetorics of Racism in a Post-Racist Era,” is set for Thursday, October 13, beginning at 7 p.m. in the Eberhard Center. The event is free and open to the Grand Valley community.

His speech will discuss how racism remains in societal discourse, sometimes consciously, often not. Villanueva is the editor of several popular English textbooks and the author of *Bootstraps: From an American Academic of Color*.

The AIS conference at the Amway Grand Plaza runs October 14-16. It is sponsored by the Liberal Studies department and Brooks College of Interdisciplinary Studies. For more information, visit www.gvsu.edu/aisconference.

Kooser, Hayes paired for Poetry Night

One of the pillars of contemporary American poetry is being paired with a younger writer who has quickly become one of poetry's most compelling voices for Poetry Night during Fall Arts Celebration.

“An Evening of Poetry and Conversation with Ted Kooser and Terrance Hayes” will be presented Friday, October 21, at 7 p.m., Eberhard Center. The unveiling of a special poetry-inspired gift to Grand Valley will also take place.

Kooser, born in 1939, was U.S. Poet Laureate for two terms (2004-2006). An English professor at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, he is the author of 11 collections of poetry, including *Weather Central* and *Delights and Shadows*, which won the 2005 Pulitzer Prize.

Of special interest to local audiences may be the collection of poems Kooser wrote in correspondence with Michigan native Jim Harrison, fellow writer and friend, whose lifetime papers are held in Grand Valley's Special Collections. In *Winter Morning Walks: 100 Postcards to Jim Harrison*, Kooser writes in metaphor about his battle with cancer and the possibility of his dying from it. The book won the 2001 Nebraska Book Award for poetry. *Braided Creek: A Conversation in Poetry* is comprised

of short poems Kooser and Harrison wrote to each other while Kooser was recovering.

Hayes, born in 1971, is the author of four award-winning books of poetry: *Lighthouse*, winner of the 2010 National Book Award in poetry; *Wind in a Box*, winner of a Pushcart Prize; *Hip Logic*, winner of the National Poetry Series; and *Muscular Music*, winner of both the Whiting Writers Award and the Kate Tufts Discovery Award.

In a PBS interview, Hayes spoke of taking his first poetry classes in Pittsburgh and how the area was the focus for many of his poems. His work also confronts racism, sexism, religion, family structure and stereotypes with overwhelming imagery and what has been deemed “brilliant turns of phrase” with “grace, tenderness and disarming humor” by critics.

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



Ted Kooser, left, and Terrance Hayes

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

General Events

Mon., Oct. 10

5 p.m.: CLAS Lecture: "Strategies to Cope with Exercise Heat Stress: Lessons from East Africa," by Chris Easton. CDC. Call x12495 for information.

8 p.m.: Guest Artist Series: Tom Zugger, trombone, Gail Zugger, clarinet. 1325 PAC. Call x13484 for information.

Tues., Oct. 11

10 a.m.: HR Career Services Workshop: "The Elevator Pitch and Verbal Resume." 1142 KC. Call x12215 for more information.

10 a.m.-4 p.m.: Padnos International Center hosts Study Abroad Fair. 2250 KC. Call x13898 for information.

Noon: Women's Center hosts Her Story by Natalia Gomez. 2204 KC. Call x12748 for information.

Noon: Health and Wellness hosts Divorce Recovery Group. 2264 KC. Call x12215 for more information.

Noon: Health and Wellness Workshop: "How to Grow Vitality and Energy with Age." 2266 KC. Register online at www.gvsu.edu/seminar.

1 p.m.: Career Services hosts Fall Career Fair. DeVos Place, Grand Rapids. Visit www.gvsu.edu/careerfairs for information.

5 p.m.: HR Career Services Networking Group. 1104 KC. Call x12215 for more information.

6 p.m.: LGBT Resource Center Lecture: "Becoming Radically Queer," by Wick Thomas. 2204 KC. Call x12530 for more information.

8 p.m.: "Music of South America" with Pablo Mahave-Veglia, Carlos de la Barrera, and Helen Marlais. 1325 PAC. Call x13484 for information.

Wed., Oct. 12

Noon: Allendale Toastmasters. 2259 KC. Visit www.gvsu.edu/toastmasters for more information.

Noon: Arts at Noon Series: The Cooper, Hay, Van Lente Group. CDC. Call x13484 for information.

12:30 p.m.: Women's Center hosts Silent Witness. Courtyard DEV. Call x12748 for information.

2:30 p.m.: Disability Support Services hosts Richard Bernstein. CDC. Call x12490 for information.

3:30 p.m.: Human Resources Excellence Series: "Bias Incident Protocol," by members of Team Against Bias (TAB). 2270 KC. Register online at www.gvsu.edu/seminar.

6 p.m.: Psychology Fall 2011 Film Series. "Stalker." 114 LMH. Call x12195 for more information.

8 p.m.: Concert Band Performance. LAT, PAC. Call x13484 for information.

Thurs., Oct. 13

7:30 a.m.: Downtown Toastmasters. University Club Room, DEV. Visit www.gvsu.edu/toastmasters for information.

10 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Graduate School Fair. Atrium, HRY.

Noon: Women's Center hosts What Mommies Do Best. 1201 KC. Call x12748 for more information.

2 p.m.: Hispanic Heritage Month Event: "Immigration's True Impact on Higher Education in the United States," by Marcelo Suarez-Orozco. 2250 KC. Call x12177 for information.

6 p.m.: Professionals of Color Lecture Series: "What is the Impact of Globalization and Immigration on Businesses Around the World?" by Marcelo Saurez-Orozco. Loosemore Auditorium, DEV. Call x12177 for information.

7 p.m.: Liberal Studies Lecture: "Rhetorics of Racism in the Post-Racial Era," by Victor Villanueva. EC. Call x18020 for more information.

8 p.m.: Guest Artist Series: Andrea Ridilla, oboe, Tatjana Ognanoska, piano. 1325 PAC.

Fri., Oct. 14

7:30 a.m.: Sustainability Champions Awards Breakfast. 2204 KC. RSVP online at www.gvsu.edu/sustainability.

Noon: Writing Center hosts Faculty Fridays. 302E DEV. Call x12774 for information.

2 p.m.: AWRI Seminar: "Invasive Plants in Aquatic Habitats," by Joanna Freeland. Multipurpose Room, LMC. Call x13794 for more information.

8 p.m.: Symphony Orchestra Performance. LAT, PAC.

Sun., Oct. 16

3 p.m.: Symphonic Wind Ensemble Performance. LAT, PAC.

5 p.m.: Campus Sustainability Kick-Off Week Event. 2250 KC. Call x17366 for more information.

Faculty and Staff Sketches

In the News

Patricia Clark, professor of writing and Poet-in-Residence, was interviewed by *Escape Into Life*, a Chicago website, and several of her poems were featured.

Kathleen Bailey, professor of criminal justice, was interviewed by WOOD-TV for a story about the recent killing of cats near Kentwood.

Valerie V. Peterson, associate professor of communications, was interviewed by WXMI-TV for a story about relationships, sexuality and communication.

Sketches

Peimin Ni, professor of philosophy, wrote a chapter on "Confucius" in the *Oxford Handbook*

of World Philosophy. He also gave a presentation at the 10th East-West Philosopher's Conference; a presidential address at the annual conference of the Society of Asian and Comparative Philosophy; and a keynote speech, "The Recent Revival of Confucianism and Post-Secular World Politics," at the ninth General Meeting of World Public Forum, "Dialogue of Civilizations," in Rhodes, Greece.

Jonathan Hodge, associate professor of mathematics, and Geoff Patterson, GVSU alumnus, received the George Polya Award from the Mathematical Association of America for an article, "Gerrymandering and Convexity," published in the *College Mathematics Journal*.

Claudia Leiras-Laubach, assistant professor of physician assistant studies, gave a presentation, "Health Literacy: What is it? And Why is it

Important?" at the Third Party Payor and MSO Expo in Muskegon.

Paul Plotkowski, dean of the College of Engineering and Computing, and **Chris Plouff**, assistant professor of engineering, received the Best Session Award for a presentation, "Effective Use of Co-op Evaluations and Feedback for Program Assessment and New Co-op Student Preparation," at the American Society of Engineering Education Conference in San Antonio, Texas.

Greg Secor, instructor of music, gave presentations and master classes at the Fifth Percussion Festival in Tegucigalpa, Honduras.