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Grand Valley State University COE Highlights

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GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY COE HIGHLIGHTS

Alumni Needed: 50 Projects in 50 States for 50 Years



As part of the celebration of the fiftieth year of Grand Valley, the College of Education Alumni Association is encouraging our alumni from all 50 states to do a service project.

We are encouraging alumni to visit www.gvsu.edu/cow and sign up to do a project. Assistance and ideas can be found on this site. The target week for activity is March 21-26, 2011.

This week of service is aimed at uniting Lakers from around the globe

in providing volunteer support and outreach in their own communities and in ways meaningful to each individual or group. If you have a great idea and need help from other alumni in your area, please contact the alumni office at alumni@gvsu.edu.

College of Education Rated “Exemplary”

By Barbara Fournier, GVSU Staff

For the fourth straight year, the State Board of Education has ranked Grand Valley’s College of Education as an “Exemplary Performance Teacher Preparation Unit” under the Higher Education Act, Title II, Section 208(a). The act requires that the Michigan Department of Education assess teacher preparation institutions on a yearly basis. The COE was evaluated in six areas:

- State test pass rates
- Candidate Surveys of perceived readiness to teach
- Program completion within six years
- Candidate diversity
- Teacher preparation in high-needs subject areas

The COE was particularly pleased as the college has one of the top four in numbers of students and yet still maintains the integrity of its’ high-quality program.

National Awards Abound for *Colleagues*

By Clayton Pelon, GVSU Staff



This past year has been one of success for the magazine as we were recognized four times for outstanding work. *Colleagues* received APEX Awards for Publication Excellence in the categories of Illustration & Typography and Green Design & Illustration. Additionally, the last two issues were recognized with American Graphic Design Awards by *Graphic Design USA* magazine and will be featured among the winners in the upcoming American

Graphic Design Awards issue of *GD USA*.

These awards would not be possible without the fantastic work of designer Lisa R. Tennant, the many amazing student illustrators, and the help of the Community Outreach Office of the College of Education.

Help Grand Valley Future Teachers

By Clayton Pelon, GVSU Staff

The College of Education recently established the Future Teachers Scholarship Fund. This endowment will assist students during their student teaching semester, often the most difficult time financially for COE students.

Currently we are half way to our goal of \$30,000. As an alumni or COE supporter, please consider assisting future educators. To donate please visit www.gvsu.edu/shapingourfuture and make sure to identify the “Future Teachers Scholarship Endowment” as your preference for funding.



THE CAMPAIGN FOR
GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY

Community Outreach and You

As another award-filled summer passed for *Colleagues*, I would like to take a moment to say thank you to all the alumni, faculty, staff, students, and community members who make this magazine possible. Your contributions are invaluable to our continued success!

Colleagues magazine is produced in the College of Education’s (COE) Community Outreach Office. In addition to this magazine our office coordinates the twice-a-year COE Convocation—a recognition event which celebrates the accomplishments of teacher

candidates and graduate students. The Community Outreach Office also:

- Coordinates the alumni association
- Manages *ColleaguesPlus.com*, the web companion/resource to this magazine
- Runs the Adopt-a-District program, which links COE faculty, staff, and students to local schools/districts by providing support and needed resources
- Writes and manages grants like Groundswell, an environmental education/ service learning project of the Great Lakes Stewardship Initiative (GLSI)

- Monitors and maintains the COE Facebook page
- Regularly partners with West Michigan schools in developing and executing projects
- Coordinates the COE’s growing service-learning initiative

If you are interested in partnering or working with Community Outreach or the College of Education, please contact me at 616-331-6813 or by email at peloncc@gvsu.edu.

We continue to look for and support new ideas that serve to benefit our schools, their students, and the COE. 🍌

Clayton Pelon
Editor-In-Chief