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Grand Valley State University

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FORUM

Monday, Nov. 17, 2008

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

Published by News & Information Services

Spectrum leader will address December graduates

The leader of West Michigan's largest health care system will be the keynote speaker at December's commencement ceremony, scheduled for December 6, 10 a.m., at Van Andel Arena in Grand Rapids.

Richard C. Breon, president and CEO of Spectrum Health, has more than three decades of experience in health care administration. He joined Spectrum Health in 2000, after serving as president and CEO for Mission Health System in Evansville, Indiana.

Spectrum Health has 140 service locations and more than 14,000 employees, including 1,500 affiliated medical staff members. The health care system also has a 500,000-member managed care plan, helicopter transport service, long-term and continuing care services, home care and hospice care services.

An active community member, Breon is a

board member for the Alliance for Health and The Right Place.

He is past chair of the Michigan Hospital Association and was appointed to Michigan's Certificate of Need Commission and the State of Michigan Hospital Advisory Commission.

Faculty and staff members who plan to participate in the processional should arrive by 9:30 a.m. for robing.

The Alumni Association will present two awards during the ceremony. Deborah L.



Richard C. Breon

Clanton will receive the Distinguished Alumna Award; Lois Tyson will receive the Outstanding Educator Award.

Clanton serves as magistrate and director of probation services for the 62nd B District Court of Kentwood. She was appointed in 1992 as the first African American magistrate in the Grand Rapids area. She earned a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Grand Valley in 1976 and a master's degree in public administration from Western Michigan University in 1992.

Tyson, professor of English, has been a member of Grand Valley's faculty for more than 26 years. She also serves as faculty-development coordinator for the English department. An expert in critical theory and literary analysis, Tyson's text, *Critical Theory Today: A User-Friendly Guide*, is in its second edition.

Across Campus

Sign up for emergency notification system

As inclement weather approaches, faculty and staff members are reminded to sign up for Grand Valley's emergency notification system.

The system is the official method of relaying information about closings, cancellations, and related announcements. Participants can choose to have the message sent to their cell phone, land line or e-mail account, or all of the above.

To sign up, visit the Web site www.gvsu.edu/emergencycontact and login using Novell usernames and passwords.

Climate study receives NSF grant

The National Science Foundation has awarded more than \$84,000 to a Grand Valley project aimed at measuring how fast oceans can absorb carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.

The research project is under the direction of Figen Mekik, associate professor of geology, who said the project is meant to unlock one of the big mysteries in how human activities affect climate change. "To understand and mitigate climate change, we need to look at the Earth's history," said Mekik. "We need to go back 20,000 years, to the time since the last Ice Age. This was a time of dramatic natural global warming but it was nothing compared to the human-caused global warming we have been experiencing since the Industrial Revolution."

Mekik said oceans are becoming more acidic as they absorb more and more carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. She and a group of undergraduates plans to measure how quickly oceans can absorb extra CO₂ by studying the shells of foraminifers, or single-celled organisms with shells.

"We have already collected deep sea sediment samples bearing forams from oceans around the world," she explained. "We will spend the next three years studying to what extent they



File photo

Figen Mekik is pictured in a classroom. The geology professor received a NSF grant for a climate study.

have been preserved/dissolved in deep sea sediments since the last Ice Age, as a way to investigate how quickly and under what conditions the oceans sequester or release CO₂ into the atmosphere."

Mekik said the research is important because human-caused global warming is imminent

continues on page 2

Across Campus

continued from page 1

due to the rapid rise in atmospheric CO². It is estimated that the oceans will sequester only 75 percent of our current CO² emissions in the next millennium or two, and 25 percent will remain in the atmosphere for about 500,000 years. "This important research will lead to better understanding of the response time and manner of the oceans in regulating atmospheric CO² concentration," she said.

The National Science Foundation said it funded the project because of the importance of the scientific problem, but also because of Mekik's record of outreach work as well as research with undergraduates and publishing with student co-authors in peer-reviewed journals.

Schutten named CLAS associate dean

Mary Schutten has been appointed associate dean for students and curriculum in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.



Mary Schutten

Schutten had served as chair of the CLAS Curriculum Committee and as a professor of movement science. In addition to her five years at Grand Valley, Schutten brings her experience at Western Michigan University and at Calvin College, where she was a department chair for six years and head coach for two sports. She was awarded the CLAS Annual Faculty Service Award earlier this year.

"In a search process that involved faculty, staff and students, the quality and relevance of Mary's experience was noted repeatedly," said CLAS Dean Fred Antczak.

In addition to duties within the college, the associate dean acts as the CLAS liaison to the University Assessment Committee, Registrar, Admissions, Orientation and Transitions, Honors Program and Faculty

Teaching and Learning Center, and provides oversight of the CLAS Academic Advising Center. Schutten will take up her post when her sabbatical ends in May.

Grand Valley wins Campus Commuter Challenge

Grand Valley students, faculty and staff have proven to be the greenest commuters in the state by winning the Campus Commuter Challenge. The competition, sponsored by Greenride through The Rapid, measured who took the most alternative commutes during the week of September 22.



File photo

Students depart from the bus in front of Mackinac Hall. Grand Valley won a fall commuter challenge among universities.

Grand Valley competed against Michigan State University, Cooley Law School-Lansing, Henry Ford Community College, Lansing Community College, Oakland University, University of Michigan-Dearborn and Wayne State University.

Grand Valley finished first in the competition, beating out second-place Michigan State by more than 25 percent. "We are so proud of the campus community," said Erin Babson, operations manager for Pew Campus and Regional Centers. "This is another way Grand Valley has proven to be sustainability oriented."

This was Grand Valley's first year competing in the Campus Commuter Challenge.

Across Campus continues on page 3

FORUM Volume 33, Number 13

The GVSU Forum is published by the News and Information Services Office. The submission deadline is Tuesday noon. Send publication items to Michele Coffill, editor, c/o forum@gvsu.edu. Telephone: 616-331-2221. Fax: 616-331-2250.

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

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.

Faculty and Staff Sketches

Correction

Ed Wong-Ligda, professor of art and design, has an exhibition showing at the Collins Gallery at Grand Rapids Community College through December 5.

In the News

Roger Moiles, instructor of political science, was interviewed by WOOD-AM and Michigan Public Radio about the presidential election results.

Erika King, professor of political science, was interviewed by WOOD-TV Channel 8 about the presidential election results.

Steven Hecht, associate professor of biomedical sciences, was interviewed by the *Holland Sentinel* for a story about noroviruses.

Edward Baum, director of the Center for Excellence in Science and Mathematics Education, was interviewed by the e-newsletter *Steelcase 360* for a story about learning environments.

Sketches

Tonya Parker, assistant professor of movement science, wrote an article, "Balance Control During Gait in Athletes and Non-Athletes Following Concussion," published in *Medical Engineering and Physics*.

Jennifer Wolter, visiting assistant professor of Modern Languages and Literatures, gave a presentation, "J.K. Huysmans: From Second Empire Naturalism to the Exoticism of Decadence," at the International 19th Century French Studies Colloquium at Vanderbilt University.

Jeanine Biese, assistant professor of occupational therapy, gave a presentation, "An Update on Splinting the Arthritic Hand," at the Michigan Occupational Therapy Association fall conference at Mackinac Island.

News and Information Services received MarCom awards for video productions for the April Commencement video (overall production and writing), Scholarship Dinner video, Padnos International Center student video (overall production and writing), and Pioneer Class reunion.

John Koches, associate research scientist at the AWRI, was recognized as a Sustainability Champion at the GVSU Sustainability Champions Breakfast.

Diana Pace, associate dean of students, **Laurie Witucki**, associate professor of chemistry, and **Kathleen Blumreich**, professor of English, wrote an article, "Benefiting Female Students in Science, Math, and Engineering: The Nuts and Bolts of Establishing a WISE (Women in Science and Engineering) Learning Community," published in the *NASPA Journal*.

continues on page 4

What's Ahead

COT workshop will introduce manual

Workshops are scheduled to introduce clerical, office and technical staff members to the Grand Valley Manual, the online location for all university policies.

Tiesha Hogue, paralegal in the University Counsel office, will discuss the differences between university policies and departmental procedures. She will also discuss the policy approval process and how to link policies on individual department Web sites to the manual's site.

Workshops are set for Tuesday, November 18, from 9:30-10:30 a.m. in the Cook-DeVos Center for Health Sciences, room 123; Tuesday, November 18, 1:30-2:30 p.m. in the DeVos Center, room 207E; and Friday, November 21, 10-11 a.m., in the Kirkhof Center, room 2270. Register online at www.gvsu.edu/seminar and click on "General Workshops."

Art and Design hosts speaker at UICA

The Department of Art and Design, in partnership with the Urban Institute for Contemporary Arts, will present a free, public lecture by internationally acclaimed artist Jane Hammond.

The lecture begins at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, November 19, at the UICA, located at 41 Sheldon Blvd. SE in Grand Rapids.

Hammond has had 12 solo exhibitions in New York, 10 solo exhibitions in other American and European cities, and 20 solo museum exhibitions throughout the United States. Her work has been reviewed in many publications from the *New York Times* to *Modern Painters*. Hammond's work is now held in more than 50 public collections.

For more information about the artist, visit www.janehammondartist.com.

PIC will hold passport fair

The Padnos International Center will hold a passport fair on Thursday, November 20, from 1-5 p.m. in Lake Ontario Hall, room 130.

Students, faculty and staff members, with Grand Valley ID cards, can apply for a passport; passport photos can be taken for \$2. Participants are asked to bring proof of U.S. citizenship such as a previous passport, birth certificate or naturalization certificate; proof of identity like a driver's license or Michigan state ID; and checkbook. Two separate checks will be needed, totaling \$100.

Passports are valid for 10 years; allow 10 weeks for processing.

Professionals of Color Lecture Series brings noted economist

A rising star among global economists will visit campus this week to discuss emerging markets and the future of business in third world countries.

Euvin Naidoo is the president and CEO of South African Chamber of Commerce in America, a non-profit organization dedicated to facilitating trade and business between South Africa and America. Last year, SACCA was honored at the Clinton Global Initiative; in 2007, Naidoo talked about investment in Africa at the Technology, Entertainment, Design (TED) Global conference.



Euvin Naidoo

Naidoo will speak at the Professionals of Color Lecture Series on Thursday, November 20, beginning at 6 p.m. in the Eberhard Center. "Emerging Markets: The Future of Business and Investing" is sponsored by the Office of Multicultural Affairs and Seidman College of Business. The event is free and open to the public.

Naidoo earned a master's of business administration degree from Harvard University and had worked as a consultant for McKinsey and Company, a global management firm that advises leading businesses, governments and organizations.

For more information about Naidoo's presentation, call the Office of Multicultural Affairs at x12177.

Across Campus

Volunteers help at area organizations

Students, faculty and staff members volunteered their time to help area organizations during the United Way Day of Caring in mid-September.

Organized by Grand Valley's Women's Center, volunteers were sent to Grand Rapids Public Schools, Children's Assessment Center, LOVE Inc. and Grand Valley's Children's Enrichment Center.

Volunteers were Leslie Bateman, Glenna Decker, Rachael DeWitt, Patty Iwankovitsch, Darrhonda Scott-Jones, Ashley Nickels,



Photo courtesy of Ashley Nickels

From left, United Way staff member Deanna Demory and Grand Valley volunteers Rachael DeWitt and Ashley Nickels help at the Children's Assessment Center.

Rebecca Wilson, Bobbie Cole, Kay Klosowski, Jennifer Schick, Sue Peterson, and students Charlotte Barnes, Joelle Jaros and Elana Ybarra.

WGVU names news director

The new news director at WGVU will be a familiar face to television news viewers.

Patrick Center, reporter for WOOD-TV Channel 8, will begin his new role on November 24, overseeing all local news content for WGVU-TV and WGVU-AM.

Center joined WOOD-TV in 2000 and was a member of the Target 8 Investigative Reporting Team, covering consumer and business stories. He had worked as a reporter in Cleveland and Youngstown, Ohio.

Michael Walenta, WGVU general manager, said: "Patrick is an award-winning journalist with a great background. He'll be a great manager for everything we need; having both TV and radio broadcasts, it will be great to have someone who can fit both sides of our work."

PIC offers grants for faculty development

The Padnos International Center is offering grants for faculty members to participate in seminars sponsored by the Council on International Education Exchange.

Grand Valley is a member institution of CIEE, which offers many faculty development seminars each summer. Seminars are short-term, intensive, educational experiences designed to challenge preconceptions and open minds to a wide variety of issues shaping the world. The 2009 seminars will be held in Africa, Asia, Latin America, Australia, Europe and the Middle East.

The deadline to apply for a CIEE grant is December 15. Applications are online at www.gvsu.edu/pic, click on "Faculty and Staff." Participation is limited to tenured, tenure-track, and full-time affiliate faculty. For a list of seminars, visit the CIEE Web site at www.ciee.org.

For more information, contact Mark Schaub, director of the PIC, at schaubm@gvsu.edu or x13898.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

General Events

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

Through Dec. 6

Gallery Hours: "Shoots and Ladders:"
Photography Senior Thesis. Art Gallery, PAC.

Tues., Nov. 18

3:30 p.m.: Computing and Information Systems
hosts Retirement Party for Marty Levin. B-4-
243 MAK. Call x13482 for more information.

6 p.m.: Student Senate hosts Last Lecture Series.
2204 KC. Call x12333 for more information.

8 p.m.: Artist-Faculty Series. Jonathan Nichol,
saxophone. Sherman Van Solkema Recital
Hall, PAC. Call x13484 for more information.

Wed., Nov. 19

Noon: Allendale Toastmasters. 2259 KC. Call
x18655 for more information.

1:30 p.m.: Human Resources Excellence Series.
Conflict Resolution: Tips and Tricks. 2266
KC. Call x12215 for more information.

3:30 p.m.: Provost Davis hosts Academic Affairs
Town Hall Meeting. EC. Call x12400 for
more information.

Thurs., Nov. 20

Noon: Health and Wellness hosts film series
"UnNatural Causes." 1142 KC. Call x12215
for more information.

Noon: Work Life Connections Parent Support

Group. What Daddies Do Best. 167 LOH.
Call x18011 for more information.

Noon: Grand Rapids Toastmasters. University
Club Room, DEV. Call x17337 for more
information.

1 p.m.: PIC hosts Passport Fair. 130 LOH. Call
x13898 for more information.

3 p.m.: AWRI Seminar: "Adaptive Management
and Food Web Dynamics of the Colorado
River, Grand Canyon," by Emma Rosi-
Marshall. LMC, Muskegon. Call x13749 for
more information.

5 p.m.: Opening Reception for "Shoots and
Ladders" Photography Senior Thesis. 1121
PAC. Call x12563 for more information.

6 p.m.: Professionals of Color Lecture.
"Emerging Markets: The Future of Business
and Investing," by Euvyn Naidoo. EC. Call
x12177 for more information.

7:30 p.m.: Theater Production. Vinegar Tom.
PAC. Call x12300 for tickets.

Fri., Nov. 21

Noon: Women's Commission host Fireside Chat.
2201 KC. Call x15437 for more information.

3:30 p.m.: Philosophy Colloquium Series.
"Philosophy of Mathematics," by Jamie
Tappenden. 110 MAK. Call x12114 for more
information.

7:30 p.m.: Theater Production. Vinegar Tom.
PAC. Call x12300 for tickets.

8 p.m.: Early Music Ensemble, directed by
Pablo Mahave-Veglia. Sherman Van Solkema
Recital Hall, PAC. Call x13484 for more
information.

Sat., Nov. 22

1:30 p.m.: Viola Day. Sherman Van Solkema
Recital Hall, PAC. Call x13484 for more
information.

7:30 p.m.: Theater Production. Vinegar Tom.
PAC. Call x12300 for tickets.

Sun., Nov. 23

8 p.m.: "Bandorama," featuring Laker Marching
Band. LAT, PAC. Call x13484 for more infor-
mation.

Mon., Nov. 24

Noon: Work Life Connections Alzheimer's
Caregiver Support Group. 2242 KC. Call
x18011 for more information.

4 p.m.: Provost Davis hosts Academic Affairs
Town Hall Meeting. 2204 KC. Call x12400
for more information.

Sports

Tues., Nov. 18

6 p.m.: Women's Basketball hosts Lake Erie
College.

8 p.m.: Men's Basketball hosts Lake Erie
College.

Mon., Nov. 24

7 p.m.: Men's Basketball hosts Saint Joseph's
College.

Faculty and Staff Sketches

continued from page 2

Timothy J. Chester, consultant for Grand Valley, was inducted into the Museum Group, a Washington, D.C.-based non-profit consortium of senior museum professionals. He was also presented with the Association of Midwest Museums' Distinguished Service Award.

George Klay Kieh, professor of political science and African and African American Studies, and **Richard Yidana**, assistant professor of sociology and African and African American Studies, were elected to two-year terms as president and vice president, respectively, of the African Studies and Research Forum. **Klay Kieh** gave presentations, "Rethinking the State in Africa: Liberia," and "The New Globalization and Socio-Economic Democratization in Africa," at the Conference of the Association of Third World Studies in Millersville, Pennsylvania.

Yidana gave a presentation, "Rescuing History from the Nation: Africa, the Nation, Its Tragedies, Its Histories and Struggles," at the same conference.

Nursing faculty members **Gayla Jewell** and **Sylvia Mupepi**, and **Julia Mason**, assistant professor of women and gender studies, gave a presentation, "Factors that Influence Cervical Cancer Screening Behavior among Women in West Michigan," at the Nurse Practitioners in Women's Health Annual Conference in Seattle, Washington.

Paul Reitemeier, chair of the Human Research Review Committee and associate professor in psychology, reviewed an article, "Complications: A Surgeon's Notes on an Imperfect Science," published in *Medical Ethics*. He also participated in a panel on end of life issues at a conference,

"Cultural Approaches to Death and Dying," sponsored by the Kirkhof College of Nursing.

Mary Schutten, professor of movement science, and students gave a presentation, "Creating a Peer Education Program in Your Health Class," at the Michigan Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance Conference.

Elaine Sterrett Isely, research associate at the AWRI, moderated a session, "Preserving Submerged Cultural Resources," at the International Submerged Lands Management Conference in Traverse City.

Douglas Kindschi, professor of mathematics and philosophy, gave a presentation, "Science, Mathematics and Religion: Views of Reality," as distinguished lecturer at the University of Central Missouri in Warrensburg.