

12-7-2015

Grand Valley Forum, volume 040, number 15, December 07, 2015

Grand Valley State University

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Grand Valley State University, "Grand Valley Forum, volume 040, number 15, December 07, 2015" (2015).
2015-2016, Volume 40. 15.

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FORUM

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

Published by University Communications



Lieutenant governor to address graduates

Students participating in the commencement ceremony on Saturday, December 12, will hear from Grand Valley alumnus Brian Calley, lieutenant governor of Michigan.

The commencement ceremony will take place at 10 a.m. at Van Andel Arena; it will be available live at www.gvsu.edu/commencement.

Calley, elected in 2010, is the youngest lieutenant governor in the country. He graduated from Grand Valley in 2000 with a master's degree in business administration; he also attended Harvard and Michigan State universities. He served two terms in the state House of Representatives and two terms as an Ionia County commissioner.

Calley is an advocate for mental health in Michigan. He led the charge to increase access to autism services and promote inclusion in schools and communities for people

with development differences. He has been recognized by the U.S. Junior Chamber as one of Ten Outstanding Young Americans, among other honors.

During the ceremony, the Alumni Association will present the Young Alumni Award to Jessica Cruz, '06, executive director and co-founder of the Center for Latin@ Studies at Ferris State University. She is a first-generation college student and established the Promesa Education Pipeline to increase college readiness for underrepresented students. Cruz was recently named chief diversity and inclusion



Brian Calley

officer for Northern Michigan University and will begin that role in early winter.

Two individuals will receive an honorary degree during the ceremony: Andrzej Chochót and Nancy Lubbers.

Chochót is the rector of Cracow University of Economics in Poland, which is Grand Valley's oldest international partner. This year marks the 40th anniversary of the partnership.

Lubbers served as the first lady of Grand Valley during the 32-year tenure of President Emeritus Arend D. Lubbers. She devoted herself to many university campaigns and projects and remains active on the Grand Valley Foundation board of directors, Grand Forum Advisory Board and the campaign committee for Blandford Nature Center.

Across Campus

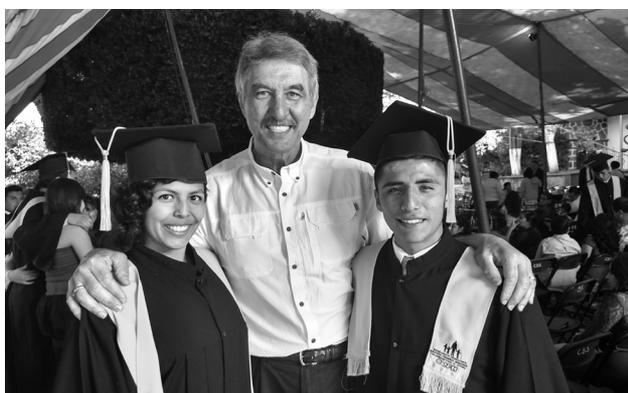
Shinsky receives Big Ten Humanitarian Award

John Shinsky, interim dean of the College of Education, was named the 2015 recipient of the Big Ten Dungy-Thompson Humanitarian Award.

The award recognizes Big Ten players who have achieved success in the area of humanitarianism after college. Shinsky was an All-American football player for Michigan State University. He was a three-year letter winner from 1970-73, earning Academic All-America recognition and second-team All-Big Ten honors in 1973.

As a former orphan, Shinsky has committed his life to serving the needs of abandoned children. He and his wife, Cindy, are co-founders of Ciudad de los Niños, "The City of the Children," orphanage in Matamoros, Mexico.

"I am humbled to receive this award and consider it a tribute to all of the



John Shinsky is pictured with two children who live in an orphanage Shinsky and his wife, Cindy, established in Mexico. For his humanitarianism, Shinsky earned an award from the Big Ten Conference.

exceptional people who have supported me and Cindy for the past 10 years with building and operating the orphanage," Shinsky said.

"I also want to recognize Nuestros Pequeños Hermanos, our partner organization, and our 100 + beautiful children who have entrusted us with their lives with the hope that they will receive what they need to become caring and contributing adults who will reverse the pattern of abuse, neglect and abandonment that they have been so accustomed to experiencing."

The Dungy-Thompson Humanitarian Award is named for Minnesota's Tony Dungy and Indiana's Anthony Thompson. For more information about the orphanage, visit www.shinskyorphanage.org.

Topic set for next DeVos Medical Ethics Colloquy

The next DeVos Medical Ethics Colloquy will focus on the ethical implications of legalizing marijuana for medical and non-medical use.

The colloquy, "Is America Going to Pot?" will take place Monday, March 14, at L. William Seidman Center.

A live webcast will be available for faculty members who may want to include the event in their course planning for the winter semester. The webcast link will be available at www.gvsu.edu/colloquy closer to the date of the event.

The colloquy will include presentations by Kevin Hill, director of substance abuse consultation services for the Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse at McLean Hospital in Massachusetts, who will speak in favor of the legalization of marijuana; and Yasmin Hurd, Ward-Coleman chair

Across Campus

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of translational neuroscience and director of the Center for Addictive Disorders at Mount Sinai Behavioral Health System in New York, who will address the negative aspects of its legalization.

Jean Nagelkerk, vice provost for Health, said the topic was selected because of active discussions taking place in state legislatures across the country and the media attention it has received.

The event is free and open to the public. RSVP is required at www.gvsu.edu/colloquy.

The colloquy series takes place twice a year, once in the fall and winter. It was established in 2005 by Richard and Helen DeVos in response to a need for a forum where topics of medical and ethical significance could be discussed. Grand Valley became the host of this biannual medical ethics speaker series in June 2015, thanks to a gift from the Richard and Helen DeVos Foundation.

For more information, contact Diane Dykstra in the Office of the Vice Provost for Health at dykstrdi@gvsu.edu or x15876.

Climate survey response rate well above national average

More than 40 percent of the campus community participated in the myGVSU Climate Survey 2015.

The survey closed November 23. Total student response rate was 40 percent; total faculty and staff member response rate was 59 percent, for an overall response rate of 42 percent, which is above the national average of 29 percent. More information about the completion rate is online at www.gvsu.edu/mygvsu.

Incentives were offered to those who completed the survey. Below are the names of the students who received \$2,000 tuition grants, and faculty and staff members, who each received a \$1,000 research or professional development grant.

Students: Mirna Herra, Mario Sanchez, Jennifer Abbott, Nikki McDermott, Taylor Vadeboncoeur, Ghada Mohsen and Daniel Cowden.

Faculty: Renee Zettle-Sterling, associate professor of art and design; Meridell Gracias, affiliate faculty of nursing; and Chasity Bailey-Fakhoury, assistant professor of education.

Staff: Suzanne Rogers, office coordinator, College of Education; Lauren

McElrath, assistant director of Financial Aid; and Keesha Hardiman, office coordinator, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Results from the survey will be announced in the winter semester.

Last printed Forum for semester

This marks the last printed issue of *Forum* for the fall semester.

Forum will resume its publication schedule on January 11.

Keep updated on campus news by visiting Grand Valley's news website, GVNow, at www.gvsu.edu/gvnow.

Advising conference



Claire Rose, academic advisor for Seidman College of Business, gives a presentation on global learning and study abroad advising during the Fall Advising Conference, held at the Meijer Campus November 13. Materials and resources from the conference are available online at www.gvsu.edu/s/023. A session by Danielle Leek, "Using Email for Appreciative Advising," was voted by attendees as 'having best practice.'

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The GVSU Forum is published by University Communications. 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. Web: www.gvsu.edu/forum.

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 University Communications 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, GVNow, at www.gvsu.edu/gvnow, for daily news updates and video features.

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



GVFaces

Ayana Weekley, assistant professor, WGS

When Ayana Weekley began her undergraduate studies at Truman State University, she wanted to study psychology. However, after taking an elective class in women and gender studies, her path changed dramatically.

"I absolutely fell in love with the content," she said. "I fell in love with the way WGS classes are taught, the emphasis on students and student ideas. From that moment on I knew what I wanted to do."

Weekley said she teaches her own classes the same way that first class was taught.

"If your traditional experience in the classroom has been very lecture-based, this is a very different classroom space," she said. "In many of my class periods, students are leading the discussion. They're facilitating the entire class."

Weekley's dedication to gender and sexuality issues extends beyond the classroom. She is a faculty fellow at the Women's Leadership House (soon to be renamed the Gender Justice House), where she mentors students and tracks their academic progress.

She also served on the board of the Red Project, a Grand Rapids-based nonprofit working to prevent HIV/AIDS, for two years.

Weekley's education and career have sent her traveling around the country. A native of the Chicago suburb of Homewood, she moved to Missouri to study at Truman State. She then earned her doctorate in feminist studies from University of Minnesota.

After finishing her doctorate, Weekley sought a job at a university with a dedicated women and gender studies department and said Grand Valley was one of a small handful of universities that met her requirement.

"This is a very exciting place to be. Women and gender studies programs aren't always well-supported on college campuses, but that's not the case here," she said.



Ayana Weekley

What's Ahead

Exam Cram offers stress-reducing activities

Several campus departments are teaming together to provide a week of fun and stress-reducing events and activities for students as they study for final exams.

Through December 17, students can participate in exercise classes, get a chair massage and visit with therapy dogs. The week of final exams is December 14-18.

The Mary Idema Pew Library will host the "ExamGram" contest on Instagram. Students who tag @gvsulib in photos of their study spots will be entered to win an Argo Tea gift card.

Steelcase Library and Pew Library will have extended open hours December 7-17, visit www.gvsu.edu/library to view hours.

For a schedule of all activities, visit www.gvsu.edu/library/exam-cram.

Exhibit of Latino portraits to open in Holland

A collection of oral histories and portraits of Holland's Latino residents by the Kutsche Office of Local History will open at the Herrick District Library on Monday, December 7.

The exhibition, "Nuestra Comunidad Hispana," is a collaboration led by the Brooks College of Interdisciplinary Studies department with many partners, including the City of Holland, Herrick District Library, Latin Americans United for Progress, Meijer Campus, and St. Francis de Sales Catholic Church.

An opening reception is set for 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the library, 300 S. River Ave. Jesse Bernal, vice president for Inclusion and Equity, and Nancy DeBoer, mayor of Holland, are scheduled to give remarks. The event is open to the public and free of charge.

The exhibition will remain on display through December. For more information, visit www.gvsu.edu/kutsche.



Susan Mendoza, director of undergraduate research and scholarship, holds a portrait of her family. It is among the portraits that will be exhibited at the Herrick District Library in Holland.

Cook Carillon Tower will open for tours

Standing at 100 feet to the top of its spire, the Cook Carillon Tower is a focal point on the Allendale Campus that chimes every quarter hour.

On Tuesday, December 8, from 1:30-3 p.m., the Grand Valley community is invited to tour the structure that was built and installed in 1994. The tours will be facilitated by Julianne Vanden Wyngaard, university carillonneur.

The tower is named for longtime Grand Valley supporters Peter and Pat Cook, who died in 2010 and 2008, respectively. It contains 48 bronze bells created in the Netherlands. The size and weight of each bell determines the individual tones. The bells range from 7.5 inches to more than 51 inches, and weigh from 14 to nearly 3,000 pounds. Arranged in a chromatic series, a carillonneur plays the bells after climbing 61 steps to the playing cabin, just below the bells and clock mechanism. Cables connect the bells to a keyboard and pedal board that permit loud or soft tones through a variation of either hard or soft strikes by fists and feet.

Vanden Wyngaard will also hold a holiday concert via the Beckering Family Carillon located on the Pew Grand Rapids Campus on Christmas Eve, December 24, from 9:30-10:15 p.m. This concert is free and open to the public.

Two longtime staff members will retire

Retirement parties are planned this week for two longtime staff members.

Jon Jellema, associate vice president for Academic Affairs, and Pat Haynes, assistant dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, will both retire at the end of December.

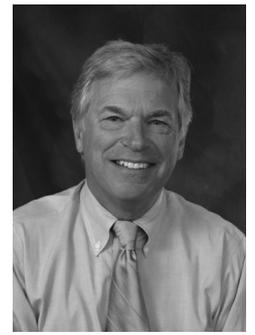
Jellema will be honored on Wednesday, December 9, from 4-6 p.m. in the Kirkhof Center, Thornapple River Room. Remarks will be given at 5 p.m.

Jellema began working for Grand Valley in 1972 as an assistant professor of English. He served Grand Valley in many capacities including

department chair of English, assistant dean of William James College and dean of Arts and Humanities. In 2003, Jellema began working in the Provost Office as assistant vice president for Academic Affairs. He also served for eight years as a Michigan legislator, representing the 89th District that includes the cities of Grand Haven, Ferrysburg and Coopersville.



Pat Haynes



Jon Jellema

A celebration for Haynes will take place December 15 from 1-3 p.m. in Padnos Hall of Science, room 308, with remarks at 1:30 p.m.

In May 2004, Haynes was promoted to her current position of assistant dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. The majority of her 36 years at the university has been spent monitoring CLAS's budgets and working with departments concerning accounting issues; Haynes also works with grant proposals and budgets. She joined Grand Valley in 1979 and had served as administrative assistant in the Division of Science and Mathematics.

Students will compete for chance at \$1 million prize

Ten teams of Grand Valley students and alumni will compete for a chance to win \$1 million during the seventh annual Hult Prize Challenge.

The competition will take place Thursday, December 10, from 5-9 p.m. in the Kirkhof Center, rooms 2215/2216.

The Hult Prize Challenge is the largest international social innovation competition in the world for young entrepreneurs. Participants form small start-up companies to compete for \$1 million in funding while working to solve the planet's toughest challenges. This year's competition theme is "crowded urban spaces."

"This opportunity for Grand Valley students to participate in an international design-thinking based competition is too good to pass up, especially for a chance at \$1 million and the opportunity to potentially make an impact on a global scale," said John Berry, Design Thinking Initiative director. "I'm hoping that many students from all of Grand Valley's internal colleges will consider creating teams and showcasing the interdisciplinary problem-solving talent this university has to offer."

The winners of the Hult Prize Challenge at Grand Valley will advance to the regional finals, which will take place during individual competitions around the world in Boston, San Francisco, London, Dubai and Shanghai, March 11-12.

For more information, visit www.gvsu.edu/cei or contact Michael Kurley at kurleymi@gvsu.edu.

COE Convocation held at area high school

The College of Education will hold its December Convocation at Ottawa Hills High School in Grand Rapids. This is the first time the ceremony will be held at a public school.

The college has begun a partnership with Ottawa Hills High School and Convocation represents the beginning of collaborative work between the two partners. The event will take place Thursday, December 10, from 7-9 p.m. in the Ottawa Hills High School Auditorium.

"We are proud to partner with Ottawa Hills High School to host Convocation," said John Shinsky, interim dean of the College of Education. "This ceremony reflects the collaborative work between K-12 and higher education as we celebrate the success of these exceptional graduates."

About 125 graduates are expected to participate. The ceremony will also include the hooding ceremony for COE students completing their master's degree requirements. Convocation is a precursor to Grand Valley's commencement ceremonies December 12 at Van Andel Arena in Grand Rapids.

During Convocation, James Rummer, director of Career and Technical Education within the Charlevoix Emmet County Intermediate School District, will receive the Alumni Association's Outstanding Alumni Leader Award.

Two students will serve as keynote speakers: Katrina Swymeler, who is completing a bachelor's degree in biology with Secondary Teacher Certification, and Forrest Clift, who is completing the Educational Specialist degree in educational leadership.

FACULTY AND STAFF SKETCHES

In the News

Mary deYoung, professor of sociology, was interviewed by KPFA Radio in Berkeley, California, for a story about the history of madness.

Jonathan White, professor of interdisciplinary studies and executive director of the Homeland Defense Initiative, was interviewed by WXMI-TV for a story about the Syrian refugees and by *Wiener Zeitung* newspaper in Austria for a story about the Paris terrorist attacks.

Sridhar Sundaram, professor and associate dean in the Seidman College of Business, was interviewed by WXMI-TV for a story about the Pfizer tax inversion deal.

Gamal Gasim, associate professor of Middle East Studies and political science, wrote an article, "The Battle for Taiz," published in *Al Jazeera*.

Sketches

The **Muskegon Regional Center** celebrated 20 years of partnership with the consortium that began in 1995. Four partners are housed at the Stevenson Center: Grand Valley, Muskegon Community College, Ferris State University and Western Michigan University.

Nursing faculty members **Deborah Bambini**, **Kristi Cooper**, **Sally Stockdale**, **Luanne Shaw** and **Barb Hooper** gave a presentation, "Developing a Faculty Simulation Team from the Ground Up: Successes and Continuing Challenges," at the 2015 National League for Nursing/Elsevier Technology Conference in Tampa, Florida. **Hooper** and **Shaw** gave another presentation, "Using an Unfolding Simulation Scenario to Teach Basic ECG Rhythm Interpretation."

Sandra Spoelstra, assistant professor of nursing, was co-author of articles, "Feasibility

of a Text Messaging Intervention to Promote Self-Management for Patients Prescribed Oral Anticancer Agents," published in *Oncology Nursing Forum*; "A Trial Examining an Advanced Practice Nurse Intervention to Promote Medication Adherence and Symptom Management," published in *Journal of Advanced Nursing*; and "mHealth SMS Text Messaging Interventions and to Promote Medication Adherence: an Integrative Review," published in *Journal of Clinical Nursing*.

Brandon Youker, assistant professor of social work, gave a presentation, "Exemplary Evaluative Criteria: A Broader Perspective on What Makes a Program Good," at the American Evaluation Association annual conference in Chicago, Illinois.

Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies faculty **Danielle DeMuth** and **Ayana Weekley**, and **Mary O'Kelly**, head of instructional services for University Libraries, gave a presentation, "Integrating and Assessing Information Literacy across the WGS Curriculum: a Faculty/Librarian Collaboration," at the National Women's Studies Association Conference in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Jennifer May, client services manager for Conference and Event Planning, earned Certified Meeting Professional designation, which is based on professional experience, education and an exam.

Eric Harvey, assistant professor of communications, gave an invited presentation, "Who Got the Camera: Gangsta Rap, True Crime TV, and the Rise of 'Reality,' 1988-1992," at Miami University. He also wrote an article, "Bliss Points: On John Seabrook's The Song Machine," published in the *LA Review of Books*.

Jim Penn, associate professor of geography and sustainable planning, gave a presentation, "Social Problems and Conservation Objectives in the Amazon Rainforest," at Ramapo College of New Jersey.

Elena Lioubimtseva, professor of geography and sustainable planning, served on a review board of the United Nations Environmental Problem Global Environmental Outlook Regional Assessment for the Pan-European region.

Jean Nagelkerk, vice provost for Health, received a \$35,000 grant from the Michigan Department of Community Health for a project, "Improving Outcomes in Adults with Diabetes through an Interprofessional Collaborative Practice and Education Program."

Social work faculty members **Ouen Hunter**, **Mallory McFarren**, **Ken Yoder**, **Brandon Youker** and **Steven Smith** gave a presentation, "The Impact of Simulation on Social Work Students' Interviewing Performance," at the Lilly Conference on Evidence-Based Teaching and Learning in Traverse City.

Erica Hamilton, assistant professor of education, gave a presentation, "Focused Writing Time: Using Skype to Sustain a Writing Life," at the National Council of Teachers of English Annual Convention in Minneapolis, Minnesota. She was a co-author of an article, "The Teacher Leadership Process: Attempting Change Within Embedded Systems," published in *Journal of Educational Change*.

Sok Kean Khoo, distinguished associate professor of molecular genomics, was a co-author articles, "Disruption of Tubular Flcn Expression as a Mouse Model for Renal Tumor Induction," published in *Kidney International*; and "Gene Expression Profiling of Archived Dried Blood Spot Samples from the Danish Neonatal Screening Biobank," published in *Molecular Genetics and Metabolism*; and wrote an article, "Biofluid-based Biomarkers for Parkinson's Disease: A New Paradigm," published in *AIMS Medical Science*.

What's Ahead

Science on Tap to feature Benjamin

Craig Benjamin, associate professor of history, honors, will give a presentation on Big History at a Science on Tap event.

"Intro to Big History" is set for Thursday, December 10, beginning at 8 p.m. at the SpeakeEZ Lounge, 600 Monroe Ave. NW in Grand Rapids.

Big History is a rapidly growing field of enquiry that weaves evidence and perspectives from many scientific and historical disciplines into a single story.

Science on Tap is a series of casual discussions about science, hosted by Biomedical Sciences. For more information about the events, contact Cara Ocobock at ocobockc@gvsu.edu, or find the series on Facebook. Students under 21 are welcome.

Faculty Convocation set for February

The annual Faculty Convocation will be held February 4 at the DeVos Center, Loosemore Auditorium.

University awards will be presented as well as milestone awards for faculty members with 25 years of service or more.

A reception will follow the ceremony. For more information, contact the Provost Office at x12400.