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## Grand Valley Forum, volume 035, number 16, January 10, 2011

Grand Valley State University

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# FORUM

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

Published by News & Information Services



## National speakers to highlight MLK commemoration

Grand Valley's commemoration of Martin Luther King Jr. Day will extend beyond the traditional holiday to include more than a week of activities and programs.

With the theme "Shake the World," events will be held January 15-24 and include keynote addresses by civil rights leader Judy Richardson and national radio personality Michael Eric Dyson, along with a silent march, Day of Service volunteer opportunities and lectures.

Highlights are below; all events are free and open to the public. For detailed information visit [www.gvsu.edu/mlk](http://www.gvsu.edu/mlk).

- January 15: Day of Service, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., coordinated by Grand Valley's Community Service Learning Center. Volunteers will go to Comprenew Environmental to help recycle electronics. Register at [www.gvsu.edu/mlk](http://www.gvsu.edu/mlk).
- January 17: Silent March, noon, Allendale Campus, group will assemble at Zumberge Library and march to Kirkhof Center.

- January 17: Program, 12:30 p.m., Kirkhof Center, Grand River Room: Judy Richardson, filmmaker and founding member of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, will discuss her film "Scarred Justice," which details the 1968 Orangeburg, South Carolina, massacre.



Judy Richardson

Richardson will also speak at 6:30 p.m. at Grand Rapids Community College for the 25th annual community MLK Celebration, with the theme "Looking Back to Look Forward."

Richardson is a co-editor of the anthology, *Hands on the Freedom Plow: the Personal Testimonials of Women in SNCC*. She served as a researcher for "Eyes on the Prize," a PBS series on the history of the civil rights movement, and later associate producer for "Eyes on the Prize II."

- January 19: Program, 5 p.m., Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center: Michael Eric Dyson, professor at Georgetown University, author and radio show host, will discuss "What's Next? Martin Luther King Jr. in the 21st Century."



Michael Eric Dyson

Dyson is well-known for his commentary on popular culture and African American society; *Ebony* has named him one of the most influential African Americans.

An ordained Baptist minister, Dyson has taught at the University of Pennsylvania, DePaul University, Chicago Theological Seminary, University of North Carolina, Columbia and Brown universities.

*continues on page 3*

## Across Campus

### Buckridge named director of Area Studies

Steeve Buckridge, associate professor of history, has been named new director of Grand Valley's Area Studies Center. He assumes his new duties January 10.

Buckridge, who joined Grand Valley's faculty 13 years ago, said he was interested in the position because it affords opportunities for curriculum development and institutional development. Housed in the Brooks College of Interdisciplinary Studies, Area Studies encompasses majors in Chinese studies and minors in African and African American, East Asian, Latin American and Middle East studies.

Buckridge said he plans to work with Area Studies colleagues to strengthen existing programs, develop the unit into a department and eventually a center of excellence.

"Over time, the department will grow into a premier institute or center that acts as a

conduit for cultural information with committed scholars engaged in collaborative learning, teaching and academic excellence," he said.

Wendy Wenner, dean of the Brooks COIS, said Buckridge was selected for the position, in part, because of his enthusiasm for the program and vision for



Photo by Amanda Pitts

Steeve Buckridge, associate professor of history, has been named new director of Area Studies.

the future of the department. Buckridge will continue to teach one or two history courses per semester.

### Agard retires from Johnson Center

Kathy Agard, executive director of the Dorothy A. Johnson Center for Philanthropy, retired after more than 35 years of nonprofit management experience. A gathering in her honor was held December 14 in Loosemore Auditorium.

Agard came to Grand Valley in 2006 as the executive director of the Johnson Center and associate professor with the School of Public, Nonprofit and Health Administration.

Under Agard's leadership, the Johnson Center launched the field's first peer-reviewed journal, *The Foundation Review*, and the development of

*continues on page 2*

# Across Campus

continued from page 2

the first endowed chair for family philanthropy, the Frey Foundation Chair for Family Foundations and Philanthropy. The Johnson Center was able to secure almost \$5 million in grants and the center's endowment principal increased to more than \$5.5 million.



Photo by Amanda Pitts

Kathy Agard laughs with James McHale, chief of staff at the Kellogg Foundation, during a reception to honor her career in nonprofit work and as executive director of the Dorothy A. Johnson Center for Philanthropy.

In 2008, Agard received the "Most Valuable Player Award" from The League, a national youth service organization, for her service at the Johnson Center and Learning to Give, where she led a team of educators in the development of more than 1,200 lesson plans on giving, service and civic engagement for use in K-12 classrooms nationwide.

## Online degree evaluation system changes

The online student degree evaluation system has changed to offer a degree analysis audit and an educational planner.

Effective January 10, all undergraduate students can view their degree evaluation through the myPath system, within Banner Self Service. The new system offers selections for students to view what courses are needed for a major or minor, along with GPA calculators and a semester planner. Questions can be directed to the Records Office at x13327 or [regdept@gvsu.edu](mailto:regdept@gvsu.edu).

## Discussion inspires gratitude

Faculty and staff members have grown their understanding of what it means to be grateful through a two-part seminar, "The Power of Gratitude," sponsored by Health and Wellness.

The first lecture and discussion was led by Steve Glass, assistant dean of the Brooks College of Interdisciplinary Studies, and focused on the "attitude of gratitude" and its significant positive impact on life. Participants took a gratitude survey to self-evaluate their lifestyle and received a gratitude journal.



Photo by Jessica Caron

Faculty and staff members participate in a gratitude seminar sponsored by Health and Wellness.

The follow-up discussion in December, led by Sue Sloop, Work Life consultant, invited participants to reflect on ways they had infused grateful thoughts and practices into their life, and how they improved the initial personal assessment. Throughout the month, members of the Psychology Department had placed sticky notes outside their door sharing what they were grateful for; the Human Resources Department created a gratitude bulletin board.

"I hope participants walk away from the discussion being able to adjust their attitude, looking at life as a glass half full instead of half empty," said Sloop. "I want them to understand that gratitude will benefit their health and other people too."

The seminars were inspired and based on Robert Emmons book, *Thanks: How Practicing Gratitude Can Make You Happier*.

## FORUM Volume 35, Number 16

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](mailto: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](http://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](http://www.gvsu.edu/gvmagazine).

Visit Grand Valley's online publication, GVNow, at [www.gvsu.edu/gvnow](http://www.gvsu.edu/gvnow), for daily news updates and video features.

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

## Climate study subcommittee



Photo by Amanda Pitts

Members of the Campus Climate Study Committee who serve on the question development subcommittee are pictured. From February 1-14, the myGVSU Survey will be offered to all students, faculty and staff members. The survey will ask questions about what it's like to live, learn and work at Grand Valley. Results of prior climate studies have led to positive changes on campus. Visit [www.gvsu.edu/mygvsu](http://www.gvsu.edu/mygvsu) for more information.

Subcommittee members are Jeanne Arnold, Neal Rogness, Arnie Smith Alexander, Connie Dang, Jayne Dissette, Aaron Haight, Larry Hamlet, Timothy Heacock, Simone Jonaitis, Marlene Kowalski-Braun, Dolli Lutes, Martha Moore, Deborah Morrow, Christen Pearson, Mark Schaub, Susan Sloop, Mike Stoll, Rebecca Walker, Linda Yuhás and Cindy Zehner.



# What's Ahead

## Announcement will detail scholarship for students from Haiti

Grand Valley officials will announce plans to raise money for scholarships for students from Haiti, continuing the university's relief efforts to help residents of that country. An announcement detailing the project will be made on Wednesday, January 12, the one-year anniversary of the earthquake that devastated Port-Au-Prince and other regions of Haiti.

The Empowering Haiti through Education Fund started as an idea several years ago from Peter Wampler, associate professor of geology, and Mark Schaub, executive director of the Padnos International Center. Wampler has traveled to Haiti since 2007 to conduct research on water quality. Wampler said he hopes that the students who will eventually be scholarship recipients return to Haiti to teach the next generation of students.

The announcement will be made at Chez Olga, the Haitian restaurant in Eastown, 1441 Wealthy St. SE, at 3:30 p.m.



Among the works on exhibit at MultiMedia III is this Sachicko Neckpiece, by Robyn Kane-Haberhorn.

## Gallery exhibition will feature works by alumni

An invitational exhibit celebrates Grand Valley's 50th anniversary, and features new work by former outstanding art and design and School of Communications students.

"MultiMedia III," will have an opening reception Thursday, January 13, from 5-7 p.m. in the GVSU Art Gallery, 1121 Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus. This exhibit is free and open to the public.

The Art Gallery hours are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 10 a.m. to

5 p.m., and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. For more information call x12563.

Participating artists are Nate Abramowski, Paul Amenta, Joel Berry, Jeremy Brooks, Jackie Cuppy, Ben DeHaan, Amy Feigley, Dean Foster, Jessie Gregg, Shilin Hora, Jo Hormuth, David Huang, Robyn Kane, Richard Kooyman, Ashley Lieber, William Lieberman, Kim Main Knoper, Hubert Massey, Jodi Mohrhardt, Michael Pfliegaar, Jenny Pope, Mark Rumsey, Jason Rutter, Sharon Sandberg, Amanda Stark, Amy Stienbarger, Briana Trudell, Julie Upmeyer and Dan Watts.

## Free international film series focuses on women

The feminine perspective on life, love, beauty and justice can be seen through film during the 2011 Chiaroscuro international film series, which this year features films by women directors.

"Women Behind the Camera," will screen six feature films at the Urban Institute for Contemporary Art, 41 Sheldon SE, Grand Rapids, from January 16-April 17. Showings are on Sundays, beginning at 2:30 p.m. with a short film by local talent preceding the feature film. All films are open to the public and free.

Chiaroscuro is coordinated by educators from local universities and members of the community, with a mission to promote cultural diversity and awareness through international films and discussions. It was co-founded in 2005 by Zulema Moret, director of Latin American Studies, and Gretchen Minhaar, a Grand Rapids architect and artist.

The work of local filmmakers is featured in the shorts, including "Wacked," a four-minute film directed by Grand Valley student Vincent Persichetti, paired on January 16 with the feature film "The Secret Life of Words/La Vida Secreta de las Palabras," directed by Isabel Coixet. Another short is a nine-minute series of films from the international Animation Workshop Group, youth summer workshops led by Deanna Morse, professor of communications, and Gretchen Vinnedge, education coordinator at the Community Media Center in Grand Rapids.

Other Grand Valley faculty will participate in some of the panel discussions, including:

- Yan Liang, assistant professor of Chinese, following the February 27 screening of "Letter to an Unknown Woman"

(China), directed by Jinglei Xu.

- Zulema Moret for the March 20 discussion of "Bluebeard/La Barbe Bleue" (France) directed by Catherine Breillat.

- Chad Lingwood, assistant professor of history, will be part of the April 17 panel for "The day I became a Woman/Roozi ke zan shodam" (Iran) by Marzieh Meshkini.

For complete details on the series visit [www.chiaroscurofilmseries.com](http://www.chiaroscurofilmseries.com).

## Study abroad fair set

The Barbara H. Padnos International Center will host a study abroad fair on January 18 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. in the Henry Hall atrium.

The fair will give students an opportunity to learn more about study abroad programs; PIC staff members, faculty directors and study abroad alumni will be available to answer questions.

For more information, call Meaghann Myers-Smith at x13898 or visit [www.gvsu.edu/studyabroad](http://www.gvsu.edu/studyabroad).

## Basketball teams gear up for '131 Showdown'

Grand Valley athletic officials announced that John Mason, the Detroit Pistons' public address announcer, will be behind the microphone for the "131 Showdown" men's and women's basketball games against Ferris State University.

The Lakers will host the Bulldogs at Van Andel Arena January 29 in the 131 Showdown, presented by Amway.

Tipoff for the women's game is set for 6 p.m., with the men's game to follow at 8 p.m. A portion of the proceeds from the event will be donated to the Van Andel Institute as part of the Community for a Cure Purple Game.

Tickets can be purchased by calling Ticketmaster at (800) 745-3000 or visiting [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com) and searching "131 Showdown." Student tickets can be purchased by visiting the Athletic Ticket Office inside the Fieldhouse Arena.

Following the games, faculty and staff members and students are invited to a party at the David D. Hunting YMCA. Refreshments will be provided, in addition to opportunities to use the amenities. The event will start at 9 p.m.

## Faculty lectures will round out MLK events

*continued from page 1*

Because of the expected popularity of the program, the Grand River Room in Kirkhof Center and Loosemore Auditorium in the DeVos Center will be used as overflow rooms. Dyson will sign copies of his book following his presentation in LAT.

Prior to the presentation, the Shake the

World Unity Choir, comprised mostly of students, will perform a musical prelude.

- January 20: Lecture, 4 p.m., Kirkhof Center, room 2263: "Fighting the Peace at Home," by Steven Rosales, assistant professor of history.
- January 21: Program, 4 p.m., Kirkhof Center, room 2204: Student Senate will host "The Art of Reflection: Listen, Watch, Dance."

- January 24: Lecture, 6 p.m., Kirkhof Center, room 2204: "Do Universal Scholarship Programs Reduce Inequality?" by Michelle Miller-Adams, assistant professor of political science.

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## Jan. 10-Feb. 25

Gallery Hours: Multimedia III: Art and Design, School of Communications Alumni Celebrate 50th Anniversary. Art Gallery, PAC. Call x12563 for information.

### General Events

## Tues., Jan. 11

Noon: Health and Wellness Divorce Recovery Group. 0042 KC. Call x12215 for more information.

## Wed., Jan. 12

Noon: Arts at Noon Series: GVSU Chamber Players. CDC. Call x13484 or visit [www.gvsu.edu/music](http://www.gvsu.edu/music) for information.

Noon: Women's Center hosts Fireside Chat. 1104 KC. Visit [www.gvsu.edu/w\\_commission](http://www.gvsu.edu/w_commission) for information.

## Thurs., Jan. 13

11:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m.: American Red Cross Blood Drive. GRR, KC.

5 p.m.: Opening Reception for Multimedia III. Art Gallery, PAC. Call x12563 for more information.

## Fri., Jan. 14

2 p.m.: AWRI Seminar. "Longterm Ecological and Genetic Studies of Lake Sturgeon in Black Lake, Michigan," by Kim Scribner. Multipurpose room, LMC. Call x13749 for information.

## Sat., Jan. 15

9 a.m.: MLK Commemoration Event. Day of Service. Community Service Learning Center, KC. Call x12468 for more information.

## Sun., Jan. 16

6 p.m.: Community MLK Celebration Service. Messiah Missionary Baptist Church, Grand Rapids.

### Sports

## Wed., Jan. 12

6 p.m.: Men's Basketball hosts Northwood University. FH.

8 p.m.: Women's Basketball hosts Northwood University. FH.

## Fri., Jan. 14

4 p.m.: Track and Field hosts GVSU Bob Eubanks Open. Laker Turf Building.

## Faculty and Staff Sketches

### In the News

**John Kilbourne**, professor of movement science, was interviewed by the *Old Colony Memorial* in Plymouth, Massachusetts, for a story about a holiday book he wrote, *The Magic Christmas Elf*.

**Joel Stillerman**, associate professor of sociology, was interviewed by Muskegon radio station WUVS for a story about Hispanic culture.

**Frank Boring**, affiliate professor of communications, was interviewed by *Michigan History* for a story about "A Team of Our Own," a documentary film about the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League.

### Sketches

**Catherine Frerichs**, professor of writing, and **Diana Pace**, associate dean of students, co-wrote an article, "Leading from the Middle: A Faculty Development Center at the Heart of Institutional Change," published in *Coming in from the Margins: Faculty Development's Emerging Organizational Development Role in Institutional Change*. Tamara Rosier, now at Kuyper College, was also a co-author.

**Erik Nordman**, assistant professor of biology, was a panelist at the Exploring our Energy Future Forum, sponsored by the West Michigan Environmental Action Council.

**Danielle Wiese Leek**, associate professor of communications, gave a presentation, "Republican Opposition in the Mid-Term

Campaign" at the National Communication Association convention in San Francisco, California. She also co-wrote an article, "From Electioneering to Governing: Obama's Transition as Legitimation Ritual," published in the *American Behavioral Scientist*.

**Valerie Peterson**, associate professor of communications, wrote a chapter, "An Elemental Approach to Web Site Visuals," in a book, *Visualizing the Web*.

**Damon Arnold**, director of student services for athletics, received first place from the Toastmaster's Division for his Tall Tale.

**Teresa Castelao-Lawless**, professor of philosophy, wrote an article, "Is Discontinuous Bergsonism Possible?" published in *Agathos: An International Review of the Humanities and Social Sciences*.

**Michael R. Ott**, associate professor of sociology, wrote an article, "The Semantic Potential of Religion in Habermas' Struggle for Modernity: Something's Missing" published in the *Islamic Perspective: Journal for Sociological Studies*.

**News and Information Services** received four Ava Awards from the Association of Marketing and Communication Professionals for recent videos: Around Grand Valley Tour, gold; 2010 Spring Commencement, platinum; 2010 Spring Scholarship, gold; and 50th anniversary video, platinum.

Library faculty members **Jodi Tyron**, **Emily Frigo** and **Mary O'Kelly** co-wrote an article, "Using Teaching Faculty Focus

Groups to Assess Information Literacy Core Competencies at University Level," published in the *Journal of Information Literacy*.

**Michael Walenta**, general manager of WGVU, was appointed to the PBS Interactive Station Advisory Council, a group of key leaders within the public television system.

**William Neal**, professor emeritus of geology, co-wrote a book, *Living on the Shores of Hawai'i: Natural Hazards, the Environment, and Our Communities*, published by the University of Hawaii Press. Neal also wrote an article, "Four-Mile Beach, Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia," published on the Coastal Care website.

**Joel Stillerman**, associate professor of sociology, wrote articles, "The Contested Spaces of Chile's Middle Classes," published in *Political Power and Social Theory* and "It's Much More Than Buying: Discourses and Everyday Social Practices in Santiago Malls," published in the *Journal of Advanced Study*. He also gave a presentation, "The Search for Middle Class Housing in Santiago," at the Latin American Studies Association Congress held in Toronto.

**Mindy Kalinowski Earley**, assistant director of Alumni Relations, gave a presentation, "Best Practices for Young Alumni: Different Tactics for a Similar Group – It's More Than Just Facebook," at the CASE V District Conference in Chicago, Illinois.

**Kim Walton**, program coordinator at the Michigan Alternative and Renewable Energy Center, was appointed to the Midwest Solar Instructor Training Advisory Committee.