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Grand Valley State University

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FORUM

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

Published by News & Information Services



University, service awards presented at convocation

The annual Faculty Award Convocation is set for Thursday, February 6, at the DeVos Center, Loosemore Auditorium.

The event will begin at 4 p.m. Matthew Boelkins, professor of mathematics, will give the keynote address. He will also receive the Outstanding Advising and Student Services Award.

A new award will be presented, recognizing a faculty member who encourages and advances diversity on campus.

The Burch, Jacobs and Moore Diversity Teaching Award will be presented to Rachel Peterson, assistant professor of liberal studies.

The award, presented by the Pew Faculty Teaching and Learning Center, is named for three members of the Pioneer Class: Joan Burch, Annie Jacobs and James Moore, the first people of color to graduate from Grand Valley in 1967.

The Outstanding Community Service Award will be presented to Shawn Bultsma, assistant professor of leadership and learning. Karen Gipson, associate professor of physics, will receive the Outstanding University Service Award. Deborah Herrington and Figen Mekik will each receive the Distinguished Contribution in a Discipline Award. Bradley Ambrose, professor of physics, will receive the University Outstanding Teacher Award.

The Center for Scholarly and Creative Excellence will present awards to



Provost Gayle R. Davis speaks at the 2013 Faculty Award Convocation. This year's event is set for Thursday at the DeVos Center.

Rachel Powers, David Stark, Cynthia Coviak, Shannon Biros and Amanda Dillard.

The FTLC will present awards to Steven Hawks, Matthew Reidsma, Timothy Evans, Mandy Menke, Terry Stockton and Ayana Weekley.

Milestone awards will be presented for 25, 30, 40 and 45 years of service.

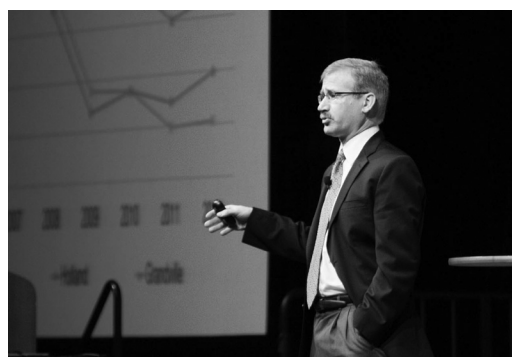
Across Campus

Area business confidence index highest since 2000

For the first time since 2000, the projected business confidence index in West Michigan is above 70 percent, according to economics expert Paul Isely.

Isely, professor and interim associate dean of economics in the Seidman College of Business, revealed the findings of his benchmark survey of the regional economy at the Colliers Annual Economic and Real Estate Forecast on January 31 at DeVos Place. The survey of the greater Grand Rapids economy (Kent, Ottawa, Muskegon, and Allegan counties) was conducted in November and December 2013.

“For 2014, organizations expect a 71 percent confidence level, which is the highest reading since December 2000, but still below those reported in the late 1990s,” said Isely. “There has been a steady increase in overall business confidence since the low seen in 2008, and



Paul Isely, pictured here in 2013, reported the highest business confidence index at the annual regional economic forecast January 31.

the area business leaders surveyed see this improvement continuing in 2014.”

Isely said increased business confidence means businesses are more likely to hire new workers; employment is expected to grow by 2.7-3.1 percent in 2014.

Isely added that the regional economy is

expected to grow faster than the rate seen in 2013. “More than two-thirds of respondents (69 percent) expect to hire this year, which is up from 58 percent last year,” said Isely. “Of those hired, about 76 percent are expected to be permanent workers. This suggests hiring in West Michigan is at a rate faster than the country as a whole.”

He also noted Michigan's economy has been led out of the recession of 2007-2009 by automotive manufacturing.

Women's Commission seeks nominations for annual ceremony

The Women's Commission is seeking nominations for three awards it will be present at the Celebrating Women Awards ceremony on March 27.

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Across Campus

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Nominations are sought for the Maxine Swanson, Women's Impact and Unsung Hero awards. Each year the commission honors men and women from the campus community who have made an impact on the lives of women.

An online nomination form is at www.gvsu.edu/wcommission, click on "Awards, Nominations and Scholarships." The deadline is February 14.

Registration open for Student Scholars Day

Registration is open for students who wish to participate in Student Scholars Day, the annual celebration of scholarship and creative work by students.

Deadline to register is February 14, visit www.gvsu.edu/ours/ssd and click on "Register to Present." Susan Mendoza, director of undergraduate research and scholarship, said the registration process has been redesigned to be more user- and mobile-friendly, and will allow students and faculty members to build their own schedules for the event.

The 19th annual SSD is set for April 9. Last year, more than 600 student presenters were involved.

Co-authors of the book, *Sleights of Mind*, will be the keynote speakers. Stephen L. Macknik and Susana Martinez-Conde direct the Barrow Neurological Institute in Arizona and are founders of a new discipline, neuromagic. In the book, the authors have convinced the world's greatest magicians to reveal techniques that trick our brains. Their presentation is set for 7 p.m. April 9 in the Kirkhof Center.



Students can register for Student Scholars Day through February 14. Last year, more than 600 students were involved.

Nominations sought for student award

Nominations are welcome for the Kenneth R. Venderbush Student Leadership Award.

The award will be presented to a senior at the Annual Awards Celebration on April 7. Faculty and staff members who wish to nominate a student can visit www.gvsu.edu/dos and click on "Awards and Ceremonies" to find the criteria and the nomination form.

Nominations are due in the Dean of Students Office (202 Student Services) on Friday, February 7. They should be sent in a sealed envelope and marked "Confidential."

Faculty and Staff Sketches

In the News

Whitt Kilburn, associate professor of political science, was interviewed by wallethub.com for a story about the national budget.

Sketches

Stephen Borders, associate professor of public, nonprofit and health administration, gave a presentation, "Using the American Community Survey and Geographic Information Systems to Improve Community Health Needs Assessments," at the American Public Health Association annual conference in Boston, Massachusetts.

Karen Gipson, associate professor of physics, and Marlen Vavrikova, associate professor of music, gave a presentation, "A Study of Oboe Reeds" at the Acoustical Society of America's meeting in San Francisco, California.

Jody Vogelzang, faculty member of public health, received a grant from the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Foundation for the "Hunger in Our Community" project.

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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. Web: www.gvsu.edu/forum.

Faculty and staff members can find an online "Sketches" submission form on the Web at www.gvsu.edu/forum.

News and Information Services Staff:

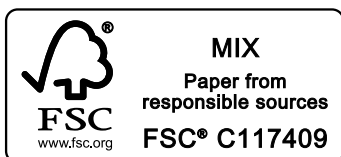
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Other publications by the News and Information Services Office include:

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, 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

Naomi Aldrich, Assistant Professor of Psychology

Naomi Aldrich is new to Grand Valley and to Michigan but said she feels welcome and values the supportive campus community she's experienced.

Aldrich is from New Mexico and grew up in Tennessee. She earned a bachelor's degree in psychology from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville in 2001; a master's degree in experimental psychology in 2005 from Brooklyn College, City University of New York; and a doctoral degree in developmental psychology in 2013 from The Graduate Center, City University of New York.

In her current role, Aldrich is responsible for teaching child development classes. She is also conducting research that focuses on how children's emotional understanding and perspective taking skills influence their ability to discuss feelings such as jealousy and envy.

Aldrich conducted research on gender socialization within parent-child emotional discourse when she attended Brooklyn College. She also discovered her passion for conducting

research and working with children.

"My initial research project solidified the field I wanted for my doctorate, and still reflects what my interests and role are at Grand Valley," said Aldrich.

She said it is a very rewarding experience to introduce students to the research process.

"The Psychology Department is a very supportive atmosphere with an overall acknowledgement of pushing students to gain the experience they need to be successful in the future," said Aldrich. "Being a mentor to undergraduate students is a role this department values and believes in and that makes it very exciting to be a part of."

In her spare time, Aldrich enjoys quilting, reading, and spending time with her husband, Pat, and their Jack Russell terrier.



Naomi Aldrich

What's Ahead

Black History Month offers numerous events

A variety of events will take place on campus throughout February to celebrate Black History Month.

Sponsored by Grand Valley's Office of Multicultural Affairs, most events are free and open to the public. Some events are highlighted below; see the full list at www.gvsu.edu/oma.

- **Voters' Rights and Stand Your Ground Legislation: February 3, 6 p.m., Kirkhof Center, Grand River Room**

Donna Brazile, former chair of the Democratic National Committee, will give a presentation.

- **Pioneering Pathways for Students: February 5, 5:30 p.m., Alumni House**

The event will honor James Moore, Grand Valley's first African American male graduate. Dinner will be provided. RSVP by calling x12672.

- **Effective Leadership Service: February 6, 4 p.m., Cook-DeWitt Center**

Patrick Miles Jr., U.S. attorney for the West District of Michigan, will discuss leadership, services, professionalism and diversity. The event is in conjunction with OMA's Professional of Color Lecture Series and the Seidman College of Business.

- **Documentary: "Haiti and Dominican Republic: An Island Divided": February 7, noon, Kirkhof Center, room 1240**

The documentary features Henry Louis Gates Jr., professor at Harvard University and director of the W.E.B. Du Bois Institute for African and African American Research, who explores African ancestry in Latin American and the Caribbean.

- **A Tribute to Black Women: Strong, Fierce and Dynamic Divas: February 14, noon, Kirkhof Center, Pere Marquette Room**

The event will honor black women who made notable contributions to history through poetry, song and dance. Presented by You Beautiful Black Women and Positive Black Women student organizations.

- **The Meeting: February 18, 4 p.m., Cook-DeWitt Center**

An award-winning play will be performed that answers the question, "What would have happened if Martin Luther King, Jr. and Malcolm X had met before they were both assassinated?"

Interview with CRP author to air on community TV, website

An interview with Reyna Grande, author of the book selected as Grand Valley's 2013-2014 Community Reading Project, will air on February 3.

Grande will discuss *The Distance Between Us* on Community Television station WKTV (Comcast

channel 25 and AT&T channel 99) at 8:30 p.m. on "Feel Like You Belong," and be available online at FeelLikeYouBelong.com following the broadcast.

Feel Like You Belong introduces guests, such as Grande, who have made the immigrant journey to the U.S. The stories, of both struggle and success, aim to help newcomers feel more confident. Earlier segments have included interviews with Michigan Board of Education member Lupe Ramos-Montigny, (now former) Detroit Tigers catcher Brayan Pena, The Right Place president and CEO Birgit Klohs and dozens of others.

The TV program is the brainchild of School of Communications associate professor Kim Roberts. She developed it as part of her sabbatical research into transmedia, which utilizes multiple forms of interactivity to engage an audience.

For more information about the television program, visit feellikeyoubelong.com.

For more information about the Community Read Project and author visit on March 24-25, visit www.gvsu.edu/read.

Music faculty plan performances

A duo of faculty music performances this week includes a trio and a quintet.

The GVSU Faculty String Trio will perform Tuesday, February 4, from 8-9:30 p.m. in the Sherman Van Solkema Recital Hall, PAC. Members of the trio are Gregory Maytan, violin; Paul Swantek, viola; and Pablo Mahave-Veglia, cello.

The concert will include a performance of Serenade for String Trio, Opus 10 by E. Dohnanyi (1877-1960) and Quartet for Clarinet and Strings, Op. 19, No. 3 by Carl Stamitz (1745-1801). Special guest artist Arthur Campbell, clarinet, will also perform.

Grand Valley's Brass Quintet faculty ensemble performs during the Arts at Noon Series, Wednesday, February 5, from noon- 1 p.m. in Cook-DeWitt Center.

The quintet is composed of Richard Stoelzel and Robert White, trumpets; Richard Britsch, horn; Mark Williams, trombone; and Paul Carlson, tuba. They will perform a concert of transcriptions and original compositions for brass quintet, including works by Sergei Prokofiev, Malcolm Arnold, and Kevin McKee.

For more information, call x13484 or visit www.gvsu.edu/music.

Know Your Numbers screenings set

On-campus screenings for Know Your Numbers, one component of the Healthy Choices program, will run February 6-21.

Details are online at www.gvsu.edu/healthwellness. Faculty and staff members who complete the Healthy Choices program are eligible to earn up to \$300 into their Health Savings Account or paycheck.

Symposium will focus on women, environment

The environmental impacts on women and children's health, eco-business and sustainable living will be discussed at the third annual Women and the Environment Symposium, set for Friday, February 7.

The symposium will include workshops, keynote address, a call to action panel and a networking luncheon. It's organized by Grand Valley's Women's Center and Sustainable Community Development Initiative, and the West Michigan Environmental Action Council.

The Women and the Environment Symposium will run 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Eberhard Center.

Sandra Steingraber, a scholar-in-residence at Ithaca College, will provide the keynote address. A leader in research surrounding the environment and its impact on women and child health, Steingraber is author of numerous books, including *Living Downstream: An Ecologist's Personal Investigation of Cancer and the Environment*.

Registration and agenda information is online at www.wmeac.org/events1/women. Tickets are \$75 for adults, \$35 for senior citizens and \$15 for students.

For more information, contact Brittany Dernberger at x12748 or dernebr@gvsu.edu.

Presidents' Ball set for February 007

Grand Valley's top agents, also known as Student Senate President Ricardo Benavidez and President Thomas J. Haas, are hosting the 27th annual Presidents' Ball on Friday, February 7. This year's ball will take on a James Bond 007 theme.

The event will be held at DeVos Place in downtown Grand Rapids, 303 Monroe Avenue NW.

Cocktail hour starts at 5:30 p.m., dinner begins at 6:30 p.m., and dancing is 8:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m. Tickets for the dance will be available at the 20/20 Desk in Kirkhof Center for \$15. The price for the dinner and dance is \$30.

Faculty and staff members will be presented with awards at the event. Kate Stoetzner, director of International Student and Scholar Services for the Padnos International Center, will receive the Laker of the Year Award; Brandon DeHaan, assistant director of the Grand Valley Police Department, will receive the President Appreciation Award; and Mary deYoung, professor of sociology, will receive the Student Award for Faculty Excellence.

Attendees can share their photos and join the conversation with #007PresBall on social media.

For more information, visit www.gvsu.edu/presidentsball.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

General Events

Mon., Feb. 3

6 p.m.: Black History Month Event: "Voters' Rights and Stand Your Ground Legislation," by Donna Brazile. 2250 KC. Call x12177 for more information.

6 p.m.: World Affairs Council of Western Michigan Event: "The Role of the Press and National Security Leaks in the Age of Big Data," by Dina Temple-Raston. Aquinas College. Call (616) 776-1721 for information.

Tues., Feb. 4

All Day: Fidelity Retirement Individual Counseling Appointments. 297C DEV. Visit www.gvsu.edu/healthwellness for more information.

Noon: Health and Wellness hosts Conversations on Dementia. 2270 KC. Visit www.gvsu.edu/seminar to register.

4 p.m.: Professionals of Color Lecture: "Beyond Math Geeks and China Dolls: Overcoming Stereotypes About Asian Americans to Find Success in the Real World," by Yul Kwon. CDC. Call x12177 for more information.

8 p.m.: Faculty String Trio with Arthur Campbell, clarinet. 1325 PAC. Call x13484 for more information.

Wed., Feb. 5

All Day: Fidelity Retirement Individual Counseling Appointments. 1140 KC. Visit www.gvsu.edu/healthwellness for more information.

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

Noon: Arts at Noon Series: GVSU Brass Quintet. CDC. Call x13484 for more information.

Noon: Health and Wellness hosts Conversations on Dementia. 302E DEV. Visit www.gvsu.edu/seminar to register.

Noon: Human Resources Career Services

hosts Brown Bag Book Discussion. 2259 KC. Call x12215 for more information.

5:30 p.m.: Inclusion and Equity hosts "Pioneering Pathways for Students Of Color," with James Moore. AH. Call x12672 for more information.

6 p.m.: Psychology hosts Projection Film Series: "A Screaming Man." 114 LMH. Call x12195 for more information.

Thurs., Feb. 6

7 a.m.-Noon: Know Your Numbers Screening. 2263 KC. Call x12215 for more information.

7:30 a.m.: Downtown Toastmasters. 107C DEV. Visit www.gvsu.edu/toastmasters for more information.

9 a.m.: Human Resources Excellence Series: "Eight Ground Rules for Job Success in the Face of Change," by Deborah Phillips. 2266 KC. Visit www.gvsu.edu/seminar to register.

Noon: Women's Commission General Meeting. 1249 KC. Visit www.gvsu.edu/wcommission for more information.

1 p.m.: Human Resources Excellence Series: "Eight Ground Rules for Job Success in the Face of Change," by Deborah Phillips. 1008A SCB. Visit www.gvsu.edu/seminar to register.

3-7 p.m.: Know Your Numbers Screening. SER. Call x12215 for more information.

4 p.m.: Faculty Awards Convocation. 122E DEV.

4 p.m.: Professionals of Color Lecture: "Effective Leadership Service," by Patrick Miles. CDC. Call x12177 for more information.

Fri., Feb. 7

7 a.m.-Noon: Know Your Numbers Screening. 2263 KC. Call x12215 for more information.

Noon: Black History Month Event: "Haiti and Dominican Republic: An Island Divided," by Louis Gates Jr. 1240 KC. Call x12177 for more information.

2 p.m.: AWRI Seminar: "Nutrients Mediate

the Ecosystem Effects of Cyanobacteria in Oligotrophic Lakes," by Cayelan Carey. LMC. Call x13749 for more information.

5:30 p.m.: Faculty/Staff Intro to Climbing. FH. Visit www.gvsu.edu/seminar to register.

5:30 p.m.: Presidents' Ball. DeVos Place, Grand Rapids. Visit www.gvsu.edu/presidentsball for information.

7:30 p.m.: Grand Valley Opera Theatre presents "Urinetown, the Musical." LAT, PAC. Call x12300 for tickets.

Sat., Feb. 8

7:30 p.m.: Grand Valley Opera Theatre presents "Urinetown, the Musical." LAT, PAC. Call x12300 for tickets.

Sun., Feb. 9

2 p.m.: Grand Valley Opera Theatre presents "Urinetown, the Musical." LAT, PAC. Call x12300 for tickets.

Sports

Mon., Feb. 3

6 and 8 p.m.: Women's and Men's Basketball hosts Ferris State University.

Tues., Feb. 4

10:30 a.m.-1 p.m.: Women's Golf hosts Clinic. KTB. Call x13082 for more information.

Thurs., Feb. 6

6 and 8 p.m.: Women's and Men's Basketball hosts Northern Michigan University.

Sat., Feb. 8

1 and 3 p.m.: Women's and Men's Basketball hosts Michigan Tech University.

8 p.m.: Men's Tennis hosts Cornerstone University.

Faculty and Staff Sketches

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Patricia Videtich, professor of geology, gave presentations, "Shales from the Mississippian Michigan Formation, Western Michigan" and "A Complex Gutter Cast from the Upper Ordovician (Cincinnatian) Kope Formation, Northern Kentucky," at the Geological Society

of America Annual Meeting in Denver, Colorado.

Jeremiah Cataldo, assistant professor of history, Honors College, gave presentations, "Zechariah's 'Death Instinct' and the Formation of an Early Monotheistic Community" and "Antagonized Utopia in Ezra-Nehemiah," at

the Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature meeting in Baltimore, Maryland.

Sarah King, assistant professor of liberal studies, wrote an article, "Context Matters: Studying Indigenous Religions in North America," published in *Religion Compass*.