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Grand Valley State University

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# FORUM

Monday, February 9, 2009

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY  
Published by News & Information Services

## New scholarship makes education more accessible

About 40 faculty and staff members celebrated a new scholarship that will help make education accessible to students who are the first in their families to attend college, and help strengthen Grand Valley's commitment to diversity.

President Thomas J. Haas and others signed the First Generation Urban Schools Scholarship on January 28 during a reception held in the DeVos Center. Haas said improving access to education is critical, especially as the nation's economy worsens.

"In rough times, education is a beacon to help us find our way," Haas said. "It is also the means to retooling our economy and our workforce, the means to find new ways to compete."

The new scholarship will provide resources to students, in addition to financial support, to help them succeed. The catalyst for the scholarship dates to 2006 and the passage of Proposal 2 in Michigan, which restricted administration of scholarships based on

race, national origin and gender. Maribeth Wardrop, vice president for Development, said the challenge following Proposal 2 was to find ways to continue to support students of color, women and international students and to continue creating a diverse campus.

"The question was how to provide new opportunities to support these students who can bring economic and cultural diversity and experiences to our campus," she said. To meet those challenges, a scholarship committee was established.

"When Proposal 2 passed, we had 31 private scholarships that were affected," Wardrop said. "The good news is that we still have 31



Photo by Amanda Pitts

From left, Oliver Wilson, dean of Multicultural Affairs; President Thomas J. Haas; and Jeanne Arnold, vice president for Inclusion and Equity, sign scholarship papers during an event in the DeVos Center.

scholarships, we did not lose one scholarship to a private foundation." She added that 13 of those scholarships were adjusted to meet new criteria and 18 were grandfathered, remaining operational but unable to accept new gifts.

see 'Scholarships' on page 3

## Across Campus

### Forums to focus on academic integrity

An ad hoc committee of the Faculty Senate will host open meetings in March to increase awareness of the prevalence of classroom dishonesty at Grand Valley, and promote a commitment to raising the level of academic integrity.

Dan Vaughn, associate professor of physical therapy, is the committee chair. He said the committee's goals are to make academic integrity "part of our Grand Valley cultural fabric," and an integral part of the university's core values.

Presentations at the March 19-20 meetings will include research about the prevalence of plagiarism and cheating at Grand Valley and other universities. A Web site, [www.gvsu.edu/academicintegrity](http://www.gvsu.edu/academicintegrity), provides resources regarding

Grand Valley's academic policies, university surveys about the prevalence of cheating and plagiarism, and a message board. Those wishing to participate in message board discussions will need to login using Novell passwords.

The meetings, open to students, faculty and staff members, are scheduled for March 19, at the DeVos Center, room 136E, from 1-3 p.m.; and March 20, in the Kirkhof Center, room 2263, from 1-3 p.m.

### Women's Commission seeks nominations for awards

Nominations of a faculty or staff member for two awards presented by the Women's Commission are due by March 2.

The Maxine Swanson Award is presented to

someone who has provided leadership in support of rights of women at Grand Valley. The Women's Impact Award honors an individual for her or his contributions as a professional, volunteer, or agent of change.

Criteria for nominations and forms to download are available online at [www.gvsu.edu/w\\_commission](http://www.gvsu.edu/w_commission). For more information, call Sharalle Arnold at x15437.

### AP Committee conducts survey

The Administrative/Professional Committee is conducting a survey of all AP staff members at Grand Valley to identify issues that impact them.

The AP Committee has not conducted a sur-

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# Across Campus

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vey like this since 1995. The results will be used to help the committee focus its efforts and agenda for next year. The online survey is voluntary and anonymous. AP staff members received an e-mail with a link to the survey. The deadline for completing the survey is February 17. For more information, visit [www.gvsu.edu/ap](http://www.gvsu.edu/ap).

## Nominations taken online for AP awards

Online nominations for Administrative/Professional staff awards are being accepted through March 6.

Awards are given annually to recognize both team and individual accomplishments as selected by a group of peers. A/P employees can be nominated by students, faculty or staff members for six separate award categories: Achievement Award; Commitment to Diversity Award; Commitment to Students Award; Innovation Award; Outstanding Team Project Award; and Service to Community Award.

The awards will be presented to recipients at the A/P Luncheon, scheduled for April 27. For more information or to submit a nomination, visit [www.gvsu.edu/ap/awards](http://www.gvsu.edu/ap/awards).

## Haas in national sustainability Webcast

Grand Valley is increasingly known as a leader in the sustainability movement, and President Thomas J. Haas will participate in a national Webcast to discuss how colleges and universities can approach sustainability from a policy perspective.

The Webcast is sponsored by the Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges and the Society for College and University Planning. The program is designed to provide an understanding of sustain-

ability issues in higher education and how governing boards can work together with administration and executive staff to be informed leaders about sustainability. Other panelists include Tony Cortese, president of Second Nature; Leith Sharpe, visiting scientist in the Harvard School of Public Health and formerly the sustainability coordinator at Harvard University; California Lt. Gov. John Garamendi, a trustee at the California State University and University of California Systems; and Kathleen McKinney, chair of the Board of Trustees at Furman University.

The Webcast will be February 11 at noon. Two viewing locations are set at Grand Valley: Kirkhof Center, room 2236; DeVos Center, room 136E. For more information, visit [www.gvsu.edu/sustainability](http://www.gvsu.edu/sustainability).

## Academic Majors Fair



*Photo by Bernadine Carey-Tucker*

*A student talks to Ashley Wall and assistant professor Randy Wyble at the Therapeutic Recreation table during the Academic Majors Fair on February 3 in the Kirkhof Center. Faculty and staff members, along with alumni and students, helped answer questions about their departments.*

## FORUM Volume 33, Number 20

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: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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## GVNOW

To see video features and daily campus news, visit Grand Valley's online publication, GVNow, at [www.gvsu.edu/gvnow](http://www.gvsu.edu/gvnow).

## GRAND VALLEY magazine

Grand Valley Magazine is published quarterly for the university community. Visit its Web site at [www.gvsu.edu/gvmagazine](http://www.gvsu.edu/gvmagazine).

## GVFaces

### Presidential inauguration attendees

While 1,500 people watched President Obama's inauguration at one of Grand Valley's viewing locations on January 20, at least three faculty and staff members traveled to Washington, D.C., to be part of that historic event.

Harriet Singleton, senior counselor in the Counseling and Career Development Center; James Moyer, assistant vice president for Facilities Planning; and H. James Williams, dean of the Seidman College of Business, each traveled with their families to watch the inauguration.

"In a word, it was awesome," Moyer said. "The joy, caring, and inquisitiveness of the crowd was just incredible. It was as if people were almost paying homage to an institution we call our government."



*James Moyer*

Williams said although he secured tickets through U.S. Rep. Vern Ehlers, he and his family were stopped outside the gate to their section. "The section was filled to capacity before we could be positioned," he said. "Still, we were about 20 yards outside the gate, and we could see some of the people on the platform and could hear the ceremony."

Despite leaving her hotel room at 5:30 a.m., Singleton and her husband found themselves in the middle of the National Mall. "I could see as many people in front of me as behind me," she said.

Singleton said they stood on the Mall for about 10 hours that day. They dressed in layers to stay warm and enjoyed meeting others nearby. "I'm an extrovert, it was fun to stand there and talk to people," she said.

During the campaign last fall, Singleton worked as a team leader for the Obama campaign, canvassing in Kentwood and urban areas. "I've volunteered for past campaigns, but this was different because of the many types of people I met. It was the same in Washington, I met people who were not Obama supporters, but wanted to be there for the experience," she said.

Moyer echoed the same sentiment. "People of all colors — Black, White, Hispanic — were sitting with great respect for the event. It was wonderful," he said. "To be part of the crowd that reflected the potential future of this country and the hope of the world was an experience."

Williams said he was pleased that voters elected an African American as president. "I think the country has made much progress in the process of recognizing people for what they bring to the table — character, intellect, leadership — rather than for the color of their skin," he said.



*Harriet Singleton*



*James Williams*

## What's Ahead

### Events set to celebrate Asian Pacific American heritage

Frank discussions about race, information about Asian adoptions and a New Year festival are all events scheduled at Grand Valley to celebrate Asian Pacific Americans.

The events listed below are sponsored by the Office of Multicultural Affairs with help from numerous campus departments. The events are free and open to the public; for more information, call OMA at x12177.

- February 9, noon, Kirkhof Center, room 1240: "Incredible India," an informal presentation by students Eima Mangat and Jima Mangat, who were born in India.
- February 9, 5 p.m., Alumni House: "Adoptees: The Lies We Believe and Truth We Need to Know," a workshop by counselor Carissa Woodwyk, will explore how adoptive parents can become their child's storyteller.
- February 10, noon, Kirkhof Center, room 2266: "Relationships and Cross Generational Understanding in Immigrant Families" will be presented by Pratyusha Tummala-Narra, psychologist. The workshop will address how Asian Pacific American immigrants and second generations adjust to a changing environment.
- February 10, 4 p.m., Kirkhof Center, room 2270: "Politics and Power," will be presented by Jim Toy, from the Office of Institutional Equity at the University of Michigan. Toy will discuss sexual and gender identities within different races.
- February 10, 6 p.m., Kirkhof Center, Grand River Room: Asian New Year festival highlights include food samples, performances from ethnic groups and a dragon dance.
- February 11, 4 p.m., Cook-DeWitt Center: "Surplus Visibility and Informal Power in the Age of Diversity," presented by Evelyn Hu-DeHart, director of the Center for the Study of Race and Ethnicity at Brown University, who will discuss how diversity can transform into a unique form of power.
- February 12, 4 p.m., Kirkhof Center, room 2263: Members of the Hmong American Student Organization will discuss the cultural identity of the Hmong, who live in southeast Asian countries.

Campus departments that are supporting events

include Asian Student Union, Career Services, College of Education, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Meijer Honors College, Housing, Human Resources, LGBT Resource Center, Padnos International Center and Pew Campus Student Services.

### Arts at Noon to feature Chinese musicians

A fascinating glimpse into the Inner Mongolian region of China will be provided during the next performance in the Arts at Noon series.

An Da Union is an energetic group of 12 young musicians who perform using traditional instruments as well as "throat singing." Their landmark tour, supported in part by the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities, will be the group's first in the U.S.

They will perform on Wednesday, February 11, at noon in the Cook-DeWitt Center. For more information, call x13484.

### 'Vagina Monologues' will benefit area nonprofits

Tickets are on sale for three Grand Valley performances of "The Vagina Monologues," Eve Ensler's powerful and thought-provoking play.

Performances are scheduled for Thursday and Friday, February 12-13, 7 p.m., at the Cook-DeWitt Center; and Saturday, February 14, 7 p.m., at Wealthy Street Theatre, 1130 Wealthy St. SE in Grand Rapids.

The performances will highlight Grand Valley's eighth annual V-Day College Campaign. Proceeds from ticket sales will benefit area women's programs that work to end violence against women. Since 2002, GVSU productions of "The Vagina Monologues" have raised nearly \$100,000 for area organizations and programs.

Tickets are \$10 for students, \$20 for non-students and \$20 at the door. They are available at the Kirkhof Center 20/20 Desk. For more information, call the Women's Center at x12748. Wealthy Street Theatre will sell tickets for the February 14 performance only; call (616) 459-4788 ext. 131 or visit [www.grcmc.org](http://www.grcmc.org).

Nearly 70 students, faculty and staff members are involved in the production. Ensler's acclaimed play is a collection of powerful, engaging and, at times, provocative monologues about women who speak frankly about their bodies, childbirth, sex, rape and love.



File photo

Performances of 'Vagina Monologues' will run February 12-14.

Each year, national V-Day organizers designate a spotlight campaign as a recipient of proceeds from "Vagina Monologues" productions worldwide. The 2009 spotlight will focus on women and girls of the Democratic Republic of Congo. UNICEF reports that since 1996, hundreds of thousands of women and girls in the DRC have been raped or sexually assaulted as a result of civil conflict in that country.

GVSU's production of "The Vagina Monologues" is supported by the Nokomis Foundation.

### Event recreates Lincoln vs. Douglas debate

The political debates between Abraham Lincoln and Stephen Douglas lasted for hours and drew crowds of more than 15,000. The two debated one topic — slavery.

Re-enactors Jim Getty and Tim Connors will bring the debate to life during a celebration of Lincoln's bicentennial by Grand Valley's Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies.

"Lincoln vs. Douglas" will take place Thursday, February 12, at 7 p.m., in the Gerald R. Ford Museum Auditorium, 303 Pearl St. NW, in downtown Grand Rapids.

Getty, a noted Lincoln historian, will take the stage as Abraham Lincoln. Audiences will see and hear the president recount his personal and political life and his special anguish for Gettysburg.

Connors is director of speech and theater for Freeport Public Schools in Illinois. He is a member of the Lincoln-Douglas Society and the Stephen A. Douglas Association. He has been a Douglas re-enactor for many years.

For more information, contact the Hauenstein Center at x12770.

## Scholarship will benefit first generation students

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Jeanne Arnold, vice president for Inclusion and Equity, provided initial funding for the First Generation Urban Schools Scholarship. Arnold's donation to this endowment will be matched by Grand Valley, as will other contributions from faculty and staff members.

"A diverse and inclusive university is key to academic excellence, fulfilling our mission

and enriching the educational experience of students from all backgrounds," Arnold said. "I feel compelled to do my part in achieving these outcomes.

"I am very fortunate to be part of the fourth generation in my family to attend college. In 2009, more students from diverse backgrounds should be able to make that same statement. I hope all faculty and staff consider this fund as

they make private giving choices, especially since their gifts will be matched."

Candidates for the scholarship must be the first in their family to pursue a college degree and must be from one of the urban high schools identified by Financial Aid, Office of Multicultural Affairs and the Division of Inclusion and Equity. It will likely begin to be awarded in 2010.

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## General Events

### Mon., Feb. 9

Noon: Asian Pacific Heritage Event. "Incredible India." 1240 KC. Call x12177 for more information.

5 p.m.: Asian Pacific Heritage Event. "Adoptees: The Lies We Believe and Truth We Need to Know." AH. Call x12177 for information.

### Tues., Feb. 10

Noon: Asian Pacific Heritage Event. "Relationships and Cross Generational Understanding in Asian Pacific American Immigrant Families." 2266 KC. Call x12177 for more information.

1 p.m.: Human Resources Excellence Series. "Getting To Know Your GVSU Better." 2263 KC. Call x12215 for more information.

4 p.m.: Asian Pacific Heritage Event. "Politics and Power." 2270 KC.

6 p.m.: Black History Month Event. Panel Discussion, "The State of Our Children's Education." Loosemore Auditorium, DEV. Call x12177 for more information.

6 p.m.: Asian Pacific Heritage Event. Asian New Year Festival. Grand River Room, KC.

### Wed., Feb. 11

8 a.m.: Seidman Alumni Association hosts Economic Recovery Breakfast. Loosemore Auditorium, DEV. Call x17100 for more information.

10 a.m.: Padnos International Center hosts Study Abroad Fair. HRY Atrium. Call x13898 for more information.

Noon: Arts at Noon presents An Da Union Mongolian Artists. CDC. Call x13484 for more information.

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

4 p.m.: Asian Pacific Heritage Event. "Surplus Visibility and Informal Power in the Age of Diversity." CDC. Call x12177 for more information.

### Thurs., Feb. 12

7:30 a.m.: Grand Rapids Toastmasters. University Club Room, DEV. Call x17378 for more information.

Noon: Health and Wellness hosts "UnNatural Causes" film series. 2270 KC. Call x12215 for more information.

4 p.m.: Asian Pacific Heritage Event. Presentation by Hmong American Student Association. 2263 KC. Call x12177 for more information.

7 p.m.: Women's Center presents "Vagina Monologues." CDC. Call x12748 for more information.

7 p.m.: Hauenstein Center presents "Lincoln vs. Douglas." Gerald R. Ford Museum, Grand Rapids. Call x12770 for more information.

7:30 p.m.: Art and Design hosts lecture by Dennis Oppenheim. UICA, Grand Rapids. Call x13486 for more information.

### Fri., Feb. 13

7 p.m.: Women's Center presents "Vagina Monologues." CDC.

6 p.m.: Black History Month Event. "Black Music, Black Power." Loosemore Auditorium,

DEV. Call x12177 for more information.

7:30 p.m.: Opera Theatre production, "Candide." LAT, PAC. Call x12300 for tickets.

### Sat., Feb. 14

7 p.m.: Women's Center presents "Vagina Monologues." Wealthy Street Theatre, Grand Rapids.

7:30 p.m.: Opera Theatre production, "Candide." LAT, PAC.

2 p.m.: Opera Theatre production, "Candide." LAT, PAC.

## Sports

### Feb. 11-14

6 p.m.: Swimming and Diving hosts GLIAC Championships. Jenison High School.

### Thurs., Feb. 12

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

### Feb. 13-14

4 p.m.: Track and Field hosts GVSU Laker Qualifier.

### Sat., Feb. 14

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

## Faculty and Staff Sketches

### In the News

**Brian Flanagan**, associate director of the Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies, was interviewed by the *Washington Times* and WDEL Radio for stories on political dynasties.

### Sketches

**Jeremiah Cataldo**, visiting professor of history, wrote a book, *A Theocratic Yehud? Issues of Government in a Persian Province*, published by Continuum.

**Ryan A Thum**, assistant professor at the Annis Water Resources Institute, co-wrote articles, "Comparative Ecological Niche Models Predict the Invasive Spread of Variable-Leaf

Milfoil," published in the journal *Biological Invasions*; and "Deep Genetic Divergences Among Morphologically Similar and Parapatric Skistodiaptomus," published in the *Biological Journal of the Linnean Society*.

**Craig Benjamin**, assistant professor of history, was elected to the executive council of the World History Association for a three-year term.

**John D. Hewitt**, professor of criminal justice, co-wrote an article, "Race, Fear, and Firearms: The Role of Demographics and Guilt Assuagement in the Creation of a Political Partition," published in the *Journal of African American Studies*.

**Susan Mendoza-Jones**, director of Integrative Learning, gave a presentation, "Engaging Place/

Engaging Students: Bridging Academic and Student Affairs," at the American Association of Colleges and Universities Pre-Meeting Symposium on Sustainability in Seattle, Washington.

**Stephen Rowe**, professor of philosophy, led a session, "It Could Be Different," at the Re-Imagining Higher Education Retreat in Las Vegas, New Mexico.

**Kelly Berendsen**, executive secretary, coordinated the Toastmaster International Western Division Officer Training at Grand Valley.

**Kay Kline**, professor of nursing, co-wrote an article, "Qualitative Analysis of a Mutual Goal Setting Intervention in Patients with Heart Failure," published in *Heart and Lung*.