

2-27-2012

## Grand Valley Forum, volume 036, number 24, February 27, 2012

Grand Valley State University

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MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2012

# FORUM

**A NEWSLETTER FOR THE GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY**

**Published by News & Information Services**



## Final beam raised for Seidman Center

Pioneer Construction raised the final beam February 21 to complete the steel erection for Grand Valley's L. William Seidman Center on Front Avenue in downtown Grand Rapids.

Before the beam was raised, Grand Valley students, faculty and staff members from the Seidman College of Business had an opportunity to sign the beam. President Thomas J. Haas, Seidman Dean H. James Williams and Seidman Campaign Co-Chair David Frey also signed the beam.

The new Seidman Center will support the college's growing reputation as the premier business school in the Midwest.

It will also house the Small Business and Technology Development Center, a federal/state/Grand Valley-sponsored program that creates and sustains jobs across Michigan.

The building will be Grand Valley's 16th LEED-certified building; it will open for classes in the fall of 2013.



Photo by Bernadine Carey-Tucker

H. James Williams signs the final beam at the L. William Seidman Center.

## Across Campus

### New initiative encourages students to give back

Grand Valley is introducing a new, student-centered initiative that will help the university embark on its next 50 years and beyond.

The "Laker for a Lifetime" initiative aims to strengthen the Grand Valley connection for students and alumni by building awareness about Grand Valley's needs and creating a long-lasting spirit of giving.

"For us to maintain the level of quality we have at Grand Valley, it's important we receive support from those who are experiencing Grand Valley right now," said Chris Barbee, director of Alumni Relations.

The program will primarily reach incoming and current students, as well as alumni, parents, and faculty and staff members, said Barbee. The goals are to help connect students to the campus and help them realize their importance in shaping the university's future. "There are many ways to give back," he said. "Whether it's volunteering time in the community, participating in a student organization or giving monetarily to the Student Legacy Scholarship, it all supports Grand Valley's future."



Extensive research and student involvement went into planning and shaping the initiative. Last summer, students from a variety of backgrounds participated in focus groups and helped craft key messages for the initiative. "We want students to help drive this. Who better to know how to speak the language of students than the students themselves," Barbee said.

Barbee explained that the initiative is a long-range plan, and he hopes when students find their own connection to the university, giving back will follow.

"From the moment you start here, and for the rest of your life, you're a Laker for a lifetime. And that's the exciting part, you can play a role in Grand Valley's future, whether you're a student, alum, administrator, faculty or staff member — we're all in this together," he said.

The "Laker for a Lifetime" Student Philanthropy Steering Committee includes representatives from Alumni Relations, Admissions, Student Services, Development, Student Life, Administration, Athletics, Housing, Institutional Marketing, University Counsel, News and Information Services, Career Services, Financial Aid, Young Alumni Council, Student Senate, Future Alumni Association and Johnson Center for Philanthropy.

### Laker5 winners announced

Winners of the Laker5 challenge were announced at the Presidents' Ball on February 17.

The initiative challenged students to describe their Grand Valley experience in five words and was designed to encourage students to express their creativity and school spirit.

First, second and third place winners, along with two runner-ups, received scholarships that total \$2,500. Students who were not selected for the top five, but were voted in the

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# Across Campus

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top 10, received \$100 scholarships. Carmela Pearsall, a communications studies major, received first place with her submission: "Rockin' the Mitten since 1960!" The top 10 entries can be viewed at [www.gvsu.edu/laker5](http://www.gvsu.edu/laker5).

Faculty and staff members were presented with awards at the event. Janaan Decker, student services coordinator in the Frederik Meijer Honors College, received the Laker of the Year Award; Polly Diven, professor of political science, received the Student Award for Faculty Excellence; and LeaAnn Tibbe, assistant director of Student Life, was presented with the President Appreciation Award.

## Faculty and Staff Campaign continues

The Faculty and Staff Campaign is well underway. Campaign leaders and volunteers encourage their colleagues to leave their legacy at Grand Valley by giving a gift to an endowed fund.

Visit [www.gvsu.edu/give](http://www.gvsu.edu/give) to make a gift or for more information. Competition between the blue and white teams is close. University departments A-H are on the white team, and have a participation rate of 37.7 percent; departments I-Z are blue, with a participation rate of 38.9 percent. Overall participation is 38.2 percent.

"Participating in the Faculty and Staff Campaign makes such a huge difference at Grand Valley," said Mary Ann Watters, campaign co-chair. "Grand Valley students are our future. We need to make sure they have an excellent education to prepare them for successful futures."



Campaign volunteers are pictured at the kickoff breakfast for the Faculty and Staff Campaign. From left are Anne Merkle, Linda Masselink and Amy Oosting.

LeaAnn Tibbe, assistant director for Student Life, said she sees the direct impact giving back has on students. "I believe as faculty and staff we are not only impacting them by the gifts given, but also by the ongoing personal support and encouragement to help them succeed," she said.

## Baseball team shares Cuban memories

Laker baseball coach Steve Lyon said his team felt like they were playing in the Olympics when Grand Valley first took the field in Havana, Cuba.

Lyon was among panel participants who shared insight into the team's trip to Cuba during a presentation February 21 in the Kirkhof Center. Grand Valley's baseball team traveled to Cuba January 3-9 on a humanitarian mission with First Hand Aid, a Grand Rapids nonprofit organization that brings medical supplies and aid to Cuba.

"Before we played our first game, the Cubans found an American flag and we marched out along the baseline and the guys said it felt kind of like the Olympics," Lyon said. "They played both teams' national anthems and I think that was when our guys first knew they were really representing the U.S."

Tim Selgo, director of Athletics, said preparations for the trip began in 2009, taking nearly three years to approve paperwork and visas. The University of Alabama baseball team is the only other collegiate team to play baseball in Cuba.



Photo by Amanda Pitts

Steve Lyon, baseball coach, talks about the team's trip to Cuba. In the photo behind him, catcher Jared Cowan poses with Cuban youth.

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## FORUM Volume 36, Number 24

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. Web: [www.gvsu.edu/forum](http://www.gvsu.edu/forum).

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, GVNNow, 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.

## GVFaces

### Jeanine Beasley, Associate Professor of Occupational Therapy

Even while on sabbatical, Jeanine Beasley, associate professor of occupational therapy, doesn't stop moving.

In March, Beasley will travel to Switzerland to lead a workshop on the arthritic hand. She'll also be conducting further research in Germany regarding different forms of adaptive equipment that can help patients with arthritis. "I see common concerns with joint protection that get raised throughout my experiences with clients," said Beasley. "I also see the tools that are often issued to clients and I think, 'Is there a better design?'"

Now in her seventh year at Grand Valley, Beasley has put her interest in the arthritic hand to use by teaching, as well as filling in at the hand clinic she established at Mary Free Bed Rehabilitation Hospital in Grand Rapids. Beasley said her experiences with clients help shape her classroom dynamics. "It can be helpful when professors have real-life stories when explaining theories or conditions," she said. "It makes more sense for discussions. I try and keep my hands on hands."

Beasley also coordinates Grand Valley's Weekend Hybrid Occupational Therapy graduate program.

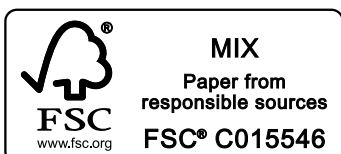
This April, Beasley will travel to Indianapolis to receive a Roster of Fellows Award from the American Occupational Therapy Association, an award that recognizes occupational therapists who make significant contributions to the field.



Jeanine Beasley

Beasley said that part of being a successful occupational therapist is being aware of your surroundings, especially when it comes to helping patients locate the specialized equipment they need. "You have to figure out a creative way to get equipment that facilitates independence when money or insurance coverage is an issue," she said. "You have to know your community resources by being plugged in."

Beasley said that this emphasis on connection and networking is one of the best parts of her work. "My students make fun of me for it, but I still have a Rolodex," she laughs. "If I can help someone by referring them to the right resource, that's important to me."



## What's Ahead

### Documentary highlights Loving Your Body Week

The Women's Center is hosting three screenings of the documentary "Miss Representation" this week to coincide with Loving Your Body Week activities.

The documentary, by Jennifer Siebel Newsom, explores how the media's misrepresentation of women have led to the underrepresentation of women in positions of power.

Screenings are set for Monday, February 27, at 4 p.m. in Kirkhof Center, room 2204; Tuesday, February 28, 6 p.m. in the Cook-DeVos Center for Health Sciences; and Wednesday, February 29, 6 p.m. in DeVos Center, room 138E. Faculty members will lead discussion following each screening; the event is LIB 100 and US 201 approved.

Brittany Dernberger, assistant director for the Women's Center, said the documentary includes interviews with celebrities and political leaders. "It highlights connections we don't always think about: how the media's portrayal of women relates to political self-efficacy and how this impacts women in political leadership positions," she said.

For more information, contact the Women's Center at x12748 or visit [www.gvsu.edu/women\\_cen](http://www.gvsu.edu/women_cen).

### Physics expert to discuss dark energy

Supernovae — the explosions of stars — have been utilized to probe vast, cosmological distances and have brought about astonishing

results, including the 1998 discovery of dark energy. Louis-Gregory Strolger, associate professor of physics and astronomy at Western Kentucky University, will give a talk, "Supernovae, Dark Energy and the Accelerating Universe," on Monday, February 27, at 7 p.m. in the DeVos Center, Loosemore Auditorium.

Strolger made important contributions to the study of dark energy with the three 2011 Nobel Physics laureates while serving as a postdoctoral researcher. He said the discovery of dark energy has marked an unprecedented change in the understanding of the cosmos, and now presents a fundamental challenge to the foundations of physics.

The event is co-sponsored by the GVSU Society of Physics Students and the Department of Physics. Visit [www.gvsu.edu/physics](http://www.gvsu.edu/physics) for more information or call x12274.

### Civil rights pioneer to give presentation

A Chicago native who became one of the pioneers of the Civil Rights Movement will give a presentation to close the Black History Month celebration.

Diane Nash's involvement in the movement began in 1959 when she was a student at Fisk University, where she became the chairperson of the student sit-in movement in Nashville.

In 1961, she coordinated the Freedom Ride from Birmingham, Alabama, to Jackson, Mississippi, a story that is documented in the PBS film "Freedom Riders." She was appointed to a national committee by President John Kennedy that promoted passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

Nash will give a presentation on Tuesday, February 28, at noon in the Kirkhof Center, room 2204. It is free and open to the public.

Her work has been cited in numerous books, documentaries, magazines and newspaper articles. Nash has appeared on "The Oprah Winfrey Show," "Spike Lee's Four Little Girls" and the PBS film "Eyes on the Prize: American's Civil Rights Years 1954-1965."

The event is in conjunction with the Office of Multicultural Affairs' Professional of Color Series. For more information, contact OMA at x12177 or visit [www.gvsu.edu/oma](http://www.gvsu.edu/oma).

### Celebrating Women event set

The Women's Commission will host the annual Celebrating Women Awards on March 13 in the Kirkhof Center, Pere Marquette Room, beginning at 3 p.m.

The Maxine Swanson Award will be presented to Harriet Singleton, from the Counseling Center. Two people will receive the Women's Impact Award: Pat Smith, deputy university counsel, and Debra Ross, associate professor of criminal justice. The Unsung Hero Award will be given to Michelle Duram, history department coordinator.

Women and Gender Studies will present the Barbara Jordan Award to Grace Collidge, associate professor of history.

Awards will also be presented by the Women's Center and Positive Black Women. RSVP for the event online at [www.gvsu.edu/women\\_cen](http://www.gvsu.edu/women_cen).

## Across Campus

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Joining Lyon as panelists were President Thomas J. Haas (who served as first base coach for one game); Gordon Alderink, pitching coach and Honors College faculty member; and Steve Cron, an adjunct instructor in Latin American Studies who teaches a course on Latin American baseball.

### Grand Valley researchers work on projects to restore lake

Two Annis Water Resources Institute researchers are working together on a pair of projects that are designed to help restore habitat in the area of Muskegon Lake, and assist in getting Muskegon Lake de-listed as an Area of Concern in the Great Lakes.

Al Steinman and Rick Rediske are co-principal investigators on a pair of projects in Muskegon Lake and adjacent Bear Lake. Steinman is the director of AWRI.

The planned improvements include a new design and engineering project to restore habitat in Muskegon Lake, which is connected to Lake Michigan, and a wetland restoration project just upstream from Bear Lake. Even though restoration efforts in the area have been underway for several years, some



AWRI researchers gather sediment samples. Two projects are designed to help restore habitat in the area of Muskegon Lake.

challenges remain. Fish and wildlife habitats are still recovering, Steinman said, and fish and wildlife that live in the area are considered degraded. In the Bear Lake area, unwanted nutrient enrichment and undesirable algae are cause for concern.

The first project will involve removing debris at the Muskegon Lake Mill Debris site, a shallow 40-acre area along the southern portion of the lake that's choked with old sawmill slab wood and sawdust from past operations.

The second project will reconnect a 43-acre wetland site that used to be a celery farm to the Bear Creek and Bear Lake system. The goal is to help improve habitat for fish and

wildlife. Another part of the project will be to monitor the phosphorus concentrations that could flow into the creek and lake from the wetland area after being reconnected.

The West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission is the lead organization on the projects. AWRI will also get assistance from NOAA's Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory, the Great Lakes Commission, and the National Wildlife Federation.

### Subscribe to GVNow alerts, Twitter feed

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When new stories are added to GVNow, subscribers will receive an email with news headlines and links. Visit [www.gvsu.edu/gvnow](http://www.gvsu.edu/gvnow) and click on "News Alerts" to subscribe.

In addition to news, the Twitter account provides live event coverage at large campus events. Visit [www.twitter.com/GV\\_Now](http://www.twitter.com/GV_Now) to follow and click on "News Alerts" at the bottom of the page to subscribe.

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## General Events

### Mon., Feb. 27

Noon: History Colloquium: "Ancient Historiography," by Victor Xiong. D-1-141 MAK. Call x13298 for more information.

4 p.m.: Women's Center hosts screening of "Miss Representation." 2204 KC. Call x12748 for more information.

6 p.m.: World Affairs Council Global Decisions Discussion Series: "Tools We Use to Promote Democracy Across the Globe," by Lorne W. Craner. Performing Arts Center, Aquinas College.

7 p.m.: Department of Physics Lecture: "Supernovae, Dark Energy, and the Accelerating Universe," by Louis-Gregory Strolger. Loosemore Auditorium DEV. Call x12274 for more information.

7 p.m.: Frederik Meijer Lecture Series: "One Person Can Make a Difference," by Barbara Pierce Bush. 2250 KC. Call x13219 for more information.

### Tues., Feb. 28

Noon: Professionals of Color Lecture Series:

"1961, the Freedom Riders & Our Struggle for Racial Justice," by Diane Nash. 2204 KC. Call x12177 for more information.

4 p.m.: Women's Center hosts screening of "The Perfect Vagina." 2204 KC. Call x12748 for more information.

6 p.m.: Women's Center hosts screening of "Miss Representation." Hager Auditorium CHS. Call x12748 for more information.

8 p.m.: Choral Concert. PAC. Call x13484 for more information.

### Wed., Feb. 29

11:30 a.m.: Johnson Center Brown Bag Lunch and Learn Series: Succession Planning. BIK. Call x17585 for more information.

Noon: Allendale Toastmasters. 2259 KC. Visit [www.gvsu.edu/toastmasters](http://www.gvsu.edu/toastmasters) for information.

Noon: Women's Commission Fireside Chat: "Beyond Privilege: How to Articulate the Costs of Inequality to the 'advantaged,'" by Jennifer Stewart. 1201 KC. To register, email [womenctr@gvsu.edu](mailto:womenctr@gvsu.edu).

6 p.m.: Women's Center hosts screening of "Miss Representation." 138E DEV. Call x12748 for more information.

6 p.m.: Psychology hosts Projection Film Series, "Mysteries of the Organism." 114 LMH. Call x12195 for more information.

8 p.m.: Concert Band. LAT, PAC. Call x13484 for more information.

### Thurs., March 1

7:30 a.m.: Downtown Toastmasters. University Club Room, DEV. Visit [www.gvsu.edu/toastmasters](http://www.gvsu.edu/toastmasters) for information.

3:30 p.m.: Excellence Series: "Strengths Quest: Putting Your Strengths to Work," by LeaAnn Tibbe. 2270 KC. Register online at [www.gvsu.edu/seminar](http://www.gvsu.edu/seminar).

6 p.m.: School of Communications hosts SoC HOPP with John Truscott. 119 CHS. Call x13668 for more information.

8 p.m.: Symphony Orchestra. PAC. Call x13484 for more information.

### Sat., March 3

8 a.m.: American College Dance Festival Association. PAC. Call x13484 for more information.

## Faculty and Staff Sketches

### In the News

**Sherry Johnson**, assistant professor of English, was interviewed by WXMI-TV for a story about a day of service during Black History Month.

**Rick Albrecht**, professor of movement science, was interviewed by the *Holland Sentinel* for a story about the racial slurs and game-ending brawl during a high school basketball game between Holland and Lowell.

**Michael Moody**, chair for Family Foundations and Philanthropy at the Johnson Center, was interviewed by *Philanthropy UK* for a story about why the study of giving and philanthropy is important.

### Sketches

**James McNair**, associate professor at the Annis Water Resources Institute, co-wrote an article, "Turbulent Particle Transport in Streams," published in the *Journal of Theoretical Biology*. McNair and **Dan Frobish**, assistant professor of statistics, co-wrote an article, "How to

Analyze Seed Germination Data Using Statistical Time-to-Event Analysis," published in *Seed Science Research*.

**Bradley Ambrose**, associate professor of physics, gave a presentation, "Using Research to Investigate and Enhance Student Understanding of Light as an Electromagnetic Wave," at the American Association of Physics Teachers national meeting in Ontario, California.

**Patrick Johnson**, assistant director of the Writing Center, **Hazel McClure**, University Libraries, and **Julie Garrison**, associate dean of University Libraries, gave a presentation, "Collaborative Spaces, Collaborative Learning: Giving Student Consultants an Intellectual Framework for Collaborations in the Library," at the Southeast Writing Centers Association at Eastern Kentucky University.

**Jim Rademaker**, fundraising coordinator for WGUVU, gave a presentation, "Fundraising Around Controversial Programs," at the TRAC Media Conference.

**Ann Sheehan**, visiting professor of nursing, co-wrote an article, "A Description of Nurse Practitioner Practice: Results of a NAPNAP Membership Survey," published in the *Journal of Pediatric Health Care*.

**RuthAnn Brintnall**, associate professor of nursing, **Kelly Tomaszewski**, who had worked for the Simulation and Learning Resource Center, gave a presentation, "End-of-Life Simulation of Therapeutic Communication and Care Using Standard Patients and a High Fidelity Mannequin," at the International Meeting on Simulation in Healthcare.

**Lee VanOrsdel**, dean of University Libraries, and **Ellen Schendel**, associate professor of writing and director of Writing Center, gave a presentation, "Making Noise in the Library: Designing a Student Learning Environment to Support a Liberal Education," at the Southeast Writing Centers Association at Eastern Kentucky University.