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# Grand Valley Forum, volume 037, number 24, February 25, 2013

Grand Valley State University

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# FORUM

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

Published by News & Information Services



## Students build power system for African hospital

A group of Grand Valley engineering graduate students designed a portable medical system for a hospital in a rural part of the southeastern African country of Malawi.

The Photovoltaic Emergency Power System, which was designed to kick on when the hospital loses power, was part of a class project led by Heidi Jiao, professor of engineering in the School of Engineering.

Jiao said the system has the potential to save lives. "Sometimes a patient can be lost when the power goes out, and it's devastating," she said, adding especially in the middle of surgeries.

The system was built by Ryan Gorby, Matt Alberda and Derek Dougherty. It is backed up by a battery and able to provide power for two consecutive days. It's portable and includes two emergency lights, one surgery suction system and two outlets for charging tablets and phones.

The group worked with Martha Sommers, an American physician who has been working in Malawi for more than 15 years, and her sister, Veronica Sommers, an engineer who has worked with Martha in Malawi.

"Knowing our hard work may provide someone

a second chance at life is the greatest reward for us," said Gorby. "Every engineering project is rewarding to the engineers once it comes together. That is one of the aspects that draws people to the profession."

Gorby, who works at GE Aviation as a hardware architect, said the team will be training Sommers on how to use and set up the system, which can be disassembled in four parts. She and a youth group will transport it to Malawi within the next year.

Alberda and Dougherty work in West Michigan as full-time engineers. Alberda is a system engineer at GE Aviation and Dougherty is an electrical design engineer at Eaton Corporation.

Another group of Grand Valley students worked with Sommers to create a medical mobile app that provides instructions to help midwives in Malawi and Haiti deliver babies without the presence of a doctor. The app was based on the book, "A Guide for Midwives," written by

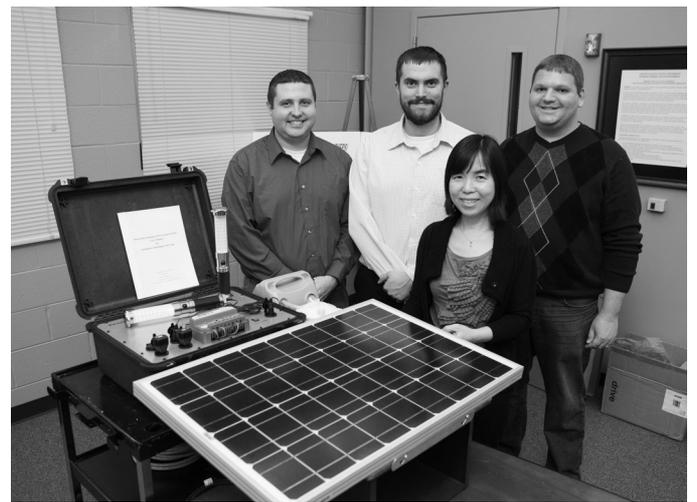


Photo by Amanda Pitts

From left are engineering students Ryan Gorby, Derek Dougherty, Matt Alberda and professor Heidi Jiao. The team built a portable medical system for an African hospital.

Martha's sister, Mary Sommers, a midwife and childbirth educator.

The app was created by computing alumnus Olvi Tole, business alumna Kelsey Waldecker, and business students James Villar, Jennifer Mast, Holly Malinowski and Michael Angerbrandt.

## Across Campus

### Class tests new Steelcase chairs

Students walking into John Kilbourne's activity permissible classroom had more choices to make about which chair to choose on February 11.

Steelcase representatives delivered 15 of its buoy seats for students to test. The chairs are not available to the public until March, but one of Kilbourne's former students thought his classroom would be a perfect pilot site.

"I had seen professor Kilbourne's research on movement in the classroom and made the connection," said Ryan Cook, product marketing specialist for Turnstone, a Steelcase company.

Cook said the seats suit a classroom because



Photo by Bernadine Carey-Tucker

Steelcase representatives, at left, talk to students in an activity permissible classroom about the new buoy seat.

of their movement and portability, making collaborations easy.

Kilbourne's classroom in Mackinac Hall

also houses node chairs, stand-up desks and exercise balls for students. Kilbourne, professor of movement science, said the buoy seat is sturdier than the exercise ball, takes up less space and can be adjusted for height.

"One of my goals is to make the classroom as exciting as it can be for the people who are paying for and attending the class," Kilbourne said.

### Grand Valley signs reverse transfer agreement

President Thomas J. Haas and Lansing Community College President Brent Knight signed a transfer agreement that will help

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# Across Campus

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students who transfer to Grand Valley complete an associate's degree at LCC.

The initiative applies to Lansing Community College students who have completed at least 45 credits at LCC, but transferred before earning an associate's degree.

Grand Valley has similar transfer agreements with Grand Rapids, Muskegon, West Shore, Montcalm, Macomb, and Northwestern Michigan community colleges.

## KCON students serve community

Nursing students and faculty members served their community recently by attending "Help on the Hill" and hosting a foot clinic.

Help on the Hill was a free educational program sponsored by Van Andel Institute for cancer survivors and their families and held February 8-9.

Ashley Smagacz, adjunct faculty member, said the students, who are taking the Care of the Adult Patient course also offered blood pressure screenings for program participants. "It was a great learning experience," Smagacz said. "Oncology nurses talked about their job, there were also talks about chemotherapy and doctors spoke about what to expect."



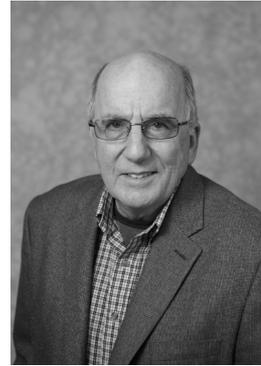
KCON students are pictured at Help on the Hill, an event hosted by Van Andel Institute.

During the same weekend, Sue Harrington, assistant professor of nursing, took seven nursing students to a foot clinic sponsored by South West Area Neighbors in Grand Rapids. "We had a constant stream of neighbors come through while we were open," Harrington said.

## English Department chair earns fiction prize

A short story collection by W. P. "Bill" Osborn, professor and chair of English, was selected as the winner of the 2013 Unboxed Books Prize in Fiction.

Osborn's *Seven Tales and Seven Stories*, whose "weird obsessiveness and bizarre poetry" judge Francine Prose "found irresistible," was selected for publication in both print and digital formats in fall 2013. The author will also will receive a \$5,000 prize.



Bill Osborn

"I'm sure this prize and publication will open new possibilities and help guide the writing part of my life for some time," said Osborn. "It's difficult to believe my good fortune in beginning an association with this new imprint and with the organizations it connects to." The prize is furnished by the deGroot Foundation, in association with Provincetown Arts.

Osborn has lived in California, Ohio, New York, and Germany. His fiction appears in such venues as *Southern Humanities Review*, *Texas Review*, *Hotel Amerika*, *Mississippi Review*, *Gettysburg Review*, and *Beloit Fiction Journal*.

## New journal seeks submissions from campus community

A new journal that will focus on exploring the intersections of identity is seeking submissions from students, faculty, staff members and the community.

"Intersectionality: A Collection of Diverse Lived Experiences," formerly called "In Our Own Words," is a collaborative effort between the Women's

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## FORUM Volume 37, 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. 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 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.

GvNow, Grand Valley's daily news online publication, can be found at www.gvsu.edu/gvnow. Subscribe to daily email alerts.

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

## GVFaces

### Michael Huner Assistant Professor of History

Michael Huner said as a young boy he enjoyed learning about wars, and his interest led him to study a small dot on the world map not usually mentioned in history books.

As an assistant professor of history, Huner teaches world history, modern Latin American history and special topics such as war and conflict in modern Latin American societies.

Huner's personal research focuses on war and conflict in the land-locked country of Paraguay in South America.

"As I got deeper into studying Paraguay it was like quicksand and I just kept getting sucked in further," said Huner. "Even though Paraguay might not seem like it has much relevance to our world it has been interesting to explore the everyday experiences of the people there and how they play into a larger historical context."

Huner, originally from Ann Arbor, graduated from Valparaiso University with a bachelor's degree in history in 2000. He earned a Fulbright Fellowship and spent the next year conducting research in South America. He then earned a

master's degree from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, in 2004 and a doctoral degree in Latin American history in 2011.

In his role at Grand Valley, Huner said he enjoys working with and learning from students.

"Students always seem to find a way to remind you how fascinating it can be to learn new things and they are able to excite you about the very thing you are teaching," said Huner.

Huner is also currently working on a number of other research projects including an article on suicide in 19th-century Paraguay and an article linking the world of politics with spoken Guarani, the indigenous vernacular of Paraguay.

In his spare time, Huner said he enjoys spending time with his family and watching the Tigers play baseball and Tar Heels play college basketball.



Michael Huner



# What's Ahead

## Love Your Body Week begins Monday

The Women's Center will host a week of events from February 25-March 1 to celebrate Love Your Body Week.

Among the events will be a photo display that was in ArtPrize last year that portrays diverse groups of people in relation to body image. "I Am Human" will be featured in the Women's Center Wednesday, February 27, from 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; a reception will take place at noon. The display was created by Kristen Brenzón, a photographer from New Zealand, for the Michigan Eating Disorder Alliance.

"The display was made to raise awareness of how social media defines body perfection," said Jo Ann Wassenaar, associate director of the Women's Center. Opening remarks will be given by Gail Hall, a local therapist who works with individuals who struggle with eating disorders.

Events are free and open to the public. Visit [www.gvsu.edu/women\\_cen](http://www.gvsu.edu/women_cen) for more information.

- **Feel Comfortable in Your Genes;** February 25 and February 28, noon-5 p.m., Kirkhof Center Lobby
- **"Beauty Mark" film screening and discussion;** February 25, 3 p.m., Kirkhof Center, room 2263; The film is about self-image and the disconnect between minds and bodies. A discussion with Julia Mason, assistant professor of women and gender studies, will follow.
- **"Miss Representation" film screening and discussion;** February 25, 6 p.m., Kirkhof Center, room 2215
- **The Sociology of Food;** February 26, 5 p.m., Kirkhof Center, room 2263; Jennifer Stewart, associate professor of sociology, will highlight ways societal views of food affect the prevalence of eating disorders in American culture.
- **From Body Hater to Body Celebrator;** February 27, 7 p.m., Kirkhof Center, Pere Marquette Room; Amber Krzys is a motivational speaker who helps young men and women with self confidence and negative body images. Approved for LIB 100 classes.

## Counseling Center to host screenings

Grand Valley's Counseling Center staff members will conduct screenings in conjunction with National Eating Disorders Screening Day, Tuesday, February 26, and Love Your Body Week.

Locations and times follow. Visit the center's website, [www.gvsu.edu/counsel](http://www.gvsu.edu/counsel), for more information.

- Kirkhof Center Lobby, from 3-5 p.m.
- Kleiner Commons, noon-2 p.m.
- DeVos Center Student Project Area, noon-2 p.m.
- Cook-DeVos Center for Health Sciences, noon-2 p.m.
- Campus Recreation Center, 4-6 p.m.
- Counseling and Career Development Center, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

## PIC will host passport fair

The Padnos International Center will host a Passport Fair on Wednesday, February 27, from 1-4 p.m. in Lake Ontario Hall, room 130.

Students, faculty and staff members are invited to apply for a new passport or renew their current one. Allow up to six weeks for passport processing.

Participants applying for a new passport should bring proof of U.S. citizenship, proof of identity with photo, two separate checks or money orders (\$110 to the Department of State, \$25 to the Postal Service).

Passport photos can be taken at the fair for \$2 cash. Participants must present GVSU identification cards.

Passport renewals require two checks (\$110 to the Department of State and the other for \$5.75 to the Postal Service).

Visit [www.gvsu.edu/pic](http://www.gvsu.edu/pic) for more information.

## History expert to discuss Underground Railroad

The stories of a secret network in Michigan that assisted people in slavery will close Black History Month events at Grand Valley.

Veta Tucker, associate professor of English, will give a presentation, "Freedom, Slavery and the Underground Railroad in Michigan" on February 27 and 28. She will discuss the small, but dedicated group of Michigan settlers who also helped those escaping slavery in the South find freedom.



Veta Tucker

Her presentations, "Freedom, Slavery and the Underground Railroad in Michigan," are set for Wednesday, February 27, 4:30 p.m. in the DeVos Center, Loosemore Auditorium; and Thursday, February 28, noon in the Kirkhof Center, Pere Marquette Room.

Tucker is founder and former director of Grand Valley's Kutsche Office of Local History. Tucker's presentations are approved for LIB

100 and 201 classes. They are free and open to the public.

The events are sponsored by Grand Valley's Office of Multicultural Affairs, WGUV Public Media and the Inclusion and Equity Division. For information, visit [www.gvsu.edu/oma](http://www.gvsu.edu/oma).

## Student group to host presentation by Holocaust survivor

Members of the student organization Hillel will host a presentation by a Holocaust survivor to raise awareness and educate the campus community about genocide.

Martin Löwenberg, who survived the Holocaust and moved to the U.S. in 1964, will share his story of survival during Hillel's Genocide Awareness Night on Wednesday, February 27, from 6-7:30 p.m., in the Kirkhof Center, Grand River Room.

Noah Zucker, president of Hillel, got in touch with Löwenberg through the Holocaust Memorial Center in Farmington Hills. "His story is incredible," Zucker said. "He survived numerous concentration camps, while sadly, many of his family members were not as fortunate."

Zucker said the night will start with a discussion led by students about the impact of genocide on different regions and cultures. Löwenberg's presentation will follow. For more information, contact Zucker at [zuckern@mail.gvsu.edu](mailto:zuckern@mail.gvsu.edu).

## Fulbright informational session planned

An informational session is planned in March for faculty members who are considering applying for a Fulbright award.

Mark Schaub, chief international officer, will give an overview of Fulbright awards available to most faculty members. The session is set for March 15, at 2 p.m. in the DeVos Center, University Club Room. A reception will follow featuring previous Fulbright recipients from Grand Valley.

Grand Valley tied for second place in a ranking of the number of Fulbright scholars from master's institutions, according to the Chronicle of Higher Education. Three faculty members — Ashok Kumar, John Bender and Erik Nordman — were Fulbright recipients this academic year.

For more information about the informational session, contact Schaub, who also serves as Grand Valley's Fulbright representative, at [schaubm@gvsu.edu](mailto:schaubm@gvsu.edu). Register for the session online at [www.gvsu.edu/seminar](http://www.gvsu.edu/seminar), click on "Teaching and Learning."

# Across Campus

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Center, Office of Multicultural Affairs and the LGBT Resource Center.

It will provide an opportunity for the campus community to look at the world through

multiple dimensions, including race, gender, sexual orientation and class status.

The deadline to submit entries is February 25. Entries can be in the form of essays, articles, poetry and short fiction. Submissions should be sent to [womenctr@gvsu.edu](mailto:womenctr@gvsu.edu) with "Journal" in

the subject line.

The journal will be highlighted at the annual Women's Center EqualiTea event March 26, during Women's History month. For more information about the journal, contact the Women's Center at x12748.

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## General Events

### Mon., Feb. 25

9 a.m.: Double Reed Master Class: Robert Sorton, oboe; Emily Patronik, bassoon. CDC. Call x13484 for more information.

5 p.m.: Dance Program: "An Aura of Mysticism," directed by Shawn Bible. 1121 PAC. Call x12563 for more information.

6 p.m.: Women's Center hosts "Miss Representation." 2215/2216 KC. Call x12748 for more information.

6 p.m.: World Affairs Council Great Decisions Series: "From Cold War to Syria's Attack on Turkey: NATO's Security Challenges," by Fatih Yildiz. Performing Arts Center, Aquinas College. Call (616) 776-1721 for more information.

### Tues., Feb. 26

11 a.m.: Asian Pacific American Heritage Celebration Event: "Learning Chinese – How to Make it Easy," by Curtis Smith. 2263 KC. Call x12177 for more information.

Noon-6 p.m.: Counseling Center holds Eating Disorder Screenings. Various sites. Call x13266 for more information.

Noon: Cantate Chamber Ensemble and Varsity 8. St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Muskegon. Call x13484 for more information.

Noon: Weight Watchers at Work. 2266 KC. Call x12215 for more information.

1 p.m.: Human Resources Career Services hosts Career Portfolio: "Developing

Professional Career Documents." 1142 KC. Call x12215 for more information.

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

### Wed., Feb. 27

11:30 a.m.: Johnson Center Brown Bag Lunch and Learn Series: "Business Canvas for Nonprofits," by Kevin McCurren and Timothy Syfert. BIK. Call x17585 for more information.

Noon: Allendale Toastmasters. 2201 KC. Visit [www.gvsu.edu/toastmasters](http://www.gvsu.edu/toastmasters) for more information.

Noon: Arts at Noon Series: "Ensemble Caprice – Salsa Baroque." CDC. Call x13484 for more information.

Noon: Women's Commission Fireside Chat: "Asian Women in Higher Education," by Connie Dang and Shaily Menon. 1201 KC. Call x12748 for more information.

1 p.m.: Human Resources Excellence Series: "Leadership Your Team Can Follow," by Kim Monaghan. 303C DEV. Visit [www.gvsu.edu/seminar](http://www.gvsu.edu/seminar) to register.

1-4 p.m.: Padnos International Center hosts Passport Fair. 130 LOH. Call x13898 for more information.

3:30 p.m.: Psychology Faculty Research Colloquia by Mario Fific. 308 PAD. Call x12195 for more information.

4:30 p.m.: Black History Month Event: "Freedom, Slavery, and the Underground Railroad in Michigan," by Veta Tucker. Loosemore Auditorium, DEV. Call x12177 for more information.

6 p.m.: Psychology Projection Film Series: "The Aristocrats." 114 LMH. Call x12195 for more information.

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

### Thurs., Feb. 28

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

Noon: Women's Center What Mommies Do Best: "Pamper Me." 1201 KC. Call x12748 for more information.

Noon: Black History Month Event: "Freedom, Slavery, and the Underground Railroad in Michigan," by Veta Tucker. 2204 KC. Call x12177 for more information.

1 p.m.: Human Resources Career Services hosts Career Portfolio: "Developing Professional Career Documents." 302C DEV. Call x12215 for more information.

3:30 p.m.: Human Resources Excellence Series: "Bias Incident Protocol Training," by Team Against Bias. 303C DEV. Register at [www.gvsu.edu/seminar](http://www.gvsu.edu/seminar).

5:15 p.m.: Faculty and Staff Snowshow Adventure. Visit [www.gvsu.edu/oac](http://www.gvsu.edu/oac) for more information.

## Sports

### Sat., Mar. 2

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

## Faculty and Staff Sketches

Note: The online version of Forum, [www.gvsu.edu/forum](http://www.gvsu.edu/forum), features links to published works.

### In the News

**Beth Macauley**, associate professor of allied health sciences, was interviewed by the *Grand Rapids Business Journal* for a story about the master's program in speech-language pathology.

**John Kilbourne**, professor of movement science, was interviewed by the Associated Press for a story on activity permissible classrooms.

**Michael Moody**, chair for Family Foundations and Philanthropy at the Johnson Center for Philanthropy, was interviewed by the *Washington Post* and *Chronicle of Philanthropy* for stories about next-generation donors.

**Doug Furton**, professor of physics, was interviewed by WOOD-TV and WZZM-TV for

stories about the meteor that exploded over Russia.

**Paul Sicilian**, associate professor of economics, was interviewed by WZZM-TV for a story about possibly raising the minimum wage.

### Sketches

**Jeremiah Cataldo**, assistant professor of history in the Honors College, wrote an article, "Yahweh's Breast: Klein's Projective Identity Theory as an Understanding for Monotheistic Identity in Haggai," published in the *Journal of Hebrew Scriptures* 13.

**Ashok Kumar**, professor of management, received the Lifetime Achievement Award in Operations Management from the Indian Institute of Technology in Delhi.

**Thomas Pentecost**, assistant professor of chemistry, wrote an article, "From Verification

to Guided Inquiry: What Happens When a Chemistry Laboratory Curriculum Changes?" published in the *Journal of College Science Teaching*.

The **Research Experience for Undergraduates Summer Program in Mathematics** has received another year of funding from the National Science Foundation.

The **GVSU Police Academy** has received funding from the Michigan Department of State Police for the 2013 Police Precision Driving program.

**Monica Johnstone**, director of communications and advancement for CLAS, had an art quilt, "Hawaiian Women's Petition 1897," selected for the Yeiser Art Center show "Fantastic Fibers 2013" in Paducah, Kentucky.