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Grand Valley State University

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FORUM

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

Published by University Communications



Author of CRP selection will visit West Michigan

The author of the book chosen for Grand Valley's Community Reading Project will give presentations on campus and in Holland.

Reyna Grande, author of the award-winning *The Distance Between Us*, will discuss her book March 24 at the Herrick District Library in Holland and March 25 at the Kirkhof Center, Grand River Room. Both presentations will begin at 7 p.m.; they are free and open to the public.

Grande's book brings to the forefront a timely discussion of immigration and citizenship as it details her childhood spent torn between two parents and two countries. Grande's Mexican parents leave their children behind to make the dangerous trek across the border in search of a better life. When Grande arrives in California at age 9, she adjusts to life as an undocumented immigrant and learns that life in America is far from perfect.



Reyna Grande will visit campus on March 25 to discuss her book, 'The Distance Between Us.' It was the Community Reading Project selection this year. Grande will also give a presentation in Holland on March 24.

Published in 2012, *The Distance Between Us* was a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award. The School Library Journal named it "One of the Best Adult Books for Teens" in 2012, and it was listed that year as one of the 15

best books by the Christian Science Monitor. Grande received the American Book Award for her first novel, *Across a Hundred Mountains*. She also earned the El Premio Aztlán Literary Award and the Latino Book Award.

Brian Jbara, director of Integrative Learning, said the book was used in about 40 courses and by many other discussion groups on campus.

The Community Reading Project was established at Grand Valley in 2005. Since then, many authors have visited campus to carry discussions of the book outside the classroom, including visits to community partners like the Herrick District Library.

For more information about Grande or the book, visit www.gvsu.edu/read. See page 3 for a story about an art exhibition sponsored by CRP.

Across Campus

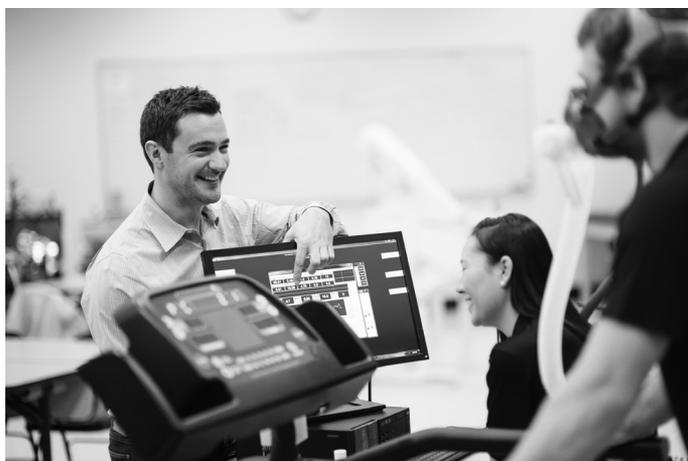
Grand Valley, GRCC sign program articulation agreement

Grand Valley and Grand Rapids Community College signed an articulation agreement allowing GRCC students a seamless transfer to Grand Valley's exercise science program, and specifically the clinical exercise science emphasis.

Ross Sherman, associate professor and program coordinator for exercise science, said the two institutions started working on this agreement several years ago. Under the agreement drawn up by Christina Beaudoin, associate professor and chair of movement science, and Jodi Gee, assistant professor of wellness at GRCC, a student can complete the first two years of exercise science at GRCC and finish at Grand Valley with a bachelor's degree in the program.

"We anticipate strong interest from students at GRCC," Sherman said, adding there is no set number of GRCC students who could participate in this transfer arrangement.

Exercise science has more than 1,000 majors, making it the fifth largest major on campus, Sherman said.



Ross Sherman, associate professor of exercise science, talks with students. A new articulation agreement with GRCC creates a seamless transfer for students to Grand Valley.

Campus mourns death of retiree

Richard Mehler, Grand Valley's first director of student services, died March 10. He was 81.

Mehler retired in 1996 after a 22-year career at the university. After serving as director of student services, Mehler was the director of the Pew Grand Rapids Campus.

He is survived by his wife, Barbara, who worked for Facilities Services. A memorial service is set for Saturday, March 22, at 11 a.m. at First Evangelical Covenant Church in Grand Rapids.

Leadership Academy applications due

Faculty and staff members are asked to encourage students who have exceptional leadership potential to apply to the Cook Leadership Academy, a year-long leadership development program offered through the

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Across Campus

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Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies.

To apply to be a CLA Fellow for the 2014-2015 academic year, students should submit an application online by March 24 at hauensteincenter.org/ apply.

Students in the Cook Leadership Academy have an opportunity to discover their best selves and become effective future leaders.

For more information, visit the website or contact Chadd Dowding at x17087 or dowdinch@gvsu.edu.

Dual degree program signed with UBB

Officials from Grand Valley and the Universidad del Bió-Bió in Chile signed an agreement that gives liberal studies majors at each institution an opportunity to earn a dual degree.



At the signing of a dual degree program with UBB in Chile are, from left, Marcia Haas, President Thomas J. Haas, Hector Guillermo Gaete Feres, Elizabeth Grandon Toledo, Mark Schaub, Bridget Farr and Paul Farr.

President Thomas J. Haas and Rector Hector Guillermo Gaete Feres signed the agreement last week in Chile. UBB has an enrollment of about 11,000.

Mark Schaub, chief international officer, said the agreement will begin in the fall 2014 semester. The agreement calls for a maximum of six students to participate in the exchange annually. This is the second undergraduate dual degree program with an international partner; international studies participates in STAIR (Studies in Trans-Atlantic International Relations) with institutions in Hungary and Poland.

Center seeks art for office display

The Women's Center is seeking submissions of artwork from students, faculty and staff members, and community members to be displayed throughout the center next year.

The theme of the Women's Center's 13th annual call for art is celebrating diverse gender expressions. The deadline for submissions is April 11, at 2 p.m.; notifications will be sent to selected artists April 18.

For more information, call x12748 or visit www.gvsu.edu/women_cen.

Care for women veterans subject of conference

About 50 people attended an interprofessional conference on medical care for women military veterans sponsored by the Kirkhof College of Nursing.

The February 28 session continued a series of training workshops KCON has hosted in collaboration with the Battle Creek Veterans Affairs Medical Center.

Yvette Petti, KCON associate dean for graduate research, holds an embedded faculty role at the Battle Creek VA Medical Center and part of her role is to facilitate continuing clinical education for nurses and providers, particularly in the areas of women's wellness and health screening examinations.

Participants at the workshop included KCON faculty members and students, and VA lab specialists, pharmacists, physician assistants and nurses.



Photo by Amanda Pitts

KCON faculty member Deborah Bambini, second from left, and other participants are pictured at a conference on care for women military veterans.

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The GVSU Forum is published by University Communications. 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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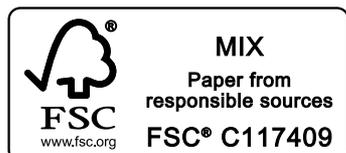
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Other publications by University Communications include:

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, GVNnow, at www.gvsu.edu/gvnow, for daily news updates and video features.

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



GVFaces

Shelley Sickrey, Office Coordinator, OURS

Shelley Sickrey has always been passionate about educating others, and her role with the Office of Undergraduate Research and Scholarship gives her that opportunity on a daily basis.

As the office coordinator, Sickrey is part of the team responsible for hosting Student Scholars Day, an annual Grand Valley tradition to celebrate the scholarship and creative work of students. Sickrey sees herself as an educator as she helps guide students and faculty members through all aspects of the event in order to make it a success.

"Student Scholars Day gives students the opportunity to showcase their work in a supportive environment and allows faculty and community members to see the great work that is being done, which is important for Grand Valley and the community as a whole," said Sickrey.

The 19th Annual Student Scholars Day will be held on April 9 and will showcase more than 400 presentations by more than 600 student presenters. Sickrey said this year's event is the largest ever.

Aside from her work with SSD, Sickrey is also responsible for coordinating the Academic Conference Fund, for students who wish to

present at scholarly and professional conferences; and the Academic and Professional Enrichment Fund, for students attending conferences and events with a faculty member. She also provides administrative support to the Student Summer Scholars program, which provides funds for a student and faculty mentor to devote 12 weeks to a research or creative project during the spring/summer semester.

"I really value my role at Grand Valley because every aspect of our office is focused on supporting students and showcasing the amazing work that they do," said Sickrey.

A Grand Valley alumna, Sickrey earned a bachelor's degree in legal studies in 1997 and went on to earn a master's degree in English literature in 2012. Before accepting her current position, Sickrey worked first as a secretary and then as office coordinator for the GVSU Johnson Center for Philanthropy.

Sickrey said she enjoys reading, traveling and spending time with her family attending her children's extracurricular activities.



Shelley Sickrey

What's Ahead

Exhibition focuses on CRP selection

Students from Allendale High School and the Grandville Avenue Arts and Humanities Center have created artwork in conjunction with this year's Community Reading Project selection, *The Distance Between Us*.



Artwork by Dakota Mergener is included in the exhibition that accompanies the CRP selection, 'The Distance Between Us.' The exhibition, at the Mary Idema Pew Library, will run through March 25.

The artwork is on exhibit at the exhibition gallery at the Mary Idema Pew Library Learning and Information Commons through March 25, during regular library hours.

Allendale art teacher Erin Overmeyer said five students read the book and their pieces reflect their reaction to the book by Reyna Grande.

Actor from Netflix series to visit campus

Laverne Cox, transgender advocate and current actress in the Netflix series "Orange is the New Black," will give a presentation Tuesday, March 18, on the Pew Grand Rapids Campus.

"Ain't I a Woman: My Journey to Womanhood" will take place at 7 p.m. in the Eberhard Center, room 215.

Cox is the first African-American trans woman to produce and star in her own television show, VH1's "TRANSForm Me." She also appeared on a reality television program, VH1's "I Wanna Work for Diddy" in 2008. She accepted the GLAAD media award for Outstanding Reality Program for the program in 2009.

The event is hosted by Student Senate, with support from LGBT Resource Center, Student Life, Iota Iota Iota, Women's Center, Black Student Union, Division of Inclusion and Equity, and Women and Gender Studies.

Cox's visit is part of Women's History Month at Grand Valley. For more information, visit www.gvsu.edu/lgbtrc.

Screening, lecture of 'Pawnbroker' set

Grand Valley will commemorate the 50th anniversary of Sidney Lumet's groundbreaking drama, "The Pawnbroker," with a free screening and discussion.

The screening will be held on Tuesday, March 18, at 7:30 p.m. in Loutit Hall, room 102.

It will be introduced by film historian Annette Insdorf of Columbia University. Based on Edward Lewis Wallant's 1961 novel,

"The Pawnbroker" (1964) is the story of Sol Nazerman, a concentration camp survivor whose traumatic memories are often triggered by the desperate people who come to his Harlem pawn shop. Starring Rod Steiger in an Academy-Award-nominated performance, it is the first Hollywood film to examine the Holocaust from a survivor's perspective.

Insdorf will give a presentation, "The Pawnbroker: A Cinematic Language to Represent the Holocaust," on Wednesday, March 19, 4 p.m. in Loutit Hall, room 102.

She is the author of *Indelible Shadows: Film and the Holocaust*, which remains the foundational text in the field. She has also written books on Francois Truffaut, Polish cinema, and most recently a study of Philip Kaufman.

Both events are sponsored by the Joseph Stevens Freedom Endowment, Brooks College of Interdisciplinary Studies, Meijer Honors College, and the School of Communications.

For more information, contact Rob Franciosi, professor of English, at x13069 or francior@gvsu.edu.

Faculty will showcase use of technology at symposium

The 13th annual Teaching and Learning with Technology Symposium will showcase innovative ways faculty members are using technology in the classroom.

The symposium is set for March 19, 1-4 p.m., in the Mary Idema Pew Library Learning and Information Commons.

Two College of Education faculty members, Andrew Topper and Sean Lancaster, will give the keynote address. Faculty presentations will begin at 2 p.m.

The New Music Ensemble, conducted by Bill Ryan, will follow the keynote, as the group is known for innovative ways of incorporating technology into their musical selections.

The symposium is sponsored by the Instructional Design for eLearning group and the Pew Faculty Teaching and Learning Center.

Haas to hold virtual office hours Wednesday

President Thomas J. Haas will hold virtual office hours on Wednesday, March 19, from 3-4:30 p.m.

The online program allows students, faculty and staff members to ask questions and chat with President Haas. The discussions are available only to the campus community, and users will need to use their network login to participate.

Haas began hosting virtual office hours in 2007 in an effort to make it easier to communicate with students, faculty and staff members. To participate, visit www.gvsu.edu/virtualofficehours.

Health fair free for families

Area parents and their children are invited to a free health fair at Cook-DeVos Center for Health Sciences that will focus on families and healthy lifestyles.

The first West Michigan Interprofessional Education Initiative (WMIPEI) Community Health Fair is set for Thursday, March 20. It will run from 5-8 p.m. in the CHS lobby. Fair organizers are the students and faculty members from the WMIPEI.

Katie Branch, from the Vice Provost for Health office, said in addition to area vendors the fair will include four interprofessional faculty-led discussions on Healthy Travel, Healthy Sports and Recreation, Healthy Lifestyles and Success in School.

Participants will also have the opportunity to visit interprofessional booths designed and presented by students.

The WMIPEI members who are hosting the fair are health professional students and faculty members from Grand Valley, Michigan State University College of Human Medicine, Ferris State University, and the Kent Intermediate School District.

Congolese writer to visit campus

Kama Sywor Kamanda, born in the Democratic Republic of Congo in 1952, published his first collection of stories at age 15.

The prolific writer, who has received international recognition, will visit campus for a series of events that focus on his life and work. All events are free and open to the public.

Kamanda will give a poetry reading and sign books on Monday, March 24, from 6-9 p.m. in the DeVos Center, Loosemore Auditorium

He will also visit the Allendale Campus to give a presentation on March 25, from 11 a.m.-noon, in the Kirkhof Center, room 2250. Additionally, he will be the guest of honor at the French Mélodies event on March 26, 6-10 p.m., in the Cook-DeWitt Center. This festive celebration includes students, faculty and some members of the community reading poems (some original), singing French songs and playing French musical pieces.

Kamanda studied literature, journalism, political science, philosophy and law at the Université de Kinshasa and the University of Liège.

As a writer, Kamanda has produced more than a dozen volumes of poetry, hundreds of stories and several novels, all in French. Many of his works have been translated into Japanese, Italian, Greek and English.

For more information, contact Isabelle Cata, Modern Languages and Literatures Department, at x12477 or catai@gvsu.edu.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

General Events

Mon., March 17

- 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.: Human Resources Supervisor Brown Bag Lunch. "You Can Teach Attitude." 340 BIK. Visit www.gvsu.edu/seminar to register.
- 1 p.m.: Healing Children of Conflict hosts Susan Abulhawa. Loosemore Auditorium, DEV Call x13581 for more information.
- 2 p.m.: Venderbush Leadership Lecture. MIPL. Call x12345 for more information.
- 3:30 p.m.: Health and Wellness Workshop: Same-Sex Marriage Legal Ramifications, by Wendy Holtvluwer. 2270 KC. Visit www.gvsu.edu/seminar to register.
- 6 p.m.: World Affairs Council of Western Michigan Great Decisions Lecture: "Unintended Consequences of the Arab Spring," by Reza Marashi. Aquinas College. Call (616) 776-1721 for more information.

Tues., March 18

- 3 p.m.: Women's Center hosts EqualTea. 2204 KC. Call x12748 for more information.
- 7 p.m.: LGBT Resource Center hosts "Ain't I a Woman?: My Journey to Womanhood," by LaVerne Cox. 215 EC. Call x12530 for more information.
- 7:30 p.m.: GVSU Symphonic Wind Ensemble and Bryon Center High School Bands. Van Singel Center, Bryon Center. Call x13484 for more information.

Wed., March 19

- 11 a.m.-3 p.m.: Professional School Fair. GRR, KC. Call x18585 for more information.
- 11:30 a.m.: Health and Wellness Alzheimer's Caregivers Group. 2264 KC. Call x12215 for more information.
- Noon: Allendale Toastmasters. 2259 KC. Visit www.gvsu.edu/toastmasters for more information.
- Noon: Arts at Noon: Musicology Lecture by Gillian Rodger. CDC. Call x13484 for more information.
- 1 p.m.: Teaching and Learning with Technology Symposium. MIPL Visit gvsu.edu/idel/symposium for more information.
- 6 p.m.: Psychology hosts Projection Film Series: "Project NIM." 114 LMH. Call x12195 for more information.

Thurs., March 20

- 7:30 a.m.: Downtown Toastmasters. 107C DEV. Visit www.gvsu.edu/toastmasters for more information.
- 11:30 a.m.: Health and Wellness Alzheimer's Caregivers Group. 302C DEV. Call x12215 for more information.
- 5-8 p.m.: Community Health Fair. Lobby, CHS. Call x15811 for more information.

Fri., March 21

- 2 p.m. AWRI Seminar: "Everyone has a Plan

for Grasslands: Challenges in Working Landscapes," by Carolyn Malmstrom. Multipurpose Room, LMC. Call x13749 for more information.

Sat., March 22

- 9 a.m.-5 p.m.: R.I.C.E. Conference. 122E DEV. Call x12177 for more information.

Sports

Tues., March 18

- 3 p.m.: Softball hosts St. Joseph's College.

Wed., March 19

- Noon: Men's Tennis hosts Walsh University.
- 2 p.m.: Baseball hosts Hillsdale College.

Sat., March 22

- 1 p.m.: Softball hosts Malone University.
- 1 p.m.: Baseball hosts Wayne State University.

Sun., March 23

- Noon: Softball hosts Ashland University.
- Noon: Baseball hosts Wayne State University.

Faculty and Staff Sketches

Jean Barry, associate professor of nursing, wrote an article, "Leadership at 360 Degrees," published in the *Nursing Management Journal*.

Barb Hooper, assistant professor of nursing, was appointed to the Ottawa County Community Action Agency Advisory Board.

Dianne Conrad, assistant professor of nursing, gave a presentation, "Linking Education with Practice to Transform Healthcare: Leadership Initiatives to Support the Preparation and Utilization of the Practice Doctorate in Nursing," at the American Association of Colleges of Nursing 2014 Doctoral Education Conference in Naples, Florida.

Movement science faculty members **John Kilbourne** and **Shari Bartz-Smith** received a grant from the Grand Haven Community Foundation for two activity permissible classrooms at Mary A White Elementary School.

Ruthann Brintnall, associate professor of nursing, was selected to participate in the

first training group for Integrating Palliative Oncology Care into Doctor of Nursing Practice Education and Clinical Practice in Glendale, California.

Movement Science **Steve Glass**, **Brian Hatzel** and **Rick Albrecht** wrote a book, *Kinesiology for Dummies*, published by Wiley Publishing.

Debjani Chakravarty, assistant professor of women and gender studies, gave a presentation, "Multiple Worldviews and the World Wide Web: Can Online Environments Aid Transformative Pedagogy?" at the Annual International Conference of Higher Education Pedagogy, held at Virginia Tech.

Ronald Loeffler, associate professor of philosophy, wrote an article, "Belief Ascriptions and Social Externalism," published in the *Philosophical Studies*.

Bopi Biddanda, professor of water resources, served on the NASA Michigan Space Grants Consortium Panel at the University of Michigan.

Yvette Petti, associate dean of nursing, received a grant from the Jonas Center for Nursing and Veterans Healthcare and the American Association of Colleges of Nursing for the "Jonas Scholars Program."

MASAL Conference



Geography and Planning faculty members Kin Ma and Roy Cole are pictured with students at the Michigan Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters Conference at Oakland University. Nine students gave presentations. Pictured in the back row, left to right, are Cole, Lily Cole, Kyle Barnhart, Derick Peterman; front row, left to right, Kelsey Hanson, Alyssa Ellen, Aynsley Gilmour, Melissa Salich and Ma. Not pictured is Philip Reed.