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Grand Valley State University

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FORUM

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

Published by News & Information Services



Grand Valley participates in Army center opening

Representatives from Grand Valley attended the grand opening ceremony of the Mary Walker Army Strong Community Center in Walker on March 3.

Grand Valley was the only university from West Michigan to sign an agreement to participate in the Community Covenant program, which is designed to foster state and community partnerships with the Army to improve the quality of life for soldiers and their families.

The community center is one of five in the U.S. and the first in the Midwest. The covenant was signed by Steven Lipnicki, assistant dean of students, Jack Stultz, commanding general of the U.S. Army Reserve, and community and government members.

Lipnicki said Grand Valley and WGVSU Engage were important partners to help the center establish itself in West Michigan. "We were originally contacted this past fall about the benefits the center would have for the community," Lipnicki said. "Grand Valley and WGVSU Engage are gaining recognition and receiving requests to help address veterans

concerns in the community, as well as regional and statewide initiatives."

Lipnicki anticipates that active service members and veterans who attend Grand Valley will benefit from the center's services. "By signing the covenant, the university is demonstrating a broader and deeper commitment to the veteran population in West Michigan," he said.

Grand Valley continues to provide support for service members and veterans through on-campus Veterans Network services and the university's involvement with the Wounded Warriors Traumatic Brain Injury Project, a partnership with Mary Free Bed Rehabilitation Hospital.

This year, Grand Valley was named "A Military Friendly School" by *G.I. Jobs* for the third



Pictured at left is Steven Lipnicki, assistant dean of students, talking with a group of student veterans and their family members during a reception. Lipnicki signed an agreement with the new Army Strong Community Center in Walker stating that Grand Valley will partner with the center to provide resources and support to soldiers.

consecutive year. Visit the Veterans Networks website, www.gvsu.edu/veterans, for more information about services and resources for student veterans and service members at Grand Valley.

Across Campus

GVSU recognized for stormwater management practices

Grand Valley was honored for its stormwater management practices at the American Council of Engineering Companies of Michigan awards ceremony on February 25.

James Moyer, assistant vice president for Facilities Planning, and Peter Wampler, associate geology professor, attended the event, where the university received an Honorable Conceptor award and was also awarded the Judge's Choice for Panel Design.

Moyer said the university has implemented several infrastructure projects to manage stormwater, including wetland construction, green roofs and rain garden installations, and stormwater collection that is used for campus irrigation.

The stormwater management complex near the Allendale television tower provides treatment for stormwater generated from 123 campus acres, and diverts significant amounts of runoff storm water away from the Grand River ravines. "The complex serves as a demonstration project on how to manage stormwater on site and provides a nice



Peter Wampler is pictured in the Ravines. Wampler attended an award ceremony where Grand Valley was honored for its stormwater practices.

outdoor learning laboratory for students and faculty members," Moyer said.

Grand Valley has worked with Grand Rapids-based Fishbeck, Thompson, Carr & Huber, Inc. to develop and implement a campus stormwater management plan.

AWRI director attends White House summit

Alan Steinman, director of the Annis Water Resources Institute, recently attended a Summit on the Great Lakes at the White House.

The White House Summit on the Great Lakes Region on February 29 included experts from many fields vital to the Great Lakes. Environmental, academic, business and civic leaders from throughout the Midwest participated. The briefing was an important

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Across Campus

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chance for dialogue between Great Lakes area leaders and senior officials with the White House, along with the U.S. Council on Environmental Quality.

“It was an informative session but it did not address the issues from a scientific perspective, presumably by design,” Steinman said. “It was useful to hear the administration’s position on the Great Lakes, and their explicit support and appreciation for all the good work that is taking place in our region.”



Alan Steinman

Administration officials who spoke at the summit included Counselor to the President Pete Rouse, Secretary of Commerce John Bryson, Deputy Secretary of the Interior David Hayes and USDA Deputy Undersecretary for Natural Resources and Environment Ann Mills. The event focused on discussing the importance of community leadership in restoration of the Great Lakes.

MAREC joins state-funded business accelerator program

The Michigan Alternative and Renewable Energy Center joined a statewide grant program to help growing, high-tech Michigan companies obtain accelerator services designed to leverage business development and job growth.

The Business Accelerator Fund, managed by the Michigan Small Business and Technology Development Center at Grand Valley, will allow MAREC to identify and enable qualified Michigan companies in high-priority sectors to pursue business development grants up to \$50,000. The program was launched in December with \$3.5 million in state funds; MAREC is one of 15 Michigan SmartZones eligible for the program.

“This is a win-win for technology oriented companies in West Michigan that have successfully launched their business efforts but need additional services and support to become viable long term,” said Arn Boezaart, director of MAREC. “Not only can we help promising companies

obtain accelerator services, we can also open the door to an additional pool of capital for business growth and development services, while ensuring that the funds companies receive are spent effectively.”

Accelerator services through BAF focus on business milestones, such as positioning a company to attract private capital, developing a stronger business plan or marketing strategy and securing its first customer. Service providers may be consulting firms, law firms, universities, manufacturers, engineers and others that enhance business growth.

Engineering helps school with Pinewood Derby

A group of fifth graders raced their colorful pinewood derby cars at the 13th annual Pinewood Derby Race at Grand Valley February 29.

More than 75 students from three classes at Sibley Elementary School competed with the cars they designed and built with the help of engineering students.

The School of Engineering began its partnership with Sibley Elementary School 13 years ago. Professor Shirley Fleischmann wanted to create a program that would involve all fifth graders.

“It’s a very hands-on, educational activity because students design and build the car on their own,” she said. “We want students to feel accomplished and proud of their work, and to see what a college environment is like.”



Photo by April Galbreath

Shirley Fleischmann, professor of engineering, watches as Sibley students race their cars at the 13th annual Pinewood Derby Race February 29 at Keller Engineering Labs.

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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.

Visit Grand Valley’s online publication, GVN^{ow}, at www.gvsu.edu/gvnow, for daily news updates and video features.

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



GVFaces

Carrie Brueck Morris, Assistant Professor of Dance

For assistant professor Carrie Brueck Morris, modern dance is a liberating form of creativity.

“There’s so much freedom to modern,” said Morris. “There are no limits to what you can do, no right or wrong. Any movement is available for you to use.”

Now in her second semester at Grand Valley, Morris has led classes on not only modern dance, but also improvisation and dance history. Last fall, she also taught a conditioning class, in which students learned about anatomy, injury prevention, kinesiology, and how to focus on their individual capabilities.

“Our bodies all have the same number of bones and muscles, but they articulate themselves differently,” said Morris. “Something that’s common throughout each class I teach is to help students empower their own dancing.”

During her career, Morris performed in Philadelphia, Mississippi and New York, and has had her choreography showcased in Italy. “While I was teaching at Western Kentucky University, I had a colleague who had made a career for himself in Europe,” she said. “Every May, we would take a group of students over to perform.”

In addition to her experience with modern

dance, Morris has a focus on combining dance and technology.

“One of my professional highlights was working with the choreographer Marianela Boán,” said Morris. “In her piece, my character used a video camera to take images of the dancers, which were then projected in real-time.”

Morris said she believes that actively incorporating technology into the genre of dance gives it a new artistic dimension, something a simple recording of a performance can’t match. “Dance is an art that exists in the moment,” she said. “Watching a recording of a performance is like watching a live play on TV — there’s an element missing.”

In her spare time, Morris enjoys taking in the cultural side of Grand Rapids. “My field requires me to constantly be involved,” she said, “so what I do in my free time is very closely related. I do things like visiting theaters, watching other performances and going to museums.”



Carrie Brueck Morris

What's Ahead

KCON to host interfaith event

The Kirkhof College of Nursing will host a panel discussion, "Engaging Faith Traditions in Health Care," as part of the 2012: Year of Interfaith Understanding.

The event is set for Monday, March 12, beginning at 5:30 p.m. in the Cook-DeVos Center for Health Sciences.

A variety of topics will be discussed including spirituality and end-of-life care, how different faiths interact in health care, and connecting with community resources.

Continuing education credits for nursing will be offered. Light refreshments will be available. RSVP by sending an email to Kellie Knight at knightke@gvsu.edu, or by calling x15783.

The Year of Interfaith Understanding is a community-wide celebration of religious diversity that brings hundreds of events to the area.

Wilkins next Writers Series presenter

Author Joe Wilkins will visit campus Tuesday, March 13, as part of the Writing Department Writers Series.



Joe Wilkins

Wilkins will give a craft talk on creative nonfiction and poetry from 4-5:15 p.m. and a public reading from 7:30-8:30 p.m. Both events are in the Kirkhof Center, rooms 2215/2216; they are free and open to the public.

Wilkins is the author of a memoir-in-fragments, *The Mountain and the Fathers* and a collection of poems, *Killing the Murnion Dogs*.

Nobel Laureate to speak at Ott Lecture

The 2003 Nobel Laureate in Chemistry is the featured speaker for the Arnold C. Ott Lectureship in Chemistry on March 13-14.

Roderick MacKinnon, professor at Rockefeller University, is also an investigator at Howard Hughes Medical Institute.

MacKinnon runs the Laboratory of Molecular Neurobiology and Biophysics at Rockefeller and is known for his research with molecular mechanisms of a class of integral membrane proteins known as ion channels.

His public lecture, "Electricity and Biology," is set for Tuesday, March 13, at 6 p.m. in the DeVos Center, Loosemore Auditorium; a chemistry seminar for students, "Potassium Channels," is set for Wednesday, March 14, at 1 p.m. in Manitou Hall.

For more information, contact the Chemistry Department at x13317.

Wheelhouse Talks to feature young entrepreneur

Grand Rapids entrepreneur and business owner Mayra Martinez will be the next speaker at the Wheelhouse Talks, sponsored by the Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies.

Martinez has built multiple family businesses. She's the founder of the Mi Raza Association of Commerce, an organization that provides entrepreneurial training, classes and events for people of color.

Her presentation is set for Wednesday, March 14, beginning at 12:30 p.m. at the Kroc Community Center, 2500 S. Division St. in Grand Rapids. RSVP for the event at www.allpresidents.org

Annual technology symposium set

The 11th Annual Teaching and Learning with Technology Symposium is set for Wednesday, March 14, from 1-3:30 p.m. in the Kirkhof Center, room 2204.

The symposium is sponsored by Academic Computing and the Pew Faculty Teaching and Learning Center. Presentation of the FTLC Teaching and Learning Award will be at 1 p.m., followed by faculty exhibits. For more information and list of exhibitors, visit gvsu.edu/it/itech.

Latin America Studies sponsors colloquium

Latin America Studies will host a variety of events this week as part of the "Indigenous Voices" Colloquium.

- "Many Mexicos," March 14, 4:30 p.m., Manitou Hall, room 107: Sones de Mexico, a folk ensemble from Chicago, will perform.

- "Voices of Our People," March 14, 7 p.m., Manitou Hall, room 107: A panel will discuss Mayan cultures and traditions.

- Film, "La Voz Mapuche," March 15, noon, Cook-DeWitt Center.

- "From Violins to Vicunas," March 15, 4:30 p.m., Cook-DeWitt Center: Veronica Salles-Reese, from Georgetown University, will discuss colonial Latin America.

For more information, call LAS at x18110.

Professional school fair set

More than 250 students are expected to attend the Professional School Fair, set for Friday, March 16, from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. in the Henry Hall Atrium.

Nearly 40 professional schools will have representatives available from a variety of fields.

The event is free for students and Grand Valley alumni. Contact the CLAS Academic Advising Center at x18585 or the College of Health Professions at x15600 with questions.

PIC to host session about faculty Fulbrights

The Padnos International Center will sponsor an information session for faculty members interested in applying to be a Fulbright scholar.

Andy Reiss, from the Fulbright Office of the Council for the International Exchange of Scholars, will be available to answer questions on Friday, March 16, beginning at 3 p.m. in the DeVos Center, University Club Room.

Register for the session at www.gvsu.edu/seminar (under FTLC programs).

Women's History Month will feature guest speakers, tea party

A variety of events are planned throughout March to celebrate Women's History Month at Grand Valley.

Events are sponsored by the Women's Center and supported by many campus departments; they are free and open to the public. For more information, contact the Women's Center at x12748 or visit www.gvsu.edu/women_cen.

- **Celebrating Women Awards Ceremony:** March 13, 3 p.m., Kirkhof Center, room 2204

- **10th Anniversary Speaker Series:** AnaLouise Keating: March 14, 4-5:30 p.m., Kirkhof Center, Grand River Room

Keating, associate professor of women's

studies from the Texas Woman's University, will give a presentation on spiritual activism.

- **Our Stories and Women's Center Enrichment Circle Recognition:** March 16, 4-6 p.m., Kirkhof Center, room 1201

"Our Stories" is a visual showcase of past and present students, also the inaugural Women's Center Enrichment Circle will be announced. RSVP is required at www.gvsu.edu/women_cen.

- **EqualiTea:** March 21, 3-5 p.m., Kirkhof Center, room 2204

The campus community is invited to celebrate the tradition of combining tea parties with discussions of literature and politics. RSVP at www.gvsu.edu/women_cen.

- **Her Story** with Maureen Wolverton, liberal studies affiliate professor: March 22, 2:30 p.m.,

Kirkhof Center, room 2263

- **In Our Own Words: Journal Reading:** March 26, Zumberge Library, 3 p.m.

Selections from the Women's Center journal, "In Our Own Words: A Journal About Women," will be read by contributors.

- **Women & Environment Symposium:** March 29, noon-9 p.m., Eberhard Center, room 215

The symposium will feature panel discussions, a keynote speaker, and topics such as environmental impacts on women's health, farming practices and eco-business. RSVP at www.wmeac.org/women.

- **Rock Against Rape:** March 31, Fieldhouse, 7-10 p.m.

The eighth annual concert is held to raise awareness of sexual violence and assault.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

General Events

Mon., March 12

11 a.m.-1 p.m.: Health and Wellness hosts "Mindful Meditation," by Sue Dilsworth. 136 CHS. Call x12215 for more information.

Noon: African Diaspora Conversation Series: "Exploring the Back to Africa Exodus," by De-Valera Botchway. 2215/2216 KC. Call x18110 for more information.

6 p.m.: World Affairs Council Global Decisions Discussion Series: "Middle East Realignment," by Graeme Bannerman. Performing Arts Center, Aquinas College.

8 p.m.: Guest Artist Series: Gabriele Baldocci, piano. LAT, PAC. Call x13484 for more information.

Tues., March 13

Noon: Health and Wellness Workshop: "Why What He Thought She Said Isn't So!" by Alison Brown. 2259 KC. Visit www.gvsu.edu/seminar to register.

2 p.m.: Annis Water Resources Institute Lecture: "Nutrient Mobility," by Greg Druschel. Lake Michigan Center, Muskegon. Call x13749 for more information.

3 p.m.: Women's Commission hosts Celebrating Women Awards. 2250 KC. Call x12748 for more information.

6 p.m.: Ott Lecture in Chemistry: "Electricity and Biology," by Roderick MacKinnon. Loosemore Auditorium, DEV. Call x13317 for more information.

Wed., March 14

11:30 p.m.: FTLC hosts Adjunct Chat. Faculty/

Staff Dining Room KC. Call x13498 for more information.

Noon: African Diaspora Conversation Series: "Atlantic Slavery: Lost in Translation," by Scott Stabler and Mary Owusu. 2215 KC. Call x18110 for more information.

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

Noon: Arts at Noon Series: Amore Musicae Trio. CDC. Call x13484 for more information.

12:30 p.m.: Hauenstein Center hosts Wheelhouse Talks with Mayra Martinez. Kroc Community Center, Grand Rapids. Visit www.allpresidents.org to register.

1 p.m.: 11th Annual Teaching and Learning with Technology Symposium. 2204 KC. Call x13498 for more information.

4 p.m.: Women's Center 10th Anniversary Event: "Womanist Spiritual Activism," by AnaLouise Keating. Call x12748 for more information.

4:30 p.m.: Latin American Studies Event: "Many Mexicos: Indigenous Music and its Impact on Regional Styles of Mexican Folk Music." 107 MAN. Call x18110 for more information.

6 p.m.: Projection Film Series: "The Great Happiness Space: Tale of an Osaka Love Thief." 114 LMH. Call x12195 for more information.

7 p.m.: Latin American Studies Event: "Voices of Our People." 107 MAN. Call x18110 for more information.

Thurs., March 15

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

11 a.m.-3 p.m.: Summer Job Fair. HRY. Call x13311 for more information.

Noon: Latin American Studies Event: "La Voz Mapuche." CDC. Call x18110 for more information.

4:30 p.m.: Latin American Studies Event: "From Violins to Vicunas: Industrious Indigenous Communities in the Andes," by Veronica Salles-Reese. CDC. Call x18110 for more information.

Fri., March 16

11 a.m.-2 p.m.: Professional School Fair. HRY. Call x15600 for more information.

2 p.m.: Multicultural Affairs hosts CinemAwareness: "The Fight in the Fields: Cesar Chavez and the Farmworkers' Struggle." 1240 KC. Call x12177 for more information.

4 p.m.: Women's Center Enrichment Circle and 10th Anniversary Our Stories Celebration. 1201 KC. Call x12748 for more information.

Sports

Tues., March 13

3 p.m.: Softball hosts St. Joseph College.

Fri., March 16

4 p.m.: Lacrosse hosts Lindenwood.

Sun., March 18

Noon: Lacrosse hosts Urbana University.

Faculty and Staff Sketches

In the News

Valerie V. Peterson, associate professor of communications, was interviewed by WZZM's "Take Five" for a story about her book, *Sex, Ethics and Communication*.

Sketches

Michigan Small Business and Technology Development Center received a grant for continuing funding from the U.S. Small Business Administration for its Small Business Development Centers program.

Rick Iadonisi, affiliate professor of writing, wrote an article, "I Am Nobody": The Haiku of Richard Wright," published in *The Other World*

of *Richard Wright: Perspectives on His Haiku*; he also gave a presentation, "A Man Has Risen": Hard Bodies, Reaganism, and The Dark Knight Returns," at the Popular Culture Association conference.

Diane Maodush-Pitzer, affiliate professor of liberal studies, was named coordinator of the Religious Studies program; the new major/minor will be available in the fall.

Henry Matthews, director of galleries and collections, served as a judge for the Holland Art in Bloom Tulip Time Festival poster competition.

Dance faculty members **Shawn T Bible**, **Carrie Brueck Morris** and **Amy Wilson** participated

in the Midwest Regional Alternative Dance Festival in Kalamazoo with dancers from Chicago, New York City, Washington D.C., Indiana, Ohio, Detroit and Kalamazoo.

Roger Ellis, professor of communications, was invited to Toyama, Japan, as a theater critic and adjudicator at the World Festival of Children's Performing Arts.

Julianne Vanden Wyngaard, university carillonneur, was invited to perform at the Bok Tower Gardens International Carillon Concert in Lake Wales, Florida.