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Grand Valley State University

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FORUM

MONDAY, MARCH 31, 2014

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE GRAND VALLEY
STATE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

Published by University Communications



More than 1,180 participate in first Teach-In

In one room, people discussed what to do when overhearing a racist joke. In another room, the presenters talked about what it's like to get around campus in a wheelchair.

The Teach-In on March 26 saw these difficult but important conversations happening all day in the Mary Idema Pew Library Learning and Information Commons. More than 1,180 participants attended at least one of the 26 sessions.

Lisa Perhamus, assistant professor of education, led two sessions. At one session, she led a discussion of what to do when overhearing off-color or offensive, stereotypical jokes. She reminded the audience that being a bystander isn't the answer. "Silence speaks," said Perhamus, who also holds the Padnos/Sarosik endowed professorship of civil discourse.

Karen Gipson, associate professor of physics and chair of ECS/University Academic Senate,

and two students told an audience about what it was like to live with a disability.

Gipson suffered a stroke several years ago and uses a cane. She explained that she continues to work toward recovery, including riding the campus connector bus and sitting in the seats reserved for disabled riders, although those seats are not always available.

"I spent 49 years of my life being able-bodied, now I have an impairment," she said. "But I have this gift to be an advocate for people with disabilities."

The Teach-In was sponsored by the Executive Committee of UAS. Collaborative partners were the Division of Inclusion and Equity, Dean of Students Office,



Photo by Jeff Dykehouse

Lisa Perhamus, assistant professor of education, leads a Teach-In session March 26 at the Mary Idema Pew Library.

LGBT Resource Center, Office of Multicultural Affairs, Pew Faculty Teaching and Learning Center and Women's Center.

Around Campus

Author of CRP selection tells new immigrant story

The author of this year's Community Reading Project selection said she wrote her memoir because she wanted to contribute to the country's conversation about immigration.

Reyna Grande, author of *The Distance Between Us*, spoke March 25 before a standing-room-only audience in the Kirkhof Center.

Grande said she is not one to attend rallies nor does she consider herself an activist. "I wanted people to understand that immigrants have families," she said. "I wanted to tell the story about the immigrant child."

Her book brings to the forefront issues 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 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.



Photo by Bernadine Carey-Tucker

Reyna Grande discusses her book, 'The Distance Between Us,' March 25 in the Kirkhof Center.

During her presentation, Grande discussed her difficult transition to life in Los Angeles. What was most difficult, she said, was not learning a new language or understanding a new culture, it was learning to live with her broken family.

"The family I longed for in America no longer existed," she said. "Then I realized what immigration had done to my family."

Brian Jbara, director of Integrative Learning

and Advising, introduced the 2014-2015 CRP selection following Grande's lecture.

Five Days at Memorial is by Sheri Fink. The Pulitzer Prize-winning author will visit campus in 2015 to discuss her book, an unforgettable story about the investigation of patient deaths at a New Orleans hospital ravaged by Hurricane Katrina.

For more on CRP, visit www.gvsu.edu/read.

Visitation, service for Ford held today

Visitation hours and a memorial service for Milton E. Ford will be held Monday, March 31.

Ford, professor of liberal studies and founding director of Grand Valley's LGBT Resource Center, died March 19 after a long battle with cancer. He was 72.

Visitation will be held from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. in the Cook-DeWitt Center. A memorial service will

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Across Campus

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be held at 6 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center, Louis Armstrong Theatre.

People wishing to send donations in Ford's name are asked to remember the LGBT Resource Center's Endowment Fund.

ISS crew request film by alumnus

Alumnus David J. Ruck's new film, "I Want to Be an Astronaut," will have its "orbital premiere" aboard the International Space Station, with an audience of astronauts from around the world.

Developed over the past two years, the 38-minute documentary tells the story of Blair Mason, a young man striving to become an astronaut at a time when space exploration has moved out of the spotlight.



David J. Ruck, Grand Valley alumnus, produced a documentary about space travel that will premiere aboard the International Space Station.

Ruck sent the film's trailer to Space Station Flight Engineer Rick Mastracchio via Facebook. The astronaut was so intrigued, he asked if it was possible to view the entire film. Ruck worked with the Johnson Space Center to facilitate an upload.

Ruck said he wanted to make a film that explored the human side of the space program and whether or not kids today still dream of being an astronaut. By following Mason from his role as leader of his high school robotics team, to his entry into the U.S. Naval Academy, Ruck discovered a very thoughtful student with a full vision of space exploration, including the political, social and technological issues.

A glimpse into current NASA efforts, amid a post-space-shuttle era, is provided through interviews with Charles Bolden, a NASA administrator, and John Glenn, a Mercury 7 astronaut, the first American to orbit the Earth, and a retired U.S. senator.

Ruck received both bachelor's and master's degrees from Grand Valley's School of Communications in 2004 and 2007, respectively, and earned a master's degree in fine arts from the American University, in Washington, D.C.

For more about the film, visit www.theastronautfilm.com/.

VoiceGR results show disparity in city rankings

New survey results from the Johnson Center for Philanthropy show that many factors influence how favorably residents view life in Grand Rapids and in their neighborhoods. The study reveals important relationships between socioeconomic status, education, and income level as they relate to feelings about safety, poverty and personal health.

Results showed 87 percent of respondents said they would give the city an excellent or good rating, and 78 percent said the same for their individual neighborhoods. However, results also suggest that demographic and personal resources greatly influenced the perceptions of individual demographic groups.

Factors such as race/ethnicity, income, access to health care, housing, and ability to meet basic needs swayed the percentage of excellent and good ratings by as much as 16 percent in some cases.

The study, which began in September, aims to help nonprofit, philanthropic and community organizations in West Michigan use their resources in the most effective manner possible.

The 2013 VoiceGR survey factors in responses of more than 3,000 residents, and is intended to stimulate conversation on pertinent issues rather than repeating already available data on demographics.

Full results from the survey will be available online at voicegr.org along with a neighborhood-by-neighborhood map of the results. For more information, visit voicegr.org.

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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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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, 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.



Health fair at CHS



Photo by Amanda Pitts

Karrie Meyer, an occupational therapy major, is pictured at the Families and Healthy Lifestyles fair March 20 at the Cook-DeVos Center for Health Sciences. Nursing and five programs from the College of Health Professions teamed with MSU College of Human Medicine, Ferris State, Kent ISD, Grand Rapids Medical Education Partners for the event, hosted by the West Michigan Interprofessional Education Initiative.

What's Ahead

Month of the Young Child celebrates children, families

The Children's Enrichment Center will host a variety of events in April to celebrate Month of the Young Child, a national celebration that aims to raise awareness about relevant issues impacting young children and families.

A clothing drive to benefit the YWCA in Grand Rapids will take place from April 19-30. Donations can be dropped off at the Children's Enrichment Center. Events are highlighted below. More information is at www.gvsu.edu/child.

- Dollar Day fundraiser, April 1. Faculty and staff members will receive an envelope in their mailboxes encouraging them to donate one dollar to the center. Funds will go toward providing child care support for student-parents.
- "The Raising of America" documentary showing and discussion, April 2, noon-1:30 p.m., Kirkhof Center, room 1104.
- Child abuse prevention panel, April 10, 2-3:30 p.m., Kirkhof Center, room 2215. Representatives from local organizations will discuss the emotional and physical devastation caused by child abuse and neglect.
- Children's Art Show and Reception, April 17, noon-1 p.m., Mary Idema Pew Library Exhibition Hall. RSVP at www.gvsu.edu/child.

Graduate students showcase research

Nearly 30 students from Grand Valley's graduate programs will present posters of their research and scholarly activities at the Graduate Showcase: Education for the Future program. The event will take place Wednesday, April 2, from 3:30-6 p.m. in the DeVos Center, Loosemore Auditorium.

Some of the topics include freshwater fish research, sustainability in business, social media use in human resources, internship experiences and a pilot study on children with cerebral palsy.

This event is co-sponsored by the Office of Graduate Studies and the Center for Scholarly and Creative Excellence.

Annual Latin American Film Festival set

Grand Valley is a co-sponsor of the fifth annual Grand Rapids Latin American Film Festival, screening more than a dozen films April 3-6 at Wealthy Theatre, 1130 Wealthy St. SE, Grand Rapids.

All films have English subtitles, and the entire festival is open to the public with free admission. Festival co-sponsors also include Aquinas College, Calvin College, Ferris State University and Davenport University, with individual screenings sponsored by various Consulate offices.

The festival provides the West Michigan community and students with a unique and

enriching opportunity to acquaint themselves with the latest and most acclaimed Latin American films. For a full schedule and more information, visit www.gvsu.edu/artscalendar.

Mobile mammography van will make campus stops

The Spectrum Health mobile mammography van will make stops at the Allendale and Pew Grand Rapids campuses.

On Friday, April 4, the van will be on the Allendale Campus, parking lot G, from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. It will be outside the DeVos Center, Loosemore Auditorium, on April 9 from 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

To schedule an appointment, call (616) 774-7998 or (877) 495-2626.

Students host spring pow wow

The Native American Student Association will host an indoor spring pow wow Saturday, April 5, to raise awareness about Native American culture and tradition.

Hundreds of people are expected to attend the 17th annual Spring Pow Wow in the Fieldhouse. The event will celebrate traditional Native American dancing and music with Grand Entry performances at 1 p.m. and 6 p.m.

Native American art, jewelry and cuisine will be available to purchase throughout the day. The event is free and open to the public.

Supporting sponsors include the Division of Inclusion and Equity, Office of Multicultural Affairs, Auxiliary Services, Cultural Programming Council, Gun Lake Tribe, Pokagon Band of Potawatomi and FireKeepers Casino Hotel.

Luncheon, discussion commemorate Ford's birthday

The Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies in partnership with the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation and Library and Museum will host a luncheon with former first lady Rosalynn Carter to commemorate Betty Ford's 96th birthday.

"America's First Ladies: A Journey of Friendship" is set for Tuesday, April 8, at noon at the JW Marriott, 235 Louis Campau St. NW, Grand Rapids.



Former first lady Rosalynn Carter will help commemorate Betty Ford's birthday at a luncheon April 8 at the JW Marriott.

Tickets are \$35; to RSVP, visit gvsu.edu/s/Bl

The lunch event will be followed by a panel discussion, "Betty Ford's Legacy in Women's Health," at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum.

Panelists include Judy Smith, oncology department chief for Spectrum Health; Thomas Getz, medical director, Betty Ford Breast Care Services, Spectrum Health; and Gleaves Whitney, director of the Hauenstein Center.

There is no charge to attend the discussion, but RSVPs are requested, visit gvsu.edu/s/Bm.

Lecture, meditation event planned

East Asian Studies will host a lecture and Chinese Chan meditation session, led by Master Victor Chiang.

"The Challenge of Chinese Chan Meditation Toward Enlightenment" is set for Tuesday, April 8, beginning at 1 p.m. in the Kirkhof Center, Grand River Room. The meditation session will begin at 2:45 p.m. in room 2263; participants are asked to bring a small cushion.

Chiang is the founder and mentor of the International Chinese Buddhist Association, Buddhist Tripitaka Foundation and Global Chan Club Group.

For more information, contact Peter Zhang at zhangp@gvsu.edu or the Area Studies Office at x18110.

Registration open for political workshop for women

Michigan voters will elect a governor, lieutenant governor and other state officials in November. How many people who win state offices will be women?

To help boost the number of women serving in local, state and national politics, Grand Valley will host the third annual "Ready to Run Michigan," a bipartisan campaign training workshop designed to encourage women to run for office.

The workshop is set for May 3 at Lansing Community College. Cost to attend is \$125; visit www.gvsu.edu/readytorun to register and for more information. Space is limited, and some scholarships are available.

Hosting the workshop at sites around the state gives more women the opportunity to attend, according to event organizers. The workshop will include sessions on campaign planning, fundraising, media training and messaging.

Michigan ranks 36th in the nation in the number of women serving in the state legislature. There are four women senators (out of 38 seats) and 24 representatives (110 seats).

Ready to Run Michigan is co-sponsored by SMG Strategies, Revere Consulting LLC and the Michigan ACE Women's Network, with support from the Rutgers University Center for American Women and Politics.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

General Events

March 31-April 4

Student Appreciation Days. Visit www.gvsu.edu/studentjobs.

Mon., March 31

3 p.m.: FTLC Workshop: "Adding Value and Reducing Cost in Higher Education with Open Education Resources," with Sara Beaubien and Charlie Lowe. 302E DEV. Call x13498 for more information.

4 p.m.: Cesar Chavez Week Event: "Young Lords in Lincoln Park." MIPL. Call x12177 for more information.

6 p.m.: World Affairs Council Great Decisions Lecture: "Is China Opening up or Closing Down?" with James Fallows. Performing Arts Center, Aquinas College. Call (616) 776-1721 for more information.

Tues., April 1

11 a.m.: CLAS Sabbatical Showcase. 2250 KC.

1 p.m.: FTLC Workshop: "Adding Value and Reducing Cost in Higher Education with Open Education Resources." 2201 KC. Call x13498 for more information.

7:30 p.m.: Theater Performance: "Sex and the Supernatural." LAT, PAC. Call x12300 for tickets.

Wed., April 2

8:30 a.m.: Human Resources Excellence Series: "Communication Effectiveness for Leadership," with Deb Dunbar. 2266 KC. Register at www.gvsu.edu/seminar.

Noon: Arts at Noon: Coalescence Percussion

Duo. CDC. Call x13484 for information.

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

Noon: Human Resources Career Services: Interview Roundtable. 302C DEV. Register at www.gvsu.edu/seminar.

1 p.m.: Human Resources Excellence Series: "Communication Effectiveness for Leadership," with Deb Dunbar. 123 CHS. Register at www.gvsu.edu/seminar.

3:30 p.m.: Graduate Showcase 2014: Education for the Future. Loosemore Auditorium, DEV. Call x17317 for more information.

6 p.m.: Psychology hosts Projection Film Series: "Arabian Nights." 114 LMH. Call x12195 for more information.

7:30 p.m.: Theater Performance: "Sex and the Supernatural." LAT, PAC. Call x12300 for tickets.

Thurs., April 3

7:30 a.m.: Downtown Toastmasters. 107C DEV. Visit www.gvsu.edu/toastmasters for more information.

7:30 a.m.: Sustainability Champions Breakfast. 2250 KC. Call x17366 for more information.

10:30 a.m.: TIAA-CREF Retirement Planning Individual Appointments. 297C DEV. Visit www.gvsu.edu/healthwellness for more information.

Noon: Women's Commission General Meeting. 1249 KC. Call x12748 for more information.

6:30 p.m.: Movement Science Lecture: "Sports Viewership: From Couch Potatoes to Standing Ovations," by Scott Tainsky. MAK-BLL 100. Call x13515 for more information.

7:30 p.m.: Theater Performance: "Sex and the Supernatural." LAT, PAC. Call x12300 for tickets.

Fri., April 4

8 a.m.-4 p.m.: Mobile Mammography Screening. Parking Lot G.

7:30 p.m.: Theater Performance: "Sex and the Supernatural." LAT, PAC. Call x12300 for tickets.

8 p.m.: New Music Ensemble. 1600 PAC. Call x13484 for more information.

Sat., April 5

7:30 p.m.: Grand Valley Theatre presents: "Sex and the Supernatural." LAT, PAC. Call x12300 for more information.

Sun., April 6

2 p.m.: Theater Performance: "Sex and the Supernatural." LAT, PAC. Call x12300 for tickets.

Sports

Sat., April 5

Noon: Men's Tennis vs. Northwood University at Ramblewood.

1 p.m.: Baseball hosts Ohio Dominican University.

Sun., April 6

Noon: Men's Tennis vs. Wayne State University at Ramblewood.

Noon: Baseball vs. Ohio Dominican University.

Faculty and Staff Sketches

In the News

Kathryn Remlinger, professor of English, was interviewed by the *Wall Street Journal's* "Word on the Street" column about the addition of "Yooper" in the Merriam-Webster Collegiate Dictionary.

Sketches

Peter J. Wampler, associate professor of geology, and students wrote an article, "Evaluation of Forest Cover Estimates for Haiti Using Supervised Classification of Landsat Data," published in *Science Direct*.

WGVU TV and WGVU Radio earned 13 Broadcast Excellence Awards at the Michigan Association of Broadcasters ceremony in Lansing.

Salvatore Alaimo, assistant professor of public, nonprofit and health administration, had his documentary, "What is Philanthropy?" premiere at the Queens World Film festival in New York.

Alisha Davis, assistant professor of allied health sciences, gave a presentation, "TEAMM Approach: Underrepresented Minority Student Success in Health Professions Programs," at the American Association of Blacks in Higher Education Annual National Conference in Atlanta, Georgia.

Biology faculty members **Georgette Sass** and **Bruce Ostrow** co-wrote an article, "Disruption of the Protein Kinase N Gene," published in *G3: Genes, Genomes, and Genetics*.

Michael Walenta, general manager of WGVU

Public Media, was named vice chair for the University Licensee Association, a PBS Station Affinity Group.

English faculty members **Kathryn Remlinger** and **Laura VanderBroek** gave a presentation, "American Englishes: History, Development, and Change," for the State Department's International Visitor Leadership Program and Colleagues International in Kalamazoo.

Dan Balfour, professor of public, nonprofit and health administration, gave a presentation, "Why Government Costs More and Accomplishes Less: A Call to Action to Preserve Democracy in America," at the Quality of Governance Workshop in Washington, D.C. He was also named chair-elect of the Ethics Section of the American Society for Public Administration.