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Grand Valley State University

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FORUM

MONDAY, APRIL 7, 2014

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE GRAND VALLEY
STATE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

Published by University Communications



More than 600 student scholars ready for annual event

More than 600 students will give presentations about their research during the 19th annual Student Scholars Day.

Set for Wednesday, April 9, poster and oral presentations will run from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. in the Kirkhof Center, Henry Hall and Mary Idema Pew Library Learning and Information Commons.

Susan Mendoza, director of the Office of Undergraduate Research and Scholarship, called the annual event “a true celebration of creative thought and practice.” Several presentations are highlighted below.

- Caitlyn Madsen and faculty mentor Deborah Lown, from biomedical sciences, studied what Laker student-athletes know about caffeine and its use during performance.
- A trio of art education students will discuss the two semesters they spent teaching art to special needs students.
- Rachel Hughart, a Student Summer Scholar, and faculty mentors Joseph Jacquot and Paul Keenlance researched the American Marten in the Manistee National Forest.

Co-authors of the book, “Sleights of Mind,” will be the keynote speakers. Stephen L. Macknik and Susana Martinez-Conde direct the Barrow Neurological Institute in Arizona and are founders of a new discipline, neuromagic.

In the book, the authors have convinced the world’s greatest magicians to reveal techniques that trick our brains. Their presentation is set for 7 p.m. in the Kirkhof Center, Grand River Room.

A list of mentors follows.

Ed Aboufadel
Gordon Alderink
Naomi Aldrich
Bradley Ambrose
Elizabeth Arnold
Todd Aschenbach
David Austin
Michael Baxter



Pictured is Student Scholars Day 2013. This year’s event is set for Wednesday, with more than 600 students set to give presentations.

Christina Beaudoin
Teresa Beck
Daniel Bergman
Bopi Biddanda
Shannon Biros
Jan Brashler

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Across Campus

LGBT center to be named for late professor

The LGBT Resource Center at Grand Valley will be named for Milton E. Ford, professor of liberal studies and founding director of the center. Ford died March 19. He was 72.

The center opened its doors in the Kirkhof Center in 2008. At the time, Ford said the office space represented important progress for the university to recognize a need for students to feel comfortable and for everyone to be treated equally.

“It is very fitting that the LGBT Resource Center be named in Milt’s honor,” said President Thomas J. Haas. “Milt was instrumental in creating a positive environment at Grand Valley where people know that inclusion and diversity is valued. Through diversity we become a university.”

Provost Gayle Davis said: “Milt’s contributions to Grand Valley were enormous, and his personal characteristics and values rare. He cared deeply for his campus community of colleagues and students as was evident in the many ways he supported us all.”

A formal dedication will be held in the fall.

University named Governor’s Fitness Award recipient

Grand Valley was one of two West Michigan organizations to be named a finalist for a Governor’s Fitness Award for its commitment to promoting healthy lifestyles for students, faculty and staff members.

The university received a diamond level award in the Very Large Workplace category. Gentex

in Zeeland was the other West Michigan organization named of the seven finalists in that category; DTE Energy was the overall award winner.

Workplace and individual awards will be presented April 24 in Detroit. Award winners will also be recognized that day in Lansing during a legislative session and have an opportunity to meet lawmakers.

Lindsey DesArmo, health and wellness specialist, said criteria for the award included workplace policies, established wellness programs and employee incentives for health programs.

The Governor’s Fitness Awards is an annual event hosted by the Governor’s Council on Physical Fitness, Health and Sports and the Michigan Fitness Foundation. DesArmo said it

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Across Campus

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was an honor to be recognized with companies that set the standard for employee wellness.

About 40 percent of faculty and staff members participate in the Healthy Choices program, which offers incentives for tracking fitness activities and undergoing a health-risk assessment.

In February, the American Heart Association named Grand Valley a Platinum-Level Fit Friendly Company, recognizing the university's efforts to develop programming to raise awareness of healthy eating and being physically active.

Grand Valley offers a comprehensive health and wellness program, details are online at www.gvsu.edu/healthwellness.

Campus leaders recognized

Campus women were recognized for their leadership and support of women and girls at the annual Celebrating Women Awards ceremony, held March 27 in the Kirkhof Center.

The Women's Commission presented three awards: Women's Impact, Maxine Swanson and Unsung Hero.

Diane Rayor, professor of Classics, received the Women's Impact Award. A nominator noted Rayor's ability to take people who lived thousands of years ago and make them real to current audiences. Rayor helped establish the department in 2000.

Connie Dang, director of the Office of Multicultural Affairs, received the Maxine Swanson Award. Dang was attending a conference in Wisconsin;



Photo by Amanda Pitts

From left are Women's Commission award recipients Doriana Gould, Amy Campbell, Diane Rayor and Julia Dang, who accepted an award for Connie Dang.

her daughter, Julia, accepted the award on her behalf. Nominators highlighted Dang's service to both the on- and off-campus communities.

Ungsung Hero Awards were presented to Doriana Gould, academic coordinator for Modern Languages and Literatures; and Amy Campbell, assistant director of wellness.

Gould has worked for Grand Valley for 40 years. Her willingness to help with international visitors was noted. A nominator highlighted Campbell's service on numerous campus committees and her help with establishing the new Injury Care Clinic.

Positive Black Women awarded scholarships to Robynn Jackson, Clarissa Rivera-Kressbach, Tempest Warfield and Sara Weed. The Women's Center presented Outstanding Student Awards to Elizabeth Batten, Sashara Campbell, Amanda Hentsch and Julia Rapp.

Jepkoech Kottutt received the Jean Enright Scholarship, presented by Women and Gender Studies.

IT Help Desk launches self-service website

The IT Help Desk at Grand Valley serviced more than 20,000 requests for service (tickets) last year and had an average of 267 phone calls per day.

To make the process easier and quicker for the campus community to receive assistance with technology, the IT Help Desk launched a new, updated self-service system at www.gvsu.edu/itselfservice.

The online system allows students, faculty and staff members to submit a ticket, track work orders and find quick answers to questions. Other functions include gaming device registration and SPSS code requests.

"Our old portal didn't have a functional self-service system, which is very important to have," said Alisha Tirey, coordinator for Academic Systems in Information Technology. "This portal will continue to grow throughout the next year, with new features being added every month."

The IT Help Desk on the Allendale Campus employes more than 30 students. An IT Help Desk is also located at DeVos Center.

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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, 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

Raven McClinon, Assistant Facilities Supervisor

Raven McClinon works in Facilities Services and said her role allows her interaction with diverse members of the campus community, something she values.

As assistant facilities supervisor, McClinon is responsible for performing monthly inspections of the athletic and housing facilities and ensuring that all events are adequately staffed. She also supervises student workers who are responsible for helping clean and turnover the first-year student living areas in the summer months.

In 2005, Facilities Services, with McClinon's help, created the Project Donation Program that has since donated more than 10,000 pounds of furniture and other non-perishable items to local nonprofit organizations. McClinon said these items would typically get thrown in the dumpster.

McClinon is also passionate about various diversity initiatives at Grand Valley and currently serves as an inclusion advocate for Facilities Services. She is also involved with Positive Black Women, an organization that created an endowment scholarship fund. PBW provided four scholarships to students this year.

"When you create a campus that embraces

diversity, it causes students, faculty and staff to become more globally minded and to learn more about themselves in the process," said McClinon.

She earned a bachelor's degree in occupational health and safety from Grand Valley in 2004 and a master's degree in public administration from Grand Valley in 2011.

In an effort to build connections with students, McClinon is a mentor for the Niara Program, established by the Women's Center, which helps women students of color connect and build meaningful relationships with faculty and staff members of color.

"As both an alumna and staff member, working with students from different backgrounds is a way for me to provide resources and guide them in the right direction, which is something I really value about my role here," said McClinon.

In her spare time, McClinon said she enjoys being involved in her church, spending time with family and trying different restaurants in the area.



Raven McClinon

What's Ahead

Panel to discuss Crimea

A panel discussion, "Crimea and Beyond: What Russia's Annexation Means for Ukraine, the EU, the U.S., and Russia Itself," is set for Monday, April 7, from 4:30 p.m.-5:50 p.m., in the Meijer Honors College multipurpose room.

Panelists include Nina Tritenichenko and Larissa Koedyker, community members; Tom Walker and Heather Tafel, associate professors of political science; Ivo Soljan, professor of English; and Svetoslav Pavlov, coordinator of Russian Studies.

Refreshments will be provided. The event is sponsored by Brooks College of Interdisciplinary Studies and organized by Russian Studies committee members.

Local History Roundtable to be held in Holland

Grand Valley's fifth annual Local History Roundtable, sponsored by the Kutsche Office of Local History, will focus on immigration and civil rights, looking at both issues from a current lens and with a historical overview.

An opening reception is set for Thursday, April 10, 5:30-7 p.m., at the Holland Armory, 16 W. Ninth St. in Holland. Bing Goei, director of the Michigan Office for New Americans, will be the keynote speaker. Music and light refreshments are planned. The roundtable meeting will be Friday, April 11, 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Holland Armory.

Cost to attend the reception only is \$10; cost for the roundtable is \$25 and includes breakfast and lunch. Kutsche Office memberships can be purchased for \$45, allowing members to attend both events plus receive other benefits.

Nora Salas, who teaches at Michigan State University, will be the keynote speaker for the roundtable. For information or to register, visit www.gvsu.edu/kutsche, or call x18099.

Honors College to host wellness event

The Meijer Honors College is working with Friends of Grand Rapids Parks to host "Bring The Green GR," which will provide a day of activities to encourage sustainability and a healthy, active lifestyle.

The event is set for Saturday, April 12, from 10 a.m.-8 p.m. at Heartside Park, 301 Ionia Ave. SW. A park clean-up will begin the day,

followed by fitness activities.

A schedule of events and details can be found at bringthegreengr.com.

Science, religion focus of Grand Dialogue

The Grand Dialogue is an association of colleges, universities and organizations exploring the relationship between science and religion.

Grand Valley will host the association's annual day-long conference on Saturday, April 12, at the DeVos Center, Loosemore Auditorium. Keynote speaker Alvin Plantinga, professor of philosophy emeritus at the University of Notre Dame, will present "Religion and Science: Where the Conflict Really Lies."

All events are open to the public and free. Lunch and breakout sessions will follow the morning welcome and keynote address. Registration for the conference and optional lunch (\$5) can be made online at www.GrandDialogue.org.

Pianist featured at Baum Series

Noted pianist Dmitri Novgordosky is the Baum Series guest this year.

The William C. Baum Endowment Fund was established to support an annual series featuring a special speaker on issues in American law or a recital by a noted pianist.

Novgordosky, assistant professor of piano at SUNY Fredonia's School of Music, will perform Sunday, April 13, 3 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center, Sherman Van Solkema Recital Hall.

He won first prize at age 16 at the Kazakhstan National Piano Competition, and later won the Gold Medal of the National Festival of the Arts.

In 1999, Novgorodsky was granted the "Extraordinary Abilities in the Arts" permanent U.S. residence.

The concert is open to the public and free. For more information, contact the Music and Dance Department at x13484.

Chemist to speak at Ott Lectureship

A research scholar and award-winning chemist will be the featured speaker at the Arnold C.

Ott Lectureship in Chemistry.

Richmond Sarpong, associate professor of chemistry at the University of California, Berkeley, will give a public lecture April 15 and a chemistry seminar for students and faculty members April 16.

The public lecture, "Nitrogenous Natural Products: Suppliers of Life's Quality," will be held in the DeVos Center, Loosemore Auditorium, at 6 p.m.

The chemistry seminar, "Strategies and Tactics for Chemical Synthesis Inspired by Alkaloids," will be held at 1 p.m. at the Cook-DeWitt Center.

Sarpong received a bachelor's degree from Macalester College and a doctorate from Princeton University, where his research centered on organic synthesis.

The Arnold C. Ott Lectureship in Chemistry was created and endowed by a gift from Arnold and Marion Ott.

For more information contact Felix Ngassa, associate professor of chemistry, at x13803.

Second Big Data Conference set

Grand Valley will host the second Big Data Conference on Friday, April 25, in the Kirkhof Center.

Sponsored by the Provost's Office, Center for Scholarly and Creative Excellence and the Pew Faculty Teaching and Learning Center, the conference will begin with poster presentations at 8:30 a.m., with other presentations at 9 a.m. Registration is free and lunch will be included; visit www.gvsu.edu/bigdata to register or for more information.

Ed Aboufadel, professor of mathematics, said presentations will be in a variety of formats: 15-minute talks, poster, or breakout session.

Faculty members or students who are interested in submitting a proposal for a poster presentation can contact Aboufadel at aboufadel@gvsu.edu.

Two keynote speakers are scheduled. Barbara O'Brien, from the Michigan State University College of Law, will discuss data sources for death penalty research. Jonathan White, professor of interdisciplinary studies, will discuss the challenges of big data in terms of protecting individual rights.

SSD mentors

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Debra Burg
Martin Burg
Rachel Campbell
John Capodilupo
Jeffrey Chamberlain
Alice Chapman
Matthew Christians
Evelyn Clingerman
Paul Cook
Amy Crawley
Claire Crowley

Amanda Cuevas
Sigrid Danielson
Rebecca Davis
Kristy Dean
Robert Deaner
Lindsey DesArmo
Margaret Dietrich
Amanda Dillard
Jie Du
James Dunn
Mathew Edick
David Eick
John Farris

Roger Ferguson
Lisa Feurzeig
Mario Fific
Marcia Frobish
John Gabrosek
Luke Galen
Karen Gipson
Stephen Glass
Oliver Golden
Gary Greer
Carol Griffin
Heather Gulgin
Dawn Hart

Matthew Hart
Steven Hecht
Tara Hefferan
Jonathan Hodge
Benjamin Holder
Robert Hollister
Lori Houghton-Rahrig
Joseph Jacquot
Laurence Jose
Paul Keenlance
Whitt Kilburn

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

General Events

Mon., April 7

- Noon: Artist Faculty Series: Grand Valley Winds. 1121 PAC. Call x13484 for more information.
- 4:30 p.m.: Brooks College of Interdisciplinary Studies Panel: "Crimea and Beyond." HON. Call x18906 for information.
- 5:30 p.m.: Civic Studio hosts Formed Histories Tour. 428 Bridge St., Grand Rapids. Visit civicstudio.org for more information.

Tues., April 8

- 1 p.m.: Area Studies hosts Chinese Chan Meditation by Victor Chiang. Lecture at 1 p.m., meditation session at 2:45 p.m. 2250 KC. Call x18110 for information.
- 2 p.m.: Veterans Network Ally Training with Steven Lipnicki and Simeon Switzer. 2266 KC. Register at www.gvsu.edu/seminar.

Wed., April 9

- 8 a.m.-4 p.m.: Mobile Mammography Van. Outside Loosemore Auditorium, DEV. Call (877) 495-2626 for an appointment.

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

Noon: Cancer Warriors Network. 302E DEV. Register online at gvsu.edu/seminar.

Noon: Human Resources Career Services Workshop: Developing Professional Career Documents. 1008A SCB. Register online at www.gvsu.edu/seminar.

7 p.m.: Veterans History Project hosts "My Year in Vietnam." Loosemore Auditorium, DEV. Call x13422 for more information.

7 p.m.: SSD Keynote Presentation: Sleights of Mind. GRR, KC. Call x18100 for more information.

8 p.m.: GVSU Trombone Ensemble. CDC. Call x13484 for more information.

Thurs., April 10

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

Noon: Health and Wellness Workshop: Active Commute West Michigan. 123 CHS. Register online at www.gvsu.edu/seminar.

3 p.m.: Health and Wellness Workshop: "How to Retire Happy and Informed" 340 BIK. Register online at www.gvsu.edu/seminar.

8 p.m.: Choral and Chamber Orchestra Concert. CDC. Call x13484 for information.

Fri., April 11

2 p.m.: AWRI Seminar: "Great Lakes Protection: Past, Present, and Future," by Dave Dempsey. Multipurpose Room LMC. Call x13749 for more information.

2 p.m.: English Department hosts "Comics in the Classroom," by Gene Luen Yang. CDC. Call x13405 for more information.

8 p.m.: Symphonic Wind Ensemble. LAT PAC. Call x13484 for more information.

Sat., April 12

7 p.m.: Spring Dance Concert. LAT, PAC. Call x13484 for more information.

Sun., April 13

2 p.m.: Spring Dance Concert. LAT, PAC. Call x13484 for more information.

3 p.m.: Baum Series Concert with Dmitri Novgordosky. Van Solkema Recital Hall, PAC. Call x13484 for more information.

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

SSD mentors

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Sheldon Kopperl
Andrew Korich
Dalila Kovacs
Maja Krcmar
James Krikke
Christopher Kurby
David Kurjiaka
Zachary Kurmas
Andrew Lantz
Christopher Lawrence
Danielle Leek
Geoffrey Lenters
David Leonard
Yan Liang
Karen Libman
David Linn
Elena Lioubimtseva
Alexandra Locher
Michael Lombardo
Richard Lord
Deborah Lown
Kin Ma
Gwyn Madden
Kingshuk Majumdar
Sebastian Maisel

Josita Maouene-Cavin
Stephen Matchett
Amy Matthews
George McBane
Jennifer Moore
Zulema Moret
Roderick Morgan
Melissa Morison
William Morison
Dana Munk
Felix Ngassa
Erik Nordman
Thomas Pentecost
Rachel Powers
Min Qi
Joel Quamme
Jamie Owen-DeSchryver
Osman Patel
Eric Ramsson
James Reed
Rick Rediske
Ross Reynolds
Keith Rhodes
Dawn Richiert
Peter Riemersma
Amy Russell

Georgette Sass
Stephanie Schaertel
Janine Schmedding-Bartley
Harold Schnyders
Bill Schroeder
Medar Serrata
Jean Silbar
Abigayle Sloan
Robert Smart
Shelly Smith
Stafford Smith
Eric Snyder
Suganthi Sridhar
Scott Stabler
David Stark
Timothy Strickler
Joel Stillerman
Wanxiao Sun
Benjamin Swets
Francis Sylvester
Agnieszka Szarecka
Heather Tafel
Melissa Tallman
Merritt Taylor
Derek Thomas
Anthony Thompson

Patrick Thorpe
Terry Trier
Guenter Tusch
Kevin Tutt
Kathleen Underwood
Glenn Valdez
Richard Vallery
Jessica VandenPlas
Marlen Vavrikova
Patricia Videtich
Darren Walhof
Bradley Wallar
Peter Wampler
John Weber
Deana Weibel-Swanson
Laurel Westbrook
Todd Williams
Randy Winchester
Jennifer Winther
Michael Wolfe
Gregory Wolffe
Megan Woller-Skar
Shinian Wu
Xiaojuan Xu
Katalin Zaszlavik
Karen Zivi