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Grand Valley State University

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FORUM

Monday, April 6, 2009

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

Published by News & Information Services

Governor appoints new board members

Governor Jennifer M. Granholm appointed two new members to Grand Valley's Board of Trustees.

Sue C. Carnell, former deputy superintendent of Detroit Public Schools, and David L. Way, with the United Food and Commercial Workers Union, will replace Dan Aronoff of Birmingham and Donna Brooks of Holland, whose terms have expired.

Carnell received an undergraduate degree from the University of Michigan and a master's degree from Eastern Michigan University. Before her position with Detroit Public Schools, she served as an education policy advisor to Granholm from 2003-08. She had worked for the Michigan Department of Education as director of the Office of School Excellence.

"Grand Valley is one of Michigan's esteemed higher education institutions," said Carnell. "I look forward to working with fellow board members, President Haas, faculty, staff and students to provide programs and offerings at Grand Valley that meet the needs of our global market."



Sue C. Carnell

Way, from DeWitt, has roots in West Michigan and attended Grandville High School. Way also was a student at Grand Valley in the early '70s and then attended Lansing Community College. He has been a contract negotiator for

the UFCW Local No. 951 in Grand Rapids for seven years, and also serves as vice president and organizer and field representative.



David L. Way

"I am honored to have been appointed to serve as trustee for Grand Valley," said Way. "I look forward to the challenges presented in maintaining and improving the excellent reputation of Grand Valley, especially during our current economic climate."

Across Campus

Assistant vice president named ACE Fellow

Nancy Giardina, assistant vice president for Academic Affairs, has been named an ACE Fellow by the American Council on Education, based in Washington, D.C.



Nancy Giardina

The ACE Fellows Program, established in 1965, is designed to strengthen institutions and leadership in American higher education by identifying and preparing promising senior faculty and administrators for responsible positions in college and university administration. Thirty-eight fellows, nominated by the presidents or chancellors of their institutions, were selected this year in a national competition.

Giardina has been at Grand Valley since 1999; she served as a faculty member in Movement Science and was department chair from

2000-05. Giardina earned a doctorate from Columbia University, a master's degree from Montclair State University and a bachelor's degree from University of Rhode Island.

"Being awarded an ACE Fellow is an honor and the highest level of professional development in higher education leadership. It's well-timed for me at this point in my career," Giardina said. "I am grateful to Provost Gayle Davis for nominating me and President Haas for supporting the nomination. I am extremely excited and look forward to fully engaging in all the ACE Fellow has to offer."

Each ACE Fellow focuses on an issue of concern to the nominating institution. Giardina will focus on student success initiatives to facilitate integrating undergraduate education with community service engagement. She said this will better help students transition into the workforce or continue to graduate school.

Grand Valley has a long history with ACE. Faculty members Mary Seeger and Tony Travis, and President Thomas J. Haas have participated in the ACE Fellows Program. The university also has connections with ACE's Office of Women in Higher Education. A

system of institutional representatives at 45 Michigan colleges is coordinated by a board that includes Marlene Kowalski-Braun as state coordinator-elect, Seeger as treasurer, and Wendy Wenner as a member.

Faculty, staff travel to Turkey for spring break

A diverse group of faculty and staff members traveled to Turkey over spring break on a trip designed to highlight a partner institution and provide travel opportunities to those who have not been on a faculty-led trip.

The group was sponsored by the Padnos International Center and led by an experienced guide, Jim Goode, professor of history and former coordinator of Middle East Studies. Goode had taught at Bilkent University in Ankara, Turkey. He said his goals as a guide were to introduce the group to Turkish culture "so they can understand that you can travel to the Middle East and have a good time."

The Grand Valley group was comprised of

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Across Campus

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Goode and his wife, Virginia (retired Grand Valley employee); Esther Billings, associate professor of mathematics; Virginia Jenkins, chair of art and design; Bob Schoofs, library; Steve Snell, arborist; Robyn Toth, academic department coordinator for Finance; and Danielle Wiese, assistant professor of communications.



Photo courtesy of Steve Snell

A group of faculty and staff members stand in front of tomb in Turkey. They spent spring break at a Grand Valley partner institution, Middle East Technical University.

The group stayed at Middle East Technical University, an English-speaking university with an enrollment of 22,000.

An exchange agreement was signed in 2005 between Grand Valley and METU.

Billings said she enjoyed the trip and applied for the travel grant partly because she wanted to learn more about the culture and history. As an American born in the Middle East, she said was interested in re-establishing her connections and understanding of this part of the world.

While at METU, Billings was matched with a mathematics educator in the Faculty of Education. She said they discussed common research and teaching interests in the preparation of elementary school teachers. He also gave her a tour of several local elementary schools and METU's math lab and classrooms.

Snell and his host discussed landscaping and tree planting. Snell said they are planting about 1,000 trees a year on the 11,000-acre campus; all fac-

ulty and staff help with planting, which he said gives ownership.

Mark Schaub, executive director of the PIC, said 26 people applied for travel grants. PIC plans to sponsor a trip again next year to another partner institution.

Faculty and Staff Campaign hits stride

Support for the Faculty and Staff Campaign is ahead of last year's mark, according to organizers. Also a record 11 offices have reached 100 percent of employees who have donated to the campaign.

Eight of the 11 offices reaching 100 percent participation have done so for the first time. They are Seidman Finance, Hospitality and Tourism Management, Human Resources, Meadows Golf Club, Padnos International Center, Regional Math/Science Center, Women's Center and Student Services Office. Other offices reaching 100 percent include Alumni Relations, Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies, and University Counsel.

"The campaign is running at full speed," says Mary Ann Watters, campaign co-chair. "Faculty and staff support is tracking well ahead of support from previous years."

Paul Stephenson, co-chair, reminds faculty and staff members that there are 250 funds to choose from that represent a wide variety of priorities and interests. One fund, the Clerical Office Technical Scholarship Endowment, has seen a 30 percent increase in donors and a 25 percent increase in dollars given. The fund supports scholarships for children and grandchildren of COT staff who attend Grand Valley.

More results will be announced at a volunteer celebration on April 8. For details visit www.gvsu.edu/fscampaign.

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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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GVNOW

To see video features and daily campus news, visit Grand Valley's online publication, GVNow, at www.gvsu.edu/gvnow.

GRAND VALLEY magazine

Grand Valley Magazine is published quarterly for the university community. Visit its Web site at www.gvsu.edu/gvmagazine.

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

GVFaces

Ron Berry, library director of technology and information resources

With a bachelor's degree in geography and a master's degree in library science, Ron Berry combined his two degrees to work at a university library for seven years in the United Arab Emirates.

Originally from British Columbia, Berry moved closer to home two years ago when he accepted the position at Grand Valley as director of technology and information resources for University Libraries.

Throughout his education, Berry has worked at university libraries. For Grand Valley's libraries, he is responsible for providing access to print and electronic materials, and maintaining the systems and software that support the libraries' electronic presence.

"I like how technology improves access to information and makes it easier for students and faculty members to access our resources," he said. Berry added that it's an exciting time for the library staff, as the campaign to build the new Mary Idema Pew

Library continues.

Berry said he taught himself many of the technical skills needed to work in a library. He earned a master's degree from the University of British Columbia in Vancouver that was focused on technology.

"There are many opportunities to work in a library because they can be found throughout the world," said Berry.

When not at work, Berry enjoys traveling and experiencing new cultures; he has been to 33 countries. He also plays hockey and golf. He is the father of two children, ages 3 and 5.



Ron Berry

What's Ahead

Roundtable to address student veterans' issues

The first of two forums to discuss solutions to assist veterans in their transition from military service to college life will be held today at 1 p.m. in the Kirkhof Center, room 2266.

Steve Lipnicki, director of Pew Campus Student Services, said faculty and staff members have interviewed student veterans and met with community agencies to better understand their needs and concerns. Faculty and staff members, veterans, students and alumni are invited to the forums.

A second forum is set for April 14, 3 p.m., in the Kirkhof Center, room 2266. For more information, contact Lipnicki at x17188.

Playwright is keynote speaker for SSD

Jennifer Blackmer of Ball State University will give the keynote lecture at the 14th annual Student Scholarship Day on Wednesday, April 8. Her lecture will be at 4 p.m. in the Kirkhof Center, room 2204.

She is a playwright and theater director, and an assistant professor of theater; her talk is "The Gesture of Thinking: What the Sciences and Humanities can Learn from the Performing Arts."

Her play, "The Human Faustus Project," explores the ethical gray areas of genetic research. It was created with 15 under-

graduates at the Virginia B. Ball Center for Creative Inquiry and premiered at Ball State in November 2007. In her talk, Blackmer will chronicle the creation of that play and will discuss how it serves as a model for the tremendous potential of research projects driven by undergraduates.

Student Scholarship Day will celebrate the scholarship and creative work performed by Grand Valley students. The day showcases faculty-mentored student work shared through many venues, including oral presentations, discussion and panel sessions, fine arts exhibits and performances, and poster presentations.

This year's event will showcase some 400 presentations by more than 600 student presenters in Henry and Padnos halls and the Kirkhof Center. For more information, visit www.gvsu.edu/ssd.

National Alcohol Screening Day scheduled

The Counseling and Career Development Center is participating in National Alcohol Screening Day on Thursday, April 9.

Counselors will meet with people throughout the day at various sites. Locations and times are as follows.

- Kirkhof Center lobby: 2-4 p.m.
- North C Living Center: Noon-2 p.m.
- DeVos Center Student Project Area: 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
- Cook DeVos Center for Health Sciences lobby: 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

- ACES office: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
- Counseling Center: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
- Campus Recreation Center: 4-6 p.m.

Questions can be directed to the Counseling Center at x13266.

Debt Doctor to visit campus

The "Debt Doctor," who can be heard on WLHT-FM, will visit campus for a free seminar on April 14, from 6-9 p.m., in the University Club Room of the DeVos Center.

Mark Mills will give participants tips on saving money, getting out of debt and understanding the credit world. Registration is full, but contact Sue Sloop, work life consultant, at x18011 or sloops@gvsu.edu to be placed on a waiting list.

Johnson Center to host writing seminar

The Dorothy A. Johnson Center for Philanthropy will host a proposal writing seminar on April 14 at its new office, 201 Front St.

The session, which will run from 9 a.m.-4 p.m., is geared toward grant seekers who write proposals to foundations. Participants will learn how to craft a compelling proposal; included in the session fee is a resource book, *The Foundation Center's Guide to Proposal Writing*.

Registration fee is \$195. Visit the Johnson Center Web site at www.gvsu.edu/jcp for more information.

Across Campus

Mahawili leaves MAREC

Grand Valley announced that Imad Mahawili, executive director of the Michigan Alternative and Renewable Energy Center in Muskegon, will leave that position.

The university has appointed Arnold Boezaart, former vice president for Grant Programs for the Community Foundation for Muskegon County, as the temporary director while the university searches for a permanent replacement. In his role with the Community Foundation, Boezaart handled the project that put the wind energy turbine atop the Frauenthal Center in downtown Muskegon.

Mahawili became the executive director of MAREC in 2003, the first person to hold the position. He previously had served as founder, president and chief executive officer of Micro C Technologies, Inc., and IsoComforter Co. Mahawili's own work on alternative and renewable energy began early in his career, and he holds nearly 30 patents.

Mahawili will continue to work with MAREC as a consultant. His first project will be to continue work on the off-shore wind demonstration project that just received \$1.4 million from the federal government. MAREC will partner

with the local community in an effort to raise the additional funds necessary for the project.



Photo courtesy of the Padnos International Center

From left are Andres Ortiz, president of the International Student Organization; Arlene Hecksel; Doug Brown and Mary Daily Brown; Rhea Andrews; Claudia Bajema; and Kate Stoetznier, Padnos International Center.

PIC hosts Pineapple Awards

The Padnos International Center hosted the annual Pineapple Awards, a ceremony that recognizes Grand Valley faculty and staff members, community members and students who advocate for international students and enrich their experience while they are in West Michigan.

Awards were presented March 27 to Arlene Hecksel, writing department faculty member; Claudia Bajema, director of Seidman College of Business graduate programs; Doug Brown and Mary Daily Brown, community members; and Rhea Andrews, student.

Memorial service set for former professor

A memorial service for Hugo Salazar, former faculty member and Laker baseball coach, will be held next week in Grand Rapids. Salazar died January 25 in Dunedin, Florida. He was 79.

Salazar joined Grand Valley's faculty in 1965 as a Spanish teacher. He was also the university's first baseball coach. He taught at Grand Valley for 30 years. Salazar earned a master's degree from Michigan State University and a bachelor's degree from Alma College. His wife, Laura Salazar, was a member of Grand Valley's communications faculty from 1965-2000.

The memorial service will be April 18 at Faith United Methodist Church, 2600 Seventh Street NW, beginning at 10:30 a.m. A reception will follow at the Alumni House.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

General Events

Mon., April 6

Noon: History Colloquium. "Chinese Communist Press Coordination," by Neil O'Brien. D-1-141 MAK. Call x13298 for more information.

1 p.m.: Roundtable on Student Veterans. 2266 KC. Call x17188 for more information.

7 p.m.: Concert by Vocal Studio Students of Elizabeth Stoner. Sherman Van Solkema Recital Hall, PAC. Call x13484 for more information.

Wed., April 8

All Day: Student Scholarship Day. PAD, KC and HRY. Call x18655 for more information.

Noon: Allendale Toastmasters. 2259 KC. Call x18655 for more information.

6 p.m.: Veterans History Project hosts "Tell America: Korean War Veterans Share Their Stories." AH. Call x13422 for information.

8 p.m.: GVSU Choral Concert. University Singers, Select Women's Ensemble and Cantate Chamber Ensemble. LAT, PAC.

Thurs., April 9

7:30 a.m.: Grand Rapids Toastmasters. University Club Room, DEV. Call x17378 for more information.

1 p.m.: Health and Wellness hosts "Retire Happy and Informed." University Club Room, DEV. Call x12215 for more information.

4:30 p.m.: Spanish Poetry Week: In Honor of Ernesto Cardenal. CDC. Call x13203 for more information.

6 p.m.: Ott Lectureship in Chemistry. "Chemistry: Improving People's Lives," by Thomas Lane. AH. Call x13317 for more information.

8 p.m.: GVSU Jazz Orchestra. Tim Froncek, director. LAT, PAC. Call x13484 for more information.

Fri., April 10

8 p.m.: GVSU Symphony Orchestra. Henry Duitman, conductor. LAT, PAC. Call x13484 for more information.

Sat., April 11

6 p.m.: Spanish Poetry Week Event. Screening of "Solentiname." Loosemore Auditorium, DEV. Call x13203 for more information.

8 p.m.: Varsity Men Choral Concert. CDC. Call x13484 for more information.

Sports

Mon., April 6

1 p.m.: Softball hosts Lake Superior State University.

Fri., April 10

1 p.m.: Baseball hosts Northwood University.

3 p.m.: Softball hosts Hillsdale College.

Sat., April 11

Noon: Football Spring Game. Lubbers Stadium.

1 p.m.: Softball hosts University of Findlay.

1 p.m.: Baseball hosts Northwood University.

Faculty and Staff Sketches

In the News

Political science faculty members **Erika King** and **Roger Moiles** were interviewed on WOOD-TV's "To The Point" about the first two months of the Obama presidency.

Sketches

Patrick Shan, assistant professor of history, wrote an article, "A Proud and Creative Jewish Community: The Harbin Diaspora, Jewish Memory and Sino-Israeli Relations," published in *American Review of China Studies*. He also gave a presentation, "Commerce and Urban Development: The Special Case of Harbin, 1898-1931," at the international conference held at University of Louisville, Kentucky.

Hospitality and Tourism Management faculty members **Scott Rood**, **Paul Stansbie** and **Lisa Sisson** attended the Michigan Governor's Conference: Driving Tourism 2009 in Detroit.

George Klay Kieh Jr., professor of political science and African and African American Studies, gave a presentation, "Race and the Obama Administration's Policy on Democratization in Africa," at the annual convention of the National Conference of Black Political Scientists held

in Houston, Texas. He also wrote an article, "The Roots of the Second Liberian Civil War," published in the *International Journal on World Peace*.

University Libraries staff members **Linda Masselink** and **Jodi Tyron** gave a presentation, "Recasting the Role of Comprehensive Libraries: Starting Points for Educating Librarians on the Issues of Scholarly Communication and Institutional Repositories," at the Association of College and Research Libraries National Conference in Seattle, Washington.

Dan Balfour, professor of public and nonprofit administration, will participate in the Curt C. and Else Silberman Seminar for University Faculty: Teaching the Holocaust: Causes, Course, Consequences, at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C.

Management faculty members **Jim Sanford** and **Robert Frey** gave a presentation, "Sustainability in the Business Law Classroom," at the Midwest Academy of Legal Studies in Business in Chicago.

Felix Ngassa, assistant professor of chemistry, gave three presentations and helped supervise another at the National Meeting of the American Chemical Society in Salt Lake City, Utah.

David Stark, associate professor of history, wrote an article, "Parish Registers as a Window to the Past: Reconstructing the Demographic Behavior of the Enslaved Population in Eighteenth-Century Arecibo, Puerto Rico," published in *Colonial Latin American Historical Review*.

Ellen Yeziarski, associate professor of chemistry, gave a presentation, "Target Inquiry: Using Observational Data to Detect Changes in Teacher Practice," at the National Meeting of the American Chemical Society in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Deborah Herrington, associate professor of chemistry, organized a symposium, "High School Chemistry Teacher Professional Development: What Works and How We Know," and gave a presentation, "No Quick Fixes: The Long Road to Inquiry Based Instruction," at the National Meeting of the American Chemical Society in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Kin M. Ma, assistant professor of geography and planning, gave a presentation, "Use of Remote Sensing Images and Geo-Spatial Analysis to Identify Fire Blight Disease," at the Association of American Geographers Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada.