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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



Speakers announced for April commencement

The newest Grand Valley graduates will hear commencement addresses from a national political analyst and a longtime supporter of the university during the April 28 ceremonies.

James Brooks, vice chair of the Grand Valley Foundation, is the morning speaker and Juan Williams, political analyst for Fox Television, is the afternoon speaker.



James Brooks

The morning ceremony will start at 10 a.m. and include the following colleges: Seidman College of Business, College of Community and Public Service, Padnos College of Engineering and Computing, College of Health Professions and Kirkhof College of Nursing. KCON will present its first candidates to receive doctor of nursing practice degrees.

The 3 p.m. ceremony includes graduates of

the College of Education, Brooks College of Interdisciplinary Studies and College of Liberal Arts & Sciences.

Brooks is the founding chair of the West Michigan Strategic Alliance, a group that works to promote the pooling of resources between Grand Rapids and Lakeshore communities. He and his wife, Donna, co-chaired the university's first comprehensive campaign, which ended last year and raised more than \$97 million.

Williams is a best-selling author. His most recent book is *Muzzled – The Assault on Honest Debate*. Williams also wrote *Eyes on the Prize – America's Civil Rights Years*, which accompanied the PBS series about the Civil Rights era. He had served as senior news correspondent for National Public Radio.



Juan Williams

Grand Valley's 25th anniversary of its partnership with Kingston University in London will be recognized. Julius Weinberg, Kingston vice-chancellor, will receive an honorary doctorate of humane letters at the afternoon ceremony.

The Alumni Association will present its Outstanding Educator Award to Star Swift, associate professor of management in the Seidman College of Business, and its Distinguished Alumni Award to James Ashley.

Ashley graduated in 1987 and is a postdoctoral research fellow at Arizona State University, researching asteroids and meteorites at ASU's School of Earth and Space Exploration.

Swift joined Grand Valley's faculty in 1992, following service as assistant city attorney for the City of Grand Rapids and legal advisor to the president of Ferris State University.

More information about commencement is online at www.gvsu.edu/commencement.

Across Campus

Fellowships office gears up for Fulbright applicants

As the academic year begins to wind down, the Frederik Meijer Office of Fellowships is gearing up for the Student Fulbright Scholarship season.

Amanda Cuevas, director, encourages faculty and staff members to submit names of students who would make good Fulbright candidates. Send a student's name and contact information via e-mail to fellowships@gvsu.edu.

The U.S. Student Fulbright Scholarship is an opportunity for students to pursue research and/or English teaching assistantships in approximately 140 countries around the world.

Students who would like to apply for a Fulbright scholarship should spend the summer preparing their applications, Cuevas said. Questions can be directed to x13219.

Mother, son team for SSD presentation

All college students are familiar with having good and not-so-good partners for group projects. What if your research partner was your mother?

The mother and son team of Rebecca Beebe and Thomas Beebe, of Grand Haven, collaborated on a research project for a speech language pathology course they took together at Grand Valley. In fact, the Beebes take all their courses together.

Their poster presentation researched how similar family members sound when pronouncing vowels. It was voted best student research poster at a recent Michigan Speech Language Hearing Association Conference in Kalamazoo. They presented it during Student Scholars Day on April 11.

Thomas said he's enjoyed taking courses with his mom. "It's been pretty fun, we work well together," he said. "She's very comfortable in

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Photo by Bernadine Carey-Tucker

Rebecca Beebe and Thomas Beebe discuss their research with Azizur Molla, assistant professor of anthropology, during Student Scholars Day.

Across Campus

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language therapy, where I am more confident in audiology, which is more math-based.”

Thomas earned a bachelor's in health professions from Grand Valley last year. He returned to Grand Valley to complete the speech-language pathology emphasis, which gives students prerequisite undergraduate courses to pursue graduate work in those fields.

Rebecca returned to school last fall after earning a bachelor's degree in music and music therapy from Western Michigan University in 1984. “I have always been interested in speech pathology,” she said. “It surprised me when Thomas told me he wanted to be in the same program.”

Rebecca also plans to pursue a master's degree in speech-language pathology and hopes to attend the new graduate program at Grand Valley, which will open next fall.

Beth Macauley, associate professor of speech language pathology, said the Beebes are the first mother-son team to attend one of her classes. “They actually choose to sit by each other in the front row, study together, and are both high achievers,” she said.

Singleton to retire after 35 years

Harriet Singleton will take a lot of Grand Valley history with her when she retires this month.

Singleton, senior counselor for the Counseling and Career Development Center, joined Grand Valley in 1977. When she arrived, she was one of four staff members in the Counseling Center; there are now more than 20 people working there.

“That’s what strikes me the most,” Singleton said. “We used to be so small, you knew everyone and had a relationship with nearly everyone.”

Singleton came to Grand Valley with a background in diversity training. She started the center's multicultural seminar, held annually for area counselors and other professionals. Last year marked the event's 15th straight year.

She was also instrumental in establishing Positive Black Women, a group of faculty and staff members who began meeting regularly for lunch in the mid-1990s.

“We started with brown bag lunches, about five of us. Over time, we talked about collecting dues and then discussion centered on what to do with the money. Then we decided to give scholarships,” Singleton said.

PBW celebrated its 11th year of awarding scholarships in March at the Celebrating Women Awards ceremony. “That is something I hope continues,” she said.

A retirement party for Singleton is set for Friday, April 20, from 3-5:30 p.m. in the Kirkhof Center, Thornapple Room. Remarks will begin at 3:45 p.m.

Home energy-saving test offer ends April 30

The BetterBuildings for Michigan home energy assessment program is available to faculty and staff members through April 30.

The discounted offer is now available for homeowners referred to the program by participating Grand Valley individuals. Faculty and staff members can invite up to five potential applicants (they do not have to be affiliated with Grand Valley) to receive the discount.

The cost for participants from Grand Valley is \$100, which is a \$300-500 savings off a typical energy assessment.



Photo by Amanda Pitts

Harriet Singleton addresses the audience after receiving the Maxine Swanson Award from the Women's Commission in March. She will retire this month after 35 years of service.

FORUM Volume 36, Number 31

The GVSU Forum is published by the News and Information Services Office. 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 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, 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

Allison Lugo Knapp, associate director, Grantmaking School

For Allison Lugo Knapp, volunteerism and service were values she learned to appreciate at an early age.

“I’m originally from Latin America and my father was in international development, so we moved a lot,” she said. “I’ve lived in South America, India and the United States. Wherever we were, my parents encouraged us to be a part of any community we lived in, and to give back.”

This interest in community welfare is what led Knapp to her current position as associate director of the Grantmaking School at the Johnson Center for Philanthropy. Knapp's role includes planning and developing programming for the Johnson Center, with a focus on professional development courses for philanthropic foundations.

Courses offered by the school include topics like proposal and project analysis, financial analysis and evaluation. “Attendees are program staff from different funders including community, family, private and corporate giving programs,” said Knapp. “These courses take place over two days, and they happen on a national level.”

She believes that working with such a variety of foundations is valuable. “Grantmaking is a world that isn’t always widely understood,” said Knapp. “But it’s our world all the time. We love being able to provide all the insight that we can.”

Before working at Grand Valley, Knapp served as a program officer at the Battle Creek Community Foundation. During that time, Knapp focused on support for culture and the arts, as well as youth populations. “It was great to be able to work in a community,” said Knapp. “People would always come in excited, with different ideas about community improvement. It was so satisfying to work in a place where we could effectively find solutions.”



Allison Lugo Knapp

In addition to her administrative role, Knapp is an adjunct faculty member in the School of Public, Nonprofit, and Health Administration and teaches graduate courses in grant writing. “I encourage my students to consider their grants from the perspective of who’s reviewing them, from the perspective of grantmakers,” said Knapp. “I also emphasize how much the process varies depending on what type of funder is being approached.”

In her free time, Knapp still enjoys traveling as frequently as she can. “I try to make it back to Latin America once a year,” she said. “It’s important to me that I stay connected, and that I keep that sense of community alive.”

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What's Ahead

Niemeyer Awards presented during annual celebration

The Niemeyer Awards will be presented to outstanding students and faculty members during the annual awards celebration on Monday, April 16.

Named for former provost Glenn A. Niemeyer, recipients of the award represent excellence in all academic aspects. The program will begin at 6:30 p.m. in the Eberhard Center.

The faculty recipients are Kathleen Bailey, professor of criminal justice, and Ashok Kumar, professor of management.

Undergraduate student recipients are Nicholas Maki, Classics and philosophy major, and Taryn Zyburt, nursing major. Graduate student awards will be presented to Kara Endsley, reading/language arts major, and Alexander Plotkowski, engineering major.

The Niemeyer Awards will be presented with departmental honor awards and Student Services awards at the ceremony.

Student awards include the Kenneth R. Venderbush Student Leadership Award and the Thomas M. Seykora Award for Outstanding Contribution.

Venderbush Award recipients are Natalie Cleary and Sean McCormack. The recipients of the Seykora Award are Kelsey Curlett, Charles DeLisle, Erika DeVriendt, Justin Gray, Sydney Kilmartin, Eric Nodge, Eric Spencer and Jody Wycech.

Mobile mammography unit to visit Pew Campus

The mobile mammography unit from Spectrum Health Betty Ford Breast Care Services will stop at the DeVos Center on Wednesday, April 18, for screenings.

The mobile unit will be outside Loosemore Auditorium from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Call (616) 267-2626 to schedule an appointment.

Greek drama scenes to be performed

A staged reading by professional actors is planned during a series of events to illustrate how Ancient Greek drama themes still resonate today.

Ancient Greeks/Modern Lives is a major national program funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

The program is set for Wednesday, April 18, from 6:30-8 p.m. at Grand Rapids Main Public Library, 111 Library NE. It is free and open to the public.



Kathleen Bailey



Ashok Kumar

The staged reading will include a repertoire of selections from the *Odyssey*, *Agamemnon*, *Ajax* and *Herakles*. The event will include performed readings and post-show discussion led by Classics Professor Diane Rayor.

For more information, visit www.ancientgreekmodernlives.org.

Pow Wow set for Saturday

The spring Pow Wow, an event to raise awareness about Native American culture and tradition, will take place on Saturday, April 21, from 11 a.m.-10 p.m.

Sponsored by the Native American Student Association and Office of Multicultural Affairs, the Pow Wow will be held on the field next to the Performing Arts Center. It is free and open to the public.

The focus of the event will be traditional Native American dancing and music with performances at 1 and 6 p.m. Native American art, jewelry and food will be available throughout the day.

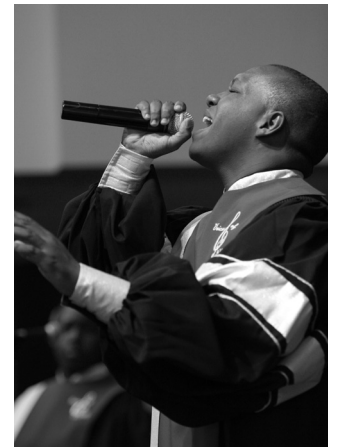
Voices to celebrate 25th year with concert

The gospel choir at Grand Valley will celebrate its 25th anniversary with a free concert during a reunion weekend that will draw hundreds of former choir members back to sing.

The "Family Reunion Concert" by Voices of GVSU is set for Saturday, April 21, at 5 p.m. at the Performing Arts Center at Allendale High School, 10760 68th Ave. in Allendale. It is free and open to the public.

Cassonya Carter serves as choir director for Voices of GVSU and is its founding member. Carter is now director of the Office of Student Services for Grand Valley's Kirkhof College of Nursing; she started the choir in 1987 when she was a student at Grand Valley.

In 1987, there were 10 students in Voices of GVSU. In recent years, the choir has grown to more than 100 members. The choir performs on campus and throughout the state annually.



Voices of GVSU will celebrate its 25th anniversary with a special reunion concert Saturday at Allendale High School.

Farmers Market set for early June

The sixth annual GVSU Farmers Market will begin June 6 and continue on Wednesdays through September 26.

A six-piece band will help open the market, in addition to free smoothies and other give-aways. The market will run from 10 a.m.-1:30 p.m. in parking lot F.

Across Campus

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Nearly 125 faculty and staff members have participated in the energy-saving test that includes a home energy audit and other services that can improve energy performance and lower utility bills.

Michelle Burke, director of Student Life, was an early adopter of the program and said the crew gave her great advice for the next steps to improve their home. "The audit was well worth the time," she said. "They outfitted all of our lamps with low-energy lightbulbs, installed a low-flow shower head, and a programmable thermostat. We saw a savings on our gas bill in the first month of use."

Program participants living in the City of Grand

Rapids will receive access to a zero-interest APR home energy loan up \$20,000, utility rebates from energy companies and 20 percent off any improvements from the program.

Participants living outside of the City of Grand Rapids will receive utility rebates and low-interest financing options to make home improvements.

For more information visit www.bbmg.org/gvsu or call (616) 451-3051.

Former faculty members die

Two retired faculty members, Mary Barnum and James Blakey, died recently.

Barnum, who taught accounting and worked for Continuing Education, died April 2 at age 63. She started working at Grand Valley in 1987 as a visiting instructor of accounting and then served as assistant dean of the Seidman College of Business from 1991-1994. She also worked as interim director of Continuing Education and as manager of marketing and advertising before leaving in 1998.

Blakey, who retired as associate professor of psychology, died March 28. He joined the faculty in 1972 and retired in 1998.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

General Events

Mon., April 16

Noon: Health and Wellness hosts “Better Time Management,” by Noreen Savage. 303C DEV. Call x12215 for more information.

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

Wed., April 18

9 a.m.-4 p.m.: Mobile Mammography Unit. Outside DEV. Call (616) 267-2626 to schedule an appointment.

11 a.m.: Human Resources Career Services hosts “LinkedIn for Career Success,” by Rob Geer. 1142 KC. Call x12215 for more information.

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

Noon: Health and Wellness Event: “Talk with Your Teens before Everyone Else Does,” by Matthew Clark. 302E DEV. Visit www.gvsu.edu/seminar to register.

2 p.m.: Johnson Center Workshop: “Structuring a Capital Campaign,” by Matthew Downey. BIK. Call x17585 for more information.

4 p.m.: Lavender Graduation. 2204 KC. Call x12530 for more information.

6 p.m.: Projection Film Series: “Blue Velvet.” 114 LMH. Call x12195 for more information.

6:30 p.m.: Modern Languages hosts *Mémoires: An Evening of French Music, Poetry, and Song*. CDC. Call x13203 for more information.

Thurs., April 19

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

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

Fri., April 20

Noon: Children’s Enrichment Center hosts Annual Art Show and Reception. 2263 KC. Call x15437 for more information.

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

Sat., April 21

8 a.m.-5 p.m.: Women’s Center hosts Ready to Run Campaign Training for Women. KC. Call x12748 for more information.

1 p.m.: Multicultural Affairs hosts annual Pow Wow. PAC field. Call x12177 for more information.

5 p.m.: Voices of GVSU 25th Anniversary Concert. Allendale High School.

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

Sports

Fri., April 20

Noon: Track and Field Al Owens Classic.

Sat., April 21

9 a.m.: Track and Field Al Owens Classic.

Faculty and Staff Sketches

In the News

John Kilbourne, professor of movement science, and his research were mentioned in *New York Times* opinion article, “Football and Swahili.” He also wrote a guest editorial, “What Does the Popularity of ‘The Hunger Games’ Say About our Society?” published in the *Grand Rapids Press*.

Sketches

Elaine Ragsdale Schott, professor of social work, gave the keynote address, “Vintage Status: Shock, Awe, and Awesome!” at Bluffton University’s Annual Carl Smucker Lecture Forum.

Teri Behrens, editor in chief of the Johnson Center’s *Foundation Review*, will give a presentation at the Michigan Association for Evaluation on Trends in Evaluation.

Elena Lioubimtseva, associate professor of geography and planning, gave a presentation, “Environmental Education and Stewardship

Through Direct Action, Civic Engagement and Community-Based Research in the Great Lakes Region,” at Planet Under Pressure 2012 in London. She was selected to serve on the editorial review board of the *International Journal of Sustainable Land Use and Urban Planning*, and served as a review for the NASA postdoctoral program.

Deborah Herrington, associate professor of chemistry, co-wrote an article, “Target Inquiry: Helping Teachers Use a Research Experience To Transform Their Teaching Practices,” published in the *Journal of Chemical Education*. She mentored a student presentation, “Can We Improve Research Experiences to Better Address Nature of Science Concepts?” at the 243rd Annual American Chemical Society National Meeting in San Diego, California.

Alan Steinman, director of the Annis Water Resources Institute, was elected as the first academic delegate to the board of directors of the Society for Freshwater Science.

Kelly Parker, professor of philosophy, served

as co-editor of a book, *Josiah Royce for the Twenty-first Century: Historical, Ethical, and Religious Interpretations*, published by Lexington Books. Parker and **Kirsten Allen Bartels**, Honors faculty fellow, served as co-editors of a book, *Teaching Sustainability/Teaching Sustainably*, published by Stylus Publishing.

Brian J. Bowe, visiting assistant professor of communications, co-wrote an article, “Cyber-Dissent and Power: Negotiating Online Boundaries in Repressitarian Regimes,” in the *International Journal of Information Communication Technologies and Human Development*.

Regional Math and Science Center staff members **Kathy Agee** and **Margo Dill** gave a presentation, “Exploration of STEM Careers,” at the National Science Teachers Association Conference on Science Education in Indianapolis, Indiana. Agee and **Karen Meyers** gave a presentation, “Effective, Engaging Methods for Writing in Science,” at the conference.