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Grand Valley Forum

Monday, August 23, 1982 Vol. 6, No. 38

Grand Valley State Colleges

CONVOCATION TO FEATURE FACULTY AWARDS, HONORARY DEGREES

Four honorary degrees and Grand Valley's first faculty awards for distinguished contributions in a discipline will be presented at the all-college community Fall Convocation on Tuesday, August 31. University of Chicago English Professor Edward W. Rosenheim will be the convocation speaker.

The convocation will be held at 10:30 a.m. in the Calder Fine Arts Center. The program will include the introduction of new Presidential and Paul I. Phillips Scholars, greetings from the chair of the executive committee of the senate and the president of the student senate, and music by the Grand Valley Band and vocalist Leslie Eitzen.

Following the convocation, a picnic lunch for all faculty and staff and their spouses will be held at the Field House. Tours of the new facility will also be available at that time.

Convocation is open to all members of the Grand Valley community. Offices will be kept open on a minimal basis.

FOUR WEST MICHIGAN RESIDENTS TO RECEIVE HONORARY DEGREES

The honorary degree recipients are Ara C. Cary, a Grand Rapids social worker, administrator, and psychotherapist; Gerald A. Elliott, former chief editorial writer for the Grand Rapids Press; E. Vincent Erickson, a Grand Haven corporate and civic leader; and Grand Rapids educator George J. VanWesep.

Cary was a member of the staff of the Grand Rapids Child Guidance Clinic for more than twenty years, including twelve as director of the agency. She played a key role in developing a variety of innovative programs, including the Pre-School Child Development Center and the Suspected Child Abuse and Neglect (SCAN) program.

Over the years she has served as a lecturer for the University of Michigan School of Social Work, a teacher of in-service training seminars, a consultant, and a psychotherapist. Much of her work has been devoted to programs aimed at assisting children.

Cary has been active in a variety of community organizations, including the United Way, the Grand Rapids Historical Preservation Commission, the Grand Rapids Art Museum, and the Friends of Aquinas Library. She has served on the Tri-County Advisory Committee for Grand Valley's School of Social Work since the committee was established.

Elliott was a member of the Grand Rapids Press staff from 1941, when he joined the paper as an editorial writer, until 1972, when he retired as chief editorial writer and music critic. He continues to write a weekly column, profiles of senior citizens, and occasional articles on music for the Press. Following his retirement, he was a staff writer for Grand Valley from 1973 until 1977.

Elliott has served for more than ten years as a member of the Grand Rapids Planning Commission and the Board of Governors of Clarke Historical Library at Central Michigan University, which he chaired for eight years. He has also been a member of the executive committee of the Michigan Council for the Humanities.

Elliott's music reviews for the Press have been one of several facets of his interest in music. He has performed as a musician in dance and dixieland bands and other organizations, composed scores for the Civic Theatre, and written program notes for the Grand Rapids Symphony for thirty years.

Erickson was director of Keller Tool Company in Grand Haven from 1940 until 1955, and was president of the firm from 1952 until 1955, when Keller merged with Gardner-Denver Company. He was an executive vice president and senior vice president of Gardner-Denver from 1955 until 1968 and director of the company for twenty years, from 1955 until 1975.

Erickson has also served as director for several other corporations and been active in a variety of civic organizations, including the Committee for Economic Development, the Board of Education, and the Planning

Committee, all in Grand Haven. He has been a trustee for the Grand Haven Area Community Foundation, Inc., Alma College, and the Loutit Foundation.

VanWesep was deputy superintendent of schools for Kent County for 15 years, until his retirement in 1963. He served as principal at four schools, including the Perkins Christian School in Iowa for two years, Alpine Christian School in Grand Rapids for five years, Benzie County Normal School in Frankfort for seven years, and Oakdale Christian School in Grand Rapids for 19 years.

ALKEMA, FRANKLIN TO BE HONORED

The faculty awards will go to Chester Alkema, an art professor who has published dozens of books and articles in the field of art education, and French Professor Ursula Franklin, who was recently awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship for research in French and comparative literature.

Alkema joined the Grand Valley faculty in 1965, when he became the first art instructor hired by the college. He currently serves as chair of the College of Arts and Sciences Art Department.

Alkema has written and illustrated fourteen books on topics ranging from Creative Paper Crafts in Color, his first book, published in 1967, to Mask Making, published in 1981. He has also authored more than 60 articles for educational journals such as School Arts, Design, Art and Activities and Exceptional Children, and has co-authored six art encyclopedias. His books have been published in several foreign countries and have been translated into French and Dutch.

Alkema was the Michigan Art Education Association's 1981 "Teacher of the Year." He was named an Outstanding Educator in America in 1974.

Franklin recently received a \$24,000 Guggenheim Fellowship, one of the most prestigious awards available to scholars, scientists and artists. The award will fund a year of research and writing in France, Germany and the United States

(Continued)

CONVOCATION TO FEATURE FACULTY AWARDS, HONORARY DEGREES (Continued)

on a book entitled Exile and Irony in Heine and Laforgue.

The subjects of the book, Heine and Laforgue, were 19th century poets who wrote in their native languages, while in exile in another country and who revolutionized their medium by their use of irony.

Franklin has taught at Grand Valley since 1971. She has received numerous academic awards including a fellowship from the American Council of Learned Societies in 1978. She was named an Outstanding Educator of America in 1974.

She is the author of two books, An Anatomy of Poesis: The Prose Poems of Stéphane Mallarmé, and The Rhetoric of Valéry's Prose Aubades, and has completed a book-length manuscript on the symbolic image configuration of the Angel in Valéry. She has published numerous articles, papers and book reviews.

Franklin has been a fellow in Grand Valley's Research and Development Center since 1979 and has served as editor of Humanities News and of the Directory of Research Competencies and Work in Progress.

She will not be present at the convocation ceremony because she is currently working on research in France.

The GVSC Award for Distinguished Contribution in a Discipline was established at the initiation of President Lubbers. Procedures and criteria for selection of recipients were developed by the Research and Development Committee, which reviewed nominations for the award and selected the recipients.

The basis for the award is clearly demonstrated research, scholarly or creative accomplishment. The award is presented to individuals who have made significant contributions to a discipline, documented as exceptional by professional peers or public acclaim according to one or more of several criteria, according to Research and Development Center Director Howard Stein.

The criteria include publication in professional media; professional awards, prizes, or honors; unsolicited reviews by

critics or peers; support received through competitive applications to funding agencies; and impact on others in the discipline.

The award may be for one outstanding accomplishment or for a continuing body of works over the years, Stein said. The award itself consists of a wall plaque plus \$500. Names of recipients will also be recorded on a plaque to be hung in Zumberge Library.

ROSENHEIM TO DELIVER CONVOCATION SPEECH

"Higher Education 1982: Tradition and Innovation" will be the topic of convocation speaker Edward W. Rosenheim, a member of the University of Chicago faculty for 25 years. Rosenheim currently holds the David B. and Clara E. Stern

English professorship at the University. He is also the editor of Modern Philology.

Rosenheim is the author of three books, two on Jonathan Swift and one entitled What Happens in Literature, as well as dozens of articles and reviews published in academic and other journals on topics ranging from "Language and Literacy" to "Broadcasting as a Literary Art."

He has received numerous academic honors, including the Quantrell Prize for Excellence in Teaching and a John Simon Guggenheim Fellowship. He has served as director of broadcasting, chair of the college tutorial and as director of the National Humanities Institute and a member of the board of directors of the Illinois Humanities Council.

ACROSS CAMPUS

RIVER RIDGE GROUNDBREAKING SCHEDULED

Grand Valley faculty and staff members are invited to attend a groundbreaking ceremony for River Ridge at Grand Valley, a development under construction on 40th Avenue north of the campus.

The development will take place on land which was part of the Grand Valley campus and is being purchased by River Ridge Associates, Inc. of Allendale. The land is being transferred to the firm in four phases, the first of which was recently completed.

A total of 525 units are planned for the development, which is expected to include condominiums, apartments, single units, a shopping mall, a professional building, and a bank.

The groundbreaking ceremony will be held Thursday, August 26, at 1:30 p.m. on 40th Avenue just north of Lake Michigan Drive, with a reception from 2-4 p.m. in the Campus Center Multi-Purpose Room.

Persons planning to participate are asked to call 895-5174 by August 24.

BOOKSTORE ORDERS REQUESTED

The bookstore is asking all campus offices to place office supply orders before September 1. Since it is the policy of the bookstore not to fill inter-departmental charge orders during the first two weeks of a new semester, no orders will be filled between September 1 and 14.

Grand Valley Forum

The *Grand Valley Forum* is published every other Monday during the summer by the Public Relations Office. All materials should be sent to Dotti Clune, editor, Public Relations Office, 26 Zumberge Library, GVSC, Allendale, MI, 49401. Telephone: 616/895-6611, extension 222.