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Grand Valley State University

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Forum

A Newsletter for the
GRAND VALLEY
STATE UNIVERSITY
Community

Tuesday, May 30, 2000

Volume 24, Number 39

Donors Provide 'Suite' View for Laker Football

Grand Valley athletic fans will soon be able to experience Laker football excitement from the comfort of luxury boxes at Lubbers Stadium.

Executive suites will be available for lease beginning with the season's first home football game on September 16. Construction of the boxes is made possible through materials and labor donated by area contractors, including: D & D Building, Pioneer Construction, Burggrabe Masonry, Excel Electric, Johnson Electric, Lakeview Windows, Standale Interiors, True Value in Allendale, Ackerman Electric, P & K Steel, Alro Steel, and Superior Asphalt.

"It is an opportunity to watch the game in luxury. People enjoy hosting clientele for college football," says Rob Odejewski, assistant director of Athletics for Marketing and Promotions. "We hope to bring in some business people who want to host clients."

The luxury suites, which are located above and on the sides of the existing press boxes, range in price from \$3,750 to \$4,250 and are leased for the season. That price includes 16 tickets and four Irwin Club parking passes per home game. Each suite comes equipped with heat and air conditioning, cable TV, and a refrigerator.

"The suites give individuals the opportunity to watch the game under perfect weather conditions out of the rain and heat," says Odejewski. "It also provides privacy so you can watch the game with your closest friends."

Food and beverage service is available through a catering service offered by The Meadows Restaurant.

Individuals can also stock the suites with their own supplies.

Odejewski said the Athletic Department

would like to sell the suites for the whole season, but will consider leasing the boxes on a per game basis if any are left over.

Persons interested in leasing the luxury boxes for the season may contact the Athletic Department, x3259.



Legislative Update

House Approves Higher Ed Funding

The Michigan House of Representatives has approved the higher education funding bill for fiscal year 2001. The House version awards GVSU an \$8.5 million increase in the university's operating appropriation.

"I am pleased that both the House and Senate have understood how serious GVSU's funding gap has become," said Matthew McLogan, vice president for University Relations. "The increases proposed by the Legislature seek to narrow the disparity that has existed in our funding and are a big step in the right direction."

The House bill now returns to the State Senate which is expected to send the measure to a conference committee to iron out differences. The House and Senate versions, despite their differences, seek to fund the universities at a level significantly above that proposed by Governor John Engler earlier this year. Spending levels for this and other state budgets are expected to be finalized within the next few weeks.

Legislature Approves Next Step for Health Professions Project

The Joint Capital Outlay Subcommittee of the Michigan House and Senate

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FORUM

The GVSU *Forum* is published by the Office of University Communications every Monday when classes are in session and biweekly during the summer. The submission deadline is Tuesday noon. Send publication items to Kathleen Adams, editor, c/o the *FORUM* cc:Mail box. From off campus, email forum@gvsu.edu. Telephone: 616-895-2221. Fax: 616-895-2250.

Faculty and staff members can find an online "Sketches" submission form on the Web at www.gvsu.edu/online/forum/form.html/

Visit *GvNow*, Grand Valley's daily online publication, on the Web at: www.gvnow.gvsu.edu/



Legislative Update

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has approved schematic plans for Grand Valley's proposed Health Professions Building, to be constructed on the Spectrum Health Campus in Grand Rapids.

The panel endorsed a \$53 million project and approved the plans. GVSU was also authorized to proceed with detailed design plans, which will be submitted to the Legislature for approval later this year.

"This action keeps us on line to break ground next summer," said University Relations Vice President Matt McLogan. "We're very grateful for the speedy progress on this project."

In other action, the subcommittee also approved a finance

and use statement for GVSU's Lake Michigan Center project, which will establish a new facility on Muskegon Lake for the Annis Water Resources Institute. Groundbreaking for that project is scheduled for June 15.



An artist's rendering of what the Health Professions Building might look like. (View northeast from Michigan and Lafayette.)

Across Campus

Consultant Issues GVSU Salary Equity Report

Dr. June O'Neill delivered her final report on Grand Valley's faculty and administrative and professional staff salary study to university administrators in May. Selected by President Arend D. Lubbers to conduct an analysis to determine the presence or absence of gender-related salary patterns at GVSU, O'Neill reported that no correlation between gender and pay for faculty exists. She concluded that her findings were less certain for AP staff due to the wide variety of jobs and lack of information regarding comparable jobs.

"Dr. O'Neill's report raises the bar for Grand Valley in creating a fair environment for achieving equity," says Patricia Oldt, Special Assistant for Campus Equity and Planning. "I look forward to working with the university community in implementing her recommendations to ensure that we continue in this direction."

A copy of the final report, "Salaries of Men and Women Faculty and Administrative Staff at GVSU," is on permanent reserve at the circulation desk in the library. Faculty and staff members may also contact the

Office of Equity and Planning at x3296 to receive a copy of the report.

A Letter from the President

Dear Faculty and Staff:

I have received Dr. June O'Neill's final report on her study of salary data at Grand Valley State University. I appointed Dr. O'Neill to analyze salaries among faculty and administrative/professional staff (AP) to determine any gender related patterns not based on bona fide job related factors.

Her statistical analysis shows no pattern of gender bias in faculty salaries. Male and female faculty salaries that differ do so as a result of characteristics such as years of work experience, degrees held and market demand in various disciplines.

Her conclusion, however, was less certain for AP staff, which she attributes to the wide variety of job functions/descriptions and to the lack of information regarding comparable market value of certain AP positions.

Dr. O'Neill's recommendations include:

- On-going monitoring of the salary situation through replication of the statistical model used to analyze pay

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Across Campus

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differentials. She suggests that the standard stepwise analysis previously used by the University is not appropriate for determining bias on the basis of gender;

- Collecting data on work experience and earnings prior to AP staff being hired at GVSU and collecting data on pay for the same position in other institutions;
- Using the statistical analysis as a starting point for further inquiry, rather than as evidence of a clear problem. Developing methods for measuring individual differences in performance.

I have asked Dr. Patricia Oldt, my Special Assistant for Campus Equity and Planning, to consult with the leadership of the AP Committee, the Provost's office, and Human Resources to address the issue of uncertainty in AP salary equity and to incorporate Dr. O'Neill's key recommendations as part of an overall program for campus equity and quality of life issues.

I appreciate the support and assistance that all of you have afforded Dr. O'Neill over the last few months. I want to thank, in particular, the two taskforces I formed to assist her in this endeavor. Her work product was certainly enhanced by their cooperation. I hope that you will all individually remain available to Dr. Oldt in her leadership role on this and other issues as we move forward to implement equity strategies campus wide.

Finally, I want to say again how extremely important I think it is for all of us to hold the University to a standard that ensures its continued growth and development as one of the leading universities in Michigan in its commitment to equity. I will keep you apprised of our efforts and accomplishments.

If you want a copy of Dr. O'Neill's report, please contact Dr. Oldt's office at ext. 3296.

Sincerely,

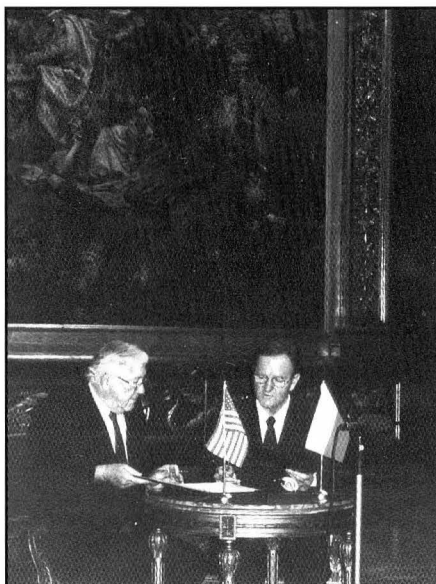
Arend D. Lubbers

Arend D. Lubbers
President

GVSU Sends Delegation To Poland

A group of 30 Grand Valley administrators, students, faculty members and spouses represented GVSU at the 75th anniversary celebration of the founding of Krakow University of Economics earlier this month in Poland.

Included in the festivities was a reception on May 17 hosted by President Arend D. Lubbers to commemorate 25 years of cooperation between GVSU and the Polish university.



Grand Valley President Arend D. Lubbers and Tadeusz Grabinski, rector of the Krakow University of Economics, signed an agreement for continued academic and cultural exchange between the two institutions.

Director of Academic Computing Candidates To Give Presentations

Information Technology will be interviewing candidates for the position of director of Academic Computing and Education Technology. Each candidate will give a presentation on the topic of "Trends in Teaching with Technology." The university community is invited to attend the presentations, which will be in 306 Student Services Building, at 1:15 p.m. on the following dates: Thursday, June 1, Olatunde Ogunyemi; Friday, June 2, Sue Korzinek; Friday, June 9, Joel Cooper.

Plowden Project Nets EMMY for WGVU

The Michigan Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and



WGVU Production Manager Phil Lane photographed and edited the documentary.

Sciences awarded WGVU Productions the EMMY for Outstanding Cultural Affairs television program for Phil Lane's work on "David Plowden: Light, Shadow, and Form."

The 22nd annual EMMY Awards were presented on May 20, at the International Banquet and Conference Center in downtown Detroit.

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Employees Step Out



Nearly 90 faculty and staff members took part in the observance of National Employee Fitness Day on the Allendale campus on May 17 by participating in the One-Mile Fun/Walk Run.

Calendar of Events

General Events

All activities on the Allendale Campus unless otherwise noted. Arts hotline: (616) 895-ARTS

Wed., May 31-Thurs., June 1

9 a.m.-4 p.m.: The Pew Faculty Teaching & Learning Center presents "Great Expectations: A Program for Improving

Student Learning." Call x3498 for more information. Various locations on campus.

Fri., June 2

9 a.m.-12 noon: The Pew Faculty Teaching & Learning Center presents "Great Expectations: A Program for Improving Student Learning."

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The EMMY is a distinct honor awarded to television professionals. This year's judges, from Boston/New England, Ohio Valley, Colorado, and the San Diego chapters of the National Academy, scored recipients based on content, creativity, and execution of work.

The one-hour documentary from WGVU Productions, narrated by nationally known journalist Bill Kurtis, features the life and work of photographer David Plowden.

"The more we dug into Plowden's life the more intriguing his work became," said WGVU Production Manager Phil Lane, who photographed and edited the documentary.

The program documents Plowden's work, from his position as a visiting professor at Grand Valley State University, to scenes of him searching for the perfect light and working in his darkroom. Interviews with Plowden's mother, wife, and noted historian David McCullough give insight into Plowden's motivations for his life and art.

Downtown Move-In Update

Pew Campus Addresses

The Robert C. Pew Grand Rapids campus, made up of the DeVos Center, the Eberhard Center, the Meijer Public

Broadcast Center, the Keller Engineering Laboratories Building, Secchia Hall, and the Welcome Center in the old depot building, will have four addresses.



The address for the DeVos Center is 401 W. Fulton St.; the Secchia Hall address is 420 W. Fulton St.; the Welcome Center address is 510 W. Fulton St.; and the address for the Eberhard

Center, the Keller Engineering Building, and the Meijer Public Broadcast Center is 301 W. Fulton St. All locations are Grand Rapids, MI 49504.

Consistent with the Allendale campus letterhead, official Grand Rapids letterhead and stationery will not include building names, e.g., Eberhard Center, DeVos Center, etc., just the designation The Robert C. Pew Grand Rapids Campus and the address.

Call the Downtown Operations Office at x6700 with questions.

DeVos Center Office Hours

Current office hours for the DeVos Center are Monday through Friday, 7 a.m.-7 p.m. Hours will change and will be updated when the building officially opens in August.

Coming Events

BOBfest Returns

The GVSU Student Life Office and the Alumni Relations Office are planning a "family reunion" for past student leaders and student employees the weekend of June 9-11. The event, "BOBfest," is named for Director of Student Life Bob Stoll. The schedule of events will begin late in the afternoon on Friday, June 9, and run through Sunday afternoon, June 11. Housing accommodations will be available.

Special guest Mark Eddie, a professional rock-n-roll musician and comedian, will perform on Saturday night, June 10.

Go to the BOBfest Web site at www.gvsu.edu/alumni/ for more information and on-line registration.

Staff Invited to Open Discussion With Executive Officers

The ninth annual Open Forum is scheduled for Wednesday, June 14, in the Muskegon River Room of the Kirkhof Center from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. During the Forum, AP Committee representatives will alternate between asking the executive officers questions that have been submitted, and spontaneous questions from the floor. Staff members are asked to submit questions to their AP representative either anonymously or by e-mail.