

2013

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For Immediate Release

January 3, 2013

Contact: Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

Hundreds to gather for FIRST Robotics kick-off event at GVSU

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Nearly 550 high school students and parents will gather at Grand Valley State University for the For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology (FIRST) Robotics Competition kick-off event January 5. About 40 FIRST Robotics teams from high schools throughout West Michigan will learn about this year's game field and challenge.

The event will include a speech by Apex Controls President Mike TeBos and a live broadcast from the national kick-off event in New Hampshire where FIRST Founder Dean Kamen will help introduce this year's challenge. Teams will have six weeks to design and build robots to compete in the West Michigan district competition, which will take place at Grand Valley from March 22-23.

FIRST Robotics Competition Kick-off

January 5

Eberhard Center, room 201

Pew Grand Rapids Campus

Doors open at 8 a.m., event begins at 9:30 a.m.

At noon, teams will go to the first floor of Keller Engineering Labs, next to the Eberhard Center, to see game elements and pick up their kits. Rooms will be available for teams who want to start brainstorming.

The 2013 season will include an estimated 2,355 teams — nearly 60,000 high school students -- participating in 68 regional and district events worldwide. FIRST was founded in 1989 to inspire an appreciation of science and technology in young people. Learn more at www.usfirst.org.

For more information, contact Ken Platteschorre, who coordinates the FIRST Robotics West Michigan Competition, at ken.platteschorre@haworth.com or (616)890-7094.

January 3, 2013

For immediate release

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News & Information Services (616) 331-2221

GVSU Events January 2013

January 7, 8 a.m. – 10 p.m.

Mukono to Kampala: Life in Uganda by Ken VanderWal

A detailed visual exposé of the daily life of southern Ugandans in the countryside, villages, and cities, from Mukono to the capital city of Kampala. Exhibition continues through Wednesday, March 13. For more information please call the GVSU Art Gallery at 616-331-2563. [read more](#)

Location: GVSU Red Wall Gallery, Lake Ontario Hall, Allendale Campus

January 7, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

PIC's Pics: A Study Abroad Photo Contest

This exhibit of photo contest winners selected from all Grand Valley State University students who studied abroad between 2008-2011. Exhibition continues through Monday, April 29. For more information visit www.gvsu.edu/artgallery. [read more](#)

Location: GVSU West Wall Gallery, L.V. Eberhard Center, Robert C. Pew Grand Rapids Campus

1/9/2013 Wednesday 8:00 PM - 9:30 PM

Guest Artist Series: Ava Ordman, trombone

Open to the public. Free admission. For more information, please call (616) 331-3484 or visit www.gvsu.edu/music. [read more](#)

Location: Cook-DeWitt Center, GVSU Allendale Campus

1/13/2013 Sunday 2:30 PM

2013 Chiaroscuro International Film Series

The free international films promote cultural diversity and awareness. Additional screenings January 27, February 10 & 24, and March 10. For more information, visit <http://www.chiaroscurofilmseries.com>, or contact Zulema Moret, GVSU associate professor of Spanish and coordinator of Latin American Studies, at 616-331-2286, or moretz@gvsu.edu. [read more](#)

Location: UICA, 2 West Fulton Street, Grand Rapids, MI 49503

January 14, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Mystery, Magic, and Mayhem: Wonders from the American Museum of Magic

On loan from the American Museum of Magic in Marshall, Michigan, are more than 30 objects associated with legends such as Thurston, Houdini, and Michigan's own Harry Blackstone, Sr. An opening reception will be held Thursday, January 17, from 5-7 p.m. Exhibition continues through Wednesday, March 20. Free and open to the public. For more information please call the GVSU Art Gallery at 616-331-2563. [read more](#)

Location: GVSU Art Gallery, 1121 Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus

For Immediate Release

January 7, 2013

Contact: Dottie Barnes, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

MEDIA NOTE: Audio and a photo of Long are available on Grand Valley's media FTP site. For instructions on how to access the site, follow this link: <http://gvsu.edu/s/aW>. Audio is also available at www.gvsu.edu/qvnow.

Current Business Trends: Returns to Almost Flat

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — The greater Grand Rapids industrial economy has returned to “almost flat,” according to the results of a monthly survey compiled by Brian G. Long, director of Supply Management Research in the Seidman College of Business at Grand Valley State University.

The survey results are based on data collected during the last two weeks of December.

The survey's index of business improvement, called new orders, came in at +4, considerably lower than the +17 reported last month. The production index backtracked a little as well, remaining positive but coming down to +11 from +21. Activity in purchasing offices picked up slightly to +11 from +8. In a similar move, the employment index rose to +14 from +13.

“We've returned to an unimpressive growth pattern,” said Long. “Despite the optimism of our November report, December and 2012 ended rather flat.”

Long said December was a little slower month than expected for the office furniture business. “The specialty furniture firms did not have a good month at all,” he said. “The auto parts suppliers remain positive, but with a couple exceptions, continue to show signs of topping out. The capital equipment firms were widely mixed, probably because of the volatile nature of year-end activity. For industrial distributors, once again the performance came in mixed, although the bias was still to the upside.”

Long said he doesn't predict a recession but said 2013 will be a year of “leveling out” with some months recording negative numbers.

The Institute for Supply Management survey is a monthly survey of business conditions that includes 45 purchasing managers in the greater Grand Rapids area and 25 in Kalamazoo. The respondents are from the region's major industrial manufacturers, distributors and industrial service organizations. It is patterned after a nationwide survey conducted by the Institute for Supply Management. Each month, the respondents are asked to rate eight factors as “same,” “up” or “down.” An expanded version of this report and details of the methodology used to compile it are available at www.gvsu.edu/scblogistics.

For more information, contact Brian Long at (269) 323-2359.

For immediate release

January 7, 2013

Contact: Michele Coffill, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221,
coffillm@gvsu.edu

GVSU will host West Michigan Health Care Economic Forecast

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. – Health care experts and economics faculty members will share trends and predictions regarding health care in West Michigan at an annual summit hosted by Grand Valley State University's Office of the Vice Provost for Health.

The 2013 West Michigan Health Care Economic Forecast is set for Friday, January 11, at the L.V. Eberhard Center, 301 W. Fulton St., on Grand Valley's Pew Grand Rapid Campus. Media members are encouraged to attend; the event will run from 8-9:45 a.m.

The Alliance for Health will sponsor a panel presentation, "Predictions for Health Care in 2013," from 8:45-9:45 a.m., featuring the following people:

- Jeff Connolly, president West Michigan operations and managed care, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan
- Nick Lyon, chief deputy director, Michigan Department of Community Health
- Dr. John MacKeigan, executive vice president and chief medical officer, Spectrum Health
- David Seaman, executive vice president, Michigan Health and Hospital Association
- David Smith, president and CEO, The Employer's Association.

The panel will be preceded by a discussion of area health care trends by GVSU economics professors Sonia Dalmia and Paul Isely, at 8 a.m.

Breakfast will begin at 7:30 a.m. The summit is free and open to the public. RSVP online at www.gvsu.edu/business/events or contact Jason DeLong at delongj@gvsu.edu or (616) 331-2729.

January 7, 2013

For immediate release

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News & Information Services (616) 331-2221

MEDIA NOTE: photos are available on Grand Valley's media FTP website. For questions on how to connect to the FTP site, visit <http://gvsu.edu/s/aW>

GVSU Art Gallery to feature magical exhibit

ALLENDALE, Mich. -- Magic has been a topic of both interest and controversy that has enthralled audiences for hundreds of years. For some it's spiritualism, and for others it's strictly a performance art. Both are captured in the new Grand Valley State University Art Gallery exhibition in the Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus.

"Mystery, Magic, and Mayhem: Wonders from the American Museum of Magic," is an exhibition of magic history and provides a window into the worlds of illusion, conjuring, mentalism, and escape artistry. On loan from the American Museum of Magic in Marshall, Michigan, are more than 30 stunning graphic visuals and related objects associated with legends such as Thurston, Houdini, and Michigan's own Harry Blackstone, Sr.

An opening reception will be held Thursday, January 17, from 5-7 p.m. The exhibition and reception are free and open to the public. The exhibition continues through Wednesday, March 20. For more information call the GVSU Art Gallery at 616-331-2563.

For Immediate Release

January 8, 2013

Contact: Dottie Barnes, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

Online opportunity helps business growth

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — The Michigan Small Business & Technology Development Center, located at Grand Valley State University, is offering an online program to help business owners across the state build and update business plans.

The new Venture Plan Online course is designed to help business owners in an online setting, while still receiving individual assistance from an industry consultant. The eight-week program includes an hour-long webinar led weekly by business and industry experts, video and textbook resources, program specific business planning software, and a MI-SBTDC consultant to work directly with owners to develop a business plan.

“Business plans are crucial, but not all business owners are able to find the time to focus on this process,” said Cathleen Kaiser, statewide training manager. “The MI-SBTDC has tailored the Venture Plan Online course to allow owners the flexibility to develop their business plans without dramatically changing their workday schedule.”

Upon finishing the course, participants will have a completed business plan, continued access to a MI-SBTDC business consultants and resources to grow their businesses.

The first Venture Plan Online opportunity is being offered February 5 at 11:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. Cost for the course has been discounted by a grant from the MSU Broadband Technology Opportunity Program and is \$90. To register call (616) 331-7480 or email growth@gvsu.edu.

About MI-SBTDC

The Michigan Small Business & Technology Development Center provides counseling, business education, information based planning and technology commercialization to new and existing businesses throughout Michigan’s 83 counties. The MI-SBTDC is located at the Grand Valley State University, Seidman College of Business in Grand Rapids, Michigan. As host of the MI-SBTDC State Headquarters, the Seidman College of Business oversees the 11-region MI-SBTDC network.

For Immediate Release

January 9, 2013

Contact: Dottie Barnes, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

GVSU conference discusses the “age of empowerment”

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Longevity — living a long life — is on the rise. Yet only one in 4,400 people lives to be 100 or more. There is much to be learned from examining the lifestyles and lives of individuals in their 90s and 100s.

National and local experts will talk about the positive potentials of later life and holistic approaches to healthy aging, during the eighth annual Art and Science of Aging Multidisciplinary Conference, sponsored by Grand Valley State University. The theme for the conference is “The Age of Empowerment.”

Workshop sessions will cover a wide range of topics including healthy eating, exercise, laughter, advance directives, dementia care and more. A panel discussion featuring four people, age 95 and up, will focus on longevity and lessons learned on the way to age 100.

Art & Science of Aging Conference

Friday, February 8

8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Loosemore Auditorium, DeVos Center

GVSU Pew Grand Rapids Campus

The keynote speaker, Thomas H. Perls, will give the opening presentation at 9 a.m. His speech is titled, “Living to 100: The Older You Get, The Healthier You’ve Been.” Perls is a medical doctor and director of the New England Centenarian Study at Boston University and was recently recognized by AARP as one of nine baby boomers influential in changing how aging is viewed.

As part of the conference, Grand Valley students will present their research on aging, in a poster format, which will allow attendees to engage the students in discussions of their research.

The conference is underwritten in part by support from the Grand Valley State University Provost’s Office and a grant from Michigan State University’s federally funded Geriatric Education Center of Michigan. Cost of the conference is \$25 for general public; \$20 for students and persons over 60. Conference details and registration information can be found at www.gvsu.edu/gerontology.

For more information or interviews, contact Priscilla Kimboko, professor of gerontology and conference coordinator, at (616) 331-6641.

For Immediate Release

January 9, 2013

Contact: Dottie Barnes, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

MI-SBTDC receives \$3 million in renewed funding

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — The Michigan Small Business & Technology Development Center, located at Grand Valley State University's Seidman College of Business, has received more than \$3.3 million in continuation funding from the U.S. Small Business Administration.

The MI-SBTDC provides counseling, business education, information-based planning and technology commercialization to new and existing businesses throughout Michigan's 83 counties. With offices statewide, the center impacts the economy by strengthening existing companies, creating new jobs, retaining existing jobs, and assisting companies in defining their path to success.

"The funding will support the network's efforts to provide growth and startup companies with tools, resources and one-on-one counseling they need to grow their businesses in Michigan," said Jennifer Deamud, associate state director of the MI-SBTDC. "We serve 16,000 businesses and entrepreneurs every year by helping them raise capital, create jobs and start businesses."

The center has four teams of consultants: Small Business Regional Team, Growth Group Team, Finance Specialist Team and Technology Commercialization Team.

As host of the MI-SBTDC State Headquarters, the Seidman College of Business oversees the 11-region MI-SBTDC network.

For more information contact Jennifer Deamud at (616) 331-7480 or visit www.misbtdc.org.

For Immediate Release

January 10, 2013

Contact: Nate Hoekstra, Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221,
hoekstna@gvsu.edu

MEDIA NOTE: Photos of Kerri Reinbold are available on Grand Valley's media FTP site. For instructions on how to connect to the site, visit gvsu.edu/s/aW.

Entrepreneurial yoga instructor next speaker at Wheelhouse Talks

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Kerri Reinbold, entrepreneur and co-founder of the Funky Buddha Yoga Hothouse, will be the next speaker featured at the 2012-13 Wheelhouse Talks, a leadership- and experience-based lecture series hosted by Grand Valley State University's Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies.

Reinbold, a West Michigan native who returned after living in Chicago, is passionate about health, healing, and encouraging her yoga students. She will speak about her experience of starting a business, and why West Michigan's creative energy motivated her to return from Illinois.

Reinbold is a senior staff instructor and a certified Baptiste Yoga teacher who took her first yoga class in 2003 after a knee injury left her unable to run. Since then, work on the yoga mat has transformed her life in ways she said she couldn't have scripted thanks to an accessible, relevant, and fun approach to health and fitness.

Kerri Reinbold Wheelhouse Talk
Wednesday, January 16, 2013
12:30-1:30 p.m.
Urban Institute for Contemporary Arts (UICA)
2 W. Fulton St., Grand Rapids
RSVP requested at www.hauensteincenter.org

Reinbold will also discuss her leadership philosophy when it comes to her business, which operates locations in both Grand Rapids and Holland.

Reinbold is the fourth speaker in the series, and will be followed by:

- Troy Evans, transformational pastor and founder of The Edge Urban Fellowship (2-13-13)
- Leann Arkema, CEO of Gilda's Club Grand Rapids (3-27-13)

All Wheelhouse Talks are free and open to the public.

For more information, visit www.hauensteincenter.org.

For immediate release

January 10, 2013

Contact: Michele Coffill, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221,
coffillm@gvsu.edu

GVSU plans many events to celebrate King's legacy

ALLENDALE, Mich. – Two national speakers and a host of social justice activities will highlight Dr. Martin Luther King Commemoration Week, January 20-26, at Grand Valley State University.

For the first time, Grand Valley classes will not be session on Monday, January 21, the national holiday celebrating King's birth. Organizers of the week's events said that will allow more people to attend events and gain a better understanding of King's work and legacy.

Below is a list of campus events; all are free and open to the public. For complete details, visit www.gvsu.edu/mlk.

Sunday, January 20:

3-4:30 p.m.: Richard M. DeVos Center, Loosemore Auditorium, Pew Grand Rapids Campus
"Saving Green and Eating Fresh," hosted by Alpha Kappa Alpha, Theta Chi Omega and Nu Theta.
Learn how to make your budget work for you; healthy refreshments will be served. This is in conjunction with the January 24 keynote speaker, Majora Carter, an advocate of food justice.

Monday, January 21:

10-11:30 am: Russel H. Kirkhof Center; Concurrent Social Justice Activities (see list below for descriptions)
11:30 a.m.-12:45 p.m.: Kirkhof Center; Lunch and Viewing of U.S. Presidential Inauguration
1 p.m.: Silent March; Begins at James H. Zumberge Library
1:30 p.m.: Kirkhof Center, Grand River Room; Keynote Presentation by Glenda Hatchett, former judge and author with syndicated TV show, "Judge Hatchett"
2-3:30 p.m.: Kirkhof Center; Concurrent Social Justice Activities

Thursday, January 24:

5 p.m.: Kirkhof Center, Grand River Room; Keynote Presentation by Majora Carter, urban revitalizationist and host of the radio series "The Promised Land." Note: This program will be webcast to DeVos Center, Pew Grand Rapids Campus, and some GVSU regional sites. See www.gvsu.edu/mlk for details.

Saturday, January 26:

9 a.m.-3 p.m.: Day of Service, coordinated by Community Service Learning Center. Volunteers will meet in Kirkhof Center then travel to sites in West Michigan to serve. Visit www.gvsu.edu/mlk to RSVP.

CONCURRENT SOCIAL JUSTICE ACTIVITIES (1/21)

-- Poverty Simulation: The Poverty Simulation experience will help participants begin to understand what it might be like to live in a typical low-income family trying to survive from week to week. Kirkhof Center, Pere Marquette Room, sessions begin at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Visit www.gvsu.edu/mlk to RSVP.

-- Marathon Reading: Campus members will read from King's writings and the works he inspired. Kirkhof Center, room 2266, sessions begin at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

-- Upcycling: "Crafting for Our Community" participants will engage in upcycling crafts: turning pillowcases into dresses, weaving plastic bags into sleeping mats. These items will be donated to local shelters or health care organizations. Kirkhof Center, rooms 2215/2216, sessions begin at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Visit www.gvsu.edu/mlk to RSVP.

-- Straight Talk: Panelists will discuss King's legacy today. Kirkhof Center, room 2270, 2 p.m. only.

-- Film Series: All day: Documentaries and films showcasing King's work will be screened. Kirkhof Center Theater and room 1104.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS (1/21 AND 1/24)

-- Glenda Hatchett is a former judge who is known in the legal community for her groundbreaking courtroom style. She is also respected for her work with children and considered a leader in the justice system. She serves as national spokesperson for Court Appointed Special Advocates, a nonprofit organization that trains volunteers to represent abused and neglected children and help them navigate the court system.

She urges viewers of her syndicated TV show, "Judge Hatchett," to become mentors to at-risk youth.

-- Majora Carter is as well-known for her urban revitalization efforts as she is for her radio show, "This Promised Land," which airs on National Public Radio. She founded Sustainable South Bronx in 2001 when few were talking about sustainability, and even fewer people were talking about it in places like the South Bronx.

By 2003, Carter coined the term "Green The Ghetto," as she pioneered one of the nation's first urban green-collar job training and placement systems, and spearheaded legislation that fueled demand for those jobs. Carter's 2006 TEDtalk was one of six presentations to launch that groundbreaking website.

For immediate release

January 11, 2013

Contact: Michele Coffill, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

MEDIA NOTE: Headshots of Paul Isely, Sonia Dalmia and Jean Nagelkerk, plus a pdf of the report are available on Grand Valley's FTP media site; visit <http://gvsu.edu/s/aW> to learn how to access the site.

GVSU report: aging West Michigan faces health care challenges

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — West Michigan's increasing aging population and decreasing number of young people will likely result in higher age-related health care costs, according to a report from Grand Valley State University researchers.

"Health Check: Analyzing Trends in West Michigan 2013" was released January 11 during a health care summit at the Eberhard Center on GVSU's Pew Grand Rapids Campus. The report was compiled by Seidman College of Business professors Sonia Dalmia and Paul Isely; it was made possible by a grant from Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan, Blue Care Network, and Priority Health.

The fourth annual report studies ongoing trends in Kent, Ottawa, Muskegon and Allegan counties, looking at the job market, medical patents, demographics, health care profiles and economics. The full report is online at www.gvsu.edu/healthcheck; key findings are below.

- There are more people over age 65 in West Michigan than in prime working ages of 35-44. Also, there are more people ages 45-64 than people ages 20-34. Researchers said these two factors are significant as an aging population results in higher health care costs, and there are fewer workers to replace retirees.
- The poverty rate in West Michigan has increased 6.1 percent since 1999 (from 8 percent to 14 percent in 2011).
- Risk factors like heavy drinking, smoking and inadequate physical activity have also increased. Researchers said about 17 percent of the area's population reports having five or more drinks at least once in the previous month; that number is higher than populations in Detroit and the U.S.
- Cancer rates in West Michigan are lower than other areas in Michigan and the U.S., and rates of diabetes are lower but tracking closely with obesity. Researchers said people with asthma increased by 3 percent from 2004 to 2011.

Jean Nagelkerk, vice provost for health at GVSU, said while health-related statistics are similar to last year's findings, the report shows increases in health care jobs and the number of medical

patents awarded in West Michigan. "The information provided in this presentation will help inform health care policy and community decisions about the types of health care professionals, services, costs and delivery systems that best serve the needs of our community," she said.

Nagelkerk added that Health Check 2013 provides a framework to understand the health care needs of West Michigan residents. Jeff Connolly, president of West Michigan operations and managed care for Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan, agreed.

"We want to help guide this discussion so the public can make the most informed decisions for themselves and their family members," Connolly said.

For Immediate Release

January 14, 2013

Contact: Dottie Barnes, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

MEDIA NOTE: A photo of John Reifel is available on Grand Valley's media FTP site. For instructions on how to access the site, follow this link: <http://qvsu.edu/s/aW>.

Grand Valley State University names interim business college dean

ALLENDALE, Mich. — Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Gayle R. Davis announced that longtime economics professor John Reifel will take over as interim dean of the Seidman College of Business at Grand Valley State University, effective February 1. Reifel is taking over for H. James Williams, who is leaving to become president of Fisk University in Nashville, Tennessee. Williams' last day is January 31.

Reifel earned a bachelor's degree in economics from the University of Notre Dame and a master's degree and doctorate from Michigan State University. He came to Grand Valley in 1971. He earned the Outstanding Teacher Award in 1996, as voted by his Seidman colleagues. He is a member of the American Economics Association and the Ferrysburg Planning Commission. Reifel also served as interim dean for the Seidman College in 2003 before Williams was hired.

"Professor Reifel has the academic background, the knowledge of Grand Valley and the right experience to serve as interim dean of Seidman College," Davis said. "We are opening a magnificent new facility for the business college in May, and John is the right person to lead us during this exciting transition. Grand Valley's Seidman College of Business is nationally recognized, and we know we are poised to serve our students even better in this new building and with our dynamic faculty."

Davis said a national search will be conducted for a permanent replacement for Williams over the course of the next year.

The new L. William Seidman Center will open May 6. The center is named for Bill Seidman, founding chair of Grand Valley's Board of Trustees and former FDIC chair. The center will support the college's growing reputation as one of the premier business schools in the Midwest. In its 40-year history, the Seidman College of Business has grown from 145 students to more than 3,000.

For more information, contact the Seidman College of Business at (616) 331-7100.

January 15, 2013

For immediate release

Contacts: Mary Pirkola, GVSU News & Information Services (616) 331-2221

GVSU Associate Professor Bill Ryan, (ryanwi@gvsu.edu) or (616) 331-3087

MEDIA NOTE: Photos are available on Grand Valley's media FTP website. For questions on how to connect to the FTP site, visit <http://gvsu.edu/s/aW>

New CD features music of Bill Ryan

ALLENDALE, Mich. -- Composer Bill Ryan is well known for his founding of the Grand Valley State University New Music Ensemble in 2006, and their acclaimed recordings and success profiled by national media. The focus returns to his own work with the January 29 release of "Towards Daybreak," a second CD from his ensemble Billband. An NPR Music columnist included the CD in a recent article, "[In January's Drought, Three Albums Worth Waiting For.](#)"

Billband will give a free public performance at Grand Valley on Saturday, February 2, from 8-9:30 p.m., in the Dance Theatre, 1600 Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus. Ryan and Billband will also celebrate the CD release at [Le Poisson Rouge](#) in New York City on February 10.

"Towards Daybreak" (Innova) includes 8 tracks engineered and co-produced by Grammy-winner Silas Brown. It blends the precision and craft of the best minimalism with the humanistic interplay of a small chamber group. It also reflects on some very personal experiences in Ryan's life, from the birth of a child to the sudden loss of his parents.

The recording is bookended by a pair of elegies. It opens with Simple Lines, in memory of Ryan's father who died of cancer, and ends with a live version of Blurred, written after his mother died in an automobile accident. Throughout the disc, Ryan compels attention through the cunning opposition of elements, from hesitancy and forward motion, to somber tonalities and playful rhythms.

Ryan said that a lot has happened since the 2004 release of "Blurred," his previous record with Billband. "This new CD draws deeply from my experiences of loss and grieving, but it is also a celebration, an appreciation and a thank you," Ryan said.

Billband currently includes cellist Pablo Mahave-Veglia and saxophonist Jonathon Nichol, also faculty members from Grand Valley, in addition to cellist Ashley Bathgate, pianist Vicky Chow, violinist Todd Reynolds, bass clarinetist Michael Lowenstern and percussionist David Cossin of the Bang on a Can All-Stars. Cellist Paul de Jong, formerly of The Brooks, appears as a special guest. Billband members have an astonishing list of performing credits, including working with Sting, Yo-Yo Ma, the Bang on a Can All-Stars, Blue Man Group, and the Steve Reich Ensemble, among others.

For more information about the concert, visit www.gvsu.edu/music or call (616) 331-3484.

For Immediate Release

January 15, 2013

Contact: Nate Hoekstra, Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221,
hoekstna@gvsu.edu

Grand Valley to host premier of Reagan documentary

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Grand Valley State University's Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies and WGVSU Public Media will host an early premiere of a new PBS television special, "The Reagan Presidency", on January 17.

The three-part documentary includes many new and diverse perspectives and insights into the 40th president, including long-term implications of Reagan administration policies. The series will also include material not seen or heard in previous documentaries, including Secret Service audio recordings from the minutes following the 1981 assassination attempt and videotape recordings of the president's weekly radio addresses.

The premiere event will feature clips from the three-part series, followed by commentary and a question and answer period with writer-director Chip Duncan and executive producer David Crouse. The premiere is free and open to the public. An RSVP is requested online (<http://gvsu.edu/s/jS>).

The Reagan Presidency

January 17

7 p.m.

Loosemore Auditorium, GVSU Pew Grand Rapids Campus

Hauenstein Center director and presidential historian Gleaves Whitney will also take part in the premiere, and will offer historical perspective on the former president and his administration.

The special will be broadcast nationwide in February. The documentary features interviews with notable Reagan staff members, congressional leaders, scholars, journalists and presidential biographers. They include Sandra Day O'Connor, Condoleezza Rice, Robert Reich, George Shultz, Douglas Brinkley, Richard Reeves, Andrew Young, Henry Cisneros, Jim Angle, Steven Weisman, Paul Volcker, Bill Bradley, Kiron Skinner, Gary Hart, Andrei Grachev, Trita Parsi, Reza Aslan and Oscar Arias, among others.

For more information, contact the Hauenstein Center at hauensteincenter.org or (616) 331-2770.

For Immediate Release

January 16, 2013

Contact: Nate Hoekstra, Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221,
hoekstna@gvsu.edu,

Grand Valley experts offer analysis of State of the State address

ALLENDALE, Mich. — The following Grand Valley State University experts can comment on Gov. Rick Snyder's State of the State address.

ECONOMY

Gregg Dimkoff, (616) 331-7428 or (616) 990-5039, professor of finance, Seidman College of Business

Paul Isely, (616) 331-7418 or (616) 690-0902, professor and chair of the Department of Economics, Seidman College of Business

POLITICAL REACTION:

Erika King, (616) 331-2320 or (616) 245-1470, professor of political science

Roger Moiles, (616) 331-3283 or (616) 994-9985, affiliate professor of political science

Don Zinman, (616) 331-8714 or (616) 802-4007, assistant professor of political science

EDUCATION:

Elaine Collins, (616) 331-6821, dean of the College of Education

HEALTH CARE:

Cynthia McCurren (616) 331-3558, dean of the Kirkhof College of Nursing

January 16, noon – 1 p.m.

GVSU Arts at Noon Series: Grand Rapids Symphony Orchestra

Associate Conductor and GVSU faculty member John Varineau will conduct this performance. Open to the public. Free admission. For more information, please call (616) 331-3484 or visit www.gvsu.edu/music. [read more](#)

Location: Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, GVSU Allendale Campus

January 19, 3 - 4:30 p.m.

Artist-Faculty Series: Marlen Vavrikova, oboe

A performance of works by Czech composer Petr Eben. Open to the public. Free admission. For more information, please call (616) 331-3484 or visit www.gvsu.edu/music. [read more](#)

Location: Sherman Van Solkema Recital Hall, Performing Arts Center, GVSU Allendale Campus

January 21-26 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Commemoration Week at GVSU

Events at will include a Silent March, presentation of the MLK Community Service Award and keynote speeches by Judge Glenda A. Hatchett, known for her groundbreaking courtroom style, and Majora Carter, host of the NPR radio series "The Promised Land." For more information, visit <http://www.gvsu.edu/mlk/>

1/28/2013 Monday 8:00 PM

GVSU Art Gallery Chamber Music Series

Open to the public. Free admission. For more information, please call (616) 3131-3484 or visit www.gvsu.edu/music. [read more](#)

Location: Art Gallery, Performing Arts Center, GVSU Allendale Campus

Looking ahead:

Grand Valley Opera Theatre presents 'The Threepenny Opera'

Performances:

February 1, 2, 8 & 9 7:30 p.m.

February 3 & 10 2:00 p.m.

To purchase tickets, \$6-\$14, call the Louis Armstrong box office at 616-331-2300. For more information visit www.gvsu.edu/theatre [read more](#)

Location: Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, GVSU Allendale Campus

For Immediate Release

January 16, 2013

Contact: Dottie Barnes, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

GVSU-Economic & Real Estate Forecast

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Grand Valley State University economics expert Paul Isely will release the findings of a survey of the regional economy at a breakfast event January 25. The survey for the greater Grand Rapids economy (Kent, Ottawa, Muskegon, and Allegan counties) was conducted in November 2012. Isely, chair and professor of economics in Grand Valley's Seidman College of Business, will talk about consumer confidence, employment, sales and export growth.

The event is co-sponsored by Colliers International. KC Conway, executive managing editor for Colliers, will give an overview of the real estate forecast, both nationally and for the West Michigan market. Conway joined Colliers as a national economist and market analyst in 2010, after five years with the Federal Reserve and 20 years of private industry experience as an appraiser, underwriter, lender, credit officer and economist.

Colliers Annual Economic and Real Estate Forecast

Friday, January 25

7:15 a.m. Continental breakfast

8:15 a.m. Program begins

9:30 a.m. Q & A session

DeVos Place, 303 Monroe Ave, Grand Rapids

Panelists from Colliers International include Duke Suwyn, Colin Kraay, Mike Murray, Scott Morgan and Cathy Bronkema.

The event is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Grand Valley's Seidman College of Business at (616) 331-7100.

For Immediate Release

January 16, 2013

Contact: Nate Hoekstra, Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221,
hoekstna@gvsu.edu

Wilson named to national, local boards

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Miles Wilson, director of philanthropic and nonprofit services at Grand Valley State University's Dorothy A. Johnson Center for Philanthropy, has been named to two prestigious nonprofit boards.

Wilson was appointed to the national Better Business Bureau Wise Giving Alliance, where he will serve a three year term on the board's audit committee. He was also named a trustee of the Grand Rapids Community Foundation board, and will serve a four-year term.

Wilson has been at the Johnson Center since 2009, and was previously vice president of program at The Greater Cincinnati Foundation, and a program director at the Omidyar Foundation.

For more information, contact Miles Wilson, (616) 331-7585.

For more Grand Valley news, visit gvsu.edu/gvnow or follow us on Twitter: @GV_Now

For Immediate Release

January 18, 2013

Contact: Nate Hoekstra, Grand Valley News and Information Services, hoekstna@gvsu.edu

Startup Weekend keynote speakers have Grand Valley ties

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Grand Valley State University's Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation, in the Seidman College of Business, is a co-sponsor of Startup Weekend, an event aimed at helping get new businesses off the ground.

The event will bring together entrepreneurs and business leaders to help others learn the basics of founding startups and launching successful ventures.

Startup Weekend

Jan. 18-20

The Factory, 38 Fulton St E

Grand Rapids, MI 49503

One of the event's keynote speakers is Paul Doyle, founder and CEO of VerifyValid, a company that uses technology to improve delivery methods and security of checks. Doyle started VerifyValid after attending previous Startup Weekend events, and will discuss how working with experts in Grand Valley's Seidman College of Business helped his company develop and grow. Doyle will speak at noon on Saturday.

Other keynote speakers at the event include Grand Valley alumnus Ryan Vaughn, founder of Varsity News Network and West Michigan Allstar; Laura Vaughn, founder of Sitting in a Tree, a design company that offers wedding website themes and communication tools; and Kevin Kuske, chief brand advocate at Turnstone.

For more information on Startup Weekend or the Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation, visit grandrapids.startupweekend.org or gvsu.edu/cei.

January 21, 2013

For immediate release

Contacts: GVSU News & Information Services, (616) 331-2221

Dale Schriemer, artistic director of Grand Valley's Opera Theatre, (616) 331-2573

MEDIA NOTE: Photos are available on Grand Valley's media FTP website. For questions on how to connect to the FTP site, visit <http://gvsu.edu/s/aW>.

GVSU to perform revolutionary opera

ALLENDALE, Mich. — Grand Valley State University Opera Theatre will give six performances of the revolutionary production that transformed old-fashioned opera with the fresh sounds of jazz and cabaret style music.

Performances of "The Threepenny Opera," from the German duo of composer Kurt Weill and playwright Bertolt Brecht sung in English translation, are scheduled February 1, 2, 8 and 9, at 7:30 p.m. and February 3 and 10, at 2 p.m. in the Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus. Tickets, \$6 all students, \$12 seniors and \$14 adults, are available at the LAT Box Office. Call (616) 331-2300, or visit www.gvsu.edu/theatre.

Weill and Brecht proclaimed their production "an opera for beggars" when it opened in Berlin in 1928 as "Die Dreigroschenoper." Modeled after John Gay's 1728 "The Beggar's Opera," which was a parody of Handel's operas, "Threepenny" also infused new life into opera with music that was inspired by the Berlin dance bands and cabarets of the 1920s.

A political satire, the opera revolves around (Mack) Macheath, a notorious felon and womanizer who runs his own gang of thieves, marries the daughter of the King of Beggars, is arrested, convicted and scheduled for execution.

The production begins and ends with the famous tune, "The Ballad of Mack the Knife," which has been a multi-generational hit in diverse recordings ranging from Louis Armstrong in 1956, and Bobby Darin's 1960 Grammy Record of the Year, to the 1991 grunge-like version by the Swiss band The Young Gods, and Lyle Lovett's soft and slow performance in the 1994 film "Quiz Show."

"Though set in Victorian England, 'Threepenny' challenges conventional notions of justice and morality that are still potent today," said producer Dale Schriemer, artistic director of Grand Valley's Opera Theatre. "Through some creative staging elements created by guest director Dorothy Danner, from New York City, the Grand Valley production will include connections to current events."

For example, in Macheath's last speech he questions which is worse, "the founding of a bank, or the robbing of a bank?" Danner provokes the audience with scenic projections about modern banks that accepted government bailouts while continuing massive numbers of foreclosures.

The cast of about 30 performers will be accompanied by a live student orchestra, with guest music director and conductor James Barnett from Chicago.

For Immediate Release

January 22, 2013

Contact: Leah (Zuber) Twilley, Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

GVSU events will celebrate Asian Pacific heritage

ALLENDALE, Mich. — Asian women in leadership roles, a traditional dragon dance and media portrayals of Asians in the U.S. will be highlighted during Grand Valley State University's annual Asian Pacific American Heritage Celebration.

Sponsored by Grand Valley's Office of Multicultural Affairs, the celebration will take place January 31-March 23. The events are free and open to the public.

Asian New Year Festival

January 31, 6-9 p.m., Grand River Room, Kirkhof Center, Allendale Campus

The traditional celebration will highlight Asian cuisine, performances including a dragon dance, Chinese martial arts and a fashion show.

Vietamerica: A Family's Journey

February 6, 6-7 p.m., Cook-DeWitt Center, Allendale Campus

Gia Bao (GB) Tran, a young Vietnamese author and artist, will tell stories of his family's history fleeing Vietnam during the fall of Saigon and being raised in the U.S. as a son of immigrants.

Internationalizing Families, Internationalizing Communities and the Children Navigating these Uncharted Waters

February 11, 3-4 p.m., room 2215, Kirkhof Center, Allendale Campus

Christen M. Pearson, associate professor of English linguistics, will discuss the language barriers involved when American families adopt children from other countries.

Asian Representation in the Media

February 12, noon-1 p.m., room 2263, Kirkhof Center, Allendale Campus

Grand Valley student Christine Vo, vice president of the Multicultural Greek Council, will give a presentation about restrictive media portrayals of eastern and southeastern Asians in America.

Exploring Taiwan and Korea's Physical and Cultural Environments

February 21, 4-5 p.m., room 2215, Kirkhof Center, Allendale Campus

Kin M. Ma, assistant professor of geography/planning, will share his summer 2012 experiences in Taiwan and the Demilitarized Zone between North and South Korea.

Learning Chinese - How to Make it Easy

February 26, 11 a.m.-noon, room 2263, Kirkhof Center, Allendale Campus

Curtis Smith, professor of Chinese and coordinator of the Chinese Language and Literature program, will explore easy ways to learn the Chinese language.

Asian American and Pacific Islander Women in Higher Education

February 27, noon-1 p.m., room 1201, Kirkhof Center, Allendale Campus

Connie Dang, director of the Office of Multicultural Affairs, and Shaily Menon, associate dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, will discuss the growth of Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) representation in higher education. They will also discuss factors that affect the underrepresentation of AAPI women in leadership roles and creative ways to build an inclusive leadership team.

R.I.C.E. Conference: Realizing and Addressing Issues in our Culture and Education

March 23, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Loosemore Auditorium, Pew Grand Rapids Campus

This conference will educate and raise awareness of Asian issues that impact the community. Complimentary breakfast and lunch will be served.

Supporting sponsors of the celebration include Grand Valley's Area Studies, Asian Student Union, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Delta Phi Lambda, East Asian Studies, English Linguistics and Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages programs, Geography/Planning, Inclusion and Equity Division, Modern Languages and Literatures, Women's Center and WGVU Public Media.

For more information, visit www.gvsu.edu/oma.

For immediate release

January 22, 2013

Contact: Michele Coffill, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

Service Organization earns first MLK Community Service Award from Grand Valley

ALLENDALE, Mich. – Officials at Grand Valley State University will present the first Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Service Award to Grand Rapids' Steepletown Neighborhood Services during an event on Thursday, January 24, at GVSU's Kirkhof Center.

Steepletown Neighborhood Services, 671 Davis Ave. NW, offers programs and services to new immigrants. Within a nominating letter, the organization was cited for breaking down economic barriers by teaching money management, offering career exploration opportunities and a GED prep program. Criteria for the award include making a positive impact on the lives of West Michigan residents.

GVSU leaders will present the award to Steepletown staff members Emilio Zamarripa and Melanie Straub prior to a presentation from the University's keynote MLK speaker Majora Carter. Media are invited to attend the 5 p.m. event in the Kirkhof Center, Grand River Room.

Carter continues a weeklong commemoration week with her presentation, "The Fight Against Poverty in Today's World: The Food Justice Movement." Carter is an urban revitalizationist and the host of "The Promised Land," which airs on National Public Radio.

Her presentation will be webcast to audiences in the Eberhard Center, on GVSU's Pew Grand Rapids Campus, and the Meijer Holland Campus. The event is free and open to the public.

For more on Grand Valley's MLK Commemoration Week, visit www.gvsu.edu/mlk.

For Immediate Release

Jan. 22, 2013

Contact: Nate Hoekstra, Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221,
hoekstna@gvsu.edu

MEDIA-University study shows educational gains for charter school students

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — A recently-released report shows that students in most charter schools in Michigan perform better than their counterparts in traditional public schools.

The independent report, produced by Stanford University's Center for Research on Education Outcomes (CREDO), found that Michigan charter school students gain two additional months of learning relative to their peers in traditional public schools in reading and math. Gains were even more pronounced for charter schools serving Detroit students.

CREDO has conducted similar studies across the nation, and Michigan's charter schools demonstrate much greater and more consistent learning gains than national peers.

"While the report does not identify specific schools, we can safely infer that Grand Valley State University-authorized charter schools are a significant component of the success," said Tim Wood, director of the Grand Valley Charter Schools Office. "Grand Valley charter schools serve nearly 25 percent of the state's students in enrolled in charter schools, and nearly 30 percent of students enrolled in Detroit-area charter schools."

35 percent of charter schools have significantly more positive learning gains than their traditional public school counterparts in reading. 42 percent of the charter schools studied outperform their traditional public school peers in math. Charter students in Detroit are, on average, gaining nearly three months achievement for each year they attend charter schools.

"We hope that the findings in this report will highlight Michigan's charter school model, specifically university authorizing," Wood said. "As a leader in charter school performance in Michigan, Grand Valley's investment in charter schools should be held up as a model for other states to emulate."

Grand Valley charter schools serve more than 25,000 students in 51 schools statewide. The university has plans to authorize another eight schools in 2013.

For more information on the CREDO report and Grand Valley charter schools in Michigan, visit gvsu.edu/cso or call Tim Wood, (616) 331-2240.

For Immediate Release

January 23, 2013

Contact: Nate Hoekstra, Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221,
hoekstna@gvsu.edu

MEDIA NOTE: Events below are by invitation only, but news media are encouraged to attend. A mult-box will be available.

Former Secretary of State Albright to be awarded prestigious GVSU medal

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — The Colonel Ralph W. Hauenstein Fellowship Medal, one of Grand Valley State University's most prestigious awards, will be presented to former U.S. Secretary of State and ambassador to the United Nations Madeleine Albright.

Albright will be presented the award during a program at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum on January 29. The invitation-only program will officially open an exhibit of Madeleine Albright's jewelry called, "Read My Pins: The Madeleine Albright Collection." Albright will be presented with the Hauenstein Fellowship award during the program by Gleaves Whitney, director of Grand Valley's Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies and Thomas J. Haas, Grand Valley State University president. There will be a book signing and a reception after the program.

"Our nation's 64th secretary of state blasted through the glass ceiling imposed on her generation," said Whitney. "All people who aspire to public service can look to Dr. Albright's storied career for inspiration."

"Read My Pins: The Madeleine Albright Collection"

Jan. 29, 7 p.m.

Gerald R. Ford Museum

303 Pearl Street NW, Grand Rapids

Secretary Albright will be the third recipient of the Col. Ralph W. Hauenstein Fellowship Medal. The first was awarded posthumously to former President Gerald R. Ford; the second was awarded to former U.S. National Security Advisor Brent Scowcroft, who served under presidents Gerald R. Ford and George H. W. Bush.

For Immediate Release

January 24, 2013

Contact: Dottie Barnes, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

Pew Wolters appointed to GVSU Board

ALLENDALE, Mich. — Gov. Rick Snyder today announced the appointment of Kate Pew Wolters to the Grand Valley State University Board of Trustees. Pew Wolters will fill a vacancy created by the resignation of Sue Carnell; Pew Wolters will serve the remainder of an eight-year term that expires Dec. 31, 2016, and her appointment is subject to the advice and consent of the state Senate.

Pew Wolters was a member of Grand Valley's Board of Trustees from 2005-2012. "Kate has shown great dedication to Grand Valley State University and the Grand Rapids community," said Snyder. "I appreciate her willingness to serve in this role."

Pew Wolters is a member of Steelcase Inc.'s Board of Directors and chair of the Steelcase Foundation, where she previously served as executive director. She is also president of the Kate and Richard Wolters Foundation. Pew Wolters has a bachelor's degree from Aquinas College and a master's degree from Michigan State University.

"We are happy to welcome Kate back to the Board," said President Thomas J. Haas. "We are delighted she will be on hand in an official capacity when we open our new Mary Idema Pew Library Learning and Information Commons, named for her mother."

For Immediate Release

January 25, 2013

Contact: Nate Hoekstra, Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221,
hoekstna@gvsu.edu

Report outlines responses to Mayor's Community Conversations Initiative

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — The Community Research Institute (CRI) at Grand Valley State University's Johnson Center for Philanthropy has issued a report that outlines key findings from a series of community conversations that occurred in response to questions from Grand Rapids Mayor George Heartwell in his 2012 State of the City address.

The findings in the report, "Community Conversations About the Children of Grand Rapids," are an aggregate of responses from a broad cross-section of more than 750 adults and youth who gave their feedback at community meetings throughout the year.

"I think that this report illustrates that the mayor was successful in inspiring meaningful conversations at the community level," said George Grant Jr., dean of the College of Community and Public Service at Grand Valley. "In terms of meeting the needs of our children, the findings provide Grand Rapids citizens with both a good idea of where we are as a community, as well as guidance for where we might focus our efforts in the future."

The report suggests a multi-year approach for addressing several complex issues facing children in Grand Rapids. Some suggestions include pursuing a balanced approach to prioritizing youth needs, collaborating on projects based on shared goals, and taking stock of existing infrastructure and resources available in Grand Rapids to build on the multitude of quality, youth-serving programs that improve the well-being of the city's youth.

The Dorothy A. Johnson Center for Philanthropy is an academic center focused on increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of the charitable sector. Their work involves conducting research, teaching effective practices, and providing pathways to service. They work extensively in West Michigan and throughout the state of Michigan, nationally and internationally.

They make a difference by enhancing the impact of foundations nationally and nonprofit organizations regionally, improving the quality of community decision-making with community members in West Michigan, and encouraging a habit of civic engagement among students, staff, and faculty at GVSU.

For more information, visit gvsu.edu/jcp or contact George Grant Jr., (616) 331-6850.

January 25, 2013

For Immediate Release

Contact: Leah (Zuber) Twilley, Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

Star Swift, Seidman College of Business, (616) 331-7453, swiftgvsu@gmail.com

Heidi Jiao, School of Engineering, (616) 331-6844, jiaoh@gvsu.edu

GVSU students build emergency medical system for African clinic

- Demonstration set for January 26

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — A group of Grand Valley State University engineering students, who designed and built an emergency solar-powered medical system for a clinic in a rural part of the southeastern African country Malawi, will give a demonstration Saturday, January 26.

The Photovoltaic Emergency Power System will be presented at an event from 3-5 p.m. in room 111D of the DeVos Center on the Pew Grand Rapids Campus. Media are encouraged to attend.

Heidi Jiao, a professor of engineering who was an advisor to the project, said it's not uncommon for the clinic to lose power in the middle of a surgery. "Sometimes a patient can be lost, and it's devastating," she said. "This system was designed to kick on when power is lost at the clinic. It's backed up by a battery and is able to provide power for two consecutive days."

The system is portable and includes two emergency lights, one surgery suction system and two outlets for charging tablets and phones. Students worked with Martha Sommers, an American physician who has been working in Malawi for more than 15 years.

Also at the event, a medical app to be used by Malawians that was created by computing and business students will be presented, and the documentary film, "Delivering Malawi," will be shown.

Engineering students who worked on the project are Ryan Gorby, Matt Alberda and Derek Dougherty.

For Immediate Release

January 28, 2013

Contact: Nate Hoekstra, Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221,
hoekstna@gvsu.edu

MEDIA NOTE: A conference call for reporters to ask questions about the report and hear from Next Generation Donors will take place Wednesday, January 30, at 1 p.m. EST. Call (800) 434-1335, conference code 964457. Please RSVP for the call to Diana Lee (diana@berlinrosen.com).

Groundbreaking report sheds light on next-generation philanthropists

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — A new report from Grand Valley State University's Johnson Center for Philanthropy and 21/64 provides a first-of-a-kind study on the habits of next-generation donors, who will inherit an unprecedented \$40 trillion and are poised to be the most significant philanthropists in history.

The report, called Next Gen Donors, looks at how the major donors of the future are approaching their giving and how it differs — and remains the same — from their parents and grandparents.

The report is the most comprehensive of its kind, drawing from 310 surveys from high-capacity young donors and 30 in-depth individual interviews. Young donors represent the future of philanthropy, but up until now, very little has been known about who the next generation of donors are and what they are interested in.

Through analysis of the survey responses and dozens of candid statements direct from next-generation donors, the report reveals:

- Next-generation donors want meaningful, hands-on engagement with the causes that they care about and want to develop close relationships with the organizations they give to, giving their time and talent as well as their treasure.
- Next-generation donors are highly connected with their peers, learning about causes from trusted friends and sharing philanthropic experiences with peer networks.
- Next-generation donors seek to maintain the difficult balance of respecting the legacy of previous generations and revolutionizing philanthropy for greater impact, aiming to use new, innovative, even risky strategies to make their giving more effective.
- For next-generation donors, philanthropy is a part of who they are; it is not just something they do. Young donors start developing their philanthropic identity from an early age by learning through hands-on experiences and looking to older generations, and they are eager for new personal experiences that will help them learn to be better philanthropists.

“Until now, there has been little research on this small but influential cohort of young people who hold the future of major philanthropy in their hands,” said Michael Moody, Frey Foundation Chair for Family Philanthropy at the Dorothy A. Johnson Center for Philanthropy. “This study helps us move beyond our preconceptions about next-gen donors, and shows – somewhat surprisingly – that they have some strong similarities to previous generations of donors, even while clearly wanting to make big changes in how philanthropy is done.”

Several next-generation donors and the authors of the report will take part in a conference call for reporters on Wednesday, January 30, at 1 p.m. EST. The call will include Michael Moody, Frey Foundation Chair for Family Foundations and Philanthropy at the Johnson Center; Sharna Goldseker, managing director of 21/64, a nonprofit consulting practice specializing in next-generation and multi-generational strategic philanthropy; and several next-generation donors, including Katherine Lorenz, president of the Cynthia and George Mitchell Foundation.

The Dorothy A. Johnson Center for Philanthropy is an academic center focused on increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of the charitable sector. Their work involves conducting research, teaching effective practices, and providing pathways to service. They work extensively in West Michigan and throughout the state of Michigan, nationally and internationally.

They make a difference by enhancing the impact of foundations nationally and nonprofit organizations regionally, improving the quality of community decision-making with community members in West Michigan, and encouraging a habit of civic engagement among students, staff, and faculty at GVSU.

For more information, visit johnsoncenter.org or contact Michael Moody, (616) 331-7585.

For Immediate Release

January 31, 2013

Contact: Leah (Zuber) Twilley, Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

GVSU events celebrate Black History Month

ALLENDALE, Mich. — The Underground Railroad in Michigan, African American traditions and folk, and a poetry jam on Valentine's Day will be featured throughout February to celebrate Black History Month at Grand Valley State University.

Sponsored by Grand Valley's Office of Multicultural Affairs, all events are free and open to the public.

Historically Black Fraternities and Sororities

February 5, noon-1 p.m., room 2263, Kirkhof Center

Donald Mitchell Jr., assistant professor of higher education at Grand Valley, will discuss the impact of black fraternities and sororities on the community.

Afro-Futurism: Considering Blacks in Science Fiction through Octavia Butler's Kindred

February 11, noon-1 p.m., room 2263, Kirkhof Center

Bobby J. Springer, associate director of Multicultural Affairs at Grand Valley, along with a student panel, will discuss the science fiction novel "Kindred," by Octavia Butler, which is about a modern African American woman who is transported to the antebellum South.

Positive Black Women Annual Comedy/Poetry Jam

February 14, noon-1 p.m., Grand River Room, Kirkhof Center

The fourth annual Poetry Jam will celebrate Valentine's Day by bringing the campus community together through poetry. Hosted by Positive Black Women, Grand Valley students, faculty and staff members will recite poems in a cafe-style atmosphere.

A Taste of Soul

February 15, noon-1 p.m., Kirkhof Center lobby

Event participants will taste-test and learn about traditional African American soul food.

Effective Leadership and Service

February 19, 4-5:30 p.m., Pere Marquette Room, Kirkhof Center

Patrick Miles Jr. was nominated by President Obama in March of 2012 to serve as U.S. attorney for the West District of Michigan. He will discuss leadership, services, professionalism and diversity.

Storytelling: The Roots of African American and Folk Traditions

February 20, 2-3 p.m., Grand River Room, Kirkhof Center

Rev. Robert Jones Sr. will use traditional African American music, including folk, blues and

spiritual, to share stories about African American culture and history.

Freedom, Slavery and the Underground Railroad in Michigan

February 27, 4:30-6 p.m., Loosemore Auditorium, Pew Grand Rapids Campus

February 28, noon-1:30 p.m., Pere Marquette Room, Kirkhof Center

Veta Tucker, associate professor of English at Grand Valley, will give a presentation about the history of abolition in Michigan. She will discuss a secret network that assisted people, who were held in slavery in Michigan and those who escaped slavery in the South, to find freedom.

Supporting sponsors include African/African American Studies, Black Student Union, College of Community and Public Service, College of Education, College of Liberal Arts and Science, Inclusion and Equity, LGBT Resource Center, Office of Multicultural Affairs, Positive Black Women, Seidman College of Business, Women's Center and WGVU Public Media.

Contact the Office of Multicultural Affairs for more information at www.gvsu.edu/oma or (616) 331-2177.

For Immediate Release

January 31, 2013

Contact: Dottie Barnes, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

GVSU helps students apply for college money

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Many people are pursuing higher education and ways to afford it. College Goal Sunday is a statewide initiative designed to increase the number of students who continue education beyond high school and earn post-secondary degrees.

On Sunday, February 10, financial aid experts from Grand Valley State University will participate in College Goal Sunday by guiding students through each step of completing and filing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid form (FAFSA). The FAFSA is required of any student seeking financial aid including grants, loans and many scholarships.

Statistics show students who complete and submit FAFSA forms are more likely to go on to college. Students should bring a completed 2012 IRS 1040 tax return, if possible, or their W-2 and 1099 forms. Students should complete the FAFSA by March 1.

College Goal Sunday

February 10

2-4 p.m.

DeVos Center, Building A

GVSU Pew Grand Rapids Campus, 401 W. Fulton St.

College Goal Sunday began in Michigan in 2004, and as a result, thousands of students have received help submitting the FAFSA. Last year more than 1,800 Michigan students received assistance. Prizes will be awarded during College Goal Sunday events across the state, including a \$1,000 scholarship and an iPad mini.

Other College Goal Sunday sites in West Michigan include:

Grand Haven, Grand Haven High School

Holland, Davenport University

Muskegon, Baker College of Muskegon

For more information, contact Michelle Rhodes, director of Financial Aid at Grand Valley, at (616) 331-3234 or visit www.micollegegoal.org.

EMBARGO UNTIL 9 a.m., February 8, 2013

For Immediate Release

February 5, 2013

Contact: Eric Seifert, Grand Valley MAREC and MI-SBTDC, (616) 331-6906

Media-Angel investment group forms in Muskegon

--News conference set for Feb. 8 at MAREC

MUSKEGON, Mich. — Grand Valley State University's Michigan Alternative and Renewable Energy Center will host a news conference announcing a new Muskegon investment group formed to advance the development of start-ups and mature companies in the Lakeshore area.

The news conference will take place on Friday, February 8, at 9 a.m., at MAREC, 200 Viridian Dr. in Muskegon. Please note above embargo.

Remarks from the principals of the organization, Mike Olthoff of Nichols and Larry Hines of Hines Corporation, will begin at 9 a.m. in the seminar room, located on the upper level of the building.

The idea of an Angel group in Muskegon began in 2012 when individuals in the business community decided Muskegon needed its own Angel investment group rather than relying on investment groups elsewhere. More than 20 individuals are participating, with some members located beyond Muskegon County. Participants agree to invest \$125,000 over five years; when fully capitalized, the organization's financial assets will total more than \$2.75 million.

Mike Olthoff and Larry Hines, with leadership assistance from John Pridnia of Rehmann, Paul Jackson of Warner Norcross & Judd and Eric Seifert of Grand Valley State University, spearheaded the effort.

The Muskegon Angels will focus on local growth, investment and assistance, specifically in the areas of advanced manufacturing, food processing, technology, and water-related innovations and businesses. The organization will also mentor the entrepreneurs they support. The initiative will be housed at MAREC with assistance from Kevin McCurren, director of the Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation at Grand Valley, and the Michigan Small Business and Technology Development Center.

Muskegon entrepreneurs who are interested in presenting a proposal to the Muskegon Angels should contact Eric Seifert at (616) 331-6906.

About Angel groups

Angel groups typically fill a gap when the entrepreneur has exhausted all resources and traditional bank financing is not available or is very limited. Angel investor groups step in to

assist at a time when the young business has proven itself to be viable and needs financing for growth. There are many angel investment groups around the country especially in the state of Michigan, including the Grand Angels of greater Grand Rapids.

For Immediate Release

February 5, 2013

Contact: Dottie Barnes, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

MEDIA NOTE: Audio and a photo of Long are available on Grand Valley's media FTP site. For instructions on how to access the site, follow this link: <http://gvsu.edu/s/aW>. Audio is also available at www.gvsu.edu/gvnow.

Current Business Trends: Dead Flat

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — The greater Grand Rapids industrial economy is “dead flat,” according to the results of a monthly survey compiled by Brian G. Long, director of Supply Management Research in the Seidman College of Business at Grand Valley State University.

The survey results are based on data collected during the last two weeks of January.

The survey's index of business improvement, called new orders, came in at +0, down from +4. Following the slowdown trend, the production index flipped negative to -6, down from +11. Activity in purchasing offices also turned negative at -1, down from +11. The employment index remained modestly positive at +10, although down from +14.

“In contrast to the last few months, comments from local business representatives are more optimistic,” said Long. “Like last month, some firms are at full capacity, some are reporting all-time highs in sales, and some are very optimistic about 2013. Only two reports from the 71 firms in this month's survey were seriously negative.”

Long said he agrees with Mike Dunlop's quarterly report on the furniture industry, which says the industry remains on a very steady, but flat trend line. He said the auto parts suppliers remain positive, but many local firms may be topping out.

At the national level, Long said reports were more positive than expected. After six consecutive modestly negative reports, the national index of new orders bounced to +7 from -7 and the production index also shot up to +6 from -4. The employment index rose from +0 to +5. “Much of the gain can be attributed to new export orders,” Long said. “Any way you look at it, January was a good month for the national industrial economy.”

Long said there are still two elephants in the room — the problems of the March 1 budget sequester and the debt ceiling, due to hit around March 20. “Right now, it appears the probability of a federal government shutdown is about 70 percent,” he said. “Over the long term, even the congressional budget office calls the current rate of spending ‘unsustainable.’”

The Institute for Supply Management survey is a monthly survey of business conditions that includes 45 purchasing managers in the greater Grand Rapids area and 25 in Kalamazoo. The

respondents are from the region's major industrial manufacturers, distributors and industrial service organizations. It is patterned after a nationwide survey conducted by the Institute for Supply Management. Each month, the respondents are asked to rate eight factors as "same," "up" or "down." An expanded version of this report and details of the methodology used to compile it are available at www.gvsu.edu/scblogistics.

For more information, contact Brian Long at (269) 323-2359.

For more Grand Valley news, visit www.gvsu.edu/gvnow or follow us on Twitter: @GV_Now

For Immediate Release

February 7, 2013

Contact: Leah (Zuber) Twilley, Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

GVSU students build life-saving medical system for African hospital

- Demonstration set for Feb. 12

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — A group of Grand Valley State University engineering students designed a portable medical system that helps save lives for a hospital in a rural part of the southeastern African country of Malawi.

The solar-powered system was designed to kick on when the hospital loses power in the middle of a surgery.

MEDIA NOTE: A media demonstration of the Photovoltaic Emergency Power System for will take place on Tuesday, February 12, at 4:30 p.m. in room 204 of the Keller Engineering Labs building on the Pew Grand Rapids Campus. The engineering graduate students who designed and built the machine will be available to discuss the project: Ryan Gorby, Matt Alberda and Derek Dougherty.

Heidi Jiao, an engineering professor who advised the project, said it's not uncommon for the hospital to lose power. "Sometimes a patient can be lost, and it's devastating," she said.

The system is backed up by a battery and is able to provide power for two consecutive days. It's portable and includes two emergency lights, one surgery suction system and two outlets for charging tablets and phones.

Students worked with Martha Sommers, an American physician who has been working in Malawi for more than 15 years, and her sister Veronica Sommers, an engineer who has worked with Martha in Malawi. Gorby said the team will be training Martha on how to use and set up the system, which was designed to be disassembled in four parts. She will then take it back to Malawi within the next year.

Another group of Grand Valley students created a medical mobile app that provides instructions to help midwives in Malawi and Haiti deliver babies without a doctor present. The app was created based on the book, "A Guide for Midwives," which was written by Martha's sister Mary Sommers, a midwife and childbirth educator. The app was created by computing alumnus Olvi Tole, business alumna Kelsey Waldecker, and business students James Villar, Jennifer Mast, Holly Malinowski and Michael Angerbrandt.

February 8, 2013

For Immediate Release

Contact: News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221, Mary Eilleen Lyon, lyonme@gvsu.edu

MEDIA-Grand Valley board sets room and board rates for next year

ALLENDALE, Mich. — Students at Grand Valley State University will pay slightly more for room and board beginning with the Fall 2013 semester. The Board of Trustees voted to increase the rate 1.6 percent at its February 8 board meeting.

The cost per semester in a traditional living center at Grand Valley will be \$2,740, an increase of \$40. Students can choose from a variety of meal plans. The cost for the 14-meal plan per semester will increase \$40 and cost \$1,300.

This year's increase at Grand Valley is significantly less than the five-year average of 2.5 percent and less than the five-year state average increase of 3.3 percent.

The Fall 2012 occupancy rate at Grand Valley was again at an all-time high with 5,855 students living on campus. Campus dining plans have also reached an all-time high with 7,387 students purchasing a meal plan. That means students who don't live on campus still choose to use campus dining.

"We're obviously pleased with our housing options as well as our dining options because the students are pleased," said Andy Beachnau, director of Housing. "Studies show that when students make good campus connections they tend to stay in school and achieve their educational goals right along with their social goals."

Beachnau said students are currently signing up for campus housing for Fall 2013 and it looks to be another strong year.

In other board action:

The Board of Trustees approved the purchase of real estate on the northeast corner of 48th Avenue and Luce Street in Allendale for \$315,000. University Counsel Tom Butcher told trustees that the purchase makes sense because it's next to land the university already owns. It's future use has not been decided.

The board also approved the construction of Laker Marketplace, a combination bookstore and food service facility. It will replace the current university bookstore which is located in the Kirkhof Center. The two-story facility will cover 44,000 square feet, and will cost \$12 million. The project will be funded by revenue from the university bookstore. Construction will begin in July 2013 and be completed in summer 2015.

For Immediate Release

February 11, 2013

Contact: Leah (Zuber) Twilley, Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

MEDIA NOTE: Photos from last year's fundraiser are available on Grand Valley's FTP media site; visit <http://qvsu.edu/s/aW> to learn how to access the site.

Indulge in chocolate at GVSU Women's Center fundraiser

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — All-you-can-eat chocolate desserts and a silent auction will highlight the Grand Valley State University Women's Center ninth annual fundraiser, "Indulge in a Cause."

Proceeds from the event will benefit Women's Center programs and their endowment fund. The center offers scholarships to non-traditional students who may not otherwise qualify for financial aid.

Indulge in a Cause

Thursday, February 21

5-7:30 p.m.

Eberhard Center

Pew Grand Rapids Campus

Sweet desserts will be provided by local companies including Cabot Cheese, Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory and San Chez Bistro. The event is co-sponsored by Founders Bank & Trust, United Bank and the University Bookstore.

New this year is the ability to bid for auction packages online before the event. Online bidding will close at 4 p.m. on February 19. Silent auction items are listed at www.gvsu.edu/women_cen and include a Nook, photography package, Northern Michigan getaway package and Grand Rapids night-on-the-town package.

Tickets are \$10 for students and \$30 for community members in advance; \$15 for students and \$35 for community members at the door. Reserve tickets by calling the Women's Center at (616) 331-2748 or [purchase online](#).

Since the Women's Center was founded in 2001, it has assisted hundreds of students each year, hosted more than 600 programs, raised more than \$100,000 for organizations that work with women and girls, and provided dozens of non-profit agencies with volunteers.

For more information, contact the Women's Center at (616) 331-2748 or visit www.gvsu.edu/women_cen.

For immediate release

February 11, 2013

Contact: Michele Coffill, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

Lopiano to speak at GVSU Title IX anniversary event

ALLENDALE, Mich. – Two women who have advanced sports and physical activity for women at Grand Valley State University will be honored at a university celebration of the 40th anniversary of Title IX legislation.

Joan Boand, professor emeritus of physical education, and Patti Rowe, professor of movement science, will be honored February 23 at the Celebration of Women in Sport and Physical Activity, held at 1 p.m. at the Alumni House. The public is invited; visit www.gvsu.edu/womeninsports to RSVP.

The keynote speaker will be Donna Lopiano, former chief executive officer of the Women's Sports Foundation. Lopiano will later give the keynote address at the Leadership Summit, held in the Kirkhof Center.

Lopiano is an expert on gender equity in sports. She served as director of women's athletics at the University of Texas-Austin and as past-president of the Association for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women. In mid-January, she received the NCAA's President Gerald R. Ford Award, which is presented to someone who has provided leadership as an advocate for college athletics.

Keri Becker, GVSU associate director of athletics, called Lopiano a "tireless advocate for women student-athletes" and said it's appropriate she speaks at an event that honors Boand and Rowe.

"Thousands of women at Grand Valley have participated in club sports, athletics and majored in movement science because of work done by Joan and Patti," Becker said. "Bringing a national speaker in to talk about gender equity ties this event together."

The February 23 event also will officially launch an endowment fund in honor of Boand and Rowe that will help support professional development opportunities for students.

Becker chairs the endowment fund committee with Dana Munk, associate professor of movement science. Munk said today's students are quite removed from the obstacles women faced before Title IX passed in 1972.

"Because participation opportunities for girls have increased dramatically over the past 40 years, remaining inequities often go unnoticed, such as discrepancies in salary, promotion rates, and the number of women in leadership positions," Munk said. "This event serves as a reminder that there is still progress to be made and that our students need encouragement and support to keep moving forward."

For Immediate Release

February 11, 2013

Contact: Dottie Barnes, (616) 331-2221, GVSU News and Information Services

Grand Valley experts offer analysis of State of the Union address

ALLENDALE, Mich. — The following Grand Valley State University experts can comment on President Barack Obama's State of the Union address.

ECONOMY:

Gregg Dimkoff, (616) 331-7428 or (616) 990-5039, professor of finance, Seidman College of Business

Paul Isely, (616) 331-7418 or (616) 690-0902, professor and chair of the Department of Economics, Seidman College of Business

POLITICAL REACTION:

Erika King, (616) 331-2320 or (616) 245-1470, professor of political science

Roger Moiles, (616) 331-3283 or (616) 994-9985, affiliate professor of political science

Don Zinman, (616) 331-8714 or (616) 802-4007, assistant professor of political science

EDUCATION:

Elaine Collins, (616) 331-6821, dean of the College of Education

HEALTH CARE:

Cynthia McCurren (616) 331-3558, dean of the Kirkhof College of Nursing

For more Grand Valley news visit www.gvsu.edu/gvnow or on twitter at @gv_now.

For Immediate Release

February 11, 2013

Contact: Dottie Barnes, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

GVSU trade mission to Brazil

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Grand Valley State University's Van Andel Global Trade Center is organizing a trade mission to São Paulo, Brazil, from May 12-17, in partnership with the Michigan Economic Development Corporation. The mission will assist Michigan businesses to expand export sales to Brazil and build new connections with businesses, academia and government.

Brazil has the world's 7th largest economy, boasting high growth rates and strong growth potential. Targeted industries for this trade mission are advanced manufacturing, environmental technology, medical equipment and engineering and construction.

"This is a great time for Michigan businesses to explore global opportunities, especially small businesses," said Sonja Johnson, executive director of the Van Andel Global Trade Center. "We are very excited that eligible companies with less than 500 global employees may be eligible for partial reimbursement for this trade mission as part of the State Trade Export Promotion Program (STEP)."

Participants will receive one-on-one appointments to explore opportunities with Brazilian businesses and updates from local experts to gain current market insights. They will also participate in networking events, company visits, and ocean Port and cultural tours. Each participant will receive translation services of marketing materials and business cards.

For more information about the trade mission, visit www.vagtc.org, or call (616) 331-6811 to register. Space is limited and deadline for registration is February 28.

For Immediate Release

February 12, 2013

Contact: Nate Hoekstra, Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221,
hoekstna@gvsu.edu

Grand Valley charter schools rank best in state

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — A report released today by the Michigan State Board of Education shows that among all charter school authorizers in the state, Grand Valley State University's portfolio of 52 neighborhood charters outperform all other authorizers using state tests as the assessment standard.

The report, conducted by Michigan State University for the state Board of Education, found that on average, GVSU charter school students demonstrate greater proficiency and growth than students in non-GVSU charter schools. This trend continues across minority populations and economically disadvantaged students. The GVSU portfolio of charter schools performs at or above state averages while serving a population that is nearly twice as economically disadvantaged. Additionally, the report found that regardless of authorizer, Michigan charter schools were more than twice as likely to be serving economically disadvantaged students.

"Grand Valley schools work very diligently on improving teaching and learning, and a commitment to serving their neighborhoods," said Timothy Wood, director of charter schools for Grand Valley.

GVSU charters 52 neighborhood schools serving 25,400 students across the state with the majority being Detroit-area students. The GVSU portfolio of charter schools includes elementary, middle, and high schools with differentiated focuses that include design, arts, technology, character, health, and innovation among others.

All Michigan charter schools are public, open-enrollment schools; where wait lists exist, lotteries are conducted. Currently, GVSU charter schools have more than 10,000 students on waiting lists. GVSU charter schools are governed by volunteer board members, typically neighborhood community leaders, appointed by GVSU. The schools follow the same accountability and testing laws required of traditional public schools; however, GVSU charter schools have a contract that requires certain performance measures be met or the potential of losing their charter exists.

A link to the full report can be found in the GVNow story [here](#).

For more information, contact Timothy Wood, (616) 331-2240 or visit www.gvsu.edu/cso.

February 12, 2013

For immediate release

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News & Information Services (616) 331-2221

William P. Osborn, GVSU Department of English chair (616) 331- 3070 or osbornb@gvsu.edu

MEDIA NOTE: High-resolution photo of W.P. Osborn is available on Grand Valley's media FTP website. For questions on how to connect to the FTP site, visit <http://gvsu.edu/s/aW>

Fiction prize awarded to GVSU English Department chair

ALLENDALE, MICH. -- A short story collection by W. P. Osborn, chair of the Department of English at Grand Valley State University, was selected as the winner of the 2013 Unboxed Books Prize in Fiction.

Osborn's *Seven Tales and Seven Stories*, whose "weird obsessiveness and bizarre poetry" judge Francine Prose "found irresistible," was selected for publication in both print and digital formats in fall 2013. The author will also will receive a \$5,000 prize.

"I'm sure this prize and publication will open new possibilities and help guide the writing part of my life for some time," said Osborn. "It's difficult to believe my good fortune in beginning an association with this new imprint and with the organizations it connects to." The prize is furnished by the deGroot Foundation, in association with Provincetown Arts.

Osborn has lived in California, Ohio, New York, and Germany. His fiction appears in such venues as *Southern Humanities Review*, *Texas Review*, *Hotel Amerika*, *Mississippi Review*, *Gettysburg Review*, and *Beloit Fiction Journal*.

For more information about the award, visit <http://unboxedbooks.com/>

For Immediate Release

February 13, 2013

Contact: Dottie Barnes, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

Auto Suppliers Symposium held at GVSU

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — The 14th Automotive Suppliers Symposium will be hosted by the Van Andel Global Trade Center March 7, at Grand Valley State University.

The symposium brings together suppliers from all parts of the automotive supply chain to learn about the latest industry happenings, best practices, and the future economic outlook. The theme for this year's conference is "Ready, Set, Launch!"

Participants will learn about what companies have done to manage rapid growth over recent years, and find out how they are preparing for the future.

Automotive Suppliers Symposium

March 7

8-11:30 a.m.

Loosemore Auditorium

Pew Grand Rapids Campus

401 W. Fulton St., Grand Rapids

Speakers include Jay Moore, director of purchasing for Ford Motor Company; Paul Lambert, group vice president at Johnson Controls; Mike Wall, director of automotive analysis at IHS Automotive; and Paul Doyle, president and CEO of GHSP.

Event sponsors include Plante and Moran, Chase, and Warner Norcross and Judd.

To register or find out more, visit www.vagtc.org or call (616) 331-6811.

For Immediate Release

February 14, 2013

Contact: Dottie Barnes, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

GVSU signs 7th reverse transfer agreement

ALLENDALE, Mich. — Grand Valley State University President Thomas J. Haas and Lansing Community College President Brent Knight signed a transfer agreement that will help students who transfer to Grand Valley complete an associate's degree at LCC.

The initiative applies to Lansing Community College students who have completed at least 45 credits at LCC, but transferred before earning an associate's degree.

Grand Valley has similar transfer agreements with Grand Rapids Community College, Muskegon Community College, West Shore Community College, Montcalm Community College, Macomb Community College, and Northwestern Michigan College.

For Immediate Release

February 18, 2013

Contact: Nate Hoekstra, Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221,
hoekstna@gvsu.edu

Bus-sized mural made by Grand Valley charter school students to be unveiled

DETROIT — A group of students at a Grand Valley State University-authorized charter school will unveil a mural they created that's the size of a city bus at a reception on Friday, February 22.

Eleven students created the mural under the guidance of Grand Valley alumna and well-known artist Hubert Massey. The yearlong project involved the students framing and stretching their own canvas, composing the original design and painting the entire piece.

Called "Michigan's Outreach: Evolving the Global Spirit," the mural measures 8 feet tall by 38 feet long, and will make its permanent home in Grand Valley's nearly-completed L. William Seidman Center. The piece will also be entered in ArtPrize this fall.

The student artists from the Henry Ford Academy: School for Creative Studies will be joined at the reception by HFA: SCS principal Rashid Faisal; Manal Kadry, lead art teacher at HFA: SCS; Hubert Massey, artist; and Ellen Sprouls, curator of education at Grand Valley.

Unveiling reception for "Michigan's Outreach: Evolving the Global Spirit"

Friday, February 22, 4:30 p.m.

485 W. Milwaukee St., in the Bob and Ellen Thompson Gymnasium of the A. Alfred Taubman Center for Design Education, Detroit, MI

Please RSVP to Lisa Kreinbring, lisa@hfli.org, (248) 259-4066

HFA: SCS is Detroit's premier college prep school focused on art and design, and serves nearly 800 students in grades 6-12. The school is located in the College for Creative Studies' A. Alfred Taubman Center for Design Education. All students attend tuition-free.

To learn more about the creation of the mural, [read this story from Grand Valley Magazine](#).

For more Grand Valley news, visit gvsu.edu/GVNow, or follow us on Twitter: @GV_Now

For Immediate Release

February 19, 2013

Contact: Dottie Barnes, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

Jennifer Deamud, Michigan Celebrates Small Business, (616) 331-7482

Registration open for small business awards program

LANSING, Mich. — Small business owners and supporters are coming from across the state to show support for Michigan's growing companies at the ninth annual Michigan Celebrates Small Business awards dinner on May 2.

More than 60 businesses will be honored, including the "2013 Michigan 50 Companies to Watch." Gov. Rick Snyder will offer remarks during the ceremony at the Lansing Center in downtown Lansing.

"Michigan's economy is built on a strong foundation of innovation and hard-working people," said David Morrison, southeast market manager for PNC. "Michigan Celebrates Small Business seeks to acknowledge the best and brightest of small business leadership in Michigan. As a premier lender to Michigan Small Businesses, PNC recognizes the importance of small businesses and is committed to their success."

Jennifer Deamud, managing partner of Michigan Celebrates Small Business, said: "Michigan Celebrates Small Business remains on the forefront of championing small business and fostering the entrepreneurial spirit in Michigan. The mission of MCSB is to honor and recognize Michigan's small business people and those who support them."

Tickets are \$95 per person; attendees can receive a discount by reserving a table of 10 for \$900. Tickets can be purchased online at www.MichiganCelebrates.biz or by calling (800) 362-5461.

Michigan Celebrates Small Business is a partnership of the Michigan Small Business & Technology Development Center, Michigan Economic Development Corporation, the Edward Lowe Foundation, Small Business Association of Michigan, the U.S. Small Business Administration and the Greater Lansing Business Monthly.

Michigan Celebrates Small Business is made possible with support from PNC Bank, Michigan Economic Development Corporation, Michigan Certified Development Corporation, Accident Fund, Comcast Business Class, DTE Energy Foundation, The Rehman Group, Varnum Law, Michigan Credit Union League, Huntington Bank, Comcast Spotlight, AARP and Dynamic Edge, Inc.

Media partners for Michigan Celebrates Small Business include MiBiz, Crain's Detroit Business, Upper Peninsula Business Today, Traverse City Business News, Greater Lansing Business Monthly, Corp! Magazine, MiTechNews.com and Michigan Business Network Radio.

For more information regarding Michigan Celebrates Small Business, contact Jennifer Deamud at the Michigan Small Business & Technology Development Center, managing partner of Michigan Celebrates Small Business, at deamudj@gvsu.edu or (616) 331-7482.

For Immediate Release

February 25, 2013

Contact: Leah Twilley, Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

GVSU group to host presentation by Holocaust survivor

ALLENDALE, Mich. — A group of Grand Valley State University students will host a presentation February 27 by Martin Löwenberg, who survived the Holocaust and moved to the U.S. in 1964.

Löwenberg will share his story of survival during the student organization Hillel's Genocide Awareness Night from **6-7:30 p.m., in the Grand River Room of the Kirkhof Center on the Allendale Campus.**

Noah Zucker, president of Hillel, got in touch with Löwenberg through the Holocaust Memorial Center in Farmington Hills. "His story is incredible," Zucker said. "He survived numerous concentration camps, while sadly, many of his family members were not as fortunate."

Zucker said the group hopes to raise awareness and educate the campus community about genocide. The night will start with a discussion led by students about the impact of genocide on different regions and cultures. Löwenberg's presentation will follow.

Learn more about Löwenberg [here](#).

The event is free and open the public. For more information, contact Zucker at zuckern@mail.gvsu.edu.

For immediate release

February 27, 2013

Contact: Michele Coffill, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

GVSU readies for fifth annual Community Outreach Week

ALLENDALE, Mich. – More than 600 Grand Valley State University volunteers are expected to participate in the university's fifth annual Community Outreach Week, sponsored by the Alumni Association and the Community Service Learning Center.

COW is set for March 18-23. During that week, Lakers around the world will participate in service projects in their neighborhoods, from helping combat childhood hunger at Kids Food Basket in Grand Rapids to cleaning the Belle Isle Aquarium in Detroit.

Projects are detailed online at www.gvsu.edu/cow. Alumni, current students and friends of Grand Valley are invited to join an already created project, or start a new one. Projects are listed in Thailand, Detroit, Grand Rapids and Nebraska, among other sites.

In 2012, more than 2,000 hours of service were logged during COW by 625 volunteers.

The Community Service Learning Center will host larger projects for students; visit www.gvsu.edu/service to learn more.

For immediate release

March 4, 2013

Contact: Michele Coffill, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

GVSU to host Conference on the Americas

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. – Grand Valley State University's Latin American Studies Program will host the 12th annual Conference on the Americas, set for March 15-16 in the Eberhard Center on the Pew Grand Rapids Campus.

The theme is "Places, Bodies, and Practices in Latin America." Workshop sessions will explore the concepts of space, bodies and practices from different viewpoints.

Saskia Sassen, professor of sociology at Columbia University, and Ana Rosas Mantecón, a cultural anthropologist from the Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana-Iztapalapa in Mexico City, are the keynote speakers.

Sassen's research and writing focuses on the social, economic and political dimensions of globalization, as well as immigration, new technologies and changes within the liberal state that result from current transnational conditions. Mantecón will discuss the social impact of cultural access, creativity, and urban cultural policies in Mexico City.

Prior to the conference, a documentary film festival will be held March 12-14 at the DeVos Center, Loosemore Auditorium. All films will begin at 7 p.m. The conference will end with a Festival of Children Latin American Dance, March 16 at 6:30 p.m.

Admission is free for attendees. More information about the conference is online at www.gvsu.edu/las/coa. Contact Zulema Moret at (616) 331-2286 or moretz@gvsu.edu, or Barb Blankemeier at (616) 331-8110 or blankemb@gvsu.edu.

For Immediate Release

March 4, 2013

Contact: Nate Hoekstra, Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221,
hoekstna@gvsu.edu

Noted historian H.W. Brands to speak on Reagan

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Noted historian and biographer H.W. Brands will discuss his biography of America's controversial 40th president, Ronald Reagan, at an event hosted by Grand Valley State University's Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies.

Brands, who took part in a town-hall presentation in 2012 at Grand Valley, returns to West Michigan where he will draw on his past research on Franklin Roosevelt and his current work on Reagan to examine what makes a president great.

"What Makes a President Great"

H.W. Brands

March 7, 2013, 7 p.m.

Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum

Downtown Grand Rapids

In his discussion, Brands will explain what allows an American president to reshape the course of American life.

"Roosevelt and Reagan espoused decidedly different policies, but their leadership styles reveal some striking similarities," said Gleaves Whitney, director of the Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies. "The lessons of their presidencies hold value for all their successors, and for the citizens who choose those successors."

The presentation is free and open to the public, but an RSVP is requested; please visit www.hauensteincenter.org.

For more information, visit www.hauensteincenter.org or call (616) 331-2770.

March 4, 2013

For immediate release

Contacts:

Mary Pirkola, GVSU News & Information Services, (616) 331-2221, pirkolam@gvsu.edu
Gabrielle Poshadlo, Detroit Symphony Orchestra, (313) 576-5194, gposhadlo@dso.org

Grand Valley alumnus chosen by Detroit Symphony Orchestra

DETROIT, Mich. -- A Grand Valley State University alumnus, Hunter Eberly, has been named principal trumpet of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra (DSO). Eberly, 26, will perform his first concert in his new position on March 7, at Congregational Shaarey Zedek, in Southfield.

The DSO held a three-year, international search with candidates arriving from Canada, Germany, Mexico and across the U.S. Eberly was the single candidate to advance to finals and subsequently earn a trial with the orchestra during the first two weeks of February.

"I am deeply honored and excited to be joining the incredibly talented musicians of the DSO," said Eberly. He said he and his wife, Kimberly, who is also a Grand Valley alumnus, trumpet player, and conductor, look forward to moving back to Michigan from Florida and being closer to their families.

The Muskegon native is a graduate of Calvary Christian High School and the son of Cheri and Sam Eberly. He showed great musical aptitude from early on, starting piano at the age of 3, and trumpet in third grade. His mother was a band director as well as a trumpet player, and his teacher until he graduated high school.

Eberly received a bachelor's of music degree from Grand Valley in 2009; he studied with Richard Stoelzel, professor of trumpet. During his years at Grand Valley, Eberly showed great promise as a musician. He won first prize at the 2009 National Trumpet Competition College Solo Division, and was also a member of Grand Valley's 2008 trumpet ensemble when it took first prize in this same competition. Eberly was also very involved in the performing ensembles offered at Grand Valley. He was principal trumpet of the orchestra and symphonic wind ensemble, and a rare student member of the GVSU Faculty Brass Quintet.

"Hunter was rarely seen without a trumpet in his hand and, more importantly, planted on his lips," said Stoelzel. "His work ethic is second to none. As a guest artists at the GVSU International Trumpet Seminar he inspired every student in attendance. I couldn't be more proud of his accomplishments."

Following graduation from Grand Valley, Eberly moved to Los Angeles to attend The Colburn School Conservatory of Music, where he studied with James Wilt, associate principal trumpet of the Los Angeles Philharmonic. He left Colburn in 2010, after winning the audition for principal trumpet of the Jacksonville (Fla.) Symphony Orchestra. Shortly after, he was awarded a

Professional Studies Certificate from Colburn. Eberly has also performed with the Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra, the Grand Rapids Symphony; the Shenzhen Symphony Orchestra (China) and the Antalya Symphony (Turkey).

Danny Phipps, professor and chair of Grand Valley's Department of Music said Eberly is the first Grand Valley graduate to hold a position as principal in a major U.S. orchestra. "We are all very proud of him," said Phipps. "This is a tremendous accomplishment for this young trumpet performer and without a doubt brings great credit on his teacher and our entire program."

For Immediate Release

March 5, 2013

Contact: Dottie Barnes, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

MEDIA NOTE: Audio and a photo of Long are available on Grand Valley's media FTP site. For instructions on how to access the site, follow this link: <http://qvsu.edu/s/aW>. Audio is also available at www.qvsu.edu/qvnow.

Current Business Trends: Nicely Up

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — The greater Grand Rapids industrial economy is “nicely up,” according to the results of a monthly survey compiled by Brian G. Long, director of Supply Management Research in the Seidman College of Business at Grand Valley State University.

The survey results are based on data collected during the last two weeks of February.

Both December and January were flat, but in February, things started to pick up. The survey's index of business improvement, called new orders, came in at +16, up from the dead flat +0 in January. The production index shot up to +21 from January's bearish -6. Activity in purchasing offices also turned back to positive at +12, up from -1. The employment index, which was already positive at +10, rose to +22.

“Looking at individual industrial groups, the auto parts suppliers remain positive, and some are busier due to production schedules being revised upward,” said Long. “Similar to last month, the capital equipment firms are still widely mixed, but some firms are reporting business to be picking up considerably. For industrial distributors, this month's bias was to the up side, with no firms reporting downticks. Finally, the office furniture firms are still holding their own, but the market shows signs of topping out or stabilizing at the current level.”

Long said states that have a big military presence may be affected by the “sequester” of \$40 billion, but for West Michigan, it will probably be unnoticed. “The next two stumbling blocks on the calendar are more substantial than the sequester,” said Long. “On March 27, the ‘continuing resolution,’ which has kept the government going since the last real budget was passed in 2009, comes due. Just like it did in late 1995, failure to act could shut down non-essential functions of the federal government. If we get past that crisis, the next fight will be the May 18 deadline over the debt ceiling.”

The Institute for Supply Management survey is a monthly survey of business conditions that includes 45 purchasing managers in the greater Grand Rapids area and 25 in Kalamazoo. The respondents are from the region's major industrial manufacturers, distributors and industrial service organizations. It is patterned after a nationwide survey conducted by the Institute for Supply Management. Each month, the respondents are asked to rate eight factors as “same,” “up” or “down.” An expanded version of this report and details of the methodology used to

compile it are available at www.gvsu.edu/scblogistics.

For more information, contact Brian Long at (269) 323-2359.

For more Grand Valley news, visit gvsu.edu/gvnow or follow us on Twitter: @GV_Now

For immediate release

March 5, 2013

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News & Information Services (616)-331-2221, or
pirkolam@gvsu.edu

GVSU April 2013 Arts Events

April 1, 8- 9:30 p.m.

GVSU Trombone Ensemble

Open to the public. Free admission. For more information, please call (616) 331-3484 or visit
www.gvsu.edu/music. [read more](#)

Location: Cook-DeWitt Center, GVSU Allendale Campus

April 2, 8 - 8:30 p.m.

GVSU Art Gallery Chamber Music Series

Art Gallery Chamber Music Series. Open to the public. Free Admission. [read more](#)

Location: Art Gallery, Performing Arts Center, GVSU Allendale Campus

April 5 & 6, 7:30-10 p.m.

April 7, 2-4:30 p.m.

Theatre at Grand Valley presents 'The Good Person of Setzuan'

To purchase tickets, \$6-\$12, call the GVSU Louis Armstrong Theatre box office at 616-331-2300.

For more information visit www.gvsu.edu/theatre. [read more](#)

Location: Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, GVSU Allendale Campus

April 6, 6-7:30 p.m.

GVSU Worlds Collide: Early Music Ensemble, New Music Ensemble, Chamber Orchestra

Open to the public. Free admission. For more information, please call (616) 331-3484 or visit
www.gvsu.edu/music. [read more](#)

Location: Dance Studio, 1600 Performing Arts Center, GVSU Allendale Campus

April 10, 12- 1 p.m.

Arts at Noon Series: GVSU Faculty String Trio

Open to the public. Free admission. For more information, please call (616) 331-3484 or visit
www.gvsu.edu/music. [read more](#)

Location: Cook-DeWitt Center, GVSU Allendale Campus

April 10, 8-9:30 p.m.

GVSU University Singers and Cantate Chamber Ensemble

Open to the public. Free admission. For more information, please call (616) 331-3484 or visit
www.gvsu.edu/music. [read more](#)

Location: Cook-DeWitt Center, GVSU Allendale Campus

For Immediate

March 7, 2013

Contact: Dottie Barnes, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

Nobel Laureate in Chemistry to speak at GVSU

ALLENDALE, Mich. — The 2009 Nobel Laureate in Chemistry, Ada Yonath, will be the speaker for the 2013 Arnold C. Ott Lectureship in Chemistry at Grand Valley State University on April 3.

Yonath is the director of the Helen and Milton A. Kimmelman Center for Biomolecular Structure and Assembly and a professor in the Department of Structural Biology at the Weizmann Institute of Science in Israel.

Yonath's speech, "The Amazing Ribosome and Its Tiny Enemies," will take place April 3 at 6 p.m. in Loosemore Auditorium at DeVos Center on the Pew Grand Rapids Campus.

He will also address students and faculty earlier in the day. The chemistry seminar, "A Prebiotic Bonding Apparatus is Still Functioning in the Contemporary Ribosomes," will take place at 1 p.m. in Manitou Hall on the Allendale Campus.

For more information, contact Felix Ngassa, associate professor of chemistry, at (616) 331-3803.

For Immediate Release

March 11, 2013

Contact: Leah (Zuber) Twilley or Dottie Barnes, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

Science Olympiad and First Robotics held together

ALLENDALE, Mich. — For the first time, Grand Valley State University will be hosting two of its most widely attended events — The 2013 Region 12 Michigan Science Olympiad and FIRST Robotics Competition — on the same day, Saturday, March 23.

Science Olympiad

This is Grand Valley's 29th year hosting the regional tournament that will bring middle and high school students from almost 70 schools in Kent and Ottawa counties together to show off their science and mathematics skills. The tournament consists of events in biology, chemistry, physics, earth science, computers and technology. The 2013 tournament is promoting the International Year of Statistics with scheduled statistical activities and a statistical scavenger hunt.

Michigan Science Olympiad Region 12 Tournament

Saturday, March 23

8:30-9 a.m. Opening ceremony

9:15 a.m.-3:05 p.m. Events

4:30-6 p.m. Awards ceremony

Kelly Family Sports Center/GVSU Allendale Campus

Public is invited to attend open events

For a complete schedule of Science Olympiad events and participating schools, visit www.gvsu.edu/mso-r12 or contact co-chairs Karen Meyers and Margo Dill at Grand Valley's Regional Math and Science Center at (616) 331-2267.

FIRST Robotics Competition

Nearly 1,000 students on 41 high school teams from across the state will gather at Grand Valley to compete in the For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology (FIRST) Robotics Competition. Teams had six weeks to design and build robots, which can weight up to 150 pounds, for the competition. FIRST Robotics helps students get hands-on experience solving real-world problems and discover the excitement and rewards of science and technology careers.

FIRST West Michigan District Competition

March 22-23

8 a.m.-6 p.m.

Fieldhouse Arena

Allendale Campus

The event is free and open to the public

The event is sponsored by the Padnos College of Engineering and Computing at Grand Valley. Complete information, including a detailed schedule and a list of teams, is available at www.firstinmichigan.org. The 2013 season includes an estimated 2,548 teams — nearly 51,000 high school students — participating in 58 regional and district events worldwide. FIRST was founded in 1989 to inspire an appreciation of science and technology in young people. Learn more at www.usfirst.org.

For immediate release

March 11, 2013

Contact: Michele Coffill, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

Media note: A headshot of Robinson is available on Grand Valley's media *FTP website*. To instructions on how to connect to the *FTP site* visit <http://gvsu.edu/s/aW>.

Robinson to give presentation at GVSU about transforming education

-- Event partners Meijer Lecture Series, Community Reading Project

ALLENDALE, Mich. – During a presentation at Grand Valley State University, Sir Ken Robinson, best-selling author, will discuss how passion and creativity can transform education.

Robinson's presentation on Wednesday, March 27, is part of the Frederik Meijer Lecture Series and will cap the university's yearlong Community Reading Project.

The CRP committee selected Robinson's book "The Element: How Finding Your Passion Changes Everything" as its eighth annual selection. More than 850 copies of the book were sold on campus, roughly 300 more were distributed by University Libraries via book kits and individual copies.

The book, a *New York Times* best-seller, draws on stories of celebrities like Paul McCartney, Meg Ryan, Broadway choreographer Gillian Lynne, business leaders, athletes and others to illustrate Robinson's point that when people arrive at "the element," they feel most inspired and achieve at their highest levels.

Robinson's presentation, "Leading a Culture of Innovation," will begin at 7 p.m. in the Fieldhouse on the Allendale Campus. It is free and open to the public; RSVP online at the Meijer Honors College website, www.gvsu.edu/honor, click on "Frederik Meijer Lecture Series." Doors to the Fieldhouse will open at 6 p.m.; parking will be available in lots C, F or G.

Robinson is a world-renowned leader in the development of education, creativity and innovation; he often consults with governments and Fortune500 companies. He played a central role in developing a strategy for economic development as part of the Northern Ireland peace process. Robinson served with other advisors to Singapore when that government developed a strategy to become the creative hub of Southeast Asia.

He received a knighthood from Queen Elizabeth II in 2003 for his service to the arts. Other accolades include the Peabody Medal for contributions to arts and culture in the United States, LEGO Prize for international achievement in education and the Benjamin Franklin Medal of the Royal Society of Arts for outstanding contributions to cultural relations between the U.S. and United Kingdom.

The Meijer Lecture Series was established to provide local and national presentations that focus on issues of leadership, innovation, and entrepreneurship from the perspective of students, faculty members, and thought-leaders in business throughout the region, state and nation. CRP is sponsored by the Brooks College of Interdisciplinary Studies with support from many university departments.

For Immediate Release

March 11, 2013

Contact: Leah Twilley, Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

Chad Lawie, LongerDays.com, chad@longerdays.com

GVSU-MAREC incubator tenant increases revenue, adds jobs

MUSKEGON, Mich. — A company that provides virtual assistant services has increased revenue by 112 percent since entering the business incubator program at Grand Valley State University's Michigan Alternative and Renewable Energy Center in 2012.

LongerDays.com, which moved into MAREC last July with 12 full-time employees, added 10 more positions throughout the year and plans to add 10 more positions in 2013. The company also plans to expand office space at MAREC to accommodate up to 32 employees. The company provides American-based outsourcing services such as Web design, copy writing and administrative support to more than 100 clients worldwide, including companies in Montreal, South Africa, Alaska, U.K. and Costa Rica.

Chad Lawie, a Muskegon native who founded the company in 2010, said the Michigan Small Business and Technology Development Center (MI-SBTDC), which is housed at Grand Valley, and MAREC staff members have worked closely with LongerDays.com to develop finance and business plans for the company. "Their assistance and advice has been invaluable over the last year, and their involvement with LongerDays.com has been instrumental to our continued success at MAREC," he said.

Joe Graczyk, incubator manager for MAREC, said LongerDays has an attractive business model and its staff is well equipped to provide new-economy services through technology. "Their success bodes well for others considering technology start-ups in the greater Muskegon area. Entrepreneurs like the LongerDays team can benefit from the many entrepreneurial services now offered locally by MAREC and other organizations," he said.

Lawie said he sees businesses of all sizes turning to employment centers such as LongerDays.com for their office staffing needs in years to come. "High speed Internet is changing the way we work," he said. "The days when people had to be in the same office to talk face-to-face are behind us. My goal is to make sure Muskegon becomes one of those centers of employment."

About LongerDays.com

LongerDays.com provides a unique, cloud-based staffing solution that allows businesses to hire a full-time virtual team for the cost of a single part-time employee. LongerDays.com employs more than 20 people who make up the virtual staff for more than 100 companies located around the world. LongerDays.com's core services include business and personal assistance, virtual reception, website development, graphic design and creative writing.

About MAREC Business and Technology Incubation Program

The MAREC incubation program supports the commercialization of innovative technology with both existing and new companies, and promotes the application and use of alternative, clean and renewable energy sources. MAREC has the community and institutional resources to create a successful, collaborative environment and achieve its vision of energy and technology development for a sustainable economy in West Michigan and beyond.

Learn more at www.gvsu.edu/marec or contact Joe Graczyk at (616) 331-6914 or graczykj@gvsu.edu.

March 12, 2013

For immediate release

Contacts: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News & Information Services (616) 331-2221

Sean O'Neill, Grand Valley professor of history (616) 331-3325

Michigan History Day regional contest to be held at Grand Valley

ALLENDALE, Mich. – More than 275 young students are headed to the Michigan History Day western regional contest at Grand Valley State University Saturday, March 16, from 9:30 a.m.- 1:30 p.m. at the Kirkhof Center, Allendale Campus.

The West Michigan area middle and high school students have performed self-directed research on an individually chosen topic and will present their work through the allied disciplines of art, literature, music, drama, and visual communications, in addition to writing. This year's contest, following the theme, "Turning Points in History: People, Ideas, Events," will include performances, presentations, interviews and questions from judges in two divisions: Junior (grades 6-8) and Senior (grades 9-12). There is also a noncompetitive Youth division for fourth and fifth graders who may come to the competition for judging.

Entrants present in one of five categories: individual paper, and individual or group exhibits, documentaries, websites and performances. Judges are faculty and graduates from Grand Valley's history department, local teachers and community historians. They will select the top three entries in each division and category, which will advance to the state contest, held at Saginaw Valley State University, on April 27.

It is the goal of the program to empower students with research skills, critical thinking skills and outlets for creative expression, which will enhance their academic abilities in all areas of study. Sponsors for the local event include Grand Valley State University College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the Department of History, The Historical Society of Michigan, The Michigan Council for History Education, Meijer, Amway, and The Richard and Helen DeVos Foundation.

For more information contact Sean O'Neill, Grand Valley professor of history, at (616) 331-3325. Teachers experienced at guiding students through the History Day program are listed opposite their schools; they would be good contacts for interviews.

Schools participating include:

Senior Category

Comstock Park High School, Karen Auwers
Forest Hills Eastern High School, Lea Sevigny
Holland High School, Mark Knopf
Holland New Tech High School, Ryan Harrell
Mas Adelante, Roberto Jara

Whitehall High School, Jan Klco and Robb Zoellmer
Montague High School, Jan Klco and Robb Zoellmer
Jenison High School, Abram Brosseit

Junior Category

Ada Christian Middle School, Henry Witte
Forest Hills Central Middle School, Paul Ten Eyck and Ann Hall
Forest Hills Eastern Middle School, James Cross, Adam McVicker and Lea Sevigny
Northern Middle School (Forest Hills), Mary Beth McMahon, Claudia Zuiderveen and Patrick Stecco

Holland Public Schools:

Holland Heights, Gary Vosburg and Ryan Harrell
Jefferson
East
West

Nellie B. Chisholm Middle School, David Vermeulen
Whitehall Middle School, Jan Klco and Robb Zoellmer
Grand Rapids Christian Middle School, Judith Rooy

Youth Category

Ealy Elementary School, Jan Klco and Robb Zoellmer

March 14, 2013

For immediate release

Contacts: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News & Information Services, (616) 331-2221
Shawn T Bible, GVSU Dance Program, bibles@gvsu.edu

MEDIA NOTE: A photo is available on Grand Valley's media FTP website. For questions on how to connect to the FTP site, visit <http://qvsu.edu/s/aW>.

Diverse performances in GVSU Dance Concert

ALLENDALE, MICH. – The Grand Valley State University Dance Ensemble Spring Concert will feature diverse music and student dancers during two performances, March 22-23, from 8-9:30 p.m. in the Louis Armstrong Theater, Performing Arts Center, on the Allendale Campus. Admission is free and open to the public.

A modern dance, "Yours and Mine" is set to the music of Shaker melodies, by Julie Blume, guest choreographer-in-residence and former principal dancer with modern dance Parsons Dance Company in New York City.

An original work, "College," is set by guest choreographer-in-residence Charles Askegard, artistic director of Ballet Next and former principal dancer with American Ballet Theatre and the New York City Ballet. He uses the experiences of the dancers as students as inspiration and set the piece to the music of Michael Nyman.

Dance faculty member Shawn T Bible set "We Walk. Camp. Walk" to the music of Olafur Arnalds. Inspiration for the piece is a response to the book "Pushing the Bear" by Diane Glancy and various other historical accounts related to the American tragedy of Trail of Tears. The cast features nine male dancers who represent the Cherokee men as they are led from their land.

For more information, please call the Department of Music and Dance, at (616) 331-3484.

For immediate release

March 18, 2013

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News & Information Services (616) 331-2221

A photo of Frances Renzi is available on Grand Valley's media FTP website. For questions on how to connect to the FTP site, visit <http://qvsu.edu/s/aW>

Grand Valley Baum Series presents piano concert

ALLENDALE, MICH. – Frances Renzi, an experienced teacher as well as performer, will be the featured pianist at Grand Valley State University for the William Baum Endowment Fund Series Sunday, March 24, from 3-4:30 p.m., Sherman Van Solkema Recital Hall, Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus. Renzi will also conduct a piano master class in the same location on Monday, March 25, from 11 a.m.-noon.

Professor Emerita at the University of Toledo, Renzi received a commendation from the Ohio Senate in 2000 honoring her outstanding university career of 27 years. She has appeared as soloist with many orchestras throughout North America, Taiwan, and China, giving recitals in Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall, on the Dame Myra Hess Memorial Concert Series in Chicago, and the Phillips Collection in Washington, D.C., the National Concert Hall in Taipei, and the China Conservatory in Beijing.

“Renzi has a way of making music come alive,” wrote Boris Nelson of the Toledo Blade. “Whether in recital, as orchestral soloist, or chamber musician, her artistry remains apparent. She consistently entralls critics and audiences alike.”

Both the concert and master class are open to the public with free admission. For more information, please call (616) 331-3484 or visit www.gvsu.edu/music.

This event is sponsored by the William C. Baum Endowment Fund, established in 1998 by Grand Valley educators William and Nancy Baum in support of their varied interests. A special speaker on issues in American law is featured during even numbered years, and a recital by a noted pianist on odd numbered years.

For immediate release

March 18, 2013

Contact: Michele Coffill, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

GVSU to host political workshop for women

ALLENDALE, Mich. – More women than ever were elected to U.S. Congress in 2012, yet Michigan lost three seats held by women in the state House of Representatives.

To help boost the number of women serving in local, state and national politics, Grand Valley State University's Women's Center will again host "Ready to Run Michigan," a bipartisan campaign training program designed to encourage women to run for office.

The workshop is set for April 20 on Grand Valley's Allendale Campus. Cost to attend is \$125; visit the website www.gvsu.edu/women_cen and click on the "Ready to Run Michigan" button to register or for more information. Call the center at (616) 331-2748 with questions.

The workshop will include sessions on campaign planning, fundraising, media training and messaging. Campaign professionals will lead trainings, and elected and appointed female politicians are scheduled to speak and provide insight.

The keynote speaker will be Rebecca Sive, author of "Every Day is Election Day: A Woman's Guide to Winning Any Office, From the PTA to the White House." The book recounts success stories, strategies and suggestions of women in politics and public affairs leadership positions. Sive, public affairs strategist, is a regular contributor to the *Huffington Post* on women, politics, culture and race.

Shannon M. Garrett, president of SMG Strategies, will also be among the presenters. A leading political trainer and campaign strategist, Garrett said Michigan politics needs women's voices "now more than ever."

"Research shows that female leaders tend to bring greater inclusiveness to decision making, have more empathy for those their decisions impact, and collaborate across party lines to find workable solutions," Garrett said. "These are exactly the traits we could use more of in Lansing, Washington, and in county and municipal bodies in Michigan."

Michigan ranks 36th in the nation in the number of women serving in state legislatures. There are four women senators (out of 38 seats) and 24 representatives (110 seats).

Ready to Run Michigan is supported with funding from Rutgers University Center for American Women and Politics, W.K. Kellogg Foundation, SMG Strategies, Meijer, ITC Holdings Corp., Michigan Democratic Party, Republican Women's Federation of Michigan, and the Michigan ACE Women's Network.

March 18, 2013

For immediate release

Contacts: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News & Information Services (616) 331-2221
Director Kiara Pipino, visiting assistant professor, pipinok@gvsu.edu, (616) 331-8076

MEDIA NOTE: Artwork is available on Grand Valley's media FTP website. For questions on how to connect to the FTP site, visit <http://gvsu.edu/s/aW>.

GVSU production of 'The Good Person of Setzuan' spotlights internal conflict

ALLENDALE, Mich. – A large and interesting cast of characters portrays the struggles between compassion and selfishness in the upcoming production of "The Good Person of Setzuan" at Grand Valley State University.

Theatre at Grand Valley will give five performances in the Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, on the Allendale Campus. Evening performances at 7:30 p.m. are planned for April 5-6 and April 12-13. A matinee is scheduled for 2 p.m., Sunday, April 7. Tickets, \$6 for students and seniors and \$12 for general public, are available at the LAT Box Office at (616) 331-2300.

Written by German playwright Bertolt Brecht, the play draws from Chinese folktales as it follows three fearsome gods searching Setzuan for one good person who will offer them a bed for the night. A young prostitute, Shen Te, takes them in and is rewarded with riches that allow her to leave her old life. When her desire to assist those less fortunate threatens her own survival, Shen Te takes on an alter ego by inventing a male cousin, Shui Ta, to keep the beggars in line.

"The original play, which premiered in 1943 when fascism was on the rise in Europe, focused very much on the political and economic conditions of the time," said director Kiara Pipino, a visiting assistant professor in the School of Communications. She said her focus is more on human nature, which is weak by definition, therefore, even when we mean well, things may turn out very differently.

Pipino, originally from Italy, received a master's degree from the University of Genoa, and an M.F.A. in theatre directing from the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, prior to coming to Grand Valley. In this production, rather than the masks used in many stagings of the play, she chooses to have actors use makeup, drawing on another typical device of Brechtian theatre.

"Brecht used masks as a way to alienate the characters from the audience – to make them aware that they were watching a show," said Pipino. "I want to pull the audience into the play, into the very real and emotional conflicts Shen Te experiences."

Pipino hopes the audience will also be drawn in by the music, performed by individual

characters, rather than an off-stage orchestra. "The music is familiar tunes, but the lyrics and interpretation are quite different," she said. Anime characters and a playful set design of very few large and dimensional pieces will be utilized in different ways throughout the play.

"This is a very sweet story, with moments of darkness, but also lightness," said Pipino. "I hope people will follow the story of Shen Te as she learns the limitations of her own goodness as she tries to make the world a better place."

The all-student cast includes several actors performing dual roles, including the lead character ShenTe/Shui Ta, performed by senior Rae Staffen. Other characters and cast members are:

Sun (The Pilot)	Jason Flannery (also Assistant Director)
Mrs. Yang	Caitlin Cusack
Wang the Waterseller	Matthew Fowler
Mrs. Shin	Bridgett Vanderhoof
The Landlady	Sarah Trycn
Shu Fu/Husband.....	Gregory Papas
Wife/Old Woman.....	Katie Tamayo
Grandfather/Man.....	Brandon Mitchell
Nephew/Waiter	Sean Kocaj
Policeman/Old Man	BascharUmran
Unemployed Man/Foreman/Brother	Justin Mackey

For Immediate Release

March 19, 2013

Contact: Dottie Barnes, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

GVSU professors help create state plan for Autism education

ALLENDALE, Mich. — The newly released Michigan Autism Spectrum Disorders Plan addresses the needs of the 16,000 students with ASD in the state's public school system and 50,000 individuals and their families living with ASD in Michigan.

The plan, released March 18 by the Department of Community Health and the Michigan Autism Council, focused on several key areas to support those with Autism including family involvement, education support, early identification and intervention and health care.

Amy Matthews, director of the Autism Education Center at Grand Valley State University, led the effort in creating the plan, overseeing two committees of 51 people from across the state. Jamie Owen-DeSchryver, project faculty on the Statewide Autism Resources and Training (START) project at Grand Valley, co-chaired the plan development committee.

"This new plan helps define the future direction of public and private services and resources for individuals with ASD and their families," Matthews said.

Data used to prepare the plan was gathered from a variety of sources including literature reviews, published reports and recommendations, parent and professional surveys, public input and expert opinion.

"The number of children diagnosed with ASD is continuing to rise dramatically and it is essential that these children receive the best education, health care, and interventions possible," said Matthews. "We also have adolescents in the state who are preparing to transition to adulthood and need access to employment, college, social connections, and a range of housing options. Adults on the autism spectrum need to have the rights and privileges afforded all Michigan citizens. That is why we created this state plan."

To view the Michigan ASD State Plan, visit www.michigan.gov/autism. For more information on Grand Valley's Autism Education Center visit www.gvsu.edu/autismcenter.

Contact Amy Matthews at (616) 331-3513.

For Immediate Release

March 20, 2013

Contact: Dottie Barnes, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

MEDIA NOTE: A ticket is required for the public to attend the event. Media coverage is encouraged; Robinson will be available for media interviews from 8:45-9 a.m. Video will be allowed for only the first three minutes of his presentation.

“The Element” author is featured Seidman breakfast speaker

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — The best-selling author of “The Element: How Finding Your Passion Changes Everything” is the featured speaker for the Seidman Alumni Association Breakfast Series at Grand Valley State University on March 27.

Sir Ken Robinson is an internationally recognized leader in the development of education, creativity and innovation and consults with governments and Fortune 500 companies. He played a central role in developing a strategy for economic development as part of the Northern Ireland peace process and served with other advisors to Singapore when that government developed a strategy to become the creative hub of Southeast Asia.

Robinson has received many honors including the Peabody Medal for contributions to arts and culture in the United States, LEGO Prize for international achievement in education and the Benjamin Franklin Medal of the Royal Society of Arts for outstanding contributions to cultural relations between the U.S. and United Kingdom.

Sir Ken Robinson

March 27

8:15 a.m. breakfast

9 a.m.-11 a.m. presentation

Loosemore Auditorium

Grand Valley’s Pew Grand Rapids Campus

The breakfast event is sponsored by the Seidman College of Business Alumni Association and the Business Ethics Center.

Robinson will also give a presentation to the general public on “Leading A Culture of Innovation” at the Fieldhouse Arena on Grand Valley’s Allendale Campus at 7 p.m. as part of the Frederik Meijer Lecture Series and Community Reading Project.

For more information, contact Grand Valley’s Seidman College of Business at (616) 331-7100

For immediate release

March 21, 2013

Contact: Michele Coffill, GVSU News and Information Services, (616)
331-2221

Area film festival highlights Latin America

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. – Grand Valley State University joins other area colleges and universities to present the fourth annual Grand Rapids Latin American Film Festival.

Events kick off April 4 with a screening of "Abel," a Mexican film, at Celebration Cinema North in Grand Rapids.

Films continue April 5-7 at Wealthy Theatre in Grand Rapids. The festival is free and open to the public; view the films and more information online at www.grlaff.org. The festival will include screenings of 14 films that focus on a wide range of contemporary subjects. Directors of two films will give a presentation on April 6 at the theater at 7 p.m.

The festival is also sponsored by Aquinas College, Calvin College, Davenport University and Ferris State University. Other sponsors include the Mexican Consulate in Detroit, and Chicago consulate offices of Argentina, Venezuela and Brazil.

For more information, contact Zulema Moret, GVSU Latin American Studies, at (616) 331-2286 or moretz@gvsu.edu.

For Immediate Release

March 21, 2013

Contact: Dottie Barnes, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

Entrepreneurs compete for \$10,000 prize

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — It will be much like the TV show “Shark Tank” when area students pitch their best business plans in front of area experts. The next generation of entrepreneurs will put their ideas to the test, competing for \$10,000 in cash prizes at Grand Valley State University’s fifth annual Business Plan Competition.

The competition gives entrepreneurial students the chance to think through business opportunities that interest them, prepare a business plan around those ideas, and learn the fine art of pitching ideas to investors. The competition will showcase a variety of business plans which are ready for launch.

The event, sponsored by Seidman College of Business’ Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation, will take place on March 25. Nine students will present their business plans. Contestants have 10 minutes to pitch their business model, and what it will take to get their business up-and-running.

GVSU Business Plan Competition

March 25

6 p.m.

Loosemore Auditorium

Pew Grand Rapids Campus

The event is free and open to the public

The judging panel includes:

- Erik Hall, founder of Lee Shore Ventures
- Jeff Royce, executive director of West Michigan SmartZone
- Laura Vaughn, founder of Sitting In A Tree
- Mike Marsiglia, vice president of Atomic Object
- Miles Smith, president of the Collegiate Entrepreneurs Organization

The audience will have the opportunity to participate in the judging process through the Buzz Award which utilizes social media to encourage fans to be engaged and vote for their favorite team. The winner of the competition will move on to the regional competition at Grand Valley on April 9.

Students pitching their ideas are:

- Eric Dudek “On-The-Go RFID”
- Jason Sissing “Twist-Top”

- Credell Jackson "IDEA Marketing & Promotions"
- Jeff Johnson "SolarBOX"
- Tyler D. Petersen "Tie Medical Supplies"
- Ulandra Reynolds "All Things Weaved"
- Tyler Richardson "BioInteract"
- Austin Dean "Collective Metrics"

For more information contact Grand Valley's Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation at (616) 331-7582.

For Immediate Release
March 21, 2013

Contact: Leah Twilley, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221
Bart Bartels, GVSU Sustainable Community Development Initiative, (616) 331-7366

NOTE: Photos of sustainable practices and activities at Grand Valley are available on the university's FTP media site; visit <http://gvsu.edu/s/aW> to learn how to access the site.

GVSU among top institutions in country for sustainable practices

ALLENDALE, Mich. — Grand Valley State University became the only university in the state and one of 45 in the country to receive gold status after completing a sustainability program developed by the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE).

The Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and Rating System (STARS) is designed to help gauge the progress of colleges and universities toward sustainability in all sectors. Grand Valley joins universities such as Arizona State, Stanford and Cornell as a gold STARS institution. Of the 241 schools that received a ranking nationwide, Grand Valley's average score was higher than the national score. The assessment included 1,000 questions and compared campus operations from 2005-2012. STARS includes four categories: education and research, operations, innovation and planning, and administration and engagement.

This is the second time Grand Valley has participated in the STARS program. In 2011, the university received silver status and in 2008, Grand Valley was selected as one of 90 universities in the U.S. to participate in the pilot phase of the STARS rating system.

Bart Bartels, campus sustainability manager for the Sustainable Community Development Initiative, said Grand Valley's scores went up in most categories, especially in areas of operations, innovation and planning. The university also scored well in the sub-categories of interdisciplinary research, environment, and diversity and affordability.

Since the last STARS submission, the university has made improvements in areas of composting and recycling, and has added educational and innovative programs such as a student-led Green Team and Eco Reps program, and the Sustainable Ambassador Program for offices and departments. The university also made the transition from organizing a sustainability week to a yearlong campus celebration and expanded the Sustainable Agriculture Project. Additional efforts include installing several electric vehicle charging stations on campus, purchasing more locally grown produce, increasing the use of virtual meeting platforms such as ooVoo, and introducing a bike- and car-sharing program.

"We've gone from sustainability being a strategy to a value of the university," said Grand Valley

President Thomas J. Haas. "It takes hard work and collaboration to achieve this accomplishment, and it's a great statement in showing how we're making a difference in the community."

The rating system includes bronze, silver, gold and platinum statuses, but no institution has reached platinum status, said Bartels. "We hope to get there in the next few years," he said.

The full report can be viewed by searching "Grand Valley" at www.stars.aashe.org/institutions. Watch a video about sustainability at Grand Valley at <http://youtu.be/hReYULfUoTM>.

March 26, 2013
For immediate release

Contacts: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News & Information Services, (616) 331-2221
Kaufman Interfaith Institute at GVSU, (616) 331-5702

Photo of Padma Kuppā is available on Grand Valley's media FTP website. For questions on how to connect to the FTP site, visit <http://qvsu.edu/s/aW>

Lecture to address religious freedom

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — An interfaith activist from the Detroit area will explore how the common concept of religious freedom fails to embrace the right to freedom from religious intrusion and exploitation, during a presentation as the 2013 Rabbi Philip Sigal Memorial Lecture, at Grand Valley State University.

“Religious Freedom, Predatory Proselytism & The Case for Pluralism,” is the title of the lecture to be presented by Padma Kuppā, Monday, April 8, at 7 p.m. in Loosemore Auditorium, DeVos Center, on the Pew Grand Rapids Campus, 301 Fulton Street West.

“Predatory proselytism” is a term used to describe various unethical methods used in the attempt to gain converts. Kuppā will make a case for pluralism, and discuss how the existence of groups with different ethnic, religious, or political backgrounds within one society can work only if they respect others’ beliefs and practices.

Padma is an IT professional in the U.S. automotive industry and a columnist for Patheos.com. She focuses on interreligious cooperation as an executive council member of the Hindu American Foundation. She is also active in her own community, the Bharatriya Temple, in suburban Troy.

This event is sponsored by the Interfaith Dialogue Association and the Kaufman Interfaith Institute at Grand Valley. It is open to the public with free admission. For more information call (616) 331-5702.

March 26, 2013
For immediate release

Contacts: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News & Information Services, (616) 331-2221
Hsiao-Ping Chen, assistant professor of art education, (616) 331-3187

Media note: A photo of Melanie Buffington is available on Grand Valley's media FTP website. For questions on how to connect to the FTP site, visit <http://qvsu.edu/s/aW>.

Grand Valley guest lecturer to discuss 'The Many Faces of Public Art'

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. -- The Grand Valley State University Art Education Program and Department of Art and Design will present a guest lecture to address the various functions of public art and how it can connect to art education.

Melanie Buffington, associate professor of art education at Virginia Commonwealth University, will present a free public lecture Thursday, March 28, 6:30 p.m. at the Urban Institute for Contemporary Arts, Theatre Space, 2 Fulton West, Grand Rapids. "The Many Faces of Public Art" will investigate a range of public art forms, including traditional monuments, contemporary memorials, political works, graffiti, community-based public works, among others.

Buffington was previously a seventh grade art teacher in Maryland. She received doctorate and master's degrees from Ohio State University and a bachelor's degree from The Pennsylvania State University. In her teaching, she strives to use student-centered techniques and create classroom communities that foster democratic learning. She actively participates in state, national, and international professional organizations.

Buffington's research interests include technology, museum education, multiculturalism, feminism, service-learning, contemporary art, public art, and teacher preparation. She has published work in several academic journals and has received grants to support such projects as podcasting with the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts and a research book co-written and edited with Sara Wilson McKay.

In conjunction with her evening lecture, Buffington will also present a free art workshop from 9-11 a.m. at the Grand Valley State University Calder Art Center, room 1201, Allendale Campus. To register for the free morning workshop, please RSVP to Hsiao-ping Chen at chenh@gvsu.edu.

Both the workshop and lecture are free and open to the public. For more information, contact Hsiao-Ping Chen, assistant professor of art education, at (616) 331-3187.

MEDIA NOTE

April 1, 2013

Contact: Nate Hoekstra, Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221,
hoekstna@gvsu.edu

First lady Laura Bush to attend 'First Ladies' event

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — First lady Laura Bush will be a special guest, along with Susan Ford Bales and Steve Ford, at an event that will highlight the influence and role of first ladies in the United States.

"America's First Ladies: An Enduring Legacy" will be hosted by the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation. Grand Valley State University's Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies is a sponsor of the event.

Although first ladies are not elected officials, their influence, convening authority, high visibility, and 'soft power' provide them with a unique platform. They use their voices to support issues they care about. The evolving role and influence of first ladies is a fascinating topic, yet much of their duties remain mysterious to the public.

Special guests will be joined at the event by several panelists:

- Allida Black, executive director, 4freedoms Digital Initiative; founder, Eleanor Roosevelt Papers Project
- Richard Norton Smith, historian and author; moderator and panelist
- Myra Gutin, professor at Lynn University; author of *The Presidential Companion: Readings on the First Ladies and Laura Bush: The Report to the First Lady*
- David S. Ferriero, archivist of the United States

"America's First Ladies: An Enduring Legacy"

April 8, noon-1:30 p.m.

J.W. Marriott Hotel, International Ballroom
235 Louis Campau St. NW, Grand Rapids

Registration for the event is closed, but media are encouraged to attend. A luncheon before the event will be hosted by Maria DeVos and Liesel Meijer.

For more information, visit hauensteincenter.org or call (616) 331-2770.

For Immediate Release

April 1, 2013

Contact: Leah Twilley, Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

Grand Valley State to celebrate new graduates

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — More than 2,500 Grand Valley State University students will participate in commencement ceremonies April 27 at Van Andel Arena. Students will hear addresses from the governor of Michigan and the leader of a top economic growth organization.

Gov. Rick Snyder will address morning graduates, and Doug Rothwell, president and CEO of Business Leaders for Michigan, will speak in the afternoon.

Grand Valley Commencement Ceremonies

Saturday, April 27, 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Van Andel Arena, downtown Grand Rapids

The ceremony will live stream at www.gvsu.edu/commencement

***MEDIA NOTE:** Skybox 101B is reserved for media. The box offers a mult box and an elevated, unobstructed view of the podium and platform. For more information, contact Grand Valley News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221.*

The 10 a.m. ceremony will 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. The 3 p.m. ceremony includes graduates of the College of Education, Brooks College of Interdisciplinary Studies and College of Liberal Arts & Sciences.

Speakers

Before becoming governor in 2011, Snyder served as CEO of the computer company Gateway and founded a venture capital company and an investment firm. He earned a bachelor's degree, master's of business administration and a law degree from the University of Michigan. Snyder has traveled to Europe and Asia on trade missions and research and development opportunities associated with Michigan universities.

Rothwell, recognized nationally for helping promote economic growth, hopes to make Michigan a Top 10 state for economic growth. He founded Business Leaders for Michigan and the Michigan Economic Development Corporation, which have become two of the most prominent organizations driving the state's economy. He earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Delaware, a master's of public administration from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and completed the John F. Kennedy School's Program for Senior Executives in State and Local Government at Harvard University.

Awards and honorary degrees

During the ceremony, the Alumni Association will present two awards. Arthur Campbell, professor of music, will receive the Outstanding Educator Award; and Laurie Beard, a 1981 Grand Valley graduate and current president and CEO of Founders Bank & Trust, will receive the Distinguished Alumni Award.

Hubert Massey and Patricia L. Birkholz will receive honorary degrees. Massey, who graduated from Grand Valley in 1981 with a degree in art, has work featured on campus and in Detroit. Most recently, he worked with students from a Grand Valley-chartered school in Detroit to create a bus-sized mural that will be exhibited at the new L. William Seidman Center. Birkholz, a former state representative and senator and current director of the Michigan League of Conservation Voters, is well-known for her commitment to fresh water and natural resources. As a senator, she authored the Great Lakes Compact, which seeks to safeguard the future health of the Great Lakes.

Notable students

Twin sisters, Alexandra and Chelsea DeNio, will attend the morning ceremony, and will sit near a sign language interpreter so their older sister Lauren, who is deaf and mildly disabled, can watch them receive their diplomas. The twin sisters, from Clarkston, were adopted from Poland. Alexandra gave one of her kidneys to Lauren last year, which saved her life because Lauren was a high-risk transplant patient.

"When my family found out that Lauren needed a kidney transplant, I wanted to do anything I could to help her," said Alexandra. "Since Chelsea and I are adopted from Poland, I think it is truly a miracle that I was even a match."

Alexandra and Chelsea are available for interviews. Alexandra will graduate with a degree in psychology and can be reached at 248-701-2972 or denioa@mail.gvsu.edu. Chelsea will graduate with a degree in social work and can be reached at 248-701-2971 or denioc@mail.gvsu.edu.

For Immediate Release

April 2, 2013

Contact: Nate Hoekstra, Grand Valley News and Information Services, hoekstna@gvsu.edu, (616) 331-2221

MEDIA-GVSU, Notre Dame researchers to study pollutant transfer by migrating salmon

MUSKEGON, Mich. — Two Grand Valley State University researchers, who have studied accumulation of contaminants in non-native salmon in the Great Lakes and tributary watersheds, are beginning a new research project with a team from the University of Notre Dame to see if variables in watershed landscapes impact contaminant levels in stream resident fish.

Rick Rediske, professor of water resources at Grand Valley's Annis Water Resources Institute (AWRI) in Muskegon, said the purpose of the study is to find environmental factors that have an impact on how much contamination, including PCBs, PBDEs, and DDE, is transferred to stream resident fish in areas where salmon spawn compared to areas where their access is restricted.

"Conservation of native fish communities in Great Lakes tributaries is extremely important," Rediske said. "We hope to learn how to predict how different watershed environments impact how much contamination from spawning salmon is being taken in by native fish."

Rediske said the research is important to help give scientists and fishery managers an idea of the impact removing barriers in certain waterways might have on the native fish population, as well as a better understanding of the impact the spawning non-native fish have.

Much of the research will take place on Brook and Brown trout streams where dam and barrier removal could allow salmon further upstream. Researchers will take samples from 15 different sites, and will include different landscape variables and watersheds. Rediske said the research team hopes to develop a mathematical process that will predict changes to the watershed landscape on the resident fish.

The research will be funded by a two-year grant from the Great Lakes Fishery Trust. James O'Keefe, research associate at AWRI will conduct the contaminant analyses. Rediske and O'Keefe will work with a research team from the University of Notre Dame on the project.

For more information, visit gvsu.edu/wri.

For Immediate Release

April 2, 2013

Contact: Dottie Barnes, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

“Grounds for Groundswell” fundraiser

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Specialized coffee roasts, along with desserts, appetizers and the sounds of jazz, will be featured at a fundraising event for the Groundswell initiative April 11 at the Grand Rapids Art Museum.

Proceeds from “Grounds for Groundswell” will support the Groundswell program, which is made up of a network of local organizations and housed at the Grand Valley State University College of Education. Groundswell provides educational opportunities for students and teachers in Kent County by training teachers and providing funds for classrooms to participate in environmental service-learning projects.

Groundswell currently serves 15 schools and 1,200 students through 50 community partnerships. Teachers and students will share their environmental stewardship projects at the event. WGVSU’s Shelley Irwin will serve as emcee.

Grounds for Groundswell

April 11

5:30-8 p.m.

Grand Rapids Art Museum

The event will feature coffee from Madcap Coffee Company and music from the Roger MacNaughton Quartet with jazz vocalist Kathy LaMar. Tickets are \$35 until April 5 and \$45 at the door. Tickets can be purchased at groundswellmi.org.

The event is supported by the Kent Intermediate School District and the Great Lakes Stewardship Initiative.

For more information contact Colleen Bourque, Groundswell coordinator, at (616) 331-6240.

April 2, 2013

For immediate release

Contacts: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News & Information Services (616) 331-2221
Caitlin Horrocks, assistant professor in the Writing Department (616) 331-8022

MEDIA NOTE: Photos are available on Grand Valley's media FTP website. For instructions on how to connect to the FTP site, visit <http://qvsu.edu/s/aW>

GVSU Writers Series: First Books Festival

ALLENDALE, Mich. -- Three writers from diverse backgrounds, who work in a variety of genres, will be featured at the Grand Valley State University Writers Series: First Books Festival, on the Allendale Campus.

Poet Glenn Shaheen, novelist V.V. Ganeshanathan, and short story writer Amina Gautier will give presentations throughout the day, Thursday, April 11. All events are open to the public with free admission.

A panel discussion about publishing is planned from 2:30-3:30 p.m. in Kirkhof Center, room 2215/2216. All three writers will give a reading, beginning at 7:30 p.m., in Kirkhof Center, room 2215/2216. Throughout the afternoon, each writer will participate in individual Q & As from 4-5:15 p.m. These are primarily class visits, but open to the public:

Glenn Shaheen visits Writing 320, Lake Superior Hall, room 136

Amina Gautier visits Writing 430, Au Sable Hall, room 1136

V. V. Ganeshanathan visits Writing 430, Niemeyer Honors Hall, room 220

Shaheen received an MFA in Creative Writing from the University of Houston. He was born in Halifax, Nova Scotia, and currently lives in Michigan, where he edits the journal *NANO Fiction* and is the poetry editor for *Third Coast*. His book of poems, *Predatory*, won the Agnes Lynch Starrett Prize, and is available from the University of Pittsburgh Press. His work has appeared in *Ploughshares*, *The New Republic*, *Subtropics*, and elsewhere. He currently serves on the board of directors for the Radius of Arab-American Writers, Inc.

Gautier is the winner of the Flannery O'Connor Award for Short Fiction for her short story collection *At-Risk*. Born and raised in Brooklyn, New York, and currently living in Chicago, Gautier is an assistant professor of English at DePaul University, teaching courses in creative writing and African American literature. More than 70 of her short stories have been published, and her fiction appears in the anthologies *Best African American Fiction* and *New Stories from the South*, and in numerous literary journals including *Antioch Review*, *North American Review* and *Iowa Review*. Gautier is the recipient of the William Richey Prize, the Jack Dyer Prize, and the Danahy Fiction Prize, among others. She has received fellowships and scholarships from

Bread Loaf Writer's Conference, Sewanee Writer's Conference, and others.

Ganeshananthan, a fiction writer and journalist, is a graduate of Harvard College, the Iowa Writers' Workshop, and Columbia University's Graduate School of Journalism. A former vice president of the South Asian Journalists Association, she currently serves on the board of the Asian American Writers' Workshop and on the graduate board of *The Harvard Crimson*. She teaches at the University of Michigan, where she is the Zell Visiting Professor of Creative Writing. Random House published her first novel, *Love Marriage*, in April 2008. The book was longlisted for the Orange Prize and named one of Washington Post Book World's Best of 2008, as well as a Barnes & Noble Discover Great New Writers Pick. Her work has appeared in *Granta*, *The Atlantic Monthly*, *The Washington Post*, and *Columbia Journalism Review*, among others.

For more information about the GVSU Writers Series contact Caitlin Horrocks, assistant professor in the Writing Department at (616) 331-8022, or horrockc@gvsu.edu.

For Immediate Release

April 4, 2013

Contact: Dottie Barnes, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

GVSU signs two more reverse transfer agreements

ALLENDALE, Mich. — Grand Valley State University has signed transfer agreements with Alpena Community College and Mid Michigan Community College.

The agreements help students who transfer to Grand Valley complete an associate's degree at the community colleges.

The initiative applies to Alpena Community College students who have completed at least 45 credits at ACC, but transferred before earning an associate's degree. It also applies to Mid Michigan Community College students who have completed at least 15 credits at MMCC.

Grand Valley has similar transfer agreements with Grand Rapids Community College, Muskegon Community College, West Shore Community College, Montcalm Community College, Lansing Community College, Macomb Community College, and Northwestern Michigan College.

For Immediate Release

April 4, 2013

Contact: Dottie Barnes, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

MEDIA NOTE: Media Tour of GVSU Seidman Center

The new L. William Seidman Center at Grand Valley State University will open for spring classes May 6.

A media tour of the finished building will take April 26 from 3-4 p.m. The tour will be hosted by John Reifel, interim dean of Grand Valley's Seidman College of Business, and Bob Brown, project manager.

L. William Seidman Center Media Tour

Friday, April 26

3 p.m. report to Pioneer Construction Trailer on site

Near corner of Front and Watson, downtown Grand Rapids

****Please RSVP to barnesdo@gvsu.edu**

The center is named for Bill Seidman, founding chair of Grand Valley's Board of Trustees and former FDIC chair. The center will support the Seidman College of Business' growing reputation as one of the premier business schools in the Midwest. It will house the state headquarters and regional office of the Small Business and Technology Development Center, the Van Andel Global Trade Center, the Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation and the Center for Leadership and Innovation.

The center features a state-of-the-art financial markets trading room, 15 break-out team rooms for student interaction, case rooms, innovative cluster classrooms, a board room, a green roof, a study lounge and food services.

Construction of the Seidman Center is a major investment in the downtown Grand Rapids area, totaling more than \$40 million in land acquisition, site preparation, construction and infrastructure improvement costs. In its 40-year history, the Seidman College of Business has grown from 145 students to more than 3,000.

The building will be Grand Valley's 16th LEED-certified building.

For more information, contact Dottie Barnes, Grand Valley News and Information Services, at (616) 331-2221.

For Immediate Release

April 5, 2013

Contact: Dottie Barnes, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

GVSU grad students take second in case writing competition

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Three MBA students and a professor from Grand Valley State University took second place and won \$2,500 in the 2013 NextBillion Case Writing Competition.

The competition recognizes and publishes the best written case studies about business strategies aimed at alleviating poverty, especially in developing countries. The competition attracted more than 150 people entering individually or as part of a team, representing more than 50 universities and 11 countries.

The Grand Valley team consisted of Paul Mudde, associate professor of management, and three Seidman College of Business MBA students, Eric Grossnickle, Doug Huesdash and Yvette Iyiguhaye. The team's case, "Hydrad: Safe Water for the Base of the Pyramid," has been published on GlobalLens.com.

A celebration lunch will be held April 26 at noon on the second floor of the Gordon Gallery in the DeVos Center on Grand Valley's Pew Grand Rapids Campus.

Below is the case summary from the competition:

"Triple Quest, a joint venture between a manufacturing company and a private investment company, is experimenting with a number of different business models to distribute its proprietary Hydrad® water filtration system. Although they have used both non-profit and for-profit business models, the company's preference would be to develop a for-profit model that would support entrepreneurial activity within the base of the pyramid (BoP) markets. The case discusses the worldwide water crisis and the international organizations involved in addressing this crisis. The case narrows its focus to examine the conditions in Ghana, both in terms of the need for clean water and the entrepreneurial environment."

The competition is sponsored by the Citi Foundation and administered by GlobalLens, a case publishing division of the William Davidson Institute at the University of Michigan. The aim of the competition is to increase the number of academic case studies focused on business approaches to economic and social development.

For more information contact Paul Mudde in the Seidman College of Business, at (616) 331-7100.

For Immediate Release

April 5, 2013

Contact: Dottie Barnes, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

MEDIA NOTE: Audio and a photo of Long are available on Grand Valley's media FTP site. For instructions on how to access the site, follow this link: <http://qvsu.edu/s/aW>. Audio is also available at www.qvsu.edu/qvnow.

Current Business Trends: Continuing to Advance

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — The greater Grand Rapids industrial economy is “up a little more,” according to the results of a monthly survey compiled by Brian G. Long, director of Supply Management Research in the Seidman College of Business at Grand Valley State University.

The survey results are based on data collected during the last two weeks of March.

The survey's index of business improvement, called new orders, came in at +23, up from February's +16 and up considerably from the +0 reported in January. The production index came in at +22, up slightly from +21. The employment index rose to +26, from +22.

“The auto parts suppliers are still underwriting the strength of the Michigan economy,” said Long. “The production schedules continue to be revised upward for some particular lines of cars and trucks, which generates optimism among local firms. The capital equipment firms are still widely mixed, but this month's bias is clearly to the up side. The office furniture firms are still positive, but the market shows signs of topping out or stabilizing at the current level. An improvement in the office rental market would help to boost sales.”

Long said in early May, the debt ceiling will be reached and there will again be the possibility of a government shutdown. He also said it will take many more years before the unemployment rate returns to 5 percent, given that some economists are now suggesting 5 percent is the new norm. “Not that many years ago, 5 percent unemployment was considered to be characteristic of a recession,” Long said.

The Institute for Supply Management survey is a monthly survey of business conditions that includes 45 purchasing managers in the greater Grand Rapids area and 25 in Kalamazoo. The respondents are from the region's major industrial manufacturers, distributors and industrial service organizations. It is patterned after a nationwide survey conducted by the Institute for Supply Management. Each month, the respondents are asked to rate eight factors as “same,” “up” or “down.” An expanded version of this report and details of the methodology used to compile it are available at www.gvsu.edu/scblogistics.

For more information, contact Brian Long at (269) 323-2359.

For Immediate Release

April 8, 2013

Contact: Dottie Barnes, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

28th World Trade Week business conference

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Michigan's global exports have ranked the state in the top 10 nationwide, and local businesses are discovering strong sales opportunities around the world.

"World Trade Week West Michigan Business Conference 2013 — Managing Your Global Risk" will be held May 8 at Grand Valley State University, in partnership with international business leaders supporting the West Michigan community. The conference features experts who will talk about strategies, opportunities and resources available to help businesses increase international sales.

Keynote speaker Todd Wandtke, vice president of central region marketing for UPS, will talk about "Supply Chain Management: Benefits of Going Global," from 11:40 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Wandtke has been with UPS for more than 18 years and oversees growth and marketing strategies across six districts and 17 states.

World Trade Week West Michigan Business Conference

Wednesday, May 8

1-5:30 p.m.

Eberhard Center

GVSU's Pew Grand Rapids Campus, 301 W. Fulton St.

Three panel discussions will be held: "Managing Your Legal Risks with Agent & Distributor Contracts," "Know Before You Go: Successful Michigan Exporters," and "Evaluating Emerging Markets: India, Philippines, Turkey and Vietnam."

Advance registration is \$100 by April 26; and \$125 after April 26. For more information or to register, visit www.worldtradeweekmi.org, or call the U.S. Export Assistance Center at (616) 458-3564 or Grand Valley's Van Andel Global Trade Center at (616) 331-6811.

For more Grand Valley News visit www.gvsu.edu/gvnow or follow us on Twitter: @GV_Now.

April 9, 2013

For immediate release

Contacts: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News & Information Services (616) 331-2221

Media invited to Student Sneak Peek of Grand Valley State University's new Mary Idema Pew Library Learning and Information Commons

Media are invited to attend the April 17 Student Sneak Peek of the new Mary Idema Pew Library Learning and Information Commons, currently under construction on the Grand Valley State University Allendale Campus. Construction will be completed this summer; a Community Open House is planned for September 7.

*Mary Idema Pew Library Learning and Information Commons
Student Sneak Peek
Wednesday, April 17, 4-6 p.m.*

Media should report to Kirkhof Center by 3:30 p.m.

A brief Q & A for media will be held promptly at 3:45 in the library

Please note this is a very tight timeline and setting due to construction in progress.

News & Information Services staff will greet media in the Kirkhof Center near the coffee kiosk and at 3:30 escort you to the library Q & A location. Lee Van Orsdel, dean of Grand Valley's University Libraries; and James Moyer, associate vice president for Facilities Planning will be available from 3:45-4 p.m. only. Media will then have an opportunity to participate in the brief walk-through library tour of select areas, and record reactions from students afterward in the Kirkhof Center.

The new facility is named after Mary Idema Pew, who was a trailblazer with a lifelong passion for education. Her late husband, Robert C. Pew, one of Grand Valley's founders and an early Board of Trustees member, generously provided the lead gift that was the catalyst for this \$65 million project. Their daughter Kate Pew Wolters currently serves on Grand Valley's Board of Trustees. More than 1,400 donors, including community members, corporations, foundations, alumni, faculty, staff, and students and their families, helped to raise more than \$20 million for the new library.

The Zumberge Library was built in the 1960s for 5,000 students; today Grand Valley serves nearly 25,000 students. The Mary Idema Pew Library will have triple the seating capacity, provide space for 150,000 books on open shelves and 600,000 library items in an automated retrieval system, and places for quiet study as well as a wide variety of venues for group collaboration.

The Mary Idema Pew Library is a prototype for 21st century learning, with a Knowledge Market to provide students access to experts in research, technology, writing and presentation

development that will give graduates a tangible advantage in the workforce and in their contribution as leaders in their communities.

The design and construction team selected for this project includes SHW Group, architects; FTC&H, civil engineering; and Pioneer Construction. The building is seeking the highest level LEED certification, having been designed and constructed to use half the energy of a similar building using traditional methods.

For more information, contact Grand Valley News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221.

For Immediate Release

April 10, 2013

Contact: Dottie Barnes, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

Domino's exec is Secchia breakfast speaker

GRAND RAPIDS, MICH. — A Grand Valley State University alumnus is the mastermind behind the pizza recipe change at Domino's Pizza.

Brandon Solano, vice president of franchise development at Domino's Pizza, received his bachelor's degree in public relations from Grand Valley in 1994. He is the featured speaker for the Peter F. Secchia Breakfast Lecture April 16, hosted by Grand Valley's Seidman College of Business.

Solano's presentation is called "A Smart Risk: Domino's Pizza Turn Around." He joined Domino's Pizza in 2008 as vice president of innovation. His previous employers include Coca-Cola, Kellogg, Procter & Gamble, and Hershey's.

Brandon Solano

Tuesday, April 16

7:30 a.m. breakfast

8 a.m. presentation

Loosemore Auditorium, Pew Grand Rapids Campus

The event is free and open to the public

For more information or to RSVP, contact the Seidman College of Business at (616) 331-7100.

For Immediate Release

April 10, 2013

Contact: Leah Twilley, Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

GVSU Rowing to dedicate new boat for student who died

-- Ceremony is set for April 12

SPRING LAKE, Mich. — The Rowing Club at Grand Valley State University will dedicate their newest boat after Rachel Ring, a student who died in an automobile accident in September 2011. A ceremony will be held April 12.

Ring joined the Grand Valley women's novice rowing team during her first semester at Grand Valley in the fall of 2011. Her family donated funds for the boat that will be named the "Rachel Ring, 1991-2011."

Dedication Ceremony

April 12

6 p.m.

Spring Lake Yacht Club

Ring's family will unveil the boat, and team members, coaches, and Grand Valley administrators, including Grand Valley President Thomas J. Haas, will make remarks during the ceremony.

"The decision for Rachel's family to donate the new boat will not only benefit the entire rowing program, but will also carry on Rachel's memory for years to come," said John Bancheri, head rowing coach.

The ceremony will take place one day before athletes throughout the Midwest compete at the annual Lubbers Cup Regatta at the Spring Lake Yacht Club on April 13 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. The "Rachel Ring" will compete in its inaugural race at the regatta. More information about the event is at www.lubberscup.com.

For more information, contact John Bancheri at bancheri@gvsu.edu or (616) 262-9537, or Bob Stoll, associate dean for Student Life at Grand Valley, at (616) 331-2345.

April 10, 2013

For immediate release

Contacts: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News & Information Services (616) 331-2221
Henry Duitman, GVSU Music Department (616) 331-3484

MEDIA NOTE: Photos are available on Grand Valley's media FTP website. For instructions on how to access the site, visit <http://qvsu.edu/s/aW>

Grand Valley Chamber Orchestra to perform in London, local Sendoff Concert set

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich.--The Grand Valley State University Chamber Orchestra will perform three concerts in London during the first week of May. A local Sendoff Concert, open to the public with free admission, will be performed at Park Church, 10 East Park Place NE, Grand Rapids, Sunday, April 28, at 3 p.m.

While in London the students will perform at Kingston University, the London College of Music and, as part of the Notting Hill Chamber Music Series at St. John's Church. The performance tour is a result of the ongoing partnership between Grand Valley and Kingston University.

"This is the first European tour of the Chamber Orchestra," said conductor Henry Duitman, director of orchestral activities at Grand Valley. "The 14 students have been working hard to rehearse a demanding program and to raise their portion of the trip's expenses." Additional encouragement and generous support is being provided by the Music Department, the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Padnos International Center.

Duitman has selected a varied program which includes works by British composers William Boyce and Hubert Parry, as well as American composer John Corigliano and Swedish composer Dag Wirén. Pablo Mahave-Veglia, Grand Valley associate professor of music, will also be traveling and performing with the orchestra. His cello solos will include a concerto by Italian composer Luigi Boccherini and a contemporary tour de force by Chilean composer Andrés Alcalde entitled "Der Mondbach II."

Through the encouragement of Grand Valley's Padnos International Center, the music departments of Grand Valley and Kingston have completed several collaborations during the last three years. David Osbon, previously head of Collegiate Music at Kingston and a composer, has visited Grand Valley several times. In June 2011 Duitman and Grand Valley music faculty member Kevin Tutt visited Kingston and conducted their Chamber Orchestra. Most notably, under the guidance of Osbon, the two departments united with a music conservatory in The Hague and produced a ground-breaking webcast, "Bodies In Motion," for the London Cultural Olympics in July 2012.

For Immediate Release

April 10, 2013

Contact: Dottie Barnes, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

Groundbreaking for new GVSU science building

ALLENDALE, Mich. — Grand Valley State University officials will break ground for the new Science Laboratory Building on Monday, April 15.

The 145,000-square-foot, four-story building will feature nine classrooms, 15 teaching laboratories, 14 faculty and student research laboratories, study spaces, offices and a greenhouse. The new building will provide much needed space for students, especially those pursuing degrees in science- and health-related fields.

The \$55 million dollar facility will receive \$30 million from the state and will expand Grand Valley's ability to educate students in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. The university has an A+ rating with Standards and Poor and will bond the \$25 million needed to complete the project. No tuition money will be needed for the building.

Science Laboratory Groundbreaking

Monday, April 15

3 p.m.

Parking lot F, Allendale Campus

Construction will begin in July and will create 950 temporary construction jobs; A target move-in date is fall 2015.

For Immediate Release

April 10, 2013

Contact: Nate Hoekstra, Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221,
hoekstna@gvsu.edu

MEDIA-Experts to discuss core beliefs of conservative, progressive viewpoints

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — A panel of six experts will put aside political issues of the day, and explore the reasons behind their personal political beliefs at a roundtable discussion hosted by Grand Valley State University's Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies. The event is being made possible by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

The discussion will explore what it means to be progressive and what it means to be conservative, without getting bogged down in policy wrangling over the issues of the day. The panelists will explain the cultural, historic, philosophical, and religious elements that explain their commitment to their political tradition.

"Why Conservative? Why Progressive?"

April 15

7 p.m.

Loosemore Auditorium, Grand Valley's Pew Grand Rapids Campus

The three conservative panelists include:

- Winston Elliott, president, Free Enterprise Institute and chief editor of The Imaginative Conservative website ([LINK](#))
- Barbara Elliott, president, Center for Cultural Renewal, Houston, Texas, and professor in the Honors College at Houston Baptist University
- Ted McAllister, history professor at Pepperdine University and currently a scholar-in-residence at Princeton University

The three progressive panelists include:

- Michael DeWilde, philosophy professor, Grand Valley State University, and founder of Working Classics
- Paul Murphy, history professor, Grand Valley State University
- Noreen Myers, employment law attorney, Grand Rapids, recently retired chair of the Grand Valley State University Board of Trustees

"Grand Valley has the opportunity to be a pioneer in higher education by hosting programs that systematically explore the roots of both the progressive and conservative sides of our current debates," said Gleaves Whitney, director of the Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies. "There's such cynicism in American politics today, we hope, through programs like 'Why Conservative, Why Progressive,' to reengage citizens in the democratic process."

The event "Why Conservative? Why Progressive?" seeks to extend the exploration of the theme of bipartisan cooperation in a democratic culture, a topic first explored by the Hauenstein Center's NEH-supported program "America's Senator: The Unexpected Odyssey of Arthur Vandenberg," featuring experts Richard Norton Smith, H.W. Brands, Kiron Skinner, Hank Meijer, and Gleaves Whitney in November 2012.

RSVP is requested, and can be provided here: <http://hauensteincenter.org/why-conservative-why-progressive/>

For more information, contact the Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies, (616) 331-2770 or hauensteincenter.org

For Immediate Release

April 10, 2013

Contact: Leah Twilley, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

MEDIA NOTE: Audio, photos and video are available on Grand Valley's media FTP site. For instructions on how to access the site, follow this link: <http://gvsu.edu/s/aW>. Audio is also available at www.gvsu.edu/qvnow.

MAREC readies for third research season of offshore wind study

MUSKEGON, Mich. — A 'boatload of data' will be collected during the third and final research season of Grand Valley State University's Michigan Alternative and Renewable Energy Center's offshore wind assessment.

The research buoy that collects data for the study will be placed about seven miles offshore northwest of the Muskegon Channel in Lake Michigan within the next two weeks. It will remain in the lake until December, where it will continuously collect data about offshore wind characteristics, along with meteorological, marine and avian data, to help assess the viability of commercial-scale wind energy generation in the Great Lakes.

"Over the last two years, we've collected wind data in locations that were previously inaccessible," said Arnold (Arn) Boezaart, director of MAREC. "This year, we're keeping the buoy closer to the shore to collect data that we predict will reinforce the data we collected from last year's season. We'll end up with a great representation of wind characteristics on Lake Michigan that can contribute to potential wind energy development."

The three-year study began in 2011, when the buoy went through a validation study on Muskegon Lake for two months, followed by two months of trials on Lake Michigan. During the second year of research in 2012, the buoy was placed 35 miles west of the Muskegon Channel at the mid-lake plateau in Lake Michigan and captured data at elevations between 90 and 175 meters above the lake surface.

The buoy uses laser pulse technology to capture wind measurements, which is the first time the technique has ever been used on a mobile research platform in open water. "Throughout this study, the technology has demonstrated an ability to capture quality wind measurement data as much as 98 percent of the time," said Boezaart. "We are getting excellent results."

Students and faculty in Grand Valley's Padnos College of Engineering and Computing are analyzing data to determine the amount of power that could be created if wind turbines were installed in Lake Michigan. "We literally have boatloads of data because it's recorded in one-second intervals," said Boezaart. "Grand Valley is providing important leadership in an area of science and technology, demonstrating groundbreaking technology, and generating unique and large data sets."

Project partners include researchers from Michigan Technological University, who are studying wind turbulence; Michigan Natural Features Inventory, a component of the Michigan State University Extension program who are studying bird and bat activity and confirmed for the first time ever last summer that bats do fly over the Great Lakes; and the University of Michigan, who are conducting research on large data sets.

Project staff will present findings from the study at the American Wind Energy Association's WINDPOWER Conference and Exhibition — the largest annual wind energy event in the world — in Chicago in May. Monthly data summaries and other preliminary information collected from the study are available on ScholarWorks at scholarworks.gvsu.edu.

While federal grant funds end this year, Boezaart said other opportunities are being explored for the buoy to continue to capture data in different locations throughout the Great Lakes.

About the wind assessment project

The primary objective of the Lake Michigan offshore wind assessment project is to gain a better understanding of offshore wind characteristics and dynamics, as well as potential wind energy. Other related physical, biological and environmental characteristics related to Great Lakes wind have been evaluated, including water quality characteristics, the water and air boundary layer, and bird and bat activity. Data collected will be used by NOAA's National Weather Service in preparation of its marine forecasts.

About the WindSentinel research buoy

The research buoy, one of two such research platforms in the world, is a six-ton, 20-by-10 foot boat-shaped structure that can measure wind characteristics up to 175 meters above the water using advanced laser pulse and Doppler wind sensing technology in remote locations. It was constructed by AXYS Technologies of British Columbia, and is equipped with a Vindicator laser wind sensor manufactured by Catch the Wind Inc. of Virginia.

For more information, contact Arnold (Arn) Boezaart, director of MAREC, at (616) 331-6900 or boezaara@gvsu.edu.

April 11

GVSU Writers Series: First Books Festival

Open to the public with free admission. For more information about the GVSU Writers Series contact Caitlin Horrocks in the Writing Department at (616) 331-8022, or horrockc@gvsu.edu. [read more](#)

Location: Various venues on Allendale Campus

April 11 & 12, 7:30-10 p.m.

April 13, 2-4:30 p.m.

Theatre at Grand Valley presents 'The Good Person of Setzuan'

To purchase tickets, \$6-\$12, call the GVSU Louis Armstrong Theatre box office at 616-331-2300. For more information visit www.gvsu.edu/theatre. [read more](#)

Location: Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, GVSU Allendale Campus

April 15, 8 p.m.

GVSU Concert Band

Open to the public. Free admission. For more information, please call (616) 331-3484 or visit www.gvsu.edu/music. [read more](#)

Location: Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, GVSU Allendale Campus

April 16, 8-9:30 p.m.

GVSU University Band

Open to the public. Free admission. For more information, please call (616) 331-3484 or visit www.gvsu.edu/music. [read more](#)

Location: Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, GVSU Allendale Campus

April 17, 8-9:30 p.m.

GVSU Varsity Men

Open to the public. Free admission. For more information, please call (616) 331-3484 or visit www.gvsu.edu/music. [read more](#)

Location: Cook-DeWitt Center, GVSU Allendale Campus

April 18, 8-9:30 p.m.

GVSU University Arts Chorale and Select Women's Ensemble

Open to the public. Free admission. For more information, please call (616) 331-3484 or visit www.gvsu.edu/music. [read more](#)

Location: Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, GVSU Allendale Campus

April 19, 8-9:30 p.m.

GVSU Symphonic Wind Ensemble

Open to the public. Free admission. For more information, please call (616) 331-3484 or visit www.gvsu.edu/music. [read more](#)

Location: Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, GVSU Allendale Campus

April 20, 8-9:30 p.m.

GVSU Symphony Orchestra

Open to the public. Free admission. For more information, please call (616) 331-3484 or visit www.gvsu.edu/music. [read more](#)

Location: Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, GVSU Allendale Campus

April 21, 8- 9:30 p.m.

GVSU Jazz Orchestra

Open to the public. Free admission. For more information, please call (616) 331-3484 or visit www.gvsu.edu/music. [read more](#)

Location: Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, GVSU Allendale Campus

April 28, 3-4:30 p.m.

GVSU Chamber Orchestra Tour Sendoff Concert

Open to the public. Free admission. For more information, please call (616) 331-3484 or visit www.gvsu.edu/music. [read more](#)

Location: Park Street Church, 10 East Park Place NE, Grand Rapids, MI

April 11, 2013

For immediate release

Contacts: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News & Information Services (616) 331-2221
John Schmit, GVSU School of Communications (616) 331- 8510

Media note: Photos are available on Grand Valley's media FTP website. For instructions on how to access the site, visit <http://qvsu.edu/s/aW>.

New Grand Valley film to have local premiere

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — The Grand Valley State University 2012 Summer Film Project "Realism," will be released to local audiences during a premier screening at Celebration Cinema North.

The 30-minute film, a comic tale written and directed by Mitch Nyberg, will be screened Friday, April 19, at 8 p.m. at Celebration Cinema North, 2121 Celebration Drive NE, Grand Rapids. Admission is \$5, including a post-screening reception. DVDs of the film will be on sale in the lobby for \$10. All proceeds help fund future films.

The Summer Film Project was established by the School of Communications in 1995 to offer Grand Valley junior and senior students an opportunity to work side-by-side with industry professionals to produce a short film. Each year, students may enroll in the six-week practicum summer course that handles the pre-production and filming. Post-production is done during a 15-week fall course.

Nyberg, a 1983 Grand Valley alumnus, directed a crew of nearly 30 students during filming last August. A native of Coopersville, Nyberg's career includes work as a tour camera operator for Eric Clapton, 'NSync, the Dixie Chicks and the Italian tenor Andrea Bocelli. Michigan Film Incentives encouraged him to return to Michigan in 2008. The Hart Township resident has worked on several films shot in Grand Rapids, including as production manager for "The Steam Experiment," starring Val Kilmer, and as location manager for "Touchback," the 2011 film starring Kurt Russell and Barry Sanders.

The film features Grand Rapids actor Joe Anderson and Saugatuck actress Melissa Anschutz in the lead roles of Jake and Cheryl. They play a married couple who must deal with downward social mobility after foreclosure ousted them from their cushy home in the suburbs and into the gritty reality of the urban jungle and a vast real estate conspiracy. View the trailer at <https://vimeo.com/63256178>.

For more information, contact John Schmit, associate professor in the School of Communications, at (616) 331- 8510.

For Immediate Release

April 12, 2013

Contact: Dottie Barnes, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

Conference on Autism draws national experts

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Local and national experts will discuss teaching strategies for children with autism or Asperger's Syndrome at Grand Valley State University's Statewide Autism and Training project (START) 2013 conference. The conference will be held April 22 in Lansing.

Erik Carter, associate professor in the Department of Special Education at Vanderbilt University, will give the keynote address on "Natural Support Strategies: Fostering Relationships and Community Connections for Transition-Age Students with Autism." His research focuses on educational and transition services for adolescents with intellectual disabilities, autism, and multiple disabilities.

Grand Valley was designated by the Michigan Department of Education as the lead university in the development of resources and training for school personnel and parents of children with autism.

2013 START Conference

Monday, April 22

8:30-11:30 a.m. keynote speaker

12:30-3:30 p.m. breakout sessions

Lexington Lansing Hotel

Afternoon breakout sessions include discussions on technology in teaching, social skill strategies, and decision making for students with challenging behavior.

Grand Valley faculty participating in the conference include START project director Amy Matthews and START project faculty Jamie Owen-DeSchryver. Matthews and Owen-DeSchryver helped draft the new Michigan Autism Spectrum Disorders Plan last month, which addresses the needs of the 16,000 students with ASD in the state's public school system and 50,000 individuals and their families living with ASD in Michigan.

Registration for the conference is closed but media is encouraged to attend. For details on conference sessions, visit www.gvsu.edu/autismcenter or call (616) 331-6480.

For immediate release

April 15, 2013

Contact: Michele Coffill, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

GVSU local history office hosts roundtable

GRAND HAVEN, Mich. ◀ The Kutsche Office of Local History at Grand Valley State University will host its fourth annual Local History Roundtable, focusing this year on Native Americans in West Michigan.

The Roundtable, "Natives, Settlers, Founders: Our Shared Story of Community Growth," is set for Thursday, April 18, from 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at the Grand Haven Community Center, 421 Columbus St. Cost to attend is \$20 (free for students) and includes breakfast and lunch. Register online at www.gvsu.edu/localhistoryroundtable or call (616) 331-8099.

Scheduled speakers are Marjie Viveen, a local historian who has led several preservation projects; Paul Trapp, retired history teacher from Grand Haven; and Eric Eric Hemenway, director of the Repatriation, Archives and Records department for the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians.

Roundtable discussion topics will include grant writing, genealogy, research and publishing.

The Kutsche Office of Local History is dedicated to promoting and supporting research on underrepresented or marginalized groups in Western Michigan.

For Immediate Release

April 15, 2013

Contact: Leah Twilley, Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

Grand Valley conference will focus on STEM education, industry collaboration

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — The advancement and improvement of STEM education will be the focus of a national conference that will take place at Grand Valley State University, June 3-4.

The third annual ASQ STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) Agenda Conference invites industry leaders, employers and educators to discuss ways to improve strategies for effective and successful collaboration between industry and education. The conference agenda and registration is at asq.org/conferences/stem-agenda.

Paul Plotkowski, dean of the Padnos College of Engineering and Computing at Grand Valley, said there is a huge, national demand for graduates in the STEM fields. "In a recent study, nine of the top 10 most in-demand fields are in engineering and computer science," he said. "This conference will bring together professionals in the STEM fields, ranging from K-12 teachers to university faculty and employers."

The American Society for Quality (ASQ) Education Division, a co-sponsor of the conference, chose Grand Valley as a host because of the university's growing reputation as an exceptional engineering school. Grand Valley was recognized in 2012 by the National Academy of Engineering as an exemplar of "Real World Engineering Education" for its co-op and capstone programs.

Keynote speakers include:

- Paul Plotkowski, dean of the Seymour and Esther Padnos College of Engineering and Computing, Grand Valley State University
- Reginald McGregor, manager of engineering employee development R & T strategy at Rolls-Royce Corporation in Indianapolis
- Carrie Houtman, regulatory affairs leader at Dow Chemical. She led Dow's STEM education initiatives and represented Dow on President Obama's Advanced Manufacturing Partnership
- Glenn Walters, deputy cabinet secretary for the New Mexico Higher Education Department

Two panel discussions and four workshops will take place on topics such as, developing effective industry partnerships, assessing STEM learning communities, improving graduation rates, and entrepreneurship.

For more information about the conference, visit www.gvsu.edu/pcec.

For Immediate Release

April 16, 2013

Contact: Leah Twilley, Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

Grand Valley named 'Green College' for fourth year

ALLENDALE, Mich. — Grand Valley State University has been named one of the country's most environmentally responsible colleges by The Princeton Review for the fourth year in a row. The university is included in "The Princeton Review's Guide to 322 Green Colleges: 2013 Edition."

Released just prior to the April 22 celebration of the 43rd anniversary of Earth Day, the guide profiles institutions of higher education in the U.S. that demonstrate notable commitments to sustainability in campus infrastructure, activities, programs and initiatives. Areas of evaluation included the university's commitment to building at LEED standards, environmental programs, the use of renewable energy resources and recycling and conservation programs.

Grand Valley has been included in the guidebook every year since the first issue was published in 2010. View the guidebook [here](#).

This is the latest recognition Grand Valley has received for its sustainability efforts. Grand Valley became the only university in the state and one of 45 in the country to receive gold status after completing a sustainability program developed by the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education, and the Sierra Club ranked the university 16th out of 96 schools as one of the country's greenest universities in 2012. Watch a video about sustainability at Grand Valley [here](#).

For more information, contact the Sustainable Community Development Initiative at www.gvsu.edu/sustainability or (616) 331-7366.

For Immediate Release

April 17, 2013

Contact: Dottie Barnes, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

GVSU professor wins Pure Michigan contest

ALLENDALE, Mich. — Patty Janes, associate professor of hospitality and tourism management at Grand Valley State University, won the Pure Michigan Jump Start Competition with her idea called Michigan Cares for Tourism. Janes beat four other finalists to win \$5,000 to implement her idea.

The competition was part of the Governor's Conference on Tourism held at the Detroit Marriott Renaissance Center April 14-16. The finalists had three minutes to pitch their ideas to a panel of judges.

Janes said Michigan Cares for Tourism is modeled after the national program Tourism Cares, which brings volunteers and the tourism community together to help clean up and restore important historic sites.

"It is such an honor to be selected as the first Pure Michigan Jump Start recipient," said Janes. "It allows us to fulfill a dream. A dream for Michigan's tourism industry to unite as a team and come together to restore Michigan tourism treasures, ultimately enhancing the experience for Michigan residents, visitors and our industry."

Janes said the Department of Natural Resources Parks and Recreation Division, Tourism Cares, Grand Valley and Pure Michigan are working as a team to make an economic and environmental impact on Michigan's tourism industry.

Michigan Cares for Tourism will clean up and restore one Michigan historic site each year. The first is scheduled for October 6-7 when volunteers will work to restore Historic Mill Lake in the 20,000 acre Waterloo Recreation Area in Chelsea.

"Built in 1936, this cabin community complex is in need of our care," said Janes. "This served as the first travel and outdoor recreation experience of Detroit inner city youth and has been closed since 2000. It will be restored to make an impact for urban youth, family reunions, conference retreats and so much more."

Michigan Cares for Tourism has a [Facebook](#) page and can be found on twitter @MICares4tourism.

For more information, contact Patty Janes at janesp@gvsu.edu or (989) 424-0123.

For Immediate Release

April 17, 2013

Contact: Leah Twilley, Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

GVSU students to showcase engineering, computing creations

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — A machine that sorts Skittles by color, an iPhone app created for the Waterfront Film Festival, and a machine that turns trash into water system components for developing countries are among projects that will be part of Grand Valley State University's Project Day, April 18. It is hosted by the Padnos College of Engineering and Computing.

More than 120 students from schools in the Grand Rapids area are expected to attend Project Day to see nearly 40 projects by Grand Valley students and to show them how engineering and computing is relevant to everyday life.

PCEC Project Day

Thursday, April 18

10 a.m.-noon

Kennedy Hall of Engineering

Pew Grand Rapids Campus

Members of a local high school FIRST Robotics team will display and demonstrate their competitive robot at the event. The robot throws Frisbees at targets and is managed by a remote control.

For more information, contact Jonathan Miner, student services outreach assistant for PCEC, at (616) 331-6025 or minerj@gvsu.edu.

For Immediate Release

April 17, 2013

Contact Mary Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221.

MEDIA NOTE: Photos and video will soon be available on Grand Valley's media FTP website. For questions on how to connect to the FTP site, visit <http://qvsu.edu/s/aW>

Students flock to Grand Valley's new library

ALLENDALE, Mich. -- More than 2,000 people attended the April 17 Student Sneak Peek of the new Mary Idema Pew Library Learning and Information Commons, currently under construction on the Grand Valley State University Allendale Campus.

Grand Valley President Thomas J. Haas wanted graduating seniors and returning students to get a peek of the new library before heading home for the summer. During the event Lee Van Orsdel, dean of Grand Valley's University Libraries; and James Moyer, associate vice president for Facilities Planning answered questions and chatted with students who were guided through select areas. Other library staff were also on site to point out key features on each of the four floors. Students were excited and snapped photos with their cell phones, tweeted to their friends and posted to social media sites.

The Mary Idema Pew Library is a prototype for 21st century learning, with many unique aspects such as the Knowledge Market, which will provide students access to experts in research, technology, writing and presentation development, giving graduates a tangible advantage in the workforce and in their contribution as leaders in their communities.

The new facility is named after Mary Idema Pew, who was a trailblazer with a lifelong passion for education. Her late husband, Robert C. Pew, one of Grand Valley's founders and an early Board of Trustees member, generously provided the lead gift that was the catalyst for this \$65 million project. Their daughter Kate Pew Wolters currently serves on Grand Valley's Board of Trustees. More than 1,400 donors, including community members, corporations, foundations, alumni, faculty, staff, and students and their families, helped to raise more than \$20 million for the new library.

The Zumberge Library was built in the 1960s for 5,000 students; today Grand Valley serves nearly 25,000 students. The Mary Idema Pew Library will have triple the seating capacity, provide space for 150,000 books on open shelves and 600,000 library items in an automated retrieval system, and places for quiet study as well as a wide variety of venues for group collaboration.

The design and construction team selected for this project includes SHW Group, architects; FTC&H, civil engineering; and Pioneer Construction. The building is seeking the highest level LEED certification, having been designed and constructed to use half the energy of a similar

building using traditional methods.

Construction will be completed this summer; a Community Open House is planned for September 7.

For Immediate Release

April 19, 2013

Contact: Leah Twilley, Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

Grand Valley to host two-day Pow Wow

ALLENDALE, Mich. — An event to increase awareness about Native American culture and tradition will take place at Grand Valley State University April 20-21.

Hundreds of people are expected to attend the 15th annual outdoor Spring Pow Wow, including people from Native American communities in the Upper Peninsula, Indiana and Wisconsin. The event is sponsored by the Native American Student Association at Grand Valley.

Spring Pow Wow

April 20-21

Field next to Performing Arts Center

Allendale Campus

The event will celebrate traditional Native American dancing and music with Grand Entry performances at 1 p.m. and 6 p.m. on April 20, and at noon on April 21. Native American art, jewelry and cuisine will be available to purchase throughout the day. The event is free and open to the public.

For more information, contact NASA at gvsu_nasa@yahoo.com or Kristie Scanlon in the Office of Multicultural Affairs at (616) 331-2177.

For Immediate Release
April 23, 2013

MEDIA NOTE

Gov. Snyder to speak at World Trade Week event

Gov. Rick Snyder will offer remarks at a V.I.P reception on Wednesday, May 8, beginning at 5:30 p.m., as part of a World Trade Week event sponsored in part by the Van Andel Global Trade Center at Grand Valley State University.

The reception is being held at the Eberhard Center on Grand Valley's Pew Grand Rapids Campus, 301 W. Fulton St. The event is open for media coverage. Attendees must register for the conference to attend the reception. Details of the conference are below.

"World Trade Week West Michigan Business Conference 2013 — Managing Your Global Risk" will be held May 8 at the Eberhard Center at Grand Valley State, organized in partnership with the U.S. Commercial Service and international business leaders supporting the West Michigan community. The conference features experts who will talk about strategies, opportunities and resources available to help businesses increase international sales.

Keynote speaker Todd Wandtke, vice president of central region marketing for UPS, will talk about "Supply Chain Management: Benefits of Going Global," from 11:40 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Wandtke has been with UPS for more than 18 years and oversees growth and marketing strategies across six districts and 17 states.

Three afternoon panel discussions will be held: "Managing Your Legal Risks with Agent & Distributor Contracts," "Know Before You Go: Successful Michigan Exporters," and "Evaluating Emerging Markets: India, Philippines, Turkey and Vietnam."

The V.I.P Reception is by invitation only or is included with the business conference fee and begins immediately following the conference.

Advance registration is \$100 by April 26; and \$125 after April 26. The last day to register is May 6.

For more information or to register, visit www.worldtradeweekmi.org, or call the U.S. Export Assistance Center at (616) 458-3564 or Grand Valley's Van Andel Global Trade Center at (616) 331-6811.

For Immediate Release

April 23, 2013

Contact: Nate Hoekstra, Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616)331-2221,
hoekstna@gvsu.edu

MEDIA-AWRI researcher honored for Lake Michigan outreach efforts

MUSKEGON, Mich. — Janet Vail, associate research scientist at Grand Valley State University's Annis Water Resources Institute in Muskegon, will be given the prestigious 2013 Jack Vallentyne Award by the International Association for Great Lakes Research.

Vail, who has worked for AWRI since 1990, is being recognized for her efforts to inform and educate the public and policymakers on Great Lakes issues, along with raising awareness and support for Great Lakes protection and restoration.

As a researcher at AWRI, Vail handles several tasks, including the "Making Lake Michigan Great Tours" that she has led on AWRI research vessels since 1998. Vail also organizes ongoing education programs, and organized three State of Lake Michigan conferences. She is the co-chair of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Lake Michigan Forum, which serves as a link between the governmental agencies involved in Lake Michigan's health and the stakeholders who are affected by the well-being of the lake.

Vail will receive the 2013 Jack Vallentyne award at the IAGLR annual conference at Purdue University in June. She will also present a paper, "Coordinated On-board Education and Outreach Project," which will focus on vessel-based outreach that AWRI has been doing in association with the Inland Seas Education Association, BaySail, and Michigan Sea Grant. The project has been funded by the EPA through the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative.

Alan Steinman, director of the Annis Water Resources Institute, said he's proud of Vail's work on behalf of the institute. "Dr. Vail is an incredibly hard working, self-motivated, talented, and motivational educator, whose professional talents are complemented by a winning personality and collaborative spirit," Steinman said, "She has made a positive impact in the lives of literally tens of thousands of students and adults in the Great Lakes."

The Vallentyne award holds meaning for AWRI — Dr. Jack Vallentyne (aka Johnny Biosphere) was featured at AWRI's Grand River Workshop at Grand Valley's Eberhard Center in 1992.

For more information on AWRI or Vail's work, visit gvsu.edu/wri.

April 23, 2013

For immediate release

Contacts: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News & Information Services (616) 331-2221

Rich Stoelzel, GVSU Music Department (616) 331-3484

MEDIA NOTE: Photos are available on Grand Valley's media FTP website. For instructions on how to access the site, visit <http://qvsu.edu/s/aW>

International trumpet conference includes public concerts

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — More than 50 music artists and presenters will provide highly charged classical and hot jazz performances in Grand Rapids during the 38th Annual Conference of the International Trumpet Guild, sponsored by Grand Valley State University. ITG will also sponsor several on-going competitions and contests that offer cash prizes and scholarships.

Each day of the conference, June 11-15, provides concerts open to the public. Tickets range from \$10-40, and include the June 12, afternoon performance by the father and son team and Grand Rapids natives Brandon and Rich Ridenour, at St. Mark's Episcopal Church. The June 15 evening Grand Finale Concert will feature Arturo Sandoval, Jens Lindemann, Rex Richardson, Bill Lucas, Adam Rapa, and Allen Vizzutti with Walter White, Small Medium @Large, at DeVos Place.

"While the conference will be filled with classes and lectures for educators and trumpeters of all ages, the public concerts provide a rare opportunity to hear, in a few short days, performances by many of the top international trumpet artists," said conference cohost Rich Stoelzel, Grand Valley professor of trumpet who also maintains an active career as an international soloist, chamber and orchestral musician.

Sandoval, one of many featured performers, has won an Emmy Award, six Billboard Awards and eight Grammy Awards. Born in the outskirts of Havana, Cuba, he was granted political asylum in the U.S. in 1990 and obtained citizenship in 1999. Sandoval, the protégé of the legendary jazz master of Dizzy Gillespie, was voted Cuba's Best instrumentalist from 1982-1990. A tenured professor at Florida International University, he has performed with music icons from Woody Guthrie and Frank Sinatra, to Justin Timberlake and Alicia Keys.

Grand Valley alumnus Hunter Eberly, who recently won the principal trumpet position with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, will also be performing and teaching at the conference, as will Bill Lucas, a member of the DSO trumpet section since 1988.

"I think that this conference, which for the first time in ITG history is offering educators and students alike the chance to partake of educational classes, will be the model for all others to follow," said Lucas.

For more information about the conference, participating artists and concerts, call cohost Valerie Stoelzel in the Department of Music at (616) 331-3678, or visit the conference website, www.gvsu.edu/itg2013.

For Immediate Release

April 25, 2013

Contact: Dottie Barnes, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

GVSU signs reverse transfer agreement with Kellogg CC

ALLENDALE, Mich. — Grand Valley State University has signed a reverse transfer agreement with Kellogg Community College in Battle Creek.

The agreement helps students who transfer to Grand Valley complete an associate's degree at the community college. The initiative applies to Kellogg Community College students who have completed at least 45 credits at KCC, but transferred before earning an associate's degree.

Grand Valley has similar transfer agreements with 11 other community colleges across the state, including Grand Rapids, Alpena, Mid Michigan, Muskegon, West Shore, Montcalm, Lansing, Macomb, Northwestern Michigan, Jackson, and North Central Michigan.

For more information contact GVSU News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221.

April 25, 2013

For immediate release

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News & Information Services (616) 331-2221

MEDIA NOTE: Photos are available on Grand Valley's media FTP website. For instructions on how to access the site, visit <http://gvsu.edu/s/aW>.

GVSU Summer Carillon Concert Series set

The Grand Valley State University Summer Carillon Concert Series brings some of the world's finest carillonners to perform free concerts on two campuses, rain or shine.

The 19th annual Cook Carillon International Concert Series runs Sundays at 8 p.m., on the Allendale Campus, June 23 through August 18. The 13th annual Beckering Family International Carillon Series, on the Pew Grand Rapids Campus, brings four weeks of concerts on Wednesdays at noon, beginning July 11.

A performance by Anne Kroeze kicks off the Cook Carillon Series June 23. Kroeze is carillonneur of his hometown of Emmeloord, the Netherlands. He is also an organist and plays piano and organ with four choirs. He won first prize at the International Carillon Competition in Springfield, Illinois, and first prize at the International Carillon Competition in Winterswijk, the Netherlands.

A special Cook Carillon Open Tower event on July 28 will be hosted by Julianne Vanden Wyngaard, GVSU Carillonneur. A noted concert pianist, Vanden Wyngaard joined Grand Valley's music faculty in 1967. She has been principal performer on the Cook Carillon since its dedication in 1994, and on the Beckering Family Carillon, dedicated on the Pew Grand Rapids Campus in 2000.

Cook Carillon Concerts:

June 23 - Anne Kroeze, the Netherlands

June 30 - Julia Ann Walter, Michigan

July 7 - Linda Dzuris, Clemson University, South Carolina

July 14 - Sue Bergren, Illinois

July 21 - Laura Ellis, University of Florida, Florida

July 28 - Open Tower hosted by Julianne Vanden Wyngaard, GVSU Carillonneur

August 4 - Helen Hoffmeister Hawley, Michigan

August 11 - Jeremy Chesman, Missouri State University, Missouri

August 18 - Julianne Vanden Wyngaard, GVSU Carillonneur

Beckering Family Carillon Concerts:

July 10 - Linda Dzuris, Clemson University, South Carolina

July 17 - Sue Bergren, Illinois

July 24 - Laura Ellis, University of Florida, Florida
July 31 - Gijsbert Kok, the Netherlands

For more information about these open-air concerts call (616) 331-3484 or visit www.gvsu.edu/music.

For Immediate Release

April 25, 2013

Contact: Leah Twilley, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

MEDIA NOTE: Photos of students and speakers at the commencement ceremonies will be available on Grand Valley's FTP site after the ceremonies April 27; click [here](#) to learn how to access.

Grand Valley to celebrate new graduates Saturday

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Nearly 3,000 Grand Valley State University students will participate in commencement ceremonies April 27 at Van Andel Arena. Students will hear an address from Gov. Rick Snyder during the morning ceremony and Business Leaders for Michigan President and CEO Doug Rothwell during the afternoon ceremony.

Grand Valley Commencement Ceremonies

Saturday, April 27, 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Van Andel Arena, downtown Grand Rapids

The ceremony will live stream at www.gvsu.edu/commencement

Skybox 101B is reserved for media. The box offers a mult box and an elevated, unobstructed view of the podium and platform. For more information, contact Grand Valley News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221.

The 10 a.m. ceremony will 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. The 3 p.m. ceremony includes graduates of the College of Education, Brooks College of Interdisciplinary Studies and College of Liberal Arts & Sciences.

Notable student story

Anabel and Adriana Garcia-Gonzalez arrived in Grandville, Michigan, in 2006 from Havana City with their parents and grandfather. It took them 10 years to emigrate from Cuba, instead of the typical five years, because their parents are pediatricians.

Their parents left their professions to give their daughters a better life. The parents cannot practice medicine in the U.S. because of language barriers and no board certification. Their parents moved to New Jersey to work in a factory for better wages. The sisters remained at Grand Valley to finish their degrees and take care of their grandfather who has Alzheimer's disease.

The sisters entered Grand Valley in fall 2011 and will graduate Saturday with degrees in accounting. Anabel has a summer internship at Amway working in the finance department and

will continue her master's degree in the fall at Grand Valley. Adriana will begin master's classes in the accounting program at Grand Valley this summer.

Adriana Garcia-Gonzalez can be reached at 616-780-2795 or garciaga@mail.gvsu.edu. Anabel Garcia-Gonzalez can be reached at 231-571-5327.

For Immediate Release
April 27, 2013

MEDIA NOTE: Photos of students and speakers at Grand Valley's commencement ceremonies are available on Grand Valley's FTP site. For instructions on how to access the site, follow this link: <http://qvsu.edu/s/aW>.

Photos: GVSU Commencement

More than 3,000 Grand Valley State University students participated in two commencement ceremonies April 27 at Van Andel Arena in Grand Rapids. Gov. Rick Snyder and Business Leaders for Michigan President and CEO Doug Rothwell gave keynote addresses to students and their families.

Before becoming governor in 2011, Snyder served as CEO of the computer company Gateway and founded a venture capital company and an investment firm. He earned a bachelor's degree, a master's of business administration and a law degree from the University of Michigan. Snyder has traveled to Europe and Asia on trade missions and research and development opportunities associated with Michigan universities.

Rothwell, recognized nationally for helping promote economic growth, hopes to make Michigan a Top 10 state for economic growth. He founded Business Leaders for Michigan and the Michigan Economic Development Corporation, which have become two of the most prominent organizations driving the state's economy.

During the ceremonies Hubert Massey and Patricia L. Birkholz received honorary degrees. Massey, who graduated from Grand Valley in 1981 with a degree in art, has work featured on campus and in Detroit. Most recently, he worked with students from a Grand Valley-chartered school in Detroit to create a bus-sized mural that will be exhibited at the new L. William Seidman Center. Birkholz, a former state representative and senator and current director of the Michigan League of Conservation Voters, is well-known for her commitment to fresh water and natural resources. As a senator, she authored the Great Lakes Compact, which seeks to safeguard the future health of the Great Lakes.

The Alumni Association presented two awards during the ceremony. Arthur Campbell, professor of music, received the Outstanding Educator Award; and Laurie Beard, a 1981 Grand Valley graduate and current president and CEO of Founders Bank & Trust, received the Distinguished Alumni Award.

For Immediate Release
April 29, 2013

Contact: Leah Twilley, Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221
LeaAnn Tibbe, Grand Valley Student Life, (616) 331-2345

Grand Valley State to celebrate Traverse City graduates

TRAVERSE CITY, Mich. — About 75 Grand Valley State University students will participate in the 16th annual Traverse City commencement ceremony May 2 at Grand Traverse Resort. Students will hear an address from a state senator who is a northern Michigan native.

Sen. Howard Walker, who has served in northern Michigan as a state representative and senator, will address undergraduate and graduate students. He has served on the Traverse City Area Public Schools board, and during a decade-plus career in Lansing, championed funding equity for public schools, renewable energy and legislation to protect the state's agricultural heritage. He received a degree from Michigan Technological University and lives in Grand Traverse County.

Traverse City Commencement

Thursday, May 2

6 p.m.

Grand Traverse Resort, 100 Grand Traverse Village Boulevard

Grand Valley serves approximately 250 students across northern Michigan with classes offered in Traverse City, Cadillac, Boyne City, and Sault Ste. Marie. Students from all of those sites will participate in the commencement ceremony.

Grand Valley became part of the Northwestern Michigan College University Center in 1996. The university offers undergraduate degree programs in education and liberal studies. It also offers graduate programs in education and social work. Grand Valley is the only institution at the University Center that holds a formal commencement ceremony in Traverse City.

For more information, contact the Continuing Education Office in Traverse City at (231) 995-1785.

April 29, 2013

For immediate release

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News & Information Services (616) 331-2221
John Harper Philbin, GVSU School of Communications

MEDIA NOTE: Photo is available on Grand Valley's media FTP website. For instructions on how to access the site, visit <http://gvsu.edu/s/aW>

Grand Valley Summer Films garner awards

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. -- Two films from Grand Valley State University won an Eclipse Award for production excellence, presented during the April 19 ceremony at the Grand Rapids Art Museum.

The Eclipse Award is presented by WKTV with the West Michigan Film Video Alliance to honor the best regional works in film, video, sound and television production. All entries were reviewed and winners were selected by a panel of film professionals as judges.

Both films were produced by Grand Valley's annual Summer Film Project, founded in 1995, to bring students, faculty and industry professionals together on the production of a film. "Horizontal Accidents" was directed in 2010 by Tom Seidman, a film professional from Los Angeles, and son of the late L. William Seidman, founder of Grand Valley.

"Message Sent" was directed in 2011 by John Harper Philbin, associate professor in Grand Valley's School of Communications, and a filmmaker who has worked in Chicago, New York City, and Los Angeles as an editor, producer, director, writer and camera operator. The film was also recently named Best Drama Short Film at the 14th Annual Bare Bones International Film Festival 2013 in Muskogee, Oklahoma. This festival is dedicated to screening feature motion picture projects with budgets less than \$1 million. For more information, visit <http://www.theeclipseaward.com>.

Grand Valley's 2013 Summer Film Project will be directed by award-winning filmmaker Marie Ullrich, from Chicago, an assistant professor in the School of Communications. Her short film "Faster!" has screened internationally at juried film festivals and is available on iTunes and Amazon. Ullrich's new Summer Film Project features a female protagonist. More details will be announced in June.

For Immediate Release

April 30, 2013

Contact: Leah Twilley, Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

GVSU Toastmasters to receive international award

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — The international director of Toastmasters will visit Grand Valley State University May 2 to present an award to the university's downtown Toastmasters club.

Lori Lococo, international director of Toastmasters, will travel from the organization's headquarters in Ontario, Canada, to present a corporate sponsorship award to Grand Valley for being an outstanding sponsor and host for local Toastmasters clubs. For nearly 19 years, Grand Valley has provided space for meetings and training events for staff members, faculty and community members to enhance leadership and speaking skills.

The breakfast meeting runs from 7:30-8:30 a.m. in the University Club Room of the DeVos Center on the Pew Grand Rapids Campus. The award presentation will begin at 7:45 a.m. Media is encouraged to attend.

Grand Valley has two Toastmasters clubs. The Allendale club was founded in 1994 and meets Wednesdays at noon in the Kirkhof Center. The Downtown club was founded in 1998 and meets Thursday mornings in the DeVos Center.

For immediate release
May 1, 2013

Contact: Michele Coffill, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221;
Bruce Rossman, Spectrum Health, (616) 391-3706

MEDIA NOTE: Media members are welcome to cover the event at the Cook-DeVos Center for Health Sciences; the morning of Friday, May 3, from 10-11 a.m., would present good opportunities for coverage.

GVSU, Spectrum Health plan mock disaster

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. – More than 100 volunteers, health care workers and educators will participate in a two-day, mock disaster training session at Grand Valley State University.

The May 2-3 exercise will test the use of Grand Valley's Cook-DeVos Center for Health Sciences, 301 Michigan St. NE, as an alternative care site for Spectrum Health-Butterworth Hospital in the event of an actual, large-scale disaster or epidemic.

Partners in the training session are Spectrum Health, Grand Valley State, Region 6 Healthcare Network Coalition and Kent County Health Department.

High school students from the Health Sciences Early College Academy, sponsored by the Kent ISD, will have roles as patients and be paired with Grand Valley nursing and health professions students for the exercise. Clinical operations will be led and monitored by Spectrum Health staff.

For Immediate Release

May 1, 2013

Contact: Leah Twilley, Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

Grand Valley to host first West Michigan food summit

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Community gardeners, educators, local farmers, and anyone interested in sustainable food systems will come together at a summit hosted by Grand Valley State University.

The West Michigan Growing Connections Food Summit will take place May 7, from 12:30-7 p.m. at the Eberhard Center on the Pew Grand Rapids Campus. Registration is open to the public and will include a locally sourced dinner. General admission is \$25 and the student fee is \$10.

West Michigan encompasses more than 200 diverse crops, agriculture is one of Michigan's top three industries and less than two percent of the American working force is employed in agriculture, said Levi Gardner, manager of the Sustainable Agriculture Project at Grand Valley.

"In recent years, I've met many people from a variety of backgrounds who are really interested in gardens or growing food, and have questions about it. This summit will bring together people with similar questions and ideas about how to advance sustainable food systems in West Michigan," said Gardner.

The summit will include working group sessions and the following guest speakers:

- Bill Bobier, senior policy analyst, state Department of Agriculture and Rural Development
- Rachele Boswick, founder and head farmer, Earthkeeper Farm and West Michigan Growers Association
- Anne Scott, Center for Regional Food Systems
- Levi Gardner, Sustainable Agriculture Project Farm manager and grower, Grand Valley State University

Gardner said there are similar food summits that take place in Ann Arbor, Flint and Traverse City, but this is the first time Grand Valley will host one for West Michigan.

Visit www.gvsu.edu/gcfs to register and for more information. Media can contact Andrea Marz in the Sustainable Community Development Initiative for a free pass at marzan@gvsu.edu.

For Immediate Release

May 1, 2013

Contact: Nate Hoekstra, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221,
hoekstna@gvsu.edu

Grand Valley to host dedication for university building in downtown Detroit

DETROIT — The Grand Valley State University Board of Trustees and university President Thomas J. Haas will host a ribbon cutting ceremony May 8 to celebrate the official opening of the Grand Valley State University Detroit Center.

The GVSU Detroit Center will house classrooms for both the Grand Valley Charter Schools Office and the College of Education, and will serve as a central meeting location for Grand Valley professionals conducting business in southeast Michigan. It will also house the regional office of the Michigan Small Business and Technology Development Center.

The ribbon cutting ceremony will take place from 5-5:30 p.m. at the Detroit Center, 163 Madison Street. An opening reception will follow, with remarks at 6:15 p.m.

An alumni-only breakfast reception will take place the morning of Thursday, May 9, at the Detroit Athletic Club from 7:30-8:30 a.m. Tours of the Detroit Center will be available from 8:30-9:30 a.m.

Complimentary parking for both events will be available in Olympia Development Lot W. A riser and mult box will be available for media use.

Building background:

The historic three-story brick and terra cotta building is a substantial Renaissance revival building with modern tendencies. In 1907, the Detroit architectural firm of Stratton and Baldwin designed the architectural aspects of the building for the headquarters and city exchange of the Home Telephone Company of Detroit. The building was sold to Michigan Mutual Life Insurance Company in 1935, transferred to several other insurance companies, and in 1951 became the home of the Jewish Welfare Federation of Detroit. It was known as the Fred M. Butzel Memorial Building, named after Butzel, a community leader and major contributor to the organization. In February 2013, Grand Valley acquired the building from Barden Companies' Waycor Development Company.

For more information, contact Pat Waring, waringp@gvsu.edu or (616) 331-3501.

For Immediate Release

May 7, 2013

Contact: Dottie Barnes, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

MEDIA NOTE: Audio and a photo of Long are available on Grand Valley's media FTP site. For instructions on how to access the site, follow this link: <http://gvsu.edu/s/aW>. Audio is also available at www.gvsu.edu/gvnow.

Current Business Trends: "Best report in two years"

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — The greater Grand Rapids industrial economy is "stronger," according to the results of a monthly survey compiled by Brian G. Long, director of Supply Management Research in the Seidman College of Business at Grand Valley State University.

Long said the survey results, based on data collected during the last two weeks of April, show the best economic report in two years.

The survey's index of business improvement, called new orders, rose to +31, up from +23, the highest the index has been since March of 2011. The production index also posted a nice gain at +34, up +22. However, the employment index backtracked to +22 from +26, probably because of the laggard effect of the softer sales and production numbers posted in late 2012.

"It sounds like a broken record, but the auto parts suppliers are still underwriting the strength of the Michigan economy, as well as our economy in West Michigan," said Long. "Auto sales remain strong, resulting in production schedules continuing to be revised upward. Local firms are also having the good fortune in selling to the transplant firms, which speaks well of the price and quality being offered by our local firms."

Long said most local capital equipment firms are busy, but getting potential buyers to actually buy continues to be difficult. He said most of the industrial distributors flattened out this month with the office furniture firms stable at the current level, but hoping the improving economy will result in stronger sales as the year progresses. He said some of the smaller office furniture firms are already seeing an uptick.

The Institute for Supply Management survey is a monthly survey of business conditions that includes 45 purchasing managers in the greater Grand Rapids area and 25 in Kalamazoo. The respondents are from the region's major industrial manufacturers, distributors and industrial service organizations. It is patterned after a nationwide survey conducted by the Institute for Supply Management. Each month, the respondents are asked to rate eight factors as "same," "up" or "down." An expanded version of this report and details of the methodology used to compile it are available at www.gvsu.edu/scblogistics.

For more information, contact Brian Long at (269) 323-2359.

For Immediate Release

May 10, 2013

Contact: Dottie Barnes, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

GVSU signs reverse transfer agreement with Wayne County CCD

ALLENDALE, Mich. — Grand Valley State University signed a reverse transfer agreement May 7 with Wayne County Community College District in downtown Detroit.

The agreement helps students who transferred to Grand Valley complete an associate's degree at the community college. The initiative applies to Wayne County Community College District students who have completed at least 45 credits at WCCCD, but transferred to Grand Valley before earning an associate's degree.

Grand Valley has similar transfer agreements with 12 other community colleges across the state, including Grand Rapids, Alpena, Mid Michigan, Muskegon, West Shore, Montcalm, Lansing, Macomb, Northwestern Michigan, Jackson, North Central Michigan and Kellogg.

For more information, contact GVSU News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221.

For Immediate Release

May 13, 2013

Contact: Leah Twilley, Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

GVSU-MAREC receives grant to study solar thermal systems

MUSKEGON, Mich. — Grand Valley State University's Michigan Alternative and Renewable Energy Center received a grant from the Michigan Energy Office to study solar thermal system costs and efficiency improvements for use in Michigan's climate.

Kim Walton, program director for MAREC, said some large solar energy systems that are being installed in West Michigan are based on design criteria that come from other parts of the country, and may or may not be optimal for the West Michigan region.

"West Michigan is an area where very little solar research has been conducted," she said. "Understanding how different factors work together can help installers of the solar systems design the most efficient systems and lower overall costs."

The \$44,000 grant will fund data collection over a one-year period. Walton will collect data from homes in the Muskegon-Oceana area that received renewable energy systems from a grant from Sustainable Energy Resources for Consumers in November of 2011. The residential data that will be collected includes the type of technology used, mounting factors, costs for materials, labor, fees and permits.

Data will also be collected from photovoltaic (PV) panel test beds that were constructed and installed at MAREC. The test beds consist of PV panels with micro inverters configured to provide specific output data for solar panel angles and interaction of snow cover. The PV test beds are installed next to MAREC's Solar Center, a space that houses solar equipment that is used for research and training in classes and other activities.

Walton said while the study is funded for one year, she plans to continue to gather data for several years.

For more information, contact Kim Walton at waltonk@gvsu.edu or (616) 331-6907.

May 13, 2013

For immediate release

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News & Information Services, (616) 331-2221

Media ecology conference to focus on “unplugged” theme

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich.-- Media ecology “unplugged” is the theme of an upcoming convention hosted by Grand Valley State University on the Pew Grand Rapids Campus.

The 14th Annual Convention of the Media Ecology Association, June 20–23, “unplugged” theme captures the wide span of environmental mediation prior to the wired and plugged-in revolution of mass media. This mediation includes architecture, literacy, urban design, transportation, art, and other discursive and non-discursive forms.

The “unplugged” theme also turns attention to recent and cutting-edge technologies that have de-tethered users from the plug. These include satellites, nanotechnology, robotics, genetic engineering, modern pharmacology, cell phones, Bluetooth, e-readers, solar cells, green technologies, neuroscience, and much more.

Featured speakers at the conference include Morris Berman, author of the *Trilogy on Human Consciousness* and *The Twilight of American Culture*; Lance Strate, former MEA president and author of *The Binding Biases of Time*; and Dominique Scheffel-Dunand, the director of the McLuhan Program in Culture and Technology at the University of Toronto.

For more information contact convention coordinators:

Corey Anton, professor GVSU School of Communications antonc@gvsu.edu, author of *Selfhood and Authenticity*, winner of the 2004 Erving Goffman Award for Outstanding Scholarship in the Ecology of Social Interaction, presented by the Media Ecology Association

or

Valerie V. Peterson, associate professor GVSU School of Communications petersov@gvsu.edu, whose recent publications include the book *Sex, Ethics and Communication*.

The online pre-registration deadline is May 15 to avoid price increase when paid at the conference. Student registration is discounted. Membership in the Media Ecology Association is open to anyone— faculty, students, business people, professionals—interested in exploring the interactions between media, communications, and culture.

The conference sponsors include the Provost’s Office, the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the School of Communications.

For Immediate Release

May 15, 2013

Contact: Leah Twilley, Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

More than a thousand expected at Grand Valley-hosted 'Girls on the Run' 5k

ALLENDALE, Mich. — Nearly 1,500 girls and their families will attend the “Girls on the Run” annual 5k event May 17 at Grand Valley State University.

Girls on the Run of Ottawa and Allegan Counties is an organization that educates and prepares girls in third through eighth grades to be healthy and confident through a curriculum that integrates running. The 5k will celebrate the end of the 10-week spring program. About 300 volunteers who coached the girls in the program will also participate in the 5k run and walk.

Girls on the Run 5k

May 17

6-8:30 p.m.

Fieldhouse, GVSU Allendale Campus

A pep rally will take place at 6 p.m.; the race around campus will start at 6:30 p.m., and a dance party celebration at 8 p.m. will conclude the event.

More than 70 schools participated this year in the program, which has been in Ottawa and Allegan counties for more than 10 years. Some of the early participants are now coaches or volunteers at the 5k.

The 5k is open to the public; registration is online at www.gotroac.org.

For more information, contact Angela Morrison from the Center for Women in Transition at (616) 494-1719 or Jo Ann Wassenaar from Grand Valley’s Women’s Center at (616) 331-2748.

For Immediate Release

May 16, 2013

Contact: Nate Hoekstra, Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221.

MEDIA-GVSU alumni create event that focuses on learning from mistakes

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Speakers who focus on business and life tend to try to inspire guests through stories of success, wealth, promotion, and happiness. But from time to time, lessons learned along the way don't come from success, but from failure.

A groundbreaking event, created by Grand Valley State University alumni Austin Dean and Jordan O'Neil and sponsored by Grand Valley's Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies, focuses on the teachable moments that failure provides. Dubbed "Failure-Lab," the program will bring together a group of diverse speakers who will share examples of times when they screwed up.

Speakers at Failure-Lab will present their tales of failure in a short story format, with a musical act between each speaker to give the audience time to reflect. An after-party will immediately follow, offering guests a chance to mingle and share their reactions to the stories.

"Everyone who attends will get something different from our speakers," Dean said. "The talks will really resonate, because everyone understands the feeling of failure. We want to say 'you're not alone, it's okay, now get back out there, for your sake and the sake of the community.'"

Both Dean and O'Neil are graduates of Grand Valley's Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies Cook Leadership Academy.

Failure Lab

May 23, 7 p.m.

Wealthy Theater, 1130 Wealthy Street SE

Grand Rapids, MI 49506

Speakers include:

Brian Vander Ark, lead singer for The Verve Pipe

Katie Caralis, program director of the Creative Youth Center

Ellie Rogers, Herman Miller

Andy Soper, project coordinator, the Manasseh Project

Antonio "Shades" Agee, professional graffiti artist and designer

Rick Beerhorst, artist, musician

Entertainment between speakers will be provided by hip-hop dancer and choreographer Mark Evans Jr., singer-songwriter Karisa Wilson, and harpist Juliana Nahas, who is also a graduate of the Cook Leadership Academy.

Media interested in attending the event should contact Austin Dean (austin.s.dean@gmail.com).

For more information, visit www.failure-lab.com.

For Immediate Release
May 17, 2013

Contact: Dottie Barnes, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221
Jennifer Deamud, associate state director, MI-SBTDC, (616) 331-7408

New business takes interior design schemes to virtual world

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — In 2008, the construction and housing markets were stagnant. SKP Design, a Kalamazoo-area residential and commercial interior design firm, was looking to diversify. They sought help from counselors at the Michigan Small Business and Technology Development Center (MI-SBTDC), located at Grand Valley State University. Its relationship with the center goes back almost 12 years.

The MI-SBTDC helped SKP Design fine tune its library to focus on in-stock and budget materials. This led to the idea of having pre-packaged “off the shelf” schemes ready, at a low price. That’s how Interior Design Schemes was born, created to assist emerging and growing businesses during an economically challenging time. Business owners get a design quickly without spending hours in design meetings.

“MI-SBTDC consultants helped me look at the company from a global perspective,” said SKP Design owner Sondra Phillips. “They connected me with a coach who helped navigate changes internally and served as a sounding board for ideas. I was able to make connections with other business owners in e-commerce which helped me learn about delivering services in a new and different way.”

About Interior Design Schemes

Interior Design Schemes allows do-it-yourselfers to purchase color and design schemes which have all been pre-designed. Customers select from online commercial and residential design schemes which include material finishes for walls, floors, counters, millwork, trim and more. Upon ordering a scheme, customers are emailed product specifications and receive actual swatches and samples in the mail. The website launched with 40 schemes, and 30 more will soon be added; schemes range from \$199 to \$599.

“The thing customers seem to appreciate the most is that the long wait for a finished design is no longer a part of great interior design. Moments after a customer selects and purchases their favorite scheme, details about the scheme are emailed to them,” said Phillips. “After living through the economic effects of 9/11 and the housing crash, I realized that interior design is a luxury that many cannot afford. The ‘do-it-yourself’ movement is an undeniable reality.”

About the MI-SBTDC

The Michigan Small Business and Technology Development Center provides counseling, training and secondary market research for Michigan’s new business ventures, existing small

businesses, expanding new businesses and new technology companies. The MI-SBTDC is located at the Grand Valley State University Seidman College of Business in Grand Rapids, Michigan. As host of the MI-SBTDC State Headquarters, the Seidman College of Business oversees the 11-region MI-SBTDC network. Entrepreneurs and small business owners may access the services of their nearest MI-SBTDC by calling (616) 331-7480 or visiting www.misbtdc.org.

For more information, contact Jennifer Deamud, associate state director, MI-SBTDC, (616) 331-7408 or Sondra Phillips at SKP Design at (269) 375-4833 or sondra@interiordesignschemes.com.

For Immediate Release

May 20, 2013

Contact: Nate Hoekstra, Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221,
hoekstna@gvsu.edu

Johnson Center for Philanthropy hosts national summit on Family Philanthropy

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Grand Valley State University's Dorothy A. Johnson Center for Philanthropy will host a high-level, invitation-only national summit in Chicago in June that will engage current and next-generation family donors, as well as staff, advisors, and researchers who strive to help families become more effective philanthropists.

The Johnson Center National Summit on Family Philanthropy is a biennial meeting different than any other in the field of family philanthropy. It brings together family donors from around the nation for candid, peer-to-peer dialogue about the changes in philanthropy and changes in families that will shape the future of family giving. Representatives from several West Michigan family foundations will attend.

Speakers at the event include Howard W. Buffett, with the Howard G. Buffett Foundation; Ellie Frey with the Frey Foundation and the Family Business Alliance; Justin Rockefeller, with Addepar and the Rockefeller Brothers Fund; and Manal Saab, with the Ghassan and Manal Saab Foundation.

The summit will take place on June 5-6, 2013 at Chicago's Hotel Palomar, with a special evening event at the Richard H. Driehaus Museum including a presentation by Mr. Driehaus. The summit is by invitation only, and will not be open to media. However, requests for interviews with specific speakers are welcome and will be addressed as they are received.

During the summit, attendees will work together to create a set of action recommendations to help family donors take advantage of current trends and realize their ideal future. The recommendations will be presented in a nationally-distributed summit publication available this fall.

The summit is being organized by Grand Valley's Dorothy A. Johnson Center for Philanthropy in cooperation with Donors Forum of Illinois. The summit is a key program of the Johnson Center's Frey Chair for Family Philanthropy.

For more information or to request specific advance interviews, contact Robert Shalett, Johnson Center for Philanthropy, (202) 365-0273, shalett@gvsu.edu

For Immediate Release

May 21, 2013

Contact: Nate Hoekstra, Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221,
hoekstna@gvsu.edu

National health care expert speaks about health care insurance reform

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Grand Valley State University's Johnson Center for Philanthropy is hosting a national health care expert to provide insight into what the implementation of the Affordable Care Act means for community-based health care providers and organized philanthropies.

The invitation-only event, called "Health Care Insurance Reform 101," will feature Dinah Dittman, a Grand Valley alumna and national director of community engagement and philanthropy for Kaiser Permanente. As a senior team member of the largest nonprofit health care provider in the country, Dittman drives the community and philanthropic vision for an organization that provides more than 9 million Americans with care at its 570 medical offices and hospitals across the United States. Dittman will provide a brief overview and then lead an interactive discussion about systems, possibilities, and challenges of philanthropy and society.

Health Care Insurance Reform 101 featuring Dinah Dittman

June 25, 9 a.m.-noon

Johnson Center for Philanthropy

Bicycle Factory, 201 Front Avenue SW, Grand Rapids, MI 49504

Established in 1992 with support from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, the Dorothy A. Johnson Center for Philanthropy is a university-based center serving nonprofits, foundations, and others seeking to transform their communities for the public good. The Johnson Center is recognized for its applied research and professional development benefiting practitioners and nonprofits through the faculty and staff of the Johnson Center's Community Research Institute, Frey Foundation Chair for Family Philanthropy, The Foundation Review, The Grantmaking School, Johnson Center Philanthropy Archives and Library, and Philanthropic and Nonprofit Services.

For more information, contact Sherry Collver, (616) 331-7585, collvers@gvsu.edu.

For Immediate Release

May 24, 2013

Contact: Nate Hoekstra, Grand Valley State University News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221, hoekstna@gvsu.edu

MEDIA-Grand Valley student creates unique program to help wounded vets

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Five wounded warriors from across the country are in Grand Rapids, Michigan, this week to take part in a one-of-a-kind program called “Fashion Has Heart.”

The program, created by Grand Valley State University student Michael Hyacinthe, works to pair wounded veterans with designers and business leaders so they can fulfill their creative and entrepreneurial ambitions, all while using the experience to help them rehabilitate and reintegrate with society.

The “Fashion Has Heart” program will keep the veterans busy for the week they are in Grand Rapids. First, they will meet with a senior designer for footwear manufacturer Wolverine World Wide, where they will work to produce a unique boot design. Wolverine will make two pairs of each design, one for the veteran and one that will be part of a display at ArtPrize, a large public art contest that draws hundreds of thousands to Grand Rapids each fall. Over the weekend, the veterans will get a chance to meet with Grand Rapids-based entrepreneur Rick DeVos to talk about his StartGarden program and what it means to be an entrepreneur. Finally, the veterans will meet with professional graphic designers to create a T-shirt design that will be part of the ArtPrize entry, and will be sold throughout the weeks-long art competition.

“One goal of the program is to help these veterans embrace their entrepreneurial spirit,” Hyacinthe said. “We will sell their shirts during ArtPrize and into the future. We give them a chance to be entrepreneurs and sell their design, and we pay them royalties for every shirt that they sell.”

The shirts will also be featured at the Forbes Magazine Art Gallery in New York City for Veterans Day 2013.

The program is about more than money and shirt sales, Hyacinthe said. “It’s a fantastic way for these veterans to reintegrate after their service, and a great chance for them to fulfill creative ambitions and opportunities. The positive feedback we’ve gotten from this program from wounded vets across the country has been simply amazing,” he said.

“Fashion Has Heart” is a program near to Hyacinthe’s heart. Having served in the United States Navy for eight years, and having experienced the loss of family members in the service, he realized the potential the program had to help improve the lives of wounded veterans and for them to use it as a creative outlet that could assist in their long recoveries from battlefield injuries.

"The first year we designed the shirts ourselves and sold them, just to donate the proceeds to veterans groups, but then we asked one veteran to help us design the shirt and the response we got was overwhelming," Hyacinthe said.

Hyacinthe said he made connections in a Grand Valley leadership class taught by Gleaves Whitney, director of Grand Valley's Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies, to help make the project a success.

"Professor Whitney helped me squeeze the most out of my leadership ability, and gave me knowledge and confidence," Hyacinthe said. "The experience has allowed me to network with unique and amazing people, and make a real difference in people's lives."

Hyacinthe expects to graduate from Grand Valley in August with a bachelor's degree in public administration and a minor in business.

For more information, visit fashionhasheart.org or contact Michael Hyacinthe at (616) 307-6860.

May 29, 2013

Contact: Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

Media Advisory: Former players speak about Cullen Finnerty

ALLENDALE, Mich. — Several former Grand Valley State University football players took part in a news conference Wednesday afternoon to remember Cullen Finnerty.

Players included former quarterbacks Curt Anes and Brad Iciek, former wide receiver/running back Blake Smolen, and former cornerback Bill Brechin. Their remarks, still images, and highlight video are available on Grand Valley's media FTP site or via DropBox.

For instructions on how to access the FTP site, visit gvsu.edu/s/aW.

To download from DropBox, visit

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/2a7tn5x7xzbqrr/ZeuE1u1eyO#/>

Audio-only sound bites from the former players and statements from Grand Valley President Thomas J. Haas and Director of Athletics Tim Selgo can be found here: gvsu.edu/s/ny

For immediate release

May 30, 2013

Contact: Michele Coffill, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

Three GVSU faculty members earn Fulbright awards

ALLENDALE, Mich. – Three Grand Valley State University faculty members were named Fulbright Scholars for the 2013-2014 academic year.

Kurt Ellenberger, associate professor in the Meijer Honors College, will conduct research and teach a jazz theory course in Austria. Ellenberger will be housed at Austria's Kunstuniversität Graz (KUG), where he will study jazz pedagogy in Europe and compare it to the U.S. system. The KUG has institutes for jazz, jazz research and music aesthetics.

Rich Jelier, professor of public, nonprofit and health administration, will teach and conduct research at the New Economic School in Moscow. Jelier will continue researching comparative urbanization and government strategies for sustainability. He said the political economy of some Russian cities was much like Grand Rapids when it was linked to only the furniture industry.

Sylvia Mupepi, associate professor of nursing, will return to the University of Cape Coast in Ghana, where she helped establish a master's program at its school of nursing in 2009. Mupepi will teach and conduct research on cervical cancer while in Ghana. She said it's the No. 1 cancer killer of women in Ghana. "No study has been done to determine health promotion and preventive practices to reduce this mortality," she said.

Mark Schaub, chief international officer, said the number of faculty receiving Fulbright Scholarships continues to rise. Last year, there were also three faculty recipients, which ranked Grand Valley tied for second place for number of Fulbright recipients from a master's institution, according to the *Chronicle of Higher Education*. The ranking typically is released in the fall.

The Fulbright Program, sponsored by the U.S. Department of State, is the country's flagship international education exchange program, designed to provide opportunities for faculty members to teach and conduct research abroad.

For Immediate Release

June 3, 2013

Contact: Dottie Barnes, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

Workshop on buying/selling a business

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Business owners and others wanting to learn more about acquiring or selling a business can hear from area experts at a workshop, "How to Buy or Sell a Business," June 13.

The workshop, sponsored in part by the Michigan Small Business and Technology Development Center (MI-SBTDC) housed at Grand Valley State University, features presentations from a panel of experienced professionals and sessions covering specific challenges and opportunities.

How to Buy or Sell a Business

June 13

8 a.m.-noon

Hager Auditorium

Cook-DeVos Center for Health Sciences, Grand Rapids

Registration: \$75, free for veterans

Guest speakers include:

Dan Slate, H&S Companies

Randy Rua, CBA and CEPA with Rua Associates

Jonathan Siebers, attorney with Smith Haughey Rice & Roegge

Ken Lucas, attorney

Ben VanderWiede III, Wells Fargo

The workshop is also sponsored by H&S Companies, U.S. Small Business Administration, Wells Fargo, MiBiz, Michigan Business Brokers Association, Pure Michigan and Michigan Economic Development Corporation.

To register or for more information, call (616) 331-7370 or visit www.misbtfdc.org/training.

For release on June 4, 2013

Contact: GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

MEDIA NOTE: The honorees and university leaders will be available for media interviews for 15 minutes, beginning at 5:15 p.m. in the Business Center, DeVos Place. Contact News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221 for details. High-resolution and web-size photos of the honorees are on Grand Valley's FTP site, for instructions on how to access the site, visit gvsu.edu/s/aW.

Grand Valley University Foundation event will honor leaders

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. – The Grand Valley University Foundation will honor noted philanthropists and a longtime advocate for women's sports at its annual Enrichment Dinner.

The event is set for June 5 at DeVos Place in Grand Rapids. Awards will be presented to Beatrice A. Idema, Brian and Paqui Kelly, and Joan Boand.

Enrichment Award – Beatrice A. Idema

Bea Idema is a passionate philanthropist whose lifetime of giving has made a tremendous difference in West Michigan in many fields, including education, health and the arts.

Bea and her husband, Bill, created a foundation that has supported multiple non-profits in the region including Camp Henry, D.A. Blodgett, Metro Health Hospital and the Grand Rapids Art Museum. Idema recently funded the John Ball Zoo's Idema Forest Realm and Funicular.

She has also supported Grand Valley for more than 40 years. Idema had key roles in the campaign for the Mary Idema Pew Library Learning and Information Commons, and the Cook-DeVos Center for Health Sciences.

Leadership Award – Brian and Paqui Kelly

While now at the University of Notre Dame, Brian and Paqui, '98, Kelly will always be part of the Grand Valley family.

Brian started his football coaching career as a graduate assistant for the Lakers. He served as head coach from 1991-2003; during that time his teams won two NCAA Division II championships. Paqui worked in the Financial Aid Office and earned a master's degree in education from Grand Valley.

She is a two-time breast cancer survivor, giving the family the inspiration to establish the Kelly Cares Foundation, which supports organizations and programs that align health, education and community.

The Kelly family generously supports Grand Valley and the Kelly Family Sports Center is named in their honor.

Arend D. Lubbers Award – Joan Boand

Joan Boand, professor emeritus of physical education, will receive the Lubbers Award, established to honor longtime faculty and staff members for their service to the university and community.

Boand began her teaching career at Grand Valley in 1966 and was soon involved in establishing a sports program for women athletes. She coached softball, basketball, volleyball and track and field; her basketball teams won four straight conference titles. Boand retired in 1999 as associate athletic director.

To honor Boand's career and celebrate the 40th anniversary of Title IX, an endowment fund was established last year to support a scholarship and professional development opportunities for students. The fund is named in honor of Boand and Patti Rowe, a fellow faculty member.

For Immediate Release

June 5, 2013

Contact: Leah Twilley, Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

GVSU engineering, computing schools sign international partnerships

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Engineering and computing students at Grand Valley State University have a new opportunity to study abroad and intern at companies overseas through two new international partnerships.

Grand Valley's Padnos College of Engineering and Computing has entered into international-education partnerships with the Zurich University of Applied Sciences in Switzerland and the University of Cooperative Education, Mosbach in Germany. The partnerships encompass faculty, staff and student exchanges.

Joseph Iannelli, director of Grand Valley's School of Engineering, said students who take advantage of these opportunities will become globally competent, which is vital for engineers and computing professionals when they enter the workforce.

"Both institutions are similar to Grand Valley because they integrate academic studies with professional practice and have close connections with local industry," said Iannelli, who negotiated the agreements and serves as co-chair of Grand Valley's Curriculum Internationalization sub-committee. "The interest in these two countries derives from the presence in West Michigan of more than 50 multinational companies, the majority of which are from Germany, and some from Austria and Switzerland."

Iannelli said PCEC will continue to foster its new Industry-Sponsored Graduate Assistant program for international graduate students who come to Grand Valley. The program pairs students who are enrolled in the engineering master's program with an international company that has offices in Grand Rapids, such as Autocam Automotive, Grand Rapids Chair Company and Shape Corp.

University of Cooperative Education, Mosbach has been a partner of the Seidman College of Business since 2006, so the agreement was expanded to include PCEC. Iannelli said six students from University of Cooperative Education, Mosbach have enrolled to attend Grand Valley in the fall, three Grand Valley students plan to complete internships in Germany, two Zurich University of Applied Sciences professors have completed sabbaticals at Grand Valley, and biomedical engineering professor Samhita Rhodes will spend a sabbatical semester at Zurich University of Applied Sciences.

For more information, visit www.gvsu.edu/engineering or contact Joe Iannelli at iannelli@gvsu.edu.

For Immediate Release

June 6, 2013

Contact: Dottie Barnes, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

MEDIA NOTE: Audio and a photo of Long are available on Grand Valley's media FTP site. For instructions on how to access the site, follow this link: <http://qvsu.edu/s/aW>. Audio is also available at www.qvsu.edu/qvnow.

Current Business Trends: Considerably Stronger

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — The greater Grand Rapids industrial economy is considerably stronger, while the national economy is flat, according to the results of a monthly survey compiled by Brian G. Long, director of Supply Management Research in the Seidman College of Business at Grand Valley State University.

Long said the survey results are based on data collected during the last two weeks of May.

The survey's index of business improvement, called new orders, rose to +35, up from +31, a two-year high. The production index came in at +35, slightly higher than last month's +34. The employment index rose to +28 from +22.

"The auto parts suppliers are underwriting the strength of the Michigan economy, as well as our economy in West Michigan," said Long. "Auto sales remain strong, resulting in production schedules continuing to be revised upward. Some of the smaller office furniture firms are seeing stronger sales; the larger office furniture firms saw the first inkling of a modest uptick, given that sales have been lackluster for the past few months. In addition, the housing market is stronger and new construction has picked up."

Long said the national industrial economy is not nearly as strong as the local economy. He said May numbers show the first negative report since November 2012 and the weakest number since June 2009 — almost four years ago.

The Institute for Supply Management survey is a monthly survey of business conditions that includes 45 purchasing managers in the greater Grand Rapids area and 25 in Kalamazoo. The respondents are from the region's major industrial manufacturers, distributors and industrial service organizations. It is patterned after a nationwide survey conducted by the Institute for Supply Management. Each month, the respondents are asked to rate eight factors as "same," "up" or "down." An expanded version of this report and details of the methodology used to compile it are available at www.gvsu.edu/scblogistics.

For more information, contact Brian Long at (269) 323-2359.

For Immediate Release

June 6, 2013

Contact: Dottie Barnes, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

GVSU report on entrepreneurial climate in West Michigan

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Business experts from Grand Valley State University will give a report on the entrepreneurial climate in West Michigan, at an “Empowering Entrepreneurship” event, June 24, at the university’s new L. William Seidman Center in Grand Rapids.

Paul Isely, professor of economics; Sri Sundaram, professor of finance; and J. Kevin McCurren, director of the Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation at Grand Valley, will talk about the entrepreneurial culture, sources of capital, talent and business climate in West Michigan.

The keynote speaker is Michael G. Goldsby, the Stoops Distinguished Professor of Entrepreneurship and executive director of the Entrepreneurship Center in the Miller College of Business at Ball State University. He will discuss “Successful Entrepreneurs: Artists, Scientists, Builders & Evangelists.” Goldsby is the co-author of Innovation Acceleration. His research has been reported by national media outlets including MSNBC, CNN, and the Associated Press. His current research interests focus on opportunity recognition and development, design, innovation and applied creativity.

FULL SCHEDULE for June 24 at Seidman Center

7:30 a.m. Registration

8 a.m. Opening remarks by Mike Jandernoa, founder of Jandernoa Entrepreneurial Mentoring and former CEO of Perrigo Company

8:25 a.m. Keynote by Michael Goldsby

9:25 a.m. Break

9:30 a.m. The Climate of Entrepreneurship in West Michigan Study with Isely, Sundaram and McCurren

10:45 a.m. Break

11:00 a.m. Breakout sessions

Noon: Lunch and closing remarks

Pre-registration is required for the event at <http://empoweringent.eventbrite.com>. Admission is free and breakfast and lunch are included.

For more information, contact Grand Valley’s Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation at (616) 331-7582.

For more Grand Valley news, visit www.gvsu.edu/gvnow or follow us on Twitter: @GV_Now

For Immediate Release

June 10, 2013

Contact: Dottie Barnes, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

GVSU signs reverse transfer agreement with Mott CC

ALLENDALE, Mich. — Grand Valley State University signed a reverse transfer agreement June 7 with Mott Community College in Flint.

The agreement helps students who transferred to Grand Valley complete an associate's degree at the community college. The initiative applies to Mott Community College students who have completed at least 45 credits at MCC, but transferred to Grand Valley before earning an associate's degree.

Grand Valley has similar transfer agreements with 13 other community colleges across the state, including Grand Rapids, Alpena, Mid Michigan, Muskegon, West Shore, Montcalm, Lansing, Macomb, Wayne County Community College District, Northwestern Michigan, Jackson, North Central Michigan and Kellogg.

For more information, contact GVSU News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221.

For more Grand Valley news, visit www.gvsu.edu/gvnow or follow us on Twitter: @GV_Now.

For immediate release

June 11, 2013

Contact: Michele Coffill, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

Annual cycling event raises money for GVSU scholarship

LAKETOWN, Mich. – The Allegrina 100, a fun for all-levels 100-mile bicycle ride through the picturesque area around Saugatuck, will stage its fifth edition on June 23. The event raises funds for the John Allegrina Scholarship for nontraditional students at Grand Valley State University.

The Allegrina 100 is an annual cycling event founded to honor and remember John Allegrina. The first Allegrina 100 was held June 21, 2009, which was both Father's Day and John's first birthday after his passing. His daughter, Heather Allegrina, and her husband, Brian J. Bowe, organized a small group of cycling pals and decided to spend the day on a bike. Allegrina and Bowe are Grand Valley graduates.

In 2012, the Allegrina 100 became the signature fundraiser for the John Allegrina Nontraditional Student Memorial Scholarship at Grand Valley. The Allegrina scholarship is an endowed scholarship for Grand Valley juniors or seniors in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. This endowment fund was established to acknowledge that for some students an education is the key to bettering one's life circumstances; but that life circumstances can also complicate the process of attaining an education.

The Allegrina 100 features three loops that start from the same spot, departing at different times with the goal of staying together as much as possible. This is a fun and social ride unlike other centuries where riders show up, ride and leave without socializing. Mileage options range from 30-100 miles, with an additional "ice cream cruiser" ride for families and children to join. The goal is no matter which ride one takes, everyone ends up back at home base for the party.

The cost to participate is \$25 for the ride, or \$10 for just the party and ice cream ride. Children under 5 attend free. All funds raised go to the Allegrina Scholarship, thanks in part to event sponsors the Herman Miller Foundation, New Holland Brewing Company, Velo City Cycles, Felt Mansion, Sundance Center, Janus Firm, Tidal 9 Events, and Foolish Designs.

For more information and to register, visit www.allegrina100.com.

For immediate release

June 12, 2013

Contact: Dottie Barnes, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

Teen entrepreneurs enter "shark tank"

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — The next generation of high school entrepreneurs will compete June 21, to win big prizes at the 2013 Teen Entrepreneur Summer Academy (TESA) Idea Pitch Competition. The event is sponsored by Grand Valley State University's Center for Entrepreneurship & Innovation and GR Current, a business incubator for life sciences and emerging technologies in West Michigan.

Thirty-nine high school students, making up 10 teams, will spend one week developing a new business concept to address problems facing downtown Grand Rapids. The teams will pitch their solution in front of community stakeholders for a chance to win \$1,000 in cash prizes. Each team will have five minutes to pitch their idea, and three minutes of Q&A. Teams must convince the judging panel that their idea is viable and that they are the right people to make it successful.

2013 TESA Idea Pitch Competition

June 21

2-3:30 p.m.

Grand Valley's L. William Seidman Center

50 Front Ave., Grand Rapids

The judging panel includes:

- Ellie Frey, director of the Family Owned Business Alliance
- Alison Keutgen, retail strategist at Tiger Studio
- Sam Hogg, venture partner at Open Prairie Ventures
- Felix Pereiro, business department head at Grand Rapids Community College

This event is free and open to the public. RSVP at <http://tesa2013.eventbrite.com>

For more information, contact J. Kevin McCurren at Grand Valley's Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation, at (616) 331-7582.

For immediate release

June 12, 2013

Contact: Grand Valley State University News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

Media note: Photos of the some of the graduates highlighted in this article are available on Grand Valley's FTP site (June 12 STEM Graduates). For instructions on how to access the site, follow this link: <http://qvsu.edu/s/aW>.

Grand Valley STEM graduates help drive economy

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Grandville native Jake Hall never changed his major while in college. He knew he wanted to pursue an engineering career since his first year of high school.

He works full time as a product design engineer and product manager for Viable Inc. in Grandville, Mich. Hall will graduate in August from Grand Valley State University with a bachelor's degree in product design and manufacturing engineering, and a minor in biomedical engineering.

Hall is among the 700 students annually who earn undergraduate and graduate degrees in a STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) field from Grand Valley, representing roughly 13 percent of all degrees granted. A new study released by the Brookings Metropolitan Policy program shows that as of 2011, 26 million jobs in the U.S. require a high level of knowledge in a STEM field.

Hall said he was accepted at Purdue and Michigan State, but chose Grand Valley because of its hands-on, real-world program. "That's what sets Grand Valley apart from others," he said. "I didn't want to do research, I wanted to work directly with people and companies to help them solve problems and to develop products."

About 85 percent of first-year students who begin a STEM major continue in that major after one year. The six-year graduate rate for STEM majors is 40 percent.

While at Grand Valley, Hall worked on projects such as a biopsy device that can help detect disease, a Skittles sorter that is used for educational outreach programs at Grand Valley, and a repurposed Barbie Jeep that helps a 2-year-old with spina bifida be more mobile.

"I like sitting around with a pen and pad and brainstorming new ideas," said Hall. "My professors in the School of Engineering taught me how to take a concept and make it a reality. At Grand Valley, it's not 'what if,' it's more 'what happens.'"

Grand Valley's Seymour and Esther Padnos College of Engineering and Computing has a consistent 100 percent job placement rate for its graduates. Paul Plotkowski, dean of the college, said West Michigan employers tell him they like hiring Grand Valley graduates because of the practical, hands-on experience they receive.

Enrollment in engineering programs has grown by nearly 50 percent in six years, from 1,044 students in 2006 to 1,491 students in 2012. "Our enrollment is growing rapidly to try to respond to the demand for engineers and computing professionals," Plotkowski said.

Grand Valley is constructing a new building dedicated to supporting and attracting students in STEM fields. The four-story Science Laboratory Building will house 15 teaching labs, 14 faculty and student research labs, study spaces, offices and a greenhouse. The \$55 million facility will receive \$30 million from the state. The university will bond the \$25 million needed to complete the project; no tuition money will be needed for the building. It is scheduled for completion in 2015.

Nicole Eves graduated in 2009 with a bachelor's degree in cell and molecular biology. She works as an associate microbiologist for an area food processor. Eves said employers recognize the strengths she brings to a job because of her Grand Valley education.

"They know the skills I gained from designing experiments and conducting research with my professor would transfer well to the workplace," Eves said. Eves worked with Bruce Ostrow, associate professor of biology, on a Student Scholars Day project that examined the connective tissue in flying squirrels. She also had a job shadowing experience in Dallas, Texas, at a breast cancer research clinic.

"Even though I didn't go into genetics counseling like I thought, the interpersonal and communications skills I learned from the nurse practitioner and others at the clinic always relate back to the workplace," she said.

Other STEM graduates echoed the same sentiment. There are more than 15 Grand Valley mathematics graduates working at Auto-Owners Insurance in Lansing, Mich. While they bring proficient technical skills, Darlene Miller said they also bring critical thinking skills.

"New employees hired by Auto-Owners need to possess many of the skills that a mathematics degree develops: logical thinking, problem solving, attention to detail and effective communication," Miller, who graduated in 2000, said. She recently moved into a management position at the insurance company. Megan Shaff, who graduated in 2009, works in the actuarial division of Auto-Owners. She said working on group projects as a student has helped her work collaboratively, productively and efficiently. "These are necessary skills in my current position," Shaff said.

Ed Aboufadel, professor and chair of mathematics, said the connection between Grand Valley and Auto-Owners has grown so strong that the company buses students to Lansing for a career fair in hopes of recruiting them.

Media note: To contact any of these graduates, call Grand Valley News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221.

Grand Valley State University attracts more than 24,500 students with high-quality programs and state-of-the-art facilities. Grand Valley is a comprehensive university serving students from all 83 Michigan counties and dozens of other states and foreign countries. Grand Valley offers 82 undergraduate and 30 graduate degree programs from campuses in Allendale, Grand Rapids and Holland, and from regional centers in Muskegon and Traverse City. The university is dedicated to individual student achievement, going beyond the traditional classroom experience, with research opportunities and business partnerships.

June 13, 2013

For immediate release

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News & Information (616) 331-2221

Shipwreck expedition crew includes Grand Valley alumnus

ALLENDALE, Mich. -- A Grand Valley State University alumnus is working with a team of international underwater archaeologists on a site they hope to prove is the final resting place of the oldest known shipwreck in the upper Great Lakes.

David J. Ruck, a Grand Valley alumnus, filmmaker and educator from Whitehall, is the producer/cinematographer and underwater cinematographer on the expedition, which he has been involved with for two years.

Le Griffon was built and commanded by the legendary French explorer Rene-Robert Sieur de La Salle, on behalf of King Louis XIV. Carrying a crew of six and a cargo of furs, the ship went missing during its maiden voyage in September 1679, after departing from the area near present-day Green Bay, Wis.

After years of red tape, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and the state archaeologist's office recently approved a plan by Great Lakes Exploration Group to conduct a test excavation at a remote site in northern Lake Michigan. Members of the exploration group believe they have found the wreck, currently only a White Oak beam sticking out of the lake's bottomlands.

"My goal for the project is to tell the amazing story of La Salle, the *Griffon*, and the 330-year journey to understand how it sank — and where," said Ruck. "The scientists involved have worked on numerous wrecks around the world, including the *Titanic*, *Edmund Fitzgerald* and the *Lusitania*."

Ruck received both bachelor's and master's degrees from Grand Valley's School of Communications in 2004 and 2007, respectively, and recently earned a Master of Fine Arts from The American University, in Washington, D.C. He currently lives in Bethesda, Maryland, and is president of Rubangfilms, a small production company that focuses on subjects that involve science, exploration, history and space.

"We are still in negotiations with some rather prestigious production companies from around the world and I can certainly hope that efforts to that end are successful as well," Ruck said. "I'll be supplying underwater footage to the news networks. NPR, FOX, and the AP will be on-site."

Visit <http://expeditioncinema.wordpress.com/> to learn more about Ruck and the expedition.

For Immediate Release

June 14, 2013

Contact: Nate Hoekstra, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

MEDIA-Grand Valley alumnus one of two Americans to be named Erasmus Mundus scholar

ALLENDALE, Mich. — Grand Valley alumnus Kris Cortez, '11, '13, has been accepted as an Erasmus Mundus Scholar in the Transcultural European Outdoor Studies program from the University of Marburg, Germany, and the Norwegian School of Sport Sciences in Oslo, Norway. He was one of only two Americans to receive the prestigious award.

The study program will begin at the University of Cumbria in Ambleside, UK, in September, and will continue at the Norwegian School of Sport Sciences and the University of Marburg through August 2015.

Cortez will receive full funding for his studies, including tuition, fees, travel, insurance, and living expenses.

The aim of the program is to provide a well-rounded education in three central traditions of the philosophy behind teaching about the outdoors from Norway, Germany, and the UK. The program is also intended to allow students to learn about cultural transitions between the three national concepts.

The European Union's Erasmus Mundus scholarship is a merit scholarship designed to attract the best students to Europe to study in master's and doctoral programs and enhance quality in higher education through scholarships and academic cooperation between Europe and the rest of the world.

Applicants are accepted based upon grades, course prerequisites, language proficiency, and professor recommendations. No more than two scholarships are given per nationality.

For more information about the Erasmus Mundus Scholarship and other competitive awards, please contact Amanda Cuevas, director of the Frederik Meijer Office of Fellowships at cuevasam@gvsu.edu or fellowships@gvsu.edu.

For Immediate Release

June 14, 2013

Contact: Tim Wood, Special Assistant to the President for Charter Schools, Grand Valley State University, (616) 331-2240

MEDIA-WayPoint Academy closes

MUSKEGON, Mich. — WayPoint Academy, a Grand Valley State University-authorized charter school, will close at the end of the 2012-13 school year.

The WayPoint Academy board, in consultation with Grand Valley's Charter Schools Office, voted to close the academy on Friday, June 14. Low enrollment and weaker than expected academic performance were cited as reasons for the closure.

Grand Valley's Charter Schools Office will work with the Muskegon Area Intermediate School District, regional traditional school districts, and local charter schools to ensure that all WayPoint students have access to quality school options.

"Part of the charter school model is closure," said Tim Wood, director of Grand Valley's Charter Schools Office. "If a school is no longer financially sustainable or providing the community with the quality programming that Grand Valley requires of its charters, Grand Valley works with the Academy board to close the school."

The closure of WayPoint Academy brings GVSU's total number of charter schools to 60 schools serving approximately 25,000 students in the 2013-14 school year. A January 2013 report by Michigan State University's Education Policy Center and the Michigan State Board of Education ranked GVSU as the most effective authorizer in the state. GVSU charter schools are held to rigorous financial and academic performance standards. WayPoint Academy is among seven charter schools in the state that are closing after the 2012-13 school year.

For more information, contact Tim Wood, Grand Valley State University Charter Schools Office, (616) 331-2240.

For Immediate Release

June 14, 2013

Contact: Nate Hoekstra, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

MEDIA-Research project identifies needs of nonprofit sector

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — A new study from Grand Valley State University's School of Public, Nonprofit and Health Administration, and the Johnson Center for Philanthropy reveals trends in the kind of professional development programming nonprofit organizations in Michigan need.

The 2013 Nonprofit Needs Assessment is a profile of the most urgent professional development needs of Michigan nonprofits. While many industries are struggling in Michigan, the nonprofit sector is growing at a rate of 1.3 percent per year, and demand for nonprofit services is rising. That means nonprofit workers must work longer hours and take on additional responsibilities to meet increasing demand.

Nonprofit and philanthropic employers are recognizing that in order to reduce employee burnout and turnover as well as maintain positive employee morale, they must provide professional development opportunities for their staff.

Previous needs assessments were conducted by the Johnson Center for Philanthropy in 1998 and 2007. The 2013 needs assessment is comprised of the responses from 138 different nonprofit and philanthropic organizations.

Key findings included:

- The majority of respondent organizations offer professional development to their staff and board: 73 percent of the surveyed nonprofits offer professional development training to their staff, and 51 percent offer professional development to their board.
- The Johnson Center for Philanthropy is the second most frequently used professional development source. The first most frequently used professional development source is the Internet.
- Program evaluation and data-based decision making is a crucial training need for many respondents. However, organizations are not currently taking advantage of this type of training due to cost and time constraints.
- Organizational type and location determines the most crucial training need, in some cases. Fifty-seven percent of respondent educational organizations and 60 percent of Muskegon County respondent organizations selected board of directors training as their most crucial training need.

The report identifies recommendations on future actions, and detailed analysis of the current needs of nonprofit organizations.

Research and reporting was done by Heather Carpenter, an assistant professor in Grand

Valley's School of Public, Nonprofit and Health Administration. Carpenter is the current Dr. Russell G. Mawby Fellow for Philanthropic Studies, a position which is granted to one Grand Valley faculty member each year. Carpenter picked Rachel Gregg and Alaina Clarke as the undergraduate fellows.

For more information, contact Heather Carpenter, carpenth@gvsu.edu or (616) 331-6579.

For immediate release

June 14, 2013

Contact: Michele Coffill, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

GVSU announces book selected for annual Community Reading Project

-- Author will make two West Michigan appearances

ALLENDALE, Mich. — Participants in the ninth annual Community Reading Project at Grand Valley State University will learn about the lives of Mexican-American families as they risk everything for a new life in the United States.

The CRP committee selected Renya Grande's "The Distance Between Us" as the 2013-2014 book that hundreds of students, faculty and staff members, and community members will read and discuss at various events throughout the year.

Grande will make two West Michigan appearances next spring. She will speak in Holland March 24 at the Herrick District Library, through a continued partnership with the public library; and at Grand Valley on March 25.

In her 2012 memoir, Grande recounts her tumultuous childhood that was spent torn between two parents and two countries. Her Mexican parents make the dangerous journey across the border in pursuit of a new life, leaving their children behind. Grande arrived in the U.S. at age 9 as an undocumented immigrant to live with her father. She quickly learns that life in America is far from perfect.

The book was named a National Book Circle Critics Award finalist.

Brian Jbara, director of the Office of Integrative Learning and Advising, said it provides an authentic look into the experiences of Mexican-American families. Jbara said the book will have broad appeal to the campus community and members of the public who want to participate.

Award-winning author Sandra Cisneros said "The Distance Between Us" is an American story of a Latino immigrant for the new millennium. "What makes Grande's beautiful memoir all the more extraordinary is that, through this hero's journey, she speaks for millions of immigrants whose voices have gone unheard," Cisneros said.

Her first novel, "Across a Hundred Mountains," was published in 2006 and earned the Latino Books Into Movies Award, American Book Award and El Premio Aztlán Literary Award. Grande also wrote "Dancing with Butterflies," published in 2009.

The CRP is sponsored by the Brooks College of Interdisciplinary Studies, University Libraries and University Bookstore. For more information, visit www.gvsu.edu/read.

For Immediate Release

June 17, 2013

Contact: Nate Hoekstra, Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

MEDIA-McHale named chair of Johnson Center Leadership Council

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — James E. McHale, vice president for programs at the W.K. Kellogg Foundation (WKKF), was recently named the new chair of the Leadership Council for Grand Valley State University's Dorothy A. Johnson Center for Philanthropy.

The Leadership Council is a group of philanthropic leaders who serve as partners and friends of the Johnson Center. Its function is to help the Johnson Center identify ways it can more effectively fulfill its mission of connecting nonprofit success and philanthropic practice.

At WKKF, McHale works across all programming areas to ensure effective programming strategies, teamwork, policies, philosophies, and organization-wide systems.

Before joining WKKF in 1993, McHale was a program associate for the Council of Michigan Foundations (CMF) in Grand Haven; as a development manager and marketing specialist for Hackley Hospital in Muskegon; and as a development associate for St. Mary's Health Service in Grand Rapids.

McHale also founded Camp Catch-A-Rainbow, a summer program for children with cancer, along with helping to establish the first camp for children with cancer in Russia. He also co-founded Kalamazoo Special Skiing, a program that trains the blind and physically disabled how to downhill ski. Jim has served on served on numerous national, state, and local boards, including the Boards of the Better Business Bureau-Wise Giving Alliance, Legacy Scholars, Family Y Center, the Community Prayer Breakfast, Minority Health Advisory Board, Teen Pregnancy Advisory Board, Urban League, United Way, Coalition of Community Foundations for Youth, Michigan's Children, Battle Creek Health Systems and chaired the 2000 Greater Battle Creek United Way Campaign.

The Johnson Center is an Academic Center at Grand Valley State University that works locally, nationally, and internationally with foundations, other grantmakers, and nonprofits to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the charitable sector.

For more information visit JohnsonCenter.org.

For Immediate Release

June 18, 2013

Contact: Leah Twilley, Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

Interns to compete in GVSU-hosted Olympics

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — From cubicle to Olympic podium, more than 300 interns from West Michigan companies will take competition to another level during the sixth annual Summer Intern Olympics June 20 at Grand Valley State University.

Some of the region's largest employers of interns will participate, including GE Aviation, Gordon Food Services, Meijer, Haworth, Perrigo, Steelcase, Spectrum Health, Northwestern Mutual Financial Network and Wolverine Worldwide. Teams of interns will compete for first place by completing company-themed games and activities throughout downtown Grand Rapids.

The games will go from 2:30-4:30 p.m. The event will conclude with a networking reception and trophy presentation from 4:30-5 p.m. on the second floor of the Eberhard Center, Pew Grand Rapids Campus. Media is encouraged to attend.

This is the third year Grand Valley is hosting the event.

"This event is a great example of the types of private/public partnerships Grand Valley engages in West Michigan," said Susan Proctor, employer development manager for the Career Center at Grand Valley. "It also allows interns, especially those from out of state, to see all the career and educational opportunities this area has to offer."

For more information, contact Proctor at proctors@gvsu.edu or (616) 331-6708.

For Immediate Release

June 19, 2013

Contact: Dottie Barnes, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

GVSU signs two more reverse transfer agreements

ALLENDALE, Mich. — Grand Valley State University signed reverse transfer agreements with Lake Michigan College in Benton Harbor and Washtenaw Community College in Ann Arbor.

The agreements help students who transferred to Grand Valley complete an associate's degree at the community college. The initiative applies to students who have completed at least 45 credits at LMC or WCC, but transferred to Grand Valley before earning an associate's degree.

Grand Valley now has 16 reverse transfer agreements with community colleges across the state, including Grand Rapids, Alpena, Mid Michigan, Muskegon, West Shore, Montcalm, Mott, Lansing, Macomb, Wayne County District, Northwestern Michigan, Jackson, North Central Michigan and Kellogg community colleges.

For more Grand Valley news, visit www.gvsu.edu/gvnow or follow us on Twitter: @GV_Now.

For immediate release

June 20, 2013

Contact: Michele Coffill, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

GVSU continues commitment to veterans with online training sessions

-- Courses suitable for health professionals who work with vets

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Grand Valley State University is offering continuing education opportunities for health care professionals working with military veterans who suffered brain injuries during combat.

Housed within GVSU's Office of the Vice Provost for Health, the Veterans Traumatic Brain Injury Education Project (VTBIEP) offers 11 hours of online continuing education courses that focus on rehabilitation of veterans who are diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorders or traumatic brain injuries (TBI).

Jean Nagelkerk, vice provost for Health, said the continuing education credits are appropriate for any health professional who works with veterans: physicians, nurses, physician assistants, social workers, occupational and speech therapists, and other health professionals.

Grand Valley faculty members and military experts developed the course content. Nagelkerk said the courses provide comprehensive, evidence-based, military relevant courses for treating service members with TBI, optimizing outcomes for community reintegration.

Up to 11 continuing education credits can be earned on topics that include physiological/symptom control and interdisciplinary care, cognitive and behavioral health, and case management and community reintegration for veterans and their families.

For more information about the VTBIEP continuing education, call (616) 331-5876, send an email to vetstbi@gvsu.edu, or visit www.gvsu.edu/veteranstbi.

Service members, teachers, instructors and others interested in the material but who do not need continuing education credits may purchase the educational modules in a DVD course pack.

The education project continues Grand Valley's commitment to veterans. In 2010, GVSU and Mary Free Bed Rehabilitation Hospital entered a partnership to help veterans with traumatic brain injuries. The project was funded with grants from the U.S. Department of Defense.

For immediate release

June 20, 2013

Contact: Mary Pirkola, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

MEDIA NOTE

Media Tour of Mary Idema Pew Library

A media tour of the new Mary Idema Pew Library Learning and Information Commons at Grand Valley State University is scheduled for July 10. The tour will be hosted by Lee Van Orsdel, dean of University Libraries and James Moyer, associate vice president for Facilities Planning.

**Mary Idema Pew Library Learning and Information Commons Media Tour
Wednesday, July 10 at 1 p.m. Allendale Campus**

Enter on the south side of library, near the visitor parking area located between the Kirkhof Center and the Performing Arts Center.

Please RSVP to Mary Pirkola at pirkolam@gvsu.edu.

The new facility is named after Mary Idema Pew, who was a trailblazer with a lifelong passion for education. Her late husband, Robert C. Pew, one of Grand Valley's founders and an early Board of Trustees member, generously provided the lead gift that was the catalyst for this \$65 million project. Their daughter, Kate Pew Wolters, currently serves on Grand Valley's Board of Trustees. More than 1,400 donors, including community members, corporations, foundations, alumni, faculty, staff, and students and their families, helped to raise more than \$20 million for the library.

The Zumberge Library was built in the 1960s for 5,000 students; today Grand Valley serves nearly 25,000 students. The Mary Idema Pew Library has triple the seating capacity, space for 150,000 books on open shelves and 600,000 library items in an automated retrieval system, and places for quiet study as well as a wide variety of venues for group collaboration.

The Mary Idema Pew Library is a prototype for 21st century learning, with an innovative and student-focused design, including:

- Knowledge Marketplace provides students access to peer consultants trained in research, technology, writing and presentation development
- IT Help Desk, two library learning labs, two quiet reading rooms
- A Multipurpose Room with seating for 88 at tables, a café with a capacity for nearly 100 people, and an exhibition space

The design and construction team selected for this project includes SHW Group, architects; FTC&H, civil engineering; and Pioneer Construction. The building is seeking the highest level

LEED certification, having been designed and constructed to use half the energy of a similar building using traditional methods.

For more information, contact Grand Valley News and Information Services at (616) 331-2221.

For Immediate Release

June 21, 2013

Contact: Leah Twilley, Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

GVSU signs Green Chemistry Commitment

ALLENDALE, Mich. — Grand Valley State University has joined a group of U.S. universities that are working together to raise awareness about the growing field of green chemistry.

The university is among the first to sign the national Green Chemistry Commitment, an agreement that states all chemistry majors, by the time they graduate, will have proficiency in green chemistry. Green chemistry focuses on understanding how chemicals affect human health and the environment, and lessening the toxicity and hazards of chemicals.

The commitment is led by an advisory board of faculty from chemistry departments across the U.S. It is facilitated by Beyond Benign, a non-profit that provides tools to educators to teach and learn about green chemistry to create a sustainable future.

Dalila Kovacs, professor of chemistry, said green chemistry practices are increasingly seen in many industries, including health care, and can be applied to product development, patent law and quality management professions. "Green chemistry includes long-term thinking, and researching and producing chemicals that are not toxic and not harmful in the long run," she said.

Kovacs said Grand Valley is a leader in green chemistry education. In 2011, Grand Valley was one of a few universities in the U.S., including the University of California Berkeley, to offer a green chemistry certification program. Two courses in green chemistry are offered each semester, and the university hopes to add toxicology courses in the future.

"More and more, companies are seeking employees with sustainable skills that complement any job," said Kovacs. "Being certified in green chemistry will bring in-house expertise and life-cycle thinking to companies hiring people for many different fields and industries."

Kovacs joined representatives from other universities who signed the commitment at the 17th Annual Green Chemistry and Engineering Conference June 18-20 in Maryland. She gave a presentation about Grand Valley's program to green chemistry educators from across the country.

For more information about Grand Valley's commitment to green chemistry, contact Todd Carlson, professor and department chair of chemistry, at (616) 331-3560, or Kovacs at kovacsd@gvsu.edu or (616) 331-3806.

For immediate release

June 21, 2013

Contact: Michele Coffill, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

GVSU Farmers Market hosts Grandparent's Day

ALLENDALE, Mich. — Grand Valley State University's Farmers Market is in full swing and will host Grandparent's Day on Wednesday, June 26.

The market, now in its seventh year, runs each Wednesday through September 25 in parking lot H of the Allendale Campus, next to the Children's Enrichment Center. Community members are welcome; hours are 10 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Each week, chefs from Campus Dining prepare meals based on produce from vendors. Lunches can be purchased between 11 a.m.-1 p.m. for \$6.

Area vendors include Paul's Gourmet Jerky, Goen's Produce, Farm County Cheese House and Happy Jack's Kettle Corn. More information about the market is online at www.gvsu.edu/farmersmarket.

For Immediate Release

June 24, 2013

Contact: Dottie Barnes, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

MEDIA NOTE: Audio and a pdf of the full report are available on Grand Valley's media FTP site. For instructions on how to access the site, follow this link: <http://qvsu.edu/s/aW>. Audio and the report are also available at www.qvsu.edu/qvnow.

Entrepreneurship climate report for West Michigan released

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — The culture has improved for entrepreneurship in West Michigan, according to a new report by Grand Valley State University researchers.

The 2013 climate report, commissioned by Grand Valley's Seidman College of Business and Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation, is a redo of the first report conducted in 2009.

The authors of the report, Paul Isely, professor of economics; Sridhar Sundaram, professor of finance; and Michael Kurley, a student at Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation, found two key improvements since 2009.

"The culture has improved and changed for entrepreneurship," said Isely. "We are now embracing entrepreneurship as a goal. That wasn't the case four years ago. This change in culture means another improvement, which is we're attracting more capital to West Michigan and there is more access to venture capital and more professionally controlled venture capital."

Isely said the report indicated areas where improvement is needed. He said entrepreneurs are not accessing federal funding that can help their companies, and the cost of doing business in West Michigan is higher than the national average. "I'm surprised by the cost issue because we have a very good tax climate and do well with wages," Isely said.

Isely added that while the availability of capital and the business climate has improved, a better job needs to be done educating the workforce and retaining young workers.

For more information, contact Paul Isely at (616) 331-7418, or Sri Sundaram at (616) 331-7433.

Report summary:

Culture: The population in Grand Rapids is less diverse than the national average. It also suffers from the lack of retention of young workers. This has a negative impact on the entrepreneurial climate of the region, but it is tempered by the fact that the State of Michigan has been creating new firms faster than the national average suggesting a return of the entrepreneurs to the state.

Capital: Michigan is attracting more venture capital funding compared to prior years. The access

to risk capital is improving faster than the rest of the nation. Michigan continues to lag behind in attracting SBIR and STTR funds, which is a key source of funds for entrepreneurial companies.

Climate: While the cost of doing business in Grand Rapids is still high, it is improving due to the favorable change in the statewide business tax climate. However, Grand Rapids has fallen behind in recruiting new talent, especially from abroad, to supplement the local skilled labor force.

Talent: Compared to the cohort cities, Grand Rapids ranks lower in patent generation, percentage of adults with bachelor's degrees, and people employed in creative occupations — all indicators of the talent pool from which new businesses are established.

For Immediate Release

June 24, 2013

Contact: Nate Hoekstra, Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221,
hoekstna@gvsu.edu

MEDIA-Six Grand Valley charter schools get grants for community beautification projects

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Grand Valley State University's Charter Schools Office recently awarded school and community beautification grants to six of its authorized schools in greater Detroit.

The newly created competitive grants provided winning schools with up to \$1,500 to fund an outdoor improvement project for the school or community area near the building.

Tim Wood, special assistant to the president for charter schools, organized similar projects during his time as a principal at Northview High School and said they serve multiple purposes.

"You give students a chance to work with adults in a non-academic setting and pull together for the betterment of the school," Wood said.

Two of the six schools have already completed the beautification projects. Michigan Mathematics and Science Academy, in Hazel Park, restored a community baseball field, repainting the backstop and planting a garden behind it.

Reach Charter Academy, in Roseville, built new landscaping along the school entrance sidewalks. Nearly 100 students and faculty participated in the project, building new flower beds around the flagpole and school sign.

The four remaining schools in Detroit include Detroit Enterprise Academy, Cornerstone Health High School, Henry Ford Academy: School For Creative Studies Elementary, and University Preparatory Academy Elementary (Ellen Thompson campus). These schools will complete their projects during the summer.

The grant program is one of many offered by and funded through the university's charter schools office throughout the year.

For more information, contact Amirah Vosburgh at (616) 331-2240 or visit gvsu.edu/cso.

General Events

GVSU Writers Series

September 24 — Roxane Gay — Fiction and Non Fiction Writer

November 19 — Jenni Lamb — Playwright

January 28 — GVSU Faculty Reading with Amorak Huey and Caitlin Horrocks

February 24 — Caroline Maun — Poet and Songwriter

March 27 — Samrat Upadhyay — Fiction Writer

The Grand Valley Writers Series has a long history of bringing distinguished and emerging writers to campus to read from their work, visit classes, and interact with students. Open to the public with free admission. For more information contact Oindrila Mukherjee, assistant professor in the [Writing Department](#) at 616-331-3411.

James W. Carey Memorial Lecture

September 24, 7 p.m. Loosemore Auditorium, DeVos Center, GVSU Pew Grand Rapids Campus. Brent Malin, associate professor of Communication, director of Graduate Studies, and affiliate faculty member in Cultural Studies at the University of Pittsburgh will present the lecture, "Post-Network Manhood: Television, Niche-Marketing, and the Rhetoric of Masculinity." Free admission. For more information, contact Valerie Peterson, associate professor, School of Communications, at 331-2981. [read more](#)

My Year in Vietnam - Vietnam Veterans Share Their Stories

In each of 10 presentations, September 25 - April 9, three Vietnam veterans with overlapping experiences will tell their stories and take questions from the audience. All presentations start at 7 p.m. and are free and open to the public. For more details and a complete schedule visit <http://www.gvsu.edu/vethistory/> [read more](#)

Great Lakes History Conference

October 11-12, GVSU Pew Grand Rapids Campus. The 2013 conference theme is "Collisions and Encounters: Migrations in a Global Perspective - 15th Century to Present." All events are open to the public. For more details, visit www.gvsu.edu/history. [read more](#)

West Michigan Academic Consortium Conference

October 15. Conference is free and open to the public. Keynote speaker is Margaret Mitchell, University of Chicago Divinity School dean and a literary historian of ancient Christianity. Schedule and online registration will be available at www.interfaithunderstanding.org. For more information, email Whitney Belprez at belprezw@gvsu.edu, or call (616) 331-5702. [read more](#)

GVSU Symphony Orchestra

February 26, 8 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, GVSU Allendale Campus. Open to the public. Free admission. For more information, please call (616) 331-3484 or visit www.gvsu.edu/music.

GVSU Varsity Men, University Arts Chorale, Cantate Chamber Ensemble

February 27, 8 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, GVSU Allendale Campus. Open to the public. Free admission. For more information, call (616) 331-3484 or visit www.gvsu.edu/music.

University Arts Chorale and Cantate Chamber Ensemble

April 19, 8 p.m. Cook-DeWitt Center, GVSU Allendale Campus. Open to the public. Free admission. For more information call (616) 331-3484 or visit www.gvsu.edu/music.

GVSU Symphonic Wind Ensemble

April 11, 8 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, GVSU Allendale Campus. Open to the public. Free admission. For more information call (616) 331-3484 or visit www.gvsu.edu/music.

GVSU Concert Band

April 13, 8 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, GVSU Allendale Campus. Open to the public. Free admission. For more information call (616) 331-3484 or visit www.gvsu.edu/music.

GVSU Choral Concert

April 14, 8 p.m. Cook-DeWitt Center, GVSU Allendale Campus. Open to the public. Free admission. For more information call (616) 331-3484 visit www.gvsu.edu/music.

University Band

April 15, 8 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, GVSU Allendale Campus. Open to the public. Free admission. For more information call (616) 331-3484 or visit www.gvsu.edu/music.

GVSU Symphony Orchestra

April 16, 8 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, GVSU Allendale Campus. Open to the public. Free admission. For more information call (616) 331-3484 or visit www.gvsu.edu/music.

GVSU Jazz Orchestra

April 17, 8 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, GVSU Allendale Campus. Open to the public. Free admission. For more information call (616) 331-3484 or visit www.gvsu.edu/music.

GVSU Symphony Orchestra Concert

December 4, 8 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, GVSU Allendale Campus. Open to the public. Free admission. For more information, call (616) 331-3484 or visit www.gvsu.edu/music.

GVSU Choral Concert

December 5, 8 p.m. Open to the public. Free admission. For more information, please call (616) 331-3484 or visit www.gvsu.edu/music. [read more](#)

Location: Cook-DeWitt Center, GVSU Allendale Campus

GVSU Fall Arts Holiday Celebration:

"A Very English Christmas: Music of the Season from the British Isles"

December 9, 8 p.m., Fountain Street Church, 24 Fountain Street NE, Grand Rapids. Musical selections from the beloved Coventry Carol, which was first heard in the early 15th century, to the decidedly more modern parable of Brother Heinrich's Christmas, and the magnificent and uplifting Gloria, by world-renowned English composer John Rutter. For more information, visit www.gvsu.edu/fallarts, or call (616) 331-2180.

GVSU Opera Theatre presents 'Urinetown, The Musical'

January 31 and February 1, 7, 8, performances 7:30 p.m.

February 2 & 9 matinee performances 2 p.m.

Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus

Tickets: \$14 for adults, \$12 for seniors, faculty, staff, and alumni, and \$6 for all students and groups over 10. Call the GVSU Louis Armstrong Theatre box office at 616-331-2300. For more information visit www.gvsu.edu/music.

Annual High School Honors Band Concert with the

GVSU Symphonic Wind Ensemble

February 16, 3 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, GVSU Allendale Campus.

Open to the public. Free admission. For more information call (616) 331-3484 or visit

www.gvsu.edu/music.

GVSU Concert Band

February 24, 8 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, GVSU Allendale Campus

Open to the public. Free admission. For more information call (616) 331-3484 or visit

www.gvsu.edu/music.

GVSU Choral Concert

February 25, 8 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, GVSU Allendale Campus.

Open to the public. Free admission. For more information call (616) 331-3484 or visit

www.gvsu.edu/music.

GVSU Choral Concert

October 14, 8 p.m. Choral Concert featuring University Singers, Select Women's Ensemble, Cantate Chamber Ensemble, and Women's Chamber Ensemble.

Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, GVSU Allendale Campus. Open to the public. Free admission. For more information, call (616) 331-3484 or visit www.gvsu.edu/music.

GVSU Jazz Orchestra Concert

October 15, 8 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, GVSU Allendale Campus.

Free admission. For more information, call (616) 331-3484 or visit www.gvsu.edu/music.

University Arts Chorale and Varsity Men

October 17, 8 p.m. University Arts Chorale and Varsity Men. Cook-DeWitt Center, GVSU

Allendale Campus. Open to the public. Free admission. For more information, call (616) 331-3484 or visit www.gvsu.edu/music.

GVSU Concert Band Performance

October 18, 8 p.m. Free admission. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, GVSU Allendale Campus. For more information, call (616) 331-3484 or visit www.gvsu.edu/music.

Fall Arts Celebration:**"Memories of Summer - The American Identity in Dance"**

November 4, 8 p.m. GVSU Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus.

Nationally celebrated choreographer Lauren Edson and the Lauren Edison + Dancers present a modern dance interpretation of Samuel Barber's achingly beautiful music, with a distinctively American melody. All Fall Arts Celebration events are open to the public with free admission.

For more information, visit www.gvsu.edu/fallarts, or call (616) 331-2180.

GVSU Concert Band Performance

November 25, 8 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, GVSU Allendale

Campus. Open to the public. Free admission. For more information, call (616) 331-3484 or visit www.gvsu.edu/music.

GVSU Opera Theatre presents 'Amahl and the Night Visitors'

Performances:

Friday, November 29 at 2 p.m. & 7 p.m.

Saturday, November 30 at 2 p.m. & 7 p.m.

Sunday, December 1 at 2 p.m.

Location: Grand Rapids Ballet Company's Peter Martin Wege Theatre, 341 Ellsworth SW, Grand Rapids. Tickets: \$14 Adults; \$12 Alumni, Seniors, Faculty & Staff; \$6 Students and groups, will be available at the GVSU Louis Armstrong Theatre box office. Call (616) 331-2300 or visit www.gvsu.edu/music.

Grand Valley Opera Theatre presents 'Amahl and the Night Visitors'

Friday, November 29, 2 p.m. & 7 p.m.

Saturday, November 30, 2 p.m. & 7 p.m.

Sunday, December 1, 2 p.m.

Location: Grand Rapids Ballet Company's Peter Martin Wege Theatre, 341 Ellsworth SW, Grand Rapids. Tickets: \$14 Adults; \$12 Alumni, Seniors, Faculty & Staff; \$6 Students and groups, will be available at the GVSU Louis Armstrong Theatre box office. Call (616) 331-2300. For more information visit <http://www.gvsu.edu/theatre>

Grand Valley Opera Theatre presents 'Urinetown, The Musical'

January 31 and February 1, 7, 8 7:30 p.m.

Matinee performances February 2 & 9 at 2 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus. Tickets: \$14 for adults, \$12 for seniors, faculty, staff, and alumni, and \$6 for all students and groups over 10. Call the GVSU Louis Armstrong Theatre box office at 616-331-2300. For more information visit <http://www.gvsu.edu/theatre>

Theatre at Grand Valley presents 'Sex and the Supernatural'

March 28-29 and April 3-5 at 7:30 p.m.

Matinee performances March 30 and April 6 at 2 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus. Tickets: \$12 for adults, \$10 for seniors, faculty, staff, and alumni, and \$6 for all students and groups of 10 or more. Call the GVSU Louis Armstrong Theatre box office at 616-331-2300. For more information visit <http://www.gvsu.edu/theatre>.

Music & Dance

GVSU Symphony Orchestra Concert

October 12, 8 p.m., Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, GVSU Allendale Campus. Open to the public. Free admission. For more information, call (616) 331-3484 or visit www.gvsu.edu/music.

GVSU Symphonic Wind Ensemble Concert

October 13, 3 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, GVSU Allendale Campus. Open to the public. Free admission. For more information, call (616) 331-3484 or visit www.gvsu.edu/music.

GVSU Symphony Orchestra Side-by-Side Concert with Forest Hills Eastern High School Orchestra

October 14, 7:30 p.m. Location: Forest Hills Eastern High School, 2200 Pettis NE, Ada. Open to the public. Free admission. For more information, call (616) 331-3484 or visit www.gvsu.edu/music.

History of Space Photography - Opening Reception

January 15, 5-7 p.m. Grand Valley State University Art Gallery, 1121 Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus. Exhibition dates January 13 - March 21. Open to the public with free admission. For more information, call (616) 331-2563, or visit www.gvsu.edu/artgallery. [read more](#)

Theatre

GVSU Shakespeare Festival's 20th Anniversary presentation:

'Much Ado About Nothing'

September 27-28 and October 3-5, 7:30 p.m.

Matinee performances September 29 and October 5-6, 2 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus. Tickets are \$14 for Adults, \$12 for Faculty, Staff, Alumni, & Seniors, and \$6 for all students and groups of 10 or more. Call the GVSU Louis Armstrong Theatre box office at 616-331-2300. For more information visit <http://www.gvsu.edu/shakes>.

GVSU Shakespeare Festival: "Five Keys to Understanding Shakespeare"

September 27, 4 p.m., GVSU Alumni House, Allendale Campus. This presentation by Guest Scholar-in-Residence Jeff Watkins is open to the public with free admission. A reception preceding his presentation begins at 3 p.m. For more information, visit www.gvsu.edu/shakes. [read more](#)

GVSU Shakespeare Festival: Grand Valley Renaissance Faire

October 5-6, starting at 10 a.m. on the 'greensward' near the Cook Carillon Tower, GVSU Allendale Campus. All ages are welcome to the Grand Valley Renaissance Faire, featuring many free events, including the Shakespeare Festival Greenshow Saturday and Sunday. For more information, visit www.gvsu.edu/shakes. [read more](#)

Theatre at Grand Valley PS Series presents 'Beyond Therapy'

October 25, 26, & 27 at 7:30 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus. Tickets are \$6, or \$7 day of show. Call the GVSU Louis Armstrong Theatre box office at 616-331-2300. For more information visit <http://www.gvsu.edu/theatre>.

Theatre at Grand Valley presents 'Kindertransport'

November 15-16 and November 21-22, 7:30 p.m.

Matinee performances November 17 and November 23, 2 p.m. Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus. Tickets are \$12 for adults, \$10 for faculty, staff, alumni, and seniors, and \$6 for all students and groups of 10 or more. Call the GVSU Louis Armstrong Theatre box office at 616-331-2300. For more information visit <http://www.gvsu.edu/theatre>.

Fall Arts Celebration:

"An Evening of Poetry and Conversation with Christian Wiman and Pattiann Rogers"

October 25, 7 p.m., 2nd Floor Eberhard Center, GVSU Pew Grand Rapids Campus

Both writers focus on multiple facets of human life, especially spirituality, nature, and multidisciplinary explorations in science, philosophy, and the play of the imagination. Wiman is the author of three collections of poetry and a memoir, and edited *Poetry* magazine for a decade. Rogers has published 12 collections of poetry and two books of essays. She has received two NEA grants, a Guggenheim Fellowship, and a 2005 Literary Award in Poetry from the Lannan Foundation. For more information, visit www.gvsu.edu/fallarts, or call (616) 331-2180. [read more](#)

Fall Arts Celebration:

"Memories of Summer - The American Identity in Dance"

November 4, 8 p.m., GVSU Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus

Nationally celebrated choreographer Lauren Edson and the Lauren Edison + Dancers present a modern dance interpretation of Samuel Barber's achingly beautiful music, with a distinctively American melody. Come experience the breezy chatter and carefree excitement of the Boardwalk and capture the essence of hot summer nights from the deep South of old America. For more information, visit www.gvsu.edu/fallarts, or call (616) 331-2180. [read more](#)

Fall Arts Holiday Celebration:

"A Very English Christmas: Music of the Season from the British Isles"

December 9, 8 p.m., Fountain Street Church, 24 Fountain Street NE, Grand Rapids

Musical selections will run the full gamut from the beloved Coventry Carol, which was first heard in the early 15th century, to the decidedly more modern parable of Brother Heinrich's Christmas. The magnificent and uplifting Gloria, by world-renowned English composer John Rutter, will complete this unique performance event featuring some of the most beloved British Christmas music. For more information, visit www.gvsu.edu/fallarts, or call (616) 331-2180. [read more](#)

Art

Fall Arts Celebration:

"Cyril Lixenberg: An Artist's Journey - Opening Reception"

September 11, 5-7 p.m., GVSU Art Gallery, Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus

This unique exhibition explores and celebrates 81 years of the life and work of the popular contemporary Dutch artist Cyril Lixenberg. Exhibition dates: August 23 - November 1. For more information, visit www.gvsu.edu/fallarts, or call (616) 331-2180. [read more](#)

ArtPrize Performance by GVSU Marching Band and Dance Ensemble

September 19, 6:30 p.m. Rosa Park Circle, Monroe Center, Grand Rapids.

President Thomas J. Haas will kick off the event, which includes the band, a flash dance, Louie the Laker and a march across the Blue Pedestrian Bridge to the Eberhard Center where they will reassemble to play one last time. [read more](#)

For immediate release

June 26, 2013

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News & Information Services, (616) 331-2221, or pirkolam@gvsu.edu, or visit www.gvsu.edu/artscalendar.

GVSU 2013-14 Season Preview

Fall Arts Celebration 2013

Since its start in 2003, Fall Arts Celebration at Grand Valley State University has featured some of the preeminent writers, poets, musicians, artists and scholars of our time. The tradition continues in 2013, from September 11-December 9, with six signature events that aim to broaden our horizons, help us make sense of the new and unfamiliar, reflect on the past and be charmed by the classics. **All Fall Arts Celebration events are open to the public with free admission.** For more information, visit <http://www.gvsu.edu/fallarts>, or call (616) 331-2180.

Fall Arts Celebration:

"Cyril Lixenberg: An Artist's Journey - Opening Reception"

September 11, 5-7 p.m., GVSU Art Gallery, Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus
This unique exhibition explores and celebrates 81 years of the life and work of the popular contemporary Dutch artist Cyril Lixenberg. Exhibition dates: August 23 - November 1. For more information, visit www.gvsu.edu/fallarts, or call (616) 331-2180. [read more](#)

Fall Arts Celebration:

"Music from La Belle Époque: Chamber Music for Winds from Turn-of-the-Century Paris"

September 16, 8 p.m., GVSU Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus
Music Department faculty and guest artists will recreate this great epoch in music, performing the woodwind chamber music of Dindy, Enesco, Bernard and Stravinsky, conducted by renown guest conductor Colonel Lowell E. Graham, USAF, retired, former director of the USAF Band in Washington, D.C. Concert followed by reception. For more information, visit www.gvsu.edu/fallarts, or call (616) 331-2180. [read more](#)

Fall Arts Celebration:

"I Heard The Sirens Scream - Lecture by Laurie Garrett"

October 7, 7 p.m., 2nd Floor Eberhard Center, GVSU Pew Grand Rapids Campus
Laurie Garrett, the only person to win the three Ps of journalism – the Pulitzer, the Polk, and the Peabody. A Senior Fellow for Global Health at the Council on Foreign Relations, Garrett is one of America's most trusted speakers on public health, infectious disease, and prevention. For more information, visit www.gvsu.edu/fallarts, or call (616) 331-2180. [read more](#)

For Immediate Release

June 27, 2013

Contact: Dottie Barnes, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

GVSU signs reverse transfer agreement with Southwestern Michigan College

ALLENDALE, Mich. — Grand Valley State University signed a reverse transfer agreement with Southwestern Michigan College in Dowagiac.

The agreement helps students who transferred to Grand Valley complete an associate's degree at the community college. The initiative applies to students who have completed at least 30 credits at SMC, but transferred to Grand Valley before earning an associate's degree.

Grand Valley now has 17 reverse transfer agreements with community colleges across the state, including Grand Rapids, Alpena, Mid-Michigan, Muskegon, West Shore, Montcalm, Mott, Lansing, Macomb, Wayne County District, Northwestern Michigan, Jackson, Washtenaw, Lake Michigan, North Central Michigan and Kellogg community colleges.

For more Grand Valley news, visit www.gvsu.edu/gvnow or follow us on Twitter: @GV_Now.

For Immediate Release

June 28, 2013

Contact: Leah Twilley, Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

Best-selling author to visit GVSU Holland Campus

HOLLAND, Mich. — Best-selling author Zoë Ferraris moved to Saudi Arabia with her former husband after the first Gulf War in 1991. She experienced life in a conservative, closed Muslim community with her daughter, which is the setting for her award-winning trilogy series.

Ferraris, whose family lives in Holland, will give a presentation about her experiences in Saudi Arabia and her books on July 25, from 3:30-5 p.m. on the Grand Valley State University Meijer Campus in Holland.

After returning to the U.S. from Saudi Arabia, Ferraris attended Columbia University where she received a master's degree in writing. Her first novel *Finding Nouf*, and the follow-up novel, *City of Veils*, are international best-sellers that have been published in more than 35 countries. Her third novel, *Kingdom of Strangers*, was published in June of 2012 and was an Oprah's Editor's Pick. She is a recipient of the LA Times Book Award and LAL Alex Award, and was selected as a Barnes and Noble Discover a New Writer Choice.

Her visit is held in conjunction with the Grand Valley Women's Center, Center for Women in Transition, and the Woman's Advisory Network, founded by Carla Masselink and Ilse Saewert of MKS Wealth Advisors of Raymond James.

The event is free and open to the public. RSVP to Jo Ann Wassenaar in Grand Valley's Women's Center at wassenaj@gvsu.edu or (616) 331-2748.

For Immediate Release

July 1, 2013

Contact: Leah Twilley, Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

MAREC to host community solar systems workshop

MUSKEGON, Mich. — Grand Valley State University's Michigan Alternative and Renewable Energy Center will host a series of workshops about the benefits of community solar energy systems.

The four-part series, open to the public, will take place on Tuesdays from July 9-30 at MAREC.

Kim Walton, program director for MAREC, said there is a lot of interest in community solar. "The concept is similar to a community garden, the power source is in one location but is shared by everyone," she said.

"A Roadmap to Community Solar" workshop series

July 9, 16, 23 and 30

MAREC, 200 Viridian Dr.

The fee is \$60 per person; register online at www.gvsu.edu/marec.

Each week, the workshop will feature an expert, including:

- July 9: Anya Schoolman, founder of the Community Power Network, Washington D.C.
- July 16: Sara Bronin, program director for the Center for Energy and Environmental Law, University of Connecticut
- July 30: David Konkle, community solar project coordinator, Great Lakes Renewable Energy Association

A panel of local experts will be at the July 23 workshop.

The workshops are co-sponsored by the Great Lakes Renewable Energy Association. For more information, contact Kim Walton at waltonk@gvsu.edu or (616) 331-6907.

For immediate release

July 8, 2013

Contact: Michele Coffill, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

GVSU to host health professions day camp

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Grand Valley State University's College of Health Professions and the Regional Math and Science Center will host the Summer Health Activities and Professions Exploration (sHaPe) summer day camp for area teenagers on July 15-18.

Participants will explore the professions of medical laboratory science, occupational therapy, physical therapy, physician assistant, radiation therapy, sonography, speech pathology, sports medicine, and therapeutic recreation.

sHaPe will provide students with the opportunity to participate in hands-on science activities that include laboratories and simulations with modern medical equipment, gain academically challenging scientific knowledge, learn about personal health and fitness (including exercising in fun ways and making nutritious meals), learn CPR through the American Red Cross of Greater Grand Rapids, and experience a field trip to Mercy Health.

The sHaPe program is designed for students entering eighth or ninth grade, a key time when students are considering careers. The camp will be held at the Cook-DeVos Center for Health Sciences, 301 Michigan St. NE. This is the fourth year it has been offered.

sHaPe participants attend the camp free of charge through generous donations by Meijer, Mercy Health, Michigan Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance, and Lake Michigan Credit Union. The camp is directed and taught by faculty and staff members from Grand Valley's colleges of Health Professions and Liberal Arts and Sciences.

For more information, contact Ranelle Brew at (616) 331-5947 or Kathy Agee at (616) 331-2267.

For immediate release

July 9, 2013

Contact: Michele Coffill, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

GVSU occupational therapy program to host aging fair in Grand Haven

GRAND HAVEN, Mich. — More than 100 people are expected at an healthy aging fair in Grand Haven hosted by Grand Valley State University's Occupational Therapy program.

The fair is set for Monday, July 15, at Pottawattomie Park in Grand Haven Township, 15600 Comstock St., from 4-7 p.m. It is free and open to the public.

Susan Cleghorn, assistant professor of occupational therapy, said the event is part of a research project to determine if a community health fair is an effective way to provide aging in place information to older adults. Cleghorn said most older adults would rather stay in their homes, rather than move to an assisted living facility or nursing home.

Aging in place uses a prevention approach to healthcare with the goal of aiding individuals to continue living in familiar homes and neighborhoods with the help of needed services, she said.

The fair will feature three educational sessions on home modifications, health promotion and community mobility. Area vendors will be on hand to answer questions; refreshments will be served.

The Healthy Aging in the Community Fair is sponsored in conjunction with the Four Pointes Center for Successful Aging. For more information, contact Cleghorn at (616) 331-2799 or cleghors@gvsu.edu.

For Immediate Release

July 9, 2013

Contact: Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

MEDIA NOTE: A photo of Long is available on Grand Valley's media FTP site. For instructions on how to access the site, follow this link: <http://gvsu.edu/s/aW>.

Current Business Trends: continuing to improve

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — The greater Grand Rapids industrial economy is gaining strength, while the national economy is far less robust, according to the results of a monthly survey compiled by Brian G. Long, director of Supply Management Research in the Seidman College of Business at Grand Valley State University.

Long said the survey results are based on data collected during the last two weeks of June.

The survey's index of business improvement, called new orders, fell insignificantly to +34, down from +35. The production index came in at +31, from last month's +35. The employment index backtracked to +25 from +28.

"The local automotive parts suppliers continue to be optimists, largely because of the booming auto sales," said Long. "Sales for June posted a 9 percent gain over a year earlier, and an 8 percent increase for the first half of the year. Also, the recovery of home values in turn fuels a recovery in consumer confidence. Higher consumer confidence results in more consumer spending, which especially helps the auto industry."

Long said although the local employment index backtracked modestly, it is obvious that many area firms are still adding staff. He said June normally results in unemployment rates edging up because of the new wave of workers from colleges and high schools. He said, overall, West Michigan continues to post better unemployment rates than the state or nation.

The Institute for Supply Management survey is a monthly survey of business conditions that includes 75 West Michigan participants. The respondents are from the region's major industrial manufacturers, distributors and industrial service organizations. It is patterned after a nationwide survey conducted by the Institute for Supply Management. Each month, the respondents are asked to rate eight factors as "same," "up" or "down." An expanded version of this report and details of the methodology used to compile it are available at www.gvsu.edu/scblogistics.

For more information, contact Brian Long at (269) 323-2359.

For more Grand Valley news, visit gvsu.edu/gvnow or follow us on Twitter: [@GV_Now](https://twitter.com/GV_Now).

For Immediate Release

July 12, 2013

Contact: Dottie Barnes, Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221,
barnesdo@gvsu.edu

Robert B. Annis Field Station campaign reaches goal

MUSKEGON, Mich. — Grand Valley State University researchers and students have already begun important experiments involving Michigan's freshwater resources and the Great Lakes this summer, thanks to the efforts of 225 donors who, in just one year, made the completion of Grand Valley's new Robert B. Annis Field Station possible.

The campaign to support the Robert B. Annis Field Station raised more than \$2.32 million in private funds and included gifts from a wide variety of Grand Valley supporters, community members, and those passionate about the health and well-being of Michigan's lakes and streams, and the plants and animals that call them home. The lead gift in the campaign was given by the Community Foundation for Muskegon County.

The new Robert B. Annis Field Station will offer students and researchers 14,700 square feet of research laboratories, offices, mesocosm tanks, a boat loading bay, and secure storage. The new facility is state of the art, and has spaces for year-round research — something that was not possible in the old, unheated facility. The building and facilities will allow students and researchers to take on the emerging issues facing the Great Lakes region today, and will help position West Michigan as a leader in the blue economy.

The building has been designed and built to meet stringent LEED certification standards by using materials and systems that were selected for their durability, sustainability, energy efficiency, and their ability to decrease long-term maintenance and operations costs.

The new field station is named after Robert B. (Bob) Annis, a scientist, inventor, business leader and philanthropist. As the leader of R.B. Annis Co., Annis produced a variety of pieces of equipment for police and military use. A lover of nature, Annis also founded the D.J. Angus-Scientecheducational Foundation, in honor of the man who served as his mentor early in life. Annis became an active supporter of science programs at Grand Valley, including financial support of one of the university's research vessels, the D.J. Angus. The Water Resources Institute was named after him in 1997. The R.B. Annis Educational Foundation continues to provide ongoing support for his legacy with the institute, including a generous gift for the Annis Field Station.

The Annis Water Resources Institute on Muskegon Lake includes classrooms, conference areas, analytical labs, research labs, mesocosms, dock space, and ship support. AWRI promotes collaborative research and educational programming and offers research space and equipment to collaborative efforts. As part of its research mission, AWRI operates two research vessels, the

D.J. Angus and the W.G. Jackson, and offers the Water Resources Outreach Education Program for K-12 schools and community groups.

For Immediate Release

July 12, 2013

Contact: Dottie Barnes, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

GVSU projects create about 1,500 jobs

ALLENDALE, Mich. — About 1,500 construction industry jobs were created by two major building projects at Grand Valley State University. The Mary Idema Pew Library Learning and Information Commons opened June 24 on the Allendale Campus and the L. William Seidman Center opened May 6 on the Pew Grand Rapids Campus.

The jobs created were both in the architectural/engineering professions and construction trades.

Consistent with the university's commitment to encompassing the greater community in its activities, Grand Valley requested the construction contractors monitor and report the profile of its labor force engaged in the projects. Pioneer Construction reported that minorities represented 10 percent of the workforce on the Mary Idema Pew Library project and 6 percent on the Seidman Center project.

New construction and renovations pumped more than \$54 million in the local economy in 2012, creating hundreds of trade and construction jobs. The university is a major economic player in the area's well-being, making a total estimated impact of more than \$722 million in the three counties surrounding the Allendale Campus. Because of Grand Valley's presence, more than 10,500 permanent off-campus jobs have been created.

July 12, 2013

For Immediate Release

Contact: Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

Grand Valley Trustees adopt budget, set tuition

ALLENDALE, Mich. — The Grand Valley State University Board of Trustees today adopted the university's FY 2014 budget and set tuition rates for the coming academic year. The action, which is in compliance with the state's tuition cap, keeps Grand Valley's tuition in the lower half of all Michigan universities.

For a chart detailing tuition at Michigan universities, visit www.gvsu.edu/s/p5.

Trustees voted to increase tuition by \$188 per semester. This is one of the smallest tuition increases in the last 20 years and brings annual tuition to \$10,454 for a full-time undergraduate Michigan resident. (Today's action follows the release earlier this week of a U.S. Department of Education study showing that the net cost of attendance at Grand Valley has actually dropped by 3 percent).

University leaders said Grand Valley has held the increase in its cost of operations to the rate of inflation for at least the past 20 years. However, Grand Valley's appropriation from the state in the coming year will be \$503 per student below the amount the university received just five years ago, equating to a drop in state support of \$11 million.

Despite the state's disinvestment, Grand Valley's below-average tuition continues, while at the same time the university receives high praise for its performance*. The university is expected to receive state funding of \$55.4 million plus a one-time state grant of \$2.3 million based on Grand Valley's best-in-class performance. Trustees earmarked the entire state allocation for student financial aid, debt service, maintenance, and utilities for classroom buildings.

"The quality of the education students receive at Grand Valley is remarkable," said Shelley Padnos, chair of the Board of Trustees. "Michigan employers know that. Our graduates are finding work in Michigan and contributing to our region's economic stability. We have increased financial aid, enabling students to borrow less, and while we had to raise tuition, we kept the dollar amount manageable. When comparing Grand Valley's costs to those at other schools, it's important for students and their families to look at the bill in dollars, not the percentage increase in tuition. Michigan has 15 public universities. None receive the same appropriation per student, and none charge the same tuition. That's why dollars matter, not percentages."

President Thomas J. Haas briefed board members about how the conversation in Lansing has shifted to universities' performances, but noted the challenges of crafting the university budget when changes in enrollment are not a factor in state appropriations.

"I am grateful to Gov. Snyder and lawmakers for rewarding universities that perform well. Grand Valley and our students benefit from this," Haas said. "But a one-time performance allocation does not fix what is fundamentally flawed in higher education funding – changes in enrollment don't count. Grand Valley's performance metrics place us among the top of our peer institutions, yet we receive the lowest appropriation per-student in Michigan and nearly the lowest per-student funding in the nation. Even with such challenges, we continue to serve Michigan by producing outstanding graduates who are leading businesses and communities across this great state. I will continue to make our students and their families my priority as I work with the leadership in Lansing to make sure that both students and performance count."

Haas also noted that nearly 30 percent of the increase in undergraduate degrees awarded in Michigan during the last decade comes from just one school — Grand Valley State. Of Grand Valley's most recent graduates, nearly 90 percent are employed or in graduate school, or both. Of those working, 84 percent are employed in Michigan.

The budget adopted today by the board includes \$35 million for student financial aid, an increase of \$1.4 million, and a modest 2 percent wage increase for faculty and staff members.

The board also heard an update on the Grand Finish grant, another opportunity for Grand Valley students to reduce the cost of attendance. The Grand Finish, now concluding its second year, is awarded to students entering their senior year who are on track to finish their degree in four years. In the 2012/2013 academic year, 2,745 students received Grand Finish grants of up to \$1,000. In the first year of the program, approximately 1,000 students received the grant.

* For additional information highlighting Grand Valley's performance, visit www.gvsu.edu/accountability.

For Immediate Release

July 15, 2013

Contact: Dottie Barnes, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

GVSU signs reverse transfer agreement with Glen Oaks Community College

ALLENDALE, Mich. — Grand Valley State University signed a reverse transfer agreement July 11 with Glen Oaks Community College in Centreville.

The agreement helps students who transferred to Grand Valley complete an associate's degree at the community college. The initiative applies to students who have completed at least 16 credits at GOCC, but transferred to Grand Valley before earning an associate's degree.

Grand Valley has 18 reverse transfer agreements with community colleges across the state, including Grand Rapids, Alpena, Mid-Michigan, Muskegon, West Shore, Southwestern Michigan, Montcalm, Mott, Lansing, Macomb, Wayne County District, Northwestern Michigan, Jackson, Washtenaw, Lake Michigan, North Central Michigan and Kellogg community colleges.

For more Grand Valley news, visit www.gvsu.edu/gvnow or follow us on Twitter: @GV_Now.

For Immediate Release

July 17, 2013

Contact: GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

Share the Knowledge Bike Tour comes to GVSU

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Max Peer, an avid cyclist, is on a four-year, 35,000 mile bike and canoe journey to promote open access to quality educational materials. He will make a stop at Grand Valley State University's Pew Grand Rapids Campus July 22.

Peer's journey, called the Share the Knowledge Bike Tour, is sponsored by SAP University Alliances and Interaction Design Foundation, an organization that provides free textbooks and online education materials created by leading academics and practitioners of software design. Peer began his world-wide journey in Orlando, Florida, in May and over the next six months, will bike and canoe more than 6,000 miles, visiting universities across North America.

During his stop at Grand Valley, Peer will talk about how to get free access to textbooks, images, and videos made by the world's technology elite. "My goal for this trip is to promote open access to quality educational materials," said Peer. "Education is the single most powerful way to lift people out of poverty and change lives."

Share the Knowledge Bike Tour

Monday, July 22

2-4 p.m.

DeVos Center, 401 Fulton St. (outside by the flags)

GVSU Pew Grand Rapids Campus

Follow the Share the Knowledge tour online at www.uac.sap.com and <http://tour.interaction-design.org/>.

For Immediate Release

July 22, 2013

Contact: Nate Hoekstra, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

GVSU signs reverse transfer agreement with Gogebic Community College

ALLENDALE, Mich. — Grand Valley State University signed a reverse transfer agreement July 18 with Gogebic Community College near Ironwood.

The agreement helps students who transferred to Grand Valley complete an associate's degree at the community college. The initiative applies to students who have completed at least 45 credits at GCC, but transferred to Grand Valley before earning an associate's degree.

Grand Valley has 19 reverse transfer agreements with community colleges across the state, including Grand Rapids, Alpena, Mid-Michigan, Muskegon, West Shore, Southwestern Michigan, Montcalm, Mott, Lansing, Macomb, Wayne County District, Northwestern Michigan, Jackson, Washtenaw, Lake Michigan, North Central Michigan, Glen Oaks, Kellogg, and Gogebic community colleges.

For more Grand Valley news, visit www.gvsu.edu/gvnow or follow us on Twitter: @GV_Now.

For Immediate Release

July 23, 2013

Contact: Dottie Barnes, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

Congressman greets veterans in GVSU police academy

ALLENDALE, Mich. — U.S. Rep. Bill Huizenga will greet students who are taking part in the Military Police Basic Training Program at Grand Valley State University July 29.

Grand Valley was selected in March as the first site in Michigan to launch a new law enforcement training program designed to draw upon and focus on the talents of military veterans. The Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards selected Grand Valley for the Military Police Basic Training Program; only 10 states provide military police veterans with a formal training academy that allows for a smooth transition into civilian law enforcement.

U.S. Rep. Huizenga visit to GVSU

Monday, July 29

1:45 p.m.

Mackinac Hall, room A-1-155

GVSU Allendale Campus

Military police veterans who meet the eligibility requirements for the program participate in a six-week training program, and at the conclusion are able to apply for employment at law enforcement agencies.

For Immediate Release

July 23, 2013

Contact: Nate Hoekstra, Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221,
hoekstna@gvsu.edu

The 'Teacher Who Couldn't Read' to keynote literacy conference at GVSU Detroit Center

DETROIT, Mich. — Grand Valley State University's Charter Schools Office will host the Readers are Leaders Literacy Conference on August 8 at the university's Detroit Center, featuring author John Corcoran as the keynote speaker.

John Corcoran will talk about his unique experience as a high school teacher and real estate developer who didn't learn to read at more than a second grade level until he was 48. Now, Corcoran spends his time working with his foundation dedicated to teaching people how to read. Corcoran was invited to the conference in Detroit after Grand Valley's Charter Schools Office reading specialist Jill Weber used his book as a discussion piece with educators and administrators in Grand Valley authorized schools.

Other speakers at the conference will include Nora Chahbazi, founder of Evidence Based Literacy Instruction (EBLI), an effective, efficient method of teaching students to read. The research-based literacy skill program uses concepts and strategies that teach learners of any age or ability how to read, spell, and write to their highest potential. Grand Valley Charter Schools Office reading specialists Jill Weber and Wendy Miller will train 80 teachers at Grand Valley-authorized charter schools in the EBLI instruction method this fall.

Breakout sessions at the conference will be lead by Chahbazi, Weber, Miller, and a panel of teachers who have been trained in EBLI and have been using it in their classrooms over the past school year.

For more information on the Readers are Leaders Literacy Conference, contact the Grand Valley Charter Schools Office, (616) 331-2240.

July 24, 2013

For immediate release

Contacts: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News & Information Services (616) 331-2221
Henry Matthews, GVSU director of Galleries & Collections (616) 331-3196

Photos and video are available on Grand Valley's media FTP website. For questions on how to connect to the FTP site, visit <http://gvsu.edu/s/aW>.

Grand Valley exhibition celebrates Dutch artist Cyril Lixenberg

ALLENDALE, Mich. -- A unique exhibition at Grand Valley State University will explore and celebrate 81 years of the life and work of the popular contemporary Dutch artist Cyril Lixenberg, from Amsterdam.

The artist will attend the opening reception for the exhibition "Cyril Lixenberg: An Artist's Journey," on September 11, from 5-7 p.m. in the Art Gallery, Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus. The event kicks off Grand Valley's popular Fall Arts Celebration.

While the Allendale exhibition is ongoing from August 23 - November 1, concurrent satellite exhibitions will be mounted at sister institutions throughout West Michigan. The artist has a long history of involvement with area communities since the mid-1980s, including Grand Rapids, Muskegon, Holland and Saugatuck.

Lixenberg's monumental sculptures and colorful screen prints are exhibited throughout Grand Valley's campuses, including the iconic bright yellow "Amaranth" sculpture created in 2002 for the Allendale Campus, and the towering "Magela-S," made for ArtPrize 2010 and exhibited on the Pew Grand Rapids Campus. Lixenberg is also well known for his 2007 riverfront sculpture "Steel Water," a major commission that commemorates Grand Rapids as the first city in the world to add fluoride to its water.

Grand Valley has the largest collection of Lixenberg's works anywhere, due in part to the artist's generosity and his long-term friendship with Grand Valley's Director of Galleries and Collections Henry Matthews, who he first met in 1984. In 2001, in memory of his late wife Saskia, the artist contributed to Grand Valley's collections more than 300 of his own works on paper created over the previous 40 years.

"This initial donation by Cyril triggered the creation of Grand Valley's Print & Drawing Cabinet, which has attracted other significant gifts," said Matthews. "Cyril has not only been a generous donor, but he has shared freely of himself by mentoring students, judging art competitions and hosting study abroad students, faculty and staff at his Amsterdam home and studio."

Grand Valley's retrospective exhibition will include selections from Lixenberg's most recent gift

of nearly 140 of his early paintings, drawings, prints, monoprints and personal archival materials, to provide an enlightening view of the artist's evolution to the successful contemporary artist he is today.

Learn more about the artist in a *Grand Valley Magazine* profile [here](#).

This exhibition program is supported by a generous gift from Larry and Elaine Rutowski Shay (GVSU alumna 2012) and, in part, by public funds from the Consulate General of the Netherlands in New York and a grant from the Netherland-America Foundation.

Fall Arts Celebration at Grand Valley State University, for more than 10 years, has enriched the arts and humanities in West Michigan by featuring many distinguished writers, poets, musicians, dancers, artists and scholars. The tradition continues with this exhibition opening as one of six signature events in 2013. All Fall Arts Celebration events are open to the public with free admission.

For more information and a complete schedule of events, call (616) 331-2185, or visit <http://www.gvsu.edu/fallarts>.

For Immediate Release

July 25, 2013

Contact: Nate Hoekstra, Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221,
hoekstna@gvsu.edu

MEDIA-Beverly Grant joins Johnson Center for Philanthropy as associate director

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Grand Valley State University's Dorothy A. Johnson Center for Philanthropy has selected Beverly Franks Grant, L.M.S.W. (Licensed Master Social Worker) to be its first ever associate director.

Grant will serve as the chief operational leader, supporting executive director James Edwards in key leadership projects and maintaining client relationships with local, state and national foundations and organizations. She will also support members of the leadership team and serve as a key strategist in the center's overall daily maintenance and operations.

Grant previously served as program officer for the DeVos Family Foundations in Grand Rapids where she provided operational leadership for the Foundations Community Impact program, which involved partnering with the Grand Rapids Public Schools and community- and faith-based organizations.

In the fall of 1989, Grant began her tenure with Bethany Christian Services as a family preservation therapist, supervisor and State of Michigan family preservation trainer. She left Bethany in 2008 as director of operations, director of quality assurance and director of strategic management.

Grant has conducted Family Preservation Supervision training in locations around the globe, and served as the deputy director of program services for the Child and Family and Developmental Disabilities divisions of Network180.

Grant has served on the Council on Accreditation as a commissioner, board member and peer reviewer, City of Grand Rapids Board of Review, Grand Rapids Economic Club and the Children's Law Center. She earned bachelor's and master's degrees in social work from Grambling State University and Atlanta University, respectively.

The Johnson Center is an Academic Center at Grand Valley State University that works locally, nationally, and internationally with foundations, other grantmakers, and nonprofits to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the charitable sector.

For more information, contact Nate Hoekstra, Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221, hoekstna@gvsu.edu

For immediate release

July 25, 2013

Contact: Michele Coffill, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

GVSU department sponsors Latino Civil Rights bus tour to Chicago

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — A Grand Valley State University department is sponsoring a one-day bus trip to Chicago to join others in that city for a memorial service honoring Latino civil rights leaders.

The trip is sponsored by Grand Valley's Kutsche Office of Local History. Details follow:

-- Leaving September 23, midday, from the Cook Library Center, 1100 Grandville Ave. SW in Grand Rapids; tickets are \$50 per person, and available on a first-come, first-served basis. Events at the center will begin at 9 a.m.

-- Reserve a seat online at www.gvsu.edu/kutsche/bustour or call (616) 331-8099. Ticket price includes brown-bag lunch, coach service to and from Chicago and entrance to memorial service and reception.

The tour bus will arrive in Chicago's Lincoln Park neighborhood, the birthplace of the Young Lords civil rights movement in 1968. September 23 marks the 45th anniversary of the Young Lords founding as a civil and human rights organization. José "Cha-Cha" Jiménez founded the Young Lords movement and documented its history as a student at Grand Valley. He graduated but continues to be involved with Young Lords oral history project that is housed at the university.

A memorial service that evening will honor the Rev. Bruce and Eugenia Johnson, who were murdered in 1969 for their work in supporting Lincoln Park residents who were displaced from their homes in the '60s.

For more information about the Young Lords visit www.gvsu.edu/younglords or www.nationalyounglords.com. A story was featured in the winter 2013 *Grand Valley Magazine*: www.gvsu.edu/s/pn.

For Immediate Release

July 30, 2013

Contact: Leah Twilley, Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

Grand Valley engineering students graduate, showcase projects

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — More than 60 engineering students will participate in a special graduation ceremony August 2 at Grand Valley State University. The graduates will join the thousands of Grand Valley alumni who are helping to drive the state's economy with their STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) degree.

At the Order of the Engineer ceremony — a traditional commencement ritual — each student will receive an iron ring, placed on the little finger of the working hand, which symbolizes bridging the step between training and experience. Engineering graduates at Grand Valley earn their degrees later than the traditional spring ceremony because they complete a year-long co-op experience with a company.

Order of the Engineer Graduation Ceremony

Friday, August 2

6-7 p.m.

Eberhard Center, second floor

Pew Grand Rapids Campus

The 15th annual Engineering Design Conference will take place the same day. The conference celebrates the completion of the Capstone Design Program and the Grand Valley partnership with local industry, in which teams of senior engineering students solve real-world engineering design problems sponsored by participating industries and sponsoring organizations.

Engineering Design Conference

Friday, August 2

1:30-4:30 p.m., Kennedy Hall of Engineering and Keller Engineering Labs

Pew Grand Rapids Campus

Sponsors of this year's senior projects include Attwood, Arris, Cameron, Dorner Works, Engine Power Components, Gentex, Johnson Controls, Gill Group, Koops, Magnum Engineering, Rapid-Line, SAF-Holland and Trane.

For more information about the conference and graduation ceremony, contact the School of Engineering in the Seymour and Esther Padnos College of Engineering and Computing at (616) 331-6750.

For Immediate Release

August 1, 2013

Contact: Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

Next generation wind turbine technology' to be presented at MAREC

MUSKEGON, Mich. — A presentation about “next generation offshore wind turbine technology” will take place on August 15 at Grand Valley State University’s Michigan Alternative and Renewable Energy Center.

Glosten Associates, an international marine engineering and naval architecture firm in Seattle, has developed Pelastar™, a tension leg sub-surface floating platform system, as an alternative to traditional fixed bed-rock construction that installs wind turbine towers on lake or ocean bottoms. The floating platform technology has the potential to substantially reduce both cost and possible environmental impacts while improving the public perception of offshore wind technology.

Charles Nordstrom, naval architect and marine engineer for Glosten Associates, will discuss the potential of the new technology, current progress with prototype development, and what this technology may mean for the development off shore wind energy in the Great Lakes.

Pelastar Wind Turbine Floating Platform: Technology Briefing

Thursday, August 15

1:30-3 p.m.

MAREC, 200 Viridian Dr.

Attendance is free and open to the public; RSVP at www.gvsu.edu/marec.

For more information, contact T. Arnold (Arn) Boezaart, director of MAREC, at (616) 331-6900 or boezaara@gvsu.edu.

For Immediate Release

August 5, 2013

Contact: Nate Hoekstra, Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221,
hoekstna@gvsu.edu

MEDIA-Grand Valley to formally dedicate new Robert B. Annis Field Station

MUSKEGON, Mich. — Grand Valley State University will celebrate the formal dedication of the new Robert B. Annis Field Station with a ceremony and tours for invited guests on August 12.

The event will include remarks from Grand Valley president Thomas J. Haas, R.B. Annis Educational Foundation trustee C. Daniel Yates, Annis Water Resources Institute director Alan Steinman, as well as volunteers, donors, and students.

The event will begin at 5:30 p.m. with remarks at 6 p.m. Remarks will be followed by self-guided tours of the Annis Field Station, the Lake Michigan Center, and the research vessel W.G. Jackson.

Media who wish to attend will have access to a mult box for audio of the remarks. Interviews with individual speakers may be arranged in advance.

Grand Valley State University researchers and students have already begun utilizing the facility for important research involving Michigan's freshwater resources and the Great Lakes, thanks to the efforts of more than 230 donors who made the completion of Grand Valley's new Robert B. Annis Field Station possible.

The campaign to support the Robert B. Annis Field Station raised more than \$2.35 million in private funds and included gifts from a wide variety of Grand Valley supporters, community members, and those passionate about the health and well-being of Michigan's freshwater resources.

The new Robert B. Annis Field Station offers students and researchers 14,700 square feet of research laboratories, offices, mesocosm tanks, a boat loading bay, and secure storage. The new facility is state of the art, and has dedicated space for year-round research — something that was not possible in the old, unheated facility. The building has been designed and built to meet stringent LEED rating standards by using materials and systems that were selected for their durability, sustainability, energy efficiency, and their ability to decrease long-term maintenance and operations costs.

For more information, contact Nate Hoekstra, Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221, hoekstna@gvsu.edu.

For Immediate Release
August 6, 2013

Contact: Dottie Barnes, News and Information Services at Grand Valley State University, (616) 331-2221

Stacey Markin, marketing and communications, Haworth College of Business at Western Michigan University, (269) 387-6936

Little data known about family owned businesses

New GVSU/WMU study launched

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Nationally, only 30 percent of family owned businesses survive to the second generation. Family owned businesses have a great social and economic impact on the west side of the state, yet little data is available on the number, needs, or impact of these businesses.

The Seidman College of Business at Grand Valley State University and the Haworth College of Business at Western Michigan University have launched a study to explore the magnitude of family owned businesses in the region. The study will involve a series of surveys sent to the approximately 12,000 family owned businesses in 28 counties on the west side of the state (see list below).

“Family owned businesses are unique,” said Ellie Frey, director of the Family Owned Business Alliance in Grand Rapids. “For example, they are more philanthropic, slower to reduce their workforce in tough economic times and better environmental stewards. By creating a database of information we can do a better job of monitoring and improving the health of Michigan’s family owned businesses, while furthering research and program development.”

Laurel Ofstein, assistant professor of management at the Haworth College of Business, agrees. “In family business, it’s not just about the bottom line,” said Ofstein. “The leadership is also focused on the longevity of the organization as well as the industry in which it operates. This long-term focus is especially important for innovation, a theme we hear frequently in political speeches and at educational institutions alike. Family firms are making a substantial economic contribution to the state of Michigan, yet we feel this contribution may be under-valued. We hope to highlight their positive impact through this research.”

The study is being administered by the Family Owned Business Institute at Grand Valley with support from the Family Business Alliance in Grand Rapids. The study aims to provide a platform of tools and services to assist and eventually improve the health of family owned businesses. The initial survey data collection is expected to be completed by early November.

The survey will be sent to family owned businesses in the following counties: Allegan, Antrim, Barry, Benzie, Berrien, Cass, Charlevoix, Emmet, Grand Traverse, Ionia, Kalamazoo, Kalkaska,

Kent, Lake, Leelanau, Manistee, Mason, Mecosta, Missaukee, Montcalm, Muskegon, Newaygo, Oceana, Osceola, Ottawa, St. Joseph, Van Buren, Wexford.

The survey can be found at <http://gvsu.edu/fobi/survey>.

For more information contact J. Kevin McCurren, executive director of the Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation at GVSU, at (616) 331-7582, or Ellie Frey, director of the Family Owned Business Alliance of Grand Rapids, at (616) 331-6827, or Laurel Ofstein, assistant professor of management at WMU at (269) 387-5417.

For Immediate Release

August 6, 2013

Contact: GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

MEDIA-Current Business Trends: Up, but growing slowly

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — The greater Grand Rapids industrial economy is still growing, but at a slower pace, while the national economy remained modestly positive, according to the results of a monthly survey compiled by Brian G. Long, director of Supply Management Research in the Seidman College of Business at Grand Valley State University.

Long said the survey results are based on data collected during the last two weeks of July.

The survey's index of business improvement, called new orders, fell to +7 from +34. The production index slid to +17 from +31 last month. The employment index fell to +21 from +25.

After three strong months, business activity slowed in July, primarily because of seasonal vacations, slower work schedules, and annual shutdowns in some key industries, Long said.

"If it weren't for the season and the fact that the statistics for the rest of the state, country and world are still on track, we could raise a question about the future," Long said. "However, one month never makes a trend, and the slightly slower numbers in our local report are probably nothing more than a summer hesitation."

The Institute for Supply Management survey is a monthly survey of business conditions that includes 45 purchasing managers in the greater Grand Rapids area and 25 in Kalamazoo. The respondents are from the region's major industrial manufacturers, distributors and industrial service organizations. It is patterned after a nationwide survey conducted by the Institute for Supply Management. Each month, the respondents are asked to rate eight factors as "same," "up" or "down." An expanded version of this report and details of the methodology used to compile it are available at www.gvsu.edu/scblogistics.

For more information, contact Brian Long at (269) 323-2359.

For more Grand Valley news, visit gvsu.edu/gvnow or follow us on Twitter: @GV_Now

For Immediate Release

August 6, 2013

Contact: Nate Hoekstra, Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221,
hoekstna@gvsu.edu

MEDIA-Grand Valley named Best in the Midwest for 2014

ALLENDALE, Mich. — Grand Valley State University has been named one of the best universities in the Midwest, according to The Princeton Review. Grand Valley was one of 155 colleges and universities that was chosen for the annual “Best in the Midwest” section of the website’s “2014 Best Colleges: Region by Region” feature.

The Princeton Review said only about 25 percent of the nation’s colleges and universities are selected to one of the regional lists. Schools were selected primarily for their excellent academic programs. Student feedback from individual student surveys is also taken into account.

The student surveys ask students to rate their own schools on several issues, from accessibility of professors to the quality of food on campus, and answer questions about their experiences and campus life. Grand Valley students who took the survey said Grand Valley has “a small college feel with the opportunities of a large university” and described small class sizes and professors who are invested in the success of their students.

Grand Valley State University, established in 1960, is a four-year public university. It attracts nearly 25,000 students with its high-quality programs and state-of-the-art facilities. Grand Valley provides a fully accredited liberal undergraduate and graduate education and has campuses in Allendale, Grand Rapids, and Holland, and regional centers in Muskegon and Traverse City. Grand Valley is a comprehensive university, serving students from all 83 Michigan counties and dozens of other states and foreign countries. Grand Valley offers 82 undergraduate and 30 graduate degree programs. The university is dedicated to individual student achievement, going beyond the traditional classroom experience, with research opportunities and business partnerships. Grand Valley employs more than 2,000 people and is committed to providing a fair and equitable environment for the continued success of all.

The Princeton Review (www.PrincetonReview.com) is a New York-based company known for its test preparation courses, books, college admission and other education services.

For more information, contact Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221.

For Immediate Release

August 9, 2013

Contact: Nate Hoekstra, Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221,
hoekstna@gvsu.edu

MEDIA-Next-generation donors study reveals giving trends in Jewish community

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Further analysis of a groundbreaking study on next-generation donors by Grand Valley State University's Dorothy A. Johnson Center for Philanthropy and 21/64 is revealing new trends about the major Jewish donors of tomorrow. The report, 'Next Gen Donors: The Future of Jewish Giving' examines the causes these next-gen donors care about, how they approach their giving, and how their approach differs from the generations that came before them, with important implications for the Jewish organizations that seek their support.

Drawing from the research reported in Next Gen Donors: Respecting Legacy, Revolutionizing Philanthropy, released in February, this new report offers in-depth information and new insight as a new generation of Jewish donors starts their giving, revealing how these donors will affect the philanthropy community for decades to come. Through analysis of national survey responses and dozens of direct, candid statements from Jewish next gen donors, the report reveals:

- Jewish next gen donors do give to Jewish causes: Despite research that new generations of the Jewish community are less involved in formal religious practice than previous generations, these next gen donors continue to fund Jewish organizations, identifying religious and faith-based organizations as the second most common area of their giving.
- Jewish next gen donors are driven by values: Inherited values drive these donors in their philanthropy, values often learned from parents and grandparents. Jewish next gen donors report seeking a balance between honoring and respecting their family legacy while looking for new ways to make an impact.
- Jewish next gen donors are eager to be more formally involved in family philanthropy: These donors report not being as involved in their families' giving as they would like to be, and striving for a more active role. Many Jewish next gen donors, frustrated by the lack of formal engagement in their own families, often look elsewhere for meaningful philanthropic engagement and experience.
- Jewish next gen donors seek to revolutionize philanthropy: Like most next gen donors, Jewish next gen donors are looking for new, innovative ways to maximize the impact of their giving, by exploring more hands-on experience and shifting to more peer-oriented giving.

"Many Jewish organizations and Jewish families are reevaluating how to engage the emerging generation of Jewish donors who will carry the legacy of Jewish family giving into the future,"

said Michael Moody, Frey Foundation Chair for Family Philanthropy at the Johnson Center for Philanthropy. "The new findings from this study help advance our thinking about how these Jewish next gen donors want to be engaged, either by the organizations they support or within their own families."

The report was made possible by the generous support of the Joyce and Irving Goldman Family Foundation, the Max M. and Marjorie S. Fisher Foundation, and the Morningstar Foundation, and with collaboration from the Jewish Funders Network.

For more information or to join the conversation, search #nextgendonors or #jewishngd on Twitter.

ABOUT THE DOROTHY A. JOHNSON CENTER FOR PHILANTHROPY

The Dorothy A. Johnson Center for Philanthropy, at Grand Valley State University in Grand Rapids, Mich., serves foundations, nonprofits, and others seeking to transform their communities for the public good. The Center conducts original research and evaluation, teaches effective practices and provides practical tools, and collects and displays community data. The Center works extensively throughout the state of Michigan, nationally, and internationally. The Frey Foundation Chair for Family Philanthropy at the Center is the nation's only endowed chair focused on improving the understanding and practice of family philanthropy.

ABOUT 21/64

21/64 is a nonprofit consulting practice that specializes in next generation and multigenerational strategic philanthropy. Initially founded as a division of the Andrea and Charles Bronfman Philanthropies, 21/64 is built on the premise that next generation funders have their own values, visions, and voices to bring to the philanthropic table. As families engage the next generation in foundations, donor-advised funds, and family offices, these endeavors can be opportunities for families to work together, yet challenges can and often do arise when multiple generations begin to make decisions together. 21/64 offers coaching, consulting, speaking, training and uniquely developed resource tools to assist families and their advisors during these times of generational transitions.

For more information, please visit www.nextgendonors.org.

For Immediate Release

August 13, 2013

Contact: Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

MEDIA-Grand Valley's Johnson Center announces nation's first community philanthropy chair

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich.—Grand Valley State University President Thomas J. Haas has announced the establishment of a new faculty chair position focused on community philanthropy within Grand Valley's Dorothy A. Johnson Center for Philanthropy.

"We are tremendously grateful for the opportunity to establish the first chair in community philanthropy in the country," Haas said. "The Johnson Center is one of the nation's largest university-based philanthropic centers, and this gift enables it to continue its history of excellence and expand its outreach to communities."

The W.K. Kellogg Community Philanthropy Chair will honor the legacy of philanthropy and civic investment of W.K. Kellogg, founder of the Kellogg Company and W.K. Kellogg Foundation in Battle Creek, Michigan. The chair was established with a \$1.5 million gift from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation and the Kellogg Company 25-Year Employees' Fund.

The individual who will assume the new chair position at Grand Valley will help communities understand their philanthropic landscape and emerging best practices. It is anticipated that partners will include private and corporate donors and the non-profit sector.

"This is a distinctive chair for the field of philanthropy," said James Edwards II, director of the Johnson Center. "With the addition of this chair, along with the existing Frey Chair for Family Philanthropy, the Johnson Center and Grand Valley are contributing transformational resources, research, and expertise to the sector."

The Johnson Center is an Academic Center at Grand Valley State University that works locally, nationally, and internationally with foundations, other grantmakers and nonprofits to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the charitable sector.

For more information, contact Beverly Grant, Dorothy A. Johnson Center for Philanthropy, (616) 331-7585.

For Immediate Release

August 14, 2013

Contact: Dottie Barnes, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

GVSU signs reverse transfer agreement with Kirtland Community College

ALLENDALE, Mich. — Grand Valley State University signed a reverse transfer agreement August 12 with Kirtland Community College in Roscommon.

The agreement helps students who transferred to Grand Valley complete an associate's degree at the community college. The initiative applies to students who have completed at least 45 credits at KCC, but transferred to Grand Valley before earning an associate's degree.

Grand Valley has 20 reverse transfer agreements with community colleges across the state, including Alpena, Glen Oaks, Grand Rapids, Gogebic, Jackson, Kellogg, Kirtland, Lake Michigan, Lansing, Macomb, Mid-Michigan, Montcalm, Mott, Muskegon, North Central Michigan, Northwestern Michigan, Southwestern Michigan, Washtenaw, Wayne County District and West Shore community colleges.

For more Grand Valley news, visit www.gvsu.edu/gvnow or follow us on Twitter: @GV_Now.

For Immediate Release

August 15, 2013

Contact: Nate Hoekstra, Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221,
hoekstna@gvsu.edu

MEDIA-Johnson Center relaunches LearnPhilanthropy.net

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Grand Valley State University's Johnson Center for Philanthropy is relaunching LearnPhilanthropy.net, an online portal that will serve as a clearinghouse of philanthropic knowledge, skill development, and research for foundations and those who work with philanthropy. The project, formerly operated by the Council on Foundations, has been on hiatus for the past year. The Johnson Center will soon be able to announce grants from several national foundations to support LearnPhilanthropy.

The LearnPhilanthropy.net site is a forum for sharing knowledge about the practice of philanthropy. In addition to the site, the LearnPhilanthropy initiative will seek to build new knowledge through research and supporting online networks to foster knowledge sharing. Unlike other sites, LearnPhilanthropy is "by the field, for the field." It will be guided by a national advisory board of expert leaders and practitioners in philanthropy.

The Johnson Center for Philanthropy is an ideal host for LearnPhilanthropy.net thanks to more than 20 years as a leading center on philanthropy in the United States. The Johnson Center has built a national reputation as a source of information and skill development for philanthropic professionals and nonprofit practitioners.

Hosting LearnPhilanthropy.net at Grand Valley will help introduce the site to field academics, researchers, and students across the nation through the university's leading role with the Nonprofit Academic Centers Council, a national membership organization of 47 university-based centers supporting the work of philanthropy and nonprofits throughout the country.

For more information on LearnPhilanthropy.net, contact Robert Shalett at shaletttr@gvsu.edu or (202) 365-0273.

For Immediate Release

August 15, 2013

Contact: Leah Twilley, Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

MEDIA NOTE: Grand Valley president and trustee help with freshman move-in

Grand Valley State University President Thomas J. Haas, a Grand Valley Board of Trustees member, and hundreds of alumni, faculty and staff members are volunteering to help more than 5,000 new and returning students as they move in during the week of August 19.

President Haas and his wife, Marcia, will serve ice cream to families and new students on Wednesday, August 21, beginning at 10:30 a.m., by Kleiner Commons on the Allendale Campus.

Trustee Mary Kramer will help students move in to Secchia and Winter halls on the Pew Grand Rapids Campus on Thursday, August 22, from 4-6 p.m.

New students and visitors can explore campus by visiting the new interactive map on the university's virtual tours website. The website uses photography to provide tours of buildings on the Allendale and Pew Grand Rapids campuses. The map can be found at www.gvsu.edu/360tour.

For Immediate Release

August 16, 2013

Contact: Dottie Barnes, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

GVSU signs reverse transfer agreement with Schoolcraft College

ALLENDALE, Mich. — Grand Valley State University signed a reverse transfer agreement August 14 with Schoolcraft College in Livonia.

The agreement helps students who transferred to Grand Valley complete an associate's degree at the community college. The initiative applies to students who have completed at least 45 credits at Schoolcraft, but transferred to Grand Valley before earning an associate's degree.

Grand Valley has 21 reverse transfer agreements with community colleges across the state, including Alpena, Glen Oaks, Grand Rapids, Gogebic, Jackson, Kellogg, Kirtland, Lake Michigan, Lansing, Macomb, Mid-Michigan, Montcalm, Mott, Muskegon, North Central Michigan, Northwestern Michigan, Schoolcraft, Southwestern Michigan, Washtenaw, Wayne County District and West Shore community colleges.

For more Grand Valley news, visit www.gvsu.edu/gvnow or follow us on Twitter: @GV_Now.

For immediate release

August 19, 2013

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News & Information Services, (616) 331-2221, or pirkolam@gvsu.edu

Photos are available on Grand Valley's media FTP website. For instructions on how to access the site, visit <http://gvsu.edu/s/aW>

Fall Arts Celebration at Grand Valley

Enriching the arts and humanities in West Michigan for more than 10 years

ALLENDALE, Mich. -- Since its start in 2003, Fall Arts Celebration at Grand Valley State University has enriched the arts and humanities in West Michigan by featuring many distinguished writers, poets, musicians, dancers, artists and scholars. The tradition continues this fall with six signature events that aim to broaden horizons, help make sense of the new and unfamiliar, reflect on the past and charm with the classics.

The celebration kicks off with an art exhibition, **"Cyril Lixenberg: An Artist's Journey," Opening Reception, Wednesday, September 11, from 5-7 p.m.** This unique exhibition in the Art Gallery, Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus, explores and celebrates 81 years of the life and work of the popular contemporary Dutch artist Cyril Lixenberg. His monumental sculptures and colorful screen prints are exhibited throughout Grand Valley's campuses. New gifts of paintings and works on paper will be featured, including drawings, monoprints, print editions, small sculptures and archival material. The exhibition is ongoing through November 1.

"Music from La Belle Époque: Chamber Music for Winds from Turn-of-the-Century Paris" Monday, September 16, 8 p.m.

Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, GVSU Allendale Campus
Concert followed by reception

Music Department faculty and guest artists will recreate this great epoch in music, performing the woodwind chamber music of D'Indy, Enesco, Bernard and Stravinsky, conducted by renowned guest conductor, retired, Col. Lowell E. Graham, former director of the United States Air Force Band in Washington, D.C.

[Photo available]

"I Heard the Sirens Scream" Lecture by Laurie Garrett

Monday, October 7, 7 p.m.

2nd Floor Eberhard Center, GVSU Pew Grand Rapids Campus
Lecture followed by book signing and reception

Laurie Garrett is the only person to win the three Ps of journalism: the Pulitzer, Polk and Peabody. She is one of America's most trusted speakers on public health, infectious disease and prevention. A senior fellow for Global Health at the Council on Foreign Relations, she has written many books, including *The Coming Plague*. Garrett is particularly suited to navigate the intersections of politics and science, in an effort to understand and describe how our leaders help and hinder, how we prepare, how we treat, and how we respond to the threats of global health.

[Photos available]

"An Evening of Poetry and Conversation with Christian Wiman and Pattiann Rogers"

Friday, October 25, 7 p.m.

2nd Floor Eberhard Center, GVSU Pew Grand Rapids Campus

Reading followed by book signing and reception

Christian Wiman is the author of three collections of poetry, most recently *Every Riven Thing*, as well as a memoir, *My Bright Abyss*. He edited *Poetry* for a decade, during which the magazine's circulation tripled. In July 2013 he joined the Yale Institute of Sacred Music as senior lecturer in religion and literature.

Pattiann Rogers has published 12 collections of poetry, most recently *Holy Heathen Rhapsody*, and two books of essays, including *The Grand Array: Writings on Nature, Science, and Spirit*. Rogers is the recipient of two NEA grants, a Guggenheim Fellowship, and a 2005 Literary Award in Poetry from the Lannan Foundation.

[Photo available]

"Memories of Summer — The American Identity in Dance"

Monday, November 4, 8 p.m.

Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, GVSU Allendale Campus

Performance followed by reception

Nationally celebrated choreographer Lauren Edson and the Lauren Edson + Dancers present a fresh modern dance interpretation of Samuel Barber's achingly beautiful music. Throughout the 20th century, when most composers were experimenting with dissonance and freedom in musical form, Barber was writing in a lyrical, romantic style with a distinctively American melody.

Holiday Celebration

"A Very English Christmas: Music of the Season from the British Isles"

Monday, December 9, 8 p.m.

Fountain Street Church, 24 Fountain Street NE, Grand Rapids

Musical selections will run the full gamut from the beloved Coventry Carol, which was first heard in the early 15th century, to the decidedly more modern parable of Brother Heinrich's Christmas. The magnificent and uplifting Gloria by world-renowned English composer John Rutter will complete this unique performance event featuring some of the most beloved British Christmas music.

All events are open to the public with free admission. For more information, visit <http://www.gvsu.edu/fallarts>, or call (616) 331-2185.

For Immediate Release

August 19, 2013

Contact: Leah Twilley, Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

National environment group names Grand Valley a greenest school

ALLENDALE, Mich. — Grand Valley State University was named one of the country's greenest universities by the Sierra Club, the largest national grassroots environmental organization in the U.S. The university placed 40th out of 162 schools, and is the highest-ranking Michigan institution on the list, ahead of universities such as Princeton and The Ohio State University.

This is the second time Grand Valley has been included in the Sierra's Club's annual list of "Coolest Schools," a list that ranks schools that have a strong commitment to environmental improvement, are helping to solve climate problems and are making significant efforts to operate sustainably. View the full list [here](#).

The ranking was based on scores given to universities that completed a questionnaire on measurable environmental goals and achievements, presented by the Sierra Club, Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE), Sustainable Endowments Institute (SE) and Princeton Review. In early 2013, Grand Valley became the only university in the state and one of 45 in the country to receive gold status after completing the survey for the second time. Grand Valley scored high in areas of operations, innovation and planning.

Norman Christopher, director of Grand Valley's Sustainable Community Development Initiative, said Grand Valley's score improved from 585 points last year to 654 points this year, showing significant overall improvement. "This ranking is an important one for Grand Valley and continues to place the university in the top echelon of sustainability rankings nationwide," he said.

Sierra Club has more than 1.4 million members and supporters nationwide.

For more information, contact the Sustainable Community Development Initiative at www.gvsu.edu/sustainability or (616) 331-7366.

For Immediate Release
August 19, 2013

MEDIA NOTE: Click [here for a high-res image of Bill Barker](#), one of the presidential interpreters.

MEDIA - Hauenstein Center to host Evening with Three Presidents

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — The Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies at Grand Valley State University will team up with the Loutit District Library to host a program titled “An Evening with Three Presidents” on August 22 at Grand Haven High School as part of the ‘American Conversations’ series.

The event will feature three well-known presidential interpreters: Colonial Williamsburg’s Bill Barker as Thomas Jefferson, Chuck Chalberg as Theodore Roosevelt, and Paddy Morrissey as Ronald Reagan. The three interpreters will speak from the point of view of their respective presidents on issues of the day and the current state of the nation. The event will be moderated by Hauenstein Center director Gleaves Whitney.

An Evening with Three Presidents
Grand Haven High School Auditorium
Thursday, August 22, 7 p.m.
17001 Ferris St., Grand Haven, MI 49417

The Hauenstein Center is proud to co-sponsor the event with the Loutit District Library and the Grand Haven Area Public Schools.

The event is free and open to the public, but an RSVP is requested here: <http://gvsu.edu/s/qa>

Thursday’s event is the first event of the year for the Hauenstein Center’s ‘American Conversations’ series. All of this year’s American Conversations events will begin at 7 p.m. and will focus on the theme of ‘common ground’.

Previous ‘American Conversations’ events include academic debates such as “Why Progressive? Why Conservative? The Debate” and evenings with some of America’s most influential figures, including the “America’s First Ladies” event and “A History of Diplomacy with Madeleine Albright” among others.

For more information, contact the Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies at (616) 331-2770 or hauensteincenter.org.

For immediate release

August 21, 2013

Contact: Michele Coffill, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

GVSU ready to welcome new academic year

ALLENDALE, Mich. — The new academic year at Grand Valley State University will get a formal welcome during Convocation on Friday, August 23.

Thousands of first-year, transfer and returning students will hear messages from President Thomas J. Haas, Provost Gayle R. Davis, Student Senate President Ricky Benavidez, and others during the ceremony, which will begin at 11:30 a.m. at the Fieldhouse Arena on the Allendale Campus.

Media members are welcome to attend; a mult box will be available.

Keeping with centuries-old academic tradition, faculty and staff members process into the arena wearing their academic regalia.

An all-campus picnic lunch for students, faculty and staff members follows Convocation.

For Immediate Release

August 21, 2013

Contact: Nate Hoekstra, Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221,
hoekstna@gvsu.edu

MEDIA-Grand Valley's Annis Water Resources Institute awarded 'blue economy' grant

MUSKEGON, Mich. — Grand Valley State University's Annis Water Resources Institute (AWRI) has been awarded a \$75,000 grant from the C.S. Mott Foundation to support efforts to grow the 'blue economy' through economic development efforts, water technology business, and water education, research, and stewardship.

The one-year grant will help AWRI, in partnership with John Austin from the Michigan Economic Center at Prima Civitas Foundation, connect communities that are building on their natural water assets to make their communities attractive places to live and work as part of the "Growing Michigan's Blue Economy Initiative." The grant will also support entrepreneurs and institutions like AWRI participate in the fast-growing global water technology sector, while providing research and talent to solve freshwater sustainability issues.

"We are showing through our work at the Annis Water Resources Institute in Muskegon and West Michigan, the economic power of cleaning up our waters and waterfronts," said Alan Steinman, AWRI director and principal investigator on the grant. "We are producing new talent and ideas that can manage our water sustainably. This project will allow us to inventory the blue economy initiatives throughout the state, and use that information to incentivize additional economic growth based on sustainable fresh water principles."

The project will profile the way many Michigan communities, educational institutions, and private firms are already growing their 'blue economy' efforts, and facilitate networking among Michigan practitioners. The goal is to encourage sharing promising practices, identify challenges, and better understand how public-private leaders, the state, philanthropic and other stakeholders can support effective efforts. The project will profile successful water-based community development and innovation models in Michigan and elsewhere to inspire more communities, firms, and institutions to develop their own 'blue economy' strategies.

The project will also collaborate with and inform the governor's administration's Office of Great Lakes and Director Jon Allan, who is developing an overall water strategy for Michigan. An initial product of the Blue Economy-Growing Initiative is a white paper commissioned by the office that will help outline Michigan's 'blue economy' opportunities.

For more information about the Annis Water Resources Institute, visit gvsu.edu/wri

For Immediate Release

August 22, 2013

Contact: Dottie Barnes, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

GVSU signs reverse transfer agreement with Delta College

ALLENDALE, Mich. — Grand Valley State University signed a reverse transfer agreement August 21 with Delta College near Bay City.

The agreement helps students who transferred to Grand Valley complete an associate's degree at the community college. The initiative applies to students who have completed at least 24 credits at Delta, but transferred to Grand Valley before earning an associate's degree.

Grand Valley has 22 reverse transfer agreements with community colleges across the state, including Alpena, Delta, Glen Oaks, Grand Rapids, Gogebic, Jackson, Kellogg, Kirtland, Lake Michigan, Lansing, Macomb, Mid-Michigan, Montcalm, Mott, Muskegon, North Central Michigan, Northwestern Michigan, Schoolcraft, Southwestern Michigan, Washtenaw, Wayne County District and West Shore community colleges.

For more Grand Valley news, visit www.gvsu.edu/gvnow or follow us on Twitter: @GV_Now.

For Immediate Release

August 23, 2013

Contact: Dottie Barnes, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

MEDIA NOTE: Pictures of Convocation can be downloaded from this Dropbox folder:
<http://qvsu.edu/s/qM>

Convocation speakers welcome new GVSU students

ALLENDALE, Mich. — Fifty years ago, Grand Valley welcomed its first students, its pioneer class. On August 23 during Convocation at the Fieldhouse Arena, faculty and staff members welcomed the newest Lakers, who represent the Class of 2017.

The venue was different, and the technology has, of course, changed, but the messages presented by speakers during Convocation likely had similar themes to those presented in 1963: Grand Valley is a student-centered institution that offers a liberal education.

President Thomas J. Haas told first-year students that a liberal education remains the cornerstone of Grand Valley. "We want a diploma from Grand Valley to signal to employers and to the community that you are a critical thinker," Haas said, adding, "you value diversity of thought and you understand the complexity of the world and the value of teamwork."

Haas urged new students to take advantage of the university's newest facilities: the Mary Idema Pew Library Learning and Information Commons and the L. William Seidman Center. He said those facilities and many other resources available on campus will help students apply knowledge and achieve.

During his opening address to faculty and staff members prior to Convocation, Haas said Grand Valley's course over the past 50 years has set the stage for future success, particularly in challenging financial times. He reminded the audience that enrollment remains critical, calling it job No. 1. "No public university is as enrollment dependent as Grand Valley is," he said. "Steady enrollment is essential for our financial model. We must promise what we can deliver and deliver on the promises we make to students and to each other."

Other Convocation speakers shared advice with new students. Karen Gipson, chair of the University Academic Senate, explained how her recovery from a 2010 stroke somewhat parallels the journey first-year students have before them. Gipson, associate professor of physics, said her recovery was dependent on four principles — good fortune, excellent support, persistence and patience. Each of those qualities will help students be successful, she said.

Ricky Benavidez, president of Student Senate, recalled being afraid of attending his first college class in 2009. He told students that Grand Valley quickly became a home for him, and the many new faces he saw quickly became his friends. "Grand Valley offers you a chance to expand your minds and views," Benavidez said. "This is your turn to lead your own future."

August 27, 2013

For immediate release

Contacts: GVSU News & Information Services (616) 331-2221

NOTE: A complete online media kit with more details and photos is available at <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/zhz6qvoaai2dc5t/4ulqCOCghV>.

New Grand Valley library to be dedicated

ALLENDALE, Mich. -- Media are invited to the formal dedication of the new Mary Idema Pew Library Learning and Information Commons on the Allendale Campus of Grand Valley State University, Tuesday, September 3, from 6-8 p.m.

This is an invitational event for the more than 1,400 donors, including community members, corporations, foundations, alumni, faculty, staff, and students and their families, who helped to raise more than \$20 million for the \$65 million library. Since the start of construction in May 2011, there has been much anticipation for its completion.

- 6:15 p.m.: The Laker Marching Band, under the direction of John Martin, will begin a performance outside the Performing Arts Center, marching toward the Cook Carillon tower and the reception tent at the northeast entrance to the library.
- 6:25 p.m.: Dedication remarks by President Thomas J. Haas, Board of Trustees member Kate Pew Wolters, University Libraries Dean Lee Van Orsdel, and *Shaping Our Future* campaign vice-chairs James W. F. and Donna K. Brooks, among others.
- 6:45-8 p.m.: Reception and informal touring of library

Earlier in the day, a private ceremony will be held to place a time capsule in a cornerstone of the new facility. Among the many commemorative items will be a photo of Mary Idema Pew, a letter from University Libraries Dean Lee Van Orsdel, early architectural renderings, a list of artwork in the library, and a librarian action figure.

The new facility is named after Mary Idema Pew, who was a trailblazer with a lifelong passion for education. Her late husband, Robert C. Pew, one of Grand Valley's founders and an early Board of Control member, generously provided the lead gift that was the catalyst for this project. Their daughter, Kate Pew Wolters, currently serves on Grand Valley's Board of Trustees.

The Zumberge Library was built in the 1960s for 5,000 students; today Grand Valley serves nearly 25,000 students. The Mary Idema Pew Library has triple the seating capacity, space for 150,000 books on open shelves and 600,000 library items in an automated retrieval system, and places for quiet study as well as a wide variety of venues for group collaboration. The facility has received national attention as a prototype for 21st century learning, with a knowledge market to provide students access to experts in research, technology, writing and presentation development that will give graduates a tangible advantage in the workforce and in their contribution as leaders in their communities.

The design and construction team selected for this project includes SHW Group, architects; FTC&H, civil engineering; and Pioneer Construction. The building is seeking the highest level LEED certification, having been designed and constructed to use half the energy of a similar building using traditional methods.

A Community Open House is planned for Saturday, September 7, from 1-5 p.m. This family-friendly event is open to the public and will include refreshments, a jazz musician, magic shows, and a scavenger hunt in the library with prizes awarded at each station.

For immediate release

August 27, 2013

Contact: Michele Coffill, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

GVSU to host annual interprofessional education conference

-- Area and national health care experts will give presentations

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Participants at the sixth annual Interprofessional Education Conference will discuss how a team approach in health care positively affects patient safety, improves the quality of care and lowers costs.

The conference is sponsored by the West Michigan Interprofessional Education Initiative, comprised of founding members Grand Valley State University, Grand Rapids Medical Education Partners, and Michigan State University College of Human Medicine.

Set for September 19-20, the conference will be held in the DeVos Center on Grand Valley's Pew Grand Rapids Campus. For information about registering for the conference, visit www.gvsu.edu/vphealth. The deadline to register is September 13.

Keynote speakers include Richard C. Breon, president and CEO of Spectrum Health; Stephen C. Shannon, president of the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine; Madeline Schmitt, expert panel member for the Core Competencies for Interprofessional Collaborative Practice; and Ruth Nemire, associate executive vice president of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy.

Representatives from Spectrum Health, Mercy Health Saint Mary's and Metro Hospital will give a panel presentation on "Meeting the Triple Aim with Interprofessional Teams."

September 3, 2013

For immediate release

Contact: GVSU News & Information Services (616) 331-2221

NOTE: New photos and video have been added to the Dropbox account MIP Library at <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/zhz6qvoaoi2dc5t/4ulqCOCghV>.

Donors celebrate Grand Valley's new library

ALLENDALE, Mich. -- The formal dedication of the Mary Idema Pew Library Learning and Information Commons, September 3 at Grand Valley State University's Allendale Campus, was attended by many of the 1,400 donors who helped to raise more than \$20 million for the \$65 million library. Since the start of construction in May 2011, there has been much anticipation for its completion.

President Thomas J. Haas, in the opening remarks, welcomed and recognized many in attendance, including all who worked on the vision and completion of the facility he said was one of the most far-reaching projects in Grand Valley's history.

"One of the reasons we are receiving national attention is because of the way this library will change the way students learn and apply what they learn," said Haas. "We will be recipients of that knowledge and students will change us in the next century."

The new library is named after Mary Idema Pew, who was a trailblazer with a lifelong passion for education. Her late husband, Robert C. Pew, one of Grand Valley's founders and an early Board of Control member, generously provided the lead gift that was the catalyst for this project. Their daughter, Kate Pew Wolters, currently serves on Grand Valley's Board of Trustees. At the dedication she talked about how, during her first tour of the completed library, she had to keep her jaw from dropping and repeatedly saying "Oh, wow!"

"As proud as I am to still be a trustee here while this library was built in my mother's name, I'm reminded about what my father said to me on the groundbreaking day, 'Remember it's not about us, it's about Grand Valley and supporting the school it's become,'" said Pew Wolters. "I'll agree, but I also think it's about my mom and dad and the legacy they leave."

Provost Gayle R. Davis introduced the library dean by saying how the library's educational potential is unmatched in the nation. "Ever since we began to dream of this new educational commons, we knew it would require a leap of faith because it advanced the traditional concept of a library so far," said Davis. "Grand Valley is a place where meaningful, innovative ventures are possible."

University Library Dean Lee Van Orsdel was honored with a special plaque that recognizes her visionary leadership and will be installed within the library. The dean spoke about the many visitors to the new library since it opened to students 10 weeks ago.

"Librarians from other universities across the state have said we have the best academic library in the country," she said. "High school academic counselors have said we got it absolutely right. That our library is a world class facility that will attract gifted and affluent students to Grand Valley." Van Orsdel said that national recognition is mounting because the facility is clearly about the students and how

Grand Valley can help them build the skills they need to flourish while they're here and long after they have gone out into the world to make it a better place.

Student Senate President Ricky Benavidez also works in the library's Special Collections. On behalf of all Grand Valley students, he thanked donors for making the new library possible, not only for current students, but generations to come.

Lastly James and Donna Brooks spoke words of thanks to all donors who contributed to the "Shaping Our Future" campaign for which they served as co-chairs, along with Daniel and Pamella DeVos. Fundraising for the new library was included in the campaign begun almost six years ago.

"What a fantastic facility, but even more exciting is what is going to happen inside," said James Brooks. "People with different views of the world will come together and bring different ideas and new ways to meet the needs of a rapidly changing world."

A Community Open House is planned for Saturday, September 7, from 1-5 p.m. This family-friendly event is open to the public and will include a technology showcase, refreshments, a jazz musician, magic shows, and a scavenger hunt in the library with prizes awarded at each station.

September 4, 2013

For immediate release

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News & Information Services (616) 331-2221

NOTE: A photograph of Colonel Lowell E. Graham is available in Dropbox/Fall Arts Celebration at <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/zhz6qvoaoi2dc5t/4ulqCOCghV>.

Historic music of Paris featured at Grand Valley Fall Arts Celebration

ALLENDALE, Mich. -- Grand Valley State University's Fall Arts Celebration continues and will next feature "Music from La Belle Époque: Chamber Music for Winds from Turn-of-the-Century Paris," Monday, September 16, at 8 p.m., in the Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus.

Music Department faculty and guest artists will recreate the historic music of La Belle Époque/the Beautiful Era, performing the woodwind chamber music of D'Indy, Enesco, Bernard and Stravinsky, conducted by renown guest conductor Colonel Lowell E. Graham, USAF, retired, former director of the USAF Band in Washington, D.C.

Starting with the last decades of the 19th century, and through the start of World War I, the European musical world was dominated by the late romantic aesthetics, including the German large symphonic sound of Wagner and Strauss. In Paris however, it was a time of new optimism following the Franco-Prussian War and there was a conscious search for national identity.

"French composers were moving from the German orchestral composers' jarring dissonance to focus on small chamber groups and resurrecting the unique beauty and sonority of wind instruments," said Danny Phipps, Department of Music chair. "Their compositions also reflected the melodic and clear beauty of the French language."

While the concert is primarily music from French composers, Phipps decided to also include Enesco and Stravinsky because they both lived and created compositions in Paris during this historic period. A reception will follow the performance.

Since its start in 2003, Fall Arts Celebration has featured some of the preeminent writers, poets, musicians, dancers, artists and scholars of today. The tradition continues in 2013 with six signature events that aim to broaden horizons, help make sense of the new and unfamiliar, reflect on the past and charm with the classics.

All Fall Arts Celebration events are open to the public with free admission. Seating is limited for these popular performances. For more information, visit www.gvsu.edu/fallarts, or call (616) 331-2185.

For Immediate Release

September 4, 2013

Contact: News and Information Services, Mary Eileen Lyon, (616) 331-2221, lyonme@gvsu.edu

Grand Valley announces a new police chief

ALLENDALE, Mich. — Grand Valley State University's Vice President for Finance and Administration Jim Bachmeier announced that local law enforcement veteran and Grand Valley alumna Renee Freeman will take over as director of Public Safety and police chief. She replaces Barb Bergers who retired at the end of June.

Freeman currently is a lieutenant in the Grand Haven Department of Public Safety. She has spent 27 years in Grand Haven, working her way up from an officer position. She was with the Police Academy at Grand Valley for 14 years, working as an adjunct faculty and for one year as the assistant director of the academy.

"We had a pool of highly qualified candidates from which to choose our new chief," Bachmeier said. "We are fortunate to get someone who is highly experienced and well connected to local law enforcement agencies as well as the Grand Valley community. Renee is bringing a lot of energy and ideas to campus."

Freeman is also certified as a fire officer from the Michigan Office of Firefighter Training and as a medical first responder from the Michigan Department of Community Health. She received a Bachelor of Arts in criminal justice from Grand Valley in 2004.

"I am very much looking forward to joining Grand Valley State University in the capacity of police chief," Freeman said. "The opportunity to return to campus and work with such a reputable group of individuals is exciting. It will be a privilege to serve the students and staff at Grand Valley and work with my colleagues to provide a safe learning and living environment."

Freeman begins her duties on September 30.

For Immediate Release

September 4, 2013

Contact: Nate Hoekstra, Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221,
hoekstna@gvsu.edu

American Conversations: Is Common Ground Possible?

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Grand Valley State University's Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies continues its ongoing American Conversations Series with an event that will discuss whether or not reaching common ground in a highly politicized world was common in the past — and if it will be in the future.

"Is Common Ground Possible?" will be hosted by Gleaves Whitney, director of the Hauenstein Center, at the Loosemore Auditorium on Grand Valley's Pew Grand Rapids Campus at 7 p.m. on September 9.

Whitney, a presidential history and political expert, will offer a lively presentation that examines the historic reality of finding common ground in America's past, and seek audience insight into the possibilities of rediscovering common solutions in the future.

"Citizens are cynical, and Congress is almost constantly at a standstill," Whitney said. "The general feeling is that common ground is getting more and more difficult to find. I hope this discussion will provide some hope that mutually acceptable solutions exist to the tough problems our nation faces."

Please RSVP at hauensteincenter.org/RSVP.

Monday's event is the second event of the year for the Hauenstein Center's American Conversations series. All of this year's American Conversations events will begin at 7 p.m. and will focus on the theme of "common ground."

Previous 'American Conversations' events include academic debates such as "Why Progressive? Why Conservative? The Debate" and evenings with some of America's most influential figures, including the "America's First Ladies" event and "A History of Diplomacy with Madeleine Albright" among others.

For more information, contact the Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies at (616) 331-2770 or hauensteincenter.org.

September 5, 2013

For immediate release

Contact: Mary Pirkola, GVSU News & Information Services (616) 331-2221

Photos are available in the Dropbox account MIP Library at <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/zhz6qvoaai2dc5t/4ulqCOCghV>.

Grand Valley welcomes all to new library Open House

ALLENDALE, Mich. -- A Community Open House of the Mary Idema Pew Library Learning and Information Commons is planned to showcase the newest facility at Grand Valley State University's Allendale Campus.

Already gaining national recognition as an innovative model for 21st Century learning, the new library will be open to the public on Saturday, September 7 from 1-5 p.m.

This family-friendly event will include self-guided tours in the library, a jazz musician, magic shows, a scavenger hunt and refreshments.

"Librarians from other universities across the state have said we have the best academic library in the country," said University Libraries Dean Lee Van Orsdel. "National recognition is mounting because the facility is clearly about the students and how Grand Valley can help them build the skills they need to flourish while they're here and long after they have gone out into the world to make it a better place."

The Mary Idema Pew Library is located at the intersection of Campus Drive and West Campus Drive near the Cook Carillon Tower. GVSU Route 50 Campus Connector bus service has been extended to run every 15-20 minutes between noon and 6 p.m. on September 7.

For more information, including parking and directions, visit: www.gvsu.edu/libraryopening

For Immediate Release

September 5, 2013

Contact: Leah Twilley, Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

GVSU partners with community groups for Hunger Action Week

ALLENDALE, Mich. — Grand Valley State University is participating in Hunger Action Week 2013 by hosting an award-winning documentary and panel discussion featuring representatives from local anti-hunger agencies September 10.

Grand Valley's Women's Center is partnering with local community groups in Kent County to raise awareness during the week, which runs September 8-14.

"A Place at the Table" film screening

September 10

7-9 p.m.

DeVos Center, room 136E

Pew Grand Rapids Campus

"A Place at the Table" is a critically acclaimed documentary that gives an overview of the plight of hunger in the U.S. and offers solutions for individuals who want to act. A panel discussion will follow, featuring representatives from God's Kitchen, ACCESS of West Michigan and Kids Food Basket. Brittany Dernberger, assistant director of the Women's Center, will discuss Grand Valley's Student Food Pantry, a resource for students who have trouble affording food.

For more information, visit the Hunger Action Week 2013 Facebook page or contact Brittany Dernberger in the Women's Center at (616) 331-2748.

For Immediate Release
September 5, 2013

GVSU September events: tip sheet

September events at Grand Valley State University are listed below. All events listed are free and open to the public; for more information, call the News and Information Services office at (616) 331-2221.

-- Sept. 9, 7 p.m.: American Conversations, Gleaves Whitney: Is Common Ground Possible?

Join Gleaves Whitney, director of the Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies, for a lively presentation that examines the historic reality of common ground in America's past, and seeks audience insight into the possibilities of rediscovering common cause in the future.

Location // DeVos Center, Loosemore Auditorium, Pew Grand Rapids Campus

-- Sept. 11, 12:30 p.m.: Hauenstein Center Wheelhouse Talk with Mary Buikema

Mary Buikema, executive director for Habitat for Humanity of Kent County, will explore the meaning of home and creating affordable homeownership opportunities for families.

Location // Urban Institute for Contemporary Arts, 2 W. Fulton St. Grand Rapids

-- Sept. 16, 8 p.m.: Fall Arts Celebration, "Music from La Belle Époque: Chamber Music for Winds from Turn-of-the-Century Paris."

Music Department faculty members and guest artists will recreate the historic music of La Belle Époque/the Beautiful Era, conducted by renown guest conductor Col. Lowell E. Graham, USAF, ret., former director of the USAF Band in Washington, D.C.

Location// Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus

-- Sept. 19, 6:30 p.m.: ArtPrize Performance by GVSU Marching Band and Dance Ensemble

President Thomas J. Haas will kick off the event, which includes the band, a flash dance, Louie the Laker and a march across the Blue Pedestrian Bridge to the Eberhard Center where they will reassemble to play again.

Location // Starts at Rosa Park Circle, Grand Rapids

-- Sept. 23, 9 a.m. Latino Civil Rights Tour

Photographic exhibit of local Hispanic leaders at Cook Library Center, then and now, ties in with a walking tour of the neighborhood and remarks by Grand Rapids Mayor George Heartwell and others. The event precedes a group bus tour to Chicago for a memorial service for slain Hispanic civil rights leaders. Sponsored by GVSU's Kutsche Office of Local History with community support.

Location // Cook Library, 1100 Grandville Ave. SW, Grand Rapids

-- Sept. 25, 7 p.m.: My Year in Vietnam: Vietnam Veterans Share Their Stories

The first of a series of presentations through April. Three Vietnam veterans with overlapping experiences will tell their stories and take questions from the audience. For more details and a complete schedule visit www.gvsu.edu/vethistory/

Location// DeVos Center, Loosemore Auditorium, Pew Grand Rapids Campus

**-- Sept. 27-28 and October 3-5, 7:30 p.m.: GVSU Shakespeare Festival's 20th Anniversary presentation
"Much Ado About Nothing"**

Matinee performances at 2 p.m. September 29 and October 5-6.

Tickets are \$14 for Adults, \$12 for faculty, staff, alumni & seniors, and \$6 for all students and groups of 10 or more. Call the GVSU Louis Armstrong Theatre box office at 616-331-2300. Visit

www.gvsu.edu/theatre, www.gvsu.edu/shakes or call (616) 331-2180.

Location // Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus

For Immediate Release

September 9, 2013

Contact: Dottie Barnes, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

MEDIA NOTE: Audio and a photo of Long are available on DropBox at https://www.dropbox.com/sh/nl7ccuf409d4rq7/PQqF6_nsLX

Audio is also available at www.gvsu.edu/qvnow.

Current Business Trends: Slightly Negative

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — The greater Grand Rapids industrial economy is slightly negative, according to the results of a monthly survey compiled by Brian G. Long, director of Supply Management Research in the Seidman College of Business at Grand Valley State University.

The survey results are based on data collected during the last two weeks of August.

The survey's index of business improvement, called new orders, turned modestly negative at -4, down from +7 last month. The production index eased to -6 from +17. The employment index fell to +0 from +21, the lowest reading since January of 2010.

"The 'plateauing' continues for local industrial groups," said Long. "Despite industry predictions to the contrary, 2013 is not turning out to be a boom year for the office furniture business. Most firms are stable and profitable."

Long said automotive parts producers are near peak production for the new model year and the recent strong auto sales reports bode well for the future. He said new business will probably not come to the auto parts industry until October or November when the major firms begin assessing the acceptance of their 2014 models.

"Because of the summer vacation season, many of our industrial distributors came in a little lower than expected," Long said. With September comes a back-to-work sentiment for many firms, so distributors will probably see business pick up for September."

The Institute for Supply Management survey is a monthly survey of business conditions that includes 45 purchasing managers in the greater Grand Rapids area and 25 in Kalamazoo. The respondents are from the region's major industrial manufacturers, distributors and industrial service organizations. It is patterned after a nationwide survey conducted by the Institute for Supply Management. Each month, the respondents are asked to rate eight factors as "same," "up" or "down." An expanded version of this report and details of the methodology used to compile it are available at www.gvsu.edu/scblogistics.

For more information, contact Brian Long at (269) 323-2359.

For more Grand Valley news, visit www.gvsu.edu/gvnow or follow us on Twitter: @GV_Now

For Immediate Release

September 10, 2013

Contact: Dottie Barnes, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

Grand Valley named a top Midwest university

--Engineering program recognized

ALLENDALE, Mich. — Grand Valley State University has been ranked 5th in the “Top Public Regional Universities in the Midwest” category by U.S. News & World Report.

Grand Valley was also named as one of the four “Up and Comers” for Midwest universities for having recently made the most promising and innovative changes in the areas of academics, faculty, student life, campus or facilities.

For its prestigious annual Best Colleges 2014 publication, Grand Valley also ranked 41st for “Best in Undergraduate Engineering” programs and 40th for “Best Regional University” in the Midwest.

The U.S. News rankings are based on several key measures of quality including peer assessment, graduation and retention rates, faculty resources, student selectivity, financial resources and alumni giving. Data was collected from each institution that included several indicators of academic excellence.

For more information on how Grand Valley continues to excel in the areas of graduation rates, alumni working in Michigan and keeping down the cost of a college degree, view the university’s accountability report at www.gvsu.edu/accountability.

Grand Valley State University attracts 24,500 students with high-quality programs and state-of-the-art facilities. Grand Valley is a comprehensive university serving students from all 83 Michigan counties and dozens of other states and foreign countries. Grand Valley offers 82 undergraduate and 31 graduate degree programs from campuses in Allendale, Grand Rapids and Holland, and from regional centers in Muskegon and Traverse City. The university is dedicated to individual student achievement, going beyond the traditional classroom experience, with research opportunities and business partnerships.

For more information visit www.usnews.com.

For Immediate Release
September 10, 2013

Grand Valley students to remember 9/11

ALLENDALE, Mich. — A group of Grand Valley State University students are organizing a day-long memorial to remember victims of Sept. 11.

Starting at 9 a.m. on September 11, students will put 2,977 mini American flags in the ground on the lawn of the east side of the Kirkhof Center on the Allendale Campus — one for each of those who died in the attacks.

Around noon at the Cook Carillon Tower on the Allendale Campus, university carillonneur Julianne Vanden Wyngaard will chime the bells 12 times to signify the 12th anniversary of 9/11. She will play songs throughout the day. Ricardo Benavidez, student body president, will be available to talk to media at noon in front of the tower.

For more information, contact Benavidez at (269) 767-1840 or benavidr@mail.gvsu.edu.

For Immediate Release

September 10, 2013

Contact: Dottie Barnes, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

GVSU named Military Friendly School for fifth year

ALLENDALE, Mich. — Grand Valley State University has been named a Military Friendly School by Victory Media for the fifth consecutive year.

The 2014 Military Friendly Schools list honors the top 20 percent of colleges, universities and trade schools in the country that are doing the most to embrace military service members, veterans and spouses as students and ensure their success on campus.

The 2014 list was compiled through extensive research and a data-driven survey of more than 10,000 VA-approved schools nationwide. Each year schools taking the survey are held to a higher standard than the previous year via improved methodology, criteria and weightings developed with the assistance of an Academic Advisory Board consisting of educators from schools across the country.

The 2014 list of Military Friendly Schools will be highlighted in the annual Guide to Military Friendly Schools, distributed in early October to hundreds of thousands of active and former military personnel.

For more information contact Steven Lipnicki at (616) 331-7188 or visit www.militaryfriendlyschools.com or www.gvsu.edu/veterans.

September 11, 2013

For immediate release

Contact: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News & Information Services (616) 331-2221

ArtPrize kicks off with GVSU Marching Band and Dance Ensemble

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. -- The Grand Valley State University Marching Band and members of the Dance Ensemble will perform Wednesday, September 18, at 6:30 p.m., in Rosa Parks Circle, in downtown Grand Rapids, to celebrate opening day of ArtPrize 2013.

President Thomas J. Haas will direct the band's first song, followed by additional songs, under the direction of John Martin, director of Athletic Bands. Then the band, dancers and Louie the Laker, will march in cadence through downtown and proceed across the Blue Pedestrian Bridge to the Eberhard Center, where they will reassemble to play one last time.

Grand Valley's Pew Grand Rapids Campus is once again an ArtPrize venue, this year hosting six exhibits:

Poetry and Sculpture: A Meditative Space

A collaborative effort of students and faculty mentors Norwood Viviano, professor of Art & Design, and Patricia Clark, professor and chair of the Department of Writing. A reading of their haiku poems is planned for Friday, September 20, from 6-7:30 p.m. in Eberhard Center, room 203.

Reframing Disabilities

This multimedia series of five frames, will engage viewers in the various sensory, mobility, and communication experiences of individuals with disabilities. The artists are a group of education students representing Grand Valley's College of Education, under the direction of Julie Feyen.

Sound Print

Entry by students from Black River Public School, a Grand Valley Charter School in Holland, with art instructor Katie Chester, artist Natalie Thompson, and Grand Valley Art & Design professor David Keister. The 2-D silk screen print is designed around the concept of "Synesthesia," which represents speeches.

Trial by Tires

By students from Excel Charter Academy, a Grand Valley Charter School in Grand Rapids, with art instructor Mary Eckert and artist Elaine Dalcher, Grand Valley alumna '74. The six-panel relief sculpture of mixed media includes recycled materials and was inspired by the students' study of the Heidelberg Project in Detroit.

Whispering Poetry

By third-grade students at William C. Abney Academy, a Grand Valley Charter School in Grand Rapids, with art instructor Nicole Fritsch. Whispering Poetry harkens back to the French renaissance tradition, *souffleurs du poeme*. Reading a poem through a whisper tube affords the reader and listener to have an intimate poetry experience even on a busy city street.

graphic poetry

By students from University Prep Science + Math Art Club, from a Grand Valley Charter School in Detroit, with adviser Vera Smith and artist Marcia Perry.

For more information, call the GVSU Art Gallery at 331-2563, or visit www.gvsu.edu/artgallery.

For Immediate Release

September 12, 2013

Contact: Leah Twilley, Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

Grand Valley to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month

ALLENDALE, Mich. — For the eighth year in a row, Grand Valley State University will observe Hispanic Heritage Month, celebrating Hispanic-American history and culture from September 15-October 16.

This year's line up showcases the diversity within the Latino culture, which encompasses many countries, cultures and experiences.

"Hispanic Heritage Month goes beyond the celebration and engages students to examine some of the lived experiences of Latinas in the U.S. and abroad," said Allison Roman, assistant director for the Office of Multicultural Affairs at Grand Valley. "We offer this as an opportunity to celebrate, educate and learn something new."

All events are free and open to the public.

- Café con Leche Networking Reception; Sept. 16, 4-6 p.m., Pere Marquette Room, Kirkhof Center, Allendale Campus

- Guatemala's Civil War & Trial of Rios Montt; Sept. 17, noon-1 p.m., Pere Marquette Room, Kirkhof Center, Allendale Campus

- Latino Civil Rights Tour: Grand Rapids to Chicago; Sept. 23, 9 a.m., meet at Cook Library Center, 1100 Grandville Ave. SW, Grand Rapids

- Peter Bratt, Filmmaker of La Mission; Oct. 2, 6:30-8 p.m., Grand River Room, Kirkhof Center, Allendale Campus

- Diversity Brown Bag Series: A Dream Deferred; Oct. 9, noon-1 p.m., room 1240, Kirkhof Center, Allendale Campus

- Rethinking Columbus; Oct. 14, 6-8 p.m., Cook-DeWitt Center, Allendale Campus

- The Distance Between Us: Domestic Violence Within Immigrant Populations; Oct. 16, 7-8 p.m., Loosemore Auditorium, DeVos Center, Pew Grand Rapids Campus

Hispanic Heritage Month was first observed in 1968 as Hispanic Heritage Week but then expanded by President Ronald Reagan in 1988 to cover a 30-day period starting on September 15 and ending on October 15. It was enacted into law on August 17, 1988. (For more information on HHM, visit: <http://hispanicheritagemonth.gov>.)

For information on parking or for individuals requiring special accommodations, please contact the Office of Multicultural Affairs at 616-331-2177 or online at www.gvsu.edu/oma.

For Immediate Release

September 13, 2013

Contact: Dottie Barnes, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

Trade strategies for success in Latin America

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Latin America is one of the fastest growing regional trade partners of the United States. Between 1998-2009, total U.S. merchandise trade with Latin America grew by 82 percent, compared to 72 percent for Asia.

The Van Andel Global Trade Center at Grand Valley State University is sponsoring a workshop, "Strategies for Success in Latin America," in partnership with Lakeshore Advantage and Pure Michigan. Latin American countries have made significant progress in trade liberalization, creating numerous new opportunities in their rapidly growing markets for U.S. businesses.

Panelists at the workshop include local businessmen Dan King from Herman Miller, Randy Meppelink from Top Window Covering USA and Mike Miedema from Lakewood Process Machinery.

Strategies for Success in Latin America

Wednesday, September 18

8:30-11 a.m. (registration & breakfast at 8:15 a.m.)

GVSU Meijer Holland Campus, room 104

515 S. Waverly Road

Cost: \$30

Participants will:

- Gain an understanding of the dynamics of the Latin America market
- Gain insight into the biggest economies in the region
- Find out how U.S. companies can best approach the market for best export sales opportunities
- Obtain information about cultural nuances to help businesses successfully cultivate long-term relationships
- Learn best practices throughout the interactive program

To register or for more information, visit www.vagtc.org or call the Van Andel Global Trade Center at (616) 331-6811.

If you would rather not receive future communications from Grand Valley State University, let us know by clicking [here](#).

EMBARGOED UNTIL 4:30 a.m., Monday, September 16, 2013

Contact: Nate Hoekstra, Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221,
hoekstna@gvsu.edu

MEDIA NOTE: Tera Qualls, director of communications and advancement for the College of Community and Public Service at Grand Valley, is available for live studio interviews to local media outlets during morning broadcasts on Monday, September 16. Please contact Tera Qualls before 5 p.m. Friday afternoon to set up interview times if interested, (616) 331-7035.

MEDIA-Johnson Center for Philanthropy launches city-wide VoiceGR initiative

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Researchers at Grand Valley State University's Johnson Center for Philanthropy are launching a city-wide effort to capture the voices of a large sample of greater Grand Rapids residents as part of VoiceGR, a project to gather baseline research about the needs and wants of community members.

VoiceGR will kick off September 16 and is designed to gather input on various aspects of life in the greater Grand Rapids area, including health care, education, employment status, racial equality, the economy and more. Researchers hope to use the data to help nonprofits and philanthropic organizations in West Michigan use their resources in the most effective manner possible.

VoiceGR evolved from the Greater Grand Rapids Community Survey, which the Johnson Center has conducted since the early 2000s. VoiceGR hopes to solicit a larger sample of participants so that organizations using the data can better understand the population down to the neighborhood level rather than looking at greater Grand Rapids as a whole. The Community Research Institute will prepare briefs for each participating organization and release results in December and January.

The survey will be done online at VoiceGR.org. Researchers have partnered with community-based organizations to provide free, easy access to community members who may not have a computer or internet connection at home. The Community Research Institute is partnering with the Grand Rapids Community Foundation to expand the initiative.

"Most social service agencies in the community do their own individual surveys of small populations, but no one has done a large, city-wide survey to assess basic needs," said Jerry Johnson, director of research for the Johnson Center's Community Research Institute. "This is a larger sample size, and we are confident we'll be able to establish a much more accurate baseline of what residents want by capturing all of the voices in the community."

Organizers of VoiceGR are working with large area employers to encourage them to ask employees to take about 20 minutes to fill out the complete survey. Several iPad minis will be raffled off to respondents as an incentive for taking part in the survey.

Jodi Petersen, senior researcher at the Johnson Center's Community Research Institute, will lead VoiceGR, along with a team of researchers at the Center with expertise in the areas of education and community development.

For more information, contact Tera Qualls, director of communications and advancement for the College of Community and Public Service, quallst@gvsu.edu.

For immediate release

September 16, 2013

Contact: Michele Coffill, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

Events set for Monday will honor area Latino leaders

-- GVSU leaders, Grand Rapids mayor will detail leadership program

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Participants in Grand Rapids and Chicago will honor current and past Latino civil rights leaders at events in both cities on September 23, which marks the 45th anniversary of the founding of the Young Lords civil and human rights organization.

Grand Valley State University's Kutsche Office of Local History has partnered with Grandville Avenue Arts and Humanities and other organizations to showcase the rich culture of Latinos living in Grand Rapids and Chicago through a photographic exhibition, educational program, and walking tour of Latino neighborhoods.

Events will begin on Monday, September 23, at 10:30 a.m. in Grand Rapids a welcome from city Mayor George Heartwell and Grand Valley leaders at the Cook Library Center, 1100 Grandville Ave SW.

Heartwell and others will make remarks and then officially launch the opening of a photographic exhibition, "Tengo El Pueblo En Mi Corazón: Latino Civil Rights and Community," which documents Grand Rapids area Latino leaders. The exhibition is ongoing in the Cook Library Center through October 18.

Melanie Shell-Weiss, director of the Kutsche Office of Local History, said Heartwell and others will detail a new, collaborative community history and leadership program that will be part of the Grandville Avenue Arts and Humanities' Cook Library Scholars program, which engages 31 elementary and middle school students in year-round programming.

A schedule of the day's events follows.

- 11 a.m.: Walking tour of the Grandville Avenue neighborhood, led by Tim Gleisner, librarian at the Grand Rapids Public Library.
- 12:30 p.m.: A chartered bus, sponsored by the Kutsche Office of Local History, will leave for Chicago for events there (details below).

The tour bus will arrive in Chicago's Lincoln Park neighborhood, the birthplace of the Young Lords civil rights movement in 1968. José "Cha-Cha" Jiménez founded the Young Lords movement and documented its history as a student at Grand Valley. He graduated but continues to be involved with Young Lords oral history project that is housed at the university.

A memorial service that evening will honor the Rev. Bruce and Eugenia Johnson, who were murdered in 1969 for their work in supporting Lincoln Park residents who were displaced from their homes in the '60s.

For more information about the Young Lords visit www.gvsu.edu/younglords or www.nationalyounglords.com. A story was featured in the winter 2013 Grand Valley Magazine: www.gvsu.edu/s/pn.

For Immediate Release

September 16, 2013

Contact: Leah Twilley, Grand Valley News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

A photo of Jennrich is available in Grand Valley's Dropbox account at <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/sxk7y7u9cokmgyc/2xYyLWn2WT>.

New director to lead Grand Valley's Women's Center

ALLENDALE, Mich. — Jessica Jennrich has been named the new director of Grand Valley State University's Women's Center. She succeeds Marlene Kowalski-Braun, who is now assistant vice provost for Student Affairs at Grand Valley.

Jennrich comes from Dartmouth College, where she directed the Center for Gender and Student Engagement. Prior to that, she led the undergraduate program in the Women's Gender Studies Department at Dartmouth and taught at the University of Missouri.

Bart Merkle, vice provost for Student Affairs and Dean of Students, said Jennrich brings knowledge and ability that will enhance the center.

"The Women's Center challenges and supports our students to explore a range of gender and social justice issues as part of their Grand Valley experience," Merkle said. "Engaging students to learn about themselves, about other people, and about our broader society is an endeavor that we will continue to expand under Jessica's capable leadership."

Jennrich said she her plans for the Women's Center include maintaining current programs and events as well as leveraging work that has been done at the center on a local and national level.

"Moving forward, we'll look at how to integrate all students into the center and make sure all people feel like they have a place here," Jennrich said. "We'll make sure all aspects of our work have an intersectional lens, so we're thinking about how a student's identity is more than just gender."

Jennrich said Grand Valley's collaborative environment is very impressive. "There's genuine and intentional work being done here," she said. "People are so friendly and students have a real sense of ownership about Grand Valley."

Originally from Cleveland, she received a bachelor's degree in English from Bowling Green University, a master's degree in women's and gender studies from Eastern Michigan University, and a doctorate in educational leadership and policy analysis from the University of Missouri.

The campus community can welcome Jennrich during at the Women's Center's annual Art Reception on September 19 from 1-3 p.m. The reception will celebrate artists whose artwork is displayed in the center.

For more information, contact the Women's Center at (616) 331-2748.

For Immediate Release

September 16, 2013

Contact: Dottie Barnes, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

GVSU sponsors Office Furniture Distribution Conference

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Grand Rapids Mayor George Heartwell and representatives from Steelcase, Amway and Kentwood Office Furniture will give presentations at the Office Furniture Distribution Conference, September 19.

The conference is sponsored by the Seidman College of Business at Grand Valley State University and the Council for Supply Chain Management Professionals.

The keynote presentation will be given by Mike Regan, chief of Relationship Development for TranzAct in Illinois. Regan serves on the boards of numerous industry groups including the American Society of Transportation & Logistics, where he is a Distinguished Logistics Professional; National Industrial Transportation League; the National Shippers Strategic Transportation Council, where he is chairman of the Advocacy Committee; and the Transportation Intermediaries Association, where he served as chairman of the TIA Foundation.

Office Furniture Distribution Conference

September 19

8 a.m.- 5 p.m.

Amway Grand Plaza Hotel, downtown Grand Rapids

Registration: \$99

Presenters include:

Mayor George Heartwell, City of Grand Rapids

Laura Hopson, vice president of Marketing and Sales, Kentwood Office Furniture

Jim Macaulay, former vice president, Supply Chain Management and Corporate Strategy, Steelcase, Inc.

Deb Parme, vice president, North America Logistics & Global Supply Chain Processes & Technology, Amway Corporation

To register or for additional information, contact Jaideep Motwani in the Seidman College of Business at motwanij@gvsu.edu or (616) 331-7467.

REGAN BIO

Mike Regan has received numerous industry honors: In 1995 he was inducted into the Chicago Area Entrepreneurial Hall of Fame and recognized as a finalist in the Ernst & Young's Entrepreneur of The Year Contest; in 2002 he was named Delta Nu Alpha's Transportation Professional of the Year; in 2005 he was named by DC Velocity as a "Rainmaker" and named "2005 Executive of the Year" by the National Industrial Transportation League; and "2008

Member of the Year" by NASSTRAC.

Regan has been a featured columnist in industry periodicals including Traffic World, and a featured blogger for DC Velocity and Logistics Management. He previously worked for the Bank of America, PriceWaterhouse, and the Union Pacific Corporation.

September 16, 2013
For immediate release

Contacts: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News & Information Services, (616) 331-2221
James Smither, director, GVSU Veterans History Project, (616) 331-3422

Vietnam veterans will share stories at Grand Valley

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. -- Louis Dudeck was 22 years old in 1965 when the ship he and fellow Marines were on landed in Vietnam, near Da Nang. With a loaded M-60 weapon and live ammunition strapped to his chest, he was scared, then shocked to see the beach was sprinkled with little old Vietnamese ladies selling beers and sodas.

Dudeck is among thirty veterans participating in the presentation series, "My Year in Vietnam - Vietnam Veterans Share Their Stories," organized by Professor James Smither, director of the Veterans History Project at Grand Valley State University. "Send the Marines!," will kick off the series Wednesday, September 25, at 7 p.m., in Loosemore Auditorium, DeVos Center, 401 W. Fulton, Pew Grand Rapids Campus.

Dudeck will share his stories, along with Michael Woods and Michael Burton. In each of 10 presentations, September 25 - April 9, three Vietnam veterans with overlapping experiences will tell their stories and take questions from the audience. All presentations are free and open to the public.

Woods quit school in 1961 at age 17, and joined the Marine Corps, one of only three blacks in his platoon. Shortly before he was to be discharged in 1965, after serving mostly with a fleet in the Pacific and on Okinawa, his service was extended and he was sent to Vietnam.

Burton attended Grand Valley for one year before joining the Marines in 1966. He spent about two weeks in Vietnam before serious injuries ended what he calls his "brief trip abroad." After a long and difficult recovery, he returned to Grand Valley, became an anti-war activist, brought a student group's petition to Washington, D.C., and delivered it to his congressman, Gerald Ford.

"More than 2.3 million Americans served in and around Vietnam between 1961 and 1973, and each one has a unique story to tell," said Smither. "Their stories go well beyond the traditional stereotypes, both negative and positive, of the American soldier in Vietnam."

The panelists include not only combat infantrymen from the Army and Marine Corps, but also radiomen, medical corpsmen, engineers, artilleryists, officers, various support personnel, a dog handler, a prison guard and a Special Forces member.

For more details about the Veterans History Project and a complete schedule of the Vietnam presentation series, visit <http://www.gvsu.edu/vethistory>.

For Immediate Release

September 17, 2013

Contact: Dottie Barnes, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

GVSU workshop on negotiating across global cultures

PORTAGE, Mich. — Beyond basic cultural etiquette, effective negotiation with different cultures requires a deeper understanding of values, beliefs and the social and economic structures within the country.

The Van Andel Global Trade Center at Grand Valley State University is sponsoring a workshop, "Negotiating Effectively Across Global Cultures," on September 20. Workshop participants will receive a road map for planning negotiations and outcomes when doing business with foreign countries.

Panelists at the program include Steve Bayus, vice president of operations at SoundOff Signal; Gayle Jacobs, partner at International Risk Consultants, Inc.; Debra Quade, supplier diversity at Kellogg Company; and Mike Ricco, Seidman College of Business at Grand Valley.

Negotiating Effectively Across Global Cultures

September 20

9 a.m.-noon

Bravo Restaurant, 5402 Portage Rd. in Portage

Cost: \$30

Topics covered include:

- Etiquette, cultural dimensions and their implications for negotiation
- Understanding U.S. negotiation norms and how they differ from other countries
- Tips and tools for preparing for international negotiations
- How to avoid common negotiation pitfalls with cultures around the globe

To register visit www.vagtc.org. For more information call the Van Andel Global Trade Center at (616) 331-6811.

September 17, 2013
For immediate release

Contacts: Mary Isca Pirkola, GVSU News & Information Services (616) 331-2221
Katherine Mayberry, director "Much Ado About Nothing," maybekat@gvsu.edu
James Bell, director GVSU Shakespeare Festival, bellja@gvsu.edu

*Photos are available in the Dropbox account Shakes Fest at
<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/zhz6qvoaai2dc5t/4ulqCOCghV>.*

GVSU Shakespeare Festival's 20th Anniversary presentation 'Much Ado About Nothing'

ALLENDALE, Mich. -- The Grand Valley State University Shakespeare Festival, the oldest in Michigan, celebrates its 20th anniversary of providing arts education and modern yet timeless productions that explore and celebrate Shakespeare.

"Since our start in 1994, the Grand Valley Shakespeare Festival has been providing events and activities that are available and affordable to a diverse and growing population," said James Bell, festival director since 2005. "We offer stage productions and educational programs and participate in the family-friendly Renaissance Faire held at Grand Valley."

The main production this year is Shakespeare's comedy, "Much Ado About Nothing," opening Friday, September 27, 7:30 p.m. in Louis Armstrong Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Allendale Campus. Performance will be followed by a free, public reception with cash bar in the Pere Marquette Room, Kirkhof Center.

Additional performances at 7:30 p.m. September 28 and October 3-5.

Matinee performances at 2 p.m. September 29 and October 5-6.

Pre-show discussions by Production Dramaturg Jo Miller, Grand Valley professor of English, September 28 and October 4 at 6:45 p.m.

Tickets \$14/adults, \$12/faculty, staff, alumni, seniors, and \$6/all students and groups of 10 or more, are available at the GVSU Louis Armstrong Theatre box office, or by calling (616) 331-2300. For more information visit www.gvsu.edu/theatre.

Written by William Shakespeare in about 1599, this production of "Much Ado About Nothing" is set in the period just as World War I is ending. Soldiers returning home from the reality of war are caught up in the "merry war" of wits between the sexes. The skirmishes in this battle, including two pairs of lovers: Benedick and Beatrice, and Claudio and Hero, may be more playful and more dangerous than anyone expects.

The production will feature guest Actors Equity Association actor Christopher Seiler in the role of Constable Dogberry and local guest actor Gary Mitchell is playing Leonato. Students

performing the pair of lovers are Macey Madias as Beatrice, with Sean Kelley as Benedick, and Sarah Tryon as Hero, with Justin Mackey as Claudio.

The production features many Grand Valley alumni working behind the scenes: director Katherine Mayberry; musical director Scott Lange; choreographer Christian Vigrass; lighting designer Chris Teller; and property mistress Julie Kehr.

Other GVSU Shakespeare Festival events include a free public presentation, "The Five Keys to Understanding Shakespeare," September 27, 4 p.m., Alumni House, presented by accomplished actor and director Jeff Watkins. Watkins is president and artistic director of the Atlanta Shakespeare Company.

For more information and a complete schedule of events, visit www.gvsu.edu/shakes.

For Immediate Release

September 18, 2013

Contact: Dottie Barnes, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

WMEAC and GVSU to design West Michigan Water Trail

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — West Michigan Environmental Action Council and Grand Valley State University will, over the next year, design the framework for a Lake Michigan Water Trail connecting Benton Harbor to Ludington.

Water trails are intended for non-motorized watercraft such as kayaks, canoes, paddleboats, surfing, windsurfing and kite-surfing, and are designed to foster an interactive, historical education experience.

Existing trails can be found on the Great Lakes, as well as on inland waterways in Michigan. Several are well established, such as the section of Lake Michigan near Sleeping Bear Dunes and the Pictured Rocks area of Lake Superior in the Upper Peninsula.

“This will close a significant gap in the coastal trails network of the State of Michigan and the Great Lakes in general,” said Michael Scantlebury, associate professor of Hospitality and Tourism Management at Grand Valley State University and a West Michigan Environmental Action Council board member. “Our home stretch of coastline has some of the best cultural, historical, and natural assets in the region. A Lake Michigan Water Trail will be an incredible boon for recreation and tourism in West Michigan.”

Scantlebury said the water trail is a historic effort that can create an undivided voice for investment in, and protection of, West Michigan’s freshwater resources.

The project will build on existing relationships in Lake Michigan coastal communities and engage the public in conversations about the economic, cultural and environmental impacts of the initiative. Community meetings will be held in the seven primary coastal population centers — St. Joseph/Benton Harbor, South Haven, Saugatuck/Douglas, Holland, Grand Haven, Muskegon, and Pentwater/Ludington.

Grand Valley faculty, with the support of students, will be responsible for market and product assessment for this West Michigan Water Trail. Of particular interest are cultural and historic maritime resources such as lighthouses, shipwrecks, and other Great Lakes maritime heritage features.

The \$200,000 project was made possible through a \$95,000 grant from the Michigan Coastal Zone Management Program (MCZMP), Office of the Great Lakes, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), through a grant from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), U.S. Department of Commerce.

BACKGROUND

The West Michigan Water Trail initiative is complementary to a series of similar MCZMP-funded projects occurring along the Lake Michigan shoreline this year where Regional Planning Organizations are documenting inland and lakeshore assets and recommending potential enhancements to local governments for a comprehensive Lake Michigan Water Trail. For instance, the West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission is surveying potential Lake Michigan access points and amenities on inland lakes and streams throughout Muskegon, Oceana, Mason and northern Ottawa counties.

Specific objectives of the West Michigan Water Trail initiative include:

- Comprehensive plans for local and regional coastal trails, including research, surveys, and mapping to support the planning process
- Assessments of existing water trails to identify and analyze gaps, identify best practices, and recommend improvements
- Assessments of best practices in the promotion of coastal water trail recreation with the objective of developing and/or enhancing existing websites and other prioritized media that promotes coastal trail recreation opportunities

Learn more about the initiative at westmichiganwatertrail.com. For more information, contact Michael Scantlebury at Grand Valley at (616) 331-2705, or Elaine Sterrett Isely at West Michigan Environmental Action Council, (616) 451-3051, ext. 25.

For Immediate Release

September 19, 2013

Contact: Dottie Barnes, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

Prominent chemist to speak at GVSU Ott Lectureship

ALLENDALE, Mich. — An award-winning chemist and member of the National Science Board will be the featured speaker for the Arnold C. Ott Lectureship in Chemistry at Grand Valley State University.

W. Carl Lineberger, JILA and E.U. Condon Distinguished Professor of Chemistry at the University of Colorado at Boulder, will give a public lecture on October 29 and a seminar for students and faculty on October 30.

Tuesday, October 29

"Negative Ion Chemistry Research: How it Led to 'A Positive Look Into Science and Technology Policy'

5 p.m. reception

6 p.m. lecture

Kirkhof Center, Grand River Room, Allendale Campus

Wednesday, October 30

"Molecular Reaction Dynamics in Time and Frequency Domains: A Wonderful Playground for Collaboration between Experiment and Theory"

1 p.m. chemistry seminar

Cook DeWitt Center, Allendale Campus

BACKGROUND

William Carl Lineberger is the E.U. Condon Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry and Fellow of JILA at the University of Colorado in Boulder. His research centers on the application of lasers to problems in chemical physics, especially those involving gas phase anions. He has won numerous awards such as the H. P. Broida Prize in Chemical Physics and the Earl K. Plyler Prize from the American Physical Society. He received the Bomem-Michelson Prize and the William F. Meggers Prize from the Optical Society of America.

Lineberger has served on many advisory committees, chairing the NSF Advisory Committee for Mathematical and Physical Sciences, the National Research Council Commission on Physical Sciences, Mathematics and Applications, and the Department of Basic Energy Sciences Advisory Committee. In 2011, he was nominated by President Obama for membership on the National Science Board, and was subsequently confirmed by the U.S. Senate. He serves as a member of the Executive Committee and chair of the Subcommittee on Facilities of NSB.

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

Ott and Marion Ott. Arnold Ott received his doctorate in 1943 from Michigan State University in chemistry, physics and bacteriology and was a leading chemist and entrepreneur in West Michigan. He was also one of the co-founders of Grand Valley State University and served on the GVSU Board of Trustees for 28 years.

For more information contact Felix Ngassa, GVSU associate professor of chemistry, at (616) 331-3803.

For Immediate Release

September 24, 2013

Contact: Dottie Barnes, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

Grand Valley named a Best College Buy for 18 consecutive years

ALLENDALE, Mich. — For the 18th year in a row, Grand Valley State University has been named one of "America's 100 Best College Buys" by Institutional Research and Evaluation, Inc. in Georgia.

Each year, Institutional Research identifies the 100 American colleges and universities providing students the very highest quality education at the lowest cost. Grand Valley has made the list far more times than any other Michigan institution; authors of the report say it is because of Grand Valley's high academic performance coupled with its low cost. No other state public institution made the list.

To be considered for the designation, an institution must:

- Be an accredited, four year institution
- Offer full residential facilities
- Have an entering freshman class in the fall of 2012 with a high school GPA and/or SAT/ACT equal to or above the national average for entering college freshmen
- Out-of-state tuition in 2013-2014 below the national average or not exceeding the national average cost by more than 10 percent

The average GPA for incoming freshmen at Grand Valley for fall 2012 was 3.5, compared to the national average of 3.3, according to Institutional Research. The average ACT score for incoming freshmen at Grand Valley for fall 2012 was 24, compared to the national average of 23.

Grand Valley State University, one of the 100 largest universities in the nation, attracts more than 24,000 students with high-quality programs and state-of-the-art facilities. Grand Valley is a comprehensive university serving students from all 83 Michigan counties and dozens of other states and foreign countries. Grand Valley offers 82 undergraduate and 31 graduate degree programs from campuses in Allendale, Grand Rapids and Holland, and from regional centers in Muskegon and Traverse City. The university is dedicated to individual student achievement, going beyond the traditional classroom experience, with research opportunities and business partnerships.

For more information visit www.100bestcollegebuys.com and click on annual report.

For immediate release

September 24, 2013

Contact: Dottie Barnes, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

Sprout Lab promotes Ag entrepreneurs

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Michigan's agribusiness sector is filled with innovators. Many tools and inventions could be scaled up for greater economic and industry impact.

Sprout Lab, sponsored by Grand Valley State University's Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation and Saginaw Valley State University, is designed to help people with innovative agribusiness ideas find the resources needed to develop their ideas and business concepts. Sprout Lab will offer three-day workshops in November and January, providing guidance from industry experts and resource information.

"Sprout Lab is a way to engage problem solvers in the agriculture, natural resource and energy sectors in exploring further commercial development of their ideas," said Julie Cowie, program manager for Sprout Lab. "Whether someone has an idea or is just looking to network, the workshops offer a concentrated delivery of information where participants will get a portfolio of regional resources."

Cowie said Sprout Lab aims to increase innovative ideas, inventions and technologies that solve problems related to dirt, wind and/or water. Sprout Lab is designed to help participants move an idea from the farm or field to the market with the help of regional and university professionals. Farmers, engineers, students, environmentalists and conservationists are all encouraged to participate.

Sprout Lab — Growing your agribusiness idea

November 4-6 at Grand Valley State Pew Grand Rapids Campus

January 8-10 at Saginaw Valley State

8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Cost: \$195

Sprout Lab is a pilot program funded by a grant from the Michigan Initiative for Innovation and Entrepreneurship.

Register online at www.sproutlab.org. For more information, contact Julie Cowie at julie@SproutLab.org or (269) 214-1227.

EMBARGOED for 5 p.m.
October 31, 2013
Contact: News and Information Services (616) 331-2221

Media advisory: GVSU officials to hold news conference at 5 p.m.

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Officials at Grand Valley State University will hold a news conference at 5 p.m. today regarding a large-scale academic expansion project.

Thursday, October 31, 5 p.m.
Cook-DeVos Center for Health Sciences, room 307, assessment lab
301 Michigan St. NE, Grand Rapids

An online Dropbox folder will be available for media outlets at 5 p.m., containing b-roll and high-resolution photos to support this story.

For Immediate Release
5 p.m. EST October 31, 2013

Contact: News and Information Services, Mary Eileen Lyon, lyonme@gvsu.edu or Michele Coffill, coffillm@gvsu.edu, (616) 331-2221.

Media Note: B-roll and high-resolution images, including an aerial view of the proposed property, are available via Dropbox at <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/o86xh0q2d81u0ca/CzhDi6Vuoz>

Media advisory: GVSU officials to hold news conference at 5 p.m.

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. – Grand Valley State University officials announced today that they will ask members of the university's Board of Trustees to approve the purchase of nearly 11 acres northeast of downtown Grand Rapids to expand the university's health campus. The board meets at noon November 1 at Grand Valley's Detroit Center.*

Grand Valley is the region's No. 1 provider of health care workers, and 5,000 of its students are studying in nursing and health related fields.

The university already owns four acres of property adjacent to its Cook-DeVos Center for Health Sciences located at Michigan and Lafayette streets on the Medical Mile. If approved by the board, this latest purchase, bordered by Hastings and Trowbridge streets and Clancy and College avenues, would provide the university a total of 18 acres to expand health programs and accommodate the growing demand by both students and employers seeking well-trained health professionals.

"This is transformational for our university, for our region and for the future of health care in Michigan," President Thomas J. Haas said. "This plan is part of our vision and long-term strategy as a key player in health education. We're obligated to anticipate and produce the health care providers our state needs for the future."

Grand Valley's College of Health Professions and the Kirkhof College of Nursing currently offer 12 undergraduate and graduate degree programs, including two doctoral programs. There are currently more applicants than some programs can admit. The university needs more laboratories and classrooms to accommodate additional enrollment and for additional health-related academic programs planned to meet future needs.

"Our health programs are at capacity and we need to make more room for students who want to go into these fields," Gayle R. Davis, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs said. "Grand Valley plans to provide additional health-related academic programs as these fast-moving professional areas develop. This proposal indicates a significant and exciting investment in the future of health care. If approved by our Board of Trustees, more students will receive the excellent instruction and opportunities that our health faculty and programs provide. We will all benefit."

The proposal to the board indicates that the purchase price will not exceed \$18,900,000 for the property. If the board approves the purchase, tuition will not be raised to pay for it. University leadership has been planning and saving for the expansion of health care programs, and the Campus Development Fund will be used to finance the purchase.

Grand Valley will be conducting long-term planning for the site, envisioning what the health campus will look like in the coming decades. The university will work closely with city leaders and neighbors in that process.

"The university has a history of improving areas in which it has campuses, and takes that obligation seriously," Haas said.

*Grand Valley's Detroit Center is located at 163 Madison, Detroit, Michigan 48226.

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For immediate release
November 1, 2013
Contact: News and Information Services (616) 331-2221

GVSU board approves expansion for health campus

DETROIT, Mich. — Grand Valley State University's Board of Trustees, during the November 1 meeting at GVSU's Detroit Center, approved the purchase of nearly 11 acres northeast of downtown Grand Rapids to expand the university's health campus.

The university already owns four acres of property adjacent to its Cook-DeVos Center for Health Sciences located at Michigan and Lafayette streets on the Medical Mile. This latest purchase, bordered by Hastings and Trowbridge streets and Clancy and College avenues, provides the university a total of 18 acres to expand health programs and accommodate the growing demand by both students and employers seeking well-trained health professionals.

"This is transformational for our university, for our region and for the future of health care in Michigan," President Thomas J. Haas said. "This plan is part of our vision and long-term strategy as a key player in health education. We're obligated to anticipate and produce the health care providers our state needs for the future."

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"Our health programs are at capacity and we need to make more room for students who want to go into these fields," Gayle R. Davis, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs, said. "Grand Valley plans to provide additional health-related academic programs as these fast-moving professional areas develop. This proposal indicates a significant and exciting investment in the future of health care."

The purchase price will not exceed \$18.9 million for the property. Tuition will not be raised to pay for it. University leadership has been planning and saving for the expansion of health care programs, and the Campus Development Fund will be used to finance the purchase.

Grand Valley will be conducting long-term planning for the site, envisioning what the health campus will look like in the coming decades. The university will work closely with city leaders and neighbors in that process. "The university has a history of improving areas in which it has campuses, and takes that obligation seriously," Haas said.

For Immediate Release

November 1, 2013

Contact: Nate Hoekstra, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

MEDIA-Grand Valley issues annual Accountability Report

Grand Valley State University's annual Accountability Report shows the university is producing exemplary results in graduation and retention rates, while at the same time holding down tuition and administration costs. The university released the report at its Nov. 1 Board of Trustees meeting.

The state legislature earlier this year recognized Grand Valley's performance in key areas. It tied a small portion (1.7%) of state appropriation to university performance measures, and Grand Valley was rewarded for its performance in graduation rates and the number of degrees awarded in STEM and other critical fields.

The Accountability Report is divided in six easy-to-read sections, using data from outside sources that show Grand Valley succeeds in its mission and is fiscally responsible and accountable.

Here are some highlights from this year's report:

- Grand Valley ranks in the top four for retention when compared to all other public universities in Michigan, and in the top three for graduation rates.
- Grand Valley's tuition remains in the bottom half of all Michigan public universities, while it receives the lowest state funding per student.
- The economic impact of Grand Valley on Kent, Ottawa and Muskegon counties is \$722 million.

The full Accountability Report (PDF) can be viewed at www.gvsu.edu/accountability.

For Immediate Release

November 4, 2013

Contact: Dottie Barnes, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

Grand Valley signs reverse transfers with every community college in Michigan

ALLENDALE, Mich. — Grand Valley State University is the first in the state to sign reverse transfer agreements with all 28 community colleges in Michigan.

The final signing, with Bay de Noc Community College in Escanaba, took place October 31. This agreement helps students who transferred to Grand Valley complete an associate's degree at the community college. The initiative applies to students who have completed at least 40 credits at Bay de Noc, but transferred to Grand Valley before earning an associate's degree.

"Students transferring to Grand Valley from any one of the Michigan public two-year schools are the beneficiaries of this work in creating all of these agreements," said Lynn Blue, vice provost and dean of Academic Services and Information Technology. "Many students who enter a community college transfer to a four-year school before completing the requirements for an associate's degree, but end up satisfying the requirements en route to their bachelor's degree. Rarely, did students know to transfer their four-year work back to their former school. Now there is a process and an agreement on the part of all of the two-year schools to help those students with a richly deserved credential."

Grand Valley President Thomas J. Haas said: "The relationship Grand Valley now has with every community college in the state brings real value for students. These partnerships will help students achieve their dreams of earning a college degree. At the end of the day, it's all about students being successful. I want to congratulate Lynn Blue for her tireless work and success in arranging all 28 agreements."

Grand Valley has reverse transfer agreements with every community college in the state, which include Alpena, Bay de Noc, Delta, Glen Oaks, Grand Rapids, Gogebic, Henry Ford, Jackson, Kalamazoo Valley, Kellogg, Kirtland, Lake Michigan, Lansing, Macomb, Mid-Michigan, Monroe County, Montcalm, Mott, Muskegon, North Central Michigan, Northwestern Michigan, Oakland, Schoolcraft, St. Clair County, Southwestern Michigan, Washtenaw, Wayne County District and West Shore community colleges.

For immediate release

November 4, 2013

Contact: Michele Coffill, GVSU News and Information Services, (616) 331-2221

Deadline extended for nominations for MLK service awards

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — The deadline has been extended to nominate someone for a Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. service award presented by Grand Valley State University.

Two awards will be presented during the university's King commemoration week, January 20-25. One award will be given to a GVSU faculty or staff member, another to a community member.

Criteria for both awards are listed online at www.gvsu.edu/mlk, click on "MLK Awards." The deadline to nominate someone is December 1.

Nominations for both awards can be sent via email to inclusion@gvsu.edu, or mailed to the address below.

Division of Inclusion and Equity
Grand Valley State University
401 Fulton St. W
336C DeVos Center
Grand Rapids, MI 49503

For more information, call the Division of Inclusion and Equity at (616) 331-3296.