FATHER, SON ARE GIANTS

Faite R-P Mack

Although the father and son took different career paths, both were honored as Giants in the community. Faite R-P Mack, Ph.D., school psychologist and graduate professor of education at Grand Valley State University, and his father, retired Col. Faite Mack Sr., received the prestigious honors during the 18th annual Giants Banquet Jan. 29 in Grand Rapids.

It marked the first time in the history of the Giants Awards that a father and son had been honored simultaneously. The younger Mack received the Hattie Beverly Education Giant Award. Retired Col. Faite Mack Sr., a former Tuskegee Airman with the Fighting 99th — the first squadron of black combat fighter pilots in World War II — received the Giant Among Giants Award, presented for his community service efforts.

The Giants Awards are presented annually by the Grand Rapids Community College Foundation.

"I thought that was very much an honor," said Mack, a member of the GVSU School of Education for over 25 years.

GRADUATES HONORED

The School of Education has announced its Outstanding Student Awards for the spring of 2000.

Among those receiving Master of Education degrees, Jason Alt earned high honors for general education, Bridget A. Tietema for special education and Elena Chiaburu for reading/language arts. Those receiving teacher education awards in undergraduate studies included Janice L. Schmidt for elementary education, Tara Brown for secondary education and Connie Sutherland for special education. The university banquet to honor them was held April 10.

GRAD CLASSES MOVE BACK TO EBERHARD

After spending the 1999-2000 academic year in a temporary location at Union High School because of construction at the downtown campus, School of Education graduate classes are moving back to the Eberhard Center this fall.

Although construction continues, GVSU's downtown campus will be much more accessible as the building projects hit the home stretch.

ON THE COVER: Participants of the Women in Educational Leadership Forum set their sights on upward mobility. Dana Overway VandenBos, middle, addresses graduates during the School of Education's winter convocation ceremonies. Forest Hills Northern High School principal Gloria Graber, lower left, shares a moment with senior Jamie Klotz.

ROBERT HAGERTY
DEAN'S CORNER

A PREVIEW OF THINGS TO COME

These are exciting times for the School of Education as we expand the scope of our mission toward educating educators for the future. Following are several initiatives that are available to you — friends, alumni and colleagues — of GVSU's School of Education.

Grand Valley State University Alumni Society. The first teacher education graduating class at Grand Valley was in 1967, nearly 33 years ago. From a very small but innovative teacher education unit, the School of Education at GVSU has matured into the fastest growing producer of K-12 educators in Michigan and one of the fastest growing in the country. The undergraduate teacher education program has doubled over the last four years, and the School of Education's graduate program is the largest graduate program at the university.

All of our older sister universities have established School of Education Alumni Societies. I believe the time is right to launch the GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY ALUMNI SOCIETY.

The School of Education Alumni Society may have several objectives: Service, Professional Development, Travel, Fund Raising and Fellowship, to name but a few. If you wish to indicate an interest before we send further details in a separate mailing to alumni, please e-mail me at the address below.

Fall Lecture Series. The third Fall Education Lecture Series will explore the future of urban schools. Invited speakers include David Adamany, superintendent of the Detroit Schools; Martin Haberman from University of Wisconsin and founder of the Star Teacher Program for preparing outstanding urban teachers; Robert Slavin, developer of the Success for All Reading Program, which has provided early reading success for urban students; and Paul Vallas, CEO of the Chicago Public Schools, credited with creating the greatest turnaround ever in a large urban school district. Watch for further details!

Character Education Conference. The inaugural Character Education Conference is scheduled for November 29, 2000, at the Eberhard Center. An outgrowth of the Fall 1999 Lecture Series which had the theme of Character Education in the Classroom, a group of lecture series attendees have formed a strategic planning task force to lay the groundwork for Michigan's first Schools and Communities of Character Conference. The planning committee is made up of PK-12 teachers and administrators, university faculty and several members of the business community and area chambers of commerce. Dr. Thomas Lickona has agreed to be the keynote presenter. Professor Lickona directs the Center for the 4th and 5th Rs at the State University of New York at Cortland. He is the leading national authority on Character Education and the author of the popular book, *Educating for Character* (Bantam Books). Details of this conference will be mailed to school districts.

International Student Teaching in South Africa will be launched in the winter of 2001. Professors Ram Chattulani, Julie Chlebo, Barbara Lubic and I traveled to Cape Town and Stellenbosch, South Africa, during March. We visited 19 schools in five days and identified several appropriate sites for pre-student teaching and teaching assisting. The School of Education hopes to provide this experience for 15-20 students each winter. One GVSU professor will accompany these students and team up with a professor from a South African university to provide the field supervision. The fee for this experience will include round trip airfare, room and board with a South African family and a generous allocation for travel and sight seeing. Cape Town is regarded as the most multi-cultural city in the world. It is also one of the most beautiful cities in the world.

Distinguished Visiting Professor of Education Harold Herman is to be in residence for the academic year 2000/2001. Professor Herman is an internationally known expert in comparative international education and brings to GVSU an extensive knowledge of multi-cultural education. Professor Herman will be accompanied by his wife Marcia, his son Kurt — who will be a GVSU student in business information systems — and his daughter Hayley, who will be a high school senior. The Herman family will make a significant, positive contribution to the Greater Grand Valley Community.

School Counselor Master's Degree Requested. The Michigan School Counselor Association has requested that the GVSU School of Education initiate a School Counselor Master's Degree. The increasing shortage of school counselors has created a crisis in the state of Michigan. With funding support from the Provost's office and from Vice Provost Robert Fletcher, I am actively seeking a veteran faculty member/consultant from a well-established and respected university school counseling program to assist in developing a master's program, writing syllabi and preparing the program for the governance process.

(Robert Hagerty, Ed.D., is Dean of the School of Education at Grand Valley State University. Questions, comments, suggestions? Hagerty may be accessed via e-mail: hagertyr@gvsu.edu)