

# FORUM

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A NEWSLETTER FOR THE GRAND VALLEY  
STATE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

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## Student Scholars Day ready to celebrate 20th year

A record number of presenters and faculty mentors will highlight the 20th annual Student Scholars Day on Wednesday, April 8.

Susan Mendoza, director of the Office of Undergraduate Research and Scholarship, said more than 350 presentations are scheduled.

"We are excited to support the achievements of these students representing 70 diverse majors across the university," Mendoza said.

Poster, oral and panel presentations will run from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at Kirkhof Center, Henry Hall and Mary Idema Pew Library. Film and live performances are scheduled for 1 and 5 p.m. in the library's multipurpose room, and an art exhibition will be shown in the library's exhibition space all day with an artist reception at 5 p.m.

The keynote speaker will be Brian Fagan,

emeritus professor of anthropology at the University of California at Santa Barbara, and an expert on the relationship between climate change and human society. Fagan will give a presentation at 7 p.m. in the Kirkhof Center, Pere Marquette Room.

Fagan wrote a bestseller, *The Great Warming: Climate Change and the Rise and Fall of Civilizations*, that showcases the power of climate change to disrupt and alter history.

For more information and to view a schedule of presentations, visit [www.gvsu.edu/ours/ssd](http://www.gvsu.edu/ours/ssd).

A list of faculty mentors is on page 4.



President Thomas J. Haas and Louie the Laker study a poster presentation by a student during 2014's Student Scholars Day. This year's event is set for April 8.

## Across Campus

### Menon named ACE Fellow

Shaily Menon, associate dean for professional development and administration in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, was named a 2015-2016 American Council on Education Fellow.

The ACE Fellows Program is designed to strengthen institutions and leadership in American higher education by identifying and preparing emerging leaders for senior positions in college and university administration.

During her time as one of 47 ACE Fellows, Menon will take part in various retreats, interactive learning opportunities and campus visits. She will also be placed at another institution to observe and work with the president and other senior officers, attend decision-making meetings and focus on issues of interest.

Menon will conduct a project intertwining design thinking and community engagement aimed at benefiting campus-wide initiatives at Grand Valley, such as internationalization, diversity, sustainability and big data analytics.

Menon said she hopes to leave her fellowship with a better understanding of the larger



Shaily Menon

landscape of higher education and the issues it faces.

"Universities are being called upon to address issues of access and equity, and to innovate in order to prepare students for a changing world and the ever-increasingly complex local and global problems they will face," Menon said. "I hope to learn about and gain insights into innovative strategies that can bring together various constituencies of higher education institutions and community stakeholders."

Provost Gayle R. Davis said she nominated Menon for the honor because she has distinguished herself in every role she has taken at the university.

### Niemeyer Award recipients announced

Three faculty members and four students will receive Niemeyer Awards at the Student Awards Convocation, set for Monday, April 6, at the Eberhard Center.

The awards are named for Glenn A. Niemeyer, the first provost of Grand Valley, and honor faculty and students who strive for excellence in all aspects of a well-rounded academic experience.

Faculty members are Craig Benjamin, associate professor of honors; Rebecca Davis, professor of nursing; and Linda McCrea, professor of education.

Benjamin is a founding leader of the burgeoning discipline of Big History, bringing the office of the International Big History Association to Grand Valley. Davis is an expert in the care of older adults and received a National Institute of Health grant to research wandering behavior among people with dementia. McCrea is the director of teacher education for the College of Education and was selected as a reviewer for two national accrediting bodies.

Undergraduate student recipients are Abigail DeHart, a Classics and philosophy double major, and Justin Ebert, an economics major.

Graduate student recipients are Julie Bulson, a doctor of nursing practice candidate, and Gabriel Kalmbacher, an MBA candidate.

### Women's Commission presents Lifetime Achievement Awards

Grand Valley's Women's Commission presented Lifetime Achievement Awards to two people who have collaborated closely on co-curricular and academic programs.

Kathleen Underwood, director of the Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies department, and JoAnn Wassenaar, associate director of the Women's Center, each received the commission's highest honor during the March 31

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# Across Campus

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Celebrating Women Awards ceremony. Both women plan to retire at the end of the winter semester.

Gretchen Galbraith, associate dean for the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, helped present the awards. Galbraith said she was grateful for Underwood's leadership in expanding what was Women and Gender Studies from a program to a department, increasing its faculty members and adding an LGBTQ minor.

Susan Sloop, Work Life consultant, said Wassenaar was responsible for establishing and enhancing many campus programs, including Girls in Sports Day, Girls on the Run, Ready to Run Michigan and Indulge in a Cause. Wassenaar also helped establish the career coach position in Human Resources.

The Women's Commission presented the Maxine Swanson Award to Mary deYoung, professor of sociology; the Women's Impact Award to Shorouq Almallah, associate director of the Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation; and the Unsung Hero Award to Linda Rettig, office coordinator for the Student Academic Success Center.



Photo by Christi Wiltenburg

JoAnn Wassenaar, left, and Kathleen Underwood received Lifetime Achievement Awards March 31 from the Women's Commission.

## Historians earn awards, recognition from Kutsche Office

Three historians earned honors from the Kutsche Office of Local History during the annual Local History Roundtable March 26 at the Grand Rapids Public Library.

H. Sook Wilkinson, of Bloomfield Hills, received the second Gordon Olson Lifetime Contributions to Local History award. The award is named for Olson, former Grand Rapids city historian. Criteria for receiving the Olson award includes contributions to local history that give voice to

diverse communities. Finalists for the award were Cindy Laug and Lori Shusta.

A Korean adoptee herself, Wilkinson has written several books on the experiences of adoptees. Wilkinson has chaired the Governor's Advisory Council on Asian Pacific American Affairs as well as the new Michigan Pacific American Affairs Commission. She also serves on the Board of Trustees for Northern Michigan University.

Laug is the administrative assistant for the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. She is well-known for her work in women's history.

Shusta has collected and preserved histories of Native Americans and the archives at the Grand Valley American Indian Lodge, where she works.

## Former governor talks education, tax reform

Former Michigan Gov. John Engler said states with the best education and talent will win economically, during his remarks at a Seidman College of Business event.

Engler, president of Business Roundtable, was the keynote speaker at the Peter F. Secchia Breakfast Lecture March 30, at the L. William Seidman Center.

Business Roundtable is an association of chief executive officers of leading U.S. corporations with a combined workforce of nearly 16 million workers and more than \$7 trillion in annual revenues.

Engler said investment in human capital is crucial and states need to "double down"



Photo by Bernadine Carey-Tucker

Former Gov. John Engler talks with Gleaves Whitney, of the Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies, at a Secchia Breakfast Lecture March 30.

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

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Visit Grand Valley's online publication, GVN<sup>ow</sup>, at www.gvsu.edu/gvnow, for daily news updates and video features.

Grand Valley State University is an affirmative action/equal opportunity institution.



## GVFaces

### Samantha Mulder, Financial Aid Counselor

Samantha Mulder is happy to be back at Grand Valley, where she earned a bachelor's degree, to continue her professional career.

Mulder joined the Financial Aid office in July as a financial aid counselor. In that role, Mulder said she has many responsibilities, including handling walk-in student appointments and processing files. However, her favorite aspect of her work is helping students the same way she was helped during her undergraduate years.

"Being able to work with and help students with their financial aid, and in turn help them be successful throughout college is something that really interests me and is one of my favorite parts about my job," Mulder said.

Mulder earned a bachelor's degree in health communications in 2012 and will start the adult and higher education master's program at Grand Valley this fall.

After graduating, she worked in marketing for a local non-profit organization for two years but said she wanted to return to Grand Valley to continue her professional and educational careers.



Samantha Mulder

"I wanted to get back into the Grand Valley community," she said. "I enjoy being someone who current students and prospective students can talk to about financial aid. The rules and regulations can be very confusing and it's so rewarding to help student and parents work through the process."

In her free time, Mulder enjoys traveling with her husband, reading and being outside with her dogs.

# What's Ahead

## Week celebrates student employees

Campus Dining, Student Life and Athletics all have something in common: they are some of the largest employers of students at Grand Valley.

A celebration will recognize those students and the more than 4,000 student employees who work on campus during Student Employee Appreciation Week, April 6-10. The theme of this year's week is animated movies.

Highlights are listed below.

- Monday, April 6, Office Decorating and Photo Contest: Students can win a pizza party for their office by decorating their workplace and sending a photo to [studentjobs@gvsu.edu](mailto:studentjobs@gvsu.edu) by 1 p.m. on April 7. Voting will take place online.

- Wednesday, April 8, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Hot Dog Roast: The event will take place at the Cook Carillon Tower and University Club at the DeVos Center.

- Thursday, April 9, 11:30-1 p.m., Indulge Day: Student employees are invited to indulge in ice cream sundaes and a photo booth. The event will take place in Kirkhof Center, room 2204 and DeVos Center, University Club.

- Friday, April 17, Night with the Griffins: Tickets are \$7 and \$9 for guests, and can be picked up at the Student Employment Office in the Student Services Building.

Visit [www.gvsu.edu/studentjobs](http://www.gvsu.edu/studentjobs) for information.

## Exercise Science Expo set

Students interested in careers in exercise science will have the opportunity to network with area professionals during the Exercise Science Career and Internship Expo on Monday, April 6.

The event will take place from 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. in the Kirkhof Center, Grand River Room.

Companies expected to attend the expo include David D. Hunting YMCA, Grand Rapids Fire Department, Spectrum Health Cardiac Rehab, Steelcase, Metro Health Hospital, and

CrossFit, among many others.

The Movement Science department sponsors the event.

## Panel will discuss design thinking

In conjunction with West Michigan Design Week, Grand Valley will host a panel of local business leaders to discuss the concepts of design thinking and how they can be applied to solve complex problems.

"Design Thinking for Social Impact" is set for Tuesday, April 7, from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at the L. William Seidman Center.

John Berry, director of the Design Thinking Initiative, will facilitate the panel discussion.

Panelists include Ellen Carpenter, vice president of marketing and communications for Heart of West Michigan United Way; Ryan Kilpatrick, community assistance specialist at Michigan Economic Development Corporation; and Kris Spaulding, sustainability director and owner at Brewery Vivant.

The event is free and open to the public, but registration is required. To register, visit [www.wmdesignweek.com](http://www.wmdesignweek.com). It is sponsored by Grand Valley in association with the Grand Rapids Art Museum and AIGA West Michigan Design For Good.

## Caravan event sheds light on kidnappings in Mexico

Family members of the 43 college students who were kidnapped last September in Iguala, Guerrero, Mexico, will visit campus on Tuesday, April 7.

The visit by two parents and one survivor of the incident is part of the U.S. speaking tour, "Caravana 43." It is about human rights violations and the events of September 26, 2014, when 43 students at Ayotzinapa Rural Teachers College disappeared after witnesses saw them clash with local police. The students are still missing.

"Ayotzinapa: What's Happening in Mexico" is set for 8-10 p.m. in the Mary Idema Pew Library, multipurpose room

Photos of the students' faces, carried on placards in demonstrations throughout Mexico and in other countries, have become symbols of the tens of thousands of forced disappearances and more than 100,000 killings in Mexico since 2006.

The event is in collaboration with the Coalition Justice for Ayotzinapa: Grand Rapids, and Grand Valley's Community Service Learning Center. It is sponsored by Grand Valley's Advocates for Immigration Reform, Hermanos, Latino Male Scholar Initiative, Latin American Studies and the Office of Multicultural Affairs.

## Free bike tune-ups offered

Get ready for bike riding season by tuning up your bicycle for free.

Faculty and staff members can drop off their bikes at the DeVos Center, room 121E, on Wednesday, April 8, between 3-5 p.m. for a free, basic tune-up. Staff from The Spoke Folks will be on hand to answer questions about commuting to work via bicycle and how to ride safely.

The event is sponsored by Human Resources; RSVP online at [www.gvsu.edu/sprout](http://www.gvsu.edu/sprout).

## Registration open for CLAS on the Green

Registration is open for the annual CLAS on the Green golf outing, set for Wednesday, June 17 at the Meadows Golf Club.

The driving range and registration will begin at noon with a 1 p.m. shotgun start time. A cookout and celebration will follow at 6 p.m.

Incentives are offered to foresomes and individuals who register before May 15. Cost per person is \$95. To register, visit [www.gvsu.edu/clas](http://www.gvsu.edu/clas).

CLAS on the Green supports the endowment of the CLAS Scholarship Fund.

# Across Campus

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on education.

"Nationally, only 36 percent of third-graders can read proficiently at the end of the school year — we can't make it with that kind of performance," he said. "Our goal should be 100 percent of students reading proficiently by the end of third grade."

He said millions of dollars are being spent on remediation for college students. He also said tax reform is needed to keep and attract young talent and new businesses.

A former three-term governor of Michigan, Engler said term limits don't allow for current state lawmakers to effectively learn about the budget and policies. "In the House of Representatives, lawmakers have two-to-four years of experience," he said. "That's taking a pretty big gamble with a \$50 billion budget."

## Faculty contribute to Rapid poetry

Passengers on The Rapid will have more than just West Michigan scenery to look at throughout April when poetry crafted by Grand

Valley faculty members will be on display during the Poetry on the Rapid program.

Beginning April 3, six poems will be featured on placards throughout The Rapid system. Designed by Vinicius Lima, assistant professor of graphic design y, the placards will feature works by multiple Writing Department faculty, including Patricia Clark, Chris Haven, Amorak Huey and Todd Kaneko. Faculty works from Calvin College and Grand Rapids Community College will also be on display.

The Poetry on the Rapid program celebrates the 50th anniversary of the National Endowment of the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities, as well as National Poetry Month.

## Family Health Center earns quality certification

The GVSU Family Health Center, the nurse-managed clinic operated by the Kirkhof College of Nursing, earned quality certification for two years from a national consortium.

The National Nursing Centers Consortium recognizes nurse-managed health clinics that meet quality standards and demonstrate a

commitment to measuring and improving quality of care and service.

Cynthia McCurren, dean of KCON, noted that with the implementation of the Affordable Care Act, ensuring the quality and efficiency of medical care services in the U.S. has become a major priority of reform.

She said this certification serves to strengthen the confidence in the quality of care, treatment, and services provided in communities served by nurse-managed health centers.

"I am incredibly proud of this team for their commitment to quality health care; and contributions to the education of nursing and a host of other interdisciplinary students," McCurren said.

KCON has operated the Family Health Center, located at 72 Sheldon Blvd. SE in Grand Rapids, for more than 15 years. Visit the FHC website at [www.gvsu.edu/kcon/fhc](http://www.gvsu.edu/kcon/fhc).

# FACULTY AND STAFF SKETCHES

## Sketches

**Martin Burg**, professor of biomedical sciences and cell and molecular biology, and students gave a presentation, "Effect of Central Brain Histamine Deficiency on Courtship Behavior in *Drosophila Melanogaster*," at the *Drosophila* Research Conference. Burg and students also contributed to an article, "The *Drosophila* Muller F Elements Maintain a Distinct Set of Genomic

Properties over 40 Million Years of Evolution," published in the journal, *Genes, Genomes, and Genetics*.

**Dianne Conrad**, assistant professor of nursing, gave a presentation, "Preparing Nursing Leaders in Practice for Transforming Health Care: Utilizing Core Content to Maximize DNP Outcomes," at the American Association of Colleges of Nursing Doctoral Education

conference held in San Diego, California.

## In the News

**Chris Harper**, affiliate instructor of accounting, was interviewed by WOOD-TV for a story about the individual income tax reporting deadline.

## Faculty mentors for SSD

Edward Aboufadel	John Gabrosek	Yan Liang	Christopher Shaffer
Nathan Abramowski	Luke Galen	David Linn	Carolyn Shapiro Shapin
Ellen Adams	Noor Ghiasvand	Elena Lioubimtseva	Ross Sherman
Feryal Alayont	Karen Gipson	Michael Lombardo	Suganthi Sridhar
Gordon Alderink	Stephen Glass	Richard Lord	Mark Staves
Naomi J. Aldrich	James Goode	Deborah Lown	Paul Stephenson
Corey Anton	Gabriele Gottlieb	Kin Ma	Jennifer Stewart
Elizabeth Arnold	Douglas Graham	Beth Macauley	Timothy Strickler
Todd Aschenbach	Carol Griffin	Neil MacDonald	Kevin Strychar
David Austin	Heather Gulgin	Gwyn Madden	Francis Sylvester
Mary Banghart	Amy Gyorkos	Josita Maouene-Cavin	Heather Tafel
Kyle Barnes	Dawn Hart	Amy Masko	Melissa Tallman
Marshall Battani	Matthew Hart	Julia Mason	Merritt Taylor
Michael Baxter	Parastoo Hashemi	Stephen Matchett	Derek Thomas
Christina Beaudoin	Brian Hatzel	Stephen Mattox	Anthony Thompson
Teresa Beck	Christopher Haven	George McBane	Cynthia Thompson
John Bender	Steven Hecht	Jennifer Moore	Patrick Thorpe
Daniel Bergman	Tara Hefferan	Zulema Moret	Ryan Thum
Shannon Biros	Donna Henderson-King	Roderick Morgan	Terry Trier
Frank Blossom	Dellas Henke	Leslie Muller	Kathleen Underwood
Martin Burg	Michael Henshaw	Felix Ngassa	Glenn Valdez
Kevin Callison	Deborah Herrington	Erik Nordman	Richard Vallery
Rachel Campbell	Firas Hindeleh	Bruce Ostrow	Jessica VandenPlas
Rebeca Castellanos	Lori Houghton-Rahrig	Jamie Owen-DeSchryver	Julia VanderMolen
Debjani Chakravarty	David Huizen	Dirk Pandel	Heather VanWormer
Jing Chen	Joseph Jacquot	Ernest Park	Marlena Vavrikova
Matthew Christians	Jennifer Jenkins	Osman Patel	Thomas Walker
David Clark	Patrick Johnson	Thomas Pentecost	Adrienne Wallace
Patrick Colgan	Laurence Jose	Lisa Perhamus	Bradley Wallar
Nayda Collazo-Llorens	Mary Karpen	James Persoon	Peter Wampler
Paul Cook	Paul Keenlance	Keith Piccard	John Weber
Paul Cornish	Sok Kean Khoo	Rachel Powers	Deana Weibel-Swanson
Matthew Daley	Whitt Kilburn	Melanie Rabine	Joel Wendland
Rebecca Davis	Sarah King	Vinicius Rebello Lima	Laurel Westbrook
Kristy Dean	Tara Kneeshaw	Richard Rediske	Todd Williams
Margaret Dietrich	Haiying Kong	James Reed	Randy Winchester
Amanda Dillard	Sheldon Kopperl	Ross Reynolds	Jennifer Winther
Brian Drake	Andrew Korich	Michael Ricco	Paul Wittenbraker
Gwenden Dueker	Dalila Kovacs	Dawn Richiert	Michael Wolfe
Jill Eggers	Maja Krcmar	Peter Riemersma	Gregory Wolffe
David Eick	Christopher Kurby	Stephen Rowe	M. Woller-Skar
Jill Ellis	David Kurjiaka	Robert Rozema	Diane Wright
Timothy Evans	Zachary Kurmas	Carl Ruetz	Xiaojuan Xu
Roger Ferguson	Andrew Lantz	Mary Russa	Christine Yalda
Mario Fific	Hoon Lee	Amy Russell	Brandon Youker
Norma Flores	Danielle Leek	Georgette Sass	Del Young
Mayra Fortes Gonzalez	Jonathan Leidig	Stephanie Schaertel	Katalin Zaszlavik
Jackson Fox	Claudia Leiras	Andrew Schlewitz	Renee Zettle-Sterling
Mihaela Friedlmeier	Geoffrey Lenters	Harold Schnyders	Yi Zhao
Wolfgang Friedlmeier	David Leonard	Kimberly Schoetzow	