

FORUM

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

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Speakers announced for King Commemoration Week

The mother of Trayvon Martin will give a presentation during Grand Valley's 2015 Dr. Martin Luther King Commemoration Week, bringing her message of hope in today's increasingly violent society.

Sybrina Fulton will speak at Grand Valley's Fieldhouse Arena on January 19, the official King holiday. She will also speak that evening at Grand Rapids Community College, and on January 20 at Davenport University.



Sybrina Fulton

A second keynote speaker, Marc Lamont Hill, CNN contributor, author and activist, will continue Grand Valley's commemoration week activities with a presentation at the Kirkhof Center on January 21.

Since the 2012 shooting death of her son, a 17-year-old high school student, Fulton

has dedicated her life to transforming family tragedy into social change. Fulton and her husband, Tracy Martin, established the Trayvon Martin Foundation, to raise awareness of how violent crime impacts families of victims, and to support and advocate for those families.

Fulton inspires audiences to educate their children about civil rights, and she has added her voice to others who speak out against violence toward children and the need for safer communities. Fulton earned a bachelor's degree in English from Florida Memorial University and worked for the Miami-Dade County Housing Development Agency for more than two decades.

Hill is a journalist who is frequently tapped by top news organizations for his views on everything from sexuality to politics to religion. He is a regular commentator for CNN, MSNBC and Fox News Channel. Hill also writes a column for the *Philadelphia Daily News*.

Hill serves as associate professor of education at Columbia University. He is a founding board member of My5th, a nonprofit organization dedicated to educating young

people about their legal rights; Hill also works with the ACLU Drug Reform Project. He earned a doctoral degree from the University of Pennsylvania.



Marc Lamont Hill

He is the author of *Beats, Rhymes, and Classroom Life: Hip-Hop Pedagogy and the Politics of Identity* and *The Classroom and the Cell: Conversations on Black Life in America*, in addition to serving as editor for several other books.

Grand Valley's commemoration of King's life and legacy will run January 19-24. Visit the website at www.gvsu.edu/mlk for news and updates.

Across Campus

WGUV's Moore retires, Moss begins as host

David Moore, longtime producer and announcer for WGUV Public Media, signed off the air in late September after 27 years of service. Moore was the host of WGUV's Morning Edition and also covered a wide range of news stories in addition to anchoring newscasts for Mid-Day West Michigan.

"I have had the honor and pleasure of waking up West Michigan," said Moore. "You and I have laughed together, cried together, celebrated the good news and fretted over the bad. I've helped you plan your day, given you traffic and weather, and even kept you entertained with my sometimes corny one-liners. Ending my time here at WGUV is a bitter sweet experience if ever there was one. Thank you for listening and God bless."



David Moore, longtime producer and announcer for WGUV, retired in late September.

Moore came to WGUV in 1987, then known as WGVC, when the station had just one FM station. He was WGUV FM's first news director and laid the building blocks for the news department for what is now WGUV-FM 88.5 & 95.3.

"David has been instrumental in delivering quality news stories to our

community for 27 years while at WGUV," said Michael Walenta, general manager of WGUV Public Media. "His personality and enthusiasm for the community are unmatched and will truly be missed."

Veteran broadcaster Jennifer Moss took over for Moore September 29. Moss is an award-winning broadcast news journalist with more than two decades of professional television news experience including in the nation's fifth largest news market.

She has worked as a news reporter and anchor for television and radio, including WOOD-TV in Grand Rapids, WWMT-TV in Kalamazoo and KGO-TV in San Francisco. Moss has interviewed everyone from U.S. presidents to Oprah Winfrey, and has been recognized for outstanding community service and received a GRCC Giant award.



Jennifer Moss

Search firm to conduct campus visit

The firm hired to continue the search for Grand Valley's vice president for Inclusion and Equity will visit campus this week to hear input from the community.

Alice Miller and Oliver Tomlin from Witt/Kieffer are scheduled to be on campus on Tuesday, October 14. They will host two listening sessions: 10-11 a.m. in the Kirkhof Center, room 2204; and 1-2 p.m. in the DeVos

Across Campus

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Center, room 138E.

Campus community members are invited to discuss the qualities they would like to see in the next vice president.

Written comments can be sent to Matt McLogan, vice president for University Relations, who chairs the search committee, or to others on the committee. Their names and contact information are online at www.gvsu.edu/vpiesearch.htm.

Political activity policy listed in manual

With November elections one month away, students, faculty and staff members are encouraged to be informed about the candidates and ballot questions.

As a part of this process, members of the campus community may engage themselves, as private citizens, in political activity, including supporting or opposing candidates or ballot questions.

While the university supports the rights of faculty and staff members to be active in political affairs, there are points to remember if taking an active role in politics. Grand Valley's political activity policy is designed to comply with state law, specifically the Michigan Campaign Finance Act, which regulates political activities of public bodies such as state universities and employees.

Faculty and staff members, and students may engage themselves, as private citizens, in political activities on their own time. Use of university resources for political activity or to support or oppose candidates for office is prohibited, including university funds, facilities (excluding speech in open forum areas) and university equipment including office or cell phones, computers, printers, copiers or fax machines. Using university-provided email addresses for political activity is prohibited, as is use of university trademarks, logos, letterhead and university titles.

Faculty and staff members, and students may support or oppose candidates by wearing buttons, remind others to register to vote, and cast a ballot on Election Day. Classroom discussion of candidates and ballot questions must be related to course content as described in the catalog and syllabus.

The political activity policy also applies to university employees charging time to a federal grant.

To read the entire policy, visit the Grand Valley Manual website at

www.gvsu.edu/gvmanual. For information about the Michigan Campaign Finance Act, visit Legal Affairs, Risk Management and Compliance's website at www.gvsu.edu/uco.

Talking Points cards issued

The 2014 Grand Valley Talking Points cards, published by University Communications, are included in this week's issue of *Forum*. The cards provide quick facts about Grand Valley and updated statistical information.

Departments can request more cards by calling University Communications at x12221.

Fall of wall marked by German students



Photo by Amanda Pitts

Although they weren't born then, international students from Germany marked the 25th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall by gathering near a piece of the wall near Zumberge Hall. Berlin will celebrate the anniversary of the 1989 event on November 9. The students said the day is considered a holiday in Germany, German Unity Day.

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The GVSU Forum is published by University Communications. The submission deadline is Tuesday noon. Send publication items to Michele Coffill, editor, c/o forum@gvsu.edu. Telephone: 616-331-2221. Fax: 616-331-2250. Web: www.gvsu.edu/forum.

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

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Other publications by University Communications include:

Grand Valley Magazine, which is published quarterly for the university community. Visit its website at www.gvsu.edu/gvmagazine.

Visit Grand Valley's online publication, *GVNow*, at www.gvsu.edu/gvnow, for daily news updates and video features.

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



GVFaces

Libby Jawish International Student Integration Coordinator

Recent Grand Valley graduate Libby Jawish said her work as an undergraduate student in the Padnos International Center helped to her realize it was the type of work she wanted to pursue as a career.

Jawish earned a bachelor's degree in French with minors in Arabic and Middle East Studies from Grand Valley in 2013. She worked in PIC as an international student orientation leader and also as assistant to the director of the study abroad program in Jordan.

Now, part of her role as PIC's international student integration coordinator is making sure international students are connecting with American students.

"This position fits me perfectly because I grew up between cultures," Jawish said. "I feel at home here because I get to connect cultures."

She said one of her favorite parts of her job is being able to expose Grand Valley students to international students and to different cultures.

Jawish's newly created position allowed



Libby Jawish

PIC to develop two programs, PEEPS and Fit the Mitt. PEEPS is a program that connects commuter students with international students. Fit the Mitt is a mentor program that pairs newly arriving international students with faculty or staff members.

After graduating, Jawish traveled overseas and served as a Peace Fellow for the Advocacy Project, a nonprofit organization that seeks to strengthen community-based human rights groups. Her fellowship in Palestine, however, was canceled due to political unrest in the region. "But I'm really glad I got to come back to Grand Valley," said Jawish.

In her free time, she enjoys cooking, reading, listening to live music and being outdoors.

What's Ahead

Exhibit showcases religious tolerance

Grand Valley will be one of 16 international locations to host an exhibit providing insight into the role of religion in the Arabian society of Oman.

"Religious Tolerance: Islam in the Sultanate of Oman" will be hosted in the Mary Idema Pew Library Learning and Information Commons through October 30. A delegate from the Ministry of Religious Affairs in Oman and President Thomas J. Haas will introduce the exhibit during an opening reception on Monday, October 13, from 4-6 p.m. in the multipurpose room.

RSVPs are required for the reception; contact Katie Gordon, Kaufman Interfaith Institute program manager, at x15702 or gordonk1@gvsu.edu.

Multiple events are scheduled over the three-week period with the theme of religious tolerance; visit www.gvsu.edu/s/J4 for details.

The Kaufman Interfaith Institute, University Libraries, Middle East Studies, Padnos International Center, Better Together Interfaith Youth Core, Peace MEans and Spotlight Productions are presenting the exhibition.

Native American Heritage Month kicks off on Columbus Day

An event that will take a deeper look at the history of Columbus Day will kick off an annual celebration of Native American heritage, October 13-November 19.

"Rethinking Columbus" will take place on Columbus Day, October 13, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. in the DeVos Center, Loosemore Auditorium. Panelists will discuss the historical and social impact of the colonization of the Americas and current movements that challenge the holiday. The program will include a Native drum circle.

The month-long celebration, organized by the Office of Multicultural Affairs, will focus on Native American history and tradition. See a complete list of events at www.gvsu.edu/oma.

Documentary highlights immigrants, use of technology

A new documentary focusing on immigrant communities in Grand Rapids and how they use media and communication technologies to stay connected with their heritage countries will premiere on campus Monday, October 13.

"From Somewhere Else: Transnational Communities and Media" will begin at 6 p.m. in the L. William Seidman Center.

It features interviews with individuals from many international communities, including Africa, India, China and Latin America, who live and work in West Michigan. Vandana Pednekar-Magal, one of the film's producers and professor of communications, said the documentary aims to showcase how these communities use media technologies to maintain their transnational identities.

The film's screening will be followed by an open discussion with Pednekar-Magal and Keith Oppenheim, a former Grand Valley faculty member and co-producer of "From Somewhere Else," as well as a reception. The screening is free and open to the public.

Award-winning authors bring an evening of poetry to Fall Arts Celebration

Hear two acclaimed American poets read from their works at "An Evening of Poetry and Conversation with Mark Doty and Dorianne Laux" — a part of the Fall Arts Celebration.

The event is Thursday, October 16, at 7 p.m. at the Eberhard Center. The readings will be followed by book signing and reception.

As the author of eight books of poetry, Mark Doty is the only American poet to have won Great Britain's T.S. Eliot Prize. His first collection, *Turtle, Swan*, appeared in 1987 followed by his 1993 collection titled, *My Alexandria*, which received both the Los Angeles Times Book Prize and the National Book Critics Circle Award. Since then he has published *Atlantis*, *Sweet Machine*, *Source*, *School of the Arts* and *Fire to Fire: New and Selected Poems*.

Dorianne Laux is the author of five books of poetry, including her most recent publication, *The Book of Men*. Her fourth book of poems, *Facts about the Moon*, received the Oregon Book Award and was short-listed for the Lenore Marshall Poetry Prize. Laux's work has appeared in the *Best of APR*, *The Norton Anthology of Contemporary Poetry*, and the *Best of the Net*.

"Laux and Doty, besides being fabulous writers, are friends who love to read together," said Patricia Clark, Writing Department chair. "Laux worked as a sanatorium cook, a gas station manager and a maid, before finding her true calling as a writer.

"Besides being the author of eight books of poetry, Doty has also published three memoirs. He is currently working on a memoir that centers on his poetic relationship with Walt Whitman, entitled, 'What Is the Grass.'"

All Fall Arts Celebration events are open to the public with free admission. Seating is

limited. For more information, visit www.gvsu.edu/fallarts, or call x12185.

Affinity groups gain momentum

Two diversity affinity organizations for faculty and staff members have been established.

The Latin@ Faculty and Staff Association, which began organizing in the spring semester, will meet on Tuesday, October 14, at 10 a.m. in Zumberge Hall, room 3062. It is chaired by Carlos Rodriguez and Natalia Gomez.

New this semester, the Asian Faculty and Staff Association will meet for the first time Wednesday, October 15, at 5:30 p.m. in the L. William Seidman Center. The event will be hosted by Connie Dang, Kin Ma, Shaily Menon and Patrick Shan.

The initiative to develop affinity groups for people of color was established by the Division of Inclusion and Equity and the Office of Multicultural Affairs.

Study abroad advising set for Pew Campus

The Padnos International Center will host a Study Abroad Advising Day for the Pew Campus.

The event is set for Tuesday, October 14, from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. in the DeVos Center, Building C.

Students attending this event will have an opportunity to browse international programs and receive advising from PIC staff members. For more information, call x13898 or send an email to studyabroad@gvsu.edu.

College of Education kicks off lecture series

Gleaves Whitney, director of the Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies, will kick off the College of Education's 50th Anniversary Golden Lecture Series with a presentation, "Can We Find Common Ground in Education?"

To celebrate its 50th anniversary, the College of Education is hosting a four-part lecture and panel series throughout the year with the theme of "reflections and predictions," exploring the past and looking toward the future of education.

Whitney's lecture is set for Tuesday, October 14, from 6:30-8 p.m., in the DeVos Center, Loosemore Auditorium. An open reception begins at 5:30 p.m.

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Chemist to speak at Ott Lectureship

A research scholar and award-winning chemist will be the featured speaker at the Arnold C. Ott Lectureship in Chemistry.

Jeffrey Moore, professor of materials science and engineering at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, will give a public lecture Thursday, October 16, and a chemistry seminar for students Friday, October 17. Moore has published more than 300 articles covering topics from technology in the classroom to self-healing polymers and shape-persistent macrocycles.

He is a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts & Sciences and the American Chemical Society. Moore served as an associate editor for the *Journal of American Chemical Society* for 14 years.

The October 16 lecture, "Self-Healing Polymers," will be held at 6 p.m. in the Kirkhof Center, Grand River Room. A reception will be held at 5 p.m.

The October 17 seminar for students, "Polymer Mechanochemistry and the Concept of the Mechanophore," will be held at 1 p.m. in the Kirkhof Center, Pere Marquette Room.

The Arnold C. Ott Lectureship in Chemistry was created and endowed by a gift from Arnold C. and Marion Ott. For more information contact Felix Ngassa, associate professor of chemistry, at x13803.



Jeffrey Moore

FACULTY AND STAFF SKETCHES

In the News

Paul Reitemeier, chair of the Human Research Review Committee, was interviewed by *IRB Advisor* for a story about a matrix he developed with **Rebecca Davis**, professor of nursing, on classifying risk to subjects with diminished cognitive capacity, and also for an upcoming story about identifying and tracking rare proposals.

Sketches

Ingrid Johnson, associate professor in the movement science department, will receive the 2014 Michigan Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance College/University Leader of the Year Award. The award will be presented to Johnson at the MAHPERD Awards Banquet on November 14 in Acme.

Figen Mekik, professor of geology, was elected president of the Paleoclimatology Focus Group of the American Geophysical Union for the 2015-2017 term.

Michael Shoemaker, associate professor of physical therapy, received a grant from Medtronic Inc. for a project, "Exercise and Psychosocial Based Interventions to Improve Daily Activity in Heart Failure."

Melanie Shell-Weiss, director of the Kutsche Office of Local History, received a grant from the Michigan Humanities Council for a project, "Documenting the Urban Native American Experience in Grand Rapids."

Donald Mitchell Jr., assistant professor of education, co-edited a book, *Intersectionality & Higher Education: Theory, Research, and Praxis*, published by Peter Lang.

Elena Lioubimtseva, professor of geography and planning, wrote an article, "Carbon Cycle," published in *Oxford Bibliographies in Geography*.

The **Art Gallery** was recognized in the 2014 American Alliance of Museums Museum Publications Design Competition; it earned first prize

Niagara Foundation award



Doug Kindschi, director of the Kaufman Interfaith Institute, received an award from the Niagara Foundation during the Niagara Peace and Dialogue Awards on October 2 for his more than 30 years of work toward peace and interfaith dialogue.

This was the first time someone from West Michigan has received an award from the Niagara Foundation. Letters of recommendation for Kindschi came from local leaders, including President Thomas J. Haas, Grand Rapids Mayor George Heartwell, and former Grand Valley President Mark Murray.

(supplementary material category) for the rack card, "Cyril Lixenberg: An Artist's Journey"; and honorable mention (exhibition catalogs) for the exhibition catalog created for the Lixenberg exhibition.

What's Ahead

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For more details on upcoming events in the series, visit www.gvsu.edu/coe/50th.

Cello Fest! features all-star talent

Nationally and internationally recognized cellists will visit Grand Valley October 13-17 to perform and collaborate with students, audiences and local professionals as part of Cello Fest! 2014. Highlights are below; visit www.gvsu.edu/music for details of the week's events.

- Arts at Noon Series presents Cello Fest!, Wednesday, October 15, noon, Cook-DeWitt Center.
- GVSU Symphony Orchestra Concert, Wednesday, October 15, 7:30 p.m., Performing Arts Center.

CCPS will host lunch lectures

Faculty members from the College of Community and Public Service will showcase their research during a series of meetings in celebration of the college's 10th anniversary.

The Sabbatical Brown Bag Lunch & Learn Series kicks off Wednesday, October 15, 11:45 a.m.-1:15 p.m. in the Bicycle Factory, room 330. Water, soft drinks and dessert will be provided.

Mark Hoffman, associate professor of public administration, will give a presentation, "Of Money, Masks, and Miracles: Reassessing South Korea's 'Miracle on the Han!'" based on his sabbatical in fall 2012 in South Korea.

The next meeting will be October 29 when Brian Kingshott, associate professor of criminal justice, will give a presentation based on his sabbatical in Switzerland and Iceland.

French section presents 'Mélodies'

Students, faculty members and guests will host "Mélodies," an evening of French song, music and poetry on Wednesday, October 15.

The event will run from 6:30-9 p.m. in the Cook-DeWitt Center. The performance is presented by the French section of the Modern Languages and Literatures Department.

Gilda's Club president will speak at CHS event

The Brown Bag Lunch and Learn series at the Cook-DeVos Center for Health Sciences continues with a visit from the president of Gilda's Club of Grand Rapids.

Wendy Wigger, who also oversees LaughFest, will provide tips on grief support and collaborative care in the community.

Her presentation is set for Thursday, October 16, at noon at CHS, room 540. RSVP for the event by sending an email to Brenda Pawl at pawlb@gvsu.edu.

Two financial workshops scheduled

Representatives from TIAA-CREF will host two campus presentations about budgeting, managing debt and preparing for retirement.

"Financial Fitness: Money at Work" is set for Thursday, October 16, at 3:30 p.m. in the L. William Seidman Center.

This workshop will provide information on stocks, annuities, mutual funds, IRAS, risk, and saving principles.

"Financial Fitness: Inside Money" is set for October 23, at 3:30 p.m. in Zumberge Hall, room 1012. It will focus on budgeting and identifying good and bad debt.

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

Community as Classroom continues

A series of colloquia with Grand Valley faculty and staff members and community partners to explore community as a classroom continues on Friday, October 17.

The next event, "Start With Why," explores questions and processes for the investigation and initiation stages of a partnership to ensure meaningful benefit for each participant. The event will be held from 10-11:30 a.m. in the DeVos Center, University Club room.

The series is hosted by the Center for Scholarly and Creative Excellence, Community Service Learning Center, Division of Inclusion and Equity, Office for Community Engagement, Pew Faculty Teaching and Learning Center, University Libraries and the Women's Center. Register at www.gvsu.edu/seminar.