

# FORUM

**A NEWSLETTER FOR THE GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY**

Published by University Communications



## Three faculty members earn Fulbright Scholar awards

Three faculty members earned Core Fulbright Scholar awards to teach or conduct research for a semester overseas.

They are Lisa Feurzeig, professor of music; Jitendra Mishra, professor of management; and Brian Phillips, professor of sociology. The Fulbright program is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs and considered the country's flagship international exchange program.

Feurzeig plans to observe operetta productions performed by companies in Austria, Germany and Hungary. She will research how 19th and 20th century operettas are produced for today's audiences, and whether the productions refer to current social and political events.

Feurzeig said the Fulbright grant will enhance how she teaches music courses. "The capstone course emphasizes boundary-crossing," she said. "I can bring information about how works of music theater enter the political discourse. I hope to have audio-visual materials to share that will bring the operetta tradition alive for our students."

Mishra plans to teach graduate courses in international human resources management, international management and organizational behavior at the Birla Institute of Management Technology (BIMTECH) in India, in addition to guiding faculty-student research projects and reviewing curriculum.

Mishra said BIMTECH is one of the top 10 private business schools in India, offering master's and doctoral programs in business and management. He said both BIMTECH and Grand Valley students will benefit from his real-world experiences with Indian educators and business leaders, and go beyond the bottom-line to become agents of global change.

Phillips plans to teach and conduct research at the Cracow University of Economics in Poland, continuing a partnership between Grand Valley's and Cracow's sociology departments that began in 2011.



From left, Lisa Feurzeig, Jitendra Mishra and Brian Phillips received Core Fulbright Scholar awards to teach or conduct research overseas.

Phillips said he and two colleagues are working with peers in Cracow on a research project that focuses on how sociology majors prepare themselves for the workforce. He will teach courses on social stratification in the U.S., American culture, and a faculty seminar on economic and social issues.

• Additionally, Gregory Maytan, associate professor of music, earned a Fulbright specialist grant to travel for a short-term, collaborative project at the Norwegian State Academy in Oslo.

## Across Campus

### Graduate students win first place, \$6,000 in business competition

Three MBA students from the Seidman College of Business won first place and \$6,000 in a case-study business competition designed to give business and finance students real-world experience.

Robert Walmsley, Brent Pelishek and Russ Duba earned top honors competing in the annual Association for Corporate Growth Western Michigan's ACG Cup. Paul Mudde, associate professor of management, served as their advisor.

Teams from Davenport University, Michigan State University, Western Michigan University, Cornerstone University and Grand Valley competed in the final round February 25. The awards were announced March 21 at the ACGWM Outstanding Growth Award reception at DeVos Place in Grand Rapids.

Teams from each school analyzed complex business cases and presented strategies including identifying capital markets and



From left are Robert Walmsley, Brent Pelishek, Russ Duba, and Paul Mudde, associate professor of management.

developing merger/acquisition alternatives and financing options. Professionals from the corporate community and ACG membership served as judges for the competition.

Walmsley said the competition gives students insight into mergers and acquisitions, investment banking, financial advising and private equity.

"In analyzing the case we were given, finding

the right balance of technical finance, high-level strategic thinking and concise communication was critical for success," said Walmsley. "While I have worked for several years in corporate finance, I didn't have experience with mergers and acquisitions. The ACG cup was a tremendous professional development opportunity which will pay dividends for me throughout my career."

The winning MBA team is awarded the ACG Cup title and a \$6,000 cash prize; the winning undergraduate team is awarded a \$3,000 cash prize.

### Grand Valley named voter friendly campus

Grand Valley has been selected as one of 83 universities in the country to receive a Voter Friendly Campus designation.

The designation was awarded by Campus Vote Project and the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA) to

*continues on page 2*

# Across Campus

continued from page 1

universities and colleges that planned and implemented practices that encouraged students to register and vote in the 2016 General Election. Grand Valley is one of only three institutions in Michigan to receive the designation.

In fall 2016, about 16 voter registration drives were hosted by student organizations, which resulted in thousands of students registering to vote. Grand Valley holds the record for the university with the highest number of voter registration applications submitted in one day to the Secretary of State's Mobile Unit.

Melissa Baker-Boosamra, associate director for Student Life, said Grand Valley was judged based on the implementation and results of the university's campus plan for voter registration and participation.

"Our goal was to help prepare our students to be engaged and active citizens, and we found that they wanted their voices to be heard," she said.

## Award ceremony honors LGBT community influencers

Grand Valley's Milton E. Ford LGBT Resource Center hosted the Pride Awards March 29 to celebrate and honor those who made a positive impact on the LGBTQIA+ community this academic year.

Seven faculty and staff members and 11 students were honored. The fifth annual event took place in the Kirkhof Center and featured student performances.

Award recipients:

- Milton E. Ford Leadership Award: Grace Huizinga, assistant professor in Kirkhof College of Nursing



Photo by Valerie Wojciechowski

Students, faculty and staff members who earned Pride Awards March 29 are pictured.

- Faculty Engagement Award: Jae Basiliere, assistant professor of women, gender and sexuality studies
- Service to Community Award: Mark Sampson, psychologist and clinical director for the University Counseling Center
- LGBT Faculty/Staff Association PRISM Award: Marla Wick, assistant director of the LGBT Center; Paul Cook, assistant professor of chemistry
- Solidarity Award: Connie Dang, director of the Office of Multicultural Affairs; Ashley Schulte, victim advocate and Violence Against Women Act grant coordinator
- Outstanding Student Leader Award: Ashlyn Rowell, Eliza Ruffner, Skylar Wolfe, Ezra Smith, Artemis Tally, Andie Bell, Emily Dusicska
- Emerging Leader Award: Ruby Hensley, Finn Marcks, Erin Veltman, Tanisha Islam

For more information about the Milton E. Ford LGBT Resource Center, visit [www.gvsu.edu/lgbt](http://www.gvsu.edu/lgbt).

## Artist advocates for patients through artwork

Patient advocate and artist Ted Meyer said health care professionals should remember their patients are people and are not defined by their disease.

Meyer gave two presentations at Grand Valley March 28 as the distinguished lecturer for The Bonnie Wesorick Center for Health Care Transformation.

At the DeVos Center, Meyer detailed his project, "Scarred for Life: Monoprints of Human Scars,"



Photo by Bernadine Carey-Tucker

Ted Meyer talks about the painting and patient who started his 'Scarred for Life' project.

continues on page 4

### FORUM Volume 41, Number 26

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](mailto:forum@gvsu.edu). Telephone: 616-331-2221. Web: [www.gvsu.edu/forum](http://www.gvsu.edu/forum).

Faculty and staff members can find an online "Sketches" submission form on the Web at [www.gvsu.edu/forum](http://www.gvsu.edu/forum).

University Communications Staff:  
Mary Eileen Lyon, associate vice president  
Sherry Bouwman, assistant  
Dottie Barnes, associate director of news  
Bernadine Carey Tucker, director of creative services  
Michele Coffill, associate director of publications  
Bill Cuppy, creative director  
Nate Hoekstra, communications specialist  
Dave LeFurge-McLeod, videographer  
Elizabeth Lienau, photography coordinator  
Matthew Makowski, communications specialist  
Tony Packer, videographer  
Amanda Pitts, photographer  
Leah Twilley, communications specialist  
Lucas Escalada, student writer

Other publications by University Communications include:

*Grand Valley Magazine*, published quarterly; visit its website at [www.gvsu.edu/gvmagazine](http://www.gvsu.edu/gvmagazine).

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

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

## GVFaces

### Courtney Geurink, Assistant Director for Alumni Relations

Grand Valley has always been a part of Courtney Geurink's life.

She grew up in Zeeland, 20 minutes away from the university, and both of her parents are Lakers. She only applied to two colleges, but Grand Valley's Hospitality and Tourism Management program drew her to Allendale.

Eight years after graduating, Geurink is looking to help alumni establish a lifelong relationship with the university.

Geurink spent six years working at the Grand Haven, Spring Lake and Ferrysburg Chamber of Commerce. She started working at Grand Valley in August after a former classmate told her about an open position in Alumni Relations.

"Even when I was here as a student, I didn't really want to leave," Geurink said. "I stayed very involved and I always wanted to come back."

As the assistant director, Geurink works with alumni to help them engage with the university. She communicates with young alumni to help

them get involved while learning about their stories and their experiences at Grand Valley.

Geurink helps plan homecoming and GradFest, an event meant to highlight student success. On top of traditional events, she also works with regional alumni clubs throughout the U.S. She is the contact for most of these groups, working with them to coordinate the logistics of the events they want to host.

She is also involved in planning events throughout the summer. On July 26, the Detroit Tigers will host GVSU Night at Comerica Park, and the 1967 graduating class will be celebrating its 50th reunion in June. This is the university's first 50th reunion, as the 1967 class was the university's first graduating class.



Courtney Geurink



# What's Ahead

## Events planned for Sexual Assault Awareness Month

Students, faculty and staff members are invited to participate in national Sexual Assault Awareness Month activities at Grand Valley during April.

Events will start with Eyes Wide Open's Sexual Assault Awareness Week, April 2-8. Eyes Wide Open is a student organization of peer educators who advocate for a safe campus. Some events are highlighted below; see a complete list at [www.gvsu.edu/itsonus/saam](http://www.gvsu.edu/itsonus/saam).

• **Robert Hackenson, keynote speaker:** April 3, 6-8 p.m., Kirkhof Center, room 2201.

Motivational speaker Robert Hackenson will use magic and stories in a three-part program to create educational lessons that address the prevalence of sexual assault.

• **Sexual Assault Town Hall:** April 4, 7 p.m., Kirkhof Center, Grand River Room.

This event is a follow-up to the town hall meeting held in September. Campus community members are invited to share their feedback and discuss campus safety.

• **Take Back the Night:** April 6, 7-9 p.m., Holton-Hooker Learning and Living Center.

This program is hosted at colleges and universities across the country for survivors to tell their stories. The event will include a speaker and campus march.

• **Brooke Axtell, keynote speaker:** April 21, 11 a.m., Kirkhof Center, Pere Marquette Room.

Brooke Axtell, a survivor of human trafficking and domestic violence, will discuss consent and healthy relationships.

For more information, visit [www.gvsu.edu/itsonus](http://www.gvsu.edu/itsonus).

## Meijer Campus offers staycation class

The Meijer Campus in Holland will host a free "staycation" class for families with school-age children who are not traveling for spring break.

"Dancing with the Stars" is set for Tuesday, April 4, from 10-11:30 a.m. at the Meijer Campus, 515 S. Waverly Road in Holland.

Doug Furton, professor of physics, will lead an astronomy class for K-5 students and their parents. RSVP by calling x13910 or visiting [www.gvsu.edu/holland](http://www.gvsu.edu/holland).

## Lecture to examine vocal health, anatomy

Where does the voice go when someone loses it?

During an upcoming presentation, Rachael Gates, visiting professor of voice and pedagogy and singing health specialist, will answer this question, debunk vocal myths, and discuss strategies for maintaining and improving vocal health.

"Demystify the Voice" will take place Tuesday, April 4, at 5:30 p.m. in the Mary Idema Pew Library, multipurpose room.

Gates will also discuss common voice pathologies, medical procedures and treatments that can empower anyone who relies on their voice in their profession.

"Beginning with an overview of vocal anatomy, I will proceed through discussions of caring for the voice and common causes of vocal problems that any professional voice

user, whether singers, actors, broadcasters, politicians, teachers, preachers or lawyers, will find essential," Gates said.

Gates comes from a rich background of performing and directing opera. Throughout her career, she has performed in Germany, Russia, Italy and around the U.S. Gates is also the vocal specialist for the College Music Society's Committee on Musicians' Health, and recently co-authored a book, *The Owner's Manual to the Voice: A Guide for Singers and Other Professional Voice Users*.

Gates' presentation is in conjunction with World Voice Day, which takes place April 16. World Voice Day brings a spotlight to vocal arts, science and pedagogy. The day is celebrated with a series of presentations, and simultaneous choral concerts broadcast live around the world.

For more information about "Demystify the Voice," visit [www.gvsu.edu/music](http://www.gvsu.edu/music).

## Philosopher to discuss anger in politics at Hauenstein Center event

Politics in today's United States is an exceptionally divisive topic, and has generated significant anger in many political circles. It's an emotional response that influential philosopher Martha Nussbaum will argue is not the best way to generate change.

Nussbaum, philosopher, author and law professor, will discuss anger and its place in politics and personal lives, while addressing its effectiveness as a change agent at an event hosted by the Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies on Tuesday, April 4, at 7 p.m. at the Eberhard Center.

The event is free and open to the public, but registration is requested at [hauensteincenter.org/rsvp](http://hauensteincenter.org/rsvp).

Nussbaum, recently named the 2017 Jefferson Lecturer in the Humanities by the National Endowment for the Humanities, will discuss the limits of anger as a response to perceived injustice, noting that three of recent history's great freedom movements were directed by leaders who aspired to non-anger: Mohandas Gandhi, Martin Luther King Jr., and Nelson Mandela.

She will discuss her book, *Anger and Forgiveness: Resentment, Generosity, Justice*, and explore why there will always be a need for leaders who can recognize the humanity of people who think differently when the stakes are high.

Nussbaum's Jefferson Lecturer distinction is the highest honor the federal government bestows for distinguished intellectual achievement in the humanities. She is also the University of Chicago's Ernst Freund Distinguished Service Professor of Law and Ethics. In 2016, she was awarded the Kyoto Prize in Arts and Philosophy. She is one of only two women to give the John Locke Lectures at Oxford, the most eminent lecture series in the field of philosophy.

Nussbaum has taught at Harvard, Brown University and Oxford, and has published 24 books and more than 500 academic papers.



Martha Nussbaum

## Counseling Center participates in screening day

The University Counseling Center will participate in National Alcohol Screening Day on Thursday, April 6.

The event will provide information about the signs and symptoms of alcohol abuse and dependency. Interested students can complete a screening questionnaire to determine if they are at risk for these disorders. All individuals who take part in the screening will have a chance to meet with a counselor to discuss their results. The results of the questionnaire will be kept confidential.

Counselors will be at the following locations:

- Kirkhof Center lobby, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
- Campus Recreation Center, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
- DeVos Center, room 125C, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
- Cook-DeVos Center for Health Sciences lobby, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

More information is available online at [www.gvsu.edu/counsel](http://www.gvsu.edu/counsel) and by phone at x13266.

## CLAS faculty to present sabbatical work during showcase

Faculty members from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, ranging from statistics and sociology to biology, film and music, will present work completed during recent sabbaticals.

The CLAS Sabbatical Showcase and Spring Celebration will take place Thursday, April 6, from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. in the Kirkhof Center, Grand River Room.

Fred Antczak, dean of CLAS, said the showcase is an opportunity to see the culmination of many years of work by faculty members, all in one room.

"We need occasions that remind us of the high privilege it is to work among such great colleagues so dedicated to their disciplines and to advancing their students," Antczak said. "We all catch the infectious energy that sabbatical work fuels."

## Health Forum focuses on health status, social determinants

The April meeting of Health Forum of West Michigan will feature experts who will discuss social determinants and their influence in health status.

The meeting is set for Friday, April 7, from 8-9:30 a.m. at the DeVos Center, Loosemore Auditorium. A light breakfast will begin at 7:30 a.m.

Panelists are Felicia Clay, Grand Rapids Housing Commission; Lauran Hardin, Mercy Health Saint Mary's National Center for Complex Health and Social Needs; and Susan Moran, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services.

The moderator will be Shannon Wilson, executive director of the Grand Rapids African American Health Institute.

The event is sponsored by the Office of the Vice Provost for Health; RSVP online at [www.gvsu.edu/vphealth](http://www.gvsu.edu/vphealth).

# FACULTY AND STAFF SKETCHES

## In the News

**Louis Moore**, associate professor of history and coordinator of African/African American Studies, was interviewed by CNN for a story about a rugby team from the United Kingdom using an African American spiritual song as an anthem.

### Honor society



Lambda Omega, the local chapter of the International Geographic Honors Society is pictured. Gamma Theta Upsilon inducted eight students, from left to right are Kin Ma, Angela Paget, Kate White, Jeremy Maier, Meredith Pascoe, Sarah Steffens, Isaac Entz, Madeline Moldenhauer, Christian Carroll and Jeroen Wagendorp.

## Sketches

**Salvatore Alaimo**, associate professor of public, nonprofit and health administration, had his documentary, "What is Philanthropy?" premiere on WGUV, it is now available on DVD and Blu-Ray through Indiana University Press.

**Joel Stillerman**, professor of sociology, wrote an article, "The Power of Rules: Review Symposium on Jamie McCallum's *Global Unions, Local Power: The New Spirit of Transnational Labor Organizing*," published in the *Journal of World Systems Research*.

**John Kilbourne**, professor of movement science, was selected to be a member of the Foundation for Global Community Health. GCH is a team of health professionals from more than 50 countries.

**Peimin Ni**, professor of philosophy, attended an "author meets critics" session at the Central Meeting of American Philosophical Association in Kansas City, where his book, *Confucius, the Man and the Way of Gongfu*, was discussed, and responded to his three critics. He wrote another book, *Understanding the Analects of Confucius, A New Translation of Lunyu with Annotations*, published by the State University of New York Press.

**Roy Cole**, professor of geography and sustainable planning, gave a presentation, "Beyond Belief: Religious Dogma in the Guise of Histogeographic Truth in World Regional Geography Texts, 1955 to 2017," at the annual conference of the Michigan Academy of Arts, Science, and Letters at Western Michigan University.

University Libraries faculty members **Gayle Schaub**, **Cara Cadena** and **Patricia Bravender**, and **Christopher Kierkus**, professor of criminal justice, were authors of an article, "The Language of Information Literacy: Do Students Understand?" published in *College & Research Libraries Authors*.

## Across Campus

continued from page 2

which highlights through his artwork the courage of people who have been in medical crises or accidents. He later gave an informal presentation at Mary Idema Pew Library.

He said the catalyst for the project was a woman who was in a wheelchair because she broke her spine. "I made a print of her scar and that was the starting point for telling her story," Meyer said. "Now, I'm a storyteller for other people."

Meyer was born with Gaucher disease, which affects bones and joints, and was not expected to live past 30; he began painting while in the hospital. The images he created detailed the pain he suffered.

New medicine was available while Meyer was in his late 20s and it saved his life. Now 59, he said his artwork changed after the pain was gone, and became more lively, colorful and sensual.

"I had this entirely new life. What should I do with it?" he said.

He began curating art exhibits at medical schools, showing students artwork done by hospitalized patients. He is the current artist-in-residence at the University of Southern California's Keck School of Medicine.

"If you think of patients as people, you will do the best thing for them," he said. "I was given a second chance, and the best thing I could do is to tell you the stories of these patients."

The center collaborated with Kendall College of Art and Design of Ferris State University to

bring Meyer to West Michigan. An exhibition of KCAD students and Meyer's work, "Art and Healing," will run through April 8 at KCAD's Helen Miller Kendall Gallery, 17 Fountain St. NW in Grand Rapids.

### Author of CRP selection said book recounts divided America

The author of *The True American* wrote about an incident that followed the 9/11 terrorist attacks and said today's America is just as contested and divided as it was nearly 16 years ago.

Anand Giridharadas talked about his book at the Community Reading Project lecture March 23 in the Kirkhof Center before hundreds of students, faculty and staff members.

Giridharadas said his book starts with a simple question: "Where are you from?" That question was posed by Mark Stroman, an avowed "American terrorist," to a Bangladesh immigrant, Raisuddin Bhuiyan, in late September 2001. Stroman didn't like the answer Bhuiyan gave, so he shot and nearly killed him.

*The True American* follows the paths of Stroman and Bhuiyan. Stroman lands on death row in Texas for killing another store clerk after shooting Bhuiyan. Bhuiyan publicly forgives Stroman and wages a legal battle to free him from execution. For Giridharadas, a journalist, the two men represented a divided America.

"We often tell the story of our country



Photo by Jess Weal

Anand Giridharadas is interviewed by Jennifer Jameslyn, coordinator of the CRP committee.

as a nation of immigrants who were fleeing persecution," he said. "Raisuddin was on the good path. He was an Air Force officer in Bangladesh; but something in him found a trajectory ahead of him that he wanted."

Giridharadas said through his investigations, he learned Stroman was "failed by the systems," his parents, schools and prisons. Stroman turned toward white supremacy in the prison system, Giridharadas said.

"The question of who is an American is as contested as it as ever been, in terms of race, gender status and sexuality," he said. "And sadly, this book has come back to life today."

The CRP selection for the next academic year was announced: *All the Single Ladies: Unmarried Women and the Rise of an Independent Nation*, by Rebecca Traister. Learn more at [www.gvsu.edu/read](http://www.gvsu.edu/read).