

# FORUM

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

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## Convocation messages stress building connections

*President's opening address: 'Grand Valley delivers on public good'*

Grand Valley's Convocation speakers who welcomed first-year students to their new academic home gave unified messages of the importance of making connections, accepting challenges and stepping out of comfort zones.

Maria Cimitile addressed the audience gathered in the Fieldhouse on August 25 in her first formal role as provost and executive vice president for Academic and Student Affairs.

She encouraged students to develop relationships with their professors, calling faculty members the "guides" who open the doors of learning.

"A liberal education is not something given to you, it's earned," Cimitile said. "The faculty will guide you to all that you know and demand that you push yourself."

President Thomas J. Haas reminded the audience of the university's values of integrity, scholarship and service. He encouraged students to develop a passion for life-long learning, including learning from people

who represent different cultures or present different perspectives.

"Find someone who is different from you and they will enrich your life," Haas said. "We must commit to respectfully listening to others' opinions and then respectfully voicing our own."

Two sisters, Briauna Taylor and Brittany Taylor, gave advice as successful alumni who have backgrounds in nursing, business, entrepreneurship and athletics. Briauna, who earned degrees in business and nursing, encouraged students to find their niches and step out of comfort zones. Doing so, she said, will broaden their perspectives and aid them after graduation.

Jonathan Bowman and Felix Ngassa also spoke, taking on their new roles as presidents of Student Senate and University Academic



Photo by Valerie Wojciechowski

Provost Maria Cimitile addresses the Convocation audience in the Fieldhouse on August 25.

Senate, respectively. Ngassa, professor of chemistry, said the first-year students spent

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## Campus celebrates dedication of Haas Center

The university community celebrated the formal dedication of the newly renovated and expanded Thomas J. and Marcia J. Haas Center for Performing Arts on August 25 on the Allendale Campus.

The two-story, 47,000-square-foot, \$20 million addition includes the Linn Maxwell Keller Black Box Theatre, expanded theater costume shop and prop storage, new dressing rooms, two theater classrooms for costume design and fabrication, four music ensemble rooms, additional rehearsal spaces, an enlarged study space in the main lobby and multiple faculty offices.

A separate dedication of the Keller Theatre will take place in October.

The renovated center is named in honor of President Thomas J. Haas and his wife, Marcia, to recognize their support for the programs housed in the center, which include music, music education, theater and dance.

Haas said that he and Marcia created an endowment for the performing arts at Grand Valley because of their deep appreciation of the arts and how their lives have been enriched by artistic endeavors and by the university. "The



Photo by Bernadine Carey-Tucker

Marcia Haas addresses the audience in the newly dedicated Thomas J. and Marcia J. Haas Center for Performing Arts August 25.

arts lift us up, make us think and give us hope, and we hope others will continue to join us in being enriched by our students' performances within these walls," he said. "Our students are the best in this nation and they are being supported right here at Grand Valley."

The endowment, also in their name, will provide enrichment activities for students,

including competitions, talent showcases, master classes, and summer programs around the world.

"Arts of all kinds benefit people of all ages, and Tom and I have a very deep appreciation for the arts and we recognize how our lives have been enriched by all of the arts," said Marcia. "Our Grand Valley family is so special and we are pleased to have this opportunity to give back."

Danny Phipps, chair of the Music, Theatre, and Dance Department, said the center represents a commitment to offering the best in the performing arts to the university community and beyond.

"Surrounding us today is tangible evidence of deep commitment and understanding from Grand Valley's administration and donors of the essential nature of arts study to challenge our students to dream beyond the present and craft a better future," said Phipps. "Providing desperately needed production and performance space, this new facility will allow our growing programs to expand their positive impact on students."

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# ACROSS CAMPUS

## Forum schedule changes

*Forum* is moving to a bimonthly printed schedule, beginning with this issue.

University news will continue to be published via GVNow, [gvsu.edu/gvnow](http://gvsu.edu/gvnow). Members of the campus community can subscribe to daily news emails by visiting the GVNow website and filling out the online form.

Fall semester *Forum* publication dates are September 11, September 25, October 9, October 23, November 6, November 20, December 4 and December 18.

## New research database introduced

The Office of Research Compliance and Integrity will replace its electronic management system with a more user-friendly system, IRBManager.

IRBManager will be implemented September 25 and serve as the new “front door” for the submission, tracking, and retention of research compliance documents.

Initially, the system will include Human Research Review Committee, Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee, and Investigator Conflict of Interest Disclosure and Certification forms; other forms may be added later. Active HRRC and IACUC protocols in the current system will be transferred to IRBManager by office staff members.

Robert Smart, vice provost for Research Administration, said IRBManager allows for creation and storage of forms directly within the system, and provides more detailed information regarding status of review processes.

A number of training sessions are planned to help

users become familiar with IRBManager. Visit [www.gvsu.edu/sprout](http://www.gvsu.edu/sprout) for dates and to register for a session.

More information about IRBManager, including its advantages, is online at [gvsu.edu/roi/](http://gvsu.edu/roi/).

## Students build upgrades to Grand Haven fountain

Performances at Grand Haven’s well-known musical fountain will now feature new moving water formations thanks to upgrades developed by Grand Valley engineering students.

This summer, five students completed their senior project by designing and constructing two new water features. The fountain now includes helix and wave-shaped water formations, in addition to its two original features — back and forth sweeps and up and down movements. The new features will debut at the fountain’s last show of the season September 16 at 8 p.m.

Terry Stevens, affiliate professor of engineering, said water features have not been updated since the fountain was installed in 1963. “The water formations have been the same for 53 years, so the city wanted to see something new,” he said.

The project began in January 2017. Students spent the winter semester researching and designing the features; they built, tested and installed the new equipment during the spring and summer semesters. The group started with prototypes, then custom built a second design that involved many pieces that had to be installed on the fountain. The wave feature includes 50 nozzles, for example.

Allie Graff, who graduated in early August, and her team members presented the new features to members of the Grand Haven Musical Fountain



Photo by Megan Dunn

Engineering students constructed new water features for the Grand Haven musical fountain.

Committee in July and August.

“The committee was very happy with the height and overall aesthetic the helix and wave features produced, especially when performed with the lighting,” she said.

Dan Vivian, facilities manager for the City of Grand Haven, said he’s impressed with the upgrades.

“The fountain is loved by both residents and visitors,” Vivian said. “A lot of people have grown up with the fountain. It’s part of the landscape here, and we’re happy to be working with Grand Valley on its rejuvenation.”

Stevens is a member of the Grand Haven Musical Fountain Committee and installed the fountain’s initial industrial control system (PLC) in 1983. He has led several student projects to retrofit and update the historic fountain as part of an ongoing partnership between the City of Grand Haven and Grand Valley.

## FORUM

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Other University Communications publications:

Grand Valley Magazine, published quarterly; visit [gvsu.edu/gvmagazine](http://gvsu.edu/gvmagazine).

GVNow, web publication; visit [gvsu.edu/gvnow](http://gvsu.edu/gvnow), for daily news updates and video features.

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

## Orientations held for students of color

This year for the first time, an orientation was held for first-year African American students.

The Black Excellence Orientation followed the same model as Laker Familia, now in its fourth year of serving new Latino/a students.

Both orientations ran August 20-22, prior to the start of Transitions on August 23, and included parent welcome/dinners, team building activities, workshops and opportunities to interact with current students, faculty and staff members.

Co-chairs for Black Excellence Orientation were Juanita Davis, assistant director for Multicultural Affairs, and Nykia Gaines, director for TRIO SSS STEM-Health Sciences. About 125 students participated in the inaugural orientation.

Co-chairs for Laker Familia are Salvador Lopez, associate director of Admissions, and Raul Ysasi, affiliate faculty of education. Laker Familia now extends programming throughout the academic year. Laker Familia Orientation saw its largest year, with 109 student participants.



Photo by Autumn Johnson

Orientations to welcome new students of color to campus were held August 20-22. Black Excellence Orientation is pictured at top, and Laker Familia at bottom.



# WHAT'S AHEAD

## Program connects student residents to West Side

An orientation program September 7 invites students who reside on Grand Rapids' West Side to learn about the areas where they live, work and study.

Grand Neighbor Orientation (GNO) will take place from 6-8 p.m. at Lincoln Park, 1120 Bridge St. in Grand Rapids. Food and refreshments will be provided, as well as opportunities to meet community organizations.

A walking tour around West Side neighborhoods will begin before the start of GNO at 5 p.m.; participants should meet at the courtyard of the DeVos Center on the Pew Grand Rapids Campus. Movie in the Park will follow at 8 p.m.

The program is part of an ongoing effort to strengthen Grand Valley's connection to its West Side neighbors. Partnerships and collaborations that have developed organically over the years have set the framework for a more intentional effort, and led to the development of the university's first Civic Action Plan.

Liz Collver, assistant director for Student Life, said students can learn how they can become a part of the West Side at this event.

"It's important for Grand Valley students to have an understanding and appreciation of their neighborhoods," she said. "Living in a community takes effort and awareness, and we hope Grand Neighbor Orientation is just the start of many future relationships between the students who attend this event and their neighbors."

GNO, now in its second year, is organized by Grand Valley's Community Service Learning Center in collaboration with multiple West Side neighborhood associations and organizations.

## Granholt joins other governors at women's leadership conference

Former Michigan Gov. Jennifer Granholt will be a keynote speaker at the first-ever Conference of U.S. Women Governors, hosted by the Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies in partnership with the National Governor's Association.

The two-day event will focus on the challenges, rewards and opportunities encountered by women in leadership roles, how women can best encourage and prepare the next generation of female leaders, as well as leadership, common ground, and gender-relevant issues.

In addition to Granholt, the two-day event, September 8-9, will feature Janet Napolitano, former secretary of Homeland Security and Arizona governor; Christine Todd Whitman, former EPA administrator and former New Jersey governor; Kathleen Babineaux Blanco, former Louisiana governor; Madeleine Kunin, former Vermont governor; and Barbara Roberts, former Oregon governor.

Whitman and Napolitano, along with moderator Mary Kramer, group publisher of Crain Communications and GVSU Board of Trustees vice chair, will participate in a keynote conversation about leading change and forging

common ground on Friday, September 8, at 7 p.m. in the Eberhard Center.

The conference will continue on Saturday, September 9, beginning at 8:15 a.m. in the DeVos Center. Granholt will provide the welcome address at 9 a.m.

Author Deborah Rhode will provide the Saturday afternoon keynote address about her book *Women and Leadership* at 1 p.m.

The event will wrap up with a Women Leaders of West Michigan Wheelhouse Talk, which will include U.S. Rep. Debbie Dingell; Birgit Klohs, president and CEO of The Right Place; Lisa Posthumus Lyons, Kent County clerk; Maria Cimitile, provost and vice president for Academic and Student Affairs; and moderator Megan Sall, assistant city manager of Wyoming and a member of the GVSU Board of Trustees.

A full schedule can be found online at [hauensteincenter.org](http://hauensteincenter.org). The event is free and open to the public, but an RSVP is requested on the website.



A Mozart composition, performed on September 11, kicks off the 2017 Fall Arts Celebration.

## Mozart composition to be performed during Fall Arts Celebration

In the time of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, serenades were considered "dinner music" to be performed only at upper-class parties, military events and other social events.

Mozart's "Serenade in B-Flat Major, KV 361, The Grand Partita" transcended that limiting category to become one of the composer's most beloved compositions, and the wind band genre's earliest masterpiece.

The piece will be performed during this year's Fall Arts Celebration music event: "The Timeless Genius of Mozart: The Grand Partita, KV 361" will take place September 11 at 7:30 p.m., in the Cook-DeWitt Center. The performance will be preceded by a carillon concert on the Cook Carillon Tower at 7:10 p.m. featuring Julianne Vanden Wyngaard, university carillonneur, and followed by a reception.

Danny Phipps, Music, Theater and Dance Department chair, said that the composition is Mozart's largest, and arguably most innovative instrumental work, and employs a full range of wind instruments throughout the score.

"Many musicians and critics consider the 'Grand Partita' to be the greatest example of wind music ever written, and one of the finest works in all the chamber music repertoire," Phipps explained. "Mozart wrote the piece

shortly after he arrived in Vienna in 1781 and, from that point forward, the wind band genre was essentially born."

For this performance, Lowell Graham, former commander and conductor of the U.S. Air Force Band will return to West Michigan to lead an ensemble comprised of faculty and staff, including Phipps (bassoon), Arthur Campbell (clarinet), Marlen Vavrikova (oboe), Sarah Constable (oboe), and three alumni from Campbell's clarinet studio. Members of the Grand Rapids Symphony Orchestra will also join the ensemble.

For more information about Fall Arts Celebration, visit [gvsu.edu/fallarts](http://gvsu.edu/fallarts).

## Reception introduces campus cultural opportunities

Students, faculty and staff members are invited to the annual Intercultural Student Reception on Tuesday, September 12.

The event will take place from 4-6 p.m. in the Kirkhof Center, room 2250, and include games, food and prizes.

Representatives from many student organizations, such as You Beautiful Black Woman, Asian Student Union and Latino Student Union, will be there to provide information about student involvement on campus.

## Annual interprofessional conference scheduled

The interprofessional health care organization housed at Grand Valley received a national designation for its annual conference, recognizing that it advances the goals of collaborative practice and interprofessional care.

The Midwest Interprofessional Practice, Education and Research Center (MIPERC), operated from the Office of the Vice Provost for Health, earned the American Interprofessional Health Collaborative Affiliate Conference designation.

The 10th annual MIPERC conference, "Team Science and Virtual Health," is set for September 21-22 at the DeVos Center. Register for the conference online at [gvsu.edu/miperc/](http://gvsu.edu/miperc/).

Keynote presentations are scheduled by the following people.

- Barbara Brandt, director of the National Center for Interprofessional Practice and Education, and associate vice president for education, University of Minnesota;
- Eduardo Salas, professor and chair of psychology, Rice University;
- Gwen Sandefur, president of Spectrum Health Hospital Group;
- Dr. John Scott, medical director and telehealth associate director, Hepatitis and Liver Clinic, Harborview Medical Center, University of Washington.

# FACULTY AND STAFF SKETCHES

## SKETCHES

### Longtime education professor dies

Doulatram (Ram) Chattulani, who taught at Grand Valley for 39 years, died unexpectedly in Thailand August 20; he was 76.

Chattulani, professor emeritus of education in the College of Education, was a founding faculty member within the School of Education and taught from 1972-2011. He was one of the early unit heads and served as director of teacher education.

Chattulani was known for being an exemplary teacher educator; in 2004, he received a Pew Teaching Excellence Award, which recognizes outstanding faculty. His daughter, Yumi Jakobcic, serves as campus sustainability coordinator for Grand Valley's Office of Sustainability Practices.

Chattulani was born in Kobe, Japan, and came to the United States in 1960 in pursuit of a strong education and access to better resources for his family. He valued adventure and experiences and loved traveling with his family to many parts of the world.

Memorial plans will be announced at a later date. In lieu of flowers, family members suggest a donation to the Ram Chattulani Memorial Scholarship, Grand Valley State University, P.O. Box 2005, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49501-2005.



Ram Chattulani

**Jim Penn**, associate professor of geography and sustainable planning, wrote a chapter, "Piassaba Broom Production and Fiber Extraction Amid Challenging Conditions in the Lower Andes: A Case from Peru," for a book, *The Andes: Geography, Diversity and Sociocultural Impacts*, published by Nova Science.

**George McBane**, professor of chemistry, wrote an article, "A Three-Dimensional He-CO Potential Energy Surface with Improved Long-range Behavior," published in the *Journal of Molecular Spectroscopy*.

**Scott Stabler**, associate professor of history, gave a presentation, "An Indian Killed Father Abraham: Abraham Lincoln and American Indians," at the annual Lincoln Lecture at Detroit Country Day School in Beverly Hills.

Liaison librarians **Gayle Schaub** and **Hazel McClure** were co-authors of an article, "Information Literacy Threshold Concepts and the Association of College and Research Libraries' Framework for Information Literacy for Higher Education," published in *Das offense Bibliotheksjournal*.

**Keith Piccard**, adjunct faculty of biology, and **Peter Riemersma**, professor of geology, collected and brought macroinvertebrates from a California stream to support their workshop "Wading Into Ecology, Inquiry Based Learning with Macroinvertebrates," at the Annual National Science Teachers Association Conference in Los Angeles. **Piccard**, **Riemersma** and **Steve Rybczynski**, assistant professor of biology, were authors of an article published in *Science Scope*.

**Al Steinman**, director of the Annis Water Resources Institute, was a co-author of articles: "Effects of Microcystins Contamination on Soil Enzyme Activities," published in *Environmental Pollution*; "Increment of Root Membrane Permeability Caused by Microcystins," published in *Ecotoxicology and Environmental Safety*; and "Temporal Patterns of Phyto- and Bacterioplankton and Their Relationships with Environmental Factors in Lake Taihu, China," published in *Chemosphere*.

**Vinicius Lima**, assistant professor of art and design, earned the 2017 American Inhouse Design Award from Graphic Design USA. The award honors Lima's work designing the GVSU and SeoulTech Art & Design Faculty Exchange Exhibition Catalog.

**Michael Webster**, professor of English, gave a presentation, "Apocalypse Now: E. E. Cummings' Atom Bomb Poems," at the Association for the Study of Literature and Environment Conference at Wayne State University.

## Opening address focuses on delivering public good

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a week developing new relationships and making connections. He called that the first step to becoming a member of the Laker family and also discussed the "Laker connection," listing resources and university structures in place created to help students succeed.

Stephen Glass, active vice provost for Student Affairs and dean of students, asked students to reflect on their path to Grand Valley and remember challenges, opportunities and people who helped along the way.

"Now you are here and you have a new set of challenges," Glass said. He encouraged students to persist, ask for help and say "yes" to new opportunities.

### • Haas opening address

Haas addressed faculty and staff members earlier in the day at the Cook-DeWitt Center, discussing challenges in higher education and how the university continues to deliver on the public good of education.

He said declining state fiscal support and decreasing numbers of high

school graduates make the "business of education" difficult at times. "But I want to put your minds at ease. Part of Grand Valley's history is being nimble and efficient, and we are managing both," he said.

Haas spoke about the university being "adaptively stable" as represented by the June purchase of the Ferris Coffee and Nut building in Grand Rapids, which will house interdisciplinary engineering programs. He also cited growth of the health campus on Medical Mile and the state's investment in constructing a new building next to the Cook-DeVos Center for Health Sciences to meet demand for nursing and health professions programs.

"We are delivering on the investment of the state, investment by parents in terms of tuition, and we're producing graduates who will make a difference," he said. "We have a fundamental responsibility to give our best to our students, and their degree is a symbol of the public good."

## Expansion of performing arts centers provides more opportunities for students, faculty

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Phipps added that Grand Valley's music program alone has grown by 46 percent in the past three years and more than 300 students participate in theater productions annually. Approximately 10,000 patrons attend performing arts events on campus each year.

Anna Petrenko, a junior majoring in music education, told the crowd the expansion is a testament to Grand Valley's dedication to studies that touch impact people through dance, theater and music.

"In a nation where many arts programs are the first to be cut from a school's budget, my heart swells with pride to have Grand Valley publicly display the importance of the arts on this campus," said Petrenko.

The original center was built in 1971 and currently houses the Louis Armstrong Theatre, the GVSU Art Gallery, and academic programs in music, music education, theater and dance.

The Haas Center has more than 200 pieces of art work on display. A new "salon style" display, which includes art that is stacked two-to-four layers



Photo by Bernadine Carey-Tucker

Participants at the dedication ceremony cut a ribbon in the Haas Center.

high, will be a focal point of the main lobby of the center.