### Orientation for New SWS Teachers

**Kay Losey, SWS Director**  
**Monday, January 7, 4 - 5pm, 1104 KC**

Designed for new SWS faculty, this workshop provides a basic overview of the goals of the SWS program and the requirements of SWS-designated courses. In addition, it offers examples of how the SWS requirements might be fulfilled, including assignment ideas, ways to incorporate writing instruction into classes, and suggestions for dealing with the “paper load.” An informal question and answer session will conclude the workshop. Participants will leave with a wealth of resources, including numerous handouts, a book, and a list of useful websites.

### The New GVSU Student Success Collaborative: The Impact of Course Analytics on Student Advising

**Richard Staley and Joseph Harrington, The Educational Advisory Board**  
**Thursday, January 24, 2:30 - 3:00pm Refreshments and Networking**  
**3:00 - 5:00pm Program Presentation and Q & A**

**Loosemore Auditorium, DeVos Center, Pew Grand Rapids Campus**

Grand Valley State University has joined the Education Advisory Board’s “Student Success Collaborative” along with eleven other US institutions of higher education. This national initiative is in the beta phase of developing predictive analytics based on a student’s performance in completed courses, especially gateway courses, to enhance student advising toward successful and timely degree completion.

The program offers advisors information to add to our other advising strategies which can aid students in deciding upon their academic majors. The program also serves as an intervention alert to advisors when students who have declared majors or “pre” majors are struggling in key courses or in timely completion of courses.

Grand Valley begins its participation in the Student Success Collaborative with this meeting on January 24, to be followed through the winter semester with further program planning and advisor training. Advisors will begin to use the program in Fall of 2013, at first in some selected pilot areas.

If you are a faculty or staff member who regularly advises/counsels/mentors students as they make their way from selection of academic major to timely graduation, you are strongly encouraged to attend!

Please Register at http://gvsu.edu/seminar/ under Academic Advising Professional Development Committee.

### Advising Students about the NEW General Education Program

**C. “Griff” Griffin, Director, General Education**  
**Tuesday, January 29, 3 - 3:50pm, 1104 KC**  
**Wednesday, January 30, 3 - 3:50pm 1104KC**  
**Thursday, January 31, 3 - 3:50pm, 302E DEV**

Session objectives
- Assist faculty and professional advisors in understanding the new general education program as it relates to advising students
- Provide an overview of the general education revision and answer questions about implementation, timing, transition plans, etc.

Please Register at http://gvsu.edu/seminar/ under Academic Advising Professional Development Committee.
Exploring the Intersections of Mindfulness, Contemplative Pedagogies, and Reflective Teaching

An Inter-Institutional Faculty Learning Community

Winter 2013

What We Mean When We Say…

...MINDFUL: Paying attention in a particular way: on purpose, in the present moment, and nonjudgmentally

...CONTEMPLATIVE PEDAGOGY: Teaching methods designed to cultivate deepened awareness, concentration, and insight

...REFLECTIVE TEACHING: Engaging in systematic reflections of their work by thinking, writing, and talking about their teaching; observing the acts of their own and others’ teaching; and by gauging the impact of their teaching on their students’ learning

Faculty from Ferris State University and Grand Valley State University are forming an inter-institutional faculty learning community for three purposes:

1. To enable us to read, discuss, and examine mindfulness and other contemplative practices, both for personal well-being and for use in the teaching and learning process

2. To provide an environment and context for us to establish a cohesive community of individuals who share similar personal and professional interests, aspirations, and goals

3. To initiate dialogue about ways to integrate and investigate the impact of contemplative practices on teaching, and student development and learning

In January 2013, faculty from FSU and GVSU will develop (i) a list of readings and topics for discussion, (ii) a calendar for at least four sessions, and (iii) a calendar of other possible social activities to support the purposes of the faculty learning community.

Each faculty participant will, by the end of the learning community experience, write a reflective piece on how a contemplative practice could be integrated into her or his course(s) and personal life. As a faculty learning community, we will draft plans for continued work at or among our institutions in the areas of mindfulness and contemplative pedagogy.

Faculty who participate fully in the learning community will receive a $200 professional development allocation.

To register, please contact us at ftlc@gvsu.edu or call 331-3498 by January 28, 2013.