

FORUM

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE GRAND VALLEY
STATE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

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Interview dates set for provost candidates

Three candidates were selected to interview on campus in January for Grand Valley's position of provost and executive vice president for Academic and Student Affairs.

They are Denise Cobb, interim provost and vice chancellor for Academic Affairs at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville; Jann Joseph, executive vice chancellor at Indiana University South Bend; and Stephen L. Esquith, dean, Residential College in the Arts and Humanities at Michigan State University. Details about each candidate are below.

The campus community is invited to attend the open sessions on the Allendale Campus with each candidate. Interview dates are listed below. Each presentation will be simulcast to locations at the Pew Grand Rapids Campus.

Cobb was on campus January 12-13 for interviews. Schedules for Joseph and Esquith are below.

• **Jann Joseph:** Tuesday, January 17, presentation from 2-2:30 p.m. in the Kirkhof Center, Grand River Room, followed by open meeting and Q&A from 2:30-3:30 p.m.

Simulcast locations: DeVos Center, room 107D, and Cook-DeVos Center for Health Sciences, room 115.

Wednesday, January 18, open meeting and Q&A from 10:30-11:30 a.m. in the DeVos Center, Regency Room.

• **Stephen L. Esquith:** Thursday, January 19, presentation from 2-2:30 p.m. in the Cook-DeWitt Center, followed by open meeting and Q&A from 2:30-3:30 p.m.

Simulcast locations: DeVos Center, room 109D, and Cook-DeVos Center for Health Sciences, room 115.

Friday, January 20, open meeting and Q&A from 10:30-11:30 a.m. in the DeVos Center, Regency Room.



Denise Cobb



Jann Joseph



Stephen L. Esquith

of Sociology and Criminal Justice in 2003. In 2010, she was named director of assessment.

Cobb earned a doctorate in sociology from Tulane University. She earned a bachelor's degree in sociology from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock and a master's degree in sociology from the University of Central Arkansas.

Joseph has served as executive vice chancellor at IUSB since 2014, after serving as dean of the College of Education at Eastern Michigan University. Joseph had served as associate dean of the College of Liberal Arts

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Candidate brief bios

Cobb was named interim provost in 2015. Since 2012 she has served as assistant provost for Academic Innovation and Effectiveness and then associate provost for Academic Affairs. Cobb joined the SIUE faculty in the Department

Across Campus

Professor to receive inaugural mathematics award

The book *Mathematical Reasoning: Writing and Proof* has been adopted as a teaching tool by 47 U.S. universities and the current electronic version of the text has been downloaded more than 50,000 times.

Ted Sundstrom, professor of mathematics, wrote the book and this summer will receive the Mathematical Association of America's newly created Daniel Solow Author's Award as recognition for his work.

"I am feeling grateful for this very significant honor and especially grateful to my colleagues in the Department of Mathematics who have supported me in all of my endeavors at Grand Valley, and who have chosen to use the book for over 12 years," said Sundstrom.

The book is largely used in MTH 210 "Communicating in Mathematics." Sundstrom explained that it is designed to be a text for

the first course in a mathematics major program that introduces students to the processes of constructing and writing mathematical proofs with an emphasis on active learning.

After working with a publisher for the first two editions of the book, released in 2003 and 2006 respectively, Sundstrom chose an open educational resource approach to the third edition by making it freely available to download when it was released in 2013. The current electronic version of the book can be downloaded at Grand Valley via ScholarWorks@GVSU.

"I have complete control over the book by not working with a publisher, and a lot more contact with professors and students who use



Ted Sundstrom

the book," said Sundstrom. "In addition, it is nice to know that I am helping students with the cost of their education in a small way."

Sundstrom will receive the award during MathFest, the annual summer meeting of the Mathematical Association of America, July 26-29 in Chicago.

Sundstrom began teaching at Grand Valley in 1973 after earning a doctoral degree from the University of Massachusetts. He will retire in April.

Export control policy detailed

The President's Cabinet in early December approved a policy, stating that members of the campus community must comply with U.S. export control laws while teaching or conducting research.

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Across Campus

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The Export Control Policy can be found online, www.gvsu.edu/gvmanual/. It states that students, faculty and staff members or visiting scholars cannot engage in export activity that is prohibited by the federal government.

Robert Smart, vice provost for Research Administration, said an export survey was recently completed to determine if anyone at Grand Valley is working on a project that could present an export control red flag. This could include transfer of a controlled item such as technical data to a person outside of the U.S. without proper documentation.

Smart said a technology control plan would be implemented if there is such a case. Visit www.gvsu.edu/export to learn more.

Professor awarded writing fellowship

The written works of Amorak Huey recently received prestigious validation when he was one of 37 authors out of a pool of 1,800 to be awarded a Creative Writing Fellowship in poetry from the National Endowment of the Arts.

“It’s such a competitive fellowship, and it’s based entirely on the selection of poems you send in,” said Huey, assistant professor of writing. “When I got the call, I was in disbelief, and at first, I wondered if this was some kind of prank. It’s tremendously flattering.”

After submitting a portfolio of 10 pages of his poetry, a panel of nationally renowned poets deemed Huey’s work to be of the highest “artistic excellence and artistic merit.”

Huey said the \$25,000 fellowship grant will provide him with the time and space needed to create, revise, conduct research and connect with his readers.

Huey is the author of the poetry collection *Ha Ha Thump* (2015) and the chapbook *The Insomniac Circus* (2014). His poetry and essays have appeared in *The Best American Poetry 2012*, *The Southern Review*, *Brevity*, *Poet Lore*, *The Collagist*, *The Cincinnati Review*, and many other print and digital journals.

Huey is one of the featured authors during this year’s Grand Valley Writers Series. Huey and Caitlin Horrocks, associate professor of writing,



Amorak Huey

will read excerpts from their work during a series event on January 31, from 6-8 p.m., in the Cook-DeWitt Center.

Director receives rare invite to Middle East interfaith conference

During a year that has been filled with hatred and division in the U.S. and abroad, a narrative of tolerance, understanding and coexistence is needed in the world.

That was the primary message Doug Kindschi, director of Grand Valley’s Kaufman Interfaith Institute, brought back to West Michigan after attending the “Growing a Network” conference in Musannah, Oman, in mid-November.

Kindschi was one of only 10 interfaith advocates from around the world invited to attend the conference, and the only representative of the U.S.

As a seafaring nation, Oman has been emerged for three millennia in intercultural exchanges with people around the Indian Ocean. Freedom of religion is guaranteed in the Sultanate of Oman, where over the years there has been mutual acceptance, understanding and a peaceful coexistence among its varied religious communities.

The goal of the conference, which coincided with this year’s International Day of Tolerance on November 16, was to gather a collective of interfaith leaders and brainstorm ways to expand the interactivity of the traveling exhibit, “Tolerance, Understanding, Coexistence: Oman’s Message to Islam.”

The exhibit was on display at Grand Valley in 2014.

During the conference, Kindschi suggested that the exhibit visit Michigan once again, but this time offer programming and foster connections between people on both the east and west sides of the state. In this proposal, the west side conference would be held at Grand Valley, and the east side conference would be held at the Arab American National Museum in Dearborn.



Doug Kindschi was among a handful of interfaith advocates to be invited to Oman last fall.

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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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Other publications by University Communications include:

Grand Valley Magazine, published quarterly; 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

Marnie Parris-Bingle, Academic Advisor

Marnie Parris-Bingle has worked with students through TRIO Student Support Services for eight years. During her tenure, her vision for students remains the same: she wants to help students be successful in college, in life, and in the world.

“When you get out in the workplace, you realize not everyone grew up in the same era or generation,” Parris-Bingle said. “Students need to be able to adapt to face whatever situations they may encounter.”

TRIO provides support for students who identify as first-generation and limited income college students. Students who work with TRIO have access to academic planning and coaching, scheduling assistance and personal counseling.

Advising has to be holistic, Parris-Bingle said. Helping students plan classes, internships, or study abroad adds up to helping their future.

“What are you going to have for your resume when you’re done with college?” Parris-Bingle said. “Everything you do is building to a snapshot of who you are and your experiences and how you can transfer those skills to the workplace.”

Parris-Bingle said the number of resources now available to students and how often students use those resources has increased.

“The stigma of asking for help is disappearing,” Parris-Bingle said. “There’s a lot more motivation from students who want to get help.”

Parris-Bingle works with students from the time they come to Grand Valley until they leave the university. She said building that relationship is the most important part of the job. “Students often don’t know they need help, or don’t know how to ask for it. TRIO is especially helpful because these students do not have to keep telling their stories; they know their advisor, and their advisor knows them,” she said.

She said the work she has done during the day sometimes follows her home. “I worry about my students when I’m not at the university, but I turn that worry into action,” Parris-Bingle said. “I can’t sit around, there’s always more ways to help.”



Marnie Parris-Bingle



What's Ahead

Art exhibit to spotlight media overload

More than 2,000 pieces of clippings from various magazines and other printed materials will stand nine feet high and span across 45 feet of wall space in the Art Gallery beginning January 16.

The gigantic collage of framed images is a single piece of artwork created by Nayda Collazo-Llorens, the Stuart and Barbara Padnos Distinguished Artist-in-Residence.

The exhibition, “Comfortably Numb,” will be on display through March 31, with an opening reception taking place Thursday, January 19, from 5-7 p.m. in the Art Gallery, in the Performing Arts Center.

There will be multiple events during the run of Comfortably Numb, including an Interdisciplinary Discussion Series, with sessions taking place on February 21 from 2:30-3:30 p.m., and February 23 from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Both will occur in the Art Gallery.

Grand Valley’s award-winning New Music Ensemble will host a composition competition on March 17, from 7:30-9:30 p.m., also in the Art Gallery. During this event, the ensemble will perform one-minute pieces inspired by Comfortably Numb composed by Grand Valley students.

Comfortably Numb serves as one of the culminating projects of Collazo-Llorens’ residency, which will conclude at the end of the 2016-17 academic year.

“The work explores our perceptual



‘Comfortably Numb,’ artwork created by Nayda Collazo-Llorens, will be on display through March 31 in the Art Gallery.

engagement with the incessant media overload that we seem to seek and endure in our daily lives,” said Collazo-Llorens.

Collazo-Llorens was named Artist-in-Residence in 2014. Endowed by Holland area businessman Stuart Padnos, and his late wife, Barbara, the position offers an opportunity to teach and mentor students in the Art and Design Department, as well as speak on campus and to the wider community.

For more information, visit gvsu.edu/artgallery.

PIC will host Study Abroad Fair

Staff members from the Padnos International Center will host a Study Abroad Fair on Tuesday, January 17, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. in the Henry Hall atrium.

The fair will highlight all global faculty-led, partnership and internship programs. Students can start their journey abroad by browsing programs, meeting faculty program directors, and talking with students who have participated in a study abroad program.

Refreshments will be provided. Visit www.gvsu.edu/studyabroad/ to learn more.

Benet to give ‘Her Story’

Suzeanne Benet, assistant vice president for Academic Affairs, will present “Her Story,” as part of the ongoing series that features women on campus in leadership positions.

Benet’s presentation is set for Wednesday, January 18, at noon in the Kirkhof Center, room 2204. Participants are encouraged to bring their lunches.

The series is sponsored by the Women’s Commission; visit www.gvsu.edu/wcommission for details.

Event to explore design thinking in health care

Health care providers continuously strive to meet the needs of those they serve, and the problem-solving process of design thinking is becoming an integral part of developing those solutions.

This idea will be explored during “Design

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National speakers highlight King Commemoration Week

Two nationally known speakers will highlight Grand Valley’s commemoration of the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Kevin Powell is an activist, author and president of BK Nation, a national organization based in New York City that uses grassroots activism, pop culture and social media to spark projects and campaigns. He has written 12 books, the most recent is *The Education of Kevin Powell: A Boy’s Journey into Manhood*.



Kevin Powell

Kimberlé Crenshaw is a professor of law at UCLA and Columbia Law schools. She coined two terms — critical race theory and intersectionality — that have proved foundational in many areas of study. She is a leading voice in calling for a gender-inclusive approach to racial justice interventions, having spearheaded the “Why We Can’t Wait Campaign” and co-authored *Black Girls Matter: Pushed Out, Overpoliced and Underprotected*, and *Say Her Name: Resisting Police Brutality Against Black Women*.



Kimberlé Crenshaw

Powell will be the keynote speaker on Monday, January 16, at 1:30 p.m. in the Fieldhouse Arena.

Crenshaw will be the keynote speaker on Wednesday, January 18, at 4:30 p.m. in the Kirkhof Center, Grand River Room. This presentation will be simulcast to an audience in the DeVos Center, Loosemore Auditorium. Both keynote events are LIB 100/201 approved.

Many free events are planned for January 16, which marks the fifth year that classes have been canceled on the national King holiday, allowing more students, faculty and staff members to participate in events.

Monday, January 16

- Crafting/Upcycling, 9:30-11:30 a.m. in Kirkhof Center, Pere Marquette Room: Participants will create and repurpose items that will be donated to area nonprofits.
- Workshop “Microaggressions,” led by Relando Thompkins-Jones,

social justice educator/coordinator, 10:30-11:30 a.m. in Kirkhof Center, rooms 2215/2216

- Lunch, 11:30 a.m.-12:45 p.m., Kirkhof Center, Grand River Room
- Silent march to Fieldhouse, 1 p.m., assemble in front of Zumberge Hall
- Keynote presentation by Powell in Fieldhouse Arena, 1:30 p.m.
- Film screening, 2:30-4 p.m. in Kirkhof Center, Pere Marquette Room: “Black America Since MLK: And Still I Rise” followed by panel discussion. Moderated by George Davis, from WGVU Public Media, faculty members Jennifer Stewart, Regis Fox and Louis Moore will serve as panelists.

Tuesday, January 17

The Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies will host “Race and the American Dream” at 7 p.m. in the Eberhard Center. This is a Common Ground event sponsored in conjunction with the Division of Inclusion and Equity.

Nikole Hannah-Jones, staff writer at the *New York Times Magazine*, will join Jason Riley, columnist and editorial board member at the *Wall Street Journal*, for a dialogue on the progress that has been made since the civil rights movement of the 1950s and 1960s, as well as the challenges that continue to exist.

It is free, open to the public, and LIB 100 approved. RSVP online at www.hauensteincenter.org/RSVP.

Thursday, January 19

The Teach-In will run from 8:30 a.m.-9 p.m. with sessions in the Kirkhof Center and DeVos Center. With the theme, “Power, Privilege and Difficult Dialogues,” the fourth annual event is sponsored by University Academic Senate and Student Senate. Visit www.gvsu.edu/teach-in for session descriptions and times.

Saturday, January 21

MLK Jr. Day of Service and Solidarity is coordinated by the Community Service Learning Center and will run from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Volunteers will meet in the Cook-DeWitt Center for a brief presentation then work on service projects with community partners. Lunch and transportation will be provided; details and registration information are posted online at www.gvsu.edu/service.

Follow the week’s events on social media using #GVSUMLK.

FACULTY AND STAFF SKETCHES

In the News

Michael Moody, Frey Foundation Chair for Family Philanthropy at the Johnson Center, was interviewed by WalletHub.com for a story about the nation's most- and least-charitable states.

Gleaves Whitney, director of the Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies, was interviewed by Politico and *Time* for stories about the transition from President Obama to President-elect Trump. He was also interviewed by *Time*, *USA Today*, *New Republic*, Associated Press and WWJ-AM for stories about Obama's farewell address.

CASE presentation

University Development staff members gave a presentation about alumni engagement at the CASE District V and VI Conference in Chicago, Illinois.

Carolyn Clayton, director of annual giving, and **Katelyn Semelbauer**, assistant director of annual giving, detailed the Alumni Champions program, which seeks alumni volunteers who engage in peer-to-peer networking to help increase alumni giving.

"Sharing the Alumni Champions program with other colleges and universities from across the country really put into perspective the uniqueness and impact of the Laker Effect," Semelbauer said.

Learn more about Alumni Champions by visiting www.gvsu.edu/giving.

Professor earns Grammis nomination

In Sweden, the Grammis Awards are considered to be the Swedish equivalent of the Grammy Awards in the U.S. **Gregory Maytan**, associate professor of violin, recently received a nomination for a Grammis Award in the "Classical CD of the Year" category.

Maytan's CD, "Amanda Maier Volume 1,"

is one of five albums competing in the category.

Amanda Maier (1853-94) is best known for becoming the first woman to graduate with degrees in violin, piano and music history from what is today known as the Royal University of Music in Stockholm. Maier's talents attracted the attention of famous composers, such as Johannes Brahms and Edvard Grieg. She died at the age of 41 from tuberculosis, and left behind only a small number of works.

Maytan's love for Maier's musical expertise began when he was first introduced to her work at the age of 14 after one of his teachers instructed him to learn one of Maier's sonatas.

Maytan originally approached dB Productions, a Swedish record company, with the idea of recording a long forgotten violin concerto by Maier while he was in Sweden on sabbatical. Recording sessions for the album began in September 2015 and concluded in June.

The Grammis Award winners will be announced February 28 during the ceremony in the Stockholm Concert Hall. The gala event will be broadcasted live on Swedish national television and streamed online.



Gregory Maytan

PAS program in Traverse City earns grant

The Physician Assistant Studies program in Traverse City earned a \$8,750 grant from the Grand Traverse Regional Community Foundation and Northwest Michigan Osteopathic Endowment.

Nicholus Kopacki, director of PAS expansion services and clinical affiliate faculty, said the grant money will be used to purchase anatomy models for the PAS lab.

Sketches

Jason Crouthamel, professor of history, was a co-organizer of "Languages of Trauma," an international, interdisciplinary conference at Humboldt University at Berlin.

Danny Balfour, professor of public, nonprofit, and health administration, wrote a book chapter, "Doubling Down on Derivatives: The Legal but Corrupt Exploitation of the Fallout from the Great Recession," published in *Legal but Corrupt: A New Perspective on Public Ethics*.

Roger Ellis, professor of communications, wrote an article, "On the Science with Mark Russel at the New York Public Theater," published in the *American Journal of Arts Management*.

Donald Mitchell Jr., assistant professor of education, and a graduate student were co-authors of an article, "Developing Multicultural Competence for Preparing Student Affairs Professionals Through a Study Away Program," published in the *Journal of College Student Development*.

Jeremiah Cataldo, associate professor, Honors College, gave a presentation, "Victimized Colonizers: New 13 as an Autotelic Narrative for the Syrian Refugee Experience?" at the Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature and the American Academy of Religion.

Elizabeth MacQuillan, assistant professor of clinical dietetics, wrote an article, "Using GIS Mapping to Target Public Health Interventions: Examining Birth Outcomes Across GIS Techniques," published in the *Journal of Community Health*.

Interviews set for provost candidates

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and Sciences at Grand Valley from 2006-2011.

She earned a doctorate in curriculum and instruction (science education) from the University of Wisconsin. Joseph's master's degree is in plant science and her bachelor's degree is in agriculture, both from the University of the West Indies at St. Augustine in Trinidad and Tobago.

Esquith has served as dean of MSU's

Residential College in the Arts and Humanities since 2006. He earned a doctorate in politics and philosophy from Princeton University and a bachelor's degree from Harvard College.

He joined MSU's faculty in 1980 and now serves as professor of philosophy. He has served as chair of philosophy in addition to other academic appointments. Esquith's major publications include *Intimacy and Spectacle: Liberal Theory as Political Education* (Cornell, 1994) and *The Political Responsibilities of*

Everyday Bystanders (Penn State, 2010).

Candidates will make a 25-minute presentation on a topic relevant to academic and student affairs and Grand Valley.

Curriculum vita and the open meeting times are available online at www.gvsu.edu/provost-search/. Evaluation forms will be distributed via Survey Monkey with links available on the website. Questions regarding these meetings can be sent via email to GVSUProvostSearch@gvsu.edu.

What's Ahead

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Thinking in Health Care Services," presented by Ryan Armbruster, vice president of innovation, research and development at Optum, a UnitedHealth Group company.

The presentation will take place January 23, from 6-7 p.m., in the DeVos Center, Loosemore Auditorium.

In his role at Optum, Armbruster leads a design group that is focused on designing health services that provide better value and experiences for people.

Prior to that position, Armbruster co-founded and served as chief experience officer of Harken Health, a health care organization designed to restore a caring environment to health care services and experiences. He also created enterprise-wide programs to improve innovation as vice president of innovation at UnitedHealth Group, including creating and leading its Design Studio.

For the past decade, Armbruster has taught health care service design and innovation at the University of Minnesota, where he earned a master's degree in health care administration.