

# FORUM

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

Published by University Communications | For news updates, visit [gvsu.edu/gvnow](http://gvsu.edu/gvnow)

## Agreement with medical school benefits students

Grand Valley students who want to pursue medical careers will benefit from a “preferred relationship,” which includes an early decision program, with Western Michigan University Homer Stryker M.D. School of Medicine (WMed).

Leaders from both institutions signed the agreement October 3 at Raleigh J. Finkelstein Hall.

President Thomas J. Haas said the agreement represents the commitment from both institutions to fulfill the talent pipeline and help ease the regional and national shortage of physicians.

“The unique missions of our two institutions overlap to produce the talent needed in the medical profession,” Haas said.

The preferred relationship with WMed means



Photo by Bernadine Carey-Tucker

Provost Maria Cimitile talks about the benefit for Grand Valley students during a signing agreement with the Western Michigan University Homer Stryker M.D. School of Medicine.

students receive an early look during the medical school’s admission process. Students must meet all admission requirements. Under the WMedStart early decision program,

students at the beginning of their junior year can apply to WMed for an early decision of admission following completion of their bachelor’s degree.

Edward Montgomery, president of Western Michigan University, said the agreement is part of the “ecosystem to provide opportunities for young men and women.”

WMed graduated its first class of medical students in 2018. Dr. Hal Jenson, founding dean, said WMed had great success in recruiting students to a newer medical school due, in part, to agreements like this.

“The preferred relationship seeks to have outstanding students apply to our medical school and become outstanding students in our classrooms,” Jenson said.

Jenson said Grand Valley students who apply through the early decision program benefit as they can focus on completing a bachelor’s degree without the additional stress and expense of applying to multiple medical schools.

## ACROSS CAMPUS

### GVSU receives grant to fund McNair Scholars Program

Grand Valley received a five-year, \$1.3 million grant to fund a TRIO McNair Scholars Program that will prepare first-generation and low-income, or underrepresented students for doctoral studies.

The U.S. Department of Education grant will

fund annual cohorts of about 34 Grand Valley students who show great interest in research and earning doctoral degrees. Susan Mendoza, director of the Office of Undergraduate Research, said recruitment will begin this fall and McNair Scholars will begin their program next summer.

“They will engage in undergraduate research as a way to better understand what it means to become a Ph.D.,” Mendoza said. “Scholars will be paired with faculty mentors who supervise and support their research. Scholars will present at academic conferences, prepare for the graduate school application process and the challenges of graduate school.”

Mendoza serves as the principal investigator for the program; Rachel Powers, professor of chemistry, is the co-principal investigator. Powers said her motivation to be involved stems from personal experience as a first-generation student and struggles to make career plans.

“I have no doubt that with a mentor, I could have discovered my interests in research and the possibility of graduate school much sooner,” Powers said. “This is what fuels my motivation in the program.”

### Peer mentor program established for LIB 100 courses

The Brooks College of Interdisciplinary Studies established a peer mentor program to support students in LIB 100 courses and co-curricular events.

Jennifer Jameslyn, director of the Office of Integrative Learning and Advising, said the catalyst behind this idea was student retention.

“LIB 100 courses draw a large number of first-year and transfer students; our peer mentors will help students better understand the core components of those courses and engage them more deeply in co-curricular activities,” she said.

In this pilot year, peer mentors will host



McNair Scholars from 2016 are pictured. GVSU received a \$1.5 million grant to fund the program for five years.

*continues on page 2*

# ACROSS CAMPUS

continued from page 1



Photo by Amanda Pitts

Pictured with Jennifer Jameslyn, far right, are (seated, from left) Julia Ervin, Alana McKinnie and Louise Koos; standing are, at left, Chavala Ymker and graduate assistant Ashley Eschbach. Peer mentor Maddie Kowalik is not pictured.

short discussions following a campus event designated as approved for LIB 100 or LIB 201, lead service learning events, and host tours of campus resources such as social justice centers, Knowledge Market or University Counseling Center.

“The mentors are trained to build bridges and help students connect an event back to the content taught in a class,” Jameslyn said.

Five students were hired. Julia Ervin, a senior who is majoring in liberal studies with an emphasis on community development, said she would have benefited from this program as a first-year student.

“The events I went to were very interesting but I would have appreciated the opportunity for a small-group discussion after, to help connect the material from a speaker back to my class,” Ervin said.

Faculty members can request a peer mentor to visit a LIB 100 class to highlight co-curricular events and discuss campus resources. More information is online at [gvsu.edu/integrativelearning](http://gvsu.edu/integrativelearning); contact Jameslyn at x18200 with questions.

## WGVU to host debate between Stabenow, James

Democratic U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow and Republican opponent John James will take part in a debate October 14 at the WGVU Public Media studios at the Eberhard Center.

The debate will air Sunday, October 14, on WGVU-TV at 6 p.m.

Matt McLogan, vice president for University Relations, will offer welcoming remarks, and Patrick Center, WGVU news director, will serve as moderator for the debate. It is not open to the public.

Local journalists will ask the candidates questions, and a small group of Grand Valley students will attend the debate and have an opportunity to provide questions.

## GVNow Recap:

### Grand Valley named Best College Buy

For the 23rd year in a row, Grand Valley has been named one of America’s 100 Best College Buys by Institutional Research and Evaluation Inc. (IR&E) in Georgia.

Each year, IR&E identifies the 100 colleges and universities across the country that provide students the highest quality education at the

lowest cost. Grand Valley has made the list each year since the designation began.

Among the factors to be considered for the designation, an institution must have an entering first-year class in fall 2017 with a high school GPA and/or SAT/ACT equal to or above the national average; and have out-of-state tuition in 2018-2019 below the national average or not exceeding the average by more than 10 percent.

The average GPA for incoming Grand Valley first-year students for fall 2017 was 3.58, compared to the national average of 3.44, according to Institutional Research and Evaluation. The average ACT score for incoming freshmen at Grand Valley for fall 2017 was 24, compared to the national average of 23.

## Tickets available for Detroit Red Wings GVSU Night

The familiar winged-wheel logo of the Detroit Red Wings will turn Laker blue at Little Caesars Arena in Detroit during a hockey game that will benefit the Grand Valley community.



Detroit Red Wings GVSU Night is February 24.

Detroit Red Wings GVSU Night on February 24 will feature the Wings hosting the San Jose Sharks. The game starts at 3 p.m.

Tickets purchased through [gvsu.edu/redwings](http://gvsu.edu/redwings) will include a limited-edition, co-branded Detroit Red Wings/Grand Valley hat, and a \$5 donation to the

continues on page 4

## FORUM

### Volume 43, Number 4

The GVSU Forum is published by University Communications. The submission deadline is Tuesday prior to the publication date. Send publication items to Michele Coffill, editor, c/o [forum@gvsu.edu](mailto:forum@gvsu.edu). Web: [gvsu.edu/forum](http://gvsu.edu/forum)

#### University Communications Staff:

**Mary Eileen Lyon** associate vice president  
**Sherry Bouwman** university comm. assistant  
**Dottie Barnes** associate director of news  
**Meagan Beck** social media coordinator  
**Bernadine Carey Tucker** director of creative services  
**Michele Coffill** associate director of publications  
**Bill Cuppy** creative director, video and multimedia  
**Nate Hoekstra** associate director of digital content  
**Dave LeFurge-McLeod** videographer  
**Elizabeth Lienau** multimedia project coordinator  
**Matthew Makowski** communications specialist  
**Tony Packer** videographer  
**Amanda Pitts** senior photographer  
**Leah Twilley** associate director of social media  
**Madison Barnes** student writer

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.



## GVFACES

### Bradley Ambrose, professor of physics

Bradley Ambrose, professor of physics, was recognized nationally by his peers and professional association for his teaching style, which he described as “teaching by questioning,” as opposed to “teaching by telling.”

The American Association of Physics Teachers recognized Ambrose in July for outstanding teaching and presented him with the David Halliday and Robert Resnick Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Physics Teaching.

“I’m still trying to have it sink in that it happened, because I can think of so many other people who I have worked with or continue to work with who are just as deserving,” Ambrose said. “I’m extremely gratified that I was even considered, let alone selected.”

Ambrose said his research focus on physics education and how students understand concepts and develop reasoning has influenced his teaching. “I try not to tell so much, but I guide students by questioning,” he said. “I have conversations with my students as much as possible, and guide them from where I think they probably are in their understanding to where I want them to be.”

He teaches a variety of classes, from introductory physics to courses for non-science majors to advanced courses for physics majors. Regardless of the course, Ambrose said he employs his teaching-by-questioning style

to maximize student understanding of complicated material.

“It’s one thing to see the light go on in a student’s eyes when they think they get it; it’s another thing to be able to chat with them and follow up with a question to make sure that the sparkle in their eyes is really what I’m thinking it is,” Ambrose said.

Ambrose earned a bachelor’s degree in physics from Yale, and master’s and doctoral degrees from the University of Washington.

He said he was attracted to teaching at Grand Valley because of its “strong dedication and earnest commitment to quality teaching.” He also praised colleagues in the physics department for allowing experimentation and employing principles of quality teaching in the classroom.

“Those of us in physics education would all agree that we want our students to learn and to be able to apply physics concepts to explain the world around us, yet I believe we should also be striving to teach our students that physics is worth learning and that they are all indeed more than capable of doing it,” he said.



Bradley Ambrose



# WHAT'S AHEAD

## Events planned to celebrate cultural heritages

The Office of Multicultural Affairs will host numerous events to honor Hispanic Heritage Month and Native American heritage.

Hispanic Heritage events will continue through November 3 and include a performance by Detroit native Sacramento Knox, a Mexican and Native American hip-hop artist; a presentation about the meaning of Columbus day; and a Dia de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) commemoration.

Events focused on Native American heritage begin Monday, October 8, with a presentation, "Re-Imagining Indigenous People's Day," at 6 p.m. in the Kirkhof Center, room 2204.

Two Native American activists will close out events on November 19 at the Professionals of Color Lecture Series. "Trans Day of Remembrance with Qwo-Li Driskill" will begin at 4 p.m. in the Kirkhof Center, room 2204.

Details are online at [gvsu.edu/oma](http://gvsu.edu/oma).

## Panelists will discuss faith, end-of-life care

What happens when you die? It's a deep question that will bring many different answers.

Panelists who represent seven different faiths will discuss that question at two events in October sponsored by the Kaufman Interfaith Institute at Grand Valley in partnership with Making Choices Michigan.

"What Happens When You Die" will explore the beliefs and practices of faith traditions that inform end-of-life care. The two events will be held at the Eberhard Center. Events are free and open to the public. Register for either or both events online at [gvsu.edu/interfaith](http://gvsu.edu/interfaith).

- October 9, 7-8:30 p.m.: Panelists representing Judaism, Islam, Baha'i, and the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

- October 16, 7-8:30 p.m.: Panelists representing Hinduism, Buddhism, and Sikhism

Kyle Kooyers, program manager for the Kaufman Interfaith Institute, said many health care providers and hospice agencies operate from an assumed "Christian norm" or are unaware of terms of care faith communities use at the end of a patient's life. "They are eager to have a space for this type of learning in order to better serve their diverse clientele," he said.

Continuing education credits will be offered for social workers and registered nurses for \$20, payable to Making Choices Michigan, a nonprofit organization that advocates advance care planning. Questions can be directed to the Kaufman Interfaith Institute at [interfaith@gvsu.edu](mailto:interfaith@gvsu.edu) or x15702.

## KBEI to host climate change conference

Two Dutch scholars will join local and state government officials for a conference to discuss the types of threats and challenges climate change is causing for businesses.

"Preserving Ourselves: Local and International Perspectives on Climate Change Threats and Solutions" is sponsored by the Koeze Business Ethics Initiative in the Seidman College of Business.

The event will be held Wednesday, October 10, from 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m., in the L. William Seidman Center. Seating is limited so an RSVP is required; to reserve a seat, send an email to [Robbi.Osipoff@gvsu.edu](mailto:Robbi.Osipoff@gvsu.edu).

The keynote luncheon speaker will be Mandy de Wilde, a researcher and author with the Environmental Policy Group at Wageningen University and Research in the Netherlands. She will discuss how the Dutch are transitioning to a low-carbon, circular and sustainable society by emphasizing the role played by market-based solutions and social movements.

Conference panelists include representatives from the Michigan Public Service Commission, Consumers Energy, Environmental Law & Policy Center, Meijer, Steelcase, Perrigo, Sierra Club, City of Grand Rapids, U.S. Green Building Council West Michigan Chapter, and Climate Witness Project.

For more information, visit [gvsu.edu/seidman/ethics](http://gvsu.edu/seidman/ethics) or contact Michael DeWilde at KBEI at x13612.

## Conference focus: using games, simulations in history education

Games and simulations are not just for leisure fun, they can be used as resources to engage students, especially when it comes to learning about the past.

The Great Lakes History Conference, this year themed "Playing with History," will examine how "playing" can help expand a person's understanding of history.

The conference will take place October 12-13 at the Eberhard Center. The event is free and open to the public, but registration is required. For the full schedule and to register, visit [gvsu.edu/history](http://gvsu.edu/history).

David Eaton, associate professor of history and conference co-organizer, said the conference will place a heavy emphasis on exploring teaching methods that use game dynamics.

One such teaching method is Reacting to the Past (RTTP), an interdisciplinary teaching method that involves complex games set in the past during periods such as the Renaissance, Enlightenment and French Revolution.

Mark Carnes, the founder of RTTP and professor of history at both Barnard College and Columbia University, will present this year's keynote address.

"The Students' War Against Higher Education: Avoiding a Rout" will take place October 12 at 6 p.m. in the DeVos Center, Loosemore Auditorium.

## Speaker to address populism in Trump era

At the approach of important midterm elections, political division and social volatility in the country are high, and pundits describe the massive shifts that are reconfiguring politics as "unprecedented" in nature.

George Nash, an expert in American political and intellectual history, says those pundits are wrong. He finds that this moment is not completely without precedent, but also that we have never witnessed such upheaval in the public mood as caused by social media, the cable TV news cycle and the Internet.

Nash, senior fellow at the Russel Kirk Center for Cultural Renewal, will give a presentation sponsored by the Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies on October 16, and will discuss these social and political trends.

"George Nash: American Conservatism and Populism in the Age of Trump" will begin at 7 p.m. in the DeVos Center, Loosemore

Auditorium. The event is free and open to the public, but online RSVPs are appreciated at [gvsu.edu/hc](http://gvsu.edu/hc).

The presentation is part of the Hauenstein Center's Common Ground Initiative. For more information, visit [gvsu.edu/hc](http://gvsu.edu/hc).

## Marijuana is topic of next ACES event

The ACES Lunch and Learn Series for faculty and staff members will continue October 18 with a discussion about marijuana myths and facts.

Hosted by the Alcohol and Other Drugs Campus Education Services (ACES) office, the event will take place from noon-12:45 p.m. in the Kirkhof Center, room 0073.

Eric Klingensmith, psychologist and director of clinical and crisis services, and Bonnie Dykstra, psychologist and coordinator of AOD prevention services, will provide an overview of marijuana and discuss trends, consumption, effects, and changes in the law and culture.

The next event, "Navigating Parties and Holiday Events: Supporting Recovery and Addiction Issues," will take place November 15.

ACES is a branch of the University Counseling Center that helps campus community members make healthy decisions regarding alcohol and other drugs. For more information, call x12537 or visit [gvsu.edu/aces](http://gvsu.edu/aces).

## Poets will share works during Fall Arts Celebration

Two unique poetic voices will share their work and discuss their inspirations with the West Michigan community during a Fall Arts Celebration event.

"An Evening of Poetry and Conversation with Ada Limón and Carl Phillips" will take place October 18, at 7:30 p.m. at the Eberhard Center, second floor. The reading will be followed by a reception and book signing.

"Carl Phillips and Ada Limón both write out of their passions," said Patricia Clark, professor of writing. "If Phillips is the more somber voice of the two poets, his words are still lit by brief moments of intensity and beauty. Limón's relaxed seemingly casual voice dazzles with precision and directness."

Clark said that attendees will experience the power of poetry when it is heard instead of read.

"It is a completely different experience to hear poets live, not just on the page," she said. "They reveal quite a bit about themselves and their work, and they say things that help illuminate the poems."

Limón is the author of five books of poetry, including her new book, *The Carrying* (2018). Her volume *Bright Dead Things* was named one



Ada Limón



Carl Phillips

# FACULTY AND STAFF SKETCHES

## IN THE NEWS

**Grand Valley** was selected among the winners of *Corp! Magazine's* Michigan Salute to Diversity, in the diversity champions category, and recognized at a September 13 luncheon in Detroit. Organizations and businesses were selected as champions for promoting diversity in their workplaces.

### KCON panel, 'To Err is Human'



Photo by Jess Weal

Cynthia McCurren, dean of the Kirkhof College of Nursing, moderates a panel that discussed a documentary, "To Err is Human," September 25 in the L. William Seidman Center. Two screenings were held, one for audiences of students and faculty members, and the other for KCON alumni and community members.

## SKETCHES

**Kathryn Remlinger**, professor of English, gave a presentation about her book, *Yooper Talk*, at a public library in Helsinki, Finland. Remlinger is a visiting researcher at the University of Helsinki.

**Amy Manderscheid**, assistant professor of nursing, gave a presentation, "Leveraging Inter-Professional Collaboration between Academia and Practice Settings to Impact a Pediatric Quality and Safety Improvement Imperative," at the National Doctors of Nursing Practice Conference in Palm Springs, California.

**Dianne Conrad**, associate professor of nursing, and **Katherine Moran**, KCON associate dean for graduate programs, gave a plenary presentation, "Influence and Impact: The Broad Reach of the DNP," at the National Doctors of Nursing Practice Conference in Palm Springs, California.

Nursing faculty members **Susan Strouse**, **Karyn Butler** and **Genevieve Elrod** gave a presentation, "Standing on the Threshold with Faculty-Focused OER," at the Michigan Open Educational Resources Summit in Port Huron.

**Stephen Rowe**, professor of philosophy, is the author of a book, *Two Americas: Liberal Education and the Crisis of American Democracy*, published by Process Century Press.

**David Austin**, professor of mathematics, was accepted into the Preparation for Industrial Careers program through the Mathematical Association of Mathematics. Through the program, he will teach a winter semester course, guiding students to solve problems for local industry and government organizations.

## ACROSS CAMPUS

continued from page 2

GVSU Scholarship Fund.

Fans can reserve a seat on a bus that will leave the Allendale and Pew Grand Rapids campuses at 10 a.m. that morning and arrive in Detroit by 1 p.m. The price is \$15, reserve a seat online at [gvsu.edu/redwings](http://gvsu.edu/redwings).

Questions can be directed to Alumni Relations at x13590.

### Tech expert: don't expect privacy

Technology and data strategies expert Missy Young said technology users should put great value on privacy but shouldn't expect a lot of it when using social media.

Young is the chief information officer for Switch Inc., a global technology company based in Las Vegas that designs, constructs and operates data centers. She was the featured speaker for the Peter F. Secchia Breakfast Lecture October 3 at the L. William Seidman Center.

Young said privacy is important but it can only be controlled to a certain degree.

"Don't expect a lot of privacy if you use social media and be selective about what you put out there," Young said. "If you use online banking or purchase items online, a lot of your information is already out there."

Young shared staggering statistics, like: 90 percent of the world's data was created in the last two years, an iPhone has more technology than it took to send someone to the moon and back, and 50 billion devices will be connected to the internet by 2020.

Young said every field of study uses technology and the key to increasing the number of women and minorities in the STEM fields starts in the home and in school. "They will have jobs that haven't even been invented yet," she said.

Since joining Switch, Inc. in 2005, Young has held roles with leadership responsibilities for all sales operations and solutions. Prior to becoming a partner at Switch, she was director of sales engineering and Voice over Internet Protocol services for Mpower Communications.



Photo by Rex Larsen

Missy Young, left, shakes hands with Diana Lawson, dean of the Seidman College of Business.

For complete stories, visit [gvsu.edu/gvnow](http://gvsu.edu/gvnow).

## WHAT'S AHEAD

continued from page 3

of the top 10 poetry books of the year by the *New York Times*.

Carl Phillips is the author of 14 books of poetry, including his most recent works, *Wild Is the Wind* (2018) and *Reconnaissance* (2015).

For more information about Fall Arts Celebration, visit [gvsu.edu/fallarts](http://gvsu.edu/fallarts). All Fall Arts Celebration events are free and open to the public.

### Muskegon Innovation Hub to hold open house

The Muskegon Innovation Hub is hosting its annual Community Open House on October 25.

Director Kevin Ricco said the event is intended to help the community learn more about the work being done at the Hub and what is planned for the year ahead.

The facility offers business incubation services, co-working space, and funding assistance

for start-up businesses. Staff members also have expertise in many areas of business development.

Visitors can take guided tours of the facility, at 200 Viridian Drive, and there will be demonstrations of products that have been developed by Hub clients. Refreshments and live music are planned.

Registration is encouraged but not required, and can be provided at [Eventbrite.com](http://Eventbrite.com).