

FORUM

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

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Campus Links program earns national attention

Grand Valley was listed among the top 10 best colleges with programs for students who have Autism Spectrum Disorder by Online College Plan, a web resources company.

The company touted the Campus Links program, a five-year-old peer program that matches students with ASD with trained student mentors. Last year, Friendship Circle, a Michigan nonprofit organization, also gave Grand Valley high marks for having resources and supporting students with ASD.

These rankings were not news to Vince Hrnyak, a senior geology major from Grand Rapids. Hrnyak was among the first cohort of students with ASD to participate in Campus Links. He said the program was among the reasons he chose to enroll at Grand Valley. Campus Links is a two-tier program (residential and non-residential) established to provide support for students with ASD as they acclimate to campus.

“Through the program I met people I can get along with, and the university accommodates my disability,” Hrnyak said.

His mentor for the past two years has been Cameron Todd, a business management major.



Photo by Megan Dunn

Cameron Todd, left, and Vince Hrnyak both participate in Campus Links, a peer program that supports students with ASD.

Like the other six Campus Links mentors, Todd is responsible for checking in with Hrnyak and his other two mentees daily.

Todd said daily check-ins can be connecting by phone or text, eating together, playing video games or another social activity. “I wanted to do this because I saw this as an opportunity to help people and to be exposed to everyone, to be able to adapt to different kinds of people,” he said.

Shontaye Witcher, director of Disability Support Resources, said the goals of Campus Links are to help mentees build independence, self-confidence and leadership skills. Most mentors tend to be students who are in what Witcher called the “helping fields” of social work, special education or psychology, but all students are welcome to apply.

“If a student has a caring and compassionate demeanor and wants to work with students who have a disability, we encourage them to apply,” Witcher said. “Most of our students are interested in business or engineering. Having mentors in these fields are helpful for the students.”

Friendship Circle

Max Granitz, a senior writing major, completed a summer internship at Friendship Circle, writing blogs and working on web development projects. Granitz, from West Bloomfield, wrote about participating in Campus Links and what it’s like being a college student who has Asperger’s syndrome; read his posts at friendshipcircle.org/blog/.

ACROSS CAMPUS

DeHaan named acting director of public safety

Capt. Brandon DeHaan will serve as acting director of public safety services and chief at the Grand Valley Police Department beginning October 13 when current chief Renee Freeman steps down.



Brandon DeHaan

DeHaan was hired as an officer in 1987 and was promoted to sergeant in 1997 and captain in 2015.

DeHaan serves as the Clery compliance officer for GVPD.

The search for a new chief will begin after the first of the year.

AWRI offers internships

The Annis Water Resources Institute in Muskegon is seeking undergraduate interns for the winter semester.

Criteria for applying is online at gvsu.edu/wri/ internships; the deadline is November 10.

GVSU named Best College Buy, Best Regional College

For the 22nd year in a row, Grand Valley has been named one of America’s 100 Best College Buys by Institutional Research and Evaluation Inc. in Georgia.

Each year, Institutional Research and Evaluation identifies the 100 American colleges and universities providing students the very highest quality education at the lowest cost. Grand Valley has made the list far more times than any other Michigan institution; authors of the report say it is because of the university’s high academic performance coupled with its low cost.

Criteria to be considered for the designation include an entering first-year class in fall 2016 with a high school GPA and/or SAT/ACT equal to or above the national average. The average GPA for incoming first-year students at Grand Valley for fall 2016 was 3.54, compared to the



Grand Valley was named a Best College Buy by Institutional Research and Evaluation, and Best Regional College by The Princeton Review.

national average of 3.45. The average ACT score for incoming freshmen at Grand Valley for fall 2016 was 24, compared to the national average of 23.

• The university was also named a 2018 “Best Regional College” by The Princeton Review. Schools were selected primarily for excellent academic programs; student feedback from

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ACROSS CAMPUS

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individual surveys was also taken into account.

Students were asked to rate their own schools on several issues, from accessibility of professors to the quality of food on campus, and answer questions about their experiences and campus life.

LGBT Resource Center to celebrate anniversary

The 2017-2018 academic year marks the 10-year anniversary of the creation of Grand Valley's Milton E. Ford LGBT Resource Center.

Celebratory events are planned in October for the center, which opened in 2007. It was named posthumously for its founding director and professor of liberal studies, Milt Ford, who worked at Grand Valley for more than 40 years. Ford died in 2014.

Two events are planned and both are free and open to the campus community and public.

An event on October 17 will run from 6-7:30 p.m. at the Eberhard Center. Remarks will be made by current students, alumni and Gary Van Harn, budget manager and assistant for the Padnos International Center, who was Ford's partner. He has led the Allies & Advocates program and is the founder of the GVSU Faculty-Staff LGBT Scholarship.

The second event will include community members and is set for October 18 from 6-9 p.m. at Creston Brewery in Grand Rapids. The brewery will donate proceeds made that day to the center's action fund.

Jen Hsu-Bishop, director of the LGBT Center, said the center has grown tremendously through the years. The growth includes three

endowed scholarships, an annual event that features a nationally renowned speaker, and student engagement and support programs that reach hundreds of students every year.

"Ten years ago, there was a real need for a center to support students in the LGBT community," Hsu-Bishop said. "Since then, we've positioned ourselves to be leaders, and have established valuable relationships with people on campus and in the West Michigan community."

For more information, visit gvsu.edu/lgbtrc.

GVNow Recap: Ford president: 'Be a learn-it-all'

Jim Hackett, president and CEO of Ford Motor Company, told students during remarks at the L. William Seidman Center to surround themselves with people from different backgrounds. Hackett said that's how "killer" products are made.

"I take my team and tour universities and listen to TED Talks," said Hackett. "Get around smart people and gain knowledge. Put yourself in the middle of the stew that's emerging. Be a learn-it-all, not a know-it-all." Hackett was the featured speaker for the Peter F. Secchia Breakfast Lecture October 2.

He asked the crowd of students, business leaders and others, if given the opportunity, who would not ride in an autonomous car. Several hands were raised. "I wouldn't either," said Hackett, "The trust isn't there yet, but soon. I'm excited about the things that are coming."

Hackett said he is a supporter of design thinking and integrative thinking, and



Photo by Rex Larsen

Jim Hackett, center, is pictured with Diana Lawson, dean of the Seidman College of Business, and President Thomas J. Haas.

commended Grand Valley leaders for incorporating design thinking methods into the curriculum.

Business center names new regional director

The West Michigan Small Business Development Center has named Ed Garner as its new regional director. Garner is responsible for resource development, coordination and management of the SBDC West Michigan Regional Office, which is located at Grand Valley State University.

"With a growing number of entrepreneurial resources and programs, the West Michigan region is full of business activity that can be enhanced by the SBDC," said Garner.

Before coming to the SBDC in September, Garner served as president and CEO of Muskegon Area First, an economic development corporation in Muskegon.

For complete stories, visit gvsu.edu/gvnow.

FORUM

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GVFACES

Kristin Moretto, Office for Community Partnerships and Student Professional Development

Kristin Moretto returned to Michigan to become the director of the new Office for Community Partnerships and Student Professional Development, housed in the Brooks College of Interdisciplinary Studies.

The office, in Lake Michigan Hall, provides oversight, support and leadership opportunities that link liberal education with professional skills and community-based teaching and learning. Moretto said immediate goals include creating community partnerships relevant to Brooks College programs and courses, and overseeing the Brooks College Innovation Lab, which is still under construction.

"My hope is that when students work with the office and are involved in our classes and programs they will be better able to articulate the significance and value of their experiences so they can be more successful both in the workforce and in life after college," said Moretto, a native of Novi.

She earned a bachelor's degree in organizational studies from the University of Michigan, and a master's degree in student affairs administration and doctorate in higher, adult and lifelong education from Michigan State University. Moretto was working for the

University of South Florida as director of experiential learning for the College of Public Health; she also worked in the Service Learning office at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.



Kristin Moretto

Moretto's goal is to build relationships and partnerships with Grand Valley's community to expand community engaged teaching and learning within Brooks College.

"My hope is that when students work with the office and are involved in our classes and programs they will be better able to articulate the significance and value of their experiences so they can be more successful both in the workforce and in life after college," Moretto said.

As a graduate student, Moretto directed MSU's Student Food Bank and said she lent advice to the organizers of Grand Valley's student food pantry, Replenish, during its planning stages.

WHAT'S AHEAD

Resegregation policies to be examined during Fall Arts Celebration

During a time when race is at the forefront of national headlines and social media news feeds, Jeffrey Chang will discuss how resegregation is quietly pushing the U.S. back to the days before the 1954 Brown vs. Board of Education decision.

Chang, a social historian and author, will present "We Gon' Be Alright: Race and Resegregation in Today's America" on Monday, October 9, as the Fall Arts Celebration Distinguished Academic Lecturer. The event will begin at 7:30 p.m. at the Eberhard Center, second floor. The lecture will be followed by a reception and book signing.

Many of Chang's thoughts and ideas about resegregation, which is the renewal of segregation among systems like housing and education, will reflect those found in his new book, *We Gon' Be Alright: Notes on Race and Resegregation*.

Chang claimed that if resegregation policies are removed from the conversation, which activist groups such as Black Lives Matter are attempting to do, America can become a thriving, prosperous and equitable place for everyone.

Kimberly McKee, director of the Kutsche Office of Local History is the lecture coordinator. She said racial microaggressions and police violence experienced by communities of color experience make Chang's lecture timely.

"Jeff links contemporary activism and the employment of Twitter as a tool to advocate for social justice by communities of color to broaden histories of student activism and civil rights," McKee said.

Chang has written extensively on the intersection of race, art and civil rights, and the socio-political forces that guided the hip-hop generation. He has written for the *Nation*, *New York Times*, *San Francisco Chronicle*, the *Believer* and *Foreign Policy* among many other print and digital publications. He is the executive director of the Institute for Diversity in the Arts at Stanford University.

For more information about Fall Arts Celebration, visit gvsu.edu/fallarts.



Jeffrey Chang

Native American celebration features traditions, guest speakers

Grand Valley's annual Native American Heritage Celebration will feature guest lecturers who will discuss issues such as Standing Rock and the preservation of Native American historical landmarks.

The events, organized by the Office of Multicultural Affairs, are free and open to the public. They all take place in the Kirkhof Center; visit gvsu.edu/oma for more information.

• **Indigenous People Celebration: Comedian, Tonia Jo Hall**, Monday, October 9, 6-8 p.m., room 2250; Tonia Jo Hall, well-known comedian and YouTube star, will highlight the significance of Indigenous People Day. A student-led panel will follow the program.

• **Native American Student Association (NASA) Day of Service**, Saturday, October 21, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., meet in room 1240; NASA will engage in its annual Day of Service to help with preservation efforts of the Norton Mound National Historic Landmark. RSVP is required at www.gvsu.edu/oma.

• **Empower Yourself, Empower Your Communities: Gary Davis**, November 8, 5 p.m., room 2250; Gary "Litefoot" Davis is a member of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma and a successful entrepreneur. His inspirational messages are rooted in traditional values.

• **Standing Rock: The Largest Gathering of American Indians in 100 Years Explored**, November 14, 4 p.m., room 2266; Insights will be shared as to why Standing Rock became the largest gathering of American Indians in over 100 years. Levi Rickert, founder of *Native News*, will lead the discussion.

Provost will kick off HOMERathon

Students, faculty and staff will perform one of the oldest poems in the western world, Homer's *Odyssey*, all within a 24-hour event known as the HOMERathon.

The sixth installation of the biannual event, themed "Game of Heroes," will begin Tuesday, October 10, at 4 p.m. and conclude Wednesday, October 11. All events will take place on the Allendale Campus, either in the Mary Idema Pew Library, Cook-DeWitt Center or near Zumberge Pond.

Maria Cimitile, provost and executive vice president for Academic and Student Affairs, will read the opening of the "Iliad" in Greek at 4 p.m. Several other administrators will join students to read, including President Thomas J. Haas and Fred Antzacak, dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, beginning at noon on October 11.

"The HOMERathon provides the opportunity to take in one of the greatest and most complex works of art ever produced, and one which remains as vital today as it ever was, all while having a great time with the GVSU community," said Charles Ham, assistant professor of classics.

The keynote address will be given by Eric Cline, professor of classics and anthropology at George Washington University. Cline will present "Throne Games: The Trojan War and the Collapse of Late Bronze Age Civilizations" from 6-7 p.m. on October 10 in the library's multipurpose room.

The HOMERathon is produced by the Classics Department, Classics Society and the classics honor society, Eta Sigma Phi. For more information and the full schedule of events, visit gvsu.edu/classics.

Two PIC events promote study abroad

Students can learn more about international education at the Study Abroad Fair, Wednesday, October 11, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. in the Kirkhof Center, Grand River Room.

Faculty program directors, students who have participated, and other staff members will be available to answer questions about academic programs and funding. Visit gvsu.edu/pic to learn more.

Global Laker Celebration

• The Padnos International Center will host its fifth annual Global Laker Celebration on November 2 at Waldron Public House in Grand Rapids.

The event celebrates international education, serves as a study abroad reunion and support scholarship



The fifth annual Global Laker Celebration will be held November 2; the event raises money for scholarship funds that help students study abroad.

funds that help students study abroad.

Information and a RSVP link are online at gvsu.edu/pic. The event will run from 6-8:30 p.m. at Waldron Public House, 58 Ionia Ave. SW; tickets are \$25 for students and \$35 for guests, faculty and staff members.

Filmmaker to visit campus

Ojibway filmmaker Adam Khalil will visit campus to present a film completed in collaboration with his brother, Zack, during two events. Both programs will focus on a film, "INAATE/SE/," the Khalils produced.

The Department of Visual and Media Arts is hosting Khalil's visit, in partnership with the Kutsche Office of Local History.

The film re-imagines an ancient Ojibway story, the *Seven Fires Prophecy*, which both predates and predicts first contact with Europeans. A film screening and discussion with Q&A will take place Sunday, October 15, from 3-5 p.m., at Wealthy Theatre (1130 Wealthy Street SE, Grand Rapids).

As a visiting artist, Adam Khalil will give a lecture about his approach to research and collaborative, creative processes. His presentation is Monday, October 16, from 1:40-2:50 p.m. in Lake Huron Hall, room 132.

Both events are free, open to the public, and are LIB 100 and 201 approved.

Week of October 16 events: Medical colloquy will focus on rationing

Experts in public health and health care policy will discuss the ethics of rationing, or determining how to fairly decide things such as what insurance will cover, who gets insurance, and other topics at the annual DeVos Medical Ethics Colloquy.

"The Ethics of Medical Choice — Rationing" will be held Monday, October 16, at the Cook-DeVos Center for Health Sciences, 301 Michigan St. NE. Light refreshments begin at 5:30 p.m., followed by the program from 6-8 p.m. The event is free and open to the public; register at gvsu.edu/colloquy. It will also be webcast live, access the link at gvsu.edu/vphealth.

Speakers are Dr. Susan Dorr Goold, professor of internal medicine and health management

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FACULTY AND STAFF SKETCHES

IN THE NEWS

GRCM will host symposium on play

The Grand Rapids Children's Museum will hold its third annual Play Symposium on Wednesday, October 11, 1-5 p.m. at the L. William Seidman College of Business.

Grand Valley partners for the event include the **Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship**; **John Kilbourne**, professor of movement science; and **Elizabeth Kilbourne**, part-time faculty of liberal studies.

Tickets for the event are available online at grcm.org/symposium.

aMDI holds 'lunch and learn'

The applied Medical Device Institute (aMDI), Padnos College of Engineering and Computing, hosted an inaugural Lunch & Learn September 28 in the Cook-DeVos Center for Health Sciences.

More than 30 people attended the session, which focused on SBIR/STTR federal grant funding mechanisms. **Brent Nowak**, director of aMDI, said the audience included students, faculty and staff members and business leaders. "This was a no-credit experiential learning experience, where students sat shoulder-to-shoulder with industry veterans," he said.

The next session will be in November; topics and dates are posted online at gvsu.edu/amdi.

SKETCHES

Sheldon Kopperl, professor of biomedical sciences and liberal studies, was interviewed by WGVU Public Media for a story about the rise of anti-Semitism. He also wrote an article, "Current Status of Religious Intolerance," published in the *Grand Rapids Press*.

Cynthia Coviak, professor of nursing, and **Greg Cline**, assistant professor of public and health administration, gave a presentation, "Outreach by Care Management Teams and Community Health Workers with Frail Elderly in Muskegon County: First Year Outcomes and ROI," at the Michigan Public Health Conference at Mackinac Island.

Amy Manderscheid, assistant professor of nursing, and a team from Helen DeVos Children's Hospital gave a presentation, "Utilizing In Situ

Simulation to Improve High Reliability Outcomes: A Case Study," at the HPI Press Ganey Safety Summit in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Evelyn Clinger, executive director of the Bonnie Wesorick Center for Health Care Transformation, gave a presentation, "An Intentional Center Advances and Sustains Interprofessional Collaboration," at the Collaborating Across Borders Conference in Banff, Alberta, Canada.

Jack Mangala, professor of area and global studies, and political science, received the Louvain Global College of Law Fellowship to spend three months in Belgium next year researching and teaching. He also wrote a book, *Africa and its Global Diaspora: The Policy and Politics of Emigration*, published by Palgrave Macmillan.

Eric Kunnen, associate director of eLearning and Emerging Technologies, and a student wrote a post, "Atomic Object Technology Showcase: A Spotlight for 3D Printing and Emerging Technologies," for the *Ultimaker Libraries* blog.

Erica Hamilton, assistant professor of education, was a co-author of an article, "Challenging Constructions Together: Implications of a Mother-Daughter Book Club for Classroom Practice," published in *Voices from the Middle*.

Sean Lancaster, professor of education and chair of literacy and technology, was named a Michigan Virtual Learning Research Institute fellow.

Charles Pazdernik, professor of Classics, wrote an essay, "Libertas and 'Mixed Marriages' in Late Antiquity: Law, Labor, and Politics in Justinianic Reform Legislation," for a book, *Ancient Law, Ancient Society*, published by the University of Michigan Press.

Karen Zivi, associate professor of political science, Honors College, gave a presentation, "Claiming the Right to Human Dignity: Menstruation, Activism, and Embodied Vulnerability," at the American Political Science Association Meeting in San Francisco, California.

Jeremiah Cataldo, associate professor of history, Honors College, wrote a chapter, "How Torah, Sedaqa, and Prejudice Mapped the Contours of Biblical Restoration," in a book, *Sedaqa and Torah in Postexilic Discourse*, published by Bloomsbury.

Psychology faculty members **Michael Wolfe** and **Todd Williams** wrote an article, "Effects of Text Content and Beliefs on Informal Argument Evaluation," published in *Discourse Processes*.

WHAT'S AHEAD

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and policy for the University of Michigan; and Dr. Steven Teutsch, adjunct professor of public health at University of California-Los Angeles and senior fellow at the Public Health Institute and the Schaeffer Center, University of Southern California. The moderator is Dr. Carole Montgomery, vice president for clinical integrated pathways for Spectrum Health.

The DeVos Medical Ethics Colloquy is held twice per year and hosted by Grand Valley's Office of the Vice Provost for Health. More information about the event is online at gvsu.edu/colloquy.

Global Health Showcase set

Students and faculty members will present their research at the 2017 Global Health Showcase October 20 in the DeVos Center, Loosemore Auditorium.

Sponsored by the College of Health Professions, the event, "Holistic and Global Health," will run from 7:30 a.m.-noon. Students and faculty members will give poster presentations and a keynote address at 8:15 a.m. will be given by Stephen Hodgins, associate professor of public health at the University of Alberta, Canada.

Hodgins is the senior technical advisor for Save

the Children. He has lived in Zambia and Nepal and implemented public health interventions in Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia.

For more information about the Global Health Showcase, visit gvsu.edu/chp.

Opera Theatre to honor legacy of composer during cabaret performances

Grand Valley Opera Theatre will honor the legacy of composer Kurt Weill when students perform a selection of his greatest hits.

"A Kurt Weill Cabaret" will focus on the music of Weill (1900-1950) and the many lyricists who collaborated with him.

Performances of "A Kurt Weill Cabaret" will take place October 20, 21 at 7:30 p.m., and October 22 at 2 p.m. at the Betty Van Andel Opera Center, 1320 Fulton St. SE, Grand Rapids.

To purchase tickets, call (616) 451-2741. Tickets are \$14 for adults, \$12 for seniors and Grand Valley faculty, staff and alumni, and \$6 for students.

"No composer in the 20th century had a more wide-ranging influence than Kurt Weill," said

Dale Schriemer, Opera Theatre director. "Indie artists, rock musicians, metropolitan opera stars and jazz greats have all adopted his music because of its broad appeal."

Drawing on classical and popular styles, Schriemer said Weill's works have been performed by the likes of Frank Sinatra, Michael Bubl , Judy Garland, David Bowie and The Doors.

Fleeing Nazi Germany in 1933, Weill, a Jewish composer, traveled to France and subsequently the U.S. while writing in a variety of musical styles.

During performances of "A Kurt Weill Cabaret," each of the 14 students in the ensemble will be featured in both solos and small group numbers. Schriemer said the 70-minute performance will be a blend of funny, satirical and poignant songs, as well as songs of beauty and power.

The students received expert guidance during rehearsals for "A Kurt Weill Cabaret" from guest artist Michael DeVries, who has appeared in major productions on Broadway and appeared as a series regular on several TV shows.

For more information about "A Kurt Weill Cabaret," visit gvsu.edu/theatre.