

# 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)

## Ground broken for third health campus building

President Thomas J. Haas thanked donors and elected officials for their “continuing transformative support” of Grand Valley during a groundbreaking ceremony for the Daniel and Pamella DeVos Center for Interprofessional Health in downtown Grand Rapids.

More than 300 people attended the October 23 event to celebrate the new facility, which is under construction at 333 Michigan St. on the Medical Mile. The center will be Grand Valley’s third health building and flagship of the expanded Health Campus.

Haas said the naming of the building for the DeVoses reflects the genuine care and concern the couple has for the community and its future.

“We will generate a great return on your investment by continuing to provide top talent for our region and our state,” Haas said. “I’m often told by employers across the state that our health sciences graduates are exceptional caregivers.”

The DeVos Center for Interprofessional Health will include 15 classrooms and 14 interactive laboratories, and help accommodate expanding

programs in growing fields at both the undergraduate and graduate level.

Lt. Gov. Brian Calley, who earned an MBA from Grand Valley in 2000, said the university is a significant talent pipeline for the state.

“Talent is the new currency of economic development and Grand Valley is playing an important and pivotal role in developing that pipeline,” Calley said. “Education is everything — education is freedom and connection to all the things that are important in life, and right in the middle of it is Grand Valley State University.”

The new five-story, 160,000-square-foot center will allow Grand Valley to significantly expand and update its simulation center and space available for collaborative work.

Dan DeVos said the groundbreaking ceremony was also a celebration of his late parents, Rich



Photo by Amanda Pitts

Pamella DeVos speaks during the October 23 groundbreaking ceremony for the Daniel and Pamella DeVos Center for Interprofessional Health. Seated at left are Lt. Gov. Brian Calley and President Thomas J. Haas.

and Helen DeVos, who had an early vision for the Medical Mile and matched the generosity of their son and daughter-in-law as leadership donors for the building.

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## ACROSS CAMPUS

### Surgeon leads interprofessional event

Sixty area college students learned about the teamwork needed in the operating room from a Spectrum Health cardiovascular surgeon.

Dr. Robert Cuff and several Spectrum Health colleagues were panelists at a PIPES event,



Dr. Robert Cuff explains a video of a cardiovascular surgery during a PIPES meeting. More than 60 area students attended the October 24 event.

“Life in the Operating Room,” October 24. PIPES (Promoting Interprofessional Education for Students) is sponsored by the Midwest Interprofessional Practice, Education and Research Center and provides area students with opportunities to network and learn from area health professionals.

Three video clips of cardiovascular surgeries were shown and discussed by Cuff and panelists. Katherine Branch, director of simulation, said the event proved so popular an overflow room and off-site room were needed.

Kelsey Morgan, a nursing major, said she learned that cross-training is needed in an operating room.

“There is no person, job or detail too small, the doctors rely on scrub nurses, radiology techs, and they, in turn, rely on the doctors,” Morgan said. “I learned you must know your own and others responsibilities so you can fulfill them and help as needed.”

One of the panelists was a Grand Valley alumna. Elizabeth House earned a master’s degree in physician assistant studies and now works for Spectrum Health.

### CACS will offer new digital marketing program to professionals

Grand Valley’s new digital marketing professional development program will offer industry-recognized certification in platforms like Google Analytics and Hubspot and collaborate with industry leaders on projects.

As the demand for specific digital marketing skills grows, the technology and tactics used by professionals changes even quicker. Simone Jonaitis, executive director of Center for Adult and Continuing Studies, said professionals need to continually refresh their skills to keep up with this rapidly changing industry.

CACS piloted this program this fall and will open the four-month long program January 15. The digital marketing science professional development program is operated in partnership with GreenFig, an Oregon company that offers professional development in applied business science. Jonaitis said the program’s format consists of live virtual and

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# ACROSS CAMPUS

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online content, as well as in-person small group work, networking and collaboration opportunities.

“Through this program, people will earn industry recognized certifications in programs that businesses need and require,” Jonaitis said. “It will give professionals an opportunity to learn from industry leaders across the country, network with people from West Michigan and work on real-world projects.”

Jonathan Crowell participated as a classroom coach for GreenFig. He earned a bachelor’s degree from Grand Valley in marketing and said the material presented expands on his marketing foundation and allows for a deep dive into changing arenas and skill sets.

Certifications in the program are offered in Google Analytics, Google Ads, Marketo, Hubspot Email, and the TradeDesk. Details and a link to register for the program are online at [gvsu.greenfig.net](http://gvsu.greenfig.net).

## Career fair draws record numbers



The GVSU Career and Internship Fair on October 16 at DeVos Place Convention Center saw record student turnout with more than 1,869 Grand Valley students in attendance and more than 2,200 total students. Megan Riksen, assistant director of the Career Center, said 253 students participated in on-campus interviews the next day with 22 different employers.

## Grand Valley to offer students transportation to polls

Grand Valley will provide transportation to local polling locations for students on Election Day.

“Voter vans” will run every 20 minutes from 8:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m. on November 6. The pick-up and drop-off location is the bus stop in front of Kirkhof Center and parking lot D-1 on the Allendale Campus.

Students will be taken to the Allendale Charter Township voting precinct at Life Stream Church, located at 6561 Lake Michigan Dr., and to the Georgetown Township voting precinct at Wellspring Church, located at 4466 Bauer Road.

Since August, more than 800 students have become registered voters thanks to on-campus efforts to educate and encourage students about registration and voting.

Those efforts have earned Grand Valley recognition. For the second year, the university maintained its designation as a Voter Friendly Campus by Campus Vote Project, a national initiative that helps universities empower students with information they need to vote. Grand Valley again holds the record for the university with the highest number of voter registration applications submitted in one day to the Secretary of State’s Mobile Unit. The unit was on campus on National Voter Registration Day September 25.

Transportation is organized by Grand Valley’s Community Service Learning Center.

## GVNow Recap:

### Nominations accepted for new Davis awards

Nominations are being accepted for two new awards named in honor of Gayle Davis, former provost.

The Gayle R. Davis Excellence in Leadership Award will be presented to a current faculty or staff member who has been a positive agent of change. The recipient will be selected by the President’s Cabinet in December and will receive a \$1,000 award.

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## FORUM

### Volume 43, Number 6

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)

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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.



## GVFACES

### Krystal Diel, victim advocate

Krystal Diel has brought her extensive experience working with survivors of gender-based violence to her new role as the victim advocate at the Gayle R. Davis Center for Women and Gender Equity.

The victim advocate provides confidential support to victim/survivors of sexual violence, and connections to any university and community resources they might need, including counseling, academic assistance, law enforcement, Title IX or others.

“I’m a private resource for students who have experienced sexual violence, whether that’s sexual assault, dating or domestic violence, stalking or harassment,” Diel said. “My goal here is to make sure that survivors feel healthy and safe.”

Diel earned a bachelor’s degree in social work from Central Michigan University, where she first started working with victims of sexual violence. She then moved to Grand Rapids and began volunteering with victims of sexual assault through the YWCA, while earning a master’s degree in social work from Grand Valley. Diel worked in the Center for Women and Gender Equity as a graduate assistant, focusing on bystander intervention programming.

“It’s always been my passion to work with survivors, and I like working with them in a very direct, one-on-one way and helping empower them and navigate systems,” Diel said.

According to Diel, statistics report one in five women and one in 16 men will experience sexual assault in college, and 64 percent of transgender individuals experience sexual violence in their lifetime. This creates a “huge need” for support and resources, Diel said.

“If there’s not someone in this role, then people wouldn’t know where to go to get help. They wouldn’t have one person who can walk them through everything,” Diel said. “Having someone here creates a safe place for people’s voices to be heard, to be supported and to have help every step of the way on their journey.”

Learn more about victim advocacy on campus at [gvsu.edu/vro/](http://gvsu.edu/vro/).



Krystal Diel

# WHAT'S AHEAD

## Students to team with Grand Rapids Ballet School

The GVSU Opera Theatre will join forces with Grand Valley's Early Music Ensemble and Department of Visual and Media Arts, as well as the Grand Rapids Ballet School Junior Company, to reinvigorate baroque music for modern audiences.

Performances of "Masquerade: A Baroque Extravaganza" will take place November 9 and 10 at 7:30 p.m., and November 11 at 2 p.m. at the Grand Rapids Ballet's Peter Martin Wege Theatre (341 Ellsworth Ave. SW, Grand Rapids). Tickets are available through the Grand Rapids Ballet's box office at (616) 454-4771, extension 10.

Dale Schriemer, GVSU Opera Theatre artistic director and professor of voice, said that his goal with these performances is to reintroduce music from 1690-1750 in a visually stunning way.

"We are taking the music of the baroque era with singers, instrumentalists and dancers, and layering 3D projection design over those performances," said Schriemer. "The end result is reminiscent of the Disney film 'Fantasia.'"

Twenty-six students from the Visual and Media Arts Department will create the projection designs for the performance that will accompany the music of composers such as George Frideric Handel, Henry Purcell and Claudio Monteverdi.

## Presentation will focus on Alzheimer's disease

Presenters at a community event will discuss the latest research on Alzheimer's disease and the impact it has on patients, caregivers and the health system.

"Alzheimer's Disease: A Look into the Future" is set for November 12, 6:30-7:30 p.m. in the L. William Seidman Center. The event is free and open to the public; RSVP online at [gvsu.edu/vphealth](http://gvsu.edu/vphealth).

The event is part of the Your Health Lecture Series, an annual collaboration among Grand Valley, Spectrum Health and Michigan State University College of Human Medicine.

Presenters are Rebecca Davis, professor of nursing at GVSU; Dr. Cynthia Hingtgen, department of clinical neurosciences, Spectrum Health, and associate professor at MSU CHM; and David Morgan, professor of human medicine, MSU CHM.

Representatives from the Area Agency on Aging of Western Michigan, Spectrum Health Neurosciences and the Alzheimer's Association Greater Michigan Chapter will be available beginning at 5:30 p.m. to share resources.

## Fall Arts Celebration highlights African dance

Grand Valley will celebrate the vibrant history of African dance styles and techniques during this year's Fall Arts Celebration.

"Kariamum and Company: Traditions – A Celebration of African Dance" will take place November 12, at 7:30 p.m., in the Haas Center for Performing Arts. The performance will be preceded by a carillon concert at the Cook Carillon Tower at 7:10 p.m. featuring Julianne Vanden Wyngaard, university carillonneur. A reception will take place following the event.

Kariamum Welsh, also known as Mama Kariamum, is a Guggenheim award-winning dance scholar,



African dance will be highlighted in the Fall Arts Celebration event on November 12 in the Haas Center for Performing Arts.

choreographer, educator and the founder of the Umfundalai technique.

For the past 40 years, Welsh has developed Umfundalai as a contemporary dance technique that showcases the essence of African-oriented movement while highlighting the cultural and aesthetic continuity found in the rhythm and artistic sensibilities that cover the full range of African dance.

"Our dance event will offer a once in a lifetime opportunity to experience African dance technique interpreted by a master choreographer who is also a dance historian with very strong ties to the diverse social, ethnic and folk customs that define the people and cultures of the African continent," said Danny Phipps, chair of the Music, Theatre, and Dance Department.

Welsh is currently a professor of dance in the Boyer College of Music and Dance at Temple University.

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.

## Speakers at interfaith conference will discuss religion in current climate

The role of religious communities to both cause and rectify social division and tribalism will be discussed during the Jewish/Christian/Muslim Triennial Interfaith Dialogue Conference. The event will be hosted by the Kaufman Interfaith Institute on November 14-15.

Presenters are Jennifer Howe Peace, professor of interfaith studies at Andover Newton Theological School; Elliot J. Cosgrove, senior rabbi at Park Avenue Synagogue, the largest conservative synagogue in New York City; and Eboo Patel, founder and president of Interfaith Youth Core.

Each speaker will give brief presentations on November 14 beginning at 5:30 p.m. in the Kirkhof Center, Grand River Room, and students are encouraged to attend. The day-long conference on November 15 will take place in the Eberhard Center from 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. The conference is free and open to the public; RSVP online at [gvsu.edu/interfaith](http://gvsu.edu/interfaith).

With the theme "Religious Identity: Dividing or Uniting?," speakers will discuss how or if religion contributes to increased polarization or increased understanding. Douglas Kindschi, director of the Kaufman Interfaith Institute, said the topic is particularly relevant given the current social and political climates.

"What's happening politically is that we're becoming more and more polarized, we're becoming divided, and part of the division has a religious base," Kindschi said. "Politically,

religions are being singled out as being evil or bad. On the other hand, there are other people who are saying no, religion is a search for God, and while we don't say that all religions are the same, we can still respect people."

The conference takes place every three years, bringing together representatives from Christian, Jewish and Muslim faiths to engage in dialogue. This fits into the greater mission of the Kaufman Interfaith Institute, which Kindschi said is "understanding and acceptance."

"Not only should we know about others, but we should actually respect and accept them for who they are," Kindschi said. "That's part of being a respectful, educated human being, not only to know but to accept and understand."

## Events celebrate Geography Awareness Week

The Geography and Sustainable Planning Department will host two events to highlight international Geography Awareness Week and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Day.

"Using and Creating Story Maps for Teaching and Research" will take place November 15 from 10 a.m.-11:45 a.m. in Kirkhof Center, room 2270. This faculty professional development workshop will be led by Joseph Kerski, education manager at the Environmental Systems Research Institute.

During the workshop, Kerski will teach attendees how to combine audio, video, narrative and pictures with interactive web-based maps and tools to create story maps.

Kerski will also examine how five forces are bringing GIS to people around the world during a presentation also on November 15. "Geospatial Technology in Education and Society: 5 Forces 5 Trends 5 Skills" will take place at 4 p.m. in the Alumni House. This event is LIB 100 approved for students.

To register for these events or for more information, visit [gvsu.edu/geography](http://gvsu.edu/geography), or contact Elena Lioubimtseva at [lioubime@gvsu.edu](mailto:lioubime@gvsu.edu).

## Cherokee poet, performer will visit campus

A Cherokee poet, scholar and activist will give a presentation November 19 on Transgender Day of Remembrance.

Qwo-Li Driskill's presentation will take place from 4-5 p.m. in the Kirkhof Center, room 2204. It is part of the Office of Multicultural Affairs' annual Professional of Color Lecture Series.

Driskill's poetry includes themes of inheritance and healing. His first poetry collection, "Walking with Ghosts" was named Book of the Month by *Sable: The LitMag for New Writing* and was nominated for the Griffin Poetry Prize.

He has taught at Antioch University, Seattle and Texas A&M University, and has had work featured in several anthologies. He is currently an associate professor and director of graduate studies in the women, gender and sexuality program at Oregon State University.

Driskill's visit is planned in conjunction with Grand Valley's Native American Heritage and Hispanic Heritage celebrations. See more events at [gvsu.edu/oma](http://gvsu.edu/oma).

# FACULTY AND STAFF SKETCHES

## IN THE NEWS

### Campus mourns death of faculty member

**Joseph Hornik**, instructor and internship coordinator for the School of Computing and Information Systems, died October 25 after a short illness. He was 69.

Hornik began working for Grand Valley in 1999. Paul Leidig, director and professor of CIS, said Hornik managed the school's required internships and touched the lives of many students, faculty and staff members.

A service was held November 3 in Spring Lake. Memorial contributions are suggested to the American Legion Post No. 28 in Grand Haven.

### International visitor

Sandra Spoelstra, associate professor of nursing, and Kirkhof College of Nursing hosted an international visitor from the United Kingdom in mid-October. Michael Mawhinney, senior cancer nurse with National Health Services, earned a Churchill Fellowship to visit the U.S. and Canada to research safe care practices when using oral chemotherapy services.

Spoelstra has published articles about oral chemotherapy adherence and symptom management.

During his visit, Mawhinney gave presentations about global health care and met with staff members at Spectrum Health's Lemmen-Holton Cancer Pavilion.

**Paul Stansbie**, associate dean in CCPS and professor of hospitality and tourism management, was interviewed by *WalletHub* for an article about airline miles and credit cards.

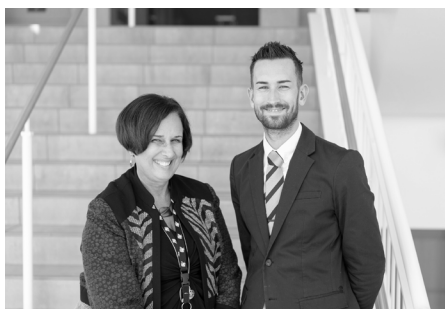


Photo by Amanda Pitts

Sandra Spoelstra is pictured with Michael Mawhinney, senior cancer nurse with National Health Services.

**John Kilbourne**, professor of movement science, was interviewed by the *Chronicle of Higher Education* for an article about teaching alternative assignments.

## SKETCHES

GVPD Police Chief **Brandon DeHaan** was nominated for a Together We Can award, presented by the Lakeshore Alliance Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, recognizing individuals dedicated to changing the culture surrounding sexual violence. Student Maddie Vervaeke was recognized as outstanding community member.

**Torrey Thomas**, talent acquisition support for Human Resources, won a Grand Award for Outstanding Choreography for the Grand Rapids Civic Theatre's 2017 production of "Shrek The Musical."

**Felix Ngassa**, professor of chemistry, wrote an article, "Theoretical Circular Dichroism Spectra of the  $\alpha$ -Helical Protein Calxectin with the Dipole Interaction Model Including the  $n-p^*$  Transition," published in the *Journal of Undergraduate Chemistry Research*.

**Dan Balfour**, professor of public, nonprofit and health administration, and a graduate student were co-authors of an article, "Voices from the Borders of Governance: Connecting the Local Narratives of Surplus Populations," published in *Public Voices*. Balfour gave a presentation, "Unmasking Administrative Evil in the Modern Age," at the Festival of Debate in Sheffield, England; and received a fellowship to participate in the Faculty Seminar on Ethics, Religion, and the Holocaust held at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial and Museum.

**Deborah Herrington**, professor of chemistry, was a co-author of an article, "Evaluating the Extent of a Large-scale Transformation in Gateway Science Courses," published in *Science Advances*.

**Kelly Clark**, senior research fellow for the Kaufman Interfaith Institute, was a co-author of a book, *Strangers, Neighbors, Friends: Muslim-Christian-Jewish Reflections Compassion and Peace*.

**Emily Najera**, visiting professor of photography, is participating in the Urban Institute of Contemporary Arts' Coming Home exhibition, a suite of solo exhibitions featuring works by emerging and established Michigan artists. Najera's solo exhibit, "West Grand," will be on display at the UICA through January 25.

## ACROSS CAMPUS

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A student will be selected to receive the Gayle R. Davis First Generation College Student Emerging Leader Award at the annual Student Awards Convocation in April.

- **The Leadership Award** celebrates innovation and change at Grand Valley. Criteria to nominate a faculty or staff member includes someone who excels at fostering collaborative processes and diverse perspectives, who has made a significant impact and is a positive change agent. Nominations are being accepted through November 30. More information and a nomination form are online at [gvsu.edu/administration](http://gvsu.edu/administration).

- **The Emerging Leader Award** recognizes that Davis was a first-generation student; the award will be presented to a sophomore or junior student who is the first in their family to attend college, excels academically and is making a positive impact at Grand Valley or within the community. More information and a nomination form are online at [gvsu.edu/dos](http://gvsu.edu/dos).

### Vigil held for victims of Pittsburgh synagogue shooting

More than 250 people attended a candlelight vigil October 29 to remember the victims of the shooting at Tree of Life synagogue in Pittsburgh.

The vigil was held at the Cook Carillon Tower and was hosted by students from two Jewish



Photo by Valerie Wojciechowski

Dean of Students Loren Rullman makes remarks October 29 at a vigil for the victims of the Pittsburgh synagogue shooting.

campus organizations, Grand Valley Hillel Chapter and Alpha Epsilon Pi Fraternity.

Allison Egrin, president of Hillel, said it was hard to describe the heaviness she felt in her heart when she heard of the shooting. Egrin, who teaches Sunday school at Temple Emanuel in Grand Rapids, said half of the third and fourth graders in her class were absent.

"How do you explain anti-Semitism to innocent children?" Egrin asked. "I told them to be proud of their heritage, to have pride in who they are and to love their neighbor and fill the world with love."

Loren Rullman, dean of students, thanked students for coming together to show love and compassion. "Grand Valley can be that light and better place; we can be the example that is needed," he said.

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

### KCON will move into new health campus building

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"I've heard my dad and others say, 'What would West Michigan be like without Grand Valley?' It is hard to imagine," DeVos said. "Grand Valley faculty, staff members and students will give the building life, and students will use it to change lives."

The Kirkhof College of Nursing will be housed in the center, bringing faculty and students together in collaborative spaces to accommodate interactive learning.

Nursing student Doug Chambers said Grand Valley's professionalism and caring faculty drew him from the east side of the state. "I learned how important it is to choose a school in close proximity to clinical opportunities and I've taken advantage of my rotations in psychiatry, oncology and other areas right here in Grand Rapids," Chambers said.

The State of Michigan is providing \$29 million for the \$70 million project; the remaining funds will come from private donors and university bonds. Construction is expected to be completed in May 2021.

For more information, visit [gvsu.edu/giving/interprofessionalhealth](http://gvsu.edu/giving/interprofessionalhealth).