

FORUM

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

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GVSU, Spectrum Health approve parking ramp

Grand Valley, Spectrum Health System and the city of Grand Rapids moved a step closer to jointly addressing the parking issues along and around the Medical Mile in downtown Grand Rapids.

The university's Board of Trustees joined Spectrum Health to formally approve a parking ramp that will be built on land owned by the institutions on Michigan Street.

The ramp was approved at the board's February 2 meeting, held at the L. William Seidman Center.

The project is a six-level parking deck that will provide 1,220 spaces for students in the health professions and nursing programs, and for Spectrum Health employees. The ramp will replace existing surface parking lots owned by the university or Spectrum Health. It will be east of the Cook-DeVos Center for Health Sciences and adjacent to the state-funded health building approved for 333 Michigan St. and scheduled to open in 2021.

The two institutions worked with the city and the neighborhood organization, Neighbors of Belknap Lookout, to preserve space in nearby neighborhoods by agreeing on the deal to join forces and build the ramp on Michigan.

"One of the university's goals in expanding the health campus has been to work with our neighbors," said Board of Trustees Chair John C. Kennedy. "We are pleased we could devise an efficient plan on Michigan that meets the parking needs of students and employees and eases the burden on people living near this area of tremendous growth."

The design of the 420,000-square-foot facility will be coordinated with the existing CHS building and the proposed health building. It will be designed and constructed to LEED standards, even though at this time, there is no LEED certification category for



Photo by Valerie Wojceichowski

James Moyer, associate vice president for Facilities Planning, details plans for a parking ramp on Michigan Street near the Cook-DeVos Center for Health Sciences.

parking ramps. The choice of building materials and systems will be selected to minimize construction time, and Grand Valley will be

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Designation makes it easy to find CBL courses

For the first time this semester, faculty members teaching courses with community engagement components can apply to have those courses so listed in Banner, making it easier for students to find them.

The Community-Based Learning designation also provides an avenue for tracking and assessing courses, according to Robert Adams, chair of the University Curriculum Committee and associate professor of computing and information systems.

Adams said the CBL designation will be similar to Supplemental Writing Skills (SWS), allowing courses to be identified during registration and on transcripts.

Lisa Sisson, assistant professor of hospitality and tourism management, is teaching an advanced food and beverage management course that would fit CBL requirements. Students in the course are working on a project with the nutrition department at Spectrum Health Butterworth Hospital, finding ways to reduce food costs through reduced waste and increased food recovery.



Students majoring in hospitality and tourism management work with industry professionals to restore historic sites in Roscommon. The Michigan Cares for Tourism initiative is an example of field experience with community engagement components.

Sisson said the HTM department was among the first to participate in the Engaged Department Initiative, an effort supported by the Office of Community Engagement to scaffold community engagement into courses.

"The same food and beverage course previously had no community partner," she said.

In her course, students are working and networking with Spectrum Health's nutrition services staff and will give presentations to the hospital's leadership team at the end of the

semester, Sisson said.

"It's exciting for them to learn and consider other kinds of food service operations by introducing them to the nonprofit side," she said.

Sisson added many employers are looking for skills taught in community-engaged courses, like teamwork, critical thinking and communications.

Sisson and other faculty members are leading workshops throughout the winter semester on community engaged research and creative practice; visit gvsu.edu/sprout to learn more. Faculty members interested in learning more about community-engaged courses can contact Patty Bolea at boleap@gvsu.edu.

AWRI offers scholarship, internships

The Annis Water Resources Institute in Muskegon is seeking student applicants for internships and a scholarship.

Two Robert B. Annis Foundation internships

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and three AWRI internships are available for the spring/summer semester. Criteria and details about applying are online at gvsu.edu/wri/internships; deadline for applications is March 2.

The Bill and Diana Wipperfurth Student Research Scholarship is open to juniors, seniors or graduate students for the fall semester. Information is online at gvsu.edu/myscholarship; deadline for applications is March 1.

Retention Focus: Training available to support student veterans

A resource to better understand and support military-connected students is available for faculty, staff and student employees.

The 30-minute, online training program covers topics such as military culture, common challenges faced by veterans and support services available to student veterans, or military-connected students, which refers to individuals who have served or are currently serving in the military.

Steven Lipnicki, assistant dean of students, said the goal of the training is to give individuals more confidence when they work with or assist military-connected students — a growing population at Grand Valley.

More than 400 students with a military background are enrolled at Grand Valley this year, and Michigan has seen a 17 percent increase in students pursuing higher education since 2010's Post 9/11 Bill was enacted.

"As we seek to best support this growing

cohort of students, it is our responsibility to create an environment that is supportive and to take steps to better understand the possible challenges these individuals face in their transition to successful students," said Lipnicki.

To take the course, visit kognitocampus.com/login. Use the enrollment key "michiganvets" to create a new user account, then follow the instructions. Individuals who complete the training will be entered to win a prize.

The training was developed by Kognito, a health simulation company. Financial support from the Consortium of Michigan Veterans Educators' grant from the Kresge Foundation gives all Michigan public universities free access to the online training program.

GVNow Recap:

Student organizations host voter registration drives

Students, faculty and staff members can register to vote at one of the several registration drives scheduled to take place on campus during the winter semester.

All drives take place from noon-2 p.m. in the Kirkhof Center lobby on February 16; March 2, 16 and 30; and April 13. Registration is also available at Democracy 101 events and at the Community Service Learning Center, located in the Kirkhof Center, room 1110.

Voter registration opportunities are one of many initiatives to encourage Lakers to become engaged and active citizens. The Community Service Learning Center will host several discussion-based series throughout the

semester to continue the conversation about democracy, including its Town Hall Series and Democracy 101 Lecture Series.

Learn more at www.gvsu.edu/service.



Photo by Bernadine Carey-Tucker

Lynn (Chick) Blue, vice president for Enrollment Development, is pictured with students. She established a scholarship to assist students who otherwise couldn't afford college.

Vice president establishes scholarship

Known for her unwavering dedication to students, Lynn (Chick) Blue, vice president for Enrollment Development, has established a new scholarship that will support students who otherwise could not afford to attend Grand Valley.

The Blue Working Family Endowed Scholarship will assist students who have graduated from Michigan high schools, yet are unable to attend college because of economic reasons. Blue's gift will provide individual scholarships that fill unmet needs between the cost of attendance and other sources of funds.

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Grand Valley State University is an affirmative action/equal opportunity institution.

GVFACES

Jacquelyn Abeyta, Traverse City Center

Jacquelyn Abeyta has a passion for helping nontraditional students, and wants them to know there is a support system at Grand Valley to help them succeed.

Abeyta, long-time employee at the Traverse City Center, assumed a new role in December as the center's student services coordinator.

She was a nontraditional student and said she understands the barriers and the tough decisions adults make when choosing to enter or return to college. "I'm happy to be able to use my experience to provide supportive resources, and be an advocate for students helping them transition seamlessly to Grand Valley," she said.

Abeyta earned a master's degree in education with an emphasis in leadership from Grand Valley in 2014. She said some of the struggles include having a full college schedule and balancing it with family, work and other responsibilities.

While Abeyta herself is proof it can be done, she said having access to support, resources and guidance is critical to success.

"What sets Grand Valley apart is our personalized attention," said Abeyta. "I enjoy working with transfer students in northern Michigan because we can create that small-

size classroom and personalized attention that helps students be successful."

She began working at the center in 2001, initially serving as part-time secretary, then office coordinator before accepting her new position. During that time, she earned an associate's degree from Northwestern Michigan College, and later a bachelor's degree in liberal studies from Grand Valley.

"I had always been passionate about advising, so one of my long-term goals was to move into a position where I could help advocate for students," said Abeyta. "I feel like I am at my dream job. I want to learn as much as I can and provide as much support as possible for Grand Valley students."

Abeyta is also involved with the Traverse City Alumni Club.



Jacquelyn Abeyta



WHAT'S AHEAD

Upcoming workshops focus on retention

Two upcoming workshops for faculty and staff members will focus on student and employee retention.

The Employee Retention Symposium is Wednesday, February 14, from 1-5 p.m. in the Eberhard Center. Hosted by the Affirmative Action office, the workshop will offer best practices and suggestions to foster retention of faculty and staff members. Scott Ayotte, director of affirmative action, said the event is geared toward search committee chairs and inclusion advocates, but all faculty and staff members are welcome.

Student Retention Training is a workshop led by various campus leaders from Admissions, Registrar's Office and Inclusion and Equity, among other offices. The workshop will explore systems, tools and connections faculty and staff members can use to increase student success.

Five sessions are offered in February and March, dates are listed online at gvsu.edu/sprout.

Graduate School to host thesis competition

Eighteen graduate students will have three minutes to present their research during the third annual 3-Minute Thesis Competition on Thursday, February 15, hosted by The Graduate School. The competition will begin at 3:30 p.m. in the DeVos Center, Loosemore Auditorium.

The competition provides graduate students with a unique opportunity to share their research in a competitive format. In order to participate, students submitted a synopsis of their research and a faculty letter of support. Participants were selected based on the nature and merit of their work.

Participants represent a wide range of disciplines, including biology, biomedical sciences, cell and molecular biology, education, criminal justice, engineering, nursing, public health and social work.

The winner will receive \$500 and the opportunity to represent Grand Valley at the Midwest Association of Graduate Schools Competition in Grand Rapids in April. The second and third place winners will receive \$250 and \$100, respectively.

For more information, visit gvsu.edu/gS/3mt.

Black History Month events continue

Black History Month events on campus continue through February.

The annual celebration is organized by Grand Valley's Office of Multicultural Affairs. Events are free and open to the public. Visit gvsu.edu/oma to view a complete schedule.

• **“Taste of Soul,” February 16, noon-1 p.m., Kirkhof Center lobby.** Event participants will taste-test and learn about traditional African American soul food.

• **“Accidental Courtesy,” February 20, 1-2:30 p.m., Kirkhof Center, Grand River Room.** Author and musician Daryl Davis will discuss his encounters with members of the Ku Klux Klan and how racial tensions can be healed. Davis is author of *Klan-Destine Relationships* and is the subject of the documentary, “Accidental Courtesy.”

• **“Racial Battle Fatigue Syndrome,” February 27, 6-8 p.m., DeVos Center, room 302E.** Lois Owens, professor of social work and liberal studies, will lead a seminar about ways to be an advocate for underrepresented populations.

Screenings for eating disorders planned

Staff members from the University Counseling Center will be at several campus locations on February 21, National Eating Disorder Screening Day, providing information about signs and symptoms and offering screenings.

Allendale Campus: Kirkhof Center lobby from 10 a.m.-4 p.m., and Recreation Center from 2-6 p.m.; Pew Grand Rapids Campus: DeVos Center, 125C from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., and Cook-DeVos Center for Health Sciences lobby from 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

More information is online at gvsu.edu/counsel.

Event will spotlight early women in politics

Nationally, more women than ever are running for office; one tally has more than 500 women running for major offices or governorships this year.

During an event on campus, Julia Bouwkamp and Jo Ellyn Clarey from the Greater Grand Rapids Women's History Council will discuss their research into the surprising number of women who ran for political office before 1920.

“Links to the Local: Building a National Women's Elective History” is set for Wednesday, February 21, from 1:30-2:45 p.m. in the Kirkhof Center, room 2270. Bouwkamp and Clarey will report on how a crowdsourcing project, “Her Hat Was in the Ring,” invited researchers to collect and share data on women in politics.

The event is free and open to the public; it is approved for LIB 100 and 201 courses.

Campus partners for the event are the Kutsche Office of Local History and the Community Reading Project, through the Brooks College Office of Integrative Learning and Advising. Visit gvsu.edu/kutsche for more information.

More than 230 employers attending career fair

The Winter Career Fair will take place Thursday, February 22, from 1-5 p.m. at DeVos Place Convention Center in Grand Rapids. The fair will attract thousands of students and representatives from more than 230 local and national employers.

The fair is free and will offer a range of job, internship, and co-op opportunities. Students from eight area colleges are invited: Grand Valley, Aquinas College, Calvin College, Cornerstone University, Davenport University, Hope College, Kendall College of Art & Design and Kuyper College.

Students should bring their ID and come prepared with resumes and portfolios.

The Career Center is hosting an event to help prepare students for the fair. “How to Talk to Employers” will take place Tuesday, February 13, from 5-6 p.m. in the L. William Seidman Center, room 2002.

For more information, visit gvsu.edu/careers.

Faculty, staff members to host Repair Clinic for students

During a busy semester, it is not uncommon for students to rip their jeans, lose buttons, break their eyeglasses, or bust a zipper or backpack strap.

An upcoming Repair Clinic will offer students a free opportunity to have all of the above and more mended by faculty and staff members.

The free clinic will take place on Thursday, February 22, from 6-8 p.m. in the Holton-Hooker Learning and Living Center, multipurpose room.

The clinic is a collaboration between the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and Housing Department. Volunteers are from multiple campus departments, including Human Resources, Kirkhof College of Nursing, TRIO Student Support Services, University Libraries and more.

For more information, contact Monica Johnstone, director of communications and advancement for CLAS, at johnstmo@gvsu.edu.

Student-produced play to explore subjectivity of truth

A curious and questionable interaction between two fictional characters, a college professor and a student, during the professor's office hours, lead to a difference of opinion about what actually took place in that office.

This plot sets the stage for the upcoming performances of “Oleanna.”

Jacob Molli, a senior majoring in psychology, is the student director; he said that if the above plot description seems vague, that's the point.

“The show is best experienced without reading a plot summary and coming in with strong opinions,” said Molli. “I would say this show is a lot like a thriller; it is all about subtlety and allowing yourself to be surprised by what you see. There are no definitive answers to this play and the only truth is your own.”

Molli said he chose “Oleanna” for the P.S. Series because the play is more relevant today than when it was produced in 1992.

“It explores complex, multifaceted issues without ever spoon feeding the audience and telling them what to think about those issues,” he said.

Some of those issues explored in “Oleanna” include sexual harassment, censorship, the subjectivity of the truth, identity shaping interactions and how people deal with power.

“Oleanna” is a part of the theater program's annual Performance Studio Series, which gives upper-level theater students the opportunity to use the practical skills they have learned in the classroom.

Performances of “Oleanna” will take place February 22-24, at 7:30 p.m., and February 25, at 2 p.m. All performances will take place in the Linn Maxwell Keller Black Box Theatre, located in the Haas Center for Performing Arts.

Tickets can be purchased for \$6 through the Louis Armstrong Theatre Box Office in-person Monday through Friday from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. or by calling x12300.

For more information, visit gvsu.edu/theater.

FACULTY AND STAFF SKETCHES

SKETCHES

Bradley Ambrose, professor of physics, will receive the 2018 David Halliday and Robert Resnick Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Physics Teaching by the American Association of Physics Teachers at the AAPT Summer Meeting in Washington, D.C.

Linda Bond, retired adjunct faculty of nursing, received the ANA-Michigan Lifetime Achievement Award at the ANA-Michigan Conference and Annual Meeting in Plymouth.

Shari D. Bartz-Smith, associate professor of movement science, and **Amy Campbell**, associate director of campus recreation, were co-authors of an article, “An Interdisciplinary Approach to a Well-Rounded Campus Health Care Delivery System,” published in the American Kinesiology Association’s *Kinesiology Review: Establishing Partnerships for Effective Academic Programs*.

Ivo Soljan, professor of English, organized a panel and gave a presentation, “Transgressions, Punishment, and Repentance, in Croatian Poetry, from 16th to 21st Century,” at the 49th American Slavic Conference in Chicago, Illinois; the article was submitted for publication in the *Journal of Croatian Studies*.

Scott Rood, assistant professor of hospitality and tourism management, received a lifetime achievement award at the 2017 Resort and Commercial Recreation Association National Conference held in Sunriver, Oregon.

Mark Schaub, chief international officer, was a co-author of an article,

EDTalk presenters



The College of Education held its first EDTalks Scholarship Worth Learning event January 24 at DeVos Center. Participants heard from several speakers on topics ranging from STEM talent development, models for school leadership, grade inequality and overcoming challenges of bilingualism.

“Developing Culturally Competent Colleagues: How One University Trains for Success in Diverse Organizations,” published in *Organization Development Journal*.

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Blue has worked for Grand Valley for nearly 50 years in a variety of roles. What has stayed consistent, she said, is her passion for supporting students. Blue said she has made it her mission to help students overcome academic and emotional obstacles.

“There are talented humans out there that for one reason or another don’t have the resources,” Blue said. “It’s our job, if at all possible, to help them gain access to education.”

President Thomas J. Haas said Blue’s passion to help students is seen in all facets of her work.

“We are honored that she would continue her legacy of leadership in helping students with a lasting gift to Grand Valley,” Haas said. “Chick is a Laker for a lifetime.”

Like Blue’s commitment to helping students, recipients of the scholarship will have fostered the spirit of giving back by performing community service.

When the Blue Working Family Endowed Scholarship is ready to be awarded, the criteria

for applicants will be posted online at gvsu.edu/myscholarships. Learn more about the Laker Effect campaign at gvsu.edu/giving.

Faculty, staff recognized at Presidents’ Ball

More than 4,500 Lakers dressed to the nines — complete with ornate masks — to attend the 32nd annual Presidents’ Ball February 3 in Grand Rapids.

Student Senate President Jonathan Bowman and Grand Valley President Thomas J. Haas hosted the sold-out event, “A Night of Masqueraded Mystery,” at DeVos Place.

Members of the campus community were presented with awards during a special ceremony.

John Martin, director of Athletic Bands, received the Laker of the Year Award; David Clark, assistant professor of mathematics, received the Student Award for Faculty Excellence; and Marlene Kowalski-Braun, assistant vice president for Inclusion and



Photo by Valerie Wojcichowski

David Clark, assistant professor of mathematics, was one of three faculty and staff members recognized with awards during the Presidents’ Ball February 3 at DeVos Place.

Student Affairs, received the President’s Appreciation Award.

Presidents’ Ball is organized by the Laker Traditions team and the Office of Student Life. It is one of Grand Valley’s oldest traditions; the first ball took place in 1986.

For complete stories, visit gvsu.edu/gvnow.

New parking ramp approved at Board of Trustees meeting

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the developer of the project. The ramp will be operated as a condominium, with Grand Valley and Spectrum Health owning their respective units. The day-to-day operation of the completed ramp will be handled by Spectrum Health.

Grand Valley’s trustees approved \$39,354,000 for the project. The source of funds will be \$21,769,000 from the university’s parking revenue bonds and \$17,585,000 from Spectrum Health. Construction on the ramp is scheduled to begin in May, and it is scheduled to be completed in May of 2021.

In other board action:

- The board approved the sale of a 1.35-acre

parcel of land on the southern border of the Pew Grand Rapids Campus to Grand River Aseptic Manufacturing. The company plans to build a pharmaceutical fill finish production facility on the property. The purchase price will be \$1.4 million.

- The board approved a new bachelor’s degree in communication sciences and disorders. The new degree will prepare students with specific coursework in speech science, speech pathology, and audiology needed to qualify for admissions into either a master’s in speech-language pathology or a doctor in audiology program.

- The board approved funding for a \$4.95 million, two-story parking deck at 333 Michigan Street in Grand Rapids. The parking

deck will have 66 parking spaces and will be located underneath the new, state-funded health building due to open in spring 2021.

- Students will see a modest increase in room and board rates beginning with the fall 2018 semester; the board voted to increase the rate by 1.1 percent.

- The board approved a new master’s degree program, the first graduate degree housed in Brooks College of Interdisciplinary Studies. The professional master of arts degree in social innovation will prepare graduate students to address complex social problems facing organizations and communities.