

# FORUM

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**A NEWSLETTER FOR THE GRAND VALLEY  
STATE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY**

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## Grand Valley signs as full Detroit Promise partner

Grand Valley made it easier for more Detroit high school students to become Lakers. President Thomas J. Haas signed documents in Detroit making the university a full partner in the Detroit Promise.

Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan; Sandy Baruah, CEO of the Detroit Regional Chamber; and Peter Remington, president and CEO of the Michigan Education Excellence Foundation, participated in the February 10 signing ceremony at the GVSU Detroit Center.

The Detroit Promise, which is funded by the foundation and administered by the Detroit Regional Chamber, ensures that Detroit students graduating from a high school within the city will have a tuition-free path to a college degree.

"Grand Valley is delighted to become a full partner in a program that puts a college degree within the reach of many more students from Detroit," said Haas. "We specialize in student success and appreciate the Detroit Promise's

requirement that students stay on track to graduation.

"Grand Valley has the best graduation rate among Michigan's regional universities, and we know that college-bound students from Detroit will find their passion and obtain a degree at our university. We're excited about the partnership with students, the chamber and the city."

The Detroit Promise covers tuition costs not covered by grants and other scholarships students receive. It grew from an initial effort by the Michigan Education Excellence Foundation and the Detroit Regional Chamber to help students from Detroit pursue education beyond high school.

"Grand Valley is an outstanding university and we are happy to continue to send Detroit's talent to GVSU," said Duggan. "This partnership is one of the most important



Photo by Elizabeth Lienau

President Thomas J. Haas, left, shakes hands with Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan after signing an agreement that Grand Valley would join the Detroit Promise.

things we have done in the city to help our top students pursue education at a four-year

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## Across Campus

### Kindschi fellowship will give students unique research opportunities

The Office of Undergraduate Research and Scholarship is seeking applications from students for a new research fellowship.

The P. Douglas Kindschi Undergraduate Research Fellowship in the Sciences will provide student fellows with a \$1,500 fellowship, allowing student researchers to pursue rigorous scholarship and be mentored by a faculty member.

Funded projects must be in one of the following fields: aquatic sciences, allied health professions, biology, biomedical sciences, chemistry, computer science, engineering, geology, information systems, mathematics, movement science, physics, and statistics. Proposals related to the Barbara Kindschi Greenhouse are also encouraged.

Doug Kindschi, who now serves as director of the Kaufman Interfaith Institute, said his and Barbara's interest in supporting this fellowship was driven by his longevity as dean, and his efforts to help shape Grand Valley's STEM departments. Kindschi served as dean of Science and Mathematics for 28 years.



Biology students are pictured in a Kindschi Hall lab. A new fellowship supported by Doug Kindschi will provide undergraduate students with research fellowships.

"It was a privilege to create new programs and hire nearly 200 faculty in the sciences, engineering, mathematics and health sciences during my time as dean," he said. "My commitment to these fields and, particularly, to the students who want to pursue research in these areas continues."

Susan Mendoza, director of OURS, said the goals of this new fellowship are to encourage students through the process of research discovery, and better prepare them for graduate education.

Successful applicants will have a GPA of 3.0 or higher, and be enrolled for at least one semester beyond the period of the award.

Mendoza said students can propose research projects to faculty members, or faculty can recruit an undergraduate student for a potential project. The fellowship supports research conducted during the fall or winter semesters.

Applications are due by May 1, details on how to apply are posted online at [www.gvsu.edu/ours](http://www.gvsu.edu/ours).

### Agreement gives premed students enhanced admission opportunities

Leaders from two public universities signed a partnership agreement February 10 that provides Grand Valley premedical students enhanced opportunities for admission to Wayne State University School of Medicine.

The Early Assurance Program was introduced by leaders from Grand Valley and Wayne State's School of Medicine at Grand Valley's Detroit Center during a Board of Trustees meeting.

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# Across Campus

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Jean Nagelkerk, vice provost for Health, said the program reserves up to five medical school spots for qualified Grand Valley students who are interested in practicing medicine.

Recruitment will begin this spring for students who would be admitted to medical school in 2018.

Nagelkerk said the program will provide enhanced opportunities for students who are interested in practicing in underserved areas or who are dedicated to careers in medicine.

Jo Ann Litton serves as the advisor for pre-professional disciplines. She said students accepted into the early assurance program would benefit mentally and financially.

Most students apply to about nine medical schools, which could add up to \$2,500 in fees, Litton said. "So this will lessen the financial burden, but also lessen anxiety levels," she said.

Litton will arrange an information session with Wayne State representatives later this semester.



Photo by Elizabeth Lienau

Provost Gayle R. Davis, center, and Jean Nagelkerk, vice provost for Health, are pictured with Wayne State University President M. Roy Wilson following an early assurance agreement with Wayne State's School of Medicine.

## Trustees approve doctorate, housing rates

Grand Valley's Board of Trustees members approved a Doctor of Audiology degree during their February 10 meeting held at the GVSU Detroit Center.

The 84-credit program will include clinical/experiential learning and a

12-month internship. The clinical degree is designed to educate students to be expert practitioners.

The program, to begin in fall 2018, will be accredited by the Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology. Students who successfully complete the program will be eligible for the Certificate of Clinical Competence in Audiology awarded by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, and for Licensure in Audiology awarded by the State of Michigan.

In other board action:

- Students will see a modest increase in room and board rates beginning with the fall 2017 semester; the board voted to increase the rate by 2.4 percent. The average cost for living on campus per semester will increase by \$26 (or 1.7 percent); the cost per semester in a traditional living center will be \$2,750.
- The board approved funding for the Mackinac Ravine Restoration Project on the Allendale Campus. The project will restore a ravine that has been degraded by excessive storm water.

The project includes raising the level of the ravine bottom, and installing appropriate vegetation for protection of trees and other wildlife that could be affected by the project. Sidewalk and utility improvements will also be made on the south side of the Padnos Hall of Science. The budget for the project is about \$4 million.

## Civic Engagement Showcase seeks presenters

Proposals are being sought for the Civic Engagement Showcase, which will recognize the work of students, faculty and staff members who have collaborated with community partners for a project.

The showcase will be held April 13, from 3-5 p.m., in the DeVos Center, Hager-Lubbers Exhibition Hall.

Details about how to submit a proposal are online at [www.gvsu.edu/community](http://www.gvsu.edu/community); the deadline to submit a proposal is March 10.

Ruth Stegeman, assistant dean and director for Community Engagement, said Grand Valley's Civic Action Plan will be unveiled at that time by President Thomas J. Haas and Provost Gayle R. Davis.

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Faculty and staff members can find an online "Sketches" submission form on the Web at [www.gvsu.edu/forum](http://www.gvsu.edu/forum).

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Visit Grand Valley's online publication, *GVNow*, at [www.gvsu.edu/gvnow](http://www.gvsu.edu/gvnow), for daily news updates and video features.

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

## GVFaces

### Juanita Davis, assistant director, Office of Multicultural Affairs

When Juanita Davis was looking for a university to attend, she was not sure which one to pick. She wanted a college that was not too close to home, but also one that was not too far away. After touring other universities, Davis picked Grand Valley for a reason she had not considered: the brochure.

"Grand Valley was the only school that looked like its brochure," Davis said. "It felt like they were not just trying to sell me something, that they actually believed in their university."

Davis was named assistant director at the Office of Multicultural Affairs in early January. She had spent the last six years working at the CLAS Advising Center as an Academic Advisor. Prior to being an advisor, she worked as the coordinator of the Oliver Wilson Freshman Academy.

In her new role, Davis still works on providing the best support she can for students. Coming from Chicago, Davis said she experienced culture shock in Allendale. She wants to give students the same kind of opportunities and care she received.

"We have grown, and I'm very proud of where we are as an institution and the support we continue providing for students," Davis said.

For Davis, collaboration is the backbone of student success. Creating new partnerships can help foster student success. Working with student ambassadors, partnering with other organizations and making students aware of support only leads to better students, she said.

"We don't want anyone to fall through the cracks," Davis said. "No one after their first semester should be saying, 'I didn't feel connected, I didn't find support,'" she said.

Davis said marginalized and underrepresented populations need to be more aware of the support that is available. Students should also help each other, and recommend tools and resources that were helpful for them, she said.

"As we've learned in the last couple of years, equity and inclusion is important to the nation and in the world," Davis said. "If we provide equitable support, college can be a prime opportunity to change the narrative, and, in turn, to change the world."



Juanita Davis





# What's Ahead

## Passport Fair is first step to study abroad

Vanesha Blackburn traveled to Ghana for a study abroad program last year that she deemed life-changing.

The first stop on that journey was to apply for a passport. Blackburn was one of two students who earned a scholarship to purchase a passport through a collaboration among the Padnos International Center, TRIO Student Support Services and the Oliver Wilson Freshman Academy Program. Blackburn, a sociology major, also earned a Gilman International Scholarship that helped fund her study abroad program.



Vanesha Blackburn, center, is pictured at her field placement site in Ghana during a study abroad program.

She said the most memorable part of the trip to Ghana was touring the area's slave castles. "My group was able to learn about slave history like never before and we were able to do it together," she said. "We were able to connect the castles to one another and to our personal lives."

The Padnos International Center will host a Passport Fair on Tuesday, February 21, from 1-4 p.m. in the Kirkhof Center, Grand River Room.

Participants need to bring proof of U.S. citizenship (birth certificate or naturalization certificate), driver's license or Michigan ID, and two separate checks or money orders totaling \$135 (\$110 to Department of State, \$25 to USPS). Passport photos can be taken for \$3 cash with Grand Valley ID.

Passport renewals can also be obtained at the fair with two checks (\$110 to Department of State, \$6.45 to USPS).

Allow up to six weeks for processing. For more information, visit [www.gvsu.edu/pic](http://www.gvsu.edu/pic).

## Heartwell to discuss local governments impact on climate change

Global warming can be a hot-button issue in political debates and the subject of headlines. Former Grand Rapids mayor George Heartwell said local city governments can take proactive measures to help solve climate change, which he considers to be one of the largest global threats.

Heartwell, community sustainability coordinator for the Office of Sustainability Practices, will discuss these strategies during an upcoming presentation Tuesday, February 21. "Beyond the Paris Accords: Adaptation Planning and Local Government" will take place from 1-2:15 p.m. in Manitou Hall, room 122.

During the early years of his 12-year tenure as mayor, Heartwell said he recognized that climate change was a major global threat. As a result, he launched initiatives in Grand Rapids to mitigate the human impacts on global warming.

"At some point, city mayors began to recognize that mitigation alone wasn't adequate, and that the warming already present was creating vulnerabilities in our cities that demanded adaptation strategies," said Heartwell.

Heartwell attended two sessions of the United Nations Framework

Conference on Climate Change in both Paris and Warsaw in 2016 as a representative of the collective of U.S. city mayors. During his presentation, he will discuss the proposed outcomes from these conferences, and why he believes people will succeed in solving climate change.

"Today's students will be dealing with even more catastrophic consequences in years to come, so we simply must bring this mad dog of anthropogenic climate change to heel," said Heartwell.

For more information about this event, contact the Department of Geography and Sustainable Planning at x13065.



George Heartwell

## Counseling Center to participate in screening day

The University Counseling Center will participate in National Eating Disorder Screening Day on Wednesday, February 22.

Interested students can participate by completing a brief questionnaire to determine if they are at risk for eating-related disorders. Participants will have an opportunity to meet with a counselor to discuss questionnaire results. The results of the questionnaire will be kept confidential.

Screenings will be held at the following locations and times.

- Kirkhof Center lobby, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
- Campus Recreation Center, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
- DeVos Center, room 125C, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
- Cook-DeVos Center for Health Sciences lobby, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

More information is available online at [www.gvsu.edu/counsel](http://www.gvsu.edu/counsel).

## More than 230 employers expected at career fair

Job seekers will have the opportunity to meet more than 230 employers at the 2017 Winter Career Fair on Thursday, February 23, at DeVos Place Convention Center in Grand Rapids.

The fair, hosted by the Career Center, will take place from 1-5 p.m. It is open to college students and alumni seeking professional employment or internship opportunities. Pre-registration for the fair is not required, but students should bring their student ID.

For a list of registered employers, visit [www.gvsu.edu/careerfairs](http://www.gvsu.edu/careerfairs).

## Fulbright workshop planned

The Padnos International Center will host a Fulbright workshop on Friday, February 24, for faculty members who are interested in teaching or conducting research overseas.

The workshop will run from 1:30-3 p.m. in the DeVos Center, University Club room. Participants will learn about the application process and a wine and cheese reception with past Fulbright recipients follows until 4 p.m.

RSVP for the workshop online at [www.gvsu.edu/sprout](http://www.gvsu.edu/sprout) (under FTLC programs). More information about the Fulbright program is online at [www.cies.org](http://www.cies.org).

## Grand Valley is 12th university to join program

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university." Grand Valley became the 12th four-year university to participate in the program.

"This partnership is an unprecedented opportunity for the City of Detroit," said Baruah. "We are honored to have Grand Valley on board, participating in this true partnership

among the state, the city and our university and philanthropic communities."

Remington said: "The state is dedicated to making sure students are career and college ready to ensure every child in the city has the opportunity to make choices for continued education."

To qualify for the Detroit Promise, students must be a resident of the city, attend a high school in Detroit, register for the Detroit Promise by June 30, and be admitted to a participating college.

# FACULTY AND STAFF SKETCHES

## In the News

**Jennifer Jameslyn**, director of the Office of Integrative Learning and Advising, was interviewed by WGVU for a story about the Community Reading Project and this year’s selection, *The True American*.

### Trailblazer award

**Julianne Vanden Wyngaard**, pianist and university carillonneur, received the Doris Rucks Trailblazer Award from Positive Black Women at the organization’s annual Valentine’s Day luncheon in the Kirkhof Center.

**Cassonya Carter**, senior academic advisor for Kirkhof College of Nursing, presented Vanden Wyngaard with the award. Carter, who also directs the student gospel choir Voices of GVSU, called Vanden Wyngaard a mentor during the choir’s formative years.

Vanden Wyngaard praised PBW during her remarks. The faculty and staff organization was established in 1994, and members have endowed a scholarship fund and presented more than \$25,000 in scholarships.

“What a wonderful legacy you all have provided for me,” Vanden Wyngaard said.



Photo by Jess Weal

Cassonya Carter, background, presents Julianne Vanden Wyngaard with the Doris Rucks Trailblazer Award at the Positive Black Women Valentine’s luncheon.

### Coat drive

Refugees in West Michigan were welcomed by the Grand Valley community through a clothing drive sponsored by several departments.

More than 200 hats, gloves and mittens, 175 coats and 70 blankets were donated to Bethany Christian Services.

The Welcoming Our Neighbors Winter Gear Drive was organized by the student organization Better Together, and sponsored by **Student Senate, Division of Student Services, Community Service Learning Center, Division of Inclusion and Equity and Division of Enrollment Development**.

## Sketches

**Vandana Pednekar-Magal**, professor of communications, wrote an article, “Liberal Education as Counter-hegemonic Movement,” published in *Educating for an Ecological Civilization*.

**John Kilbourne**, professor of movement science, has been named one of 45 advisors to the Global Foundation of Community Health.

**Ian Lang**, research coordinator for the Community Research Institute at the Johnson Center for Philanthropy, was a co-author of an article, “Developing an Evidence Base of Best Practices for Integrating Computerized Systems into the Exam Room: A systematic Review,” published in the *Journal of the American Medical Informatics Association*.

**Evelyn Clingerman**, executive director of the Wesorick Center for Health Care Transformation, was re-elected as co-chair of the National Academies of Practice, Nursing Academy.

College of Education faculty members **Rick Vandermolen** and **Catherine Meyer-Looze** gave a presentation, “Putting Theory into Action through Collaborative Partnerships,” at the International Congress for School Effectiveness and Improvement in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada.

## Across Campus

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The action plan follows Haas’ signature on the Campus Compact Presidents’ Declaration, which includes commitments regarding the public purposes of higher education; it will also advance several university strategic objectives.

The plan is designed to prepare faculty members and students for community-based work, align the university’s initiatives with community interests, and reconfigure Grand Valley’s infrastructure to support civic and community engagement.

### Cybersecurity expert says dark web is expanding

A former FBI special agent and leader on national security policy said the “dark web,” a part of the internet only accessible with special software in which personal information can be bought or sold, is bigger and more aggressive than anyone can understand.

Mike Rogers, who also served as a Michigan congressman and former chair of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, was the keynote speaker for the Peter F. Secchia Breakfast Lecture. The February 13 event was held at the L. William Seidman Center and sponsored by the Seidman College of Business.

Rogers said the dark web is hard to police because it’s difficult to access and information sold on the site changes quickly. He said he is not a fan of bitcoin (an anonymous peer-to-peer payment system) as a way of protecting information during transactions because it is primarily used for illicit activity.



Photo by Amanda Pitts

Mike Rogers discusses cybersecurity during a Peter F. Secchia Breakfast Lecture on February 13.

Rogers said, for many years, world leaders have perceived the U.S. as pulling back on national security, which has caused them to become more aggressive. “That is why you see, despite warnings from the White House, North Korea has launched another missile,” he said.

The cybersecurity expert gave examples of how hackers are manipulating devices globally and privately. He cited the 2014 computer attack on Sony by North Korea that wiped out more than half of the company’s network and included stealing a movie.

“Sony lost more than \$80 million in that attack,” said Rogers. “And, that information isn’t coming back. It couldn’t be recovered.

“In the private sector, hackers have been able to do things like stop a self-driving car that was going 70 mph and talk to a child through an interactive Barbie doll while that child was playing in a bedroom.”

### Grand Valley participates in national recycling competition

For the 10th year in a row, Grand Valley is participating in a national competition to collect the largest amount of recyclables and the least amount of trash.

Through April 1, Grand Valley will compete against hundreds of colleges and universities in Recyclemania. The 10-week competition includes categories such as Food Service Organics and Waste Minimization.

During the 2016 competition, Grand Valley ranked first in the state and in the top 15 nationwide (for universities with more than 20,000 students) in the composting category. In total, 221,986 pounds were recycled.

Janet Aubil, operations supervisor for Facilities Services, said Grand Valley is striving to increase the amount of compost and recyclable materials this year.

“It’s important that students, faculty and staff make recycling and composting a daily, normal routine,” Aubil said. “Food service areas on campus now serve food in nearly all compostable or recyclable materials. Our compost is sent to a facility that turns it into dirt for gardens and farms.”

Facilities Services is leading the contest, with support from Campus Dining, Grand Valley’s Green Team, Office of Housing and Residence Life, Sustainability Initiative, Student Environmental Coalition and Pew Campus Operations.