

# FORUM

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

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## Traverse City will add health professions program

Grand Valley will expand its Master's in Physician Assistant Studies program by opening a satellite location in Traverse City.

Grand Valley administrators and faculty members will celebrate this addition during a ribbon-cutting ceremony November 11 at the Traverse City Regional Center.

It is the first physician assistant studies program in Michigan that has been accredited to offer a satellite program.

Roy Olsson, dean of the College of Health Professions, and faculty members Andrew Booth and Theresa Bacon-Baguley will join Timothy Nelson, president of Northwestern Michigan College, and Dr. Rob Smith, medical director of Munson Medical Center's Emergency Department, at the event.

The satellite program will open in the 2015 fall semester. Booth, chair of the MPAS department, said 12 students will be admitted in a cohort. Students in the master's level program in Traverse City will interact daily with their counterparts at Grand Valley's Cook-DeVos Center for Health Sciences in Grand Rapids through the use of ITV, a remote site classroom video system.

Olsson said adding the satellite program

allows Grand Valley to enroll more students in the program overall, as students in Traverse City will spend their clinical year in northern Michigan health care facilities.

"One of our goals with this satellite program was to place more physician assistant graduates in jobs in northern Michigan and the Upper Peninsula," Olsson said. "Educating students who complete their education and clinical experiences in northern Michigan should lead to more graduates staying in that area."

Jean Nagelkerk, vice provost for Health, said expanding the university's collaborative partnerships meets the needs of area residents. "We are delighted to participate in the development of a health care workforce with expertise in population health, team-based care, and primary health care," Nagelkerk said.

The MPAS program has a proven track record; 100 percent of students in the last three

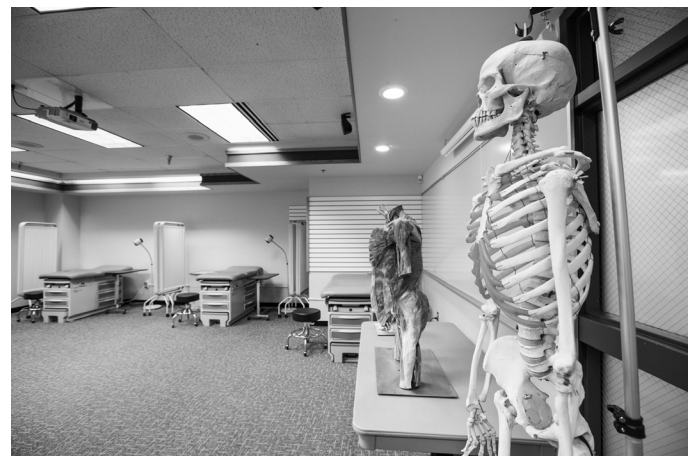


Photo by Amanda Pitts

This lab at the Traverse City Regional Center may be empty now, but next fall will be full of physician assistant studies students and faculty members. The program has expanded to allow students there to complete clinical experiences in northern Michigan health care facilities.

cohorts to take the national licensure exam have passed on their first attempt, and the program has an overall first time pass rate of 98.6 percent since its inception in 1995.

## Across Campus

### Asian Affinity Group meets

About 30 faculty and staff members gathered October 15 for the first Asian Affinity Group meeting.

It's the second affinity group established at Grand Valley for faculty and staff members of color. The Latin@ Faculty and Staff Association began organizing in the spring semester; it is chaired by Carlos Rodriguez and Natalia Gomez.

Connie Dang, director of Multicultural Affairs, said her office has worked closely with the Division of Inclusion and Equity to create these groups. The catalyst to do so, Dang said, came from recommendations outlined in the 2011 campus climate study and efforts to increase recruitment and retention of students, faculty and staff members of color.

"We looked at models of faculty and staff groups at other universities," Dang said. "The affinity group model

supports recruitment and retention efforts and helps create a sense of community."

Shaily Menon, CLAS associate dean and professor of biology, said the next steps for the Asian Affinity Group are to establish working

groups and appoint chairs and officers.

The meeting was held at the L. William Seidman Center. Other event hosts were Kin Ma, assistant professor of geography and planning, and Patrick Shan, associate professor of history.



Photo by April Joy Galbreath

Pictured are Asian Affinity Group faculty and staff members at a meeting at the L. William Seidman Center.

### Master's program receives national ranking

Grand Valley's master's program in medical and bioinformatics received national recognition among universities that offer health care informatics degrees. Grand Valley's program was ranked 19th out of the top 25 in the nation by MBA Healthcare Management.

Selection was based on several factors, including overall quality, affordability, hybrid format, accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation for Health Informatics and Information Management Education and membership with the American Medical Informatics Association.

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# Across Campus

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Universities were also ranked on engagement in emerging research in the field of biomedical informatics and opportunities for students to participate in cutting-edge projects.

Read more about the rankings from MBA Healthcare Management at [www.mba-healthcare-management.com](http://www.mba-healthcare-management.com).

## Campus task force established to coordinate on Ebola

A Grand Valley task force has been established to prepare against the threat of the Ebola virus and review best practices.

Andy Beachnau, associate vice provost for Student Affairs, stressed that there have been no reports of anyone in the campus community affected by Ebola but said it is important to plan a coordinated response.

Matt McLogan, vice president for University Relations, was named campus spokesperson.

Staff members at the Campus Health Center, supported by Metro Health, have been trained by the Ottawa County Health Department to follow guidelines established by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention if a patient at the center presents symptoms of the virus.

Jean Nagelkerk, vice provost for Health, said her staff members remain in contact with Spectrum Health and Kent County Health Department. Information about the virus was sent to all students, faculty and staff members who are involved in health-related programs.

Mark Schaub, chief international officer, said there are not any international students on campus from countries that have reported Ebola outbreaks.

The CDC has updated travel guidelines and information about Ebola on its website at [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov).

## Faculty, students lead PowerUP class

Nearly every week for the past four years, Lori Borgeld has traveled to an exercise class led by a Grand Valley State University physical therapy faculty member and graduate students.

Borgeld and others in her class have been diagnosed with Parkinson's

disease. At each session, they are led through a series of exercises that will aid their balance, strength and agility.

Borgeld said the Parkinson's PowerUP class, held at the Cook-DeVos Center for Health Sciences, is more than aerobic activity. "It's a great support group," Borgeld said. "We share similar experiences and hear each others' complaints."

Cathy Harro, assistant professor of physical therapy, has led the class for about six years. It's free for community members who are in the early stages of Parkinson's disease, an incurable and degenerative neurological disorder.

"The people who are in this class feel empowered to stay active," Harro said. "Exercise, in conjunction with medications, has been proven effective to keep patients with Parkinson's functioning at a higher level for a longer period of time."

Harro leads the class like an aerobic exercise instructor, guiding participants through strength, posture, balance and agility activities. The class activities and exercises are specifically designed to address motor control and balance deficits common with Parkinson's disease. It also serves as a service learning opportunity for graduate students, who assist and interact with participants.

Mary Ellen Baker has attended Parkinson's PowerUP for nearly three years. She said she notices differences in her body if she misses several classes. "If I don't do it, I get real stiff," Baker said.

Like Borgeld, Baker enjoys the camaraderie among participants. "We share successes we've had with alternative medicines and talk about our setbacks, too," Baker said.

Harro and her students also assist at an exercise class for individuals with Parkinson's disease at Mercy Health Saint Mary's in Grand Rapids.



Photo by Amanda Pitts

Jaleesa O'Neal, a graduate student majoring in physical therapy, watches Bill Van Oosterhout exercise during a PowerUP class for people with Parkinson's disease.

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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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*Grand Valley Magazine*, which is published quarterly for the university community. Visit its website at [www.gvsu.edu/gvmagazine](http://www.gvsu.edu/gvmagazine).

Visit Grand Valley's online publication, GVNNow, 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

### Yumi Jakobcic Campus Sustainability Coordinator

Yumi Jakobcic had always wanted to do something pertaining to the environment and natural resources but said she didn't anticipate having an opportunity to do that by returning to Grand Valley.

After living in Vermont for six years, Jakobcic moved back to her home state of Michigan to take on the role of Grand Valley's campus sustainability coordinator. She provides resources and support for students, faculty and staff members, and helps them to incorporate sustainability into their work.

"I'm finding that a lot of people are doing sustainability on their own," said Jakobcic. "So I am very fortunate to be able to just help them take it to the next level."

She said she enjoys learning about how people are involved in sustainability efforts at all of Grand Valley's campuses. Sometimes this allows her to help make new connections and spark some interdisciplinary work.

Jakobcic earned a bachelor's degree in natural resource management from Grand Valley in 2006, a master's degree in environmental management from Duke University in 2008, and is currently finishing a doctoral degree in natural resources from the University of Vermont.

Grand Valley has always been a big part of Jakobcic's family. Her father was a professor, and her mother and sister attended Grand Valley.

"Grand Valley is a place that I truly love," she said. "So when I saw the opportunity to come back, and hopefully give back, to some place so special, it seemed like the perfect fit."

In her free time, Jakobcic enjoys spending time with family and friends. She also enjoys taking her daughter, Gracie, who was born in Vermont, to her favorite places in Michigan.



Yumi Jakobcic



# What's Ahead

## Entrepreneur is keynote at leadership reception

A professional photographer and entrepreneur in Grand Rapids will be the keynote speaker at the Venderbush Leadership Reception Monday, November 3. The biannual event recognizes student leadership on campus.

Skip Cerier is founder of four photography-related businesses, including Graduation Foto, Grand Valley's commencement photography vendor since 1978.

The reception is set for 2-4 p.m. in the Kirkhof Center, room 2204. RSVP for the event online at [www.gvsu.edu/leadership](http://www.gvsu.edu/leadership).

Cerier's newest start-up company, Greener Grads, recovers and repurposes graduation gowns, preventing them from going into landfills. He also has participated in 11 start-up companies.

At the reception, new members of Omicron Delta Kappa National Leadership Honor Society will be recognized and the Student Organization Center will present the Immediate Impact Award, which is awarded to an exceptional student leader.

The reception is named after Kenneth R. Venderbush, who served as associate professor, dean of William James College and vice president of Student Affairs during his time at the university. He was a strong advocate of student leadership participation as a learning tool.

## Symposium about civil discourse planned

The first Civil Discourse Symposium is scheduled the day before Election Day intentionally.

Lisa Perhamus, the first Padnos/Sarosik Endowed Professor of Civil Discourse, said she chose Monday, November 3, to recognize the importance of civil discourse in decision-making.

"Civil Discourse for Civic Engagement" will run 5-8:30 p.m. in the L. William Seidman Center. The event, largely planned by Perhamus' class, will feature four panelists who live in Detroit and whose social justice community work exemplify the successes of peace-based, neighborhood-nurturing initiatives happening in that city.

Panelists are Ron Scott, founder of Detroit Peace Zones; Myrtle Thompson-Curtis, founder of Freedom Freedom Growers; Richard Feldman, activist; and Kim Sherobbi, from the East Michigan Environmental Action Council.

A light dinner will precede screening of a film, "We Are Not Ghosts," which details the spirit of Detroiters.

There are limited seats available, contact Krystal Vanden Bosch via email [vandkrys@gvsu.edu](mailto:vandkrys@gvsu.edu) or by phone at x18655.

For more information, visit [www.gvsu.edu/civildiscourse](http://www.gvsu.edu/civildiscourse).

## Ojibwe linguist, author will discuss heritage

Author, editor and professor Anton Treuer will give a presentation Wednesday, November 5, at Grand Valley during Native American Heritage Month.

Treuer's presentation, "Everything You Wanted to Know About Indians But Were Afraid to Ask," will take place at 6 p.m. in the Cook-DeWitt Center. Treuer serves as executive director of the American Indian Resource Center at Bemidji State University. He is author

of 13 books about Native American culture and heritage and is editor of the *Oshkaabewis Native Journal*, the only academic journal of the Ojibwe language.

The event is free and open to the public. Treuer's visit is sponsored by the Office of Multicultural Affairs and is in conjunction with the Professional of Color Lecture Series.

For more information, visit [www.gvsu.edu/oma](http://www.gvsu.edu/oma).

## PIC will host passport fair

The Padnos International Center will host a passport fair on Thursday, November 6, from 1-4 p.m. in Lake Ontario Hall, room 130.

Students, faculty and staff members are invited to apply for a new passport or renew their current one. Allow up to six weeks for passport processing.

Participants applying for a new passport should bring proof of U.S. citizenship, proof of identity with photo, two separate checks or money orders (\$110 to the Department of State, \$25 to the Postal Service).

Passport photos can be taken at the fair for \$2 cash. Participants must present GVSU identification cards.

Passport renewals require two checks (\$110 to the Department of State, \$5.75 to the Postal Service).

Visit [www.gvsu.edu/pic](http://www.gvsu.edu/pic) for more information.

## Student Senate will hold campus forum

University administrators will serve as panelists during a Campus Forum that will give students opportunities to ask questions about sexual assault and violence, bias incident protocol, and free speech.

The forum is hosted by Student Senate; it's scheduled for Thursday, November 6, from 4:30-6 p.m. in the Mary Idema Pew Library Learning and Information Commons, multipurpose room.

Panelists are Renee Freeman, chief of police and director of Public Safety; Dwight Hamilton, associate vice president for Affirmative Action and Title IX officer; Marlene Kowalski-Braun, assistant vice provost for Student Affairs; and Theresa Rowland, victims advocate and VAWA grant coordinator.

Questions can be submitted ahead of the event via a website, [www.gvsu.edu/student senate/forum](http://www.gvsu.edu/student senate/forum).

## Author to discuss essential questions of politics

The Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies and the Koeze Business Ethics Initiative will welcome well-known author Francis Fukuyama to discuss his follow-up book to his critically acclaimed *Origins of Political Order* as part of the center's American Conversations Series.

Fukuyama will take on the essential question of how societies develop strong, impersonal and accountable political institutions. He will follow that question from the French Revolution to the Arab Spring, and will also discuss the deep dysfunction that plagues modern American politics.

"Political Order and Political Decay" is set for Thursday, November 6, at 7 p.m. in the Eberhard Center.

The event is free and open to the public; RSVPs are requested and can be made online at [www.gvsu.edu/s/Ks](http://www.gvsu.edu/s/Ks).

## Theater production begins this week

The production "The Women of Lockerbie" will begin Friday, November 7, 7:30 p.m., in the Performing Arts Center, Louis Armstrong Theatre.

It was written by Deborah Brevoort and directed by Kiara Pipino. Performances continue through November 16, visit [www.gvsu.edu/theatre](http://www.gvsu.edu/theatre) for details and a schedule.

On December 21, 1988, Pan Am Flight 103 exploded mid-air above Lockerbie, Scotland killing all 259 passengers on board the plane and another 11 people on the ground. "The Women of Lockerbie" follows an American mother looking for any remains of her son killed in the terrorist bombing.

Tickets are \$12 for adults, \$10 seniors, \$6 students and group rate (10 or more). For more information, contact the LAT Box Office at x12300 or visit [www.gvsu.edu/theatre](http://www.gvsu.edu/theatre).

## Opera cast to perform at Wege Theatre

Opera Theatre presents Mozart's enchanting opera, "The Magic Flute," where love triumphs over darkness.

Performances are set for November 7-9 at 7:30 p.m. at the Wege Theatre, 341 Ellsworth SW in Grand Rapids.

Follow the brave Prince Tamino and the simple happy-go-lucky birdcatcher Papageno as they go through the trials that make them worthy of the women they desire.

This comic fantasy will combine a nine-piece chamber orchestra, Grand Valley voice faculty members and students, alumni and the Grand Rapids Ballet junior company.

Dale Schriemer, Opera Theatre artistic director, said the performance will require students to take their skills to the next level.

"The vocal demands of a Mozart opera are greater than other works we've done in the past," said Schriemer. "There is a depth and maturity to the program that begs for this high bar to be set. It's like the football team playing its biggest rival. They have to play their best. We have to perform and sing our best in 'The Magic Flute.'"

Tickets are \$14 for adults; \$12 alumni, seniors, faculty and staff members; \$6 students and groups. For more information, contact the LAT Box Office at x12300.

## Women's Commission to host mentoring event

The Women's Commission will host its third annual Women's Mentoring Reception, an event designed to help build connections and foster potential mentorships.

The event is set for November 11, from 3:30-5 p.m. in the DeVos Center, Loosemore Auditorium.

Panelists will be Lynn "Chick" Blue, vice provost for Academic Services and Information Technology; Beverly Grant, associate director of the Johnson Center; Anne Hiskes, dean of Brooks College of Interdisciplinary Studies; Karen Ingle, project manager Facilities Planning; and Diana Lawson, dean of Seidman College of Business.

Wine and cheese will be served; RSVP online at [www.gvsu.edu/wcommission](http://www.gvsu.edu/wcommission).

# FACULTY AND STAFF SKETCHES

## In the News

**Eric Kunnen**, associate director of e-learning and emerging technologies, was interviewed by *EdTech Magazine* for a story about engaging students with technology.

## Sketches

**Kim Ranger**, liaison librarian, and **Victoria Veenstra**, associate professor of communications, gave a presentation, "Informed Learning in Photography: Collaboration through Visual Communication," at the National Lilly Conferences on College and University Teaching & Learning in Traverse City.

**Steve Chappell**, grant writer and project manager with WGVU Public Media, received a grant from WETA for the project, "The Story of Cancer: The Emperor of All Maladies."

**Priscilla Kimboko**, professor of gerontology and health care management, received a grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration for the Art and Science of Aging Conference.

**Rita Kohrman**, liaison librarian, gave a presentation, "Current Condition of Curriculum Materials Centers and Collection in Michigan," at the Michigan Library Association Conference in Grand Rapids.

**Coeli Fitzpatrick**, associate professor of honors, wrote an article, "Said Matters," published in *Critical Race and Whiteness*

*Studies*, and edited a book, *Muhammad in History, Thought and Culture*, published by ABC-CLIO.

**Matthew Roberts**, instructional designer for e-learning/Information Technology, gave presentations, "Please Pass the Potatoes: Hospitality as Educational Metaphor" and "Rod Stewart Was Right: The Value of Hindsight in Teaching," at the National Lilly Conferences on College and University Teaching & Learning in Traverse City.

**Danielle DeMuth**, associate professor of women and gender studies, served as guest editor and wrote an introduction to a special issue of the *Journal of Lesbian Studies*.

**Deborah Bambini**, associate professor of nursing, received a fellowship in the National League for Nursing Academy of Nursing Education. She was inducted during the NLN Summit in September in Phoenix.

**Ruth Ann Brintnall**, associate professor of nursing, co-wrote an article, "Home-Based Exercise: Promising Rehabilitation for Symptom Relief, Improved Functional Status and Quality of Life for Post-Surgical Lung Cancer Patients," published in the *Journal of Thoracic Disease*.

**Paulette Chaponniere**, assistant professor of nursing, gave a presentation, "Interdisciplinary Service Learning Shaped by Research: Cameroon Water Project," at the West Michigan Interprofessional Education Initiative conference.

## Interfaith institute earns grant

The Sylvia and Richard Kaufman Interfaith Institute was recently awarded an international grant of approximately \$120,000 by the John Templeton Foundation.

Katie Gordon, Kaufman Interfaith Institute program manager, said the grant will be used to "develop, encourage and inspire Turkish/US, Muslim/Christian dialogue partners on science and religion, and to develop a proposal for a long-term project in Islamic and Christian science and religion going forward."

Gordon said these dialogues will be created through a series of workshops facilitated by the Kaufman Interfaith Institute.

Doug Kindschi, Kaufman Interfaith Institute director, and Kelly Clark, Kaufman Interfaith Institute senior research fellow, hosted the first workshop during the summer in Turkey. In June 2015, the institute will host the Grand Dialogue on Science and Religion annual conference, which will be devoted keynote speakers and breakout sessions speaking about Islamic and Christian approaches to science and religion.

## Across Campus

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Harro said that class is open to all stages of Parkinson's disease; individuals in the more advanced stages of the disease complete the exercises while sitting down.

Harro is a board certified neurologic clinical specialist and also serves as the clinical research director for the Lulenski-Smith Neurologic Physical Therapy Residency at Mary Free Bed Rehabilitation Hospital.

## Student wins award for graffiti in Grand Rapids research

A geography major's research about graffiti classifications in southeast Grand Rapids was recently awarded at the East Lakes/West Lakes Regional Conference of the Association of American Geographers.

Since her first semester at Grand Valley in the fall of 2013, Alyson Mabie has researched how different graffiti classifications in southeast Grand Rapids reflect cultural shifts in varying neighborhoods over time. Through her research, Mabie has collected location data for more than 700 instances of three categories of graffiti, which she defines as:

- Gang graffiti: symbols specific to a gang and that gang's "territory."
- Graffiti art: traditional name-based writing often seen in New York City



Alyson Mabie earned an award from AAG for her research into Grand Rapids graffiti.

and Philadelphia in the 1970s.

- Street art: any graffiti that transcends name-based style, such as murals, stencils and stickers.

"I also documented the specifics of each instance like colors, letters, medium and graffiti type," said Mabie. "In the end, the three types of graffiti I specified had distinct geographies that likely reflect cultural undercurrents associated with each type."

Mabie's research paper, "Claiming Turf: The Spatial Distribution of Three Discrete Types of Graffiti/Street Art in Southeast Grand Rapids, Michigan," received first place in the undergraduate student paper presentation category during the October 17 AAG annual meeting.

Mabie said her interest in this topic began long before attending college. While growing up in the southeast side of Grand Rapids, she saw graffiti in her surroundings and wanted to understand its meanings more thoroughly.

"Out of general curiosity, I started researching graffiti culture and quickly became fascinated by the history and evolution of this uniquely urban form, as well as its many applications," said Mabie. "There was also a lot of public misconceptions about graffiti. It was a situation where the more I learned, the more I wanted to know."

Roy Cole, professor of geography and planning, assisted Mabie in writing her senior thesis research proposal and said her research is unique because it combines two fields of study that don't normally go hand-in-hand.

"I've never had a student with a similar topic," said Cole. "What's really interesting to me is her combination of art and science: analyzing artistic expression with the quantitative methods and the spatial science of the geographer."

Mabie will present her senior thesis at the annual meeting of the Michigan Academy of Science, Arts and Letters at Andrews University in March and the annual meeting of the AAG in Chicago in April.