

FORUM

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

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New vice president settles into role; receptions set

With a few weeks on the job, the new vice president for Inclusion and Equity said the campus community has been open and engaging.

Jesse M. Bernal began his tenure at Grand Valley in late February. He said his time since then has been spent meeting faculty and staff members, and students, including during quick visits to the student services centers.

"I had some open time on my calendar last week, so I popped into the LGBT Resource Center, Women's Center and Office of Multicultural Affairs," Bernal said. "It was great to see each packed with students."

Bernal said his first priorities are to listen and learn from community members on campus and in the area.

"It is important that I get to know more about the opportunities and challenges in our community, and better understand the

experiences and perceptions of all members of our diverse university," he said. "I also want to recognize and learn from the long-standing diversity champions at Grand Valley and in West Michigan who have led equity and inclusion work for decades."

He said the mission of the Division of Inclusion and Equity is to provide a rich, inclusive learning and working environment that attracts, retains and supports a diverse campus community.

"The next phase of these efforts includes working to ensure equity is embedded across



Jesse M. Bernal

the campus and ingrained in all of our functions and decision-making," he said.

One goal this year, Bernal said, is to continue to support Grand Valley in further developing its strategic priority to advance equity and inclusion work on campus. "This will require many robust conversations to better understand opportunities on campus," he said.

Two receptions are planned for faculty and staff members to welcome Bernal to campus.

All faculty and staff members are invited to either reception: Wednesday, March 11, from 3:30-5 p.m. in the Kirkhof Center, Thornapple Room; or Thursday, March 19, from 3:30-5 p.m. in the DeVos Center, University Club Room.

Bernal had served most recently as director of the Office for Diversity and Inclusion at Santa Clara University in California, and previously served as diversity coordinator for the University of California system.

Across Campus

Rowland named Title IX coordinator

Theresa Rowland has been named Grand Valley's interim Title IX coordinator, following the departure of Dwight Hamilton.

Hamilton left Grand Valley in February to begin a new role as chief diversity officer at Smith College.

Rowland received Title IX certification through the Association of Title IX Administrators. She joined Grand Valley in 2011 as the Violence Against Women Act grant coordinator, and served as victim advocate. Rowland chairs the Campus Violence Prevention Team and co-chairs the Sexual Assault Response Team.

Staff members at the Women's Center serve as victim advocates and have been trained to respond to student survivors of sexual violence or gender-based violence.

The Title IX coordinator is responsible for monitoring the university's Title IX compliance, including training, education and administration



Theresa Rowland

of grievance procedures. A new phone number has been dedicated to Title IX calls, 331-9530.

Average gift increases in United Way campaign

The average gift from Grand Valley faculty and staff members to United Way during the university's 2014 campaign increased by \$6 per person, according to campaign co-chairs Sue Sloop and Steve Lipnicki.

Overall, the campaign raised more than \$165,000 to help fund United Way and programs like Schools of Hope, Stuff the Bus and Project Blueprint.

The response rate of faculty and staff was 72 percent, almost exactly on par with the five-year average. The giving rate ended at 47.5 percent, slightly down from 2013's total of 49.9 percent, but donations were higher in 2014.

"We're thankful for the time that everyone took to hear from their campaign captains and grateful to those who chose to help support the United Way," Sloop said. "We hope to have an increase in responses and giving next year so we can continue to help the United Way do meaningful work in our local communities."

Sloop and Lipnicki will not return as co-chairs for the 2015 campaign, but acknowledge and thank the campaign committee for its

dedication, hard work and tireless efforts. The committee members are Darla Bennett, Brian Van Doeselaar, Michelle Holstege, Nate Hoekstra and Chelsea Wojes, from the Heart of West Michigan United Way. The new campaign co-chairs will be Ruth Stegeman, director for Community Engagement, and Damon Arnold, director of Laker advising.

For more information on the GVSU United Way campaign, visit gvsu.edu/unitedway.

Faculty successfully explore Reeds Lake steamboat shipwrecks

A group of Grand Valley faculty members, students and community members braved single-digit temperatures February 20 to explore the depths of Reeds Lake in East Grand Rapids, hoping to digitally map two sunken steamboats, S.S. Hazel A. and S.S. Ramona.

Mark Schwartz, associate professor of anthropology, and Mark Gleason, assistant professor of tourism and hospitality management, are leading the collaborative project, funded by the Center for Scholarly and Creative Excellence. The team is also comprised of Matthew Daley, associate professor of history;

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Brian Abbott, Nautilus Marine Group; David Cummins from the Marine Technology Program at Alpena Community College; and Mary Dersch from the East Grand Rapids History Room, among many others.

While some law enforcement and local divers have traveled beneath the water to these shipwrecks in the past, Grand Valley's group is the first academic research team to explore the wrecks.

"We want to document these wrecks and learn more about the naval architecture that went into a steamboat designed for tourism versus a steamboat designed for trade," Schwartz said.

Gleason added the February 20 survey cleared up some misconceptions about the Hazel A. wreck in particular. "I had been told that this wreck was lying on its side, but my remotely operated vehicle (ROV) dive last fall showed it sitting upright. Last Friday's sonar image confirms the wreck is in one piece, sitting upright on the bottom [of Reeds Lake]," he said.

To reach the wrecks, the survey team first cut through ice estimated to be approximately 12 inches thick. Next, the team launched and guided a sonar unit through the ice, down to the wrecks off shore of Collins Park.

While the temperatures may have been low, Schwartz explained that kind of weather is ideal for this type of project. "The coverage made the launching platform of the ice for the sector scan sonar stable so that our results were as accurate as possible. The sonar imaging was great, especially when you consider the poor visibility in Reeds Lake," he said.



Photo by Amanda Pitts

Mark Gleason, assistant professor of tourism and hospitality management, aids in the deployment of an ROV February 20 on Reeds Lake.

The collection of sonar images may have been successful, but the group experienced technical difficulties during the latter portion of the exploration.

"Sadly, we did have trouble with the ROV," Gleason said. "Problems happen often with this gear, which is why this type of work can be challenging. The most important part of the effort was to get the sonar images and we succeeded with that goal."

The ROV is equipped with imaging sonar that allows the team to get an acoustic picture of the vessel even if the water visibility is poor.

Schwartz said the next step in this project will be to attempt an ROV dive again to collect video and pictures of certain aspects of the wreck, including the name, boiler and below decks.

Nominations open for Student Life Awards

The Office of Student Life is accepting nominations for its annual Student Life Awards April 16.

The awards ceremony recognizes outstanding achievement in the areas of individual leadership, organizational success and excellence in programming. Students, registered organizations, faculty and staff members, and campus departments can be nominated.

Nominations are due March 23 and must include a brief paragraph stating why the nominee deserves the recognition. Additional supplements, such as photos, articles and letters of support, may be submitted with the paragraph.

The nomination form is on OrgSync, log in at www.gvsu.edu/orgsync. For more information, contact Josh Lee at leesuh@gvsu.edu.

Call for art for Women's Center

The Women's Center is seeking submissions of artwork from students, faculty and staff members, and community members to be displayed throughout the center next year.

The theme of the Women's Center's 14th annual call for art is celebrating diverse gender expressions.

The deadline for submissions is April 10, at 2 p.m.; entry forms can be found at www.gvsu.edu/women_cen.

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The GVSU Forum is published by University Communications. The submission deadline is Tuesday noon. Send publication items to Michele Coffill, editor, c/o forum@gvsu.edu. Telephone: 616-331-2221. Fax: 616-331-2250. Web: www.gvsu.edu/forum.

Faculty and staff members can find an online "Sketches" submission form on the Web at www.gvsu.edu/forum.

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Other publications by University Communications include:

Grand Valley Magazine, which is published quarterly for the university community. Visit its website at www.gvsu.edu/gvmagazine.

Visit Grand Valley's online publication, GVNNow, at www.gvsu.edu/gvnow, for daily news updates and video features.

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

GVFaces

Garron Lucius, Assistant Athletic Director, Game and Event Operations

This is Garron Lucius's first year as assistant athletic director for game and event operations at Grand Valley, but Lucius is no stranger to campus.

Lucius earned a bachelor's degree in physical education with a minor in elementary education from Grand Valley in 2009; and a master's degree in college student personnel administration from the University of West Florida in 2012.

During his time at Grand Valley, he was an All-American hurdler on the Laker track team and was a student worker for two years during game days. Lucius said he loves working with an athletic powerhouse university like Grand Valley.

"Being able to work at an athletic department and institution that's so well-known across the country made me excited to come back," he said. "I know from being a student how nice the campus is and how good Grand Valley's academic reputation is, and now I know it's an awesome place to work."

In his current position, he oversees all home varsity athletics, which includes staffing and game day management. Lucius makes sure everything runs smoothly, but he doesn't do it all alone. "We rely on Grand Valley students and interns a lot for our athletic events," he said. "I couldn't do it without them."

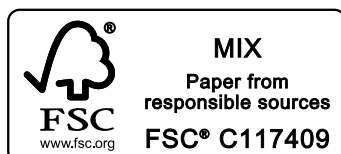
Lucius said his family's love of sports is what led him to where he is now.

"I've always been around sports my whole life," Lucius said. "It's hard for me to imagine doing anything different than being involved in collegiate athletics."

In his free time, Lucius enjoys going to the beach, fishing, watching sporting events, traveling and reading.



Garron Lucius



What's Ahead

Events planned for Women's History Month

From an entrepreneurship conference to a celebration of International Women's Day, many events are planned at Grand Valley to celebrate March as Women's History Month.

Some events are highlighted below; see a complete list at www.gvsu.edu/women_cen. Most events are free and open to the public.

- **Celebration of International Women's Day: March 10, 5:30-7 p.m., Kirkhof Center, Area 51:** International and domestic students will share their experiences through images and personal stories.

- **Find Your Voice: Empowering Women Entrepreneurs Conference: March 13, 7:30 a.m.- 1 p.m., Eberhard Center:** The conference is geared toward women entrepreneurs and empowering them to move forward with innovative ideas. It is sponsored by the DeVos Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation. Register at www.gvsu.edu/cei/.

- **Historical Consciousness and the Black Feminist Imagination — How Popular Culture Influences Women's History: March 17, 6 p.m., Kirkhof Center, room 2204:** Janell Hobson, associate professor at the University of Albany, will give the presentation. She is author of *Body as Evidence: Mediating Race, Globalizing Gender and Venus in the Dark: Blackness and Beauty in Popular Culture*.

- **EqualiTea: March 26, 3 p.m., Kirkhof Center, Grand River Room:** Students, faculty and staff members will participate in a centuries-old tradition of combining tea parties with discussions of literature, politics and reform. Kathleen Underwood, director of Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies, will be honored for establishing the annual event. RSVP at www.gvsu.edu/women_cen.

- **Annual Celebrating Women Awards: March 31, 3-4 p.m., Kirkhof Center, room 2204:** The Women's Commission, Women's Center and Positive Black Women will recognize men and women who have made an impact on the lives of women. RSVP at www.gvsu.edu/wcommission.

Annual Technology Symposium highlights teaching practices

More than 30 faculty presentations about innovative ways to teach with technology will highlight an annual symposium sponsored by two campus departments.

The Teaching and Learning with Technology Symposium is scheduled for Wednesday, March 11, at the DeVos Center. The event is sponsored by the Pew Faculty Teaching and Learning Center, and Instructional Design for eLearning.

For the first time, the symposium will include a conference for Michigan Blackboard users, from 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Participants will learn from colleagues around the state and hear what's ahead for Blackboard.



Derek Bruff

Derek Bruff, director of the Vanderbilt University Center for Teaching, will deliver the symposium's keynote address at 1 p.m. in Loosemore Auditorium. Bruff's presentation will focus on using technology to make more intentional and effective use of class time, and engage students in deeper learning.

Following Bruff's address, Robert Talbert, associate professor of mathematics, will receive the Pew Teaching with Technology Award. Faculty presentations will run from 2-4 p.m.

Register for the Blackboard conference or see more information about the symposium by visiting www.gvsu.edu/idel.



The Aries Trio will perform March 11 at the Cook-DeWitt Center.

Arts at Noon spotlights Aries Trio

The Arts at Noon series continues Wednesday, March 11, with a performance by Aries Trio.

The Aries Trio features Richard Stoelzel, professor of trumpet, with violinist Megan Crawford and pianist Sheryl Iott. The ensemble's unique instrumentation has caught the attention of world-class composers and the trio has quickly established itself in the music world with its high standards and virtuosity.

All of the Arts at Noon concerts take place in the Cook-DeWitt Center, begin at noon, and last approximately one hour. The concerts are free and open to the public.

For more information, contact the Music and Dance Department at x13484 or visit www.gvsu.edu/music.

Community leader to speak at Wheelhouse Talks

Hilary Snell has served in a leadership function on several West Michigan boards. He will share his leadership perspective based on his experiences advising key area institutions during a Wheelhouse Talk, sponsored by the Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies.

The event is set for Wednesday, March 11, at 12:30 p.m. at the L. William Seidman Center.

Snell has served as chair of the board for Spectrum Health, Priority Health, and the Michigan Natural Resources Commission, and currently chairs the Hauenstein Center advisory cabinet. He is a graduate of Colgate University and the University of Michigan Law School and currently serves at Varnum L.L.P., where he has been a managing partner.

RSVPs are requested online at www.hauensteincenter.org.

Writers Series concludes with Park

The Grand Valley Writers Series will conclude Thursday, March 12, at 6 p.m. in the Cook-DeWitt Center with author Samuel Park discussing his works.

Park is the author of *This Burns My Heart*, chosen as Best Book of the Year by *Kirkus Reviews*, Amazon, NPR.org, and *BookPage*.

He is also the author of "Shakespeare's Sonnets," adapted into a short film that he wrote and directed. His scholarly articles and reviews have appeared in the journals *Shakespeare Bulletin*, *Theatre Journal* and *Black Camera*. Park is an associate professor of English and creative writing at Columbia College Chicago.

This event is free and open to the public.

Expert will break down mammoth Tolstoy novel

War and Peace, widely regarded by many critics as the greatest novel ever written, is also widely regarded as one of the most intimidating books in history. At roughly 1,500 pages, it's easy to see why.

But the book is a fundamental story about people trying to create meaningful lives in a country ravaged by war, social change, political upheaval and spiritual confusion. The book mirrors issues faced in modern times.

In an American Conversations Series keynote presentation, hosted by the Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies, international Tolstoy expert Andrew Kaufman will discuss the mammoth work and dissect what it means to live through troubled times and survive them.

"Andrew Kaufman: Give War and Peace A Chance" is set for Thursday, March 12, at 7 p.m. in the DeVos Center, Loosemore Auditorium.

Kaufman's presentation and expertise have been showcased by Katie Couric, and will be enjoyable to people who have never read Tolstoy's work. Kaufman's book, *Give War and Peace A Chance*, was released in paperback February 10.

Composition contest to celebrate ArtPrize installation

Grand Valley music composition students will perform their adventurous, one-minute compositions inspired by the 2014 ArtPrize installation, "River Tattoo," during a March 12 competition.

The compositions will be performed by the New Music Ensemble in rapid succession and judged by a guest panel and the listening audience for various prizes.

The event will run from 7-9 p.m. at the Eberhard Center. Featured guests include artist and creator of "River Tattoo," Jim Cogswell, who will give opening remarks, and composer Paul Steinberg, who composed a new work to be premiered during the competition.

Crafted by Cogswell, University of Michigan art and design professor, River Tattoo is an 85-foot piece celebrating the Grand River and

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FACULTY AND STAFF SKETCHES

In the News

Mark Wittkoski, engineer for WGVU Public Media, was interviewed by *Radio Guide* for a story about transmitter speed.

Gamal Gasim, assistant professor of political science and Middle East Studies, wrote an article, "Analysis: Can Hadi Lead Yemen Out of Crisis?" published by *Al-Jazeera*, and was interviewed by Radio Student, from Slovenia, for a story about Yemen.

Gleaves Whitney, director of the Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies, was interviewed on the Michael Patrick Shiels' "Big Show," about the Michigan Political Leadership Program event in Grand Rapids.

Michael Moody, chair of the Frey Foundation for Family Philanthropy, was interviewed by the *Chronicle of Philanthropy* for a story about young donors in high-tech fields.

Chris Hinsch, assistant professor of marketing,

was interviewed by *MLive* for a story about Trader Joe's coming to Grand Rapids.

Kevin Callison, assistant professor of economics, was interviewed by the *Grand Rapids Business Journal* for a story about the well-being of Michigan.

Sketches

Kurt Ellenberger, associate professor of music, Meijer Honors College, wrote an article, "And She's Buying a Lawsuit to Heaven," published in the *Huffington Post*.

Michael Scantlebury, associate professor of hospitality and tourism management, gave a presentation, "Incorporating the Caribbean Enslavement Experience in Regional Tourism Marketing," at BlackacademicsTV Season 3.

Sok Kean Khoo, distinguished associate professor of molecular genomics, served as editor for a special issue of *Biofluid Biomarkers*

for *Parkinson's Disease*, and wrote two articles: "Biofluid-based microRNA Biomarkers for Parkinson's Disease: an Overview and Update," and "Parkinson's Disease-related Circulating microRNA Biomarkers — a Validation Study," published in the journal *AIMS Medical Science*.

Timothy E. Eernisse, development and marketing manager at WGVU Public Media, gave a presentation, "WGVU LearningMedia," at the Michigan FLIP Teaching Conference.

Richard Lord, assistant professor of chemistry, received a Cottrell College Science Award for a research project, "Using Computational Chemistry to Explore Multielectron Redox Catalysis."

Laurence Jose, assistant professor of writing, gave a presentation, "Career Documents: Writing Effective Cover Letters and Resumes," at Michigan's Global Future: Career Conference for International Students in Grand Rapids.

What's Ahead

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the Blue Bridge crossing over it. It was created from thousands of pieces of adhesive vinyl applied directly to the glass to form a mosaic of colored fragments.

Writing Center plans NAP

The Writing Center plans to be open overnight and give students an opportunity to study and write in a fun atmosphere.

The annual Night Against Procrastination will begin at 8 p.m. Thursday, March 12, and end at 8 a.m. Friday, March 13. Lake Ontario Hall will be open the entire time, but students are encouraged to check in at the center, room 120.

Patrick Johnson, director of the Writing Center, said center staff will offer games, yoga and other activities throughout the night. Pizza and refreshments will be available.

More information about NAP is online at www.gvsu.edu/wc.

Fulbright faculty workshop set

Fulbright Scholar grants provide support for faculty members to teach and/or conduct research in another country.

The Padnos International Center will host a workshop on Friday, March 13, for faculty members who are interested in applying for a Fulbright grant.

The event will run from 2-4 p.m. in the DeVos Center, University Club room. A wine and cheese reception with previous Fulbright awardees will begin at 3:15 p.m. Register online at www.gvsu.edu/sprout.

Students will celebrate Pi Day

Pies, potlucks and party poppers will all be a part of this year's Pi Day celebrations Friday and Saturday, March 13 and 14, presented by the Mathematics and Statistics Club.

"We celebrate Pi Day to pay tribute to one of the greatest numbers in our universe," said Danielle Harris, Mathematics and Statistics Club president. "It is found in nature, yet it's exact digits are still a mystery to us. Having a celebration allows us to get people excited about mathematics."

The group will facilitate its annual Pi Day fundraiser during which students can place money in cups labeled with the names of professors and graduating seniors in mathematics and statistics, as well as students in the biostatistics graduate program.

The students and faculty members with the most money in their cups will get pied in the face on Friday, March 13, at 4 p.m. in Mackinac Hall.

The club's second event will be a Pi Day Potluck on March 14 from 7-9:26 p.m. in Mackinac Hall, room A-2-105. Food will be provided and a pi-related film will be screened. At 9:26 p.m., those in attendance will celebrate with party poppers and noisemakers during this once-in-a-lifetime milestone.

"We're celebrating on 3/14/15 at 9:26 p.m. because they are the first eight digits of pi (3.1415926)," Harris said.

The Mathematics and Statistics Club offers a variety of activities and events every academic year for any students interested in mathematics and statistics, such as screening math-related movies, an annual fall picnic, career and advising events, math and statistics software workshops and social gatherings.



'Pi' in the face is one event planned for Pi Day, March 13-14. Events are sponsored by the Mathematics and Statistics Club.