

# FORUM

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

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## Grand Valley to celebrate 100,000th graduate

About 3,000 students will participate in commencement ceremonies Saturday, April 25, at Van Andel Arena in Grand Rapids. One of those graduates will be the 100,000th to receive a Grand Valley degree.

Grand Valley will celebrate another record-breaking milestone with more than 5,600 students expected to receive a degree during the 2014-2015 academic year.

The ceremonies will take place at 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. at the Van Andel Arena. Michael Jandernoa, former CEO and current board member of Perrigo Company, is the morning speaker, and Paula Kerger, president and CEO of PBS, is the afternoon speaker.

The 10 a.m. ceremony will include the



Michael Jandernoa

following colleges: Seidman College of Business, College of Community and Public Service, Padnos College of Engineering and Computing, College of Health Professions and Kirkhof College of Nursing. The 3 p.m. ceremony will include the following colleges: College of Education, Brooks College of Interdisciplinary Studies and College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Jandernoa served as CEO of Perrigo Company from 1998-2000 and chair of the board from 1991-2003. He graduated from the University of Michigan and worked for BDO Seidman as a CPA before joining Perrigo in 1979. He is the founder of Jandernoa Entrepreneurial Mentoring and 42 North Partners.

Kerger joined PBS as president and CEO in 2006. Under her leadership, PBS has grown its audiences across genres and platforms. She was named to the Women's Forum in 2005 and was honored in 2012 by national media outlets with a Brand Builder Award. She serves on boards for the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of Natural History and the Elizabeth

Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation.

The Alumni Association will present its Distinguished Alumni Award to Noreen Myers, '72, a lawyer specializing in employment law and the first alumna to be appointed to Grand Valley's Board of Trustees. The Outstanding Educator Award will be presented to Brad Wallar, associate professor of chemistry.



Paula Kerger

David Hecht and Bea Idema will receive honorary degrees. Hecht, a current trustee for the Grand Valley University Foundation, is president of the Charles W. Loosemore Foundation. He has practiced law for more than 50 years. Idema was among the lead donors for the Mary Idema Pew Library Learning and Information Commons at Grand Valley.

## Across Campus

### Faculty, staff to compete in Boston Marathon

Four faculty and staff members will run the Boston Marathon on Monday, April 20.

Three are first-timers: Amy Bross, assistant



Photo by Amanda Pitts

From left to right are Lindsey DesArmo, Scott Whisler, Amy Bross and Randy Winchester.

director of communications for University Development; Lindsey DesArmo, health and wellness specialist; and Randy Winchester, associate professor of chemistry.

Scott Whisler, project manager for Facilities Planning, qualified and ran during the 2010 Boston Marathon.

### Nursing graduate will apply to medical schools

Like other students who plan to apply to medical schools, Allison Swets is studying for the medical school admissions test, the MCAT.

She stands out from many students, however, as Swets already has a bachelor's degree in nursing.

Swets graduated from Grand Valley's Kirkhof College of Nursing last year. She was a second-degree student, having earned a bachelor's degree in mathematics from Bryn Mawr College in Pennsylvania.

Swets said earning a nursing degree, then wanting to further her education with a medical

degree stems from caring for her son, Roger, who has cerebral palsy and needs round-the-clock care.

"He spent the first three months of his life in the hospital," Swets said. "The nurses and doctors who cared for him really inspired me."

Swets is a native of New York City and was the first in her family to attend college. She said she picked mathematics over pre-med at that time because without the guidance of mentors and other resources pre-med seemed daunting.

In February, Swets and other Grand Valley pre-med students served as mentors to Grand Rapids Public School students who participated in the Health Careers Pipeline program held at the Michigan State University College of Human Medicine.

For eight weeks, the high school students learned about different health care careers. Swets said she was able to connect with the young students and hopefully provide them with some of the guidance that would have been so valuable to her when she was a young student.

"I come from a Puerto Rican family. I look at

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# Across Campus

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these students and they are bright and energetic, but sometimes the support is not there," she said. "The Pipeline program was great; they learned a lot about the medical field and saw lots of opportunities."

Swets said her nursing background and education will aid her during medical school. She said, "My nursing training will give me insights into patient care that I would not have otherwise and will make me a better doctor. I am very grateful for my time at the Kirkhof College of Nursing."

With her husband, Swets established a scholarship, the Maria I. Perez Nursing Scholarship, at Grand Valley that benefits nursing students pursuing a bachelor's degree who otherwise may not have the opportunity to pursue a nursing career.



Allison Swets

## Last printed Forum for semester

This marks the last printed issue of *Forum* for the winter semester.

Keep up with campus news by visiting GVNNow, Grand Valley's daily news website at [www.gvsu.edu/gvnow](http://www.gvsu.edu/gvnow). Sign up for email alerts on the website.

## Campus members, mayor celebrated at sustainability awards

Sustainability champions on and off campus were celebrated at the seventh annual Grand Valley Sustainability Champions Awards Breakfast April 10.

Grand Rapids Mayor George Heartwell received the Legacy Award, a new award that was presented on behalf of the West Michigan community and the Grand Rapids Community Sustainability Partnership (CSP), a network of more than 200 organizations committed to sustainability practices. Thirty-two students, faculty, staff members and community members were recognized for their efforts and impact.

"Mayor Heartwell has played a big role in bringing the sustainability community together in West Michigan," said Norman Christopher,

executive director of the Grand Valley Office of Sustainability Practices. "He helped establish CSP, and set sustainability goals for the city of Grand Rapids so we can live in a better place today and tomorrow."

Heartwell said those who live in a sustainable manner are part of a community that continues to build and challenge each other, which is the type of relationship Grand Rapids enjoys with Grand Valley.

Four recipients of the Nichols Sustainability Scholarship were also recognized at the breakfast. The scholarship was created in 2006 to reward students who are committed to making a difference in environmental, social and fiscal sustainability. Nichols, established in 1936, is a distributor of products to clean and protect the Great Lakes region.

New this year was a student showcase of sustainability-related course work and research.

## Meijer Campus staycation



Photo by Elizabeth Lienau

International students led games, crafts and discussed their home countries with elementary school students at the Meijer Campus April 9 as part of the campus' staycation events during K-12 spring break.

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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

### Brian Bossick, Assistant Director of Career Development Services

Brian Bossick said his position as assistant director of Career Development Services allows him to work in two areas he is passionate about: counseling and career development.

Bossick assists students in a variety of ways, including career direction and professional connections, in addition, he reaches out to those who may not be aware of available resources.

"A big part of what I do is meeting with students," Bossick said. "We do personality and interest testing, look at their strengths and values, and from that help them choose a career direction. We work in collaboration with members of the campus community to get the career conversation started for undecided students."

Bossick is also the coordinator for US 102, a one-credit, career education class. "We have instructors who come from the counseling center, academic advising, housing and admissions," he said. "We incorporate everyone who has some career theory background to work with students in the early part of their college career."

He earned a bachelor's degree in psychology

from John Carroll University in 2000, and a doctorate degree in counseling psychology from the University of Akron in 2008.

While at Akron, Bossick was matched with Grand Valley to complete his yearlong internship and said he loved his experience. A few years later, a position opened at Grand Valley.

"I was really excited to come back," he said. "It was the perfect job."

A counseling psychologist by trade, Bossick originally did not see himself working in academia. However, he found he was drawn to career counseling because of the instant action it brings.

"My job is significantly focused on career," he said. "There is a strong goal orientation to it. After helping students with personal exploration, you turn it immediately into action."

In his free time, Bossick enjoys spending time with his family, being outside, watching movies and exercising.



Brian Bossick

# What's Ahead

## Reception set for graduates of color

A reception to celebrate new graduates and recognize graduates of color is planned for Thursday, April 23, from 3-5 p.m. in the Kirkhof Center, Grand River Room.

Refreshments will be served and a short program will begin at 3:30 p.m.

The event is sponsored by Student Senate, Native American Advisory Board and the Faculty and Staff Affinity Associations.

## Screening set for Summer Film Project

Grand Valley is set to premiere a sneak preview of its 20th annual Summer Film Project, "Lucky Jay," for

West Michigan audiences Friday, April 24, at 7 p.m. at Celebration Cinema North in Grand Rapids.



Filed last summer, the premiere of 'Lucky Jay' is set for April 24.

The seven-episode comedy-drama is a web series about one semester in the life of a young film professor pursuing tenure at a fictional college in the Midwest.

The web series will be available online beginning May 1 at luckyjayseries.com with one episode set for release each day until all seven are posted on May 7.

John Philbin, associate professor of film and video production, directed the film and wrote the script, along with collaborators John Dufresne, a novelist and creative writing professor at Florida International University, and Angelo Eidse, a Vancouver-based screenwriter.

The film's crew consisted of 22 members including faculty members, students and various professionals. Filming for "Lucky Jay" took place at various locations on the Allendale and Pew Grand Rapids campuses as well as private homes in Grand Rapids and Fenian's Irish Pub in Conklin.

The Summer Film Project was established to offer junior and senior students an opportunity to work side-by-side with professionals to produce a short film during a six-week practicum course. Post-production is completed during a 15-week fall course, with a premiere screening each spring.

## Three FTLC workshops scheduled

The Pew Faculty Teaching and Learning Center will host three workshops about classroom learning.

- "How Do I Create a Climate for Learning in My Classroom?" will be held April 27 at 11 a.m. in Zumberge Hall, room 3068, or 2 p.m. in DeVos Center, room 107D.

- "How Can I Get Students To Take Responsibility for Learning?" is April 29 at 10 a.m. in Zumberge Hall, room 3068, or 1 p.m. in DeVos Center, room 107D.

- How Can I Promote Deep Learning through Critical Reflection?" is April 30 at 11 a.m. in DeVos Center, room 107D, or 1 p.m. in Zumberge Hall, room 3068.

Participants will watch a "20 Minute Mentor Commons" video then have a discussion, facilitated by Christine Renner, director of the FTLC.

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

## MAREC to host solar development workshop

Individuals interested in learning about solar development in Michigan are invited to a free workshop May 5 at Grand Valley's Michigan Alternative and Renewable Energy Center in Muskegon.

The workshop, "Solar Powering Your Community," will take place from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. and will focus on actionable steps for adopting solar in West Michigan. Lunch will be provided; register at <http://bit.ly/muskegonmiworkshop>.

The workshop will feature national and local experts who will discuss the benefits and barriers of solar development in Michigan; creating solar-friendly planning and zoning codes and ordinances; understanding the regulatory landscape of solar; and innovative financing options for solar projects.

The workshop is sponsored by MAREC, Great Lakes Renewable Energy Association, National Association of Regional Councils and the SunShot Solar Outreach Partnership through the U.S. Department of Energy.

For more information, contact Kim Walton, program director for MAREC, at x16900.

## World Trade Week focuses on Latin America

West Michigan World Trade Week will bring together a multitude of Michigan businesses May 6 to discuss emerging trends in Latin America.

The conference, hosted by the Van Andel Global Trade Center and the U.S. Commercial Service, is celebrating 30 years of helping Michigan's business leaders increase exports and bring more business opportunities to West Michigan.

This year's keynote speaker is Ambassador Richard Holwill, vice president of public policy for Alticor, Inc. in Washington, D.C. Holwill has extensive experience in South America, China, India and Russia. He served in the U.S. Department of State in a number of positions including Ambassador to Ecuador. He is co-chair of the Cuba Working Group at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

The event will run from 11:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m. on May 6 in the L. William Seidman Center. Register at [www.worldtradeweekmi.org](http://www.worldtradeweekmi.org).

Other conference speakers include Thys DeBruyn, president of Advance Resources and Consulting, and Juan Manuel Solana Morales, consulate of Mexico-Detroit.

The West Michigan World Trade Week Planning Committee is comprised of volunteers from more than 20 internationally focused companies and organizations.

## Support Grand Valley team at River Bank Run

Alumni, students, faculty and staff members and friends will participate in the Fifth Third River Bank Run on May 9 as part of the Laker for a Lifetime Team.

The team will raise money, with a goal of \$10,000, for the Student Support Fund, a

scholarship for students facing emergency financial situations. Chris Barbee, director of Alumni Relations, has agreed to shave a "GV" logo in the back of his head if the combined fundraising goal reaches \$10,000. Visit [www.gvsu.edu/alumni](http://www.gvsu.edu/alumni) to make a donation.

A GVSU post-race party is planned from 7 a.m.-1 p.m. at the DeVos Center parking lot. Cost to attend is \$10; beer, drinks and food are planned. Visit the website to register.



Last year's MIPERC Interprofessional Conference is pictured. Organizers are seeking abstracts for this year's event, set for September 17-18.

## Interprofessional conference committee seeks abstracts

The eighth annual Midwest Interprofessional Practice, Education, and Research Conference is set for the Pew Grand Rapids Campus on September 17-18.

MIPERC is an organization founded by Grand Valley, Grand Rapids Medical Education Partners and Michigan State University-College of Human Medicine to develop regional infrastructure for interprofessional education, practice and research.

Conference organizers are now accepting abstracts that showcase topics relevant to the conference theme, "Strategies for the Application of Successful Models and Processes." New to the conference this year, awards will be given for student poster presentations and faculty members are encouraged to ask students to submit abstracts. Details on submitting an abstract are online at [www.gvsu.edu/miperc](http://www.gvsu.edu/miperc). Deadline for podium abstracts is June 1, poster abstracts is July 30.

Conference keynote speakers are Michael Faas, CEO of Metro Health Corporation and president of Pennant Health Alliance; Lesley Bainbridge, director of interprofessional education for the faculty of medicine and associate principal for the College of Health Disciplines, University of British Columbia; Darrell G. Kirch, president and CEO of the Association of American Medical Colleges; and Amy Blue, associate vice president for interprofessional education for the Department of Behavioral Science and Community Health and Education, University of Florida.

A pre-conference workshop is set for September 17 with a presentation by Barbara Brandt, associate vice president for education and director of the National Center for Interprofessional Practice and Education at the University of Minnesota Health Center.

For details, visit [www.gvsu.edu/miperc](http://www.gvsu.edu/miperc).

# FACULTY AND STAFF SKETCHES

## Sketches

**David Linn**, associate professor of biomedical sciences, gave a presentation, "Looking at Nicotine Receptors to Treat Glaucoma," at Frostburg State University in Frostburg, Maryland.

**Amorak Huey**, assistant professor of writing; **Ellen Schendel**, associate dean of Brooks College and professor of writing; and **Christopher Toth**, assistant professor of writing, gave a presentation, "Beyond the Humanities: Offering a Bachelor of Science in Writing," at the Conference on College Composition and Communication in Tampa, Florida.

**Michael Webster**, professor of English, gave a presentation, "Archetypal Individuals in Cummings' The Enormous Room," at the Louisville Conference on Literature and Culture Since 1900, held in Louisville, Kentucky.

**Matthew Reidsma**, web services librarian, gave a presentation, "More than Usable: Library Services for Humans," at UXLib: User Experience in Libraries Conference in Cambridge, United Kingdom.

**Pablo Llerandi-Román**, associate professor of geology, and **William Neal**, emeritus professor of geology, were contributing authors of a presentation, "50- and 100-Year Shoreline Change Predictions for Select Small Islands of Puerto Rico and the United States Virgin Islands," at the Geological Society of America Southeastern Section Meeting in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

**Erik Nordman**, associate professor of biology, wrote an article, "An Integrated Assessment for Wind Energy in Lake Michigan Coastal Counties," published in *Integrated Environmental Assessment and Management*. He also gave the keynote address, "Birds on

the Wire: Bird Conservation and the Electricity System," at the Michigan Bird Conservation Initiative Meeting.

**Judy Whipps**, professor of liberal studies and philosophy, wrote an article, "A Pragmatist Reading of Mary Parker Follett's Integrative Process," published in *Transactions of the Charles Pierce Society Journal*.

**Amy Russell**, associate professor of biology, wrote an article, "From the Field to the Lab: Best Practices for Field Preservation of Bat Specimens for Molecular Analyses," published in *PLOS ONE*.

**Gamal Gasim**, assistant professor of political science and Middle East Studies, gave a presentation about the rise of political tensions in the Middle East at the Grand Haven Public Policy Series.

**Courtney Karasinski**, assistant professor and undergraduate coordinator for Communication Sciences and Disorders, wrote an article, "Language Ability, Executive Functioning and Behaviour in School-Age Children," published in the *International Journal of Language & Communication Disorders*.

**Terry L. Pahl**, facilities engineer, was elected to the Wolverine Power Marketing Cooperative Board of Directors for a third three-year term.

Library faculty members **Valeria Long** and **Lynn Sheehan** gave a presentation, "Sustaining Library Faculty: The Elephant is Big and Gray and is in the Library," at the Association of College and Research Libraries Conference in Portland, Oregon.

**Luanne Brown**, payroll manager, wrote an article, "Use the Five-Why Method to Find a Problem's Root Cause," published in *Paytech* by the American Payroll Association.

## Talbert is nominee for state award

Robert Talbert, associate professor of mathematics, was Grand Valley's nominee for Distinguished Professor of the Year, awarded by the Presidents Council State Universities of Michigan.



Robert Talbert

In her nomination letter, Provost Gayle R. Davis said Talbert

has worked tirelessly to change the notion that mathematics is a difficult, tedious subject to learn.

"He has done so by being a professor who models his belief that learning is about relationships between ideas, between people, and between people and ideas," Davis wrote.

In February, Talbert earned the Pew Teaching with Technology Award from the Faculty Teaching and Learning Center.

**Stephen Rowe**, professor of philosophy, wrote an article, "Liberal Education as Adulthood," published in the *Journal of General Education*.

**Alisha Davis**, assistant professor of allied health sciences, gave a presentation, "Level the Playing Field: Using Social Capital to Advance Equitable Academic Achievement," at the AAC&U Diversity, Learning, and Student Success conference in San Diego, California.

## Across Campus

### Twirler places among top five at international competition

Moriah Muscaro, Grand Valley's baton twirler, rose above twirlers from around the world to place fourth during an international competition.

Muscaro competed as part of Team USA in the Baton Solo Event category at the World Federation National Baton Twirling Association World Baton Twirling Championships in early April in Italy. Muscaro said her "two perfect routines" during the preliminary and final rounds were personal bests.

"Twirling for 17 years, my goal was always to reach this highest level, so just to be at the World Championships was a dream come true," Muscaro, a third-generation twirler, said. "I am very proud to bring this fourth place finish back to the USA and GVSU."

Muscaro earned her spot on Team USA by winning a finalist position at the National Baton Twirling Association national championships in 2014. Her spot on Team USA is an honor Muscaro said many twirlers aspire to attain, but few actually achieve.

"I was so honored to be a part of this

prestigious team because there are hundreds of American twirlers each qualification cycle that do not make it onto the team," Muscaro said.

With graduation looming, Muscaro said she is sad to leave Grand Valley, but grateful for the experiences she's been afforded.

"My years at GVSU have been the best of my life and I so hope that others have the opportunity to experience what I have been blessed to experience," Muscaro said.

With offers from three medical schools on the table, Muscaro will retire from twirling to continue pursuing her dream of becoming a physician. Following one final competition this summer, she will continue to coach and judge.



Moriah Muscaro performs elbow pops during the WFNBA World Baton Twirling Championships.

### Grand Valley named a 'Green College' for sixth year

Grand Valley has been named one of the country's most environmentally responsible colleges by The Princeton Review for the sixth year in a row. The university is included in "The Princeton Review's Guide to 353 Green Colleges: 2015 Edition."

Released just prior to the April 22 celebration of the 45th anniversary of Earth Day, the guide profiles institutions of higher education in the U.S. that demonstrate exemplary commitments to sustainability.

Areas of evaluation included the university's commitment to building at LEED standards, environmental programs, the use of renewable energy resources and recycling and conservation programs. Nearly 900 schools were surveyed to be included in the guide.

Schools are chosen based on their 2014 Green Rating scores (of 60 to 99); schools with scores of 83 or higher made it into the guide. Grand Valley has been included in the guidebook every year since the first issue was published in 2010.