

FORUM

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

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Faculty, staff celebrate language school partnership

More than a dozen faculty and staff members took part in a celebration of a decade-long partnership with the Grand Rapids Chinese Language School at an event April 16.

The event was intended to celebrate community and university collaborations and allow language school volunteers and students to show their appreciation for the support Grand Valley provides to the school through physical space for classes and time volunteered by faculty and staff members.

The school has held classes at the Pew Grand Rapids Campus for years, and volunteers from the school also take part in Grand Valley cultural events throughout the year.

Organizers said the highlight of the event was presenting a donation from the Chinese Language School to Julie Guevara, faculty director for the social work study abroad program in El Salvador. Guevara will get the donation to an organization that works with survivors of human trafficking.

Principal Xun Yan said the Chinese Language School considers itself part of a much larger community.

"We hope to promote mutual understanding among the people of different cultures," Yan said. "Professor Guevara's program has helped students to learn about and experience other cultures and it has also been an act of humanity to help those who need it the most."

Yi Zhao, associate professor of political science, is a volunteer with the school. He said he thinks the collaboration between the school and the university is beneficial because the university gets access to Chinese instructors who are native speakers of the language, as well as experts in Chinese culture through the volunteer network at the school. The language school benefits through physical space and gaining the expertise of the various Chinese faculty members who represent a multi-disciplinary segment of the faculty and staff of the university.



Faculty members are, from left, Peimin Ni, Shinian Wu, Lihua Huang, Yi Zhao, Wei Gu, YongLei Tao, Yan Yu and Patrick Shan.

"For our faculty members, this is a form of community engagement," Zhao said. "Through the school, our faculty members engage with the community and such engagement benefits their teaching and research."

The Grand Rapids Chinese Language School enrolls about 120 students in more than a dozen Saturday classes.

Across Campus

Last issue of 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/gvnnow. Sign up for email alerts on the website.

New initiative offers perks to preceptors

Many of Grand Valley's nursing and health professions students are mentored and taught during their clinical experiences by preceptors, the professionals in hospitals, clinics and other health care settings who serve as student supervisors.

Through a new initiative from the Office of the Vice Provost for Health, those preceptors will earn additional benefits. The Preceptors Perks program offers preceptors benefits like a gratis faculty appointment for the academic year, access to Grand Valley's Fieldhouse and



Photo by Amanda Pitts

Allyson Stokosa, center, is pictured at Holland Hospital, where she is completing a clinical rotation with her preceptor, Meggan Hefferan, with a patient.

library system, community discounts, and free registration to the annual West Michigan Interprofessional Education Initiative Conference.

Jean Nagelkerk, vice provost for Health, said the Perks program is a small way to thank the preceptors who play an important role in a student's clinical assignment.

"The opportunity for students to experience an exceptional clinical learning environment helps shape their disciplinary knowledge and skills that are essential for future career success," Nagelkerk said.

Several students are finishing clinical assignments at Holland Hospital this semester. The hospital is the first clinical affiliate model under the new Perks program.

Allyson Stokosa, a nursing major, is working closely with her preceptor, Meggan Hefferan, for 160 hours over the course of the semester, mostly on the Spine/Orthopedics floor. Stokosa said patients have been very receptive to having a student nurse take an active role in their care.

"Meggan and I have a routine, a plan before going into a patient's room," Stokosa said. "We will split the duties. I'll do the assessment while Meggan handles the medication."

Dani Treffers is not working directly with patients but her assignment in the medical records office gives her an overview of how a hospital operates. Treffers is a health information management major and will graduate in April.

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“Right now, I’m helping with projects related to coding, billing, quality assurance, it’s a wide spectrum,” Treffers said, adding she will also shadow people in human resources and information technology.

Her preceptor, Michelle Carter, is Holland Hospital’s health information management manager and privacy officer. “There is book experience and classroom experience, but students need the practical experience to help them understand the problem-solving and collaboration that makes up a large part of the day,” Carter said.

Grand Valley ranks high in composting category of national 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 of the nationwide recycling contest Recyclemania.

The eight-week competition aims to reduce waste and increase student awareness about the importance of recycling. More than 300 colleges and universities participated in the competition that took place February 7-April 11.

Grand Valley also ranked 55th in the nation in the waste minimization category, compared to 80th place in 2015. The category is based on producing the least amount of recycleables, food organics and trash on a per-person basis.

In total, 221,986 pounds were recycled during the two-month span of the competition. In one year, from July 2014-June 2015, more than 2.7 million pounds of materials were recycled, a 31 percent increase from June 2013-July 2014.

This is the eighth year Grand Valley has competed in Recyclemania. Campus Dining, Housing, Office of Sustainability Practices and Pew Campus Operations helped Facilities Services during the contest.

HTM students to work at Cannes Film Festival

Sixteen students in the hospitality and tourism management program will spend two weeks in France working at the 69th annual Cannes International Film Festival.

The invitation-only festival previews new films of all genres and is

considered one of the most prestigious film festivals in the world. This year’s film festival runs from May 11-22.

Students will coordinate events and run press panels at The American Pavilion, including the Emerging Filmmaker’s Showcase, a competition which highlights the works of the next generation of filmmakers. Students will also be outsourced to various country pavilions and private companies showcased in the Marche de Film.

“Grand Valley students are among the select few who will be on site with full access for the duration of the festival,” said Lorie Tuma, visiting assistant professor of HTM.

Students attending include Allison Bis, Taylor Brock, Alexis Brown, Julia Dilliard, Sarah Gonzales, Kelsey Job, Anna Koetje, Jake Kowalski, Morgan LaBarrie, Weston Lohman, Taylor Losee, Rachael Marilyn Van Gennep, Alyssa Neelis, Kelli Pastor, Ashley Pipe and Nakaria Williams.

Asian graduation celebration held



Photo by Rex Larsen

The Asian Faculty and Staff Association held its first Asian Student Graduation Celebration April 14 at Kennedy Hall. The event included cultural dances, a recruitment fair by area companies and awards. Nearly 200 Asian students will graduate in April. Co-chairs of the faculty/staff association are Yosay Wangdi, front row, third from left, and Kin Ma, back row, center.

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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, GVNow, at www.gvsu.edu/gvnow, for daily news updates and video features.

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

GVFaces

Michael Gouin-Hart, director, Office of Sponsored Programs

Michael Gouin-Hart was recently named the new director of the Office of Sponsored Programs.

Before joining Grand Valley in mid-April, he worked in a similar capacity for Spectrum Health, administering grants and contracts and helping investigators develop and submit proposals.

Gouin-Hart was the lead developer for the Spectrum Health team that secured a five-year, \$3.5 million grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration to fund expansion of the Grand Rapids Medical Education Partners’ family medicine residency program. He said the grant helped create Spectrum’s Family Medicine Residency Center, which largely treats underserved populations.

Gouin-Hart earned a master’s degree in public administration with an emphasis in health care administration from Grand Valley in 2013, following a graduate certificate in nonprofit leadership from Grand Valley. He also earned a bachelor’s degree in English literature and writing from Kalamazoo College. He said moving his career into a higher education setting had been a goal.

“Working at a liberal arts institution like Grand Valley aligns with my values and interests,” he said. “I am honored to follow Chris Chamberlain in this role; she established a great foundation here.”

Prior to his work at Spectrum Health, Gouin-Hart was the executive director of the Association of Literary Scholars and Critics at Boston University.

Gouin-Hart said he plans to raise the visibility of the Office of Sponsored Programs and the services it offers to students, faculty, and staff members through outreach and networking.

OSP has two events planned for May: “Laker Effects,” a celebration of external grant recipients, is set for May 12 at Founders Brewing Co. in Grand Rapids; May 18-20, an intensive training course, “Fundamentals of Sponsored Programs Agreements,” will be led by experts from the National Council of Research Administrators at the Eberhard Center.

To register for the training course, call OSP at x16826.



Michael Gouin-Hart



What’s Ahead

Reception set for story collection exhibition

The stories of Asian Pacific Americans will be highlighted in an exhibition and celebrated with a reception on Monday, April 25, at the Herrick District Library.

Stories for “Our Asian Pacific American Community” were collected by the Kutsche Office of Local History at Grand Valley State University. Staff members worked in partnership with representatives from Herrick District Library, Latin Americans United For Progress, City of Holland, Holland Museum, Meijer Campus in Holland, Asian Student Union, and St. Francis de Sales Parish.

A reception will begin at 6:30 p.m. at Herrick District Library, 300 S. River Ave. It is free and open to the public.

The exhibition features more than 40 stories of area Asian Pacific Americans, many of whom will attend the reception.

Melanie Shell-Weiss, director of the Kutsche Office of Local History, said this collaborative project allows for the office to engage with community partners and “celebrate the diversity of Holland’s communities, as well as the stories of our Holland-based GVSU faculty and students who participated in the project.”

COE Convocation celebrates educators

Students and faculty members in the College of Education will be honored at a convocation ceremony April 28 at Ottawa Hills High School in Grand Rapids.

This is the second time the ceremony will be held at the high school (the first was in December), marking the beginning of collaborative work between the college and public school. The ceremony begins at 7 p.m. in the Ottawa Hills High School Auditorium.

About 230 graduates are expected to attend; 73 are master’s students who will participate in a hooding ceremony, a practice started last April during the College of Education’s 50th anniversary celebration.

Three students will serve as keynote speakers: Hailie Roblyer, secondary education major; Mackenzie Kroll, special education major; and Carolyn McLean, higher education major.

For more information on convocation, visit www.gvsu.edu/coe.



Screening of the Summer Film Project, ‘The Lens,’ is set for April 29 at Celebration! Cinema North.

Premiere screening set for Summer Film Project

A woman named Isabelle buys an antique camera lens at a garage sale, but little does she know that the lens has mystical powers of healing. Does she use these powers even though every time she heals someone or something, she loses a piece of her soul?

This is the question raised by the 2015

Summer Film Project, “The Lens,” which is set to debut Friday, April 29. The screening will take place at 8 p.m. at Celebration! Cinema North in Grand Rapids. Admission is \$5 per person (cash only).

The film’s 20-member crew, consisting of all Grand Valley students, spent approximately one week filming in various West Michigan locations during July of 2015. Filming locations included Rosa Parks Circle in downtown Grand Rapids, the Grand Rapids Art Museum, Urban Institute for Contemporary Arts, Marks Photo and Video, and a house in Jenison.

Students then spent the 15-week fall semester editing the film and recording its musical score. Dan Rickabus, ’10, of The Crane Wives, composed the original score.

Joseph McCargar, affiliate professor of film and video production, and Brian Gotberg, ’14, ’15, are co-producing “The Lens,” with Richard Brauer, president of Brauer Productions Inc., serving as director. Brauer also wrote the film’s script.

Autism conference will celebrate 15 years

Local and national experts will discuss teaching strategies for children with autism or Asperger’s Syndrome at Grand Valley’s 15th annual Statewide Autism and Training Project (START) conference.

The conference will take place Monday, May 2, from 8:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m. in the Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center in East Lansing.

In honor of the 15th year of the conference, three speakers will present a wide range of topics, from supporting children with autism in the community to creating an inclusive culture in schools.

Stephen Shore, clinical assistant professor at Adelphi University, will give two presentations. During his first lecture, Shore will share the numerous challenges facing people who are diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder, and then discuss strategies for enabling individuals with autism to achieve success in finding and maintaining employment.

Dan Habib, from the Institute on Disability at the University of New Hampshire, will present the benefits and challenges of inclusion for students with disabilities in grade schools and beyond.

Alyson Beytien, certified autism consultant, will illustrate why there is a need for greater inclusion in the community for children with ASD.

Registration is required for the conference, and closes April 27. For more information about the conference and to register, visit www.gvsu.edu/autismcenter or call x16480.

Regional center prepares for commencement

Three Traverse City area women who are making a difference in their communities will be among the 55 graduates to receive degrees at Grand Valley’s commencement ceremony, scheduled for May 3 at the Hagerty Center in Traverse City.

The women — Hollianne McHugh, Sally Smeltzer and Emily Trowbridge — are earning degrees through the Traverse City Regional Center, which offers 12 undergraduate and graduate degree programs.

Smeltzer, who will earn a bachelor’s degree in liberal studies, was able to design her degree program to suit her interests — sociology and environmental health — and career plans. She said her degree has prepared her for her current work at Creation Farms in Beulah, in

Benzie County, and, in the future, perhaps a new venture as a change-maker.

“I had so many great classes in the program,” she said. “The degree program leaves room for new careers and careers that don’t even exist now.

McHugh is a technology instructor for the Career Tech Center’s Manufacturing Technology Academy, and serves as a board member for Buckley Community Schools. She will earn a master’s degree in educational leadership, and said the degree will help her to see the larger picture of K-12 education and provide her with tools to impact change.

Trowbridge will earn a master’s degree in social work. She is working at Child and Family Services of Northwestern Michigan with young children who were victims of sexual abuse and will soon work as a crisis counselor. Working with victims of sexual abuse is difficult, Trowbridge said, but rewarding.

“These kids are great. The biggest thing I’ve learned is that change does not happen overnight, and you learn to be grateful for the small victories,” she said.

The commencement ceremony will begin at 6 p.m. at the center, 715 E. Front St. President Thomas J. Haas will make remarks.



Emily Trowbridge is among 55 people to earn a degree through the Traverse City Regional Center; commencement is set for May 3.

FTLC plans workshops throughout summer

The Pew Faculty Teaching and Learning Center has a slate of workshops planned in May and June, including a retreat to help faculty members design courses and an Inclusive Excellence Teaching Institute.

Highlights of workshops are below; for more information, visit www.gvsu.edu/ftlc. Registration can be completed online at www.gvsu.edu/sprout.

- May 2, 1-3 p.m., Portfolio Preparation Workshop for Affiliate Faculty: Zumberge Hall, room 3062
- May 3, noon-2 p.m., Promoting Academic Integrity in Your Classroom: Preventative strategies that can reduce incidents of academic integrity violations will be discussed; includes lunch. Zumberge Hall, room 3068
- May 19-20, 18th Annual Teaching Life Retreat: A retreat at the Pierce Cedar Creek Institute, in Hastings, will help faculty members on course design, redesign or with refreshing a project. To apply, send an email to Christine Rener with a description of the course project.
- June 6-10, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Personnel Portfolio Workshop: A session for faculty members who are preparing for pre-tenure or tenure reviews. L. William Seidman Center, room 4002
- June 22-24, Inclusive Excellence Teaching Institute: FTLC is partnering with the Division of Inclusion and Equity to offer this session for faculty members. Applications can be submitted online at www.gvsu.edu/ftlc.

FACULTY AND STAFF SKETCHES

In the News



Photo by Dianne Carroll Burdick

Heather Gulgin, associate professor of movement science, is pictured showing students images from the gait analysis lab.

Students learn about biomechanics

Faculty members and students celebrated National Biomechanics Day April 7 at the Cook-DeVos Center for Health Sciences by discussing the various research projects completed in the lab as well as demonstrating lab equipment.

Heather Gulgin, associate professor of movement science, organized the event, which was promoted nationally by the American Society of Biomechanics as an effort to increase awareness about research and careers in the field.

Gulgin and **Gordon Alderink**, biomechanics lab coordinator, were assisted by students Kerstyn Hall, Ashley Luzadre, Breana Dean and Mackenzie Blust.

Heartwell earns interfaith award

George Heartwell, former mayor of Grand Rapids, received the 2016 Sylvia Kaufman Interfaith Leadership Award during a special ceremony March 30.

Heartwell serves as the community sustainability coordinator for the Office of Sustainability Practices. He was recognized for his early work in establishing one of the first Habitat for Humanity chapters outside of

Georgia, as well as for his 14 years of ministry in the Heartside community prior to being elected mayor.

In 2012, Heartwell's mayoral declaration of the Year of Interfaith Understanding initiated a campus-wide focus on interfaith understanding that led to more than 300 events, as well as national recognition. On September 11, 2014, Heartwell proclaimed that 2015 would be the Year of Interfaith Service. The initiative is a unique partnership combining community organizations, student groups and congregations to promote interfaith service in West Michigan that continues today.

"We were so pleased to highlight Mayor Heartwell's long-term commitment to interfaith understanding and the ways in which his leadership has helped our community be welcoming to an increasing religiously diverse population," said Douglas Kindschi, Kaufman Interfaith Institute director.

The Interfaith Leadership Award was created in 2014 and named for Sylvia Kaufman, founder of the Kaufman Interfaith Institute at Grand Valley. For more than 25 years,

David Alvarez, professor of English, was interviewed by "Feel Like You Belong" for a story about immigrants in West Michigan and his scholarship on colonialism and work with Healing Children of Conflict.

Chelsea Brehm, visiting professor of movement science, was interviewed by WXMI-TV and WOTV4 Women about the zero waste and sustainability efforts at the Gazelle Girl Half Marathon and 5K.

Sketches

Religious studies faculty members and students attended the Midwest American Academy of Religion Annual Conference, where assistant professor **Brent Smith** gave a presentation, "Oculus Rift and the Unseen Order," and assistant professor **Abhisekh Ghosh** presented "Kirtan in the Western World." Students Ilissa Chasnick and Anthony Swieringa also gave presentations.

Xiaojuan (Xandra) Xu, professor of psychology, was a co-author of articles, "Neurobehavioral Impairments Produced by Developmental Lead Exposure Persisted for Generations in Zebrafish (*Danio rerio*),"

published in *Neurotoxicology and Teratology*.

Peter Anderson, associate professor and chair of Classics, was named to the editorial board of Dickinson Classical Commentaries.

Diane Rayor, professor of Classics, gave an invited presentation, "Translating Desire in the New Sappho," at Bowdoin College in Brunswick, Maine.

Thomas Pentecost, associate professor of chemistry and Pew FTLC faculty fellow, lead a discussion about Discipline Based Education Research for post-doctoral scholars participating in the REBUILD project at the University of Michigan. The project is a NSF-funded project focused on recruiting and retaining underrepresented groups in STEM majors through implementation of evidence-based instruction in introductory courses.

Chris Pearl, assistant professor of biomedical sciences, was a co-author of an article, "Relationships Between Host Body Condition and Immunocompetence, Not Host Sex, Best Predict Parasite Burden in a Bat-Helminth System," published in *Parasitology Research*.

Writing faculty members **Laurence José**, **Ellen Schendel** and **Christopher Toth** gave a presentation, "Alumni in Action: Showing the Value of Degree Programs in Writing by Reflecting on the Work of Their Alumni," at the Conference on College Composition and Communication in Houston, Texas.

Heather Carpenter, assistant professor of public, nonprofit and health administration, gave workshops, "Nonprofit People Rising: Tying Strategic Goals to Talent Retention," at the Foundation Center in New York City, and "The Talent Development Platform: Putting People First in Social Change Organizations" at Seton Hall University's Nonprofit Sector Research Institute.

Frank Boring, affiliate professor of communications, gave a presentation about the documentary "A Team of Their Own: The Story of the All American Girls Professional Baseball League" and his independent PBS film, "The Story of the Flying Tigers," at Colorado State University.

David Stark, professor of history, gave a presentation, "Marriage Among Slaves in 18th Century Puerto Rico: New Insights from the Hato Economy," at Marriage's Global Past Conference at Cambridge University.

Across Campus

Join Grand Valley team at River Bank Run

Faculty and staff members can join Grand Valley's team at the Fifth Third River Bank Run on May 14 for a reduced registration cost.

The university is participating in the Priority Health Corporate Challenge, a competition that uses the 5K walk, 5K, 10K and 25K runs as a way for employees to stay healthy, have fun and compete. President Thomas J. Haas and first lady Marcia Haas plan to participate in the 5K walk.

Register for any of the competitions before May 9 to receive a \$10 coupon off the registration cost. Visit www.gvsu.edu/healthwellness and click on the River Bank Run Corporate Challenge button for details.

Questions can be directed to Lindsey DesArmo, health and wellness specialist, at desarmli@gvsu.edu.

Students, employers celebrated at annual internship awards

Students who received practical experience in the workforce were celebrated, along with their supporters, April 13 at the Internship Recognition Luncheon held at Eberhard Center.

Hosted by the Career Center, the event is held annually as a way to thank those involved in internship programming at Grand Valley.

"Internships can only truly be successful if the student, employer, faculty and staff members are working together, and quite often that means going above and beyond traditional job requirements," said Rachel Becklin, assistant director of the Career Center.

The recipients of the Outstanding Internship Employer of the Year Award were West Michigan Environmental Action Council and

Northwestern Mutual, which hired 19 interns last year.

Provost Gayle R. Davis was awarded the Internship Advocate of the Year Award, which recognizes a faculty or staff member who is dedicated to internship programming and development.

More than 100 entries were submitted for the Outstanding Intern of the Year Award; it was given to Caitlyn Albrant, a marketing student who was an intern for Serendipity Media. The Outstanding Internship Supervisor award was given to Shaun Ferguson of the Naperville Police Department.

Becklin said the number of internships have been steadily rising over the last 10 years. About 8,060 were completed during the 2014-2015 academic year, compared to 6,811 in 2009. Students completed more than 1.6 million hours of practical experience in the workforce at companies and organizations last year.