

FORUM

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

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Endowed fund will help with water research

Researchers at Grand Valley's Robert B. Annis Water Resources Institute will be able to investigate topics that government funding programs are typically not willing to take on, thanks to a new endowed fund created by Allen and Helen Hunting.

The Huntings initiated the Allen I. and Helen J. Hunting Research and Innovation Fund through a generous gift to Grand Valley. This endowment will support research that focuses on important issues impacting Lake Michigan and the Grand River, including water quality, agriculture, climate change and other freshwater questions.

Alan Steinman, the Allen I. and Helen J. Hunting director of the Annis Water Resources Institute, said the fund will allow high-risk, high-return research that could have significant impacts on water resources and science.

"Organizations that fund research like to be relatively certain that the money they're giving is going to yield some safe results, but that often means taking very little risk with research and sticking with safe, often predictable results," Steinman said. "The gift from the Huntings means that we'll have funds to go after exciting and groundbreaking research, focusing on high-risk but also high-return projects."

"Research needs to take that chance every once in a while to yield unique results that are important to protecting our Great Lakes."

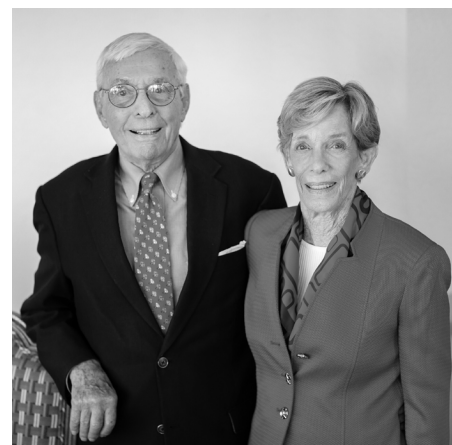
"The gift from the Huntings means that we'll have funds to go after exciting and groundbreaking research, focusing on high-risk but also high-return projects."

— Alan Steinman, AWRI director

Steinman said he hopes to use the fund to more aggressively pursue research into microplastics in the Great Lakes, as well as assess the potential impacts of key stressors that will affect our future water resources, including climate change, land use change, and water withdrawals.

"Allen and Helen Hunting have given us a wonderful gift that will allow us to do even more exciting and innovative science here at AWRI," Steinman said. "They're wonderful stewards of our environment and care deeply about protecting our spectacular freshwater resources."

The gift is part of the university's Laker Effect comprehensive campaign; to learn more about the campaign, visit gvsu.edu/giving/.



A gift from Allen I. and Helen J. Hunting will support AWRI research that focuses on water quality issues.

ACROSS CAMPUS

GVSU enrollment again tops 25,000

Grand Valley hit its enrollment goals with regard to total enrollment, first-year students, transfer students and students of color. More than 4,000 first-year students have enrolled at the university for six years in a row. This is one of the highest first-year enrollments in the state, as Michigan continues to see a decline in the number of high school graduates.

Total enrollment is at 25,049 with 4,185 first-time students and 1,625 transfer students. A record number of students of color are enrolled, 4,344 up from 4,315 last fall, and Grand Valley has the largest number of seniors (7,184) in its history.

"These enrollment numbers show that students and their families are finding the academic excellence and programs they want in a community that is welcoming," said President Thomas J. Haas. "We have faculty and staff who work hard not only to attract students but to make sure they're supported through

the completion of their programs. The record number of seniors shows that Grand Valley is retaining students and awarding degrees. We're energized by the atmosphere on campus and what we'll accomplish this year."

Students are coming from every county in Michigan, and the number of students from states outside of Michigan increased to 2,108 from 1,992 last fall. More than 400 international students are enrolled. Grand Valley had a record number of graduates last year, another indication that the university is achieving its goal of increasing retention and degree completion.

RMSC only local collection site for eclipse glasses

Residents of North America were treated to either a full or partial eclipse of the sun on August 21. To safely view the solar eclipse, many enthusiasts could be seen sporting specially designed solar eclipse glasses.

Since the next total solar eclipse won't take



Photo by Amanda Pitts

President Thomas J. Haas was among those who enjoyed the solar eclipse. The RMSC will collect eclipse glasses through September 15.

place in the U.S. until 2024, there's no need to let those glasses collect dust, especially when students around the world can put them to good use much sooner.

The Regional Math and Science Center will be

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ACROSS CAMPUS

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collecting eclipse glasses through September 15, and then send glasses to schools in South America and Asia through the organization Astronomers Without Borders for when eclipses cross those continents in 2019.

According to Astronomers Without Borders, Grand Valley is the only designated collection location in the Grand Rapids area. The center is located in Mackinac Hall, room C-1-120; glasses can be dropped off Monday-Friday, from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. For more information, contact the RMSC at (616) 331-2267.

Teach-In organizers accepting session proposals

Organizers of the Teach-In are accepting collaborative proposals from students, faculty and staff members who are interested in presenting at the fifth annual event on November 9.

The day-long event will run from 8 a.m.-9 p.m. with concurrent sessions in the Kirkhof Center and DeVos Center. Teach-In is sponsored by University Academic Senate and Student Senate with support from the Division of Inclusion and Equity and Division of Student Services.

Session proposals should involve educational frameworks for opening dialogues on inequality, systems of oppression or social justice, and should be participatory and action-oriented. The deadline for proposals is October 2; they can be submitted online at gvsu.edu/teach-in.

New chairs of HRRC named, policies implemented

Rebecca Davis, professor of nursing, and Kevin Lehnert, associate professor of marketing, were named co-chairs of the Human Research Review Committee.

They replace Stephen Glass, who in July was named acting vice provost for Student Affairs and dean of students.

The following HRRC policy changes were implemented during the spring/summer semester.

- Only faculty and staff are allowed to serve as the principal investigator on HRRC protocol submissions.

- All individuals named on HRRC protocols must adhere to updated training and documentation requirements.

- An Investigator Conflict of Interest Disclosure and Certification Form must be completed and submitted for each researcher listed on a new HRRC proposal application.

- The roles and responsibilities of authorizing officials have been clarified.

- Requests from non-Grand Valley researchers seeking data collection, and/or recruitment of students, or faculty and staff members must first be reviewed by the Office of Research Compliance and Integrity.

More information about policy changes is online at gvsu.edu/hrrc.

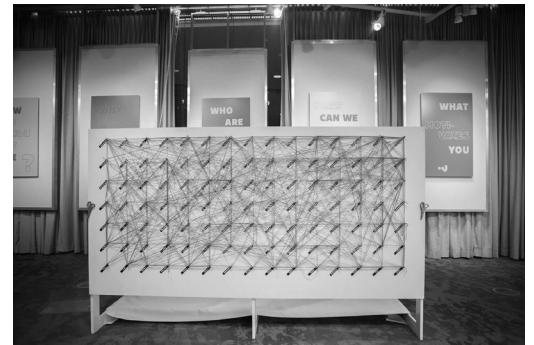
Library exhibit aims to ease students into college life

A new exhibit aims to ease what can be a difficult transition to college life for first-year students.

“Tied Together” is a unique effort by University Libraries to welcome students to campus, with a primary focus on new students. The exhibit encourages students to answer the questions, “Who are you?” “How did you get here?” “What motivates you?” “Why Grand Valley?” and “What can we achieve together?” Students are asked to choose several words listed on a string art board that best answer each question, and then use colored yarn to connect the words.

“Tied Together” will be on display through September 24 in the Mary Idema Pew Library’s Exhibition Space, located on the Atrium level.

This marks the third consecutive year that University Libraries has developed an exhibit aimed at welcoming students to campus.



A string art exhibit at the Mary Idema Pew Library aims to ease the transition to college for first-year students.

FORUM

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GVNow, web publication; visit gvsu.edu/gvnow, for daily news updates and video features.

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

GVFACES

Scott Ayotte, Director of Affirmative Action

Scott Ayotte is well-connected to Grand Valley and said he values being able to view the university from the position of a student, faculty member and now as director of Affirmative Action/Equal Employment Opportunity.

Ayotte earned a bachelor’s degree in business administration in 2008 from Grand Valley, and later a law degree from Western Michigan University. He joined the Division of Inclusion and Equity in March after working for Spectrum Health in employment law as well as inclusion and diversity work. Ayotte also taught in the legal studies program for the Seidman College of Business.

At one time in his career, he worked in mergers and acquisitions while living in London but said he enjoys his current role. “I’ve never felt so personally and professionally satisfied in my life,” Ayotte said.

He said he admires the university’s focus on student success, and one of his goals is to prepare students to be global citizens and expand their world view.

“When students graduate, they are going to be working with different cultures, different backgrounds and will be equipped to interact with these situations confidently,” Ayotte said.

Ayotte’s main responsibilities as affirmative action director include overseeing the university’s affirmative action program and consulting on inclusive employment practices. He also provides leadership for the Inclusion Advocates program.

He serves on the boards for the Grand Rapids Women’s Resource Center and Disability Advocates of Kent County. Gov. Rick Snyder appointed Ayotte to the Michigan Asian Pacific American Affairs Commission in 2015.



Scott Ayotte



WHAT'S AHEAD



The Fall Arts Celebration opens with a performance of a Mozart composition on September 11.

Mozart composition focus of Fall Arts Celebration event

In the time of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, serenades were considered “dinner music” to be performed only at upper-class parties, court functions and other social events.

Mozart’s “Serenade in B-Flat Major, KV 361, The Grand Partita” transcended that limiting category to become one of the composer’s most beloved compositions, and the wind band genre’s earliest masterpiece.

The piece will be performed during this year’s Fall Arts Celebration music event, “The Timeless Genius of Mozart: The Grand Partita, KV 361,” on Monday, September 11, at 7:30 p.m. in the Thomas J. and Marcia J. Haas Center for Performing Arts, Louis Armstrong Theatre.

Danny Phipps, Music, Theater and Dance Department chair, said that the composition is Mozart’s largest, and arguably most innovative instrumental work, and employs a full range of wind instruments throughout the score.

For this performance, Lowell Graham, former commander and conductor of the U.S. Air Force Band, will return to West Michigan to lead an ensemble comprised of faculty and staff. Members of the Grand Rapids Symphony Orchestra will also join the ensemble.

For more information about Fall Arts Celebration, visit gvsu.edu/fallarts.

GRSO musicians kick off Arts at Noon

The Arts at Noon concert series will kick off its 40th season with a performance by an ensemble of Grand Valley music faculty and Grand Rapids Symphony members.

Arts at Noon begins Wednesday, September 13, with the Dvorak String Quintet. Members of the ensemble include faculty Pablo Mahave-Veglia, Michael Hovnanian and Paul Swantek. They

will be joined by members of the Grand Rapids Symphony.

The Dvorak String Quintet will perform “Antonin Dvorak String Quintet op. 77.”

All Arts at Noon concerts will take place in the Cook-DeWitt Center, begin at noon, and last approximately one hour. Each concert is free and open to the public.

For a list of performers, visit gvsu.edu/artsatnoon.

Discussion series focuses on current events

The Office of Multicultural Affairs will host a monthly series in the fall semester that focuses on open discussion of current events.

Conversations of Color will focus on timely topics about race, pop culture, identity and current events. The first event is September 13 and the topic is Charlottesville, Virginia.

Future discussions will take place October 11, November 15 and December 6 from noon-1 p.m. at OMA, in the Kirkhof Center, room 1240. For more information, visit gvsu.edu/oma.

‘Yooper’ dialect focus of Kutsche Office event

Kathryn Remlinger, professor of English, will discuss her new book that examines the regional language and culture of Upper Peninsula residents, commonly referred to as “Yoopers,” during an event sponsored by the Kutsche Office of Local History.

“Yooper Talk: Dialect as Identity in Michigan’s Upper Peninsula” will be held Thursday, September 14, from 2:30-3:45 p.m. in the Kirkhof Center, room 2270.

Remlinger’s book of the same title draws on her 16 years of research as she examined how the idea of a unique Yooper dialect emerged. The book was published in June by the University of Wisconsin Press.

Books will be available for purchase at the event, which is approved for LIB 100/201 courses.

More information is online at gvsu.edu/kutsche.



Kathryn Remlinger will discuss her new book at an event September 14.

Hauenstein Center will host debate on Constitution

In honor of Constitution Day, the Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies will host a debate on constitutional interpretation.

“Debating the Constitution” will be held Thursday, September 14, at 7 p.m. at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum in Grand Rapids. The event is free and open to the public.

The debate will be between Nathan Goetting from Adrian College and John McGinnis from Northwestern University. Victoria Vuletich from Western Michigan University Cooley Law School will moderate.

McGinnis is the George C. Dix Professor in Constitutional Law at Northwestern University, and has served in the U.S. Department of Justice. Goetting is the editor-in-chief of the National Lawyers Guild Review and an associate professor of criminal justice at Adrian College.

Registration requested at hauensteincenter.org/rsvp.

Holi festival planned near carillon tower

It may be close to fall, but a collaborative effort by campus departments will turn Friday, September 15, into a spring festival of colors.

A Holi festival, highlighted by throwing colored powder and water at each other, is planned from 4:30-6:30 p.m. near the Cook Carillon Tower; sponsors of the event include Religious Studies, Campus Interfaith Resources and the Indian Student Association.

Abhishek Ghosh, assistant professor of liberal studies and religious studies, said the festival had been initially planned for April, but organizers deemed it too cold at that time.

The program, approved for LIB 100/201 courses, includes discussing the origins of Holi, sharing potluck food and throwing colors.

Ghosh said Holi is a centuries-old festival that has origins in India but quickly spread throughout other Pan-Asian countries. “Much like yoga, it’s a gift from Hinduism to the world that has been adapted by other religions and cultures,” he said.

Grand Valley’s first Holi festival was held in 2016.

Events for the week of 9/18 are listed on page 4.

FAC art exhibit features Middle Eastern artifacts

Professor of history Jim Goode and his wife, Virginia, have explored 11 countries throughout the Middle East for business and pleasure over the past 50 years.

Along their adventures the duo has collected a wide variety of ceramics, rugs, textiles and other everyday artifacts — most representing simple instruments of daily life in these regions of the world.

During a Fall Arts Celebration exhibition, many of these artifacts will be on display for the first time in the university’s Art Gallery.

A reception for the “Afghanistan to Morocco: Journeys of Jim and Virginia Goode” exhibition is Monday, September 18, from 5-7 p.m., in the Thomas J. and Marcia J. Haas Center for Performing Arts, Art Gallery (room 1121). The exhibition will be on display through October 27.

“The exhibition displays some very simple, but important objects that allow insight into the daily lives of ordinary people in the Middle East region,” Jim said.

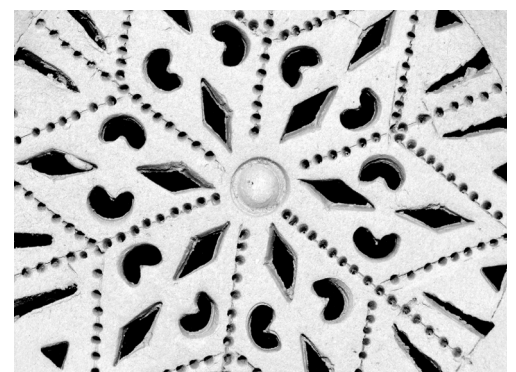
Jim began teaching for the History Department in 1986, and he helped establish the university’s Middle East Studies program and has facilitated student involvement in the Model Arab League since 1988. Jim has led study

abroad programs to Egypt and Turkey over the past 17 years.

Multiple free events will occur on the Allendale Campus in conjunction with this Fall Arts Celebration exhibit:

- “Travel in the Middle East: Highs & Lows”; September 13, 1-2 p.m., Haas Center for Performing Arts, Art Gallery
- “Professor Jim Goode: Recollections of an Iranophile, 1968-2017”; September 18, 1-2 p.m., Kirkhof Center, rooms 2215/2216
- “Carpets and Kilims”; September 27, 1-2 p.m., Haas Center for Performing Arts, Art Gallery,

For more information about Fall Arts Celebration, visit gvsu.edu/fallarts.



Everyday artifacts from the Middle East are the focus of the Fall Arts Celebration art exhibit, which is on display through October 27.

FACULTY AND STAFF SKETCHES

IN THE NEWS

Jason Crouthamel, professor of history, was interviewed for a story about the social impact of the First World War for a BBC 4 radio documentary, “The Cultural Front: Series 4 – An Intimate War.”

Christian Glupker, clinical affiliate professor of economics, was interviewed by MLive for a story about the economic impact of festivals on smaller communities.

Call for papers: MSA Conference

Organizers of the annual Michigan Sociological Association Conference, sponsored by Grand Valley, are seeking proposals for sessions and papers that align with the conference’s broad theme of environmental justice.

The conference will be October 27-28 at the Eberhard Center; there will be undergraduate student paper and poster sessions, and a paper competition.

People interested in submitting a paper or a session idea should contact Michael Macaluso, affiliate professor of sociology, at macalusm@gvsu.edu. The deadline for submissions is September 30. For more information about the conference, visit michigansociology.org.

College signs agreement with GRPS

The Padnos College of Engineering and Computing is working with Grand Rapids Public Schools to support and advance STEM activities for GRPS students.

President Thomas J. Haas; Maria Cimitile, provost and executive vice president for Academic and Student Affairs; and Ronald Gorman, assistant superintendent for GRPS, signed a memorandum of understanding August 28 that includes hiring a graduate assistant to help teams participating in FIRST competitions and other STEM-related activities.

Grand Valley hosts the FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of

Science and Technology) Robotics District Competition for teams across West Michigan.

Paul Plotkowski, dean of the Padnos College of Engineering and Computing, said Grand Valley began providing support via graduate assistants in 2005, this agreement makes the partnership official.

SKETCHES

Darleen Hoffert, assistant professor of nursing, wrote an article, “Nursing Service a Benefit of No-Fault Insurance,” published in the *Grand Rapids Press*.

Joy Washburn, associate professor of nursing, wrote an article on human trafficking, which will be published in an upcoming issue of the *Journal of Christian Nursing*.

Brent Nowak, executive director of the applied Medical Device Institute, gave a presentation, “Project-Based Immersion Undergraduate Programs that Lead to Technology Transfer,” at the NCURA Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C.

Amy Russell, associate professor of biology, wrote an article, “Genetic Demography at the Leading Edge of the Distribution of a Rabies Virus Vector,” published in *Ecology and Evolution*.

Charles Pazdernik, professor of Classics, wrote an article, “Reinventing Theoderic in Procopius’ Gothic War,” published in *Procopius of Caesarea: Literary and Historical Approaches*.

Jim Penn, associate professor of geography and sustainable planning, gave presentations “Sistemas Agroforestales y el Uso del Bosque en la Amazonia Peruana: Experiencias, Desafíos, y Realidades,” at the Bilwi and Siuna campuses of Universidad de las Regiones Autónomas de la Costa Caribe Nicaragüense.

Michael P. Lombardo, professor of biology, gave a presentation, “Factors Associated with Egg Hatching in Tree Swallows,” with students at the American Ornithological Society conference at Michigan State University.

WHAT’S AHEAD

Events for week of September 18

Provost will be keynote speaker at Women’s Commission event

Provost Maria Cimitile will provide the keynote address at the annual Fall Welcome hosted by Grand Valley’s Women’s Commission.

Faculty and staff members are invited to the event, set for Tuesday, September 19, from noon-1:30 p.m. in the Kirkhof Center, Grand River Room.

RSVP for the event online at gvsu.edu/wcommission, deadline for RSVPs is September 13.

Events celebrate Hispanic heritage

Grand Valley’s annual Hispanic Heritage Celebration will feature guest lecturers, spoken word poetry, dancing and celebratory cultural events.

The events, organized by the Office of Multicultural Affairs, take place in conjunction with National Hispanic Heritage Month. All events are free and open to the public.

Events continue through November; early fall events are listed below. Learn more at gvsu.edu/oma.

• **Why (Y)our History Matters: The Latino Experience in the Midwest; Wednesday, September 20, from 3-4:15 p.m., Kirkhof Center, room 2204**

Lilia Fernández, a specialist in 20th century Latino history, will give a lecture. Her book, *Brown in the Windy City: Mexicans and Puerto Ricans in Postwar Chicago*, is the first to document the history of Latino populations in the city after World War II.

Professionals of Color Lecture Series: Hispanics: More Than

Statistics; Wednesday, September 27, from 1-2:30 p.m., Kirkhof Center, room 2250

Antonia Coello Novello, a native of Puerto Rico, served as executive director of public health policy at the Disney Children’s Hospital at Florida Hospital. In 1990, she was sworn in as the 14th Surgeon General of the U.S. Public Health Service; she was the first woman and first Hispanic American to hold the position.

Grand Valley kicks off ArtPrize

The air in downtown Grand Rapids will be filled with the thundering sounds of the Laker Marching Band and cheers for the GVSU Dance Company as the two ensembles help kick off ArtPrize Nine, on Wednesday, September 20, from 7-8 p.m. at Rosa Parks Circle.

The 220-member Laker Marching Band will begin the festivities with a performance at the Eberhard Center at 6:15 p.m. before marching in cadence across the Blue Pedestrian Bridge through downtown to Rosa Parks Circle.

The band will then perform a second time under the direction of President Thomas J. Haas, followed by a performance by the GVSU Dance Company. This year marks the fifth consecutive year that the two ensembles have helped energize the Grand Rapids community for ArtPrize.



The Laker Marching Band will kick off ArtPrize on September 20 at Rosa Parks Circle in Grand Rapids.