

FORUM

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

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Matthews' new role will build art endowment

Over the past two decades, Henry Matthews, founding director of Grand Valley's Galleries and Collections, has helped to build the university's impressive collection of art to more than 19,000 pieces.

In a new role, Matthews will build a funding base for that collection to preserve and protect it for future generations. In early August, Matthews was named distinguished university associate, Galleries and Collections, within the University Development Division.

Karen Loth, vice president for University Development, said the division is excited to welcome Matthews and excited for the future of Grand Valley's art collection.

"Henry brings such a history of success in building the art collection for Grand Valley. That, coupled with his deep relationships with so many university donors, will be a great addition to the Development team," Loth said.

Nathan Kemler, former assistant director of Galleries and Collections, has been appointed interim director. Matthews will continue to work closely with the Art Gallery staff as curator of the collections.

In his new position, Matthews will actively work with current and new donors to raise support for art through the GVSU Art

Collection Endowment, in addition to raising support for the Gordon Gallery and its extensive collection of Mathias Alten paintings, as well as other art-related initiatives.

"For the past 20-plus years, we have grown and set the roots of an impressive collection," he said. "Now we will concentrate on building an endowment to support programs that are established and thriving. Grand Valley is a very young university and will continue to develop this outstanding art collection for educational purposes."

Artwork within the university's collections comes from six continents. Matthews credited President Emeritus Arend D. Lubbers with having a vision to build an extensive collection that would be accessible to students, faculty and staff members and the public.

"We wanted to be as inclusive and multicultural as possible, we wanted to bring the world to our students," Matthews said.

It's the second largest art collection among



Photo by Valerie Wojciechowski

Henry Matthews, who has a new position in University Development, stands by the print and drawing cabinet in the art storage room, located in the Innovation Design Center. There are 9,000 pieces of artwork stored in the building on Winter Street, including prints by Cyril Lixenberg, pictured.

Michigan's colleges and universities. Matthews' charge is to build support for the collection for the purposes of research, exhibitions and preservation.

"Just think what the future art collection will look like in 50 years or more. We have created an important foundation for the future of our students," he said.

ACROSS CAMPUS

Faculty Staff Campaign celebrates widespread generosity

Grand Valley continues to be one of the most philanthropic campuses in Michigan, with 53 percent of employees giving back to support students during the 2018-2019 Faculty Staff Campaign.

More than \$400,000 was raised in the past year for student success, as donations impacted more than 200 different areas on campus through scholarships, student support programs, and other funds.

University Development congratulated the following units for achieving 100 percent participation:

Alumni Relations, Annis Water Resources Institute, Business & Finance Payroll, Center for Adult & Continuing Studies, CLAS

Dean's Office, College of Education Student Information & Services Center, Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies, Human Resources, Inclusion and Equity Office of the Vice President, Legal, Compliance and Risk Management, Office of the President, Padnos College of Engineering & Computing, Padnos International Center, Public Health, Regional Math & Science Center, School of Computing & Information Systems, Student Life Office, University Communications, University Development, University Relations

For questions about the Faculty Staff Campaign or how to get involved, contact Autumn Hubbard at hubbara1@gvsu.edu.

United Way campaign to focus on ALICE families

Grand Valley's annual United Way campaign kicks off on October 7, continuing a long-

standing partnership with the United Way to help members of area communities who are in need.

The United Way's approach to helping families throughout West Michigan focuses on families and individuals described as asset-limited, income-constrained, employed, or ALICE for short.

The university's campaign is important to West Michigan. In Kent County, 28 percent of people are working but are unable to meet their basic needs. Families with children, single parents and minorities are especially vulnerable, according to data from the United Way.

United Way data reported although jobs are available in West Michigan, many are low-paying. In fact, 60 percent of jobs pay less than \$20 per hour and often do not include health insurance. Research on generational poverty

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ACROSS CAMPUS

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reported that children who live in poverty face significant obstacles in developing social, emotional and physical health.

Gifts to the United Way are used to fund local agencies that focus on six main areas of support for families in West Michigan: housing, family crisis, food security, financial security, mental and behavioral health, and youth education. This broad focus allows the United Way to support a wide variety of organizations and programs that strategize to work on tackling the root causes of poverty.

Soon, volunteer captains will contact faculty and staff members with instructions on how to consider giving to the United Way. For more information and to find the link to contribute to the campaign, visit gvsu.edu/UnitedWay.

GVNow recap:

GVSU welcomes one of its largest first-year classes

Grand Valley enrolled one of the largest first-year classes in its history this fall.

It's the eighth year in a row the university has welcomed more than 4,000 first-year students to campus, and they're coming into college with impressive academic records from high school.

First-year enrollment at the university is 4,301, with total enrollment topping more than 24,000 (24,033). The freshman class has the strongest entering GPA in Grand Valley's history, with 75 percent coming in with a GPA of 3.39 or higher. There is an increase in first-year students of color, from 719 in 2018 to 727 this fall, along

with an increase in non-Michigan students at the university, from 2,179 to 2,237.

"We welcomed an amazing class this fall," said President Philomena V. Mantella. "Bright students have a lot of choices when it comes to pursuing a college degree, and they know Grand Valley delivers on its promise of a great education, while being a tremendous value.

"We're committed to providing access for qualified students to attend Grand Valley, and we're dedicated to their success."

Grand Valley is among the top three Michigan public universities for retaining students. University data showed an 84.5 percent retention rate for first-year students. To ease financial pressures for students, the Board of Trustees in July increased financial aid by 14 percent, bringing the total aid available to students to \$59.9 million.

Soman named dean of College of Education

Provost Maria Cimitile has named Sherril Soman dean of the College of Education. Soman had been serving as interim dean since July 2018.

"Dr. Soman has built solid relationships with, and garnered the support and trust of faculty and staff within the College of Education in the time she has served as interim dean," said Cimitile. "Sherril continues to move the college forward at a challenging time for



Sherril Soman

postsecondary education and embraces new opportunities in the ever-changing field of teacher preparation."

Soman has served in a number of leadership roles at the university, including associate vice president for Enrollment Development and university registrar, director of Financial Aid, interim assistant vice president for Academic Affairs, and associate dean in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

She has extensive expertise in curriculum development, assessment and strategic planning and served on the university Assurance Argument Leadership Committee in preparation for the Higher Learning Commission reaccreditation visit that took place in 2018.

Soman joined the Chemistry Department in 2000. She earned a doctorate in chemistry from Purdue University and is a chemistry educator by training, co-leading recertification of the chemistry major by the Michigan Department of Education.

Sim Center conducts assailant training exercise

A group of nursing, health sciences and athletic training students practiced emergency procedures as a part of Healthcare Simulation Week.

The active assailant training exercise was held September 18 in the Cook-DeVos Center for Health Sciences. It was coordinated by the GVSU Interprofessional Simulation Center and sponsored by Priority Health.

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Other University Communications publications:

Grand Valley Magazine, published quarterly; visit gvsu.edu/gvmagazine.

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

Dan Graser, associate professor of music

Michigan-based saxophone ensemble, the Donald Sinta Quartet, has released its debut album one year after winning the gold medal in the Senior Wind Division of the 45th annual Fischhoff Competition.

Dan Graser, associate professor of music, is the quartet's soprano saxophonist. He said having albums to sell at their shows has changed the connection they have with their audience for the better.

"The No. 1 question we got asked nearly everywhere we went as performers, and we've performed hundreds of places now, is, 'Do you have CDs?'" Graser said. "A lot of people my age and younger aren't familiar with CDs, but classical music audiences want CDs. So we had to fill that gap."

Released in June, "Collider" has been in the works for more than three years. The record includes compositions written by students who won the Donald Sinta Quartet National Composition Competition, held in Ann Arbor every year.

While the quartet has performed in Carnegie Hall and with the Michigan Symphony Band in

Beijing, Graser said having an album is something the group needed before moving to the next step.

He also said releasing a full album helps connect him to his audience, and presents a new way to connect to his students at Grand Valley.

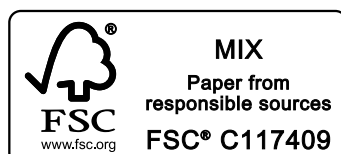
"Advising students on repertoire, performance practices, and how to navigate some of that part of the business are all things that our quartet work has made possible," Graser said.

"To me, the ideal music professor is someone who is a great pedagogue but also someone who practices what they preach and can demonstrate the 'why' and 'how' with their performance work."

Learn more about the quartet online at donaldsintaquartet.com.



Dan Graser



WHAT'S AHEAD

Benson to visit campus for Voter Registration Day

Jocelyn Benson, Michigan Secretary of State, will visit the Allendale Campus in recognition of National Voter Registration Day.

Benson will be at the Cook Carillon Tower Tuesday, September 24, from noon-12:45 p.m. to help encourage students to register to vote.

The Secretary of State's Mobile Unit will be at the Pew Grand Rapids Campus on Monday, September 23, from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. in the DeVos South Courtyard, and at the Cook Carillon Tower on September 24 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Services available include license, tabs and registration renewals and organ donor registry. Visitors can also apply for a REAL ID-compliant driver's license or state ID card. By October 2020, a REAL ID-compliant document will be required to fly within the United States.

For information, visit gvsu.edu/service/vote.

Women's Commission will host Fall Welcome

Grand Valley's Women's Commission will host its Fall Welcome on Wednesday, September 25, from noon-1:30 p.m. in the Kirkhof Center, Grand River Room.

Maureen Walsh, associate vice president for Human Resources, will be the keynote speaker.



Maureen Walsh

All faculty and staff members are welcome to attend; light refreshments will be served. RSVP online at gvsu.edu/wcommission.

Carey lecture to address surveillance in popular culture

The ninth annual James W. Carey Memorial Lecture will explore the cultural dimension of surveillance and how it is understood in society.

J. Macgregor Wise, professor of communication studies and social technology at Arizona State University, will deliver a speech, "Surveillance: Lessons from Popular Film." The topic will address how pervasive surveillance is today, and how monitoring is portrayed in popular culture.

The event is Wednesday, September 25, from 6:30-8:15 p.m. in the DeVos Center, Loosemore Auditorium.

Shakespeare Festival returns with perennial favorite

Grand Valley's Shakespeare Festival will perform a perennial favorite this year with its main stage production of "A Midsummer Night's Dream."

It's the third time the classic comedy is returning to the festival stage, making it the first of the Bard's plays to be performed three times at the event, said Jim Bell, festival managing director.

Bell said the choice of the play also helps commemorate the longevity of the festival, the oldest of its kind in Michigan. "A Midsummer Night's Dream" was the festival's first production and repeated in the 15th year.

Below are highlights of the main stage performance as well as other events connected to the festival. For more information, visit gvsu.edu/shakes.

A Midsummer Night's Dream:

September 27-28 and October 3-5, 7:30 p.m.; October 5, 6, 2 p.m., Haas Center for Performing Arts. Tickets: \$16 for general admission; \$7 for students; \$14 for seniors and faculty, staff and alumni. For tickets and more information, contact the Louis Armstrong Theatre box office at x12300.

Presentation by Festival Scholar-in-Residence, John Cox: September 27, 4-5 p.m., Kirkhof Center, Pere Marquette Room.

Bard to Go public performances, "Tossing on the Ocean": October 11, 2 p.m.; November 2, 1 p.m., Haas Center for Performing Arts. Bard to Go is a 50-minute program of scenes which gives students an introduction to Shakespeare in performance.

Greenshow Performances: October 3 at 4:30 p.m., Haas Center for Performing Arts; Renaissance Faire, October 5 and 6, 10 a.m., performances throughout the day near Cook Carillon Tower. The Greenshow is a short, interactive English Renaissance piece. Alumnus Michael Empson directs a classic production, "Jack Juggler." All performances are free.

Clinics for flu shots scheduled through October

The GVSU Family Health Center, operated by the Kirkhof College of Nursing, will staff multiple flu shot clinics for the campus community throughout October.

There is no charge for the vaccine for retirees, faculty and staff members and their dependents. Students can get their insurance billed for the cost of vaccines or can use credit, debit or student account billing at any clinic. More information is online at gvsu.edu/fhc.

Flu shot clinic dates are listed below.

- October 2: GVSU Family Health Center, 72 Sheldon Blvd. SE in Grand Rapids, 5-7 p.m.
- October 4: Kirkhof Center, Health and Wellness Fair, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.
- October 8: DeVos Center, Building C, student project area, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
- October 9: Musekgon, Annis Water Resources Institute, 740 W. Shoreline Dr., 8:30-9:30 a.m.
- October 10: Fieldhouse Arena, upper lobby, noon-2 p.m.
- October 14: Cook-DeVos Center for Health Sciences, room 127, noon-2 p.m.
- October 16: Meijer Campus in Holland, 8:30-9:30 a.m.
- October 17: Kirkhof Center, Pere Marquette Room, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
- October 24: Finkelstein Hall, room 221, 8-10 a.m.
- October 30: Kirkhof Center, Pere Marquette Room, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

Poets to share work during Fall Arts Celebration event

Two acclaimed poets who delve into the wide range of the human condition will share their work through readings during a Fall Arts Celebration event.

"An Evening with Ellen Bass and Kevin



Ellen Bass and Kevin Young will read from their works October 3 during a Fall Arts Celebration event.

Young" will give audiences the chance to fully experience the poetry through hearing the language and imagery, said Patricia Clark, professor of writing and poet-in-residence at Grand Valley.

The event is October 3 with a 5 p.m. public reception and readings at 6 p.m. at the Eberhard Center.

Bass is a chancellor of the Academy of American Poets. Her most recent book, *Like a Beggar*, was a finalist for a host of awards including the Paterson Poetry Prize and the Lambda Literary Award.

Young is the director of the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture and is poetry editor at *The New Yorker*. His book, *Ardency: A Chronicle of the Amistad Rebels*, won an American Book Award.

All Fall Arts Celebration events are free and open to the public. For more information, visit gvsu.edu/fallarts.

Health Forum focus will be consumer-driven technologies

Panelists at the Health Forum of West Michigan October event will focus on consumer-driven technologies in health care.

The event is October 4 at 8 a.m. in the DeVos Center, Loosemore Auditorium. A light breakfast will be served at 7:30 a.m. The event is free and open to the public; RSVP online at gvsu.edu/miperc.

Panelists are Jessie Riley, resident technology manager for Holland Home; Brent Nowak, executive director, applied Medical Device Institute; Ted Spooner, senior director for Zimmer Biomet Connected Health; and Bimal Shah, chief medical officer for Livongo.

Health Forum events, sponsored by the Office of the Vice Provost for Health, are held the first Friday of each month.

Public physics talk added to conference schedule

The 29th annual Midwest Relativity Meeting, hosted by the Physics Department, is adding a lecture, "Black Hole Myths and Mysteries," free and open to the public.

Leo Stein, professor of physics and astronomy from the University of Mississippi, will discuss common misconceptions about black holes and why they are known to be the most powerful force in the universe.

Stein's lecture is October 4, 8 p.m. in the DeVos Center, Loosemore Auditorium.

FACULTY AND STAFF SKETCHES

IN THE NEWS

Recognizing 50 years



Photo by Amanda Pitts

State Rep. Luke Meerman, R-Polkton Township, (front row, fourth from right) honors members of the Grand Valley Police Department as GVPD celebrates 50 years on campus. Meerman presents a plaque to Police Chief Brandon DeHaan (front row, fifth from right) and members of the department September 16.

Nicholus Kopacki, affiliate faculty and assistant department chair of physician assistant studies, Traverse City, was named to the “40 Under 40” list by the *Traverse City Business News*.

Adriana Almanza, assistant director for the Office of Multicultural Affairs, was interviewed by *Women’s LifeStyle Magazine* for a story about receiving the Young Hispanic Professional of the Year Award from the West Michigan Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, and her roles on campus with Laker Familia and the DACA Task Force.

SKETCHES

Deborah Bambini, professor of nursing; physician assistant studies faculty members **Andrew Booth** and **Lisa Pagnucco**; and **Michael Shoemaker**, associate professor of physical therapy, gave a presentation, “Utilizing Technology to Develop a Sustainable Model for Collaboration across Universities to Facilitate Interprofessional Education,” at the

MIPERC Conference hosted by the Vice Provost for Health Office.

Anne McKay, assistant professor of nursing, gave a presentation, “Interprofessional Partnerships in Assessing the Healthcare Needs of a College Community,” at the MIPERC Conference hosted by the Vice Provost for Health Office.

Vandana Pednekar-Magal, professor of multimedia journalism and chair of area and global studies, gave a keynote address, “Diaspora and Identity in the Digital Age: Cultural Communities and the Nation,” at the Media and Culture conference at Babes-Bolyai University, Romania. She also gave presentations, “Globalism and Nationalism: Spatial Experience,” at Global Studies conference in Krakow, Poland; and “Love Across Frontiers: Reinventing Family in the Digital Age,” at the International Association for Media and Communication Research Conference in Madrid, Spain.

Kris Pachla, director of the Regional Math and Science Center, earned a doctoral degree in education policy from George Mason University; Pachla’s dissertation was “Early Career Professional Development: A Multiple Case-Study Examining Differences in Outcomes and Experiences in a Secondary Science Methods Course.”

Movement science faculty members **Chris Dondzila** and **Steve Glass** were co-authors of an article, “Currency for Retirement: Investing in Physical Capital,” published in the *American College of Sports Medicine’s Health and Fitness Journal*.

Amy Matthews, director of the Autism Education Center, has been reappointed by Gov. Gretchen Whitmer to a term on the state Autism Council, which oversees the Spectrum Autism Disorder State Plan.

Gregory Sanial, vice president for Finance and Administration and CFO, wrote an article, “The Coast Guard Belongs with DOD,” published in the U.S. Naval Institute’s *Proceedings*.

Bopi Biddanda, professor of water resources, participated in a NASA workshop, “Imaging for Life Detection,” at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor and gave a presentation, “Imaging Movement of Microbial Filaments in Modern Microbial Mats.”

Jeremiah Cataldo, associate professor of history, Meijer Honors College, was an editor for a book, *Imagined Worlds and Constructed Identities in the Hebrew Bible*, published by T&T Clark/Bloomsbury; wrote a chapter, “Biblical Strategies for Reinterpreting Crises with ‘Outsiders,’” for the book; and wrote three articles for Kindle books published by Point of View Publishing.

ACROSS CAMPUS

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The students, faculty and staff members received training from members of area law enforcement agencies, including the Grand Valley and Grand Rapids Police departments and Grand Rapids Fire Department. They practiced various procedures, including “run-hide-fight,” “close-lock-barricade” and “stop the bleed.” They also participated in rescue task force exercises.

Students also had the opportunity to portray mock patients being treated at Mercy Health Saint Mary’s, and students from Grand Valley’s Early College program portrayed patients at Spectrum Health.

“Simulation-based training is an effective teaching strategy for skill development in



Photo by Valerie Wojciechowski

GVPD Sgt. William O’Donnell gives directions at an active assailant training exercise September 18 at the Cook-DeVos Center for Health Sciences.

complex situations,” said Katie Branch, director of Simulation. “The training exercise was a success due to the collaborative spirit of Grand Valley within the university and the Grand Rapids community.”

Grand Valley’s Counseling Center was also involved in the exercise along with the FBI, Life EMS, American Medical Response, Kent County Sheriff’s Department, Kent County Emergency Management, Michigan State Police and Grand Rapids Community College.

University earns award for commitment to diversity

Grand Valley was named a recipient of the Higher Education Excellence in Diversity (HEED) Award from Insight into Diversity, the oldest and largest diversity-focused publication in higher education.

The award recognizes Grand Valley and 93 other institutions for their commitment to diversity and inclusion.

Jesse Bernal, vice president for Inclusion and Equity, said Grand Valley is intentional about its efforts to create a welcoming campus and strives to be a national model for equity and inclusion in higher education.

Recipients of HEED Awards are selected through an application process that includes focus on recruitment and retention of students and employees, best practices and administrative support for inclusive initiatives.

More information about the HEED Award is online at insightintodiversity.com.

Mantella says universities need to evolve to meet needs

President Philomena V. Mantella said it is critical to create ways to offer education options that are accessible and support learning at all stages of life.

Mantella discussed the future of education as the featured speaker for the Peter F. Secchia Breakfast Lecture September 12 at the L. William Seidman Center.

“We expect students to come in at 18 years old and leave at 22 being set for a lifetime of change. That’s not going to work in the future,” she said.

Mantella said Grand Valley will always invest in that coming-of-age experience, but will broaden the focus on adult learners who need to upskill to stay relevant and advance in their professional lives.

“Adults are long on experience and short on time — the exact opposite of 18-year-olds,” she explained. “Seventy-five percent of the higher education market is not 18-22. We need to stand by our alumni and other adults to offer elements of learning they will need over the course of their lifetime.”

For complete stories, visit gvsu.edu/gvnow.