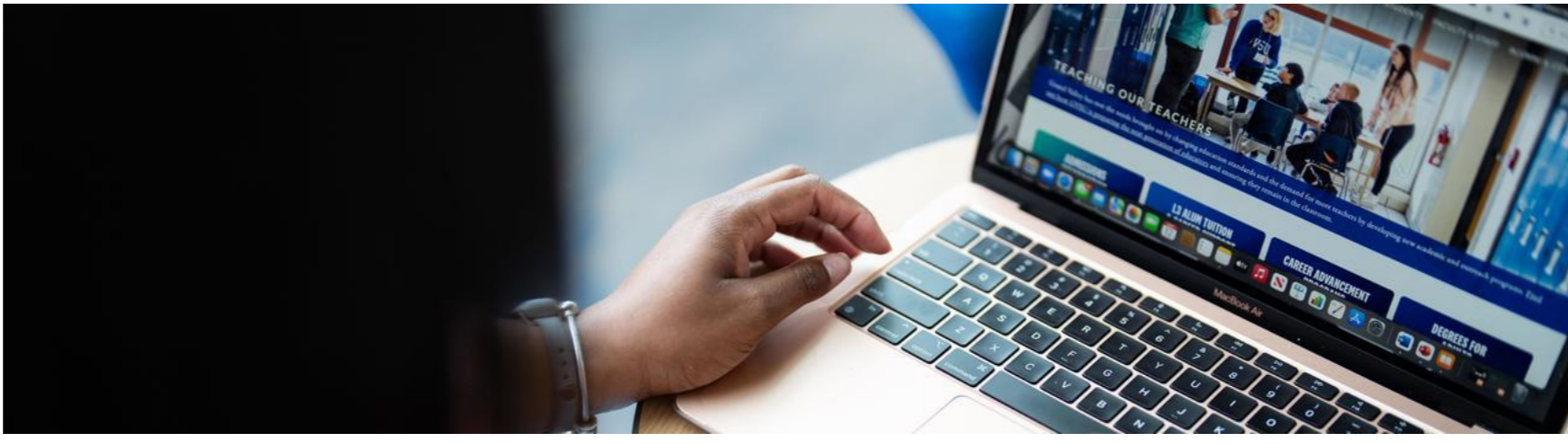


GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY
**INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
DIVISION**

SEPTEMBER 2023 NEWSLETTER



File Saving and Storage at GVSU: A Better Way

The busyness of daily work can make it easy to save a file to your desktop as a quick solution and move on to the next task. The process of saving a file to your desktop might seem simple, but it is just as convenient and more effective to save the file either to your "My Documents" folder or to a cloud storage service. There are several key reasons why.

[Recommended Backup and Data Storage Options for GVSU](#)



Innovation Insights:

New Call for Proposals Brings Educational VR to GVSU

Virtual reality offers exciting new possibilities for teaching and learning. Whether it be through authentic simulations, virtual field trips, or life-like animated models, there are more ways than ever to engage students with immersive technology. To catalyze innovative, technology-enhanced pedagogies at GVSU, the IT-Innovation and Research team has launched a call for proposals in which GVSU faculty and staff are invited to submit ideas for developing educational VR applications at GVSU.

[Call for VR Project Proposals](#)



Security Corner:

Protect Yourself Online: Phishing URLs

We use the internet for countless activities, from shopping to banking to connecting with loved ones. However, with these conveniences comes a growing threat – phishing attacks. Phishing is a deceptive tactic used by cybercriminals to steal your sensitive information. One of the most common methods they employ is phishing URLs.

[Phishing URLs and How to Avoid Them](#)

IT Events & Highlights



Campus Life Night

GVSU IT participated in the Fall 2023 Campus Life Night on August 27. Team members were on hand to answer questions, share technology offerings across campus, and provide information on how to access them. Additionally, the table offered many giveaways and prizes including a JBL speaker, treats from Insomnia Cookies, and more. The Technology Showcase was on hand with a 3D printer, printing custom GVSU keychains.



Workday Town Hall

The Workday Project Team held a university-wide Town Hall on September 12 to showcase and highlight the benefits and changes coming with the transition to Workday Platform in January 2024.

[Town Hall Images and Event Video](#)
[Forum Article](#)
[Workday FAQs](#)



Information Technology 2023 Service Awards

Congratulations to the 2023 IT Service Award recipients! Recipients are nominated by peers within the IT Division in areas of Leadership, Innovation, and Service Excellence.

[2023 IT Service Award Recipients](#)



IT Team Member Highlight

Brandon Ridge, Lead Analyst – ERP Systems

Daily, you might use GVSU's ERP system (Banner, soon to be Workday), to access personal information or data related to your job. In his role as Lead Analyst for ERP (Enterprise Resource Planning) Systems, Brandon Ridge makes sure your access to and use of this information is seamless.

Brandon's current primary responsibility is assisting the university with its implementation of Workday. He is involved with this initiative by converting Banner data to Workday and creating integrations that keep existing systems running after implementation. Also, he is responsible for updating Banner and various integrations, including those with systems such as Blackboard, Slate, and Coursedog.

When asked what he most enjoys about his daily work, Brandon shared that he thrives on finding creative ways to solve problems. "My work streamlines tasks so departments, faculty, staff, and students can do more. The opportunity to automate processes and integrate systems is a great way to assist others in their work."

Brandon attended GVSU, graduating with a B.S. in Computer Science in 2010 and a M.S. in Computer Information Systems in 2016. He began working at GVSU in 2010 as a Web Developer within University Marketing. In 2017, he moved into IT as a Systems Analyst, and in 2021 he moved into his current role

In his free time, Brandon enjoys biking, waterfowl hunting, camping, and hiking with his family. Additionally, he can be found 3D printing everything from fun trinkets and toys to creating custom designs for practical projects.

Need IT Assistance?

Phone: (616) 331-2035 **Email:** it@gvsu.edu **Service Portal:** services.gvsu.edu

