



**Distinguished Alumni-in-Residence
Recognition Luncheon**

**Friday, October 16, 2009
11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Alumni House**

Welcome

Frederick J. Antczak
Dean, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Luncheon

Recognition of Honorees

Jann Joseph
Associate Dean, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Distinguished Alumni-in-Residence Program

The Distinguished Alumni-in-Residence Program provides a venue for departments to invite outstanding alumni back to campus to share their post-graduation experiences with the GVSU community. Through the program, our distinguished alumni have the opportunity to share their insights about what constitutes a strong academic preparation for students. We are pleased this afternoon to recognize distinguished alumni from ten of the departments within the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and welcome them back to campus.

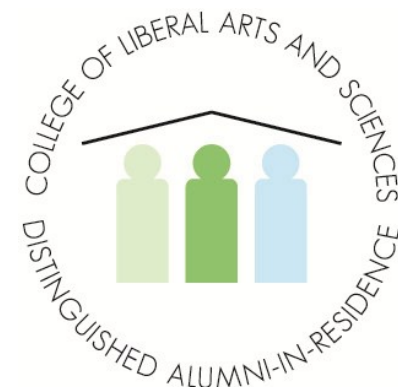
Since leaving Grand Valley, Elaine has worked with and studied a variety of primate species including howler monkeys, macaques, and chimpanzees. She has conducted field work on howler monkeys in Nicaragua and studied chimpanzees at the Mahale Mountains National Park in Tanzania. Her true passion, however, is captive primate research. While pursuing her graduate degree, she worked and conducted research at the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Keeling Center for Comparative Medicine and Research and the Southwest National Primate Research Center, both in Texas, and the Primate Foundation of Arizona. For the past two years, Elaine has worked at the Alamogordo Primate Facility on Holloman Air Force Base, New Mexico. At the Alamogordo Primate Facility, Elaine has a variety of management and administrative duties including regulatory compliance, quality assurance, program development, and coordinating the facilities Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee. She continues to be active in both behavioral and clinical primate research and has achieved over 20 peer-reviewed publications. Elaine believes passionately in the humane care and use of primates in biomedical research and is working at both the local and national level to ensure the continued availability of primates for biological research aimed at improving human health.

her experiments. She was always hauling “repurposed stuff” somewhere, or trying to find a source where she could buy a huge quantity of something odd, like cleaning rags. Her rag wall was an example of great beauty, practicality and the conceptualization of a political idea: saving the planet, one paper towel at a time. Julie Upmeyer is the only BFA graduate from the Department of Art & Design to be making her living and her home in Istanbul, Turkey. It isn’t everyday that we see on a young graduate’s exhibition venues include New Delhi, India, Dortmund, Germany, La Spezia, Italy, Istanbul and Sinop, Turkey, Gradoc, Slovenia, and Yerevan, Armenia. Only 6 years out from graduation, most former students are lucky to have an exhibition record that goes beyond Michigan or the Midwest. Julie always wanted to see the world, and she meant it literally. She does more than travel; she takes up residence learning all she can about the culture, the language, and how the art world works in this new environment. Julie is an artist in the true sense of the word. She makes stuff, most often with unusual or repurposed materials. But in addition to that, she is a leader, an initiator working with local groups and international partners to generate collaborative projects, interactive events, wonderful explorations, and experiential research. She is very committed to helping artists from all over the world and common people come together where all can appreciate and participate in Art.

Elaine Videan

B.S. in Biology (1997)

Elaine Videan graduated from Grand Valley State University in 1997 with a B.S. in Biology. While at Grand Valley, she was active in Biology Club and spent two years working as a research assistant studying the reproductive and behavioral ecology of largemouth bass with Dr. Jodee Hunt. Elaine Videan has traveled far since receiving her degree from Grand Valley, including Central America and east Africa. After graduation, Elaine entered Miami University of Ohio where she earned both a Master’s of Science (2000) and a Doctorate (2005) in Zoology. In pursuit of her graduate degrees, Elaine moved away from her aquatic past and toward primatology.



2009 Distinguished Alumni-in-Residence Honorees

Dr. Todd Davis	B.S. in Chemistry (2000)
Dr. Amanda Dykema-Engblade	B.S. in Psychology (1999)
Lucy Finkel	B.M.E. in Music (2005)
Brigitte Frantz, Esq.	B.A. in Classical Tradition & English (2003)
Dr. Sarah Hochstetler	B.A. in English (2000)
Debra Moinet-St. Arnauld	B.S. in Physical Education (1986)
Dr. Deborah Rotman	B.A. in Anthropology (1993)
John Sniadecki	B.A. in Philosophy (2002)
Julie Upmeyer	B.F.A. in Studio Art (2003)
Dr. Elaine Videan	B.S. in Biology (1997)

Dr. Todd Davis

B.S. in Chemistry (2000)

Dr. Todd Davis received his B.S. in chemistry from Grand Valley State University in 2000. During his time at GVSU he performed research funded by the Ronald McNair Post baccalaureate program. Upon graduation, Dr. Davis pursued graduate studies at Texas Tech University earning his Ph.D. in organic chemistry in 2004. Dr. Davis was then awarded a NIH training grant to conduct post-doctoral studies at the Center in Molecular Toxicology and Departments of Chemistry and Pharmacology at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, TN. During his time at Vanderbilt, Dr. Davis studied the effects of fish oil omega-3 fatty acids as antioxidants and their role in preventing lipid oxidation. In 2007, he began his independent career by accepting a position as an Assistant Professor of Chemistry at Idaho State University. Dr. Davis's current research interests are in the areas of organic synthesis and agricultural/environmental chemistry. He is a recipient of Ralph Powe Junior Faculty Enhancement Award administered by the Oak Ridge Associated Universities.

Dr. Amanda Dykema-Engblade

B.S. in Psychology (1999)

Dr. Dykema-Engblade attended Grand Valley from 1994-1999, with a major in Psychology and a minor in Applied Statistics. Immediately after graduating from Grand Valley, Amanda earned her MA (2002) and Ph.D. (2005) from Loyola University Chicago in the area of Applied Social Psychology. Currently, Amanda is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychology at Northeastern Illinois University in Chicago. Amanda's broad research interests include investigating small group processes and performance and she is specifically interested in transactive memory systems and the optimal ways to distribute information among group members. Amanda attributes much of her success to strong mentoring relationships both at the undergraduate (Dr. Christine Smith) and graduate (Dr. Scott Tindale) level. Amanda currently lives in Chicago with her spouse, David, daughter Evelyn (4 years) and son Zeke (6 months).

John Sniadecki

B.A. in Philosophy (2002)

J.P. Sniadecki is a 2002 graduate of Grand Valley State University, where he earned his B.A. in Philosophy. He is presently a doctoral candidate in the Social Anthropology Department at Harvard University with an emphasis on Chinese society and sensory ethnography. He began making films in his home state of Michigan, focusing on his experience as an instructor in a prison education program. His first film in China, *Songhua* (2007), was screened at the 2008 Vienna International Film Festival, and the 2007 Shadow Festival, and the 2007 SIGGRAPH. It has also received awards at the 2008 PLATFORMA Video Festival, the Negotiated View Film Festival, and the Eyes & Lenses Ethnographic Film Festival in Poland. J.P. is currently working on *Sichuan Triptych*, a film about three major events in 2008 that have shaped not only Sichuan but all of China: the March uprisings, the May earthquake, and the August Olympics.

Julie Upmeyer

B.F.A. in Studio Art (2003)

Julie Upmeyer's life at Grand Valley was always tied to her swimming schedule. She was on a swim scholarship, and was in the pool by 6 a.m. or earlier nearly every morning. She is receiving Induction to the GVSU Athletic Hall of Fame this very evening for her 9 times All-American in 4 different swimming categories from the Athletic Department. As busy as she was, her first commitment was to her chosen work, art, in general, and ceramics, and later mixed media and repurposed materials. In addition to that, she was the inveterate explorer. She always wanted to know more, pushing the edges of any idea. She left the Grand Valley State University with 3 major permanently installed works of considerable size: the huge "pill capsules" in the Health Science Building, the interactive wheels in the downstairs north eating area of the Student Center, and a mural jointly made by Julie and another student in the Alumni House. She used every available space in or around the Art building for

Deb is currently in her 21st year of service at Kenowa Hills and currently resides in Spring Lake, MI with her husband Steve, and 4 year old daughter Emerson.

Dr. Deborah Rotman

B.A. in Anthropology (1993)

Dr. Deb Rotman attended Grand Valley State University, where she completed her B.A. in 1993. She continued on to graduate education, earning an M.A. from Western Michigan University in 1995 and a Ph.D. from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst in 2001. She is currently an active teacher-scholar in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Notre Dame, and serves as the department's Director of Undergraduate Studies.

Dr. Rotman has been researching the cultural landscapes of the Midwest for many years. Her current research is focused on the Irish Diaspora in America. She is interested in nineteenth-century Irish immigrant experiences; the social relations of class, gender, and ethnicity; identity formation, assimilation, and resistance; women as a unique demographic element of Irish emigration; and the role of capitalism, globalization, and culture contact in shaping human society, everyday interaction, and uses of the material world.

Some of her significant recent publications include "The Fighting Irish': Historical Archaeology of 19th-Century Catholic Immigrant Experiences in South Bend, Indiana." *Historical Archaeology* 44 (2): in press, [2010]; "Public Displays and Private Tasks: Historical Archaeology of Landscape Utilization and Gender Relations in Indianapolis," *Midcontinental Journal of Archaeology* 32(1):89-116 [2007]; and "Separate Spheres?: Beyond the Dichotomies of Domesticity," *Current Anthropology* 47(4):666-674 [2006] and. Her most recent book, *Historical Archaeology of Gender: Social Relations in Deerfield, Massachusetts, ca. 1750-ca. 1918*, was published by Springer Academic this summer (2009).

Lucy Finkel

B.M.E. in Music (2005)

Lucy Finkel received her Bachelor of Music degree from Grand Valley State University in Grand Rapids, Michigan where she had the opportunity to perform Rose Maurant in *Street Scene* and Marenka in the production of *Bartered Bride*. She then continued her educational endeavors at New England Conservatory in Boston, Massachusetts receiving her Master of Music degree in 2007. While studying at New England Conservatory she had the pleasure of working with the Opera Outreach Program performing Clara in *Signor Deluso*. Other roles performed while at NEC were, La Ciesca in *Gianni Schicchi*, Jumelle in *Orpheus*, and Cupid in *Orpheus in the Underworld*. Ms. Finkel has also performed Maria in *West Side Story* with Ash Lawn Opera Festival, Susannah in *Le Nozze di Figaro* with Prelude to Performance, and Lauretta in *Gianni Schicchi* with both the American Singer's Opera Project and Chelsea Opera.

Brigette Frantz, Esq.

B.A. in Classical Tradition & English (2003)

Brigette L. Frantz earned the B.A. *magna cum laude* in the Classical Tradition and in English Language and Literature in 2003. An Honors College graduate and recipient of GVSU's Award for Excellence and Faculty Scholarship, she was named the Outstanding Student in the Department of Classics in 2003 and was awarded First Place in the Oldenburg Writing Contest for an analytical or persuasive essay in that year.

Ms. Frantz matriculated to Ave Maria School of Law, where she earned the J.D. *cum laude* in 2006. A recipient of the Academic Performance Scholarship, she served as Associate Editor of the *Ave Maria Law Review* and participated in the Asylum and Immigrant Rights Clinical Program.

Upon her graduation, Ms. Frantz was selected as a Judicial Law Clerk through the Attorney General's Honors Program for the U.S. Department of Justice, Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR), Atlanta Immigration Court. While serving in that role, she drafted legal decisions and memoranda on a variety of

immigration issues as the clerk for eight immigration judges at the Atlanta and Philadelphia Immigration Courts.

In July of this year, Ms. Frantz was named Associate General Counsel for Ethics in the Office of the General Counsel for EOIR in Falls Church, Virginia. In this capacity she provides training and guidance on the Standards of Conduct for Executive Branch Employees and the Rules of Professional Responsibility to EOIR personnel, including immigration judges, judicial law clerks, Board of Immigration Appeals members, and Board of Immigration Appeals staff attorneys; represents EOIR on the Department of Justice Pro Bono Committee; and reviews and responds to inquiries from the public on a variety of issues.

Ms. Frantz is a native of Muskegon, Michigan, and a member of the Michigan Bar.

Dr. Sarah Hochstetler
B.A. in English (2000)

Dr. Sarah Hochstetler graduated from Grand Valley State University in 2000 with a B.A. in English, a minor in psychology and secondary teaching credentials. While at GVSU she worked in the Writing Center as a tutor, an experience that deeply influenced her career choices and continues to shape her teaching and research interests. After graduating from GVSU, Dr. Hochstetler accepted a job in southern California teaching high school English. The next year, while teaching ninth and tenth grade, she earned an M.A. in Education from California State University, San Bernardino. After nearly four years in secondary classrooms, she began full time graduate study at the University of California, Santa Barbara, focusing on Composition and Education. During her time at UCSB, Dr. Hochstetler taught several courses, including Technical Writing for Engineers and Freshman Composition. She graduated in 2008 with a Ph.D. in Education and accepted a tenure track position as Assistant Professor of English at Illinois State University, where she currently teaches methods and graduate courses in writing and English Education. Dr. Hochstetler's research interests include the history of English Education and writing instruction, and methods course curriculum development. Sarah currently lives

in Downers Grove, Illinois with her future husband, Erik, and their ornery Siamese, Fang.

Debra Moinet-St. Arnauld
B.S. in Physical Education (1986)

Debra (Moinet) St. Arnauld earned her B.S. degree from GVSU in 1986 with a major in Physical Education K-12 Professional Instruction. In addition to her exemplary academic performance, Deb was a member of the GVSU women's basketball team. Upon graduation from GVSU, Deb continued her education as a graduate assistant in physical education at Central Michigan University where she gained experience teaching classes while completing her coursework. During her Masters work, Deb was called to her first full-time teaching position at Quincy Public Schools, where she also served as department chair. After a highly successful year at Quincy, Deb, a west Michigan native, came back to the area to teach middle school physical education for Kenowa Hills Public Schools in 1988. Over the years, Deb's teaching abilities have earned her several teaching awards and honors. In 2000, she received the Exemplary Physical Education Award from the Governor's Council on Fitness, Health and Sports. Deb was also named Michigan Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (MAHPERD) Middle School Physical Education Teacher of the Year for 2000-2001. In addition, she was named the Midwest District Physical Education Teacher of the Year in 2001-2002.

Deb's exemplary performance extends beyond the classroom. She has also been actively involved in extracurricular activities as a coach, area director for people to people, lobbyist at state and national level for physical education funding, as a presenter at local, state, and national conferences, and as a member of the Board of Director's for MAHPERD. Deb continues to play an integral role in curriculum development at her school and has successfully written grants to assist in this process. In addition, she has served on several committees at Kenowa Hills, including the Crisis Intervention Team, Strategic Planning, and Drug Free Schools committees. Deb has also served in the community as a volunteer for West Michigan Ronald McDonald House.