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**Distinguished Alumni-in-Residence**

**Recognition Luncheon**

**Friday, October 28, 2011**

**11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**

**Alumni House**

Welcome Frederick J. Antczak

Dean, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

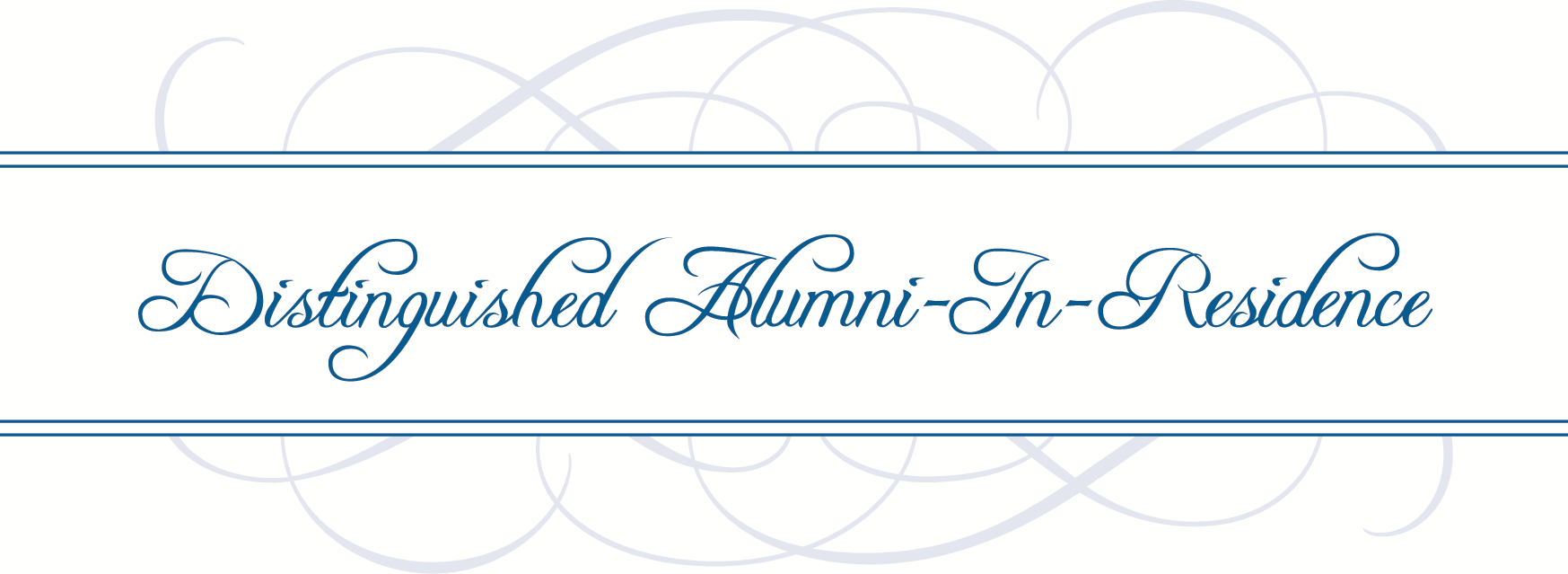
Luncheon

Recognition of Honorees Shaily Menon

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 eleven of the departments within the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and welcome them back to campus.



**2011 Distinguished Alumni-in-Residence Honorees**

Dr. Andrew Alverson B.S. in Biology (1997)

Dr. Noel Boyle B.A. in Philosophy & Group Social Sciences (1996)

Kim Hansen B.S. in Physical Education (1980)

Brittany Hunter B.A. in Classics (Honors College) (2008)

Katie Mawby B.S. in Psychology & Physical Therapy (1987)

Liem Nguyen B.A. in English & B.S. in Economics (1994)

Dr. Clinton Randles B.M.E. in Music (2001)

Jennifer Schaub B.F.A. in Studio Art (2002)

M.P.A. in Public Administration (2007)

Troy Schindlbeck B.S. in Anthropology (1995)

Ronald Sheets B.S. in Geology (1982)

Dr. Peter Stevens B.S. in Chemistry (2001)

# Dr. Andrew Alverson

*B.S. in Biology (1997)*

Andy received his B.S. in Biology from GVSU in 1997. As an undergraduate student, he was honored as the Outstanding Biology Student of the Year and was inducted into multiple honor societies, including Phi Kappa Phi and Gamma Sigma Delta. He subsequently earned a Master’s degree from Iowa State University in 2000 and a Ph.D. from The University of Texas at Austin in 2006. Presently Andy is completing a Postdoctoral Research Fellowship at Indiana University. Since leaving Grand Valley, Andy has regularly received support for his research, including grants from the National Science Foundation and the National institutes of Health, and has established an excellent record of publication with more than 20 peer-reviewed papers. His remarkable record of scholarly activity and the quality of his work has most recently earned him a new appointment as an Assistant Professor at the University of Arkansas in 2012.

**Dr. Noel Boyle**

*B.A. in Philosophy & Group Social Sciences (1996)*

Noel J. Boyle was a double major in Philosophy and Social Science at GVSU in the early 1990’s, and distinguished himself as a most energetic and effective student, pursuing his own inquiries with the support of courses and faculty. After he graduated in 1996, he went to the University of Memphis for a M.A. in Philosophy, and then returned to Grand Rapids. He was hired as an adjunct instructor in Philosophy, and proved to be a truly gifted teacher. Maintaining and developing his outstanding scholarship in consciousness studies, philosophy of mind, and philosophy of science, Noel completed his Ph.D. degree at Michigan State University in 2008 with a dissertation entitled “Physicalism and Qualitative Facts: A Critique of Frank Jackson.” And in that same year he accepted an Assistant Professor position at Belmont University. There he has continued to be recognized as an outstanding teacher, in addition to becoming engaged with a broad and significant array of community service positions and projects, including the presidency of the Tennessee Philosophical Association. The Philosophy Department is proud to recognize and celebrate Professor Boyle’s most admirable development as a student and a professor, and to identify him as a role model for us all. The nobility of his life and work uplifts us all.

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**Kim Hansen**

*B.S. in Physical Education (1980)*

Kim earned a B.S. in Physical Education from GVSU in 1981. As an undergraduate student, she was a stand-out on the women’s basketball team, earning a spot on the NCAA II All-American Team in 1980. Upon completion of her intercollegiate playing career, Kim made history at GVSU and in the U.S. when she was drafted into the first ever women’s professional basketball league (WBL). Her professional career led her to play for the San Francisco Pioneers, Chicago Hustle, and Minnesota Fillies before the league folded in the early 80’s. Kim’s accomplishments as a women’s basketball player were further recognized by GVSU when they inducted her into the Athletic Hall of Fame in 1987.

Upon completion of her playing career, Kim entered the college coaching ranks as a graduate assistant at Lamar University in Texas where she earned a Master’s degree in Physical Education in 1983. She quickly moved up in the ranks and was hired as an assistant women’s basketball coach at The Wichita State University, an NCAA I university in Kansas. After 5 years at Wichita, Kim was named the Head Coach at North Central College, an NCAA III school in Naperville, Illinois, where she spent the next decade in a combined coaching and assistant professor position. In 1997, Kim decided to step away from the college ranks to begin her second career as a high school teacher and coach, so she returned to school at John Carroll University to earn her Post-Baccalaureate Certification. Since that time, Kim has taught high school physical education and coached girl’s basketball at a variety of schools, including her current position at Cleveland Heights High School in Cleveland, Ohio. Not only is Kim a dedicated and successful teacher, her coaching achievements to date include earning coach of the year honors in three different school districts in less than 10 years.

# Brittany Hunter

*B.A. in Classics (Honors College) (2008)*

Brittany made her first website when she was 13. It was purple and it had sparkles and ponies. It was around that time that she decided she wanted to design software. A 2008 GVSU Honors graduate, she received the B.A. in Classics with an emphasis on ancient Greek and Latin -- a background for a software developer that sometimes elicits comment. Yet her training in Classics has proven to be anything other than a drawback as her career has progressed from employment as the website coordinator for a Grand Rapids-based international nonprofit organization, to work as a developer on the GVSU Webteam, to her current position at the nationally recognized software firm Atomic Object. Brittany credits her success to the intense training she received in critical thinking, rhetoric, and language while learning about the Greco-Roman world at GVSU. In combination with her love of visual design, this preparation enables her to respond to the needs of clients by comprehending complex business domains and effectively communicating difficult concepts in understandable, usable, visually beautiful ways. Outside of work Brittany spends a lot of time riding, training, and taking care of her three horses; on weekends she competes with them in local dressage competitions. During the school year, she enjoys teaching violin lessons and tutoring high school Latin. She also dabbles in photography, blogging, cooking, and gardening.

**Katie Mawby**

*B.S. in Psychology & Physical Therapy (1987)*

Katie Mawby earned her bachelor’s degree in psychology and in physical therapy at Grand Valley State University in 1988. She earned her Master’s in Counseling Psychology at Western Michigan University in 2004, and she is the director of a well-regarded, multi-site physiotherapy clinic. She has also earned a B.A. in theology from Aquinas College, in 1994. When Mawby was 15 years old, she lost her vision in an accident that damaged her optic nerve. Just as she has pursued demanding university studies and a challenging career with great success, she has also pursued athletic activities with similar panache and success. An accomplished athlete, her competitive focus has been in competitive water skiing including slalom skiing and ski jumping. She has set world water-skiing records. She has been inducted into the Michigan Sports Hall of Fame, has been the ESPN Athlete of the Week, and has been repeatedly recognized as Athlete of the Year by the Water Skiers with Disabilities Association. Amongst the many ways Mawby serves her community, she is an outreach speaker for Leader Dogs for the Blind and she volunteers her services as a physical therapist at St. Mary’s Heartside Clinic.

**Liem Nguyen**

*B.A. in English & B.S. in Economics (1994)*

Liem earned his B.A. and B.S. from GVSU in 1994 as a dual major in English Literature and Economics. During that time he distinguished himself with his participation in the Sigma Tau Delta English Honor Society, as a University Writing Center Lead Consultant, and as a recipient of the Berthold Price Scholarship. Since then he has been a Senior Data Consultant at GVSU and English Conversation and TOEFL instructor in Vietnam. He currently works at DELL computers, where he has held positions as Senior Technical Writer/Editor, Product Reviews/Launch PR Manager, Global Product Communications Manager, Director of Corporate Communications, and Director of Global Communications and Social Media.

**Dr. Clinton Randles**

*B.M.E. in Music (2001)*

Clint Randles is undoubtedly one of the most successful GVSU Department of Music graduates. Completing our Bachelor of Music Education program in 2001, Clint enjoyed a superb teaching career in the Coopersville Schools, always infusing creative activities into all of his classes from elementary general music to instrumental ensembles. He went on to earn both a Masters in Music Education and Ph.D. in Music Education from Michigan State University and now is in his second year as Assistant Professor of Music Education at University of South Florida. Dr. Randles has not only distinguished himself as master teacher but also has built an impressive publication record in a very short time! His interests revolve around the creative minds of children and adolescents. He has published articles in the following peer-reviewed journals: "Journal of Aesthetic Education," "Update: Applications of Research in Music Education, "Music Educators Journal," "Bulletin of the Council for Research in Music Education," and "Music Education Research International." Traveling widely, Clint has presented papers in Ontario, Beijing, Helsinki, London, and Cairo. We in the Department of Music are proud of our Distinguished Alumni-in-Residence of 2011, Dr. Clint Randles.

**Jennifer Schaub**

*B.F.A. in Studio Art (2002)*

*M.P.A. in Public Administration (2007)*

For over six years Jenn Schaub has focused interest in helping creative communities grow. After graduating with a BFA with Printmaking Emphasis, from Grand Valley State University she began working with community art collectives including lo-fi project site and The Division Avenue Arts Collective. In 2005 she began promoting and working with the Avenue for the Arts as part of the Dwelling Place neighborhood revitalization department in Grand Rapids, Michigan. In addition to facilitating creative community problem solving her work focuses on growing healthy neighborhoods. From promotions to attraction and retention of residents and businesses in the Heartside neighborhood she manages seven annual Avenue for the Arts events including The Market and Art.Downtown. In 2006 she graduated with a Masters of Non-profit Administration from Grand Valley State University. She is currently a board member of the DAAC, Marketing chair for the Young Nonprofit Professionals Network of Greater Grand Rapids, secretary for the Heartside Business Association and serves on the Heartside Neighborhood Association. In her spare time she continues to make prints, hang out with her boyfriend, and enjoy life in the heart of Grand Rapids.

**Troy Schindlbeck**

*B.S. in Anthropology (1995)*

Troy M. Schindlbeck graduated in 1995 with a B.S. in Anthropology and a Minor in History, and subsequently served as a field assistant with the GVSU Archaeology field school. After working as an archaeological survey technician in Michigan preserving cultural resources on National Forest lands, Troy took employment in numerous consulting positions over the years, including working as field archaeologist for a WMU project, the Great Lakes Research Associates, and the Commonwealth Cultural Resource Group. In 2001, he founded his business, Cultural Resource Technologies (located in Spring Lake, Michigan), specializing in the manufacturing of products and tools - used in over 20 countries by professional archaeologists and cultural resource management firms. Troy’s career demonstrates the application of his anthropology training and enterprising skills to innovation and service in the field of archaeology.

**Ronald Sheets**

*B.S. in Geology (1982)*

After leaving Grand Valley State Colleges (as it was in those days) Ron did a summer job mapping around the wilds of Nova Scotia Canada with the Geological Survey of Canada and Jack Henderson (former Professor of Structural Geology at GVSC). This work included mapping the Meguma Group gold prospects which became the subject of Ron's M.Sc. thesis (received from Ohio State in 1986) and it was during that summer when he became smitten by fieldwork.

Since then Ron has jumped back and forth between the minerals industry and academia. He obtained a Ph.D. in Geological Sciences (1996) from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, during bust times in the minerals industry, and lectured at Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, University of Alberta and Rhodes University in South Africa (as part of the MSc programme in Exploration Geology). Ron also spent a couple of summers work with the United States Geological Survey's Branch of Resource Analysis conducing dry sulphide synthesis experiments to produce sphalerite group minerals for geothermometry and synthetic fluid inclusion research into the pressure-temperature-volumetric properties of aqueous solutions. Not just your ordinary prospector, Ron has published a few articles in professional journals and chapters in guidebooks on the formation of copper and gold-silver mineral deposits.

During industry boom times Ron always returns to exploration and a chance to get into the field. He has explored for iron, copper, nickel, gold, silver, platinum-group metals and diamonds in USA, Mexico, Canada, South Africa, Namibia, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Tanzania, Central African Republic, Mali and Ghana. Recent successes include being involved with the teams that discovered 2.5 million ounces of gold in the Passendro area of Central African Republic, 860,000 ounces of gold in the Lupa Goldfield of south-western Tanzania and 550,000 ounces of gold in western Mali (now being mined). These adventures ranged from living in a tent and bathing in the local river for six months while mapping, to falling out the sky in a faulty helicopter, to being caught up in a coup d'état attempt where 200 people had to evacuate a minesite camp in one day to avoid clashes between rebels and government forces. Other than that things have been pretty normal.

Ron last worked in the USA in April 1993 and hasn't had the opportunity to visit Michigan or GVSU since he graduated in 1982.

**Dr. Peter Stevens**

*B.S. in Chemistry (2001)*

Dr. Pete Stevens is a co-founder and the Technical Director of Analytical Sciences at 3 Degrees of Separation in Dayton, Ohio. Prior to founding the company he was an applications chemist at LECO Corporation. Pete graduated with a degree in Chemistry from GVSU in 2001. He then went on to receive masters and PhD degrees in Analytical Chemistry from the University of Michigan, working with Dr. Richard Sacks in the field of separation science. His area of specialization is Comprehensive Two-dimensional Gas Chromatography (GCxGC). His research interests include the GCxGC analysis of human breath as a tool for medical diagnostics, GCxGC for metabolomics research, and the development of instrumentation for space, environmental, defense and homeland security applications. Dr. Stevens holds two patents and is an author on publications, applications notes, and numerous presentations."