Hello and welcome. My name is Kelsey Stevenson and I am a staff member in the Graduate School at Grand Valley State University. At Grand Valley, we do our very best to ensure that our graduate students have as many resources available to them as possible in order to help them succeed within their program at Grand Valley and to excel professionally after graduate school. These resources include writing and oral presentation assistance, statistical consulting, and professional development workshops. This podcast will outline some of these resources, how they benefit you as a graduate student, and where you can find more information about them.

A crucial component of success in graduate school is being an excellent writer and a skillful speaker. Grand Valley has what we call ‘The Knowledge Market’, which provides access to the GVSU Libraries, the Data Inquiry Lab, the Fred Meijer Center for Writing and Michigan Authors, and the GVSU Speech Lab. The Knowledge Market has highly-trained staff who can help direct you to resources that improve your professional skills. Their consultants work one-on-one or in small groups to develop your research strategies, analyze your data, improve your writing, or polish your presentations.

The Fred Meijer Center for Writing, the GVSU Speech Lab, the GVSU Libraries, and the Data Inquiry Lab are free services and are available to all graduate students. You can schedule an appointment or drop-in for 20-30 minutes at any time during the semester. At the Center for Writing, consultants can review the goals of your project, help you brainstorm ideas and integrate your research, read your paper aloud to you, or help you cite your sources properly. At the GVSU Speech Lab, consultants can help you select topics, organize your presentation, or simply practice your delivery in front of an audience. The Library Services are there to help you develop research questions, strategies, and focus for completing assignments, and the Data Inquiry Lab can help students with quantitative data management, analysis, and visualization. Whatever writing, presentation or research needs you may have, The Knowledge Market is there to help and welcomes all graduate students. For more information about the Knowledge Market or to make an appointment with any of these services, please visit www.gvsu.edu/library/km.

Another important resource available to graduate students is the Statistical Consulting Center. This Center is housed in the first floor of the Eberhard Center on GVSU’s downtown campus and in A-1-178 in Mackinac Hall on the Allendale Campus. Consultants at the Statistical Consulting Center are available to help with developing a research design, analyzing and interpreting data, and developing tables and figures for presentations and manuscripts. For more information about the Statistical Consulting Center, please visit www.gvsu.edu/tutoring/stats.

Need some help with your job search? Grand Valley also offers a Career Center on both the Allendale and Grand Rapids campuses. Graduate students are welcome to make an appointment with the Career Center for any of your job search, resume building, or networking needs. The Career Center can help you recognize and prioritize your strengths, interests, and preferences for your resume or as a foundation for career exploration. They can also help you build relationships with alumni, employers, and other campus resources. Whatever needs you may have in regards to your career search, the Career Center is there to help. For more information about the Career Center, please visit www.gvsu.edu/careers.

Another resource targeted specifically to graduate students is our PACES program. PACES is co-sponsored by The Graduate School and the Graduate Student Association. PACES is a co-curricular program that
offers professional development opportunities for students, and helps students improve their professionalism, academic advancement, communication, engagement, and success. The Graduate School and Graduate Student Association host PACES workshops that support students in developing effective communication skills, refining interview techniques, managing stress, and improving debt management skills – among other critical and timely topics. For a full list of upcoming PACES events, please visit

www.gvsu.edu/paces.

We hope these resources can help you succeed in your graduate education at Grand Valley State University. For a full listing of student resources or to learn more about any of the previously mentioned topics, please visit www.gvsu.edu/gs. Thank you for your time and we hope you have enjoyed this podcast.